MESSAGE FROM
THE VICE PROVOST

Like knowledge itself, the University of Missouri Libraries is always growing, evolving and inspiring us to pursue new possibilities. In this annual report, it is my pleasure to introduce you to the many ways the University Libraries librarians and staff are contributing to the mission of Mizzou.

Our librarians and staff are one of the greatest resources that the Libraries provide for the success of our students and faculty. In this annual report, you will get to see many examples of how our librarians work with faculty and are an integral part of their work in a variety of ways. We call these stories Cycle of Success because librarians, faculty and students must work together in order for everyone to succeed and fulfill the mission of this great university.

Today we hope you enjoy reading about these accomplishments and will celebrate them with us. We are excited about our future in helping our many constituencies succeed in pursuing their academic and research goals.

Ann Campion Riley
Vice Provost for Libraries and University Librarian
WELCOME TO
OUR NEW FACES

Christina Pryor
Missouri Coordinator for the National Network of Libraries of Medicine

Hailey Carpenter
Library Information Assistant

John Fifield
Special Collections Librarian

Steven Pryor
Digital Services Librarian

PRESENTERS & PUBLICATIONS
FY2018

A selective list of papers and presentations from University Librarians during 2017-2018.


Atkins, Grace; Pollard, Sherry and Sanders, Dale. (2017, November). Creating the “All-Campus” Model: OER & Affordability at the University of Missouri. A presentation at Textbook Affordability Conference, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA.


Dykas, Felicity and Busch, Tammie. (2017, October) Hidden Treasures in the Library: Bridging the Gap with Digitized Resources. Poster presentation at Missouri Library Association Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO.


VOLUMES: 4,541,039

3,491,204 SEARCHES

397 IN DATABASES

VIDEOS:

285

47,515 MINS WATCH TIME

25,217 VIEWS

TOP MODULES:

SCAVENGER HUNT: 634 STUDENTS

PLAGIARISM TUTORIAL: 1,159 STUDENTS

JOURNALISM INFO GATHERING: 631 STUDENTS

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

BY THE NUMBERS 2018

9,623,139 PAGE VIEWS

2,180,338 WEBSITE VISITS

1,248,117 IN-PERSON VISITS

LIBRARY SUBJECT GUIDES
770 GUIDES

9,623,139 PAGE VIEWS

INSTRUCTION
521 SESSIONS

9,950 PARTICIPANTS
ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

Mizzou has made its mark on Nikolaus Frier, a senior mechanical engineering major from St. Louis, and he will leave his mark on Mizzou as well. For his field of study, Nik had a couple of in-state options but chose Mizzou, which he says “seemed beautiful and big” and where he knew he’d have many options for getting involved.

Extra curricular activities have in fact brought Nik unanticipated opportunities. He was a member of the 3D Printing Club during the time when the service was transitioning from being student led to being hosted by Mizzou Libraries. After demonstrating his knowledge of 3D printing to Ernest Shaw, manager of Information Technology for the Libraries, Nik found himself employed by Print Anything.

As project lead for Make Mizzou, a project of the 3D Printing Club, he’s overseen the design of a 3D campus map for the quad. The 3D campus map is currently in the prototype finalization stage and will be installed in the fall.

COMMUNITY IS KEY

For chemical engineering student Ashley Anstaett, a strong sense of community is what attracted her to Columbia, the Mizzou campus, and ultimately the Engineering Library and Technology Commons.

Ashley currently works as a chemistry research assistant in the plant science group at the Missouri Research Reactor. When Ashley is not working or in class, you can quite often find her at the Engineering Library and she notes that “I don’t know what I would do without the Engineering Library!” The reference materials and textbooks are essential to her for her studies. Most importantly, she says, it is the community fostered by the library space that is key. “I know I can go to the Engineering Library anytime it is open and find someone working on the same thing as me, willing to help, or work together. Even if we are all stuck, it provides a great space for commiserating, drinking some coffee, and enjoying good company.”

MIZZOU: WHERE I BELONG

As a high school student in “the tiny town” of Callao, Missouri, Autumn McLaren was torn between two quite distinct potential majors—physics and English—but she knew Mizzou was her “best option in order to get a wide array of higher quality classes and degrees.”

Autumn credits her training as an English major for her formal writing skills. She won second place in the 2018 University Libraries Undergraduate Research Project Contest for a paper on Jonathan Swift, which she describes as “a lot of fun to write.”

She says that for most of the papers she’s written here at Mizzou, “the library resources available to me as a student have been pivotal. Good research papers are often dependent upon outside sources and research, information which is made available by the library.”

CYCLE OF SUCCESS

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Professor Seth Howes contacted his subject librarian, Anne Barker, to ask about access to the journal after he returned to Mizzou. Without microfilm or online versions and with the closest complete set of the journal located in New York, Anne determined that access would be very difficult. In the end, Seth considered not only “here’s why this is important to me” but also “here’s how important this is to me,” contributing some of his funds for research materials, matched by library funds, towards the purchase of additional issues.

“One of the things that I think is very cool about having this in our collection now,” Seth says, “is that as a research institution with the teaching mission that comes with being a land-grant institution, we always need to think about how we can translate our work into teaching, and that is to a great extent what that journal did.”

Anne says, “I was excited by this opportunity to enhance our research and teaching collections, but also because this adds to regional resources, making this important publication much more accessible to scholars in Missouri and surrounding states. I’m grateful for Seth’s initiative and willingness to invest his personal research funds to make this acquisition possible.”

MIZZOU MADE

A nursing student named Erin was participating in a research practicum with Dr. Sonal Patil from the MU Department of Family and Community Medicine. As a part of this practicum, she was completing a systematic search of the literature pertaining to diabetes caregivers. Dr. Patil and her advisor suggested that she talk to the health sciences librarians to ask for their assistance with developing appropriate search strategies.

Rebecca Graves, health sciences librarian, advised her on how to carry out a literature search, and walked her through a search in one of the appropriate databases. She also worked with Diane Johnson, on setting up searches in a variety of databases. When she had trouble acquiring search results in one database, Diane recognized the problem with the search syntax in that database. She contacted the support specialists for that database, explained the issue, and helped her craft a workaround so she could complete her search. Erin stated that, “Her advice about fashioning appropriate searches in each database has been invaluable.”

Collaboration Builds Collections

The story of how Mizzou Libraries came to be one of the few libraries with a nearly complete set of Bildende Kunst, a visual arts journal from the former German Democratic Republic, began with an email but involved many hands. In Leipzig, Germany, on research leave, Assistant Professor Seth Howes contacted his subject librarian, Anne Barker, to ask about access to the journal after he returned to Mizzou. Without microfilm or online versions and with the closest complete set of the journal located in New York, Anne determined that access would be very difficult. In the end, Seth considered not only “here’s why this is important to me” but also “here’s how important this is to me,” contributing some of his funds for research materials, matched by library funds, towards the purchase of additional issues.

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Invaluable Student Obtains Invaluable Assistance with Literature Review

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CYCLE OF SUCCESS
Prices and Wages Give Us a Glimpse into the Past

The Prices and Wages by Decade research guide has found fans across campus, the state, and the world since Marie Concannon, Head of Government Information, created it six years ago.

Esteemed research scientist Jay Zagorsky, who collects data for the National Longitudinal Surveys of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, is one of the latest scholars to use the detailed lists of resources for prices and wages throughout the history of the U.S. Zagorsky investigated how prices at high-end restaurants have changed since 1899 using menus found via the guide.

From July 1 2017 to June 30 2018, we received 788,294 visits to our Government Information Department’s Prices and Wages by Decade guide. The visitors came from 167 different countries. Eighty-eight percent of those visitors were referred to our site by the Google search engine. Some example questions:

- “What was the wage for a pineapple packer in the 1960s?”
- A web user in the United Kingdom asked “Usherette wages 1950?”
- A web user in Czechia asked “USA wage 1886?”
- Another UK web user asked “What did furniture cost in 1949 in Brazil?”

Avoiding Plagiarism Is Less Daunting After Library Instruction

Debbie Parker, an instructor at the Center for English Language Learning, pinpoints a key challenge for international students: “Avoiding plagiarism is a daunting task for all students, but it is complicated by the fact that international students have different ideas about what is expected when using support in papers or presentations.”

Debbie took her colleague Mary Browning’s advice and contacted Cindy Cotner, the librarian for international students, to set up an instruction session about avoiding plagiarism. Cindy knew that two of Ellis Library’s Graduate Reference Assistants, Haley Gillilan and Victoria Knight, had recently taught a workshop on just this topic.

Cindy suggested that Haley and Victoria teach the session since they had already prepared a lesson on plagiarism specifically for international students. She says, “I am grateful that Debbie granted permission for our graduate students to teach in her classroom. Her students were engaged and asked good questions, and I think this activity was a learning experience for all!”

International Students Find More than Books at Ellis Library

Before becoming an instructor in the University of Missouri’s Intensive English Program (IEP), Liza Armstrong taught a little further from home, at the Al Akhawayn University, located in the Atlas Mountains of Morocco. Now, she helps the Center for English Language Learning fulfill its mission of “providing high quality English language instruction to non-native speakers of English to prepare them for university-level studies, professional endeavors and community engagement.”

Armstrong brings her IEP class to Ellis Library almost every semester. Librarian Cindy Cotner delivers invaluable instruction that helps Liza’s reading-writing students navigate the library and become comfortable with academic research: “Cindy gave students a physical tour of the library, explaining how the circulation desk worked and where students could scan books, find resources like books and videos, study, and even grab a coffee.”

Armstrong’s best advice for international students is “to be brave and ask the librarians and staff questions.” She also recommends attending library workshops, especially those with a focus on international students. By learning how to use the library early in their academic careers, students can save time in the long run, create higher quality assignments, and build better study habits. “Students may think that using library databases and tools is intuitive,” she says, “but there is always new information, and library systems often change and are updated.”

Lanford Wilson and the American Drama Conference

The University of Missouri Theatre Department presented an interdisciplinary conference titled “Missouri Self-Taught: Lanford Wilson and the American Drama,” to focus on Missouri’s own Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright, Lanford Wilson. The conference was held on April 26-29 at Ellis Library and the Rhynsburg Theatre and featured an MU production of The Rimers of Eldritch directed by Dr. David Crespy.

On the opening day of the conference, University of Missouri Archivist Anselm Hueisberg and Special Collections Librarian Kelli Hansen presented a panel, along with an assistant curator from the New York Public Library, titled “Documenting Off-off-Broadway: The Lanford Wilson Collection & The Billy Rose Theatre Collection.”

The goal of the conference was to encourage students and scholars to avail themselves of the Lanford Wilson Collection located in the University of Missouri Libraries Special Collections and Rare Books. Both the production of The Rimers of Eldritch and a new book edited by David Crespy, Lanford Wilson: Early Stories, Sketches, and Poems, were supported in part through research in the Lanford Wilson Collection.
In 2018, Digital Services at the University Libraries:

• Worked with MU students, faculty and staff to add their works to MOspace, making those resources widely available to researchers around the world.

• Digitized and made special materials in our own library collections available in the MU Digital Library and the HathiTrust, a digital library with content from research libraries and others.

All of these projects have the common goal of providing online access to useful resources.

For nearly 100 years, a large collection of soil survey maps have been folded up and tucked in the back of U.S. Department of Agriculture documents in Mizzou Libraries’ Government Information collection. Although the project’s purpose was to document soil types and alkalinity, the maps show much more than that. A series of 1823 maps were on display in the Bookmark Café in June.

The University Libraries continued the recent tradition of participating in the Unbound Book Festival in April. University Archivist Anselm Huelsbergen moderated a panel called “Tales from the Archive.”

In March, the University Libraries cosponsored Open Education Week events at MU, a celebration of the global Open Education Movement.

In February, The Engineering Library & Technology Commons displayed five historical engineering books and four tools from the Mizzou Museum of Engineering.
Student Vision Project Timeline & Process

During the 2017-2018 school year, the University Libraries Student Advisory Council (ULSAC) produced a document for library administration and campus leadership called the ULSAC Student Vision Project (SVP).

SVP was a three-semester information-gathering project carried out by ULSAC. The project goal was to produce a document that communicates the needs of the student body and articulates the ways the University Libraries could best meet those needs.

The project was accomplished by a four-step process.

Step 1: Determine what library resources and services students currently care about and need.

Step 2: Categorize that information into topics to focus on and research those topics.

Step 3: Develop an understanding of how Mizzou Libraries and other great academic libraries operate.

Step 4: Draft a document articulating a student vision that explains how strategies employed at great academic libraries could be adapted to meet Mizzou student needs.

In order to have a complete understanding of what it would look like to see their vision realized, ULSAC proposed that a Student Vision Task Force be given the opportunity to visit great academic libraries in person. Due to the high concentration of great academic libraries in one area, it was decided that the ULSAC task force members would travel to the Research Triangle in North Carolina. Their mission was to collect research from other institutions to learn how to better fulfill MU students’ library needs. Accompanied by their advisor, the students toured North Carolina State University Libraries, Duke University Libraries, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Libraries. At the end of the trip, the task force created a report that was approved by ULSAC.

The final document, called the University Libraries Student Advisory Council Student Vision Project, is available online at libraryguides.missouri.edu/ULSAC/StudentVisionProject.