

THE LIBRARY

The Heart of the University

NUMBER 60 | FALL 2016

THE CASE FOR COLLABORATION

FOCUSING ON NEW COLLABORATIVE SPACES

PAGES 8-12



PennState
University Libraries

Message from the Dean

Greetings:

It has been another busy fall across the University Libraries' 36 locations, now 37, as we recognize the virtual presence of our World Campus Library, libraries.psu.edu/world. (By the way, I invite you to browse our website; we've redesigned it entirely.)

Online learning librarian Torrie Raish serves more than 12,000 World Campus students while also leading a nationwide trend in digital badging — online credentialing for learning achievements. You may have seen her quoted in January's *U.S. News and World Report* or October's issue of Delta Airlines' *Delta Sky* magazine.



Torrie's latest project is linking instructors with our "embedded librarians" who participate in courses through Penn State's new learning management system, Canvas. It's the newest channel through which we are actively supporting student learning.

Online and in person, the Libraries also has a longstanding commitment to creating a welcoming environment of opportunity and enrichment for everyone we serve, as well as attracting and developing talented faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds.

This semester, we welcomed Alia Gant and Jose Guerrero, our second cohort of University Libraries Diversity Residency Program librarians.

Launched in 2013, the program strives to prepare recent library and information science/studies (MLIS) graduates for leadership positions in academic librarianship. These three-year appointments offer rotating research and service assignments, under senior faculty guidance, to provide them a broad opportunity for scholarly exploration and service.

The Diversity Residency Program is a critical component of our mission and a strategic priority to enhance the University's reputation as a leader in promoting and cultivating diversity and inclusion in all areas. We would love to see its future secured through a leadership gift, to help ensure that future generations of students see themselves reflected in the faculty librarians who assist them.

As always, we are grateful for your support and welcome you, online or in person, anytime.

Sincerely,



Barbara I. Dewey,
Dean of University Libraries and Scholarly Communications

"Our goal is to create an environment of opportunity and enrichment for every person the Libraries serves."

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On the cover: Our spaces need to evolve to meet our visitors' needs. Students turn to us for study spaces, especially study rooms for completing group projects, so we developed a plan for a Collaboration Commons. With your help, we can make the concept a reality.

Cover photography by Steve Tressler, Vista Pro Studios

Bednar Interns at Work

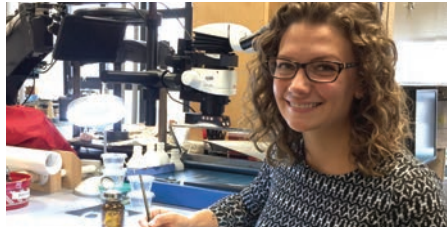
Meet this year's Bednar interns and hear firsthand about their experiences

The purpose of the Marie Bednar Libraries Internship Program Endowment is "to support and enhance the University Libraries by providing monies for an internship program that will enable undergraduate students to participate in an active and collaborative learning experience and to gain career experience while earning academic credit."



"My work with the University Libraries' digital GIS resources has made me aware of the extensive collection of geospatial data resources and tools that the University Libraries makes available to all students. The University Libraries are equipped to provide outstanding support to student research projects."

Benjamin Carlsen, State College, Pa.
Senior majoring in geography – geographic information systems (GIS) option
Bednar Geospatial Information Intern
Donald W. Hamer Maps Library



"I am fascinated by the intersection of science and historical materials — and more particularly, by the deep understanding of historical materials on both physical and artistic levels that is unique to the skill set and knowledge which conservators are expected to have. The practical concerns addressed in the conservation techniques I practice every day on the Libraries' collections connects with my own affinity for analytical and empirical thinking, while also serving the public interest in conserving our cultural heritage."

Olivia Kuzio, Williamsport, Pa.
Senior majoring in chemistry
Bednar Conservation Intern
Preservation, Conservation, and Digitization Department



"My time with the University Libraries Development team has shown me how philanthropic work truly makes an impact. Taking part in donor visits and assisting in the planning and execution of the annual Giving Tuesday initiative, the University Libraries reaches far and across the Penn State community."

Matthew Lamas, Plant City, Fla.
Junior majoring in political science and communication arts and sciences
Bednar Development Intern
University Libraries Development Team



"My experience at the Maps Library has allowed me to apply skills learned in my classes in order to assist our patrons, and has given me opportunities to collaborate closely with Libraries professionals and my fellow interns. I have gained an appreciation for the extraordinary value library resources can provide to various types of research and I aim to showcase this value through my project this year."

Connor Henderson, State College, Pa.
Senior majoring in geography
Bednar Intern
Donald W. Hamer Maps Library



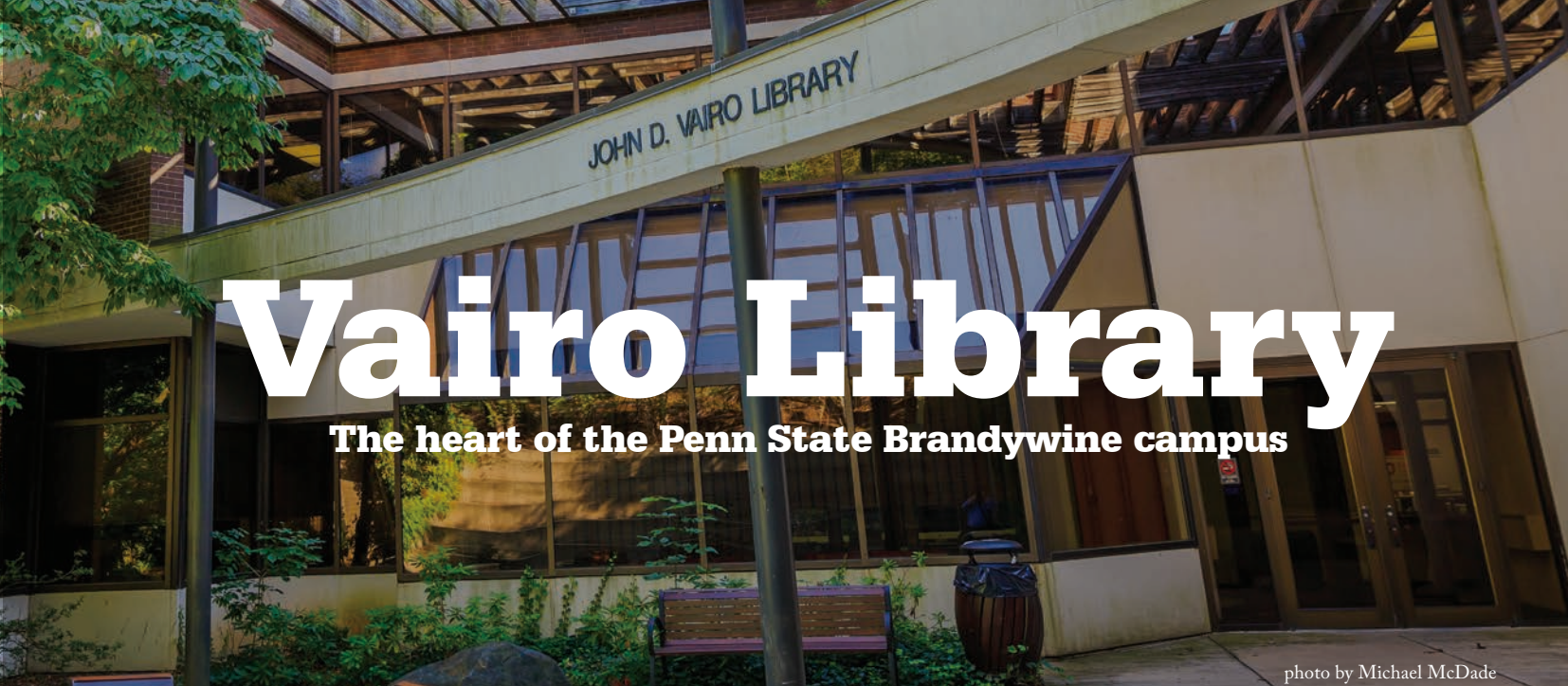
"My job at the Penn State Libraries is preparing me for a future editorial career. The amount of experience I am gaining and the skills I am developing are invaluable."

Rachel Nill, Milan, Ohio
Senior majoring in English
Bednar Intern
Interinstitutional Center for Indigenous Knowledge



"Interning at the Maps Library in the Sanborn Maps Collection has been an amazing experience, allowing me to combine my passion for maps with my love of history. The mixture of skills that I have learned throughout this experience will make me marketable not only to graduate schools but employers as well."

Jack Swab, Fallston, Md.
Senior majoring in geography and history,
Schreyer Honors College Scholar
Bednar Sanborn Maps Intern
Donald W. Hamer Maps Library



Vairo Library

The heart of the Penn State Brandywine campus

photo by Michael McDade

When Penn State opened a campus in Delaware County in 1967, 11 full-time faculty members taught 236 students in the main building with a single classroom serving as the library. Since then, more than 100,000 students have earned a degree or have started their studies in higher education at Penn State Brandywine. The library has changed as well, from an original catalog of 500 volumes to more than 50,000, and with a location and staff that offers state-of-the-art resources to meet students' changing needs.

The vision of the library as the heart of the campus was proposed by John D. Vairo, Penn State Brandywine's first campus executive, when the campus moved from Chester to Media in 1970. An endowment to honor Vairo to support the growth of the library's collections was established in 1986 upon his retirement. The facility was named after him in 1995.

"John Vairo really considered the library the heart of the campus," said Susan Ware, a Penn State librarian since 1977 and now head librarian at Brandywine. "In fact, the story goes that this location is actually the center of the property."

Vairo Library has remained an integral part of student life at Penn State Brandywine since opening in 1980.

Vairo Library has remained an integral part of student life at Penn State Brandywine since opening in 1980. Although it primarily functions as a research establishment, the library also provides space for students to collaborate, create multimedia projects and simply relax.

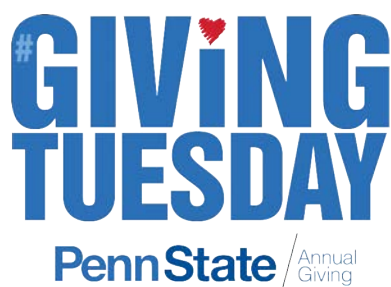
The library also is an important resource for the greater community, and a recent estate commitment honors this role. The Paul G. Thompson John D. Vairo Library Collection Endowment was established by a Penn State alumnus who resides in the area. Thompson's gift will support the purchase of books, databases, electronic

publications, journals, and other material to increase the discoverability of the library's collections.

The library's array of services reflects a modern shift toward interactive study — an approach to learning that Penn State Brandywine's librarians have championed for years. These changes have allowed Vairo Library to evolve into a modern Information Commons, integrating services to include both print and digital information resources, collaborative and quiet study areas, professional media production studios, and academic tutoring.

With each change, Brandywine's librarians have managed to embrace both print and digital technology, making the full range of the world's knowledge accessible to the student body. The key, according to Ware, is to remain sensitive to the demands of the present and open to the demands of the future.

"The flexibility of the library has been its biggest advantage," Ware said. "We are support for learning, so however that moves and changes shape is what we will follow."



Two years ago, Penn State Annual Giving launched its participation in Giving Tuesday, celebrated worldwide during the consumer-driven holiday season to support nonprofit organizations. This year's event, on Tuesday, November 29, is a chance for friends of the University to support student learning through gifts of all sizes to the Textbook Fund.

Through the Textbook Fund, the University Libraries purchases textbooks and other required course materials and makes them available to students on reserve. These textbooks stay within the library where they are shelved, so as many students as possible can access them. Each student can check out a textbook for two hours at a time, so it's not uncommon for several students in a course to wait in a queue to check out the same title.

Donations of more than \$27,500 to the Textbook Fund were received during Giving Tuesday last year, led by matching fund challenges from the Penn State Bookstore, the Penn State University Press, and Shipley Energy of York, Pa. For this fiscal year beginning July 1, the Textbook Fund's current Giving Tuesday donation total stands at \$31,807.

With a solid start in its first two years, the Textbook Fund has the potential to make a significant impact in what the Libraries could provide for students. Estimates by Libraries staff have determined that purchasing one current edition of each required course text, each year, would cost the Libraries at least \$1 million, and perhaps as much as \$2 million.

That total isn't surprising, since course-related costs alone may easily exceed \$1,000 per year. The College Board's "Quick Guide: College Costs" estimates that the yearly average cost for a four-year, in-state college student's books and supplies is about \$1,298, or \$649 split between two semesters. Students with financial challenges may forego purchasing expensive course materials with a different, and more critical cost — in outcome of their grades.

The Textbook Fund may help students succeed in the classroom by offsetting these costs, and young alumni and potential donors to the Libraries may find Giving Tuesday an especially easy way to support these efforts. Gifts to the Libraries and the Textbook Fund can be made at anytime online at giveto.psu.edu.

Students with financial challenges may forego purchasing expensive course materials with a different, and more critical cost — in outcome of their grades.

New and Notable



Steve Borrelli began work at the University Libraries community's new Library Assessment Department in April to serve as head of Library Assessment. He came to Penn State after more than a decade of service at Washington State University Libraries as a reference and instruction librarian, instructional design librarian, and strategic assessment librarian and assessment team leader.



Wendi Keeler joined the University Libraries in May as assistant to the dean for external relations. Most recently she served as assistant to the director of development at Penn State's College of Health and Human Development, and also was a donor relations field representative for the Greater Alleghenies Blood Region of the American Red Cross.



Elizabeth Hobart began her Penn State service in August as special collections cataloger, arriving from the Wilson and Davis Libraries at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she was the special collections and humanities cataloger. She has a range of experience in rare books cataloging, music cataloging, authority, and special formats, as well as in web standards and web publishing.



Lisa Vandetty returned to the Libraries in July as assistant director of development, following internships with the Libraries' Development team as well as the College of Health and Human Development and Eberly College of Science, all through Penn State's Division of Development and Alumni Relations. Previously she served as a development associate at William Way LGBT Community Center.



Nathan Troup joined the Libraries in July as records management officer, previously assistant director for records management at the Missouri Office of the Secretary of State. He holds several certifications, including digital archives specialist and archivist, and is officially recognized as an information governance professional. He works closely with nearly every office at Penn State, including the Office of Ethics and Compliance and the Office of General Counsel.



Amanda Peters joined the Libraries in June as the Coal and Coke Heritage Center archivist at Penn State Fayette, and reports to Athena Jackson, Dorothy Foehr Huck Chair and head of the Eberly Family Special Collections Library. She joined the Libraries from the Hillman Company in Pittsburgh, where she served as an archivist. She has worked for the United Steelworkers in an archivist capacity, also in Pittsburgh, and has experience at the University of Pittsburgh and the Frick Art and Historical Center.



Jodi Mayo-Alessandri (center) inspired her children, Daniel Mayo, Logan Mayo, and James Esther (not pictured), to find their own passions by exposing them to different activities, cultures, special interests, and travel.

photo by Steve Tressler, Vista Pro Studios

Why I Give

Jodi Mayo-Alessandri

One of Jodi Mayo-Alessandri's favorite quotes provides a constant reminder about the power of knowledge — and more important, helping others get access to knowledge: "Helping one person might not change the world, but it could change the world for one person."

"Penn State is filled with people who desire to make a difference in the world — and the common bond and desire to help others is so much a part of the history and tradition and meaning of being a Penn Stater — that together, I believe we can and do make changes in this world."

Mayo-Alessandri's commitment to learning, access, and opportunity is evident with the establishment of the Mayo-Alessandri-Esther Family Scholarship in the University Libraries. Available to any and all students who demonstrate a financial need, first preference is given to students in or who have been in foster care.

"We chose to house our scholarship in the University Libraries because the Libraries serves everyone — it is open and accessible to all students regardless of a chosen major, academic achievement, or field of study," Mayo-Alessandri said. "As the University strives to open doors to students from all walks of life — making Penn State accessible to as many people as possible — so did we want our scholarship to be accessible to anyone in need."

The University Libraries offers students more than a just a place to study, and Mayo-Alessandri emphasizes the importance of its mission in serving the Penn State community and beyond.

"As the kitchen is the heart of a home, the University Libraries is the heart of Penn State," Mayo-Alessandri said. "The library serves everyone — students, faculty, our local community, and the academic community nationwide — regardless of a student's major, college, personal interests, or background. The library not only serves as a hub of accessible knowledge and research, but also a welcoming place for our students to study in a peaceful and safe environment."

While the Libraries has had a tremendous impact on Mayo-Alessandri's life, Penn State provided her with both a great education and a sense of community.

"Penn State not only transformed my life, it is a way of life for me," said Mayo-Alessandri, managing partner of MG Media, a New Jersey-based advertising agency. "It is difficult to put into words how much the University means to me and how much it has given to me over the years — a sense of pride, family, unity, strength, dignity, acceptance, and tradition that transcends generations."

Returning to campus for a visit this fall, Mayo-Alessandri and two of her three children, Daniel (Class of '20) and Logan Mayo ('16) spent time in the Eberly Family Special Collections Library, specifically with the Penn State Sports Archive.

"It's a collection I'm particularly fond of as it allows my children to be able to watch their dad's (Dan Mayo '88) wrestling matches, see photos, or read newspaper and magazine articles about his accomplishments at Penn State and even put their hands on all of the biographical information the library has on him," Mayo-Alessandri said. "It is a great gift to them, to our whole family."

While Mayo-Alessandri appreciates the view into the past the Penn State Sports Archive provides, she supports the Libraries' vision for the future.

"The internet has revolutionized the way we obtain information and connect to the world. Students — really all people — want instant access to information. The Penn State University Libraries, led by visionary Dean Barbara Dewey, has been very proactive in responding to changes in technology, and has been on the forefront of the large-scale digitization of millions of volumes and collections held by the Libraries. We have an Associate Dean for Technology and Digital Strategies, Karen Estlund, who oversees digitization, preservation, technology, web services, media and technology support services, and our vast digital research 'warehouse.' The digital transformation of our collections is not only valuable to our own students and faculty, but to academic and research libraries worldwide. To be able to share our knowledge with the world is quite powerful."

THE CASE FOR COLLABOR

Focusing on
collaborative spaces
to support the needs
of today's students

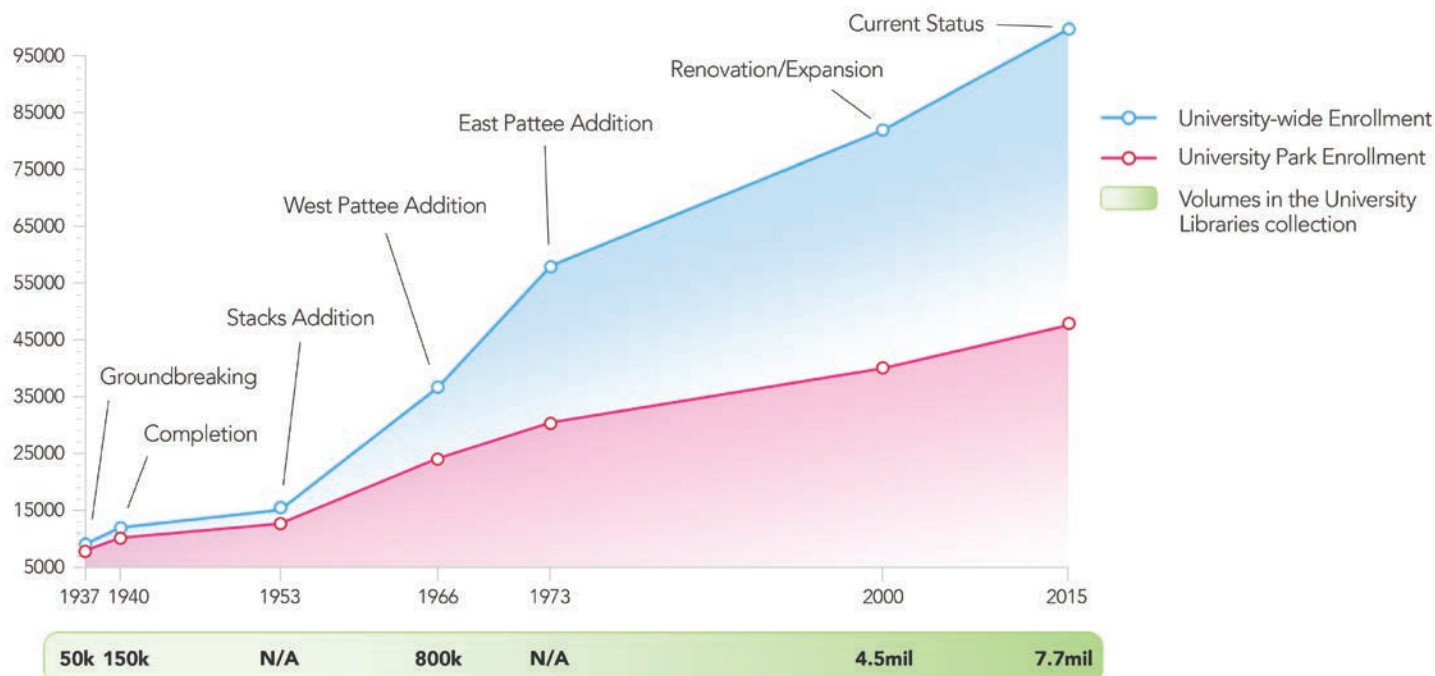
As most University Park students and alumni have discovered, Pattee Library is a space that has evolved, piecemeal, over decades. Today, the Libraries is facing the reality that the facility's popularity among students as an academic space and service provider, and the evolution of modern instruction approaches and workplace practices expected by college graduates' employers, necessitates another evolution.

The Collaboration Commons and the Central Atrium Project will address those needs.

Architectural renderings by WTW Architects, project architects for the Knowledge Commons



Pattee Library: A timeline of growth and change



Pattee's growth and change

It seems Pattee Library always has been asked to keep up with the demands placed upon it. Built as part of a Public Works Administration-General State Authority project to serve a student population that grew more than 13 percent from its groundbreaking to the moment its doors opened in 1940, it originally held 150,000 volumes, three times more than planned for the building's design. Through 1973, the library saw three expansions — additions of the stacks in 1953, West Pattee in 1966, and East Pattee in 1973, which was subsequently expanded from 1997 to 2000 and renamed Paterno Library.

In 2000, Pattee Library and Paterno Library housed then-state-of-the-art spaces that could accommodate about 2,000 people and occupied nearly 490,000 square feet. It included 139,000 square feet of new space and 250,000 square feet of renovated space, reorganizing collections into eight subject libraries.

Fifteen years later, University Park student enrollment again had grown by a third, and the Libraries served 20 percent more students University-wide. From the time Pattee Library's doors opened to today, the University Libraries' services, resources,

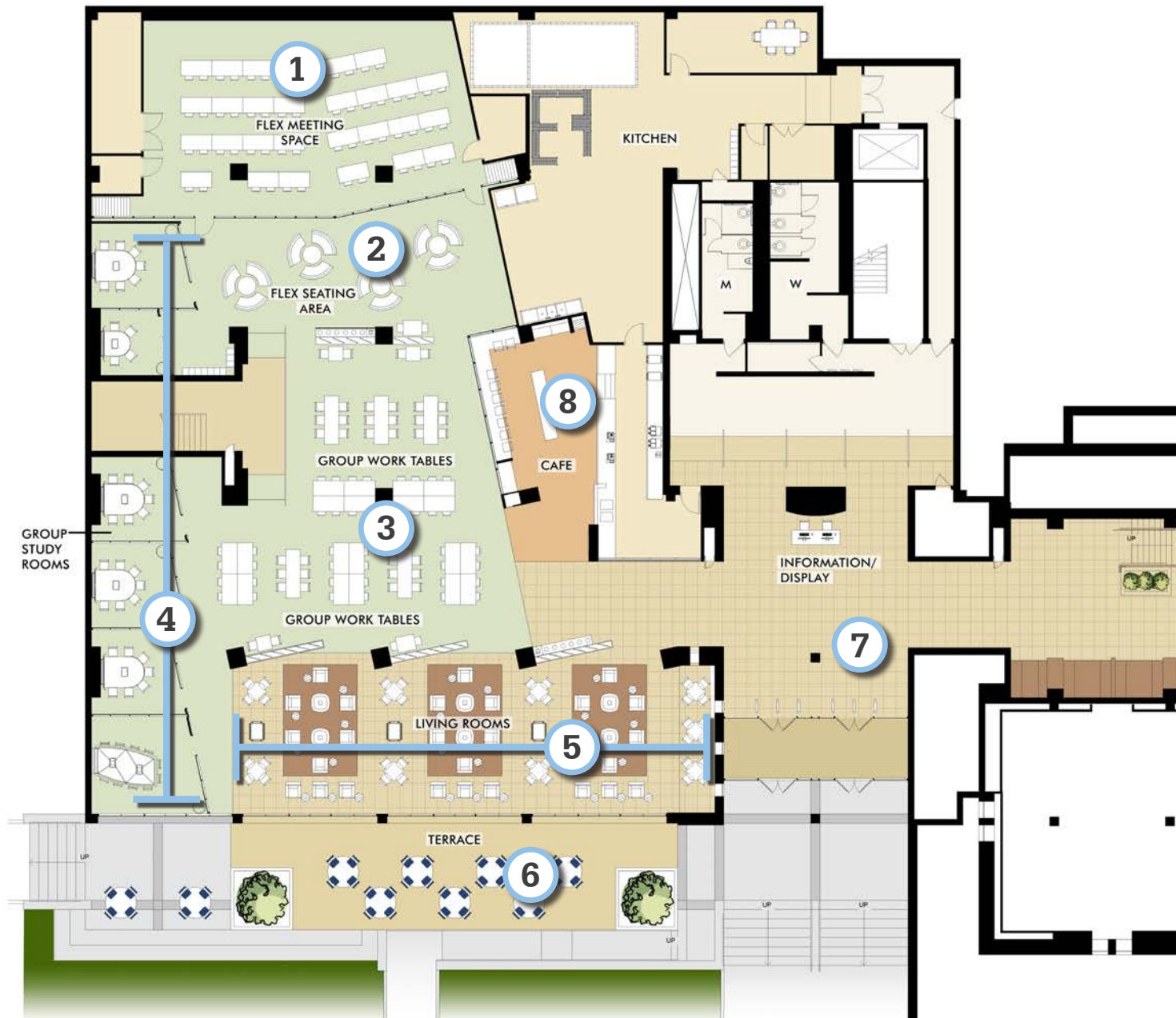
and spaces have seen a student growth of 600 percent, which doesn't take into account related growth in faculty and staff who the Libraries also serves, or the 1,440-percent growth of its total volumes.

Over time, annex buildings have accommodated 65,000 maps and more than 1 million low-use books, covering four miles of shelf space, all still available upon request. Each library also reviews low-use items to be annexed, to make more room for students.

During the 2015-16 academic year, Pattee Library and Paterno Library tallied more than 3 million visits, nearly half of the Libraries' 6.8 million visits University-wide.

Even with these accommodations, it's time once again to evolve portions of Pattee Library to meet the needs of students' academic pursuits.

"When we opened the Knowledge Commons in 2012, we learned very quickly that collaborative and technologically enhanced space were in high demand at Penn State," Joe Salem, associate dean for Learning, Undergraduate Services, and Commonwealth Campuses, noted. "The Collaboration Commons will expand the availability of these spaces and resources for students as changes in the curricula make collaborative and design-oriented work increasingly prevalent throughout the University."



Collaboration Commons

To name the Collaboration Commons (\$5,000,000)

- 1 Meeting Room (\$750,000)
Flexible, multi-purpose room featuring state-of-the-art technology accessible for classes, presentations, events and receptions.
- 2 Collaboration Study Area (\$500,000)
Housed just outside of the Meeting Room, this study area provides an ideally located, private space for student groups to collaborate on course projects. Mobile furniture accommodates large or small groups.

3 Collaboration Commons (\$1,000,000)

This area provides a place to study, read, or reflect in a quiet environment, slightly away from the center of student activity, yet close to the many services and resources. These settings provide informal areas with comfortable chairs for a multitude of student activities.

4 Group Study Room (6 @ \$100,000)

Enclosed, private work space for small groups of students. Equipped with technology and problem-solving white boards to enhance the learning experience.

5 Living Room (3 @ \$200,000)

Welcoming, informal space for multiple student activities including studying, working alone, and/or working in groups.



- 6 Terrace** (\$1,000,000)
 Providing a scenic and relaxed atmosphere, this large outdoor seating area creates a seamless flow between the library's interior and exterior.
- 7 Entrance and Lobby** (\$1,000,000)
 Welcoming entrance provides first-time access to the entire ground floor. Large, open space is the connecting point between the Collaboration Commons, Central Atrium, and MacKinnon's Café.
- 8 Café Bistro Seating Area** (\$250,000)
 Situated in MacKinnon's Café, the additional seating area provides a private atmosphere for group meetings or individual study.

Changes in the classroom, workplace

During Pattee Library's last 75 years, college instructional approaches and the role of both public and academic libraries have changed dramatically. Today, libraries are often called "the third space" — a gathering place after home and work/school — where people cluster for various reasons, such as classes, club meetings, and in an academic setting, study and collaboration.

While Pattee's original walls were under construction, a formal learning theory supporting collaborative learning also was rising. Through active social participation in the learning process, it states, members of a group can both enhance what and how each person learns. Current educational case studies continue to support this approach to teaching, noting that colleges' collaborative learning spaces also help emphasize students' greater inquiry and investigative work.

Likewise, corporations and other employers seek graduates who are able to work digitally and be a part of effective teams.

"Reports such as those published by the educational nonprofit Project Information Literacy demonstrate that employers value applicants who are collaborative and agile," Rebecca Miller, head of Library Learning Services, explained. "Workplace research, unlike traditional college research assignments, requires graduates to solve information problems in team-based environments. Because of this, we are seeing more and more faculty integrate assignments that are much more authentic to this sort of research context so that Penn State graduates can be prepared to participate in the messy, complex problem-solving that occurs in the workplace."

Rather than trying to fit group learning into traditional learning spaces that hold individual chairs and desks, collaborative learning spaces need both open room for tables and small rooms to house their conversations, particularly when they are held in a building that also addresses individuals' quiet study needs.

The Commons Spaces in Pattee Library do just that. They focus on undergraduate students' needs and offer a collection of innovative and traditional services and repurposed physical spaces that facilitate information discovery, collaborative learning, and knowledge building.



In addition to the Collaboration Commons, West Pattee Library construction will enclose all four floors across the current courtyard.

The Tombros and McWhirter Knowledge Commons opened in 2012 on Pattee Library's first floor, incorporating video production areas, podcasting facilities, service kiosks, classrooms, study spaces, and integrated help desk areas. Since its opening, visits to Pattee Library and Paterno Library have nearly doubled, from 2.9 million to nearly 7 million annually.

Once funded, the planned Collaboration Commons for the ground floor of Pattee Library, one floor below the Knowledge Commons and just under 2,400 renovated square feet, will help address the well-documented high demand for group study and work space in Pattee Library and Paterno Library. Group study rooms in the Knowledge Commons accommodated more than 20,600 reservations during the 2014-15 academic year but had to turn away 2,500 groups seeking a place to work together.

Also, compared with last fall, the weekly number of students approaching Knowledge Commons desk staff with questions has increased dramatically — an average weekly increase of more than 47 percent compared with the same time last fall. Public service desk staff have noticed

their louder, busier desks where groups of students frequently seek assistance.

The added collaborative space on the ground floor also will enable strategic expansion of already-popular services in the Knowledge Commons.

The bigger picture at Pattee

A practical, related renovation and small expansion of West Pattee Library, addressed simultaneously with the Collaboration Commons, could transform the entirety of the 50-year-old structure. By enclosing what is currently a three-story exposed courtyard and lowering the ground level, the Central Atrium Project would finally connect each of Central and West Pattee's floors, ground floor through third floor. It also would add approximately 6,200 square feet contained within the building's existing perimeter, and improve significantly the flow between spaces.

The Central Atrium Project's vision is to eliminate the requirement for visitors to traverse mazelike pathways, accessing

separate sets of staircases or elevators to travel among spaces. If completed, it would link the Collaboration Commons and the world-class Donald W. Hamer Maps Library on the ground floor; the Knowledge Commons, stacks, and central Commons Services desk on the main floor; and the Arts and Humanities Library's spaces and stacks, currently spread across the second and third floors of Central and West Pattee.

Then, our beloved 76-year-old Pattee Library can better serve students, faculty, and other visitors who will navigate its spaces with more room, better flow from one space to another, and more collaborative areas — to best achieve their goals for learning and discovery.

To inquire about supporting the Collaboration Commons, contact Nicki Hendrix at
 nmh18@psu.edu or
 814-865-2258.

Awards and Scholarships



Martha Conner Memorial Award and Adma Hamm Shibley Memorial Scholarship in Library Science

Leah M. Davis, classics and ancient Mediterranean studies, senior

Cynthia M. Joyce Trustees Scholarship

Avery Pakstis, psychology, junior
(photo not available)



Irene Cheng Memorial Award

Matthew Barnish, risk analysis information and cyber security, senior

Mary Pillot, English, senior

Jessie Jenkins, sophomore (photo not available)



2016 Undergraduate Thesis Awards

Annual competition sponsored by the University Libraries and the Schreyer Honors College includes faculty-juried review of submitted theses and finalists public oral presentations

First place:

Elyse Mark, English and Asian studies '16 (far right);

Second place:

Timothy Sullivan, psychology and French and Francophone studies '15;

Third place:

Katrina Eckel, history and English '17



University Libraries Award for Information Literacy

John Sr. and Kimlyn Patishnock Information Literacy Award Grand Prize:

Kira Doaks, human development and family studies '16 (second from left)

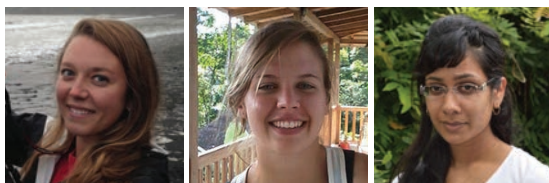
Kaytlyne Povlik, human development and family studies '16, Penn State Fayette

Not pictured:

First place: **Katrina Eckel**, history and English '17;

Second place: **Sarah Kidder**, biobehavioral health '16;

Third place: **Brianna Yates**, biobehavioral health '16



M.G. Whiting Indigenous Knowledge and Student Research Award

Award administered by the Interinstitutional Center for Indigenous Knowledge and the University Libraries

Sarah Eissler, agricultural economics, sociology and education, Ph.D. candidate

Annie Marcinek, recreation, parks and tourism management, M.S. candidate

Narmadha Senanayake, geography, Ph.D. candidate

As I See It

with Megan Mac Gregor
Student Engagement and Outreach Librarian,
Nesbitt Library, Penn State Wilkes-Barre

What have you learned since being at Nesbitt Library?

Everything. There are three full-time positions at Nesbitt Library, so the mentality of “know how to do everyone’s job, but you are the expert in your area” was already in place. For half a year, I ended up having to be the acting head of the library when our head librarian retired and our reference librarian wound up leaving; it was a little bit of a trial by fire. I had never taught classes before, so that was a new experience for me.

What two interesting projects did you work on this past year?

Last spring I became the product owner for the campus library websites as part of the overall Libraries’ website move to the Drupal platform. We wanted to take the opportunity to reevaluate the sites and redesign them better. They are now a lot simpler and easier to use. I was excited about it because I come from a museum background, and a big part of that is visitor/user experience, so I was interested in working on the digital part of that.

Both Jenny (Knies, head librarian) and I are on the Wilkes-Barre centennial team and we created the official centennial website. We realized there were no actual archives and basically pulled as much out of the boxes we could find, including tons of photos. Over the summer we worked on scanning items, archiving and pulling together information. Coming from a historic house museum to Nesbitt, I was excited about delving into the Conyngham family story, Hayfield House, and discovering information about the history of the institution, including evidence that women attended classes at our science-based college as early as 1916.

What advice would you give students now that you have experience in every situation?

The best advice I could give students would be to tell them to tinker, poke around, and muck about in things. If you hit a wall, you have the ability to address the situation and ask the question, “What if I go sideways? Is there more wall this way? Can I get over this problem this way or that way?” When you hit a problem, don’t panic and just completely drop the situation. Take a moment, poke at the problem, and look at it a couple of different ways.

Students should not only tinker, they should also ask us for help. We try to emphasize this when we speak to freshman orientation sessions or to a class, that they can come talk to us. Many times students come up to us and say, “I don’t mean to interrupt you,” but that is exactly what we want! We want them to ask us questions.



How can we make librarians more accessible?

There is a revolution slowly happening and ideas from other sectors are coming into the field. Having a focus on customer service — that is one of the things librarians need to be known for, not the stereotype of the woman with the bun who “shushes” you. Libraries are becoming community centers, and we need to make the library a welcoming environment.

We are very lucky at our small campus in that we get to know our students. If we helped them with a paper, we can check on them and ask how it turned out. If we know a student likes Harry Potter, we can suggest a new book. One of the things I started at Nesbitt Library was “Get it Done,” a table available during the day stocked with hot chocolate, tea, and snacks to encourage students to come into the library between classes and focus on what they need to work on.

One last thing...

The point of college is knowledge and learning how to use knowledge. If you are a Penn State student, and you want to do something, anything, you literally can do it because you have access to all the information you need to make that happen — you have our libraries!



photo provided

The Art and Science of Library Collections Conservation

When 890,000 gallons of water and debris rushed into Pattee Library from an erupted water main in 1993, the event sparked a fast and focused response — to recover and salvage tens of thousands of books and materials affected by the flood.

The University Libraries had developed and offered basic conservation services at that time, but in the twenty years since, Sue Kellerman, Judith O. Sieg Chair for Preservation and head of the Libraries' Preservation, Conservation and Digitization (PCD) Department, has had an interest and determination to do more.

A \$1.25 million grant awarded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in 2013, and contributions from the Jeff and Cindy King Family Foundation, Robert and Carol Klaus, the

Philip and Susan C. Gresh Libraries endowment, and the Anne Menges estate, matched that funding and made possible a full-time senior conservator position. Bill Minter joined PCD nearly three years ago and helps care for the Libraries' extensive collections at all Penn State locations, especially the Eberly Family Special Collections Library.

“To a certain extent,
each book or item is
unique, just like people
are individual...”

— Bill Minter, senior conservator

“We have more than six million books and miles of boxes of archival materials in our collections,” Minter said. “To a certain extent, each book or item is unique, just like people are individual, and each item needs a certain type of care and treatment. They’re not all alike and some may require a different type of attention.”

Minter’s day-to-day duties are as varied as the University Libraries’ collections with which he has worked. Not only are there more items, but there are new discoveries in need of preservation across campus. Minter notes that with regard to the information timeline, photographs and audio recordings are relatively new, in comparison with the Libraries’ cuneiform tablets that are at least 3,000 years old. All of them need to be cared for and captured digitally.

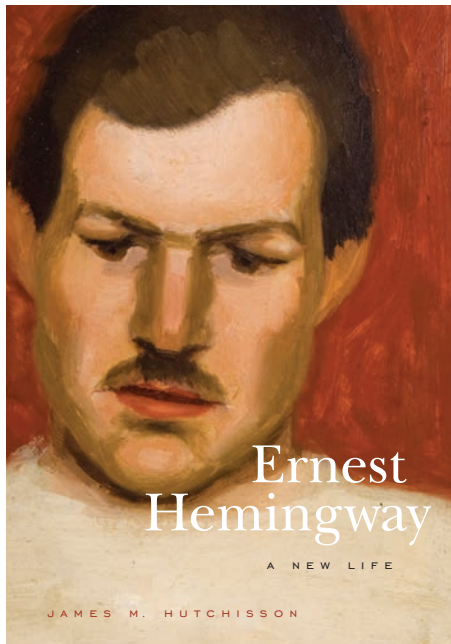
A large part of the PCD’s mission is education — interns, students, and staff benefit from Minter’s expertise in the art and science of conservation — using elements of craftsmanship, innovation and chemistry. Not only is the department extending the life of items that might be particularly fragile or susceptible through conservation efforts, but also making them available digitally. The information is preserved and then, if needed, can still be viewed in its natural state.

While the department is designing a special conservation center to handle the variety of materials that require treatment, PCD met a recent challenge with creativity in preserving the original drawings by renowned landscape architect and alumnus A.E. Bye.

Researchers around the world travel to State College to work with this collection, so protecting, identifying, and rehousing the more than 1,400 of Bye’s projects was a critical need. Suitable “honeycomb” shelving units and a special labeling system were fashioned by PCD to store the drawings for Special Collections, a lighter, less expensive solution they now share with peers.

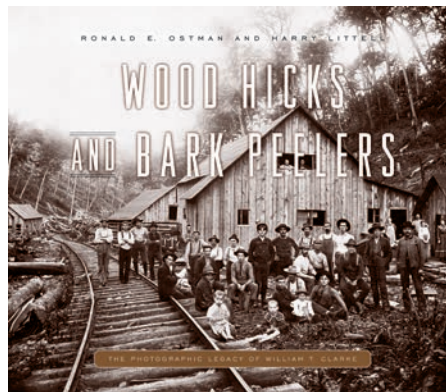
Now in its 60th year, Penn State University Press is the publishing arm of Penn State and a division of the University Libraries and Scholarly Communications. The Press is dedicated to serving the University community, the citizens of Pennsylvania, and scholars worldwide by publishing books and journals of the highest quality.

*Ernest Hemingway
A New Life*
by James M. Hutchisson



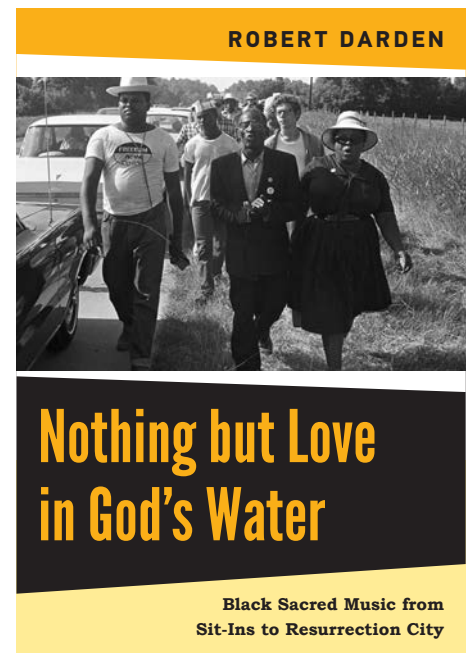
To many, the life of Ernest Hemingway has taken on mythic proportions. From his romantic entanglements to his legendary bravado, the elements of Papa's persona have fascinated readers, turning Hemingway into such an outsized figure that it is almost impossible to imagine him as a real person. James Hutchisson's biography reclaims Hemingway from the sensationalism, revealing the life of a man who was often bookish and introverted, an outdoor enthusiast who revered the natural world, and a generous spirit with an enviable work ethic.

*Wood Hicks and Bark Peelers
A Visual History of Pennsylvania's
Railroad Lumbering Communities; The
Photographic Legacy of William T. Clarke*
by Ronald E. Ostman and Harry Littell, with
an introduction by Linda A. Ries
A Keystone Book®



In *Wood Hicks and Bark Peelers*, Ronald E. Ostman and Harry Littell draw on the stunning documentary photography of William T. Clarke to tell the story of Pennsylvania's lumber heyday. Featuring over 100 photographs developed from salvaged glass plate negatives, this book offers a haunting glimpse of a time when loggers serving the needs of a rapidly growing and globalizing country forever altered the dense forests of the state's northern tier.

*Nothing but Love in God's Water
Volume 2: Black Sacred Music from Sit-
Ins to Resurrection City*
by Robert Darden



Volume 1 of *Nothing but Love in God's Water* traced the music of protest spirituals from the Civil War to the American labor movement of the 1930s and 1940s, and on through the Montgomery bus boycott. In this second volume, Robert Darden continues the journey, chronicling the role this music played in energizing and sustaining those most heavily involved in the civil rights movement.

Exhibits



“Expanding Horizons: Penn Staters in the Olympics”

Through December 16, 2016
Eberly Family Special Collections Library, 104 Paterno Library

Featuring the collections of Harold Wilson, Class of 1951, and the late John A. Lucas, professor emeritus of exercise and sport science and official Olympic historian, the exhibit includes artifacts from the Special Collections Library’s sports archives and the papers of Elizabeth Hanley and Eugene Wettstone. The exhibit also includes programs, tickets, brochures, maps, pins, mascots, and medals from the games in 1912 in Stockholm through those held in Sochi in 2014, as well as books, journal articles, magazines, and research publications.

“Japanimation: Exploring Anime”
Through December 16, 2016
Sidewater Commons, 102 Pattee Library



Anime, or the style of Japanese animated film and television, has become one of the most universally recognized forms of multimedia entertainment during the last 15 years, accounting for half of the total animated films shown worldwide. The exhibit’s highlights range from anime’s historical origins to its scholarly analysis and pop culture impact, and includes samples of the Libraries’ comprehensive collection of books and documentary films about anime.

“100 Years of the Pulitzers: Celebrating our Shared Humanity”
Through May 7, 2017
Diversity Studies Room, 203 Pattee Library



In celebration of the Pulitzer Centennial in 2017, this exhibit celebrates the work of Pulitzer Prize-winning composers, authors, poets, and playwrights who have championed the cause of civil rights, social equality, and democracy. In addition to showcasing the University Libraries’ collection of Pulitzer-related books, newspapers, and photographs, the exhibit also includes multimedia excerpts from Pulitzer Prize-winning plays, musical scores, fiction and poetry readings, and artist interviews.



Coming in Spring 2017

Look for the Eberly Family Special Collections Library’s exhibit featuring books, journal articles, magazines and artifacts from World War I.

The University Libraries also will host a new exhibit in Sidewater Commons. Stay tuned!

Recent Events



photo by Steve Tressler, Vista Pro Studios

The University Libraries' Fall 2016 Donor Reception was held this year on Friday, September 30, in the Paterno Family Humanities Reading Room, Pattee Library. The annual event brings together Libraries Development Board members, Libraries administrators and librarians, and more than 100 friends of the Libraries. Dean Barbara I. Dewey, board Chair Scott Steinhauer, and board member Sue Paterno honored six new Library Leaders for their support of the Libraries.



A new component of this year's event enabled attendees to enjoy speaking with several of the Libraries' current and previous Bednar interns, Penn State undergraduate students who spoke about their digital humanities undergraduate research presented at a July 2016 conference in Krakow, Poland, and conservation work conducted for the Preservation, Conservation, and Digitization Department, respectively.

Coming soon:

A November event is bringing together North Carolina's Piedmont and Triangle chapters of the Penn State Alumni Association, where a Libraries speaker will present "Fifty Years of Penn State Football."

Two Libraries events also are in the works for Naples, Fla., in early 2017. The Naples chapter of the Alumni Association will host Dean Barbara I. Dewey in January, and a February event is the planning stage.

To arrange a chapter event or for more information on available presentations, please contact Nicki Hendrix at nmh18@psu.edu or 814-865-2258.



Please join us for

*A Conversation with
Melody Miller*

7-9 p.m. Thursday, September 22

Bernstein Global Wealth Management
800 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20006

free admission; business casual attire suggested

7 p.m. reception with light refreshments
7:30-8:30 p.m. program and Q&A
8:30-9 p.m. time to chat with Melody and
University Libraries
representatives

Melody will talk about her Penn State connections and
her Kennedy family collection (1960-2009) in
Penn State's University Libraries, her distinguished
career on Capitol Hill, the changing role of women
in politics, and more.

Please RSVP online by **September 15**.

photo provided by Melody Miller

Libraries on the Move

Sharing her stories and experiences with Penn Staters at a September 22 event in Washington, D.C., Penn State alumna Melody Miller touched on several topics, including the importance of exercising voting rights and the changing role of women in politics as well as her career on Capitol Hill. Miller, who worked for several members of the Kennedy family from 1964 until her retirement in 2005, was inspired by John F. Kennedy to pursue a career in public service.

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The Library: the Heart of the University is published semiannually by the Office of Public Relations and Marketing for the Office of Development, Penn State University Libraries, Barbara I. Dewey, dean.

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Facts and Figures

Open House

2,964

Total Students

500

Students completed
all 11 stops

87%

First-year students

90min

Fastest Completion

The 15th annual Open House in early September attracted 2,964 students to the University Park library locations. Students enjoyed tours of “the Stacks,” learned about the branch and subject libraries, the Knowledge Commons, and academic and leisure resources available to them.

The class of 2020 is the largest in Penn State history and the new Nittany Lions enthusiastically explored the University Park libraries. Of those students who participated in the Open House, 87 percent were first-year students.



After Open House, 95 percent of the students surveyed reported that the event helped them in navigating the library and 96 percent said it helped them feel comfortable in approaching faculty and staff for assistance.

Five hundred students completed all 11 of the Open House tour stops — seven in Pattee Paterno Libraries and one each at the branch libraries on campus — and won a University Libraries T-shirt. The first student to complete the tour, senior engineering major Nicholas Nace, did so within the first 90 minutes on the first day.

Remembering Don Hamer

The University Libraries community was saddened to learn of the passing of Don Hamer, a Penn State alumnus, longtime State College business owner, and philanthropist benefiting the Centre Region and the University. He and his wife, Marie Bednar, a former University Libraries cataloger and department head, have donated to the Libraries in significant and ongoing ways over several decades.



photo provided

The couple's financial leadership helped elevate the Libraries from a stable position as a university research library to a consistent Top Ten ranking among North America's research libraries. Notably, Hamer was among the key donors in expanding the Pattee Library and constructing the Paterno Library, both dedicated in 2000. In addition, the Donald W. Hamer Maps Library, endowed in November 2009, helped elevate that library as unique and arguably among the best of its kind. The Marie Bednar Internship Program Endowment, established in 1998 and expanded in 2014, gives undergraduates the opportunity to participate in active and collaborative learning, and gain work experience, while earning academic credit, and also enhancing the capabilities of the Libraries' services and innovative capabilities.

“Don and Marie have not only sustained the Libraries throughout the years, they have stepped forward time and time again to propel us to new heights and have been key partners with us in making our aspirations a reality,” Barbara I. Dewey, dean of University Libraries and Scholarly Communications, said.

The University Libraries community offers its sincere condolences to Don's family and friends.

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The last word

“I wrote this book at a time when there was no public glimmer of hope for renewed relations between my parents’ homelands — my father is American, my mother is Cuban. Miraculously, during the same week when advanced review copies arrived on my doorstep, President Obama announced that a thaw in cold water hostilities would begin.... So, my childhood memories in this memoir were instantly transformed from a plea for peace into a song of gratitude, and I rushed to rewrite the historical note at the end to take this new reality, this new possibility, onto paper.”

— Margarita Engle, winner of the Pennsylvania Center for the Book’s 2016 Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award for *Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir*, on September 20, 2016, at the University Libraries’ Foster Auditorium.