Janet Freeman was Dean of Library Information Services at Meredith College from 1984 through her retirement in 2001. She oversaw the library’s 1998 renovation, its 1993 automation project, and sponsored Meredith’s first connection to the Internet. She also supported the addition of cable television in 1989, including four Meredith supported channels to the campus. Under her oversight, the library book collection grew from 113,000 to over 133,000 volumes. The collection also substantially expanded holdings in formats such as video, CDs, DVDs, and electronic databases.

Janet was closely involved in the growth of the Friends of the Library organization. She was also instrumental in establishing the Friends endowment whose income allows the library to make special purchases in support of changing curricular needs and changing library service needs.

Janet left a lasting legacy in the Meredith community and her influence on the library will be strongly felt by generations for years to come. Through the Freeman Endowment, the Carlyle Campbell Library has been able to pursue significant projects, including, but not limited to, the purchasing of new electronic resources, new furniture for the library building, and the renovation of the library classroom, which is now in her honor as the Janet Freeman Room.

In one of her annual reports, Janet said, “It is an understatement to say that doing what libraries do ... providing information to those who seek it ... is in a state of rapid change...”. She successfully oversaw many changes to the Carlyle Campbell Library and positioned the library to be responsive and take advantage of the opportunities offered by new technologies and innovative ways of doing library work.

The Carlyle Campbell Library chose to honor Janet's commitment to providing information in an ever-changing world by dedicating the library's instruction classroom in her memory on August 14, 2019.