Summer 7-7-2015

Summer 2015

Robert R. Muntz Library

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Banned Books Week
by Alma Ravenell, Public Services Librarian

Each year libraries all over the nation celebrate “Banned Books Week” (BBW); our library is no different. This exciting event focuses on reminding us that not only is reading a joy, but also that choosing what you want to read is a privilege we often take for granted. This week is set aside each year to remind us all that books are still being challenged and banned all over the world! Our freedom to read should not be taken lightly. If you agree, make sure to mark your calendar for September 27th thru October 3rd. At Muntz Library we will be hosting several events to recognize BBW. Please see the activities below:

- A display in honor of the event will be showcased.
- A debate and forum will be held in FAC 1009 on Sept 29, 5-6:30 pm. Refreshments will follow.
- An online symposium - “Robert Cormier: Censorship and Intolerance” - will be held on Thursday, October 1st - 11am-4pm. Interested persons may join a group in Library 202.

These events, along with the usual Muntz Library zeal for our “Freedom to Read” will be featured during BBW.

Available at the Library. . .
by April Stiles, Outreach and Reference Specialist

Ever wonder what is available for you at the Library? Read below to find out!

SPACE
- Designated Social and Quiet Zones
- Study Rooms for group and individual study
- Practice Presentation Rooms: LIB 202 and 419
- Silent Computer Lab, LIB 422
- The Study Grounds Coffee Shop
- Garden seating

TECHNOLOGY
- Free Wi-Fi
- 68 fully equipped computers
- Up to 500 pages of free printing with student ID
- Color and double-sided printing
- Free Scanner
- Copier

HELP
- 7 subject-specific librarians ready to assist in-person, by phone, email, or chat
- Comprehensive research guides
Books Still Take Us Places

I have an apron that I acquired at my first librarian position many years ago. It reads: “Books can take you anywhere!” And you know what? They really do!

It’s like having a plane ticket handy all the time! A book can take me all over the world, and into worlds I never knew could exist in anyone’s mind. Personally, if I hear of a movie being produced that is based on a book, I prefer to see the movie first, so I won’t be disappointed. Ninety percent of the time, the book will be better than the film.

Jeanne Standley, Executive Director of the Library will return in our next issue, but did request that this piece be written in her absence.
Quick Library Stats
Ref Questions Asked and Answered - 1,286
(May 2nd thru Aug 22nd)

Checkouts - 1,436
Renewals - 313
Total Transactions = 1,749

ILL Borrowing (UT Tyler) 797
ILL Requests/Loans (Others) - 177

Summer Displays at Muntz Library
Isabel Altamirano, Librarian (Outreach)

This year marks the 150th Anniversary of Juneteenth, which celebrates when Texas slaves first learned of their freedom by the reading of the Emancipation Proclamation in Galveston. The exhibit had historical quotes and how the holiday is celebrated across the nation.

(Organized by Alma Ravenell and Vicki Betts)


(Organized by Isabel Altamirano, Poster Designed by Ann Darnley)

Library Read In
By Vandy Dubre, Librarian

On June 23rd, the library was invaded by little guests and riveting readers. In an effort to illustrate the power and fun of the written word, children from the Stepping Stone Summer program visited the library for a day of story time - including stories about Ancient Egypt. Children also had an opportunity to write their own story!

In Memory of:
Elizabeth “Libby” Mathis

This past summer, we lost not only a colleague but a dear friend. A 2004 graduate of UT Tyler, Libby worked as a Library Assistant in Circulation. She was truly dedicated to her job and her positive attitude and willingness to help others will be missed both by library staff and patrons. Despite her illness, she continued to work and possessed a great strength that was inspiring to others. She will be missed greatly.

“We remember those we have lost with great fondness.”
April “Borromeo” Stiles (Outreach and Reference Specialist) supported two poster presentations during the Spring semester. Mrs. Stiles is now Graphic Designer for Smith County Chronicles. She will also offer a library orientation class to the UT Tyler Intensive English Language Institute students this fall.

Vicki Betts (Reference Librarian) presented “Pray that This War Will End: The Civil War Letters of William Smith Herndon and Mary Louise McKellar Herndon, Tyler and Velasco, Texas” on July 7th to the Smith County Historical Society.

Jeanne Standley (Executive Director) serves as “member at large” for the Texas Council of State and University Librarians and also serves on the TexShare Advisory Board for the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. She attended and presented a poster at the TLA Conference. Ms. Standley attended the ALA Conference in San Francisco. Ms. Standley helped organize the East Texas Book Festival in Tyler this year. She will attend the TCAL meeting this September in Austin, Texas.

Alma Ravenell (Public Services Librarian) attended and presented a poster at the TLA Conference. She also participated in training for ERPA in San Francisco during the ALA conference. She was voted as CULD and District 5 Chair-Elect, but accepted the latter position. Mrs. Ravenell also attended the TLA Annual Assembly this summer.

Dr. Spencer Acadia (Reference Librarian) taught 2 classes in the Psychology department this summer. He also attended and presented a poster at the ACRL 2015 conference in Portland, OR. Dr. Acadia was appointed as a Standing Committee member of the IFLA Knowledge Management Section. Additionally, he co-presented at the IFLA conference in South Africa. He is coordinating a trip to Scandinavia next summer for the UT Tyler community and hosted a related display in the Library this summer.

WHAT WE’RE DOING...

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Aaron Ramirez (Archives Assistant) volunteered with the Smith County Historical Society on their long-range planning committee for outreach. He also set up a special exhibit in the Library featuring the Eisenhower Golf Tournament.

Isabel Altamirano (Reference Librarian) will be published in The Journal of Hospital Librarianship. She presented at the Texas Stem Conference and will teach at UNIV 1000 STEM to freshmen students this fall. She is also contributing a swatch to the Crochet Coral Reef Project.

Jan Harp, Christina Gutierrez, and April Stiles (Library Assistants) accepted appointments as Library Designated Safety Liaisons (DSL).

Rebecca Fernandez, (ERM Librarian) attended The Harwood Institute Public Innovators Lab at UT Arlington, May 12-14, 2015. She also attended the 2015 AACP & AFPC Annual Meeting, July 11-15, in National Harbor, MD in her capacity as the College of Pharmacy Library Liaison. Additionally, Ms. Fernandez provides training to University staff in MS Excel in coordination with Information Technology Training.

All Library Staff attended a one day retreat to share highlights of their departments and participate in Harwood Break-Out Sessions lead by Executive Director, Jeanne Standley. Library staff also heard inspiring words from Dr. Justin Velten, (Assistant Professor of Speech Communication).
Open Access at UT Tyler

Terra Bianchi, University Archivist

Open Access is the free, immediate, online availability of research articles, including the rights to use articles fully in the digital environment. It increases visibility of scholarly work, prevents users from having to pay for research articles, and accelerates discovery because researchers don’t have to wait for access to works. Open Access also helps to prevent authors from signing away their copyright to publishers.

To aid in the access of UT Tyler scholarly work, the UT Tyler Institutional Repository (IR) (http://dspace.urtle.edu/xmlui/) is a digital service that stores, preserves, and displays documents and publications of our University’s faculty, staff, and students. Recently, faculty across UT Tyler have become interested in supporting more access and visibility of their work. By adding their scholarly work to the IR, our faculty are ensuring that their research is available to the widest audiences.

If you are interested in learning more about Open Access or the types of materials allowed for deposit into the IR, please contact us at archivist@uttyler.edu or (903) 565-5849.

Collections Update  Rebecca Fernandez, ERM Librarian

Muntz Library recently finished a major weeding project. Weeding a collection in a library is always a sensitive matter. Seeing a book collection shrink can be somewhat shocking to the patrons of the Library. However, there are benefits from weeding a collection.

Weeding a library collection is the process of selectively removing materials from the shelves. Criteria is established and materials that fit that criteria are identified for removal.

The criteria used for the recent weeding project was a combination of publication date, lack of use over a period of years (no checkouts and no in-house use), and changes to curriculum. Once removed from the shelves, weeded materials are withdrawn from the Library catalog and then offered to other libraries and/or non-profit organizations, if they are willing to pay the shipping.

One of the benefits of weeding a collection is the opportunity to acquire more current resources in support of the ever changing curriculum. It has also allowed Muntz Library to repurpose half of the 3rd floor for much needed group study and project work while moving the Quiet Study area to the 4th floor.

Collection Development in a library is a constantly moving target. The collection of an academic library can be especially challenging to establish and maintain. Providing the necessary materials to support the curriculum is a balancing act aided by selective weeding of a standing collection.

Library Grad and Student Workers

Some of the library’s best resources hail from our campus. They are our student workers. Without them, we would not be able to provide the level of service needed for our users. This year’s staff include:

Grad Students
Joseph Watt and Gavin Sanders - Reference Services  Mary “M.E.” Smith - University Archives

Student Workers
Antonio “Tony” Sanchez, Cree Summerville, and Ki’arra Semien - Circulation Services  Percy Kannarapu and Harini Ramasahayam - Collections Services

Please join the Library in welcoming this most essential group of students!

New Staff Member
Meet Isloma “Nora” Anazia. She is our new part time staff member.

Soon library users will be able to do their recording projects in the Library. It is anticipated that the room will be available before the fall semester ends.

A One Touch Studio in the Library

“If truth is beauty, how come no one has their hair done in the library?”
Meet Your Liaison Librarians

Your Library is dedicated to providing the best service possible. One of the services we provide is help with your research.

Doing college level research is hard, especially with the internet giving you access to both credible and unreliable information. Even if you are not familiar with higher level research through databases before, we can help you.

To quote Neil Gaman, “Google can bring you back 100,000 answers, but a librarian can bring you back the RIGHT one.” That statement summons up the challenges in doing research today.

The internet has made research both easier in terms of physical leg work but more challenging in terms of trustworthy sources and verification of facts. So how do you navigate all of these sources? How do you create the right search that brings back to best results so you don’t spend weeks weeding through junk websites that Google retrieves? Why doesn’t your professor want you to use Wikipedia? Well, to help answer all these questions, your library has not only friendly librarians, but “subject specialist” librarians.

These librarians, (or librarian liaisons), are responsible for taking care of all the department library needs. They work closely with your faculty, the subject databases, and the subject itself to help you, and your faculty, with research.

Yes, you could spend weeks plunking through Google results and cobble together a decent paper. However, wouldn’t it be easier, faster, and get better results to talk to a person whose job is to know how to do research in your subject?

Look at it this way, maybe spending an hour with this librarian can help you find specific research on the topic you are looking for right now. At the same time you will learn how to do basic and subject specific research. This ensures that every research paper, poster presentation, and future project, will be easier for you to complete. That is an hour well spent! Of course, it doesn’t have to mean an hour of your time every time. You can always stop by, chat, or email, your librarian with a specific question...any time.

Alma Ravenell - aravenell@uttyler.edu - GATE (Global Awareness Through Education) Librarian
Isabel Altamirano - ialtamirano@uttyler.edu - Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Construction Management, Engineering, Geology, Math, Physics, Technology
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Visit the Library Website! library.uttyler.edu

FOLLOW THE LIBRARY:

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Vicki                                  Rebecca                                        Vandy