

SIMMONS WAS VERY DEAR TO ME. IT WAS  
A LITTLE COLLEGE WHEN I JOINED IT.  
NOW IT'S A UNIVERSITY! BUT I'M VERY  
HAPPY AND PROUD OF SIMMONS AND THE  
OPPORTUNITIES IT GAVE ME TO TEACH.  
-- JOSEPHINE RISS FANG



*Thank you!*

# JOSEPHINE RISS FANG

## ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND BRUNCH

APRIL 17, 2024



**Simmons**  
UNIVERSITY

10:00 AM  
Kotzen Room

# MEET OUR

## Speakers

**DEAN SANDA ERDELEZ, SLIS**

**PRESIDENT LYNN PERRY WOOTEN**

**RECIPIENTS: (IN ORDER)**

- **CHLOÉ-MARIE CABARET-SALAMEH**
- **SARAH CHEN**
- **HANNAH GARROD**

**ANNA FANG**



## PROFESSOR JOSEPHINE RISS FANG

1922-2023

Doctor Josephine Riss Fang was the first female full professor in the Simmons School of Library and Information Science. She was the treasured teacher of a generation of librarians in the Boston area; later in her career, she became famous in the world of international librarianship. During her twenty-year tenure at Simmons, she taught many different courses, including Cataloging, Preservation, and International Librarianship. She was the author of many academic articles and books and was active in numerous library associations, including the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, where she held the office of President.

Professor Fang was born and raised in Austria, where she earned her PhD in English in 1948. In 1950 she came to the US to pursue post-graduate studies in library science. Soon after this, she met and married Pao-hsien Fang, a graduate student in physics.

The Drs. Fang had 10 children in the next 12 years, including two eventual alumnae of Simmons, daughters Maria Fang '76, and Anna Fang '86. Keeping up the tradition, one of Josephine's granddaughters, Christina Fang, graduated from Simmons in 2016.

In 2006 her children established the Josephine Riss Fang Endowed Scholarship in honor of their mother, intended for students pursuing librarianship with a focus on international librarianship or preservation and conservation. In 2009 the Josephine Riss Fang Current Use Scholarship was established. To date the fund has received support from 80 donors and funded nearly 30 scholars.

In 2012, on the occasion of her 90th birthday, Dr. Fang wrote "Life itself is a great gift, it is beautiful. Be grateful for family and friends and count your blessings. Above all, don't lose your sense of humor!"

And in 2022, at her 100th birthday celebration, Professor Emerita Josephine Riss Fang reflected on her career in library science. "It's a wonderful field," she said, "and it has many possibilities for an interesting and rewarding career. I recommend it for anyone, and especially for people who love to read and who love books."