Greetings,

At the University Libraries, change is constant — and that’s a wonderful thing. No sooner did we open the new Collaboration Commons and Central Atrium in August than students filled those spaces with the buzz of focused learning. Students asked for more agile, relaxed study spaces for solitary and group use, and we are delighted that our improvements have met that need in inspiring ways.

We work continually to reach new heights in technology for our students and faculty. We are looking forward to the grand opening of the Center for Immersive Experiences (CIE) to expand our virtual reality and multimedia capabilities through 360-degree video learning. CIE will deliver students virtually to far-flung places, from the Gettysburg battlefield to the geologic layers of the Grand Canyon and beyond.

We are eagerly anticipating enactment of the Open Access Policy for the University’s advancement of affordable, equitable access to Penn State-driven scholarship and research data. As the host of the online repository for that content, we believe that the fruits of our faculty’s research activity should be openly available to help solve problems on a global scale.

Of course, change can sometimes be bittersweet, as is the case with Associate Dean for Technology and Digital Strategies Karen Estlund, who is moving on to begin a new position as dean of Colorado State University Libraries. We are grateful for her tremendous contributions and wish her all the best in her new leadership role.

I would be remiss if I didn’t note a personal change on my horizon. After more than 20 years as a library dean, 10 years at Penn State University Libraries, and 45 years as a librarian, I will retire in August 2020. Until that time, I will continue to direct my energy toward the Libraries’ ongoing success and in supporting the transition of my successor. There is much to do before August and I will be here every step of the way to lead and support continued accomplishments.

Focusing our collective vision on 2020 and beyond, we will continue our efforts to anticipate and address the needs of students and faculty for their lifelong learning, productivity, and research success.

Sincerely,

Barbara I. Dewey,
Dean of University Libraries and Scholarly Communications
Leo Lo joined the Libraries’ faculty leadership team on May 1 as associate dean for learning, undergraduate services and Commonwealth Campus Libraries. Previously, he was associate dean for research and learning at Old Dominion University Libraries, where he led the transition of its reference librarians to the liaison librarian model and oversaw its continuous improvement. He brings to Penn State a wealth of academic and research experience related to multicultural studies, diversity and inclusion, and strategic planning.

“I am passionate about the future of librarianship and excited to contribute my curiosity, diverse experience, and belief in lifelong learning to the success of Penn State’s students, faculty, staff, and communities who benefit from the University Libraries.”

Mihoko Hosoi joined the Libraries on Oct. 1 as associate dean for collections, research, and scholarly communications. As a key member of the administrative team, she provides leadership, strategic direction, and support for collections, acquisitions, scholarly communication and the subject libraries. Hosoi came to Penn State from the University of California, California Digital Library, where she served as assistant director for systemwide licensing and collection services.

“I look forward to collaborating with faculty and staff to build on the extensive library collections at Penn State and to advance open access to scholarly research. I have empathy toward students from underprivileged backgrounds, and would like to make things better for all.”
Introducing the Collaboration Commons

In fall 2018, the Penn State Board of Trustees Committee on Finance, Business, and Capital Planning approved a plan to help expand space in Pattee Library and Paterno Library for student studying and collaboration. The $21.8 million, four-story expansion and infill renovation was the result of years of planning and benchmarking based on input from students regarding the spaces and features they needed to support their productivity.

After a 14-month, two-phase construction project, the Collaboration Commons and Central Atrium — what Dean Barbara Dewey considers “the signature project of our Libraries 2020 Vision for Innovation” — officially opened on Aug. 22 of this year.

“We believe this effort exemplifies the forward-looking vision we have for supporting students’ academic success in all our spaces across the University,” Dewey said. “We are excited by the possibility to not only improve movement through our largest library facility, but also give students more spaces to pursue academic studies, develop entrepreneurial concepts, and provide equity of access for hands-on experience with emerging technologies.”

With more than a dozen group study rooms, the Collaboration Commons effectively increases the library’s available space for group work and study areas. The design incorporates a wireless infrastructure with numerous electronic outlets for charging mobile devices. An abundance of flex-use tables, moveable furniture, and a section with collapsible glass walls gives the entire first floor the possibility for multiple configurations for group study and class presentations.

In addition, the changes improve overall accessibility across Pattee Library and Paterno Library by better connecting areas within the complex. In particular, a two-story enclosed atrium with a grand staircase and expanded elevator access helps to improve pedestrian flow in Pattee Library.

Plans for renovation and expansion were developed iteratively, using input from student surveys and focus groups in partnership with a team of University and consulting design and construction partners. The Board of Trustees selected WTW Architects in July 2017 to partner with the Libraries from the project’s beginning, helping to predetermine cost-saving steps to maximize use of available space and minimize the impact on students and employees.
This approach brought the Libraries together with the architect, construction firm Alexander Building Construction Co., and Penn State’s Office of Physical Plant and Housing and Food Services as equal partners,” said Kimlyn Patishnock, senior director of administrative services. “Each partner was responsible for helping to ensure the project’s overall success, efficiency, and financial stewardship.”

Pattee Library opened its doors in 1940 holding 150,000 volumes, “three times as many volumes as the number for which the building was designed,” according to documentation of the Libraries’ history. Since then, it has undergone three expansions, with the addition of the stacks in 1953, West Pattee Library in 1966, and East Pattee in 1973. From 1997 to 2000, East Pattee was expanded and renamed Paterno Library in honor of Joe and Sue Paterno who spearheaded the fundraising campaign.

“With the culmination of the Collaboration Commons construction project, we hope we have delivered — perhaps even exceeded — our students’ expectations for effective academic study space,” Dean Dewey concluded. “We look forward to continuing to evolve these spaces for improved student use as well as advanced research, data, and publishing consultation services.”

“It expands on the idea of what a library can be.
– Ph.D. student, in a survey regarding the Collaboration Commons

The exterior of the new Collaboration Commons, leveled to offer a gently sloping, accessible entrance into a larger ground-floor lobby, is known as the Dr. Keiko Miwa Ross Garden Terrace. It includes deep-inset stone benches and lounge furniture, expanded wi-fi, and recharging capabilities.

Whenever I’m here I do a lot of work, so I just keep coming back here.
– Freshman computer engineering student, in a survey regarding the Collaboration Commons
Recent Events

The Judy Chicago Research Portal: Learning, Making, Culture, launched in October, highlights the impact of Chicago’s work and encompasses the more than 50 years of art, art education, and feminism for which she is celebrated. The portal aims to bring Chicago’s body of work to a global audience, for the potential of each repository to consider and embrace new audiences and their collective interest in Judy Chicago’s oeuvre and overall impact.

The virtual portal links Judy Chicago’s art education archives and The Dinner Party K–12 curriculum collections, housed at Penn State University Libraries; her paper archives in the Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University; and her visual archives, housed in the National Museum of Women in the Arts. This rare collaborative distribution across three institutions is part of Chicago’s efforts to “overcome the erasure that has eclipsed the achievements of too many women,” her website reads.

“My goal was to spark a long-overdue dialogue about the state of studio art education,” said Chicago. “With the creation of the portal, we can now initiate an international online conversation about the current state of studio art education, particularly in relation to issues of content, gender, and diversity. I believe that art education has to be radically improved in order to meet the needs of all students and that Penn State can be a leader in effectuating this change.”

Penn State University Libraries acquired the Judy Chicago Art Education Collection in 2011. Housed in the Eberly Family Special Collections Library, it complements The Dinner Party curriculum online project, given by the Through the Flower organization to Penn State’s College of Arts and Architecture for its stewardship by the college’s program.

Remembering Lee Bennett Hopkins 1938–2019

The University Libraries community was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Lee Bennett Hopkins, celebrated poet, educator, editor, anthologist, and founder of the award for children’s poetry that bears his name.

Established in 1993, The Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award was envisioned by Lee and cosponsored and administered by the Pennsylvania Center for the Book, housed within the University Libraries. Now in its 28th year, the Hopkins Award was the first of its kind for children’s poetry. It is awarded annually to a single volume or anthology of poetry published for children in the previous calendar year by a living American poet or anthologist.

Hopkins’s body of work includes picture books, original poetry, young adult novels and compilation work. In 2011, he was honored by Guinness World Records as “the world’s most prolific anthologist of poetry for children in publishing history.”

Lee Bennett Hopkins made a tremendous difference in millions of young lives over his nearly 60 years as a teacher, publisher, and poet. Thanks to his remarkable vision and generosity, the Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award will endure through his permanent endowment, and the study of Hopkins’s groundbreaking work will continue in perpetuity thanks to the gift of his extraordinary children’s book collection.

The University Libraries community offers its sincere condolences to Lee’s husband, Charles, and his family and friends.
Giving Tuesday By the Numbers
A Community of Support

The year 2019 marks the fifth Giving Tuesday campaign for the University Libraries. Each year, with a generous match from the Penn State Bookstore, money is raised for the student-centric Textbook and Educational Resources Endowment. Commonly known as the Textbook Fund, this endowment helps fund the Libraries course reserves.

Commonwealth Campus and University Park Branch Libraries, along with Pattee Library and Paterno Library, have repositories of textbooks, e-books, and other required course materials that students can borrow instead of purchasing. As textbook prices increase, students are relying on course reserves more than ever.

This uniquely impactful fundraising initiative resonates with a diverse group of supporters. Thanks to the generous gifts from many individuals and organizations, the University Libraries continues to expand its course reserves.

Alumni Donors by Age

- 2 in their 80s
- 13 in their 70s
- 24 in their 60s
- 19 in their 50s
- 24 in their 40s
- 14 in their 30s
- 13 in their 20s

Money Raised

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Donor Statements

Jane Casey, ’73 Liberal Arts:
“It’s a small donation for a very good cause. If we all donate a little, then yes, there will be a great fund for textbooks. Anyone who has children in college knows the cost of textbooks only goes up in price.”

Anonymous:
“I gave to the Textbook Fund because I get to see how our library’s course reserves help our students every day. It is a very important program that helps Penn State students handle the cost of their education. I hope to give again this year and in the future.”
Our Wish List provides community members with the opportunity to fund a selection of priority Libraries projects and resources that will enhance the educational experiences of our students and inspire them on their way to earning a Penn State degree. For more information, visit https://libraries.psu.edu/about/give-libraries online.

**Student Internship to Create a 3-D Library Tour**
**$2,800**
Your gift will allow the University Libraries to fund an undergraduate internship for two semesters. It will also purchase software for the intern to utilize this technology and develop a 3-D tour virtual tour of the Libraries.

**Rolling Whiteboards**
**$500**
Whiteboards at the Libraries are always in high demand; just ask any student. They are prime real estate for collaborative projects, intricate equations, group work, and sometimes doodling and works of art.

**FLIR Thermal Imaging Camera**
**$500**
This specific FLIR Thermal Imaging Camera is designed to locate sources of energy waste and heat loss. With its thermal imaging software, the camera will support courses with an emphasis on energy conservation research.

**American Sign Language Interpreter**
**$250**
Each year the University Libraries provides American Sign Language interpretation at its locations throughout the Commonwealth. Your gift will allow the Libraries to purchase and provide additional translating services for students through its programs, courses, and events.

**Unwind Your Mind Student Outreach Event**
**$1,400**
Unwind Your Mind was established at Penn State Scranton’s library to provide students with stress-relieving activities and refreshments during the last week of classes. The program allows students to take a break during a highly stressful time without leaving the work they are doing while in the library.

**Looking Glass Pro Holographic Display**
**$6,000**
Your gift will allow the Libraries to purchase a complete 3-D visualization solution for radiography, anatomy, physiology, digital storytelling, and life sciences programs that will directly benefit Penn State Schuylkill’s new nursing program and assist others in need of VR or AR headsets.

**Braille Embosser**
**$14,000**
Your purchase would reduce what is now a multistep process to print tactile material. With just one click, colorful graphs and diagrams would be printed with raised lines allowing visually challenged students to have a better understanding of the material.

**Blue Books and No. 2 Pencils**
**$300**
Students frequently approach welcome desk staff in need of an exam blue book and No. 2 pencils, especially during finals week. Your gift will ensure these important resources are available when and where they are needed most.
The Pennsylvania Newspaper Archive is an online database, developed and hosted by Penn State University Libraries, that provides easy-to-use and free access to historically significant Pennsylvania newspaper titles printed prior to 1923.

Led by Sue Kellerman, Judith O. Sieg Chair for Preservation at the University Libraries, members of the Preservation, Conservation and Digitization (PCD) department; Information Technology; and Digital Scholarship and Repository (DSRD) departments guided the development of the portal and its contents and digitized the repository of original print and microform newspapers. As an alternative to physical formats collected and stored in various locations, scanned files provide more options for storage and accessibility, while advances in technology have improved the quality of searches. Page files within the archive retain searchable full-text access, and users can browse the online database by title, date, and city of the newspaper’s origin, as well as more specific categories, such as proper names.

“The Pennsylvania Newspaper Archive makes searching historical Pennsylvania newspapers extremely easy with an intuitive and user-friendly interface,” said Kellerman. “We have provided digital access to dozens of titles in the past, but this resource allows for nearly unlimited expansion.”

Recently, the team has been loading new historical newspaper content to the platform, including Bellefonte’s Democratic Watchman and the Barnesboro Star, Juniata Sentinel and Patton Courier. These collections will join digitized newspapers from the Pennsylvania Civil War Newspapers Collection, Penn State’s collection of the Daily Collegian, and historical archives of Lancaster Farming, to name a few. More newspaper titles and holdings will be added as they become available from all 67 counties, stretching back from our colonial roots to the present.

“Our long-term goal is to make every available page of Pennsylvania’s historical newspapers available online.”

— Sue Kellerman

To access the Pennsylvania Newspaper Archive, visit panewsarchive.psu.edu online.

Samples of digital titles located within the Pennsylvania Newspaper Archive: The Evening Telegram, Philadelphia, 1864; Pennsylvanische Staats-Zeitung, 1877; La Ragione, Philadelphia, 1917; and The Pittsburgh Post, 1859.
Vanni: A Family’s Struggle through the Sri Lankan Conflict
by Benjamin Dix and Lindsay Pollock

In the tradition of Maus, Persepolis, Palestine, and The Breadwinner, Vanni documents the human side of the conflict between the Sri Lankan government and the “Tamil Tigers.” This exceptionally moving graphic novel portrays the personal experiences of modern warfare, the process of forced migration, and the struggles of seeking asylum in Europe.

Hebrew Melodies
by Heinrich Heine
translated by Stephen Mitchell and Jack Prelutsky
illustrated by Mark Podwal

One of the most important German poets of the nineteenth century, Heinrich Heine was a convert without conviction. He chose Christianity over Judaism as a means of securing an academic career, but when his conversion failed to yield opportunities, he devoted himself to writing instead. This volume presents a new translation of the third cycle of poems in Heine's late masterwork, Romanzero, which many critics have interpreted as Heine's return to his Jewish roots.

After Gun Violence: Deliberation and Memory in an Age of Political Gridlock
by Craig Rood

Mass shootings have become the “new normal” in American life. The same can be said for the public debate that follows a shooting: blame is cast, political postures are assumed, but no meaningful policy changes are enacted. Without advocating for specific policies, Rood examines how Americans talk about gun violence and suggests how we might discuss the issues more productively and move beyond our current, tragic impasse.
Indigenous Roots/Routes: Contested Histories, Contemporary Experiences
through March 15, 2020
Special Collections Exhibition Gallery, 104 Paterno Library

Recognizing that Penn State was built on land belonging to the Haudenosaunee, Lenape, Shawnee, and Susquehanna Nations, our new exhibition, Indigenous Roots/Routes: Contested Histories, Contemporary Experiences, reflects on the past five centuries of colonization and cultural exchange among Indigenous Peoples, Europeans, Africans, and, later, Americans. By drawing upon art and textual works from three major collections at Penn State (the Eberly Family Special Collections Library, the Matson Museum of Anthropology, and the Palmer Museum of Art), the exhibition explore the processes of social, religious, and political adaptation; what it means to be rooted in or unrooted from one’s land; and how searching out unfamiliar routes forces others to travel new ones.

Coming in Spring 2020
Special Collections Exhibition Gallery, 104 Paterno Library

Pennsylvania has a long history of tension between the use of its resources (both above and below ground) for growth and development, on the one hand, and the preservation of natural resources to support human health and enjoyment, on the other. To coincide with the 50th Earth Day in April 2020, the Eberly Family Special Collections Library will explore these issues through an exhibit that illustrates the intersection of human activity, the environment, and the documentary record. The exhibit will draw from themes and events in Pennsylvania’s history and feature a range of environment-related topics, including the history of climate change science, the eco-materiality of print culture, and literary speculations on the future.
Identity should not be defined at a particular time for one particular people ... it should be a term that is flexible and changeable ... and something that everybody should be able to define for themselves.

— Nora Krug, 2019 winner of the Pennsylvania Center for the Book's Lynd Ward Prize for Graphic Novel of the Year for *Belonging: A German Reckons with History and Home*.