



ALLISON GILBERT AUTHOR LECTURE TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024

The 14th final lecture in the 2023-24 Charles Martell Author Lecture series will feature Allison Gilbert, co-author of *Listen World! How the Intrepid Elsie Robinson Became America's Most-Read Woman*. Elsie Robinson was born and raised in Martinez

Allison Gilbert is co-author with Julia Scheeres of the book *Listen World!: How the Intrepid Elsie Robinson Became America's Most-read Woman*. Ms. Gilbert is based in New York and began her journalism career working in television news production. She hosted the 20-episode documentary series *Women Journalists of 9/11: Their Stories*, and co-edited the book *Covering Catastrophe: Broadcast Journalists Report September 11*. She has also written three books on loss and family relationships. She writes regularly for the *New York Times* and many other publications and has been honored by a number of professional organizations, including Associated Press, the Society of Professional Journalists, the National Association of Black Journalists and others.



Listen World! is a biography of a trailblazing journalist who used her platform to draw attention to social problems of her day, including women's rights, racism, immigration, capital punishment, and antisemitism to name a few. A single parent in Benecia, California, Elsie (1883-1956) struggled to get by working at low-paying jobs until she convinced the *Oakland Tribune* to hire her as a reporter, a mostly male profession at the time. She built this opportunity into a career as a nationally syndicated columnist who even drew her own editorial cartoons! She became the most-read woman writer in the country and the highest paid woman writer in the Hearst newspaper company. *Listen World!* was well-received, with the *New York Times* stating "one

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Published by the Friends
of the University Library,
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does not tire of spending time with Elsie Robinson!" The *Wall Street Journal* called it "an important contribution to women's history", and the *Times Literary Supplement* called it "a ripping yarn."

To register for the seminar, go to the Friends of the University Library webpage and scroll to the series. Or if you're reading this on your computer you can just click [here](#).

The Author Lecture series will continue via Zoom webinar format as it has proved popular and our audience has grown. The Zoom meeting offers live captioning.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year! I hope your 2024 is getting off to a good start and that you plan to continue your membership in the Friends. Look for your renewal letters in the mail this month.

You may have noticed from the BOOKENDS masthead that the **Friends of the Library, CSUS** has become the **Friends of the University Library, California State University Sacramento**. A subtle change but necessary, as our campus has very strict branding guidelines and the abbreviation CSUS no longer is used. Adding the word **University** to define which library helps to distinguish us from the public library Friends group. In addition to the name change, the Board is currently updating and revising our bylaws to reflect the changes in how we do things to streamline our procedures.

We have one more Zoom program scheduled as part of our 2023-2024 Charles Martell Author Lecture series. Having just started reading *Listen World!*, and being drawn into Elsie's world, I'm really looking forward to this presentation. (Details are on page one.).

- Linda J. Goff, President of the Friends of the University Library

PLEASE WELCOME TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Steven Loya



Steven is an experienced fundraising leader with skills in securing planned and major gifts. He previously served as Senior Director of Development and

Communications for Yolo Food Bank where he and his team were responsible for raising \$6+ million annually. He personally secured multiple six and seven figure planned and major gifts from private, government, and corporate partners, including the largest private gift in the Food Bank's history. Before Yolo Food Bank, Steven served as the Assistant Director of Development at UC Davis where he raised funds to support the College of Letters and Science. Steven also served in successive roles for nearly a decade at CSU Chico including overseeing annual giving and leadership giving. Much of his work at Chico State revolved around building support for student success initiatives including the basic needs program

which addresses student food and housing insecurity.

Steven was made in the CSU as he earned his Bachelor of Arts in Music at California State University, Chico, so beginning this new chapter at Sacramento State is in a way a bit of a homecoming for him. In his current role with Sac State as Director of Planned Giving, Steven oversees the Office of Planned Giving which involves aiding supporters with gifts of their estate and other non-traditional but impactful giving vehicles. As an important part of his role, Steven also oversees giving to the

University Library and as such, is a member of the Board of Directors for the Friends of the University Library. We are excited to have him at Sac State and look forward to all that he will accomplish as he aids donors in leaving their legacy behind to support our campus. If you are interested in meeting Steven and discussing ways you can support the University Library, you can reach him at loya@csus.edu or (916) 278-6115.

Tinkal Ambaliya



I am Tinkal Ambaliya, an international student from Gujarat, India, who came to the United States in Fall 2022 to pursue my dreams. As English is not my native language, I faced difficulties learning a new language in a short time period when I first arrived. However, I persevered through these challenges, driven by my aspirations.

Currently, I am a sophomore at Sacramento State University majoring in Business Administration. In Spring 2023, I ran for student government and was elected Director of Undeclared Students thanks to the support of the student body. In this position, I represent and advocate for undeclared students' needs by bridging communication between them and the university administration. My responsibilities include regularly conferring with the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Dean of Undergraduate Studies to discuss issues impacting undeclared students' academic success and campus experiences. I also attend weekly committee meetings to address concerns affecting the student population and collaborate on potential solutions.

Through dedication and resilience, I have been able to find my path here as an international student. I am grateful for the opportunities I have been afforded at Sacramento State and through my role in student leadership. I look forward to continuing to support and empower my fellow students.

BOOK BIN HOURS

FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO

BOOKENDS

SPRING, 2024

If you are interested in volunteering for the Book Bin or have questions, please contact Book Bin Coordinator Sally Hitchcock at: hitchcocks@library.csus.edu

BOOK BIN SPRING HOURS

1st and 3rd consecutive Wednesday and Thursday of each month

10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Check the website for specific dates and holiday hours before you come:

<https://library.csus.edu/friends-of-the-library>

LOUELLYN COHAN LOWER TRIBUTE



In 1992, Louellyn Cohan & Richard Lower were amongst 200+ Sac State faculty, staff and community members that founded The Friends of the CSUS Library (now Friends of the University, Library, California State University, Sacramento).

From the beginning, Lou was an active member, supporting Friends events and efforts, and serving on the Board of Directors for multiple terms, including serving as President.

Lou was instrumental in the development of the Friends' Book Bin, working volunteer shifts staffing the Bin, and took on reviewing the donations for unique, rare and/or valuable books to market and sell at book fairs and other venues.

Lou embraced the challenge of utilizing on-line sellers such as Albris to increase the Friends' visibility, outreach, and income. This was a labor of love - she singlehandedly reviewed the books, researched value, took books to fairs and other possible outlets, and set-up online connections for academic and rare booksellers. She handled processes from start to finish, even shipping books to remote buyers!

The time and effort that Lou put into the Book Bin, and leading the special book sales were invaluable to the Friends and its continuing operation over 30 years later. Lou will be fondly remembered for her love of learning and books, and her dedication to the mission of the Friends of the University Library, California State University, Sacramento. Memorial service pending.

Michaeline Veden, Vice President