



Spring 2019

Library Update
~News from the University Libraries~

Message from the Dean



I am pleased to share with you the spring 2019 *Library Update*. In this issue, you will learn about some of the ways that the University Libraries engage with members of the UAlbany and surrounding communities, as well as members of the library and archives profession. The Libraries hosted a number of events throughout the fall and spring semesters that brought together not only students and faculty, but also librarians and community members from the Capital Region. Open Access Day was a big

success and brought together experts in scholarly communication to the University to share their insights. The Libraries invited UAlbany scholars to share their research at the popular “Campus Conversations in Standish” series. The M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives hosted the 2018 Researching New York conference, bringing scholars and archivists to the University to share their research findings and archival strategies. These and other events demonstrate the impact that the University Libraries have on our community and region.

Several of the Libraries’ faculty were also honored with awards, including Wendy West and Allison Hosier, who both won the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Librarianship; Bridget Collins, who won the University’s Sustainability award; and Laurie Constable, who won the Capital Area Library Assistants’ Outstanding Service Award. You will also read about MSIS student Katy Kukulich, who helped the Libraries update our *Emergency Response Plan*. These are only a few of the stories that you will find in this issue that highlight the excellent work that our librarians, staff, and students are doing every day in the Libraries.

The impact of our supporters becomes increasingly clear as we look at our achievements over the past year. Donations help the Libraries offer programs, repair the historic murals at the Dewey Graduate Library, hire graduate students for special projects, purchase collections for research, and much more. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Damaged Murals Repaired

By Bridget Collins

Administrative Assistant

Dewey Graduate Library



For two days last October conservators from the Williamstown Art Conservation Center repaired a section (*left*) of the historic murals at the Dewey Graduate Library. Water leakage from an aging building cornice had caused a two-by-four-foot fragment of the mural to detach and had damaged the paint on an interior ceiling and wall. Once the cornice was replaced, restoration of the artwork could be addressed.



Prior to the mural's repair, UAlbany's Department of Physical Plant and Paint and Sign Shop provided a 25-foot scaffolding (*left*) and remediated water damage to the surrounding area. Two conservators scaled the scaffolding (*left*) and reattached a mural fragment that was hanging from the wall by just its bottom edge. In addition, they reattached an adjacent section of the mural that had sagged away and retouched some of the mural itself.

The murals were created and installed in Hawley Hall, now home of the Dewey Graduate Library, by William Brantley Van Ingen (1858-1955) between 1937 and 1938. Van Ingen sketched the designs on seventeen-by-four-foot canvas panels and then his assistant, John E. Jackson, applied the oil brushwork to realize the work. The panels were then rolled up and delivered to Albany, where they were applied to Hawley's plaster walls with white lead putty. The work comprises 23 panels and depicts important events in the region's history, with large segments devoted to the downtown campus itself.¹

The work was funded by the WPA (Works Progress Administration). During the Great Depression, the federal government provided relief to artists by funding murals, sculpture, and portable pieces of art, such as paintings and photography. Unfortunately, many of the portable WPA works have been lost, making large fixed works, such as the Hawley murals, an irreplaceable and sometimes endangered legacy.

This is not the first time the murals have been repaired. Conservators did restorations in 1974, 1996, and 2008. During the recent restoration, the Libraries asked the Williamstown conservators for an estimate of the cost to fully restore the murals. They estimated that to fix gaps between mural segments, remove heavy surface grime, and repair cracked, sagging, and detached sections of the mural it would cost between \$78,937 and \$101,437. Despite these issues, the *Proposal for Treatment* noted that the murals are structurally sound. At this time, a full restoration is prohibitively expensive, but may be possible at some point in the future.



Current (*left*) and past repairs were made possible with funds from the *Preservation of the Hawley Windows and Murals Fund*. If you would be interested in making a donation to the restoration of the Hawley murals, please see the [University's online donations page](#) and enter in the **Comments** box, "Preservation of the Hawley Windows and Murals Fund."

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1. Kristen Thornton-De Stafeno, "The Murals of the Dewey Graduate Library," *Dewey Graduate Library History* (2017). <https://scholarsarchive.library.albany.edu/dewey/1>

Updating the Libraries' *Emergency Response Plan*

By Katy Kukulich
MSIS Student



I am in the University at Albany's Master of Science in Information Science (MSIS) program with a concentration in Archives and Records Administration. I am in my second year and am expecting to graduate in May 2020. In 2013 I received an associate's degree in liberal arts at SUNY Delhi—I loved it!—and decided I wanted to further my studies in history. I soon enrolled at UAlbany and graduated with a bachelor's in European history

in 2017. Of the many possible careers I could work toward I decided that archives and preservation was the best choice for me.

During my second semester of graduate school, Karen Kiorpes, Head, Alice Hastings Murphy Preservation Department, contacted me and asked if I would be interested in helping her update the University Libraries' *Emergency Response Plan*. The offer sounded very appealing. I liked the idea of assisting with a project that was important to the Libraries.

The project allowed me to meet library staff in other units and gain a better understanding of how an academic library is run. It was the first time I explored an emergency plan, including roles and responsibilities as well as salvage techniques. Updating the emergency plan was a very rewarding and interesting experience that will serve me well in my professional career.

When I was not working on the emergency plan, I was being trained in book repair. I started off using beginner's techniques, such as pamphlet binding and creating new cases for books with damaged covers. This helped me to gradually develop an understanding of basic conservation and to become more knowledgeable of book structures, problems, materials, and options for repair.

I also helped with digitization projects. I scanned brittle pamphlets for the department's [Brittle Books Project](#) and handled the delivery of books that had been digitized by a vendor. I was eager to learn more about digitization and making information more accessible to users through the Web. Learning to digitize brittle books taught me about handling frail materials and editing digital products using Adobe software. Karen and I also worked together to write succinct procedures for the scanning process, as well as for the work done by the Libraries' Metadata Services department.

I also had the chance to attend conferences and lectures hosted by the Preservation department. I had the opportunity to hear George Blood talk about the importance of audio and video preservation and the need for more preservationists and conservators in that field. Karen continues to pepper me regularly with information about other programs and opportunities that I shouldn't miss.

I am grateful to work in the Preservation department and love the variety of assigned tasks. I look forward to new opportunities in the future.

Special Collections Helps University at Albany Celebrate 175th Anniversary

By Jodi Boyle

Supervisory Archivist

M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives



On May 7, 1844, the New York State Legislature created the New York State Normal School, the first state-administered institution of higher learning in New York State. The school officially opened the following December with just 29 students. Fast forward 175 years and this small school, now known as the University at Albany, has evolved into a major research institution, welcoming more than 17,500 students. The University is marking its quartoseptcentennial in 2019 and archivists in the Libraries' M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives are actively engaged in this vibrant, year-long commemoration.

Taking advantage of the many archival collections, memorabilia, and images in the University Archives, archivists have conducted a significant amount of research and photographs selection for the special 175th anniversary sections in the 2019 spring and fall issues of *UAlbany Magazine* and for a timeline of notable events in school history to be distributed throughout the year. Archivists have conducted research and written copy for a potential exhibit to be displayed throughout the Capital Region. Archivists also are serving on University-wide planning committees for the 175th anniversary, helping to develop ideas for special events that will honor the University.

Since athletics has been a part of campus life since the 19th century, archivists are digitizing and creating accompanying metadata for basketball and football film from the 1960s and 1970s, thanks to a generous donation to the department from retired University football coach, Bob Ford. As part of the 175th celebration, retired University men’s basketball coach, Doc Sauers, reviewed the newly digitized footage from select games and his insights and memories about each game were videotaped. Beginning in January the University began sharing some of this historic footage accompanied by Coach Sauers’s respective commentary across social media platforms and even on the scoreboard during one of the men’s basketball games. To view the digitized film visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzN67ogFXQ6iuKywfnH-HA>

Stay tuned during 2019 for opportunities to celebrate the University at Albany’s 175th anniversary, and remember that extensive materials documenting the University’s history are always available in the Department of Special Collections & Archives.

Threads of Scholarship: History and Storytelling in African American Quilts **Exhibit Finds New Home in the University Library—Continues to Inspire and Welcome!**

By Deborah LaFond

Subject Librarian for Africana Studies, Educational & Counseling Psychology, Psychology, and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies



Doctoral student Kaori Otera Chen. Her anthropology seminar paper last semester was inspired by the *Threads of Scholarship* exhibit at the University Library.

The *Threads of Scholarship: History and Storytelling in African American Quilts* permanent library exhibit has moved to the first floor of the University Library, marking its 18th year of campus interaction and librarian-scholar-patron collaboration. The exhibit was opened in 2001 with a well-received, co-created library symposium. Featured speakers, Dr. Gladys-Marie Fry, the late (2015) renowned folklore scholar and Professor Emerita at the University of Maryland; Dr. Raymond Dobard, the late (2019) Professor of Art, Howard University; and La Nina Clayton, former UAlbany graduate student and then Archivist at George Washington University, gave presentations and interacted with audience members. All three addressed how to “piece together” social histories with a variety of texts—including visual literacies such as “quilts as texts”—made and used by enslaved Africans. Their

expertise on methodologies and historical arguments, which continue to shape a more inclusive, interdisciplinary, scholarly canon, were shared.

The posters in the exhibit were gathered from a variety of museums, stores, and curator collections. Invited 2001 symposium speaker, Eli Leon, the late (2018) curator and famous collector of African American quilts, was interviewed at his home in California prior to the symposium when he

contributed support and posters to the exhibit.

The symposium struck a chord and has encouraged several students and faculty to engage on topics and research previously thought to be irrelevant to academia. Research continues, and African American and African art, artists, and their cultural histories are more likely to be seen, heard, and valued due to the work of these artists and scholars. The significance of erasure and how to work towards inclusion on campuses continues to be relevant.

Used in teaching information literacy and cultural history, the exhibit continues to inspire, empower, and promote learning about scholarship while demonstrating how intersecting themes on inclusion, diversity, and social justice in librarianship can be addressed. The exhibit acknowledges contributions of all who persisted in research efforts to open new research paths to further explore cultural histories with new questions.

In her 2018 anthropology seminar paper entitled “Decolonizing Slave-Made Quilts in the United States,” current doctoral student Kaori Otera Chen, inspired by this library exhibit, interrogates debates and themes in African American quilt scholarship. Chen commented on the lack of recognition of African American quilts documented by many African American quilt scholars and researchers. Addressing the subordination of quilters—based on being a uniquely female art—her investigations on material culture, women piecing together meaning, resistance, agency of enslaved women, and how we might hear or read their voices through their quilts and other art, deepen in her doctoral work.

As we share the continued significance and inspiration that this exhibit brings to the library and the campus, we welcome continued interaction and further scholarship. Please visit this website for more information: <https://www.albany.edu/~dlafonde/women/threads.htm>.

University Libraries Join Coalition of Open Access Policy Institutions

By Emily Kilcer

Scholarly Communication Librarian

Dewey Graduate Library



We are pleased to announce that the University Libraries are now affiliate members of the Coalition of Open Access Policy Institutions (COAPI), a Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC) initiative.

COAPI “brings together representatives from North American universities with established faculty open access policies and those in the process of developing such policies” with the goal of sharing best practices and experiences. By fostering a community around developing and implementing OA policies, COAPI aims to move “faculty-led open access forward at member institutions” and to advocate for “open access nationally and internationally.”

Open access is a worldwide movement that champions the “growth of new knowledge, increased impact of research, and improved return on public research investments” by advocating for the free, online availability of scholarly research articles.

You may find more information about COAPI, its membership, and its principles here: <https://sparcopen.org/coapi/>.

Student Advisory Board

Student Advisory Board Meets



The Student Advisory Board advises the University Libraries on matters related to services to students. It includes undergraduate and graduate students pursuing majors in computer science, history, information science, biological sciences, communication, and criminal justice. Under the direction of co-chairs Camille Chesley, Reference Librarian (*back row, far right*), and Lauren Puzier, User Experience Librarian (*back row, second from right*), the board met twice during the spring 2019 semester. They discussed and shared their thoughts on LibGuides, PAWS (Personalized Assistance With Searching), Ask Us 24/7, the group study rooms, signage, the single service desk, and the Libraries' homepage redesign.

Library Events

“Campus Conversations in Standish” Focus On UAlbany Faculty

For four years, the Libraries' “Campus Conversations in Standish” have connected UAlbany faculty with the greater university community. Faculty members share their research and expertise, and exchange ideas and perspectives in a relaxed forum. Since launching the series in spring 2015, the Libraries have organized twenty-one programs. Some faculty presentations have included Dr. John W. Delano on NASA's search for life beyond the earth; Dr. Rabi Musah on the dangers of and crackdown on legal plant highs; Dr. Richard Fogarty on the roots of today's Middle East unrest in the First World War; and Dr. Laura Wittern-Keller on how the Supreme Court decides the constitutionality of presidential actions. The Conversations are held two to three times per semester on selected Wednesdays from 12:35 to 1:30 p.m. in the Science Library's Patricia and J. Spencer

Standish Board Room. All are welcome. For spring 2019 programs, please check the Libraries' website (<https://library.albany.edu>).



Donghee Sinn, PhD, Assistant Professor of Information Studies (*upper left*), began the fall 2018 semester series on October 31 with a talk on personal digital archiving. Dr. Sinn reminded her audience of the ephemeral nature of digital materials by raising such questions as “What will happen to your vacation photos if you lose your smartphone?” and “Will the personal history on your Timeline be lost if Facebook goes out of business?” In addition to her interest in personal digital archiving, Dr. Sinn also researches public memory and the use of digital primary sources.



On November 7, Yanna Liang, PhD, founding chair of UAlbany's Department of Environmental and Sustainable Engineering (*left*), discussed “The Pursuit of Sustainability.” Dr. Liang's presentation covered wastewater management, solving environmental concerns using biological processes, and the transport and end locations of engineered nanoparticles in water and soil. Before starting her academic career in 2007, Dr. Liang worked in her native China on environmental issues. Upon moving to the United States, she worked for the Environmental Protection Agency.



Rachel Dressler, PhD, Associate Professor of Art History (*left*), concluded the series on November 14 with a talk on medieval visualizations of history, as expressed in artifacts such as medieval maps like the *Hereford Mappa Mundi*. She also described the historical events depicted in the famous *Bayeux Embroidery* (more generally known as the *Bayeux Tapestry*, even though it was created by needle work and not weaving). Dr. Dressler has published extensively on medieval tomb sculpture and is the author of *Of Armour and Men in Medieval England: the Chivalric Rhetoric of Three English Knights' Effigies* (2004).

Libraries Foster Community Engagement with Open Access

By Emily E. Kilcer

Scholarly Communication Librarian

Dewey Graduate Library



In October the University Libraries once again celebrated Open Access Week (October 22-26, 2018), a global event that encourages education about and participation in making open access (OA) to scholarship the default.

The week kicked off with a screening of [Paywall: The Business of Scholarship](#) (directed by Jason Schmitt, Clarkson University), which was followed with informal discussion among the attendees, who shared their impressions about some of the issues raised in the documentary.

The week's second headline event was a day-long conference, [Fostering Open](#)

[Knowledge: Foundations, Platforms & Relationships](#), which highlighted current OA efforts on campus and challenged attendees to imagine ways to extend this work with new partners and programs in service of our research, teaching, and learning community.

The morning opened with the Provost's Open Educational Resource (OER) Fellows, Lenore Horowitz, Marcus Adams, Jeremy Feldblyum, and Matthew Ingram (*above*), sharing their experiences adopting OER materials in a panel moderated by Billie Franchini, Interim Director of UAlbany's Institute for Teaching, Learning and Academic Leadership (ITLAL).

Dean Hui-Ching Chang of the Honors College followed this group with a TED-style talk about the College's effort to make valuable honors student theses more discoverable by making them available in the University's OA repository, [Scholars Archive](#).

In his keynote address, "The shift toward Open Research: A Discussion about Drivers, Recent Developments, and the Future of Scholarship," Nick Shockey of SPARC spoke to the group about the drivers of the shift toward open research, highlighting some of the OA movement's most important recent developments and discussing the implications for the future of scholarship. He closed his program by grounding the global OA effort in local terms, mapping the ways in which open research

advances each of the goals of the University's strategic plan.

Following a break for lunch, Casey Kohler of the University's Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education spoke about [Scholars Archive](#) as a vehicle for creating critical efficiency in her work managing submissions for, and distribution of, content for the Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Engagement's annual Undergraduate Research Conference.

Sebastian Karcher of the Qualitative Data Repository at Syracuse University followed with a talk about the challenges inherent to, and importance of, managing and sharing qualitative research data, offering some best practices for doing so.

Elaine Lasda, Lindsay Van Berkom, and Emily Kilcer of the University Libraries led the group through an interactive case study aimed at raising some considerations and implications that different publication options may mean for a researcher's work.

To close the day, Carey Hatch of the SUNY Office for Library and Information Services spoke to SUNY Central's OA policy memorandum, sharing resources and recommendations for the community to engage with this call for action.

The week's efforts were led by the Open Access Day Planning Committee, chaired by Lindsay Van Berkom, Scholars Archive Administrator. Both events were free and open to the public, and the conference presentations will be available in [Scholars Archive](#).

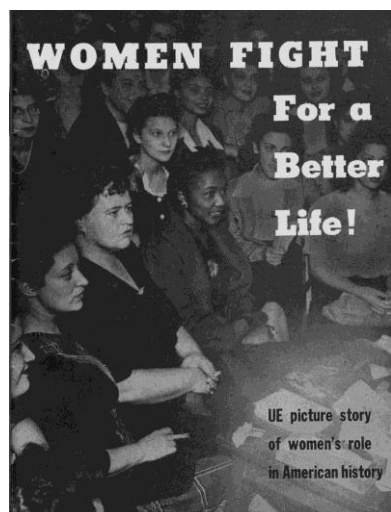
The conference was graciously funded, in part, through a grant from University Auxiliary Services at Albany (UAS) and with support from the SUNY Office for Library and Information Services (OLIS).

Researching New York

By Jodi Boyle

Supervisory Archivist

M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives



November is New York History Month and to celebrate this special occasion, the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives helped host the Researching New York 2018 conference, November 15-17, 2018, in the Science Library. More than 300 scholars, faculty, students, and history enthusiasts attended panels, lectures, workshops, a reading, plenaries, and a keynote address. Conference events were held at both the University at Albany and New York State Museum in downtown Albany. The Science Library's Patricia and J. Spencer Standish Board Room was the perfect location for guests to network, unwind, and enjoy Friday night's reception. Even an unexpected mid-November snowstorm on the second day did not dampen the participants' or attendees' enthusiasm.

United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE) brochure cover, 1953, Helen Quirini Papers, Series 3, Box 2, Folder 18, M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives, University Libraries, University at Albany.

The annual conference, now in its 19th year, is sponsored by the Department of Special Collections & Archives along with the Department of History, the History Graduate Student Organization, and the New York State Archives Partnership Trust. All faculty from the Department of Special Collections & Archives provided local arrangements assistance – from technical support for presenters to supplying directions to attendees!

Conference presentation topics covered a wide array of interests related to New York State history. Presenters from across the state and some from farther afield chronicled order and disorder in early New York using court records; the Great Subway Race of 1967 staged by students from M.I.T.; Jell-O and Gelatine; Frederick Douglass; and women's life and labor in mid-20th century New York. There were roundtable discussions on slavery in New York and on articulating the value of the historical enterprise. Robert Chiles of the University of Maryland served as the keynote speaker and recounted the Al Smith decade in New York leading up to Governor Smith's U.S. Presidential run in 1928. The closing plenary led by Saratoga County Historian, Lauren Roberts, was a film screening and discussion about building the largest reservoir in New York State, the Great Sacandaga Lake in the Adirondacks, in 1930.

Researching New York will return to the Science Library in November 2019 when it observes its 20th anniversary.

Dewey Graduate Library Holds Spring Welcome Back Event

By Tyler Norton

Student Success and Communications Associate



Library faculty and staff welcomed students at the Dewey Graduate Library's Welcome Back Event (left to right): Lauren Puzier, User Experience Librarian; Emily Kilcer, Scholarly Communication Librarian; Courtney Degonzague, Lending & Access Services Clerk; and Angela Hackstadt, Subject Librarian for Political Science, Public Administration, Public Policy, and Law.

The Dewey Graduate Library held its annual spring semester Welcome Back Event on February 5, 2019 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Over 120 students, faculty, and staff visited the library’s pop-up table located outside the Husted Hall Café.

The table featured materials promoting library resources and services, as well as library faculty and staff themselves. Librarian trading cards and buttons drew significant interest from the community.

Students who visited spoke of how much they enjoyed studying at the Dewey Graduate Library, with one College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity undergraduate describing the building’s murals and stained glass windows as “beautiful.”

Library faculty and staff enjoyed the event as well, finding it a time to reconnect with patrons after winter break. “Tabling at the Welcome Back Event is always so much fun,” says Courtney Degonzague, Lending & Access Services Clerk at the Dewey Graduate Library. “Getting to see the students’ faces light up when they approach the table makes every second of the event worth it. Their questions, comments, and even compliments show us that the outreach we do for them matters.”

Catherine Dwyer, Director of Scholarly Communication and Head, Dewey Graduate Library echoes this sentiment. “Our twice yearly Welcome Back Event is a great opportunity to promote library resources and services and to let students, staff, and faculty know about the beautiful library facility available to them on their own downtown campus.”

The Dewey Welcome Back Event began in September 2015 as stand-alone initiative to connect with the University at Albany’s downtown campus community. Its popularity resulted in a semi-annual tabling opportunity. In the subsequent semesters, the event has grown in scope and scale, becoming a staple of the University Libraries’ programming calendar.

Science Library News

By Irina Holden

Information Literacy & Science Outreach Librarian



The University Libraries renewed its “Darwin Day” tradition of celebrating the birthday of the famous naturalist, Sir Charles Darwin, on February 12. The Darwin Day celebration took place in the Atrium of the Science Library (*left*). Despite a huge snow storm that day, the event turned out to be a big success. Students and university employees alike stopped by and learned about library resources and services, while enjoying a delicious slice of cake.

One week later, the University Libraries joined the New York State Writers

Institute and UAlbany's RNA Institute in bringing bestselling science author, Ed Yong, to talk about his new book, *I Contain Multitudes: The Microbes Within Us and a Grander View of Life*. Yong is known for his science column in *The Atlantic* magazine; he has also published articles in *National Geographic*, *Scientific American* and *The New Yorker*. Yong first delivered a craft talk on science writing in the D'Ambra Auditorium and then headed to Page Hall on the Downtown Campus to discuss his book. Both events attracted a lot of attention from a wide audience.

Awards

Allison Hosier and Wendy West Receive SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship



SUNY Chancellor Kristina M. Johnson conferred the 2017-2018 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship to the Libraries' Allison Hosier, Information Literacy Librarian, and Wendy West, Head of Discovery Services, on November 19, 2018. Hosier (*above*) and West (*below*) are pictured with University at Albany President Havidán Rodríguez and Dean of University Libraries Rebecca Mugridge. The Chancellor's Awards for Excellence are SUNY-wide honors that "publicly proclaim SUNY's pride in the accomplishments and personal dedication of its instructional faculty, librarians and professional staff across its campuses."



Dewey Graduate Library's Bridget Collins Receives Sustainability Award



Todd Foreman, Vice President for Finance and Administration, presents the Terra Award to the Dewey Graduate Library's Bridget Collins.

Bridget Collins, Administrative Support Assistant at the Dewey Graduate Library, received a Terra Award from the UAlbany Office of Sustainability in November for her commitment to advancing environmental sustainability on campus. Collins's sustainability efforts are creative and determined. For example, she identified the need for clearly labeled trash and recycling receptacles at the Dewey Graduate Library. Now, library users better understand which items are recyclable and are using the receptacles appropriately. Collins regularly promotes "Green Your

Workspace," by encouraging library staff to: put their computers in "sleep" mode; opt for paperless pay stubs; reuse and repurpose office supplies and furniture; and think assiduously about paper consumption. As a UAlbany Sustainability Coordinator, Collins has encouraged the entire downtown campus to participate in the UAlbany "Green Your Commute" event. Last year she organized and staffed a check-in point for green commuters, applauding downtown campus participants and awarding them stickers.

According to Catherine Dwyer, Director of Scholarly Communication and Head, Dewey Graduate Library, "Bridget is not just an advocate for sustainability, she is an active role model. She regularly cycles or takes public transportation to and from work. She packs her lunch in reusable containers. She regularly promotes wider sustainability initiatives such as choosing sustainable lodging when traveling, using metal or glass straws, and participating in Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). She serves as a non-judgmental resource to everyone on the downtown campus."

Laurie Constable Receives CALA Outstanding Service Award



Laurie Constable, Library Clerk 3 (left), accepting the CALA Outstanding Service Award from Jean Guyon, Electronic Resources Coordinator (right), on February 10, 2019.

Laurie Constable, Library Clerk 3 (*far left*), received the Capital Area Library Assistants (CALA) Outstanding Service Award on February 10, 2019. CALA is an interest group of the Capital District Library Council. Its goal is to enhance a professional image of library support staff within the library community and to recognize the importance of support staff in the library profession. The CALA Outstanding Service Award acknowledges the exemplary service of CALA members both to their individual library and to the library profession as a whole. As Christina Evola, Lending & Access Services Clerk, and Stephanie Sampsen, former Lending & Access Services Clerk, wrote in their award nomination: “Without question, Laurie is an outstanding employee of the library, who has contributed greatly to the training, productivity, and positive climate within the departments in which she has worked. Throughout her long career, she has provided excellent library services, suggested improvements and innovative ideas for library services, encouraged the use of library resources, and enhanced communication among all levels of staff.”

Library Services

High School Student Research in the University Libraries

By Gregory Bobish

Information Literacy Librarian



For several years I have been the Libraries’ high school liaison and I enjoy the opportunity to interact with and assist these bright and curious students. Students at many local and regional high schools are working on advanced research projects that can benefit from access to the University Libraries’ extensive collections.

Some of these students participate in the [University in the High School Program](#), where they take college level courses and visit the Libraries in conjunction with those courses, while other students are working on complex school projects which require more advanced materials. The Libraries also collaborate with Albany High School’s [International Baccalaureate](#) program to enable the scholars in that program to complete a major thesis project.

Regardless of which particular goal the students and teachers have, the University Libraries can tailor their visit to help them achieve it. Tours of the Libraries' facilities offer a glimpse of college life as well as practical knowledge about how to find the resources needed that day. Orientation sessions covering the library website and our many databases for finding research articles are often the next step before students get down to work in one of the Libraries' smart classrooms. I remain in the classroom with them for the duration of their visit, available to help on an individual basis with anything from finding an item on the shelf to developing effective search strategies, so that they can make the best use of their often limited time.

Working with high school groups is one of my favorite parts of my job, as the students and teachers are truly appreciative of the chance to use our collections and to get a taste (often literally, as they have lunch in the Campus Center) of the college experience. I look forward each year to the classes that visit regularly as well as to welcoming new groups for their first visit. It's nice to see the familiar faces of the teachers, and occasionally later on I see the familiar face of a student who has decided to attend UAlbany. I hope that their visit to the University Libraries' played a role in that decision!

Database Finder Tool Improved

By Mark Wolfe

Curator of Digital Collections



The Libraries rolled out its redesigned database finder tool (*above*) in January 2019. The tool gives access to some of the Libraries' most valued online resources. Through extensive user feedback from our subject, information literacy, and reference services librarians, we have improved the database finder's usability as well as given it a fresh look and feel. In this newly enhanced environment students and faculty can explore librarian-recommended databases for their research topics.

Here are some of the new enhancements:

clean, user-centered design
improved search functionality
updated language, including a brief definition of each database to distinguish this tool from our eDiscover service, which searches multiple e-resources
added responsive, mobile design
updated colors and fonts

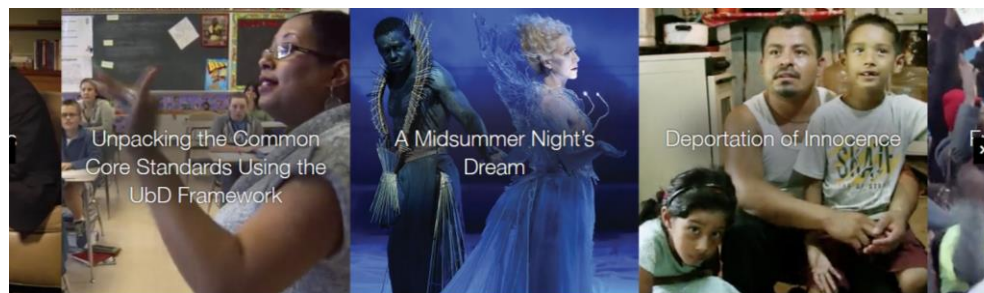
A complete redesign of the Libraries' home page is underway with a launch date slated for summer 2019.

New Resources

Academic Video Online (AVON)

By Priscilla Seaman

Subject Librarian for Anthropology, Communication, Geography & Planning



The UAlbany Libraries recently added a new database of streaming videos called AVON. This AVON is not connected with the long-standing fashion and beauty brand, so you won't be able to use it to order the latest shade of lipstick or newest mosquito repellent. However, if you are interested in Environmental Sciences or Media Studies, this AVON will allow you to choose from nearly 5000 videos on these topics.

AVON stands for Academic Video Online and its collections contain:

- over 63,000 videos
- thousands of award-winning films
- subject and discipline browsing
- searchable transcripts

Video Types: Documentaries, interviews, performances, news programs and newsreels, field recordings, commercials, archival materials, lectures, feature films and shorts, demonstrations, and original and raw footage.

Subjects/Disciplines: The AVON video collections are published by Alexander Street Press, which has partnered with media outlets such as PBS, the BBC, and the Royal Shakespeare Company. A few examples of searchable disciplines include:

- American Studies
- Art & Design
- Diversity
- Health Sciences
- History
- Literature & Language
- Music & Performing Arts
- Personal Interest
- Psychology & Counseling
- Science & Engineering
- Social Sciences

In addition to discipline categories, 38 subject categories are further broken down into subcategories. A few examples include:

- Anthropology
- Business & Economics
- Criminal Justice & Public Safety
- Food Studies
- Global Issues
- Media Studies
- Politics & Current Affairs
- Social Theory

Search Features: Users of AVON can narrow their searches not only by subject or discipline, but also by a wide range of criteria, such as duration, language, place or person discussed, historical event, etc. Additionally, users can customize their experiences by creating a user profile and creating clips from films, which can be imbedded in course content.

Researchers at the University at Albany can access these videos from the “Streaming Video” link on the University Library’s [Databases](#) page.

Online Catalog to be Replaced



The Libraries will replace its online catalog with a next-generation search service in the fall 2019 semester. Named “Search,” the new software will have an enhanced user interface and advanced functions including:

- comprehensive searches of all formats—for example, one search will yield records for print books, e-books, online journals, conference proceedings, UAlbany dissertations, government documents, and microfilm;

- icons to distinguish different formats;
- filters for refining search results;
- links to online, full-text articles;
- the ability to search the collections of 60 other SUNY libraries;
- virtual shelf browsing—recreating the in-library experience of exploring books on a shelf by viewing digitized book covers in Library of Congress call number order;
- links to tools for creating bibliographies;
- a mechanism to save search queries.

The new search service is part of a SUNY-wide project that will move 61 SUNY libraries to an entirely new library services platform (LSP). The new platform will integrate all aspects of building, managing, and using a library collection, from acquiring databases, to cataloging e-books, to delivering research documents to faculty, students, staff, and alumni.

Many members of the UAlbany Libraries’ staff have been actively involved in planning and implementing this SUNY-wide migration, serving on nearly all of the SUNY-wide working groups that are managing various aspects of the migration.

Focus on Faculty Publications

Faculty/Librarian Collaborations Enhance Doctoral Student Success

By Yu-Hui Chen, PhD

Subject Librarian for Education and East Asian Studies



Approximately 57 percent of PhD candidates do not complete their degrees.¹ Yet according to Yu-Hui Chen, PhD, Subject Librarian for Education and East Asian Studies, there has been “little discussion about effective qualitative measures for retaining and graduating doctoral students.” Chen explored the subject in a scholarly article titled “Faculty/Librarian Collaborations Enhance Doctoral Student Success” published last November in *College & Research Libraries News*.² She recaps her article below.

My commitment to student success is exhibited in various ways, and one of them is through my outreach to doctoral students. While providing research consultations to doctoral students, I have observed their unique struggles. Having gone through the journey of doctoral study myself, I

surmised that in addition to research consultations with librarians, doctoral students need guidance from faculty to successfully navigate the path to their destination. Thus, I decided to hold broad-based discussion forums on key issues for current and potential doctoral students. Based on information gathered from the Dissertations & Theses @ SUNY Albany database, I compiled a list of potential forum panelists from various academic departments in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. I drafted an outline of discussion topics and organized them into two separate sessions. Then, I discussed this initiative with a Distinguished Professor at our Rockefeller College, who has chaired numerous dissertation committees, to finalize the topics. I invited two college deans to serve on the panels and solicited their opinions on potential faculty participants. The deans' perspectives helped me recruit expert participants and finalize the panel make-up for each session.

The forums were rolled out in fall 2015. By attending the forums, participating students received guidance in how to develop their own academic identities, effectively navigate doctoral journeys, strategize for completing dissertations, and create career paths. Additionally, they also learned how to work through setbacks, build a support system, and manage time efficiently.

Due to the overwhelmingly positive feedback from students and the enthusiasm of panelists, I have repeated this program annually since fall 2016. Further, I replaced the one broad-based discussion forum with three discipline-based ones, with two sessions for each. A strong indicator of the usefulness of the program is that, typically, the invited faculty members happily return as panelists, encouraged by the evidence that the program provides student support in ways that have long been needed. For that reason, they strongly urge students in their departments to attend the forums.

Today, academic libraries are challenged to provide services relevant to their users and to demonstrate their impact on student success. Collaborating with faculty and other campus constituents to foster future scholars is one way to maximize libraries' efforts, and by doing so contribute to increasing retention and graduation rates of doctoral students.

1. Council of Graduate Schools, *Ph.D. Completion and Attrition: Analysis of Baseline Demographic Data from the Ph.D. Completion Project* (Washington, D.C.: Council of Graduate Schools, 2008).

2. Yu-Hui Chen, "Faculty/Librarian Collaborations Enhance Doctoral Student Success: Strategies for Retention and Graduation," *College & Research Libraries News* 79, no. 10 (November 2018): 560-64, <https://doi.org/10.5860/crln.79.10.560>.

Recent Faculty Publications

Yu-Hui Chen, PhD
Subject Librarian for Education and East Asian Studies

Chen, Yu-Hui. "Faculty/Librarian Collaborations Enhance Doctoral Student Success: Strategies for Retention and Graduation." *College & Research Libraries News* 79, no. 10 (November 2018): 560-64. <https://doi.org/10.5860/crln.79.10.560>.

Camille E. Chesley
Reference Librarian

Anantachai, Tarida, and Camille Chesley. "Level Up the One-Shot: Empowering Students with Backward Design and Game-Based Learning." In *Motivating Students on a Time Budget: Pedagogical Frames and Lesson Plans for In-Person and Online Information Literacy Instruction*. Edited by Sarah Steiner and Miriam Rigby, 167-80. Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries, 2019. https://scholarsarchive.library.albany.edu/ulib_fac_scholar/109/.

Irina Holden
Information Literacy & Science Outreach Librarian

Holden, Irina I. "ACRL Framework in Information Literacy in Mathematics and Statistics Class: What Students of Mathematics Think about It?" *Science & Technology Libraries* (December 2018). <https://doi.org/10.1080/0194262X.2018.1555075>.

Holden, Irina. "Open Access and Students in Information Literacy Class: A Quest for Understanding." *JLAMS* 14, no. 1 (Winter 2018). <https://scholarsarchive.library.albany.edu/jlams/vol14/iss1/3/>.

Allison E. Hosier
Information Literacy Librarian

Hosier, Allison. "Research Is an Activity and a Subject of Study: A Proposed Metaconcept and Its Practical Application." *College & Research Libraries* 80, no. 1 (January 2019): 44-59. <https://crl.acrl.org/index.php/crl/article/view/16944/18657>.

Hosier, Allison. "Focusing Your Research by Writing the Abstract First." *Librarian Parlor*. January 16, 2019. <https://libparlor.com/2019/01/16/focusing-your-research-by-writing-the-abstract-first/>.

Brian Keough
Head, Special Collections & Archives

Acker, James, and Brian Keough. "The Death Penalty: An American Tradition on the Decline." *The Conversation*, February 19, 2019. <https://theconversation.com/the-death-penalty-an-american-tradition-on-the-decline-107948>.

Rebecca Mugridge
Dean of University Libraries

Mugridge, Rebecca L. Review of *The Complete Guide to Personal Digital Archiving*. Edited by Brianna H. Marshall. *Catholic Library World* 89, no.1 (September 2018): 61.

Kabel Nathan Stanwicks
Head of Access Services

Stanwicks, Kabel Nathan, and Hemalata Iyer. "Social Tagging and Name Authorities: Popular Music Information Discovery." *Proceedings of the Association for Information Science and Technology* 55, no. 1 (2018): 900-01. <https://doi.org/10.1002/pra2.2018.14505501167>.

Recent Faculty Presentations

Alonso-Regalado, Jesús

Subject Librarian for History, Latin American Studies, and Romance Languages

Alonso-Regalado, Jesús. "Ask Your Librarian! What You Never Dare to Ask Him About Libraries: Supporting Your Research, and Making Your Life Happier in Academia and Beyond." Presentation delivered for the Spring 2019 LLC Seminar Series, Albany, NY, February 2019.

https://www.albany.edu/llc/SP19_SeminarLib.pdf.

Angela Hackstadt

Subject Librarian for Political Science, Public Administration, Public Policy, and Law

Hackstadt, Angela. "U.S. Food Waste Legislation." Presentation delivered at the Praxis Conference, Arlington, VA, November 2018.

Rebecca Mugridge

Dean of University Libraries

Mugridge, Rebecca L., and Nancy M. Poehlmann. "Benchmarking Vended Authority Control Practices in ARL Libraries." Presentation delivered twice at the American Library Association Midwinter Meeting for both the ALCTS CaMMS Cataloging & Classification Research Interest Group and the ACRL Technical Services Interest Group, Seattle, WA, January 2019.

Kelsey L. O'Brien

Information Literacy Librarian

Mackey, Thomas, Kelsey O'Brien, and Christine Paige. "Accelerating Metaliterate Learning with a Global MOOC and Digital Badging System." Presentation delivered at the OLC Accelerate conference, Orlando, FL, November 2018. <https://onlinelearningconsortium.org/attend-2018/olc-accelerate-2018-session-page/?session=5809&kwds=>.

Nancy Poehlmann

Head, Metadata Services

Mugridge, Rebecca L., and Nancy M. Poehlmann. "Benchmarking Vended Authority Control Practices in ARL Libraries." Presentation delivered twice at the American Library Association Midwinter Meeting for both the ALCTS CaMMS Cataloging & Classification Research Interest Group and the ACRL Technical Services Interest Group, Seattle, WA, January 2019.

Gregory Wiedeman
University Archivist

Wiedeman, Gregory. "Providing Computational Access to Records of American Capital Punishment." Presentation delivered at the Code4Lib conference, San José, CA, February 2019. <https://2019.code4lib.org/talks/Providing-Computational-Access-to-Records-of-American-Capital-Punishment>.

New Hires



Erich Hammer (*upper left*) was hired on February 1, 2019 as the Head of Library Systems. Prior to joining the University Libraries, Erich was the Assistant Director of CAS Computing at the University at Albany. Erich holds a BA in physics from Kalamazoo College and an MSIS from the University at Albany.



Charlene Martoni-McElrath (*lower left*) was hired on February 21, 2019 as Library Clerk III at the University Library. Prior to joining the University Libraries, she was Evening and Weekend Supervisor at the Sojourner Truth Library at the State University of New York at New Paltz. Charlene holds a BA in adolescence education and in journalism from SUNY New Paltz. She is currently pursuing her MLIS at the University at Albany.

Departures



Jess Smith, Access Services Student Supervisor (*left*), resigned in November 2018 to accept a new position with the New York State Department of Health.

Stephanie Sampsen, Lending and Access Services Clerk, resigned in January 2019 to accept a new position with the New York State Department of Financial Services.

Social Media

What They're Saying About Us On Twitter



I ADORE [@UAlbanyLibs](#) and especially ILLIAD. When I need a book or an article for research they get it for me—it has been a tremendous boon. Thank you.

—November 13, 2018

I took a great Photoshop mini-course at [@UAlbanyLibs](#) that helped me get some scope.

—November 13, 2018

[@UAlbanyLibs](#) has some great equipment for podcasting and recording. Great resources for undergraduates and graduates, be sure to partake of them!

—October 31, 2018

The @UAlbanyLibs #OAWEEK event was enlightening and tons o’ fun. It was also adjunct to a @SUNY Student Success Summit. Perfect alignment. Open = success on so many levels.

—October 25, 2018

Our @UAlbanyLibs is a phenomenal resource...take advantage #UAlbany students!

—October 3, 2018

We would like to thank our friends at @UAlbanyLibs for all their help and support!

—September 18, 2018

About the University at Albany Libraries

The University at Albany Libraries comprise the University Library, the Science Library, and the Dewey Graduate Library. A member of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), the 124 largest, most comprehensive research libraries in North America, the University at Albany Libraries serve the University’s students, faculty, and staff to further their academic achievement and success, as well as the citizens of New York State and scholars and researchers from around the world. For up-to-date information about the University Libraries, visit library.albany.edu.



UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
State University of New York

University Libraries—LI 123
University at Albany
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12222
(518) 442-3600
<http://library.albany.edu>

“Giving to the Libraries”
<https://library.albany.edu/about/giving>

