The American School of Classical Studies at Athens is seeking $3 million for the Gennadius Library to complete the funding of a transformational $7 million expansion program for the Library. We hope you will consider joining us in helping to fund this remarkable project, which includes a number of naming opportunities.
The American School of Classical Studies at Athens is widely regarded as the world’s leading institution for teaching and research relating to all aspects of Hellenism from prehistoric times to the present. The School was founded in 1881 and is under the academic sponsorship of 196 leading North American universities. It has an annual operating budget of almost $9 million.

The Gennadius Library has been part of the School since its foundation in 1926 by one of history’s great bibliophiles, John Gennadius. It is housed in a landmark neoclassical building constructed of Pentelic marble, and is surrounded by a beautiful garden.

The Library is an internationally renowned center for the study of Greek history, literature, and art, from ancient to modern times. Its unique collections range from first editions of Homer to Schliemann’s notebooks to watercolors by Edward Lear to manuscript scores of musician Dimitri Mitropoulos. In addition to its role as a library and research institution, the Gennadius is also an active participant in the Athenian and international community through its seminars, concerts, exhibitions, publications, and lectures broadcast world-wide on the internet.

The new extension to the west will offer the library a state-of-the-art gallery space.
The exhibition space will have a separate broad entrance through a newly landscaped garden to the west of the main building. A stairway behind the facade will lead up to a reception terrace that connects with the landmark marble colonnade of the West Wing and the main Library entrance.

The exhibition space will showcase treasures from the collections on a rotating basis, as well as host exhibitions of material from outside sources. Large LED screens will enhance the space with videos and slide shows. The total area of exhibition space will be 240 square meters.
Floor Plan of the New Exhibition Space

The Stathatos Room will be connected with the new space
The main elements of this important building program are:

- The creation of a new exhibition space with own entrance
- The expansion of an entire new floor of stack space for open shelf browsing
- The construction of a spacious seminar and meeting room

Schedule

We project ground-breaking in June 2014 with construction continuing through December 2015. Moving into the new facility will occur early in 2016.
The Gennadius Library's rich and comprehensive collections provide a superb basis for exciting and informative visual presentations

- Travelers to Greece and the Levant (e.g. Edward Dodwell)
- Exquisite landscape painters (e.g. Edward Lear)
- Art and Archaeology (e.g. the Ionian Antiquities of the Society of the Dilettanti)
- Greek War of Independence and Philhellenes: Lord Byron, General Makrygiannis
- Greek Classics: incunabula, manuscripts, fine rare editions
- Rare bibles, religious icons, ecclesiastical manuscripts
- The personal papers of Troy excavator Heinrich Schliemann and of fearful Albanian war lord Ali Pasha
- Musical scores by Dimitri Mitropoulos
- The archives of Greek Nobel-prize poets George Seferis and Odysseus Elytis
- The Helen Stathatos period room

The foyer exhibition area   The entrance to the exhibition space with Canaday House on the right
The four stories of the West Wing will function as a new open stacks facility offering patrons of the Library access to the non-rare materials of the collections.

The existing West Wing's building will retain its shell, but all the interior levels will be reconstructed to provide a full two stories of library stacks, underground storage and new reading rooms equipped with the latest technological aids. The two levels above ground will be renovated to add a seminar room and study spaces off the main reading room and to recapture work space on the first floor.

Level three showing the new seminar room
The Gennadius Library Campus

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