



PennState
University Libraries

2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

TRANSFORMATIVE PARTNERS FOR KNOWLEDGE OUTREACH AND INNOVATION



Message from the Dean

The University Libraries has been a place of incredible transformation. Since last year, we:

- became the first educational institution worldwide to partner with French company Short Edition for sharing original creative writing via print dispensers and online, supporting the arts and humanities at Penn State and globally;
- hosted Penn State's first Human Library, which will become an annual, expanding event of awareness, understanding, and respect;
- solidified plans to begin Pattee Library and Paterno Library's next evolution and final expansion, with groundbreaking in 2018 and completion in 2020; and
- celebrated several faculty and staff, many recognized with national honors and others concluding impressive careers.

Today, we are welcoming new faces, many filling new strategic positions, to serve the University in forward-thinking ways. Please enjoy this year-in-review publication and visit our spaces to witness our ongoing growth and innovation!

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



Mission

The University Libraries inspires intellectual discovery and learning through robust information resources and academic collaborations in teaching and research that connect the Penn State community and citizens of Pennsylvania to the world of knowledge and new ideas.

Vision

We will be a world-class research library with a global reach, providing a welcoming and inclusive environment for learning, collaboration, and knowledge creation. As partners in research and education, and leaders in delivery and preservation of library collections, we will leverage technology and reward innovation to ensure the University Libraries will be a destination of choice.



2014-19 Strategic Plan Programmatic Areas

Teaching and Learning | Discovery, Access, and Preservation | Advancing University Research

TEACHING AND LEARNING

The final report of Penn State's Open Educational Resources (OER) Task Force, chaired by Dean Dewey and including three Libraries faculty, was accepted by Provost Nicholas Jones. Members were charged to pilot OER adoption, examine consortial opportunities, and develop a plan for University-wide support in support of President Barron's Access and Affordability imperative.

— Among key findings, Penn State's Libraries and Teaching and Learning with Technology (TLT) were found to be the units providing the most support and coordination. The most innovative work in affordable course content was underway at Commonwealth Campuses.

— Recommendations already implemented include Penn State joining the **Open Textbook Network** to help support access to free academic course content, and identifying and hiring a lead position, the Libraries' new open education librarian, to coordinate affordable course content initiatives throughout Penn State.

Three new strategic faculty positions were created to support new and growing University initiatives, with all three new hires set to begin at the start of the 2017-2018 year.

— A new **entrepreneurship librarian** will support the entrepreneurship curriculum and University-wide initiatives relating to entrepreneurship and economic development, including Invent Penn State, the Entrepreneurship and Innovation minor, and Global Entrepreneurship Week programming and events.

— A new **open education librarian** will help build partnerships, especially with faculty and instructional designers who create online course content, and create strategies to further integrate OER efforts at the University, initially for general education courses.

— A new **student engagement librarian** is responsible for building partnerships and creating strategies to develop, assess, and maintain high impact practices for student engagement. A significant focus of the position will be engaged scholarship, defined as out-of-classroom academic experiences such as undergraduate research, study abroad, and service learning, within the University Libraries' teaching and learning program.

The Libraries launched a new Electronic Course Reserves platform to better integrate library content into Canvas, Penn State's online course management system.

Librarians also collaborate and can consult easily with instructors and instructional designers in Canvas. The **embedded librarian program** enables new ways for librarians to be easily accessible to students, provide feedback on sources they are using for assignments, create helpful tutorials, manage discussion boards, and more.

The Libraries and Penn State World Campus successfully implemented a pilot project for World Campus courses' **use of embedded online course content on reserve**, incorporating all digital assigned textbooks available for license. The pilot will become standard practice beginning with Fall 2017 semester courses.

Through the Libraries, Penn State became the first educational institution worldwide to partner with Short Edition of Grenoble, France, to deliver short, original pieces of Penn State creative writing to the University Park and State College communities and other short story readers around the world via its short story dispensers and new English-language website. This effort supports the University's strategic priority to advance the arts and humanities.

— The Libraries' short story dispenser installation at Schlow Centre Region Library marks the latest in an increasing partnership between the neighboring libraries.

DISCOVERY, ACCESS, AND PRESERVATION

Alumni John and Barbara Holder's \$1.2 million estate commitment, shared between Penn State's College of Education and the Libraries, has enabled the **John and Barbara Holder Educational Resources Collections Endowment** to help ensure the Libraries can provide research-level materials for all subjects, including textbooks. Their gift helped the Libraries' endowment total surpass \$34 million as of June 30, 2017.

The Libraries is participating in the **Big Ten Academic Alliance Geospatial Data Portal Project**, an online data discovery tool to connect records and scholars across Big Ten universities to geospatial data resources, such as GIS datasets, web services, and digitized historical maps from multiple data clearinghouses, library catalogs, and websites.

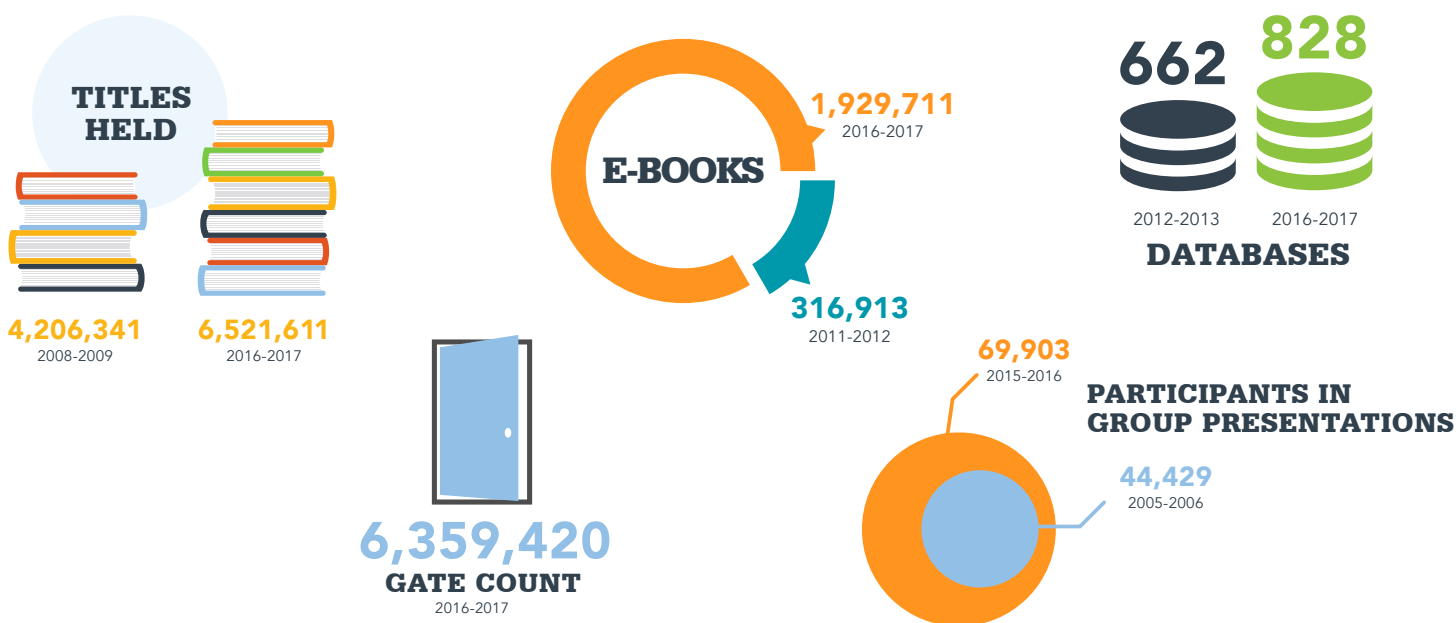
The Harrell Health Sciences Library Research and Learning Commons at Penn State Hershey was officially dedicated in February.

Each semester, the University Libraries typically supports nearly 600 courses with about 10,000 online items on reserve, and additional courses with physical materials on reserve, at all library locations University-wide.



Members of the Libraries' Maps Cataloging Team in the Cataloging and Metadata Services Department achieved a major milestone: completing the cataloging of the Libraries' Pennsylvania maps collection. Now, the Donald W. Hamer Maps Library has the **most completely cataloged collection of Pennsylvania maps in the country**, and the project's completion ensured that the entire collection is accessible through the world's largest online library catalog, OCLC WorldCAT.

2016-2017 BY THE NUMBERS



ADVANCING UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

The Libraries was selected for one of just 17 **Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives grants** nationwide, totaling \$239,000 over two years, for “Beneath the Surface and Cast in Steel: Forging the American Industrial Union Movement Digital Project.” It will make available online several special collections that document Pennsylvania’s historical connections to important American labor organizations that laid groundwork to forming today’s AFL-CIO.

Engineering Library employees identified a “lost” collection of four unmarked, decades-old, under-cataloged cabinets of microfiche. Their discovery enabled the recording of nearly 60,000 unique titles of highly specialized aeronautics texts in more than 20 languages.

— This work created access to primarily Soviet Bloc scientific and engineering content from 1966 to 1973 — and **no other library is known to hold this collection**, thereby improving access to unique content while preserving it for future generations.

In celebration of its **sixtieth anniversary year**, Penn State University Press reaffirmed its commitment to excellence and innovation in scholarly publishing with a reinvigorated brand.

— The Press also has made a variety of changes to its publishing program, supporting a larger number of titles of interest to non-academics, continued expansion of its journals program, and the introduction of **PSU Press Unlocked**, an open-access initiative featuring scholarly digital books and journals in the humanities and social sciences.



COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

The University Libraries is committed to diversity in all of its forms, embracing differences with acceptance and respect.

In Fall 2016, the University Libraries became a **charter member of the Association of College & Research Libraries' ACRL Diversity Alliance**, which is committed to increasing the hiring of underrepresented racial and ethnic groups. It also supports opportunities to create multi-institutional collaborations to enhance diversity and inclusion in the field of librarianship and at each institution.

The Libraries' new **global partnerships and outreach librarian** identifies opportunities for collaborations within Penn State and externally to support international education efforts and international student library instruction, acts as the Libraries' liaison to Penn State's Global Engagement Network, and provides support to the Libraries-sponsored Interinstitutional Center for Indigenous Knowledge and its scholarly open access journal *IK: Other Ways of Knowing*.

Alia Gant, a 2015-16 American Library Association Spectrum Scholar, and Jose Guerrero, a Project IDoL (Increasing Diversity of Librarians) fellow at Wayne State University, were named the second cohort of diversity resident librarians in the Libraries' **Diversity Residency Program**. This post-graduate appointment was developed to attract recent library and information sciences graduates for a three-year program of research and service in academic librarianship, providing them with transferable professional experiences and career development in preparation for future leadership roles in the field. Both also were both awarded **ACRL 2017 Early-Career Librarian Scholarships**.

The Libraries and Penn State's Iranian Student Association are co-sponsoring **Docunight**, a monthly documentary viewing event through 2017 at University Park and at Thun Library at Penn State Berks. Each Docunight features a documentary about, around, or in Iran, or made by Iranians. Similar screenings take place across several cities in North America.



Pattee Library and Paterno Library hosted the first **Penn State Human Library** in February, where attendees could "check out" a human book to engage in "conversations that challenge stereotypes and prejudices through dialogue," according to the global organization. The Libraries organized the event, establishing the program's learning goals, objectives, and outcomes, with a University Park campus-wide committee of sponsors and volunteers.

HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Jennifer Gilley, head librarian, Elisabeth S. Blissell Library at Penn State New Kensington, was selected for ALA's 2017 Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) **Women and Gender Studies Section Career Achievement Award**.

Jennifer Hunter, reference and instruction librarian, was the recipient of a **2016 Chancellor's Grant** from Penn State Abington Chancellor Damian J. Fernandez's inaugural grant competition, in support of her work to create a museum lending pass program at the Penn State Abington College Library. Through 2017, the library pilot program will lend free passes from nine Philadelphia-area participating museums to faculty, staff, and students. A corresponding library guide provides specific information on each pass.

Anne Langley, associate dean for Research, Collections and Scholarly Communications, was named one of 34 Fellows of the **2017 Leading Change Institute**, sponsored by the Council on Library and Information Resources and EDUCAUSE.

Christina Riehman-Murphy and Jennifer Hunter, reference and instruction librarians at Penn State Abington College Library, received the American Library Association's **2017 ACRL Section Innovation in College Librarianship Award**.

Rebecca Miller, associate librarian and head of Library Learning Services, is one of five Penn State faculty to be named a **2017 Big Ten Academic Alliance Department Executive Officer fellow**. Approximately 65 faculty department heads and chairs from Big Ten universities are selected annually.

Lauren Reiter received the Pennsylvania Library Association's **2016 New Librarian Honors Award**.

Joe Salem, associate dean of Learning, Undergraduate Services and Commonwealth Campus Libraries, was named the **2017 Library and Information Science Alumnus of the Year** by Kent State University's School of Library and Information Science (iSchool), and graduated from the ARL Leadership Fellows program.

ASK A LIBRARIAN

Spring 2017 and Fall 2016 highlights

— **89 library employees handled 3,998 sessions on LibChat in Fall 2016 and 3,986 sessions in Spring 2017, the latter a 27% increase over Spring 2016.**

— **146 library employees answered 1,684 email questions/tickets through in Fall 2016 and 1,632 email questions/tickets in Spring 2017, the latter a 21% increase over Spring 2016.**

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Visit the Alumni Library at alumni.libraries.psu.edu

Through its partnership with the Libraries, Penn State Alumni Association members receive online access to several of the Libraries' subscription databases not available to the public.



In 2017-2018 and beyond:

- Preparation for the launch of Libraries 2020, a planned two-year renovation and expansion of Pattee Library and Paterno Library, to improve access across multiple floors and to fill in, better utilize, and strategically program square footage previously dedicated to a courtyard
 - Updates about strategic initiatives for the University capital campaign "A Greater Penn State for 21st Century Excellence"
 - Expansion of Penn State's Open Access initiative and reports and recommendations from its task force
- ... and so much more!

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