



STATE OF THE ARCHIVES REPORT

2024 Recap — Foundations for the Future of the Archives

The Murray Bowen Archives Project

www.murraybowenarchives.org — info@murraybowenarchives.org

Report Published May 2025

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to TMBAP’s State of the Archives Report, highlighting the thoughtful progress and foundational work accomplished in 2024 toward making the Murray Bowen Archives accessible to the world.

This year marked a turning point—one defined by strategic growth, increased capacity, and renewed momentum. From launching a new scholarship program to safeguarding sensitive materials, each initiative brought us closer to realizing our mission — To obtain the resources necessary to fulfill the vision, to advance scholarship, and enhance public knowledge of these archives.

In the pages that follow, you’ll find updates on the key areas, listed below, that shaped our year and are charting the course for what’s ahead.

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1. INVENTORY OF DEACCESSIONED AV MATERIALS

In early 2024, inventory was completed of the deaccessioned AV materials from the National Library of Medicine. These fragile materials were moved into cold storage at Iron Mountain. This type of storage is critical for preserving items until they can be digitized and moved into more permanent storage.

A portion of the deaccessioned AV materials includes what we refer to as the MCV Tapes—videos recorded by Dr. Bowen during his time at the Medical College of Virginia (MCV)*. These tapes capture a significant period in Dr. Bowen’s professional work. Last year, TMBAP initiated project planning for the preservation and digitization of this important collection.

**“Medical College of Virginia” was the original name for the medical campus of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), located in Richmond, VA, now known as the VCU Health.*

2. THE SCHARA-DWYER ARCHIVAL RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

TMBAP’s inaugural scholarship program was launched in the fall of 2024 with generous funding from current-serving (and founding) TMBAP Board members, Andrea Schara and Bill Dwyer. The program is a \$1,000, six-month research award to work with archival materials available through TMBAP’s website. The 2024 scholarship recipient is Ms. Nailin Morera, an Outreach Adult Therapist at Women In Distress of Broward County, Inc. — a full service domestic violence center in Broward County, Florida — where she is dedicated to supporting survivors of domestic violence. She is also currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Couples and Family Therapy at Nova Southeastern University.

With the support of this scholarship, she will enhance her research through the use of Murray Bowen’s archives. We know that this opportunity will greatly enrich her work moving forward and we are excited to see how she integrates information from the archives into her research.

We are also deeply grateful to Dr. Carrie Collier, who is providing mentorship to Ms. Morera and bringing meaningful support and guidance to her throughout the granting period.

A webinar is planned for September 2025 to showcase Ms. Morera’s work, and we invite you to join us! The next scholarship application period will also open in the fall, and more details on both will be forthcoming.

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3. STRATEGIC PLANNING

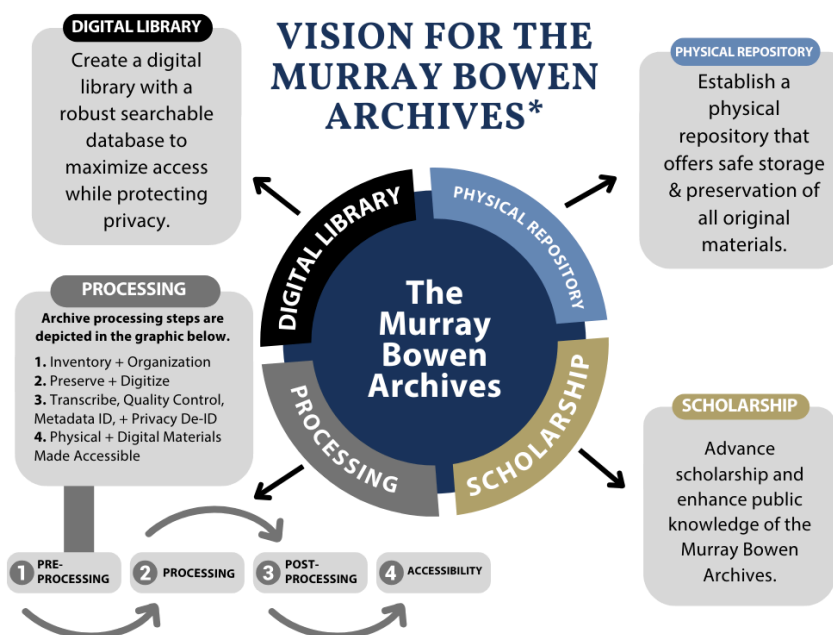
TMBAP met in Denver, Colorado in May 2024 for its first in-person strategic planning retreat since the pandemic. This retreat was spent developing strategies and identifying partners and resources to actualize the continued preservation and accessibility of the Murray Bowen Archives.

This process has involved parsing the roles that TMBAP will play, including assisting owners of archival materials in processing

their items. It also presented an opportunity to identify the path to actualizing the larger project of making the Murray Bowen Archives available to the world: a) the creation of an interactive digital library, with robust searchability, which will allow instant access to a wide range of archival materials, and b) assisting the Bowen family and Bowen Center in locating a physical repository for Dr. Bowen’s materials within a dynamic, thriving institution committed to advancing research.

These strategies will make the archives accessible to a broad audience while making possible the advancement of scholarship to encourage continued research within the archives.

As part of this work, we began identifying top archivists and processing specialists skilled in preserving, organizing, digitizing, quality-checking, and publishing archival items.



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4. THE 2024 ANNUAL TMBAP WEBINAR

TMBAP's webinar took place at the end of January 2024 in honor of Dr. Bowen's birthday and was well attended, with 133 registrants. The webinar focused on the archival collections owned by the Bowen Center. TMBAP Board members Priscilla Friesen, Amie Post, and Kent Webb all presented. The recording of this event is available to watch through TMBAP's website, Vimeo, and YouTube.

5. FUNDRAISING

TMBAP fundraised \$48,800 in 2024. We would like to thank all of our donors for their contributions last year. Donor support makes the work of processing Dr. Bowen's archives possible.

We also implemented our annual fundraising campaign—a foundational effort that included four key email communications and increased donor acknowledgments, while laying the groundwork for aligning future giving opportunities with our strategic goals.

TMBAP will be announcing significant fundraising opportunities in 2025 to support our long-term goals for securing a physical repository for all archival items, and for developing a digital library that supports broad access and research capabilities.

If you have not yet made a gift in 2025 please consider doing so today. Details can be found at <https://murraybowenarchives.org/donate>.

6. TMBAP BOARD & STAFF UPDATES

In the Fall of 2024, Judy Ball, Board President of The Murray Bowen Archives Project since 2016, stepped back due to illness. Dr. Libby Malone, who continues to serve as TMBAP's Secretary, subsequently became Acting President. Dr. Malone continued as Acting President through the beginning of May 2025, at which point she was elected President.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to Judy for her leadership and service, and we look forward to continuing the important work of TMBAP under Dr. Malone's guidance.

The Murray Bowen Archives Project

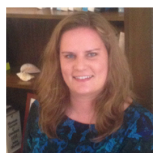
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We are pleased to share the current members of the TMBAP Board below.

THE MURRAY BOWEN ARCHIVES PROJECT BOARD

As of December 31, 2024



**Elizabeth (Libby)
Malone, Ph.D.**

*Interim President;
Secretary; Director*



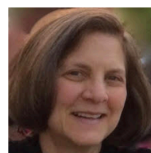
**Kent E. Webb,
LCSW**

*Vice President;
Director*



**William K. Dwyer,
M.D., F.A.C.S.**

*Treasurer;
Director*



Judy Ball

*Director
On Leave of
Absence*



**Joanne Bowen,
Ph.D.**

*Director, 2008–
Present; President
2008–2016*



**Teresa Karns
Edmondson,
MED, LPC**

Director



**Priscilla J.
Friesen, LICSW**

*Director; Vice
President, 2016–2020*



**Edward J.
Henley, MDiv.**

Director



**Amie Post, MA,
LCMFT**

Director



**Andrea M.
Schara, LCSWA**

Director

Additionally, in July 2024, TMBAP hired Cory Freeman as a Communications Specialist to support our communications and fundraising efforts. Cory brings valuable expertise in both areas, and we are delighted to have her on board.

CONCLUSION

2024 was a year of thoughtful progress and foundational work for The Murray Bowen Archives Project. From launching a new scholarship program and hiring key staff to developing strategic goals and safeguarding rare materials, TMBAP has taken important steps toward its mission of making the Bowen Archives accessible to the world.

We are energized by the momentum and clarity that emerged from this year's initiatives, and we are especially grateful to the community of supporters who make this work possible. As we look ahead to 2025 and beyond, your continued engagement will be essential in helping us build a digital library, establish a permanent repository, and expand access to these vital resources.

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Thank you for being part of this journey. Together, we are ensuring that Dr. Bowen's legacy continues to inform, inspire, and advance the field of human behavior for generations to come.

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