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CONNECTIONS

An annual newsletter published by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library

A message from Interim Dean Barry Brown

I hope this newsletter finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. This last year has presented many challenges and changes to which the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library has successfully adapted. I am grateful to library faculty, staff and student employees for adjusting to the challenges of this rapidly evolving and uncertain time. Their dedication and commitment to protect the health of library users while supporting their needs with library services, was met with creativity and determination.

When the COVID-19 pandemic forced classes to go remote the library continued providing students and faculty with resources they needed to be successful at UM. Access to robust online library resources and services become especially important during the COVID-19 pandemic, which limited students' and faculty in-person access to materials and assistance. The Mansfield Library actively expanded technology support by offering WiFi hotspots, ebooks, digital media, and laptops for checkout, reference chat assistance, and computers and video creation studios for onsite, appointment-based use.

We have a lot to be proud of when looking back on 2020, and I hope you are inspired reading our stories. This year, the Mansfield Library celebrated 125 years of service to the University of Montana campus and Missoula community. Since 1895, the library has been the hub for student engagement and enrichment. One hundred twenty-five years later, the library continues to positively impact student success and support their informational, educational and cultural development as global citizens.

Donor contributions made a critical difference this past year in the ability of the Mansfield Library to adapt and be responsive to new needs in a rapidly changing time. Throughout this pandemic we've been able to continue serving and meeting the needs



of UM students and faculty by ensuring that they have excellent online and onsite access to discover, request and use collections, in pursuit of their scholarship. I am thankful for library donors and their generosity. Your support helps to create a stronger, more innovative, and resilient library. Thank you for supporting the Mansfield Library, Go Griz!

With my warm regards,
Interim Dean Barry Brown

Thank you for supporting the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library. Every gift is critical to achieving the vision of maintaining the library as a hub for scholarship and creative activity at the University of Montana.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2020 Joseph H. and Ruth FitzGerald Library Scholarship Recipients

In November 2020, the Mansfield Library presented the Joseph H. and Ruth M. FitzGerald Library Scholarship to two outstanding student employees, Amanda Swiech and Ruby Hunter. Amanda, a student employee in printing services, is a junior at the University of Montana working toward a degree in both psychology and sociology with a criminology emphasis. Ruby, a Circulation student employee, is in her third year as an undergraduate student at the University of Montana pursuing a degree in psychology with a minor in human and family development.

The purpose of the Joseph and Ruth FitzGerald Scholarship is to provide an annual scholarship for one or more University of Montana students employed at the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library on the mountain or Missoula College campuses. To qualify for the scholarship, a student must have demonstrated dedication to both work and scholarship.

Congratulations, Amanda and Ruby!





AMANDA SWIECH

My name is Amanda Swiech and I am a nontraditional student, currently in my junior year at the University of Montana. I am working toward a degree in both psychology and sociology with a criminology emphasis. I am a single parent, so obtaining my degree has taken me longer than my peers, but every semester that I complete serves as a small, rewarding step toward my goal of graduating with a bachelor's degree, something that will be one of my greatest accomplishments.

Originally from Michigan, my son and I moved out to Montana last summer. We have been amazed by the warm welcome we have received. Working as a student employee at Paw Print in the Mansfield Library has been such a blessing because I get to work with an incredibly supportive group of people who are a joy to work with. I also have two wonderful supervisors who, knowing my situation, have been flexible and supportive throughout my first year here in Montana. I can honestly say that I have a job that I truly enjoy going to every day.

I hope to attend graduate school after graduating from UM, where I plan to pursue a degree in either clinical or forensic psychology. This degree will allow me to help others who society has given up on, or perhaps help those who have given up on themselves.

I am honored to have received the FitzGerald Scholarship. **Being a single parent is incredibly financially straining and this scholarship will help offset some of the costs of tuition next semester. Not only does this scholarship help me with school expenses, but it is also allowing me to continue working toward my goal of helping others.**



RUBY HUNTER

Receiving the 2020 Fitzgerald Scholarship fills me with gratitude and pride. I am truly honored to have been considered and nominated by my amazing coworkers. My name is Ruby Hunter, and I have been working at the Mansfield Library for a year and a half. I started in Circulation as a student assistant. I have been trained on the SuDoc classification system to work with government documents. I was promoted to Lead Student Supervisor where I plan and oversee Circulation projects. I have also had the honor to be a part of the Mansfield Library Organizational Planning Task Force.

Doing what I do here at the library has brought me a much-cherished sense of community and purpose.

When it came time to apply for college, I was so unsure of what I wanted to do or where I wanted to go. I knew that being in the lower-middle class with a twin sister would impair my family's ability to pay for school. I felt pressure to pursue a degree (beyond my inherent drive) because no one in my family has completed any level of higher education. **The money from the scholarship is incredibly valuable to me, and will go straight to my tuition!**

It is my third year as an undergraduate student at UM studying psychology with a minor in human and family development. I decided to pursue a degree in psychology because of my fascination with mental health. As an ever-growing field, there is so much to research and learn!

Retiring Together from the Mansfield Library

Carol Leese and Pat Turnage sit across from each other at their respective desks and indulge in enjoyable recollections of past work projects. Collectively, they have worked together for over 32 years for a combined 80 plus years of service to the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library. Retiring together has always been their plan. On Dec. 31, 2020, they moved from colleagues to forever friends.

After two years of processing federal government publications and 46 years as acquisitions manager at the Mansfield Library, Leese joined her husband in retirement. "It doesn't feel like it's been 48 years," said Leese. After all, time flies when you're having fun and there's almost nowhere Leese would rather be than in a library. Originally from Minnesota, Carol moved to Montana with her family as a young child.

In the mid 70s, Leese, a new Montana State University graduate with a business and library science degree, was looking for employment. At that time, her mother-in-law was working in the payroll department at UM and suggested she apply for a cataloging position at the Mansfield Library. As they say, the rest is history. Leese, who lives in Stevensville, made the 40-minute drive to work for the next 48 years. Over the years, Leese has worked under nine deans and 10 technical services supervisors.

"A lot has changed since I started in libraries," Leese said. "The way libraries work, the way people access information and lots of technology changes!" Leese observed first-hand the move from traditional card catalogs to online check out systems during her years of service.

Over the past 32.5 years, Pat Turnage has worked for Instructional Media Services on campus and media acquisitions at the Mansfield Library. Originally from Polson, Montana, Turnage attended Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, majoring in English and minoring in library science. After college, Turnage returned to Polson to work at Security State Bank as a loan secretary. A desire for change led her to apply for an opening in the Instructional Media Services department at the University of Montana as a Library Clerk, then as the

Education Services Circulation Technician, and finally as the Media Cataloging Technician before moving to the Mansfield Library as the Media Acquisitions Technician.

Turnage has a love of movies and through her work has witnessed 16mm film, VHS and cassette tapes go by the wayside to make way for DVDs and Blu-Rays, CDs and library-sponsored access to streaming services.

Leese and Turnage remember when they worked at a desk with a typewriter and phone in a department of 12 catalogers who consistently followed Anglo-American Cataloging Rules (AACR), the international library cataloging standard. Now working at computer workstations, Leese and Turnage use automated technology - replacing the paper-based catalog system - in a department of three acquisition personnel and five catalogers.

Some of the big projects that Leese and Turnage were able to participate in are: bar-coding of everything in the Mansfield Library building; combining of cataloging and acquisition departments; moving accession numbers (unique identifier assigned to an item) to Dewey classification numbers; and implementing an approval plan for library workflow services (YBP), making cataloging cards shelf ready.

Recalling the best aspects of their time working at the Mansfield Library, both Leese and Turnage enjoyed interacting with people and liked the "energy" on campus. Neither would have predicted they would be at UM for so long.

Leese and Turnage, co-workers and longtime friends, have over 80 years of combined service to the Mansfield Library, endless hours of cataloging and ordering, lots of inquires answered, numerous hours of research, countless projects, scads of call number re-classifications and clean up, and one everlasting friendship.

It was Turnage who told Leese, "I will stay as long as you do." Leese agreed to the arrangement. Much like their collaborative work over the years, when Turnage let Leese know this past year that she planned to retire, Leese decided it was time, too, and that they would retire together. Turnage points out, "we came, we saw and we're going out together."

The Mansfield Library is thankful for their service and wishes two very special ladies a happy retirement.



Carol Leese
Photo credit: Mark Fritch



Pat Turnage
Photo credit: Mark Fritch



Kevin Crowley Earns 2020 Irene Evers Award for Outstanding Staff Member

Kevin Crowley, Circulation supervisor, received the Irene Evers Award for Outstanding Staff member in Spring 2020. This award recognizes an exceptional employee who enhances the work environment by fostering a positive attitude and a spirit of cooperation and creativity. The recipient exemplifies Mansfield Library's mission to provide a quality-based learning and research environment and provide users with dynamic services essential to accessing information.

The nominator for Crowley's award wrote, **"Kevin is known for being thoughtful, friendly and helpful and he challenges all of us to be fair and inclusive."** If you work with Kevin, you have been the recipient of one of his well-timed jokes that keep spirits high even in difficult times. Kevin's joyful approach is a wonderful reminder that the work we create together can also be well-coordinated, collaborative play.

Congratulations, Kevin!



About Irene Evers

Irene Evers served as the much-loved forestry librarian at the University of Montana from 1959 to 1997. She began her library career with the School of Forestry in 1959. When Irene and the school's collection moved to the Mansfield Library in 1976, Irene was named assistant science librarian. Upon her retirement in 1997, she held the distinction of being the University's longest serving staff employee. For nearly two years following her retirement, she continued to volunteer her time doing what she loved best - helping others. Irene passed away in 1999.

Friends, colleagues, and alumni established two honors bearing her name: the Irene Evers Award for Outstanding Staff Member and the Irene Evers Library Endowment for Forestry.

FOCUS ON STUDENT SUCCESS

Library Eliminates Book and Media Fines to Ensure Access

Beginning spring semester 2020, UM students and employees are no longer charged overdue fines on most books and media. General item checkout for undergraduate students was lengthened from three weeks to four months, matching the loan period for graduate students. The Mansfield Library is committed to serving students and eliminating any barriers that might negatively impact students' relationship with the library or their access and use of library collections, programming and services.

"Fees create a potential barrier for students," said Professor Megan Stark, UM undergraduate services librarian. "We know that access to library resources is critical to student success, so in the interest of increasing their success, we committed to eliminating this barrier."

Instruction and Research Services Pivot to Meet Needs in the Time of COVID-19

In order to meet the challenging and changing instruction needs in the time of COVID-19 this fall, librarians delivered library instruction through multiple modalities – online, hybrid, and face-to-face – working quickly to gain new teaching skills to address students' needs in navigating the research process and evaluating information. The reference online chat service was invaluable when the campus moved fully remote, and librarians continued to promote it – including featuring it in the new student orientation video – to enable the increasing number of students and other library users working remotely to connect with us for research assistance. **Users commented in response to their experience using the chat, "Very helpful, provided several solutions to my question, responded quickly and was very pleasant" and "I really appreciate the help."**



Finals Week Kits

Stress-less Finals Week

To support students during finals week, librarians created individually packaged stress-less finals week kits for students to pick up at the Mansfield Library. The kits included wellness goodies; tea bags and honey sticks, highlighters, blue books, coloring pages designed in collaboration with Montana Museum of Art and Culture (MMAC), and coffee coupons. Thirty-five kits went to students in quarantine. On the Missoula College campus, librarians worked with the Culinary Arts Department to offer treats at the Payne Family Library during finals week.

Resources Against Racism

Employees in the library's Information and Research Services Department developed a Resources Against Racism online guide to provide timely resources for individuals to educate themselves about racism in the U.S. and think about ways to be actively anti-racist. To be proactive in eradicating racism, one must think critically about how to best address the roots of the problem while recognizing privilege. The guide points people to information on systemic racism, as well as ways to take action, find data, and connect with UM, local and national resources.

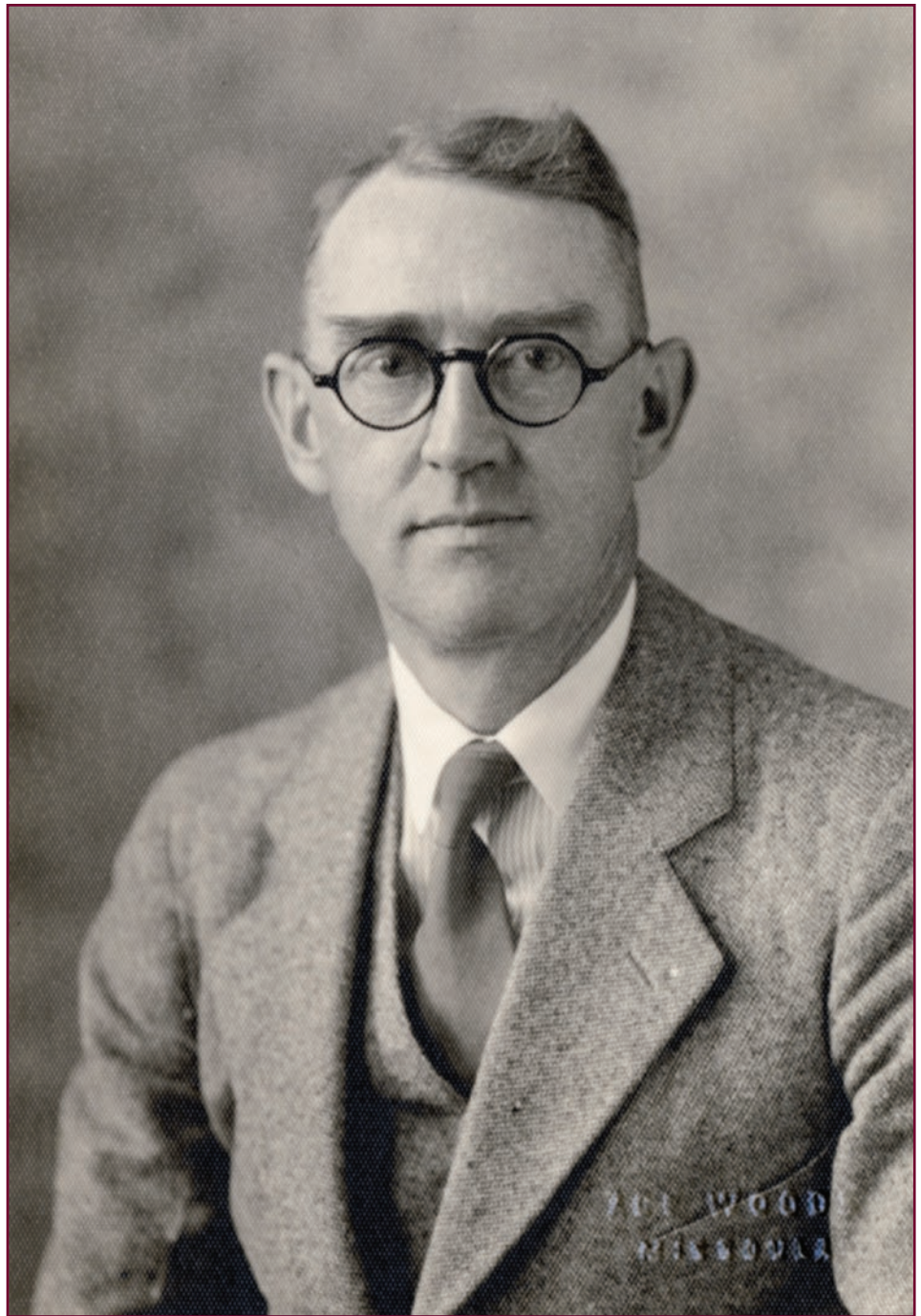
The Frontier and Midland Journal Available Online

One hundred years ago, H. G. Merriam, chair of the University of Montana's English department, launched a journal "to serve as an outlet for the very living literary interest that is on the campus of The State University." Its editorial board consisted of the students enrolled in his new undergraduate creative writing course. By the 1930s, that journal, The Frontier and Midland, had gained a national reputation for the quality of its contributions and for its intentional focus on regional writing. Now UM's Mansfield Library has made the entire run of The Frontier and Midland available online.

The Frontier was one of the first journals to feature content from and about the Northwest. In a 1963 oral history, Merriam recalled, "I was conscious of the necessity, if possible, of getting the Northwest states—that is, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana—to realize their common culture... It seemed as if the region had no sense of being a unit, and if possible, I hoped that The Frontier might help establish some such unity."

The Frontier sought out and published not only poems and short stories, but also diaries and memoirs. Contributors included Wallace Stegner, A.B. Guthrie Jr., Frank Bird Linderman, Grace Stone Coates, James Stevens, William Saroyan, Helen Addison Howard, Dorothy M. Johnson, John Mason Brown, Weldon Kees, Thomas McGrath, Helen Maring and many others. The Frontier changed its name after merging with the Midland out of Iowa City in the 1930s. The Frontier and The Frontier and Midland were published until 1939, with Grace Stone Coates serving as assistant editor from 1927 to 1939.

In his editorial for the November 1927 issue of The Frontier, Merriam wrote, "The Northwest is industrially alive and agriculturally alive; it needs to show itself spiritually alive. Culturally it has too long either turned for nourishment toward the East or accepted uncourageous, unindigenous 'literary' expression of writers too spiritually imitative and too uninspired. We in this territory need to realize that literature, and all art, is, if it is worth anything at all, sincere expression of real life. And the roots for literature among us should be in our own rocky ground."



H. G. Merriam. Photo credit: Mansfield Library Archives and Special Collections

Harold Guy Merriam studied at Oxford as a member of the first class of Rhodes Scholars. He taught at Whitman, Beloit and Reed colleges before accepting a position at UM in 1919 to teach English literature and chair the UM English department. In the decades that followed, Merriam played an important role in the development of Montana and Northwest literature and in the development of UM's creative writing program. He hosted writers' conferences, helped to develop the Humanities program at UM, and helped to create and guide the Montana Institute of the Arts.

Mansfield Library and UM Innovation Factory Partner to Create Face Shields for Missoula Medical Personnel

Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library and the Innovation Factory collaborated to create face shields using laser cutting equipment and 3D printers for Missoula physician Patrick Archie. Archie, the medical director at Community Medical Center Cancer Center and a physician at Providence St. Patrick Hospital, reached out to the local 3D printing community requesting help to prepare supplementary personal protective equipment for frontline medical workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Library staff member Glenn Kneebone coordinated efforts between the library and UM Innovation Factory and set up the 3D print files remotely. Blaine Belcher and Kevin Crowley, library personnel who are on-site to support essential services and remote education, used the 3D printers in the library to print the shield components.

A corn-based polylactic acid (PLA) bioplastic was used for the headband and chin pieces. The clear plastic shields were produced by Professor Brad Allen. He used an industrial laser cutter to cut sheets of clear Polyethylene Terephthalate-Glycol-modified for the shield. All materials for printing were donated.

The shields consisted of four pieces – a headband, a chin reinforcement piece, the shield and an elastic head strap. The clear shield snaps onto the headband, and the chin reinforcement piece snaps onto the bottom of the shield. An elastic strap to secure the shield to the head was the only component that was unable to be supplied for the project using the equipment on hand.

Printing the components for each face shield took about four hours, and the material is suitable for sterilization at medical facilities. All components were delivered unassembled so that they could be properly sterilized before distribution to medical personnel.

Teamwork and the use of innovative technology and expertise made the initial delivery of 20 face shields and 55 ear savers possible. Additional prints continue in an effort to help protect the people who are helping others during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Documenting COVID-19 in Missoula County

Historians and archivists from Missoula County, the City of Missoula, the University of Montana, the Downtown Missoula Partnership's "Heritage Missoula" Program and private Missoula businesses teamed up to create "Documenting COVID-19 in Missoula County: A Community Archive Project."

The project encourages agencies, organizations and community members, both urban and rural, in Missoula County to document their actions and experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic and provides a way for this documentation to be collected, maintained and shared as a community archive, according to project coordinator Matt Lautzenheiser, executive director of the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula.

Items collected will include documents, emails, notes, videos, online content, oral histories, photos, journals, creative writings, interviews and public documents from the City of Missoula and Missoula County. In addition, "Documenting COVID-19 in Missoula County: A Community Archives Project" seeks to engage local community members, online communities, businesses and nonprofits to capture the overall impact of COVID-19 on Missoula County from both a public and a private perspective.

Archives and Special Collections at UM's Mansfield Library will archive the collected materials and make them available to public officials, scholars and the public after the project wraps up.



Dr. Archie expressing his appreciation while holding one of the face shields printed by the Mansfield Library and UM Innovation Factory. Photo credit: Glenn Kneebone



Data Manipulation and Visualization workshop. Photo credit: Mark Fritch



Mansfield Library level 3. Photo credit: Mark Fritch



Library classroom. Photo credit: Mark Fritch

ScholarWorks Continues to Grow

ScholarWorks, Mansfield Library's institutional open access repository, added 39 new collections and 4,099 new items (for a total of 82,716 items in ScholarWorks) in 2020, providing UM faculty and students the opportunity to share and make openly available their research and creative scholarship.

A ScholarWorks milestone in January 2020 was noted when the all-time download count reached the 3-million mark. This means that users throughout Montana, the United States and around the world had collectively downloaded over 3 million times the journal articles, dissertations, graduate and undergraduate theses, conference papers and presentations, creative works, data sets, oral histories, special collections documents and manuscripts, and more that are made available in ScholarWorks. These works represent the outstanding research and creative scholarship produced and curated by University of Montana faculty, students and staff.

Helping Students Hold Down Education Costs

ScholarWorks hosts Open Educational Resources (OER) teaching, learning and research materials licensed to permit no-cost access, re-use, adaptation and redistribution created by UM faculty. This work openly demonstrates the first-class education available at UM as well as the values held by UM and UM faculty, such as open sharing, accessible education and student support.

LIBRARY DONORS

JAN. 1 – DEC. 31, 2020

Mansfield Library faculty and staff would like to express our deepest gratitude to our donors during 2020. Your donation provided for the continuity of the Mansfield Library's commitment to support UM students.

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Lee Ballard
Robert Acker and Marina Baum-Acker
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Robert Bigart
Fredrick and Diane Bodholt
Erin Bradshaw
Stanley and Glenda Bradshaw
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Norman Wight and Phyllis Musicar-Wight
Geoffrey and Nancy Wilson
Shali Zhang
Daolan Zheng

Thank you!

Our Commitment to Diversity

The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library acknowledges that we are in the aboriginal territories of the Salish, Kalispell and Kootenai people. We honor the path they have always shown us in caring for this place for the generations to come.

The Mansfield Libraries support the University of Montana's strong commitment to creating a vibrant and welcoming culture that expects and respects diversity. Our patron base includes the students, faculty and staff at UM as well as community members of all backgrounds. We support diversity through our collections, services, instruction, and physical and virtual environments in recognition of our unique responsibility to and long history of upholding equal access, intellectual freedom and freedom of expression.



Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library Commons. Photo credit: Mark Fritch



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