Summer 2014

Robert R. Muntz Library
Ready for Research!

The University of Texas at Tyler students are already making full use of the library! The Muntz Library staff even had to direct some students to other sections of the library to gain access to resources.

Muntz librarians and assistants are ready to help all patrons entering the facility. Students can check out books, access eResources, make copies, print information, receive help from a librarian, and find quiet study areas.

The library is now back to regular hours - which means it is open until midnight, Sunday through Thursday every week. It is hoped that the entire UT Tyler family will take advantage of the numerous resources, services and events the Library hosts!

Muntz Library Hosts NTLA Conference

by Terra Bianchi, Archivist Librarian

This summer, the library hosted a meeting for the North Texas Library Assessment (NTLA) group—an organization created to foster communication and collaboration for library professionals interested in assessment.

The meeting included presentations and corresponding workshops about Qualitative Analysis, Space Use Assessment, and Planning an Assessment Project.

The workshops were interactive, allowing NTLA members to learn and converse about their personal experiences with analyzing data, planning assessment, and library space assessment.

Three of UT Tyler’s professional librarians (Margo Duncan, Terra Bianchi, and Tiffany LeMaistre) and UT Tyler’s assessment coordinator (Alexandria Werner) presented and hosted the workshops in collaboration with librarians from Southern Methodist University and University of North Texas.
Banned Books Week
Alma Ravenell
Public Services Librarian

Banned Books Week is coming soon! You will not want to miss this fun and worthwhile activity! This particular event should concern all of us as scholars, as citizens, and as individuals. It is the belief of most persons, that no one should have the power or authority to tell you what you can and cannot read. Nor should they be able to tell persons what they can and cannot write.

But, believe it or not, banned books happen! Each year many books are challenged or banned. What does that mean? It means that someone or some group decides that a certain book should not be read by anyone or certain people. The reason is usually because they find something offensive in the book—usually dealing with profanity, religion, sexuality or racial slurs.

While we may not personally condone some of the negativity in the aforementioned subject areas, we also do not feel we should stop persons from reading or writing about such topics. This is what Banned Books Week is about.

It should also be noted that most books challenged or banned are those that are targeted at school age children.
Summer Displays at Muntz Library

The Library created several displays this Summer. They included: “Children Overcoming Difficulties” by Isabel Altamirano and Circulation Staff; “This Month in History” by Ann Darnley and Robyn Perdue; and “Favorite Summer Reads of Muntz Library Staff” by Alma Ravenell and Robyn Perdue.

Continuing through the Fall are: “Very Short Introductions” and “E-Resources.” Also Archives continues with “Pop Culture in Politics” and “World War II: Snapshots of Tyler, Texas.” It is our hope that you will come view these displays as time allows.

E-Resources
by Isabel Altamirano; Robyn Perdue; Ann Darnley; Tiffany LeMaistre

Very Short Introductions
by Isabel Altamirano

Current and Upcoming Library Events

Art of Peace (Display) September 13-September 21st
Constitution Day (Display) - Daughters of the American Revolution
American Hispanic Heritage Month (Display)
Children’s Cancer Awareness (Display)
Banned Books Week (Display and Events) September 21—27.
The First Ladies (Display) - “Tim Anthony Jackson Collection” Archives

October:
American Hispanic Heritage Month (continued)
Mole Day (Display and Event)
Crossing Cultures (Display) - GATE
Breast Cancer Awareness Month (Display)
Archives Month (Display)
Domestic Violence Month (Display)

We encourage everyone to participate in scheduled events and to view the displays!

Special Donation!

Dr. Spencer Acadia (Reference Librarian and Adjunct Professor) has received a donation of $2,000 from the Tyler-area PFLAG group. Once the funds are directed to the library, they will be used for collection development.

The specific focus will be to increase resources for sociological and psychological materials dealing with issues of gender, sex, and sexuality broadly defined that are educational in nature and support interdisciplinary curricula in the social, behavioral, cultural, and health sciences.

As revealed in Dr. Acadia’s case, when librarians establish relationships with local groups for outreach purposes, it can result in monetary donations to help the library and its users in educational pursuits.
Samantha Winn (Archives Assistant) recently graduated from the College of Computing and Informatics at Drexel University in June 2014 with a Master of Science in Library and Information Science and a concentration in archival studies. She has accepted an appointment to work as an Archivist Librarian with Virginia Tech. Ms. Winn has been a part of the Muntz Library staff since January 2010.

Vicki Betts (Reference Librarian) presented “Building Parks, Building Men: Tyler State Park and the C.C.C., 1934-1941” to the Smith County Historical Society on August 5. A video recording of the presentation is currently running on channel 3, Suddenlink-Tyler. She presented “After the Guns Fell Silent: Marks’ Mill Prisoners at Camp Ford and Camp Groce, Texas” at the Red River Heritage Symposium, Washington, Arkansas, on July 26. Ms. Betts also serves as a member of the Editorial Board for the annual journal, Chronicles of Smith County. She has a lead article in the first revived issue (on socialists in Smith County).

Dr. Spencer Acadia is teaching: Graduate-level Research Methods (5396) for the Social Sciences department and Personality Theory (4341) for the Psychology Department. Dr. Acadia also attended the IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations) Conference in Lyon, France – August 16-22, where he presented a collaborative paper on the topic of: “Selection, implementation, and behavioral considerations for knowledge management tool adoption: A case study of a financial services company’s decision-making process.”

Jeanne Standley (Director) and Alma Ravenell (Public Services Librarian) attended conferences this summer: the American Library Association (ALA) Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, June 26-July 1, 2014 and the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Assessment Conference in Seattle, Washington, August 4-6, 2014.

April Borromeo (Reference & Outreach Specialist) will serve as Assistant Editor for the annual journal, Chronicles of Smith County. Texas. She will design and help layout the journal.

Jeanne Standley is the Chair for the East Texas Book Fest steering committee; is on the Texas Library Association Legislative Committee and attended the Annual Assembly. She was recently appointed to the TexShare Advisory Board; Ms. Standley is also a TCAL Board member at large for TCSUL.

Vandy Dubre (Reference Librarian) will serve in the capacity of Teaching Assistant for the Literature Department this Fall.

Library Staff assisted with “Move In Day” at UT Tyler on August 20, 2014.

Library Staff participated in the Patriot Tables event this summer.

Library Staff participated in the Patriot Palooza with our First Day Tables August 25th and 26th.

Library Staff enjoyed a staff retreat on August 18. Special guest, Mary Anna Kidd, spoke about “Communication and Email”. They also shared information from their respective departments and joined in team building exercises. The theme was “Team Work”. Pictured below are winners of the People Bingo: Robyn Perdue, Jan Harp and Tamara Brown.
Rare books in the UASC

Terra Bianchi, University Archivist

The University Archives and Special Collections Department has a vast array of unique, rare books available for researchers to peruse. Some of our rare books were added to the UASC through estate sale purchases during the 1980s—but more often they are donated to the archives. Donors are usually looking for a location where their rare books can be preserved, properly stored, handled, and viewed by interested researchers.

Examples of our most rare books include:

- Paradise Lost by John Milton: limited edition late 19th century, with velvet cloth binding and illustrations by Gustave Doré.
- 18th Century Bible translated by Martin Luther (in German): considered an “elector Bible”, with elaborate illustrations of Imperial Electors.
- Genealogy of the family of Phillip III Habsburg of Spain, dated 1618: an illuminated manuscript handwritten and illustrated, most likely by a monk.

Other books available in the UASC include faculty publications, UT Tyler student theses, and additional rare books about East Texas, Smith County, and Texas.

If you are interested in learning more about the UASC’s rare book collections, please stop by Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm, call at (903) 565-5748, or email us at archivist@uttyler.edu.

“The very existence of libraries affords the best evidence that we may yet have hope for the future of man” - T.S Eliot (Author)
First Day Tables

The Library Staff was pleased to be a part of Patriot Palooza. Staff members handed out library information; pens; highlighters; pencils, bookmarks and cold water to help keep our students cool in the heat!

Hosting Patriot Tables is one of our greatest pleasures!

We want to know…

If you could pick any topic to research, personal or academic, what would you pick and why?

“Right now, I’m really into sports medicine, so probably something about injuries, care, and prevention.” - Rebecca Rascon, Kinesiology, Junior

“Probably physics, quantum physics.”- Joseph Schilling Sato, Civil Engineering, Freshman

“It would probably be evidence based practice nursing to ensure accuracy in the hospital and less errors.”- Andrea Barnes, Nursing, Senior

“Probably brain research. I find it really interesting how the brain works with injuries and how it functions.” - Kacey Hunkins, Psychology, Sophomore

In each issue of Muntz Library Musings, “We want to know…” will feature a question directed at library patrons to give them an opportunity to express their views.

(by April Borromeo, Reference and Outreach Library Assistant)