A Message from the Dean of Libraries

When I started writing this message, I looked outside and saw snow falling that quickly covered Mount Sentinel. Nonetheless, in the midst of my second winter in Montana, I have been warmed by the high level of enthusiasm and energy from library faculty, staff, and generous donors. Their dedication and unwavering support have helped us move forward on many fronts this past year.

In this issue of Connections, the Mansfield Library’s newsletter, we present reports on the library’s Student-Centered Innovative Projects. As its name conveys, these projects focus on supporting UM students’ success in their educational pursuits. I want to take this opportunity to thank the members of the project review taskforce who issued an open call for projects, reviewed all proposals according to established criteria, and selected the best proposals for action. A big thank-you also goes to all team members who conducted user needs assessments, prepared their proposals, submitted and carried out their plans. They have indeed implemented many innovative ideas to enhance UM students’ learning experience.

The library’s generous donors have played an important role this year by supporting enhancement and expansion of the library’s collections, including archival materials and special collections, funding improvements...
in facilities, enriching technologies, and supporting leadership training for library faculty and staff who have taken on new initiatives and tasks. The fundraising for the UM Learning Commons continues. This major renovation project is supported by UM President Royce Engstrom as part of the Investing in Student Success initiative, the first phase of the UM’s major fundraising campaign. This past fall, I had opportunities to participate in numerous fundraising events where I observed enthusiasm and commitment from generous donors who have made a difference in students’ educational pursuits at UM. Their support of the Mansfield Library is greatly appreciated!

The library’s strategic planning process is underway, to be completed in the spring of 2014. It has been a very positive undertaking that not only involved library faculty and staff, but faculty, staff and students from across UM. I look forward to working with you all on many exciting initiatives in 2014, the year of Horse!

Shali Zhang

The Learning Commons will provide a dynamic learning environment with:

• Math and writing tutoring centers
• Fully equipped conference rooms to facilitate worldwide communication, collaboration and research
• Flexible spaces for collaborative study and small-group instruction
• Support from UM’s outstanding library faculty and staff
• Technology that enables instant access to information for study and research

The Mansfield Library is the hub of learning at UM and the Learning Commons will be a centerpiece of academic life for our students.

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In the spring of 2013, using one-time funds from the UM Provost’s Office, the library called for innovative ideas that focused on enhancing students’ learning experiences. To meet the criteria, the proposed projects must be student-centered, innovative in nature, and with direct outcomes to enable students’ success. It has been an excellent opportunity for library faculty and staff to identify, plan, engage, and accomplish the projects that contribute to UM students’ intellectual pursuits.

A working group was appointed by the library dean with several faculty and staff members: Megan Stark, Julie Edwards, Jordan Hess, Sam Meister (Chair), Burt Vollmer, Danette Seiler, and Samantha Hines. The working group developed guidelines to evaluate proposals; issued an open call for innovative ideas; reviewed proposals based on the guidelines and criteria, and recommended acceptable project proposals.

**Veterans’ Oral History Project**
Coordinator: Professor Sue Samson
Collaborators: Susanne Caro, Samantha Hines, Patti McKenzie

The Veterans’ Oral History engages veterans in the educational process and recognizes their service to our country by recording their stories through interviews with fellow students. Student veterans were invited to share their stories through interviews with journalism students enrolled in an advanced audio class. Library personnel facilitated this intersection of student veterans and student journalists, information literacy instruction, and recognition of the service of veterans to our country through archival recordings. To date, ten 30-minute veteran oral histories have been recorded. Once completed, the journalism students compiled the oral histories into three-minute clips for radio broadcast. The original oral histories will be packaged, with permissions, and sent to the Library of Congress Veterans Oral History Project and the Mansfield Library Institutional Repository.

**Missoula College’s Additional Makerspace Project**
Coordinator: Associate Professor Samantha Hines

In order to keep the Applied Computing and Electronics students at Missoula College current with innovative products and technologies, they need experience using the most recent technological developments. Hines proposed the purchase of elements that would combine with Missoula Public Library’s (MPL) 3-D scanner and printer to connect Missoula College’s electronics programs more efficiently with MPL’s offerings. Students will be able to use the devices available and increase their understanding of computing and electronics. The electronics will also increase the diversity of classes available at Missoula College and give students the experience they need to be successful in today’s ever-changing world of technology.

**Electronic Resource Use Analysis**
Coordinator: Professor Sue Samson

The Electronic Resource Use Analysis Project identifies the demographics of electronic resource by library users with a goal of improving services and resources for their use. Data was collected during fall semester 2012 and aggregated the usage of the Library’s electronic resources by students, faculty and staff. Data analysis will be used to inform the library’s instruction program and reference services, strengthen student-centered teaching and outreach, and provide a base of information to assess future changes in electronic resource use and acquisition. The data will assist in determining and documenting how library services and resources play a role in student retention and if the resources can be improved to foster student success and complement students’ levels of learning.

**Missoula College Furniture and Library Services Upgrade**
Coordinator: Associate Professor Samantha Hines

The Missoula College Furniture Upgrade, proposed by Samantha Hines, soon became the Furniture and Library Services Upgrade that now provides a satellite library for students at the Missoula College West Campus. Hines noticed the West Campus of Missoula College did not have appropriate resources for students and proposed to update the student study area with furniture and materials that would be more conducive to studying and learning. Also, the West Campus had not had direct library services since the late 1990s and no circulating library collection. Missoula College West Campus received 300 items to create a satellite library and a scanner was purchased for student use.
Games at the Library
Coordinator: Assistant Professor Susanne Caro
Collaborators: Kevin Crowley, Jordan Hess, Greg Kattell, Audra Loyal, Wes Samson, Shelley Ramberg

Games at the Library is a project that aims to provide games and gaming equipment and resources to the student population. The project, coordinated by Assistant Professor Susanne Caro, Government Documents Librarian, includes digital (iPad) and analog (board and role-playing) games. The proposed game collection includes games that improve skills valuable to student success, such as critical thinking, strategy development, and creativity. Other games offer students the opportunity to have fun and relax between classes, which can be especially beneficial during finals and other high-stress times.

Faces of Graduate Student Research
Coordinator: Associate Professor Kate Zoellner

The Faces of Graduate Student Research project provides an innovative new type of outreach to the 2,300 graduate students enrolled at the University of Montana. The project’s two objectives were to highlight the research, goals, and personal stories of graduate student researchers on the library blog and to educate both graduate and undergraduate students about library services. In order to accomplish these objectives, Zoellner identified graduate students to interview and also focused the marketing of some workshops and events toward graduate students.

This fall, Zoellner conducted one-on-one interviews with graduate students that included questions such as, “What do you think is the most important service the library provides to graduate students?” During the interviews, the students also described their current or favorite research project. The students’ research stories, and perspectives on research and the library, will appear on the library’s blog and Facebook page this spring. Students’ comments from the interviews are also being used to develop additional marketing materials targeted specifically to graduate students.

Electronic Library
Coordinator: Assistant Professor Angela Dresseilhaus
Collaborators: Linder Schlang, Samantha Hines, Liberty Barrows, Jennifer Rusk

The Electronic Library project showcased the availability of eBooks for students and increased library employee expertise in the use of electronic books on mobile devices such as laptops and tablets. The nature of the project was altered slightly to accommodate a library initiative to create a popular reading collection. Dresseilhaus and her collaborators created an electronic library and increased the availability of eBooks by enhancing the eBook counterpart to the print popular collection at the library. In addition, the University of Montana joined a statewide purchasing group, MontanaLibrary2go, in order to expand the electronic collection. Popular eBook titles are now available to the UM community from the Mansfield Library, and employees are testing the popular reading collection on various mobile devices to assist in additional promotion of the resource during the spring 2014 semester.

Diversity Committee’s Mansfield Library Open House
Coordinator: Greg Kattell
Collaborators: Julie Edwards, Annie Weiler, Sue Samson, Christa Fehrer, Megan Stark

In conjunction with the Diversity Committee, Greg Kattell organized a Mansfield Library Open House at the beginning of the autumn 2013 semester. Kattell and his collaborators partnered with the American Indian Student Services, Disability Services for Students, and Foreign Student and Scholar Services to offer a casual meet and greet event where these student services departments could interact with the student populations that they serve. The open house served to inform these students about the services available to them and the resources provided by the library.

Demystifying the Archives
Coordinator: Assistant Professor Sam Meister
Collaborators: Carlie Magill, Donna McCrea, Mark Fritch, Kellyn Younggren

Sam Meister coordinated an archives-based project to make students aware of the presence and educational value of the Archives and Special Collections at the Mansfield Library. There were multiple outreach activities that occurred in celebration of American Archives month in October 2013 as a result of the Demystifying the Archives project. Each event was well attended and educated the university community about one of the library’s most unique resources: the Zine and Small Press Collection. The outreach events included a lecture on the zine and small press experience, a free zine-making workshop, and a photo caption contest.
China delegation visited the UM campus

In early November 2013, an official delegation from China’s finance and economics universities visited the UM campus. The members of the delegation included university officers and library directors at these institutions. The goal of the visit was to learn management and campus structures at U.S. universities. The UM campus was the delegation’s first stop. The group visited with Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Perry Brown, Dean Larry Gianchetta of the School of Business Administration, Dean Steve Kalm of College of Visual and Performing Arts, and Dean Shali Zhang of the Mansfield Library. While on campus, the delegation toured the facilities at the College of Visual and Performing Arts. Dean Kalm gave them an in-depth introduction on workshops where students gain hands-on experience in costuming, lighting, stage design, and real production. The delegates attended a presentation by Provost Brown on university policies and procedures and how academic units function within the established university structure. Lectures at the School of Business and Administration were given by Dean Gianchetta, two faculty members, and several students about the school’s masters programs and the challenges and solutions in business education. On the delegation’s last stop at the Mansfield Library, a series of presentations by library faculty and staff centered around the library’s initiatives, services, and programs in line with the university’s Strategic Plan, UM 2020, Building a University for the Global Century. The delegates and library participants had engaging discussions on challenges and opportunities facing libraries around the globe. The library tours at Paw Print and Archives & Special Collections informed the delegates about the best practices in student-centered programs at the Mansfield Library.

Civil War 150

The Mansfield Library hosted “Civil War 150,” a national traveling exhibition from Dec. 3-23, 2013. By virtue of letters, personal accounts and images, the exhibit showed how people grappled with the end of slavery, the nature of democracy and citizenship, the human toll of civil war and the role of a president in wartime. The Mansfield Library was one of 50 sites nationwide selected to host the exhibition.

“We are pleased to be selected,” said Tobin Shearer, a UM history faculty member who organized the event along with Political Science Professor Rob Saldin. “Through reproductions of documents, photographs and posters, the exhibition invites visitors to learn about events that took place during the war through the eyes of individuals.”

The UM exhibition was sponsored by UM’s African-American Studies program, UM’s College of Arts and Sciences, the Project on American Democracy and Citizenship, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and the National Endowment for the Humanities.
Welcome Feast

The Mansfield Library participated in UM’s annual Welcome Feast event this year on Friday, August 30, 2013. The library used two decorated book carts to promote the library services to new and returning students. Also, new this year, one additional table was dedicated to the Paw Print to promote and market this valuable service to UM students. The library giveaway items included carabiner key rings, sewing kits, and magnets advertising library hours. Participating in the annual event helped promote subject librarians, research assistance, the reference desk, technical support, research guides, Paw Print services, Yellow Bike checkout at the library, and the first-year reading experience book, *Mountains Beyond Mountains*. Other items, such as Mountain Line bus schedules and campus maps were also distributed. To make the event a fun time this year, the library sponsored a drawing for students. Prizes included a canvas reproduction of an historic Missoula map and several books. Over 200 students entered the drawing. Thanks to all the volunteers who greeted students in the very warm and bright August sunshine on the Oval: Patti McKenzie, Sarah Weatherby, Kim Granath, Pam Marek, Jordan Hess, Kate Zoellner, Susanne Caro, Megan Stark, Karen Jaskar, and Glenn Kneebone.

UM Staff Ice Cream Social

The Mansfield Library hosted the second annual Ice Cream Social for UM classified staff, contract employees, and craft employees on July 17, 2013. The event was a huge success with over 200 people attending. It was an excellent outreach effort to promote library services and programs to classified staff and contract professionals. Sue Samson was the main organizer and architect of the event. More than 50 people participated in library tours led by Patti McKenzie. Everybody enjoyed cool and air-conditioned library space, and delicious ice cream. One participant wrote to Sue, “Thank you for the great ice cream social and the tour. It was great to learn so many new things about the library. I will be using it much more now that I know.” Kim Granath, Kate Zoellner, Tammy Ravas, Suzanne Caro, Sarah Weatherby, and Linder Schlang also assisted with organizing this event.
Mansfield Library Acquires High-End Chaucer Manuscript Reproduction

University of Montana students and faculty conducting research on Chaucer’s “The Canterbury Tales” have an exceptional new resource available through the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library. The library recently acquired a detailed facsimile of the Ellesmere Manuscript, a beautiful, illuminated edition produced in the early 15th century. The purchase of the limited-edition, deluxe facsimile was supported by donations to the library’s Archives & Special Collections Department in memory of Mabelle Hardy, the library’s Lucia B. Mirrielees Fund and the Friends of the Davidson Honors College Opportunity Fund.

The facsimile allows students and researchers to engage with the most important manuscript of “The Canterbury Tales” in a form that reflects the original as closely as possible. Combining the best of the old and the new, the facsimile features high-resolution photographic reproduction supplemented by authentic 24-karat-gold letter gilding to emulate the look and feel of the medieval manuscript.

The development of the library’s Chaucer collection has been supported by the Lucia B. Mirrielees Fund, which honors Professor Mirrielees, who taught Chaucer in the English Department from 1924 to 1949. It includes the oldest complete book in the library, an edition of “The Canterbury Tales” printed by John Stowe in 1561 and donated by Richard Merritt, as well as a reproduction of the Hengwrt Chaucer manuscript of “The Canterbury Tales,” which was produced slightly before the Ellesmere and used the same scribe.

The Chaucer collection is housed in the library’s Archives & Special Collections Department.

ScholarWorks

This fall, the Mansfield Library was excited to introduce ScholarWorks to the University of Montana community. This effort, spearheaded by Digital Initiatives Librarian Wendy Walker, provides an open access collection of services designed to gather, showcase and provide free online Internet access to UM’s intellectual and creative scholarship. Open access means that the scholarship of UM’s faculty, students, and staff can be made available at no cost to a global audience.

Members of the UM academic community are encouraged to contribute to ScholarWorks for long-term preservation, and worldwide online accessibility, of their work.

Volunteer Program at the Mansfield Library

The Mansfield Library is pleased to welcome volunteers provided through the University of Montana Rural Institute and the vocational prep program at Sentinel High School. Since early November, the student volunteers have been working on an ejournal link-checking project for the Electronic Resources Unit of the BMS Division where they navigate a plethora of websites and record their findings in Excel. The volunteer project is allowing them to gain job experience in an office setting and is helping the library in the process. Thanks to DaVonte and Elizabeth!
NEW Faculty

Karen Jaskar joined the faculty of the Mansfield Library as the social science librarian in August 2013. A native of the Puget Sound area, Karen spent the past six years as the Information Literacy Librarian for Saint Martin’s University in Lacey, WA where she lead the instruction and reference services programs. As a small Benedictine college centered around a working monastery, Jaskar championed efforts at Saint Martin’s to build a personal relationship between the library and each student. She welcomes the challenge of reshaping this ethos for the larger student community at the University of Montana. Prior to this, Jaskar held positions with libraries at the University of Washington Tacoma, Seattle Central Community College and the King County Library System.

Jaskar received her B.A. in psychology from Smith College in Northampton, MA and her M.L.I.S. from the iSchool at the University of Washington. Her professional interests include exploring and experimenting with the unique pedagogy of library instruction, outreach to historically underrepresented campus communities, and the intersection of technology and contemplation in the modern academic library.

Faculty and Staff NEWS

Professor Barry Brown was selected for the Leadership Institute for Academic Librarians at Harvard University. The Institute focused on three areas - planning, organizational strategy and change, and transformational learning - with an overarching goal of increasing the attendee’s leadership and management capacity. The 2013 Leadership Institute was held from July 28 - August 2 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. While at the Institute, Brown also toured the Widener Library – Harvard University’s flagship library, and the Houghton Library – the primary repository for rare books and manuscripts at Harvard University.

Kathy Hendricks, head of administrative services at the Mansfield Library, retired on December 31, 2013 after serving nine years at the library. Hendricks worked for the Montana University System for the past 20 years. We will miss her and wish her the best for her retirement.

Angela Dresselhaus, assistant professor and acquisitions and eResources librarian, received the Cross-Pollinator Travel Award for the 2013 Digital Federation Forum (DLF) held in Austin, Texas in November 2013.

Megan Stark, assistant professor and undergraduate services librarian, was invited to serve as Faculty Advisor to ASUM for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Wendy Walker, assistant professor and digital initiatives librarian, was invited to serve on “Digital Humanities Roundup” Working Group at Humanities Montana, starting in fall 2013.

Julie Biando Edwards and Tammy Ravas were awarded tenure status at UM.

Teresa Keenan was promoted to associate professor at UM.

Faculty PUBLICATIONS

Samantha Schmehl Hines published her most recent book, Revolutionizing the Development of Library and Information Professionals: Planning for the Future, Hershey, Pa.: IGI-Global, 2014. Hines is an associate professor, head of the Mansfield Library at Missoula College and distance education coordinator. Susanne Caro, government documents librarian, contributed significant work to the publication.


Professor Sue Samson has a chapter, “Poetry Corner: Collaboration Among Us,” appearing in Carol Smallwood’s Bringing the Arts into the Library.

Professor Samson and Adjunct Librarian Kimberly Swanson have an article, “Support Your Staff Employees: They Support the Academy,” in press for publication in Reference Services Review, Volume 42, Number 1.

Assistant Professor Megan Stark and Kate Ryan have a chapter, “Legitimizing the Local: Integrating Sustainability Into Information Literacy Instruction And First-Year Composition,” in press for publication in Focus on Educating for Sustainability: Toolkit for Academic Libraries.
Workshops and Lectures

- Expanding the National Profile of Your Research
- Data Management Plans
- Graduate Students’ Guide to the Library
- Institutional Review Board
- Literature Review: Effective Searching and Writing Strategies
- Manage Your Research with RefWorks
- Going Electronic: Creating Accessible Course Materials for Instruction

Death, Dying and the Afterlife

In October, the Mansfield Library, in conjunction with the Missoula Public Library, hosted a series of lectures focusing on the “inevitable” and answering questions such as - What happens when you die? How do different cultures view death? What do the remains of animals and humans have to teach us about life, respect and culture? The lectures explored the science, cultural, legal, and artistic expression of life’s end. A special exhibit of pieces from the Montana Museum of Art & Culture and the University of Montana Paleontology Center fossil collection were displayed on the main floor of the library.

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comments from the UM community

“Megan [Stark] and Sue [Samson]: I just wanted to thank you both so much for working on getting the study hall area reserved for football academics! I monitored the study tables last night and the signs that you guys had up were AMAZING! I think it will be a great place for the guys to study and learn.” Thank you kindly for all the work you’ve done for us!”

- Lindsey L. Goodman, Athletic Academic Advisor

“You guys rock! Thanks for your speedy retrieval of this requested article, it is much appreciated.”

- David M. Shepherd, Ph.D., Department of Biomedical & Pharmaceutical Sciences College

“Glenn [Kneebone], every time I walk through the entryway to get to the stairs on the main level, I think of you. I’m sorry I have not yet taken the time to thank you for the beautiful signage you initiated to better represent the Mansfield Center. We are very grateful to you for thinking of us and always doing top quality work. You are one of the people on campus who I know I can always rely on for working on our projects quickly with top results. We really appreciate you!”

- Deena Mansour, Associate Director, Mansfield Center
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