Letter from the Dean

Greetings from the University Libraries!

The William T. Jerome Library facility continues to be a vibrant hub of activity. During fall semester 2013, we extended building hours until 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday in response to student requests. Due to schedules, work commitments, and intramural activities students often begin their studies or meet for group projects after 10 p.m. Jerome Library is the perfect place for students to gather and focus on their academic pursuits. In addition, the building was open 24 hours Sunday through Thursday the week before finals and finals week to offer a place for students to study anytime during the day or night. We appreciated the opportunity to collaborate with the Undergraduate Student Government on this initiative. Read more.

The University Libraries’ vision statement is to “Preserve the Past, Honor the Present, Envision the Future.” This edition of Bibliofiles demonstrates the UL’s vision statement in action through the launch of the “Ordinary People: Extraordinary Stories” lecture event; the recognition of Dr. Paul Stiffler, UL Advocates President and alum, as one of the recipients of the 2013 Academy of Distinguished Alumni awards; and stories of student and faculty engagement in scholarly activities.

Please feel free to contact me to learn more about the University Libraries.

Sara A. Bushong, Dean, University Libraries
sbushon@bgsu.edu
Sponsored by the UL and the Library Advocates Board, Elizabeth Smart’s visit to BGSU was a resounding success. Nearly 600 students gathered in Olscamp Hall to hear her message of hope; many faculty created classroom assignments to link Ms. Smart’s visit to their course syllabi. Approximately 400 local and regional community members attended an evening fundraising event and had the opportunity to hear Ms. Smart talk about her abduction, rescue and recovery. After her presentation, Ms. Smart autographed copies of her new book: My Story: Elizabeth Smart. This event was instrumental in raising funds to digitize the BG News and the Key Yearbook in honor of David C. and Judith Miller. David Miller, who passed away in April 2013 was the editor at the Bowling Green Sentinel-Tribune for 33 years. He and Judy served as editors of the Key in 1969 and 1970, respectively. David also was a member of the Library Advocates Board. Read more.

Learning Commons
The UL is pleased to welcome the Learning Commons as part of our organizational structure. The Learning Commons continues to assist in the recruitment and retention of students at BGSU. Last fall 3,654 students utilized the Learning Commons - 229 more students than the fall of 2012. Those 3,654 students visited the Learning Commons 26,586 times through fall semester. Visit the Learning Commons website.

Looking at the Past, Students Curate Digital Galleries
UL faculty collaborated with graduate students in Dr. Jolie Sheffer’s interdisciplinary American Literary Realisms class to curate primary source materials to include in a public digital gallery. The topic of the student gallery is “Constructing Race in America”. Students chose specific areas to research and worked with library faculty to develop topics and to identify primary source materials. Read more and view the gallery.
The University Libraries celebrated Open Access Week with the launch of ScholarWorks@BGSU, the new open-access institutional repository. ScholarWorks@BGSU is a website designed to provide open access to the scholarly and creative works of Bowling Green State University students and faculty, from journal articles, honors theses and datasets to open-access journals published at BGSU and the conference proceedings hosted [here](#).