Friends and Colleagues,

Modern libraries are engaged, active spaces where lives are changed through discovery and learning.

With the University of Oklahoma’s renewed aspirations to lead among academic research universities, the University Libraries’ central role in student success and academic research has never been more important.

As the state’s largest comprehensive research library, we are a vital educational and cultural resource with impact that extends beyond OU’s campus boundaries. We support research and educational goals and objectives across every discipline in every college, every school, and every department. Our librarians and other information professionals foster and sustain scholars through a diverse array of relevant services, programs, events, and experiences. Outside of the university, every profession and industry can be connected to the work of a library such as ours.

Even as the world continues to adapt to life with the pandemic, we see signs of recovery here at the UL. The number of guests in our spaces and users of our services nears pre-COVID levels.

We are excited seeing the activity in the libraries once again, and we are happy to share our impact report with you.

Respectfully,

Denise Stephens
Peggy V. Helmerich Dean of University Libraries
The University Libraries (UL) released its five-year strategic plan for 2022-2027, providing the blueprint for its growth in alignment with the University’s Lead On plan. The strategic plan is our outline of our strategic commitments to the stakeholders and communities we serve.

A living, working document, the plan was crafted with input from internal and external stakeholders alike. Five internal UL teams were formed to execute the strategic plan research and design process, which included a survey sent to the entire campus community.

The plan will be instrumental as part of OU’s goal to become a top-tier research institution, refining the Libraries’ missions and principles and outlining five strategic priorities for the coming years. It is published on the UL website for full review.

**MISSION**

We are a catalyst and a destination elevating our community’s ability to imagine, explore, discover, and create knowledge that changes lives.

**PRINCIPLES**

University Libraries serves, connects, and empowers the University communities in their discovery, creation, and sharing of knowledge. Our guiding principles are:

- We build, deliver, and sustain services, expertise, and scholarly information that reflects the broad research and learning needs of our diverse and evolving communities.
- We facilitate the work of research and learning communities as an accessible, welcoming, and productive virtual and physical place.
- We lead initiatives and collaborations expanding our impact on the research and learning objectives of the communities we serve.
- We innovate and adapt in concert with stakeholder engagement and changes in the information environment.

**THE FIVE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

**Priority 1:** Leverage and advance the University Libraries to position the university as a top-tier research institution

**Priority 2:** Contribute to student success and information fluency by leveraging library expertise and partnerships

**Priority 3:** Build and develop a robust offering of information resources and tools enabling affordability and accessibility

**Priority 4:** Embody OU’s diverse community of stakeholders by establishing the UL as an inclusive place for the exchange of ideas, learning, and discovery

**Priority 5:** Strategically enhance, preserve, and promote our distinctive research collections and archives in the service of scholarly and creative activity

**New Hires Build Upon Expertise**

The University Libraries (UL) added over ten new employees in 2021-2022, including two members to the Libraries leadership team, Associate Dean for Digital Strategies and Innovation Jessica Davila and Director of Marketing and Communications MaryAnn Martin, Ph.D.

Davila joined the UL from the Claremont Colleges in California and Dr. Martin from the Oklahoma public sector.

Open access initiatives are a strategic priority for the University Libraries, and the UL filled key roles in the Open Initiatives and Scholarly Communication (OISC) unit that oversees this area. Melissa Seelye joined OISC as Director of Open Initiatives and Scholarly Communications and Morgan Briles started as Open Educational Resources Librarian.

Emerging Technology Librarian Jessica Lumry, and Description and Access Librarian Joshua Henry added to the ranks of the Libraries’ information professionals.

**Promotions in 2021-2022**

- Magen Bednar, Head of Bizzell User Services
- Sherman Brennan, Interlibrary Loan Office Manager
By Dr. Mark Laufersweiler, Head of DAVIS, and Tyler Pearson, Head of Informatics

The University Libraries’ Data Analytics, Visualizations, and Informatics Syndicate (DAVIS) unit partnered with researchers and departments across campus and the country to pilot a new program, called “Nautilus,” that facilitates access to high-powered computing technology through a common computing environment.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) funded the underlying infrastructure and support for the Nautilus effort, which was built and maintained by the National Research Platform. This cloud-hosted platform, composed of over 50 partner institutions, allows for real-time access to computational resources supporting research and learning.

To date, over 200 individuals across multiple organizations have accessed this UL pilot, which positively impacts OU research, UL Software Carpentry workshops, and multiple courses at OU.

One impact of containers on research practices is the ability to support FAIR practices, access research data and software, and aid in the reproducibility of research workflows. For instruction, the use of the Nautilus portal and containers allows for all students in a course to have access to the same computing resources and tools provided they have access to a reliable network connection.

The UL has made these configurations available to other institutions, sharing our knowledge and expertise to help lower other libraries’ barriers of entry for their use of the Nautilus project.

### Key Acquisitions

**UL ADDED IMPORTANT PAPERS FOR HISTORY OF SCIENCE, CONTEMPORARY NATIVE AMERICAN AUTHORS COLLECTIONS**

The University Libraries added stunning new items to its collections, including a first edition, second issue of early European astronomer Tycho Brahe’s *De Mundi Aetherei*, papers from History of Geology scholars Martin J. S. Rudwick, Hugh S. Torrens, and Kenneth L. Taylor, and renowned Native American writer LeAnne Howe. In the fall, 1959 OU alumn Ron Johnson gifted the University $2 million and a letter between Nobel Prize winner and *Dr. Zhivago* author Boris Pasternak and himself.

A small portion of the books donated to the OU History of Science collection by scholar John Christianson. Received by History of Science Curator Dr. Kerry Magruader in March 2022, Christianson’s donation and the acquisition of Dr Mundi Authorei reinforce OU’s reputation as a research destination for global scholars on the history of astronomy.

OU also acquired the papers from preeminent history of geology scholars Martin J.S. Rudwick, Hugh S. Torrens, and Kenneth Taylor. Notably, the new papers support the work of Mary Anning, a pivotal figure in the history of geology who helped shore up the fossil record by her discoveries in the early 1800s in Wales. The papers also include original historical items, such as disbound portraits and hand-colored plates, as well as Rudwick’s annotated copy of Charles Lyell’s *Principles of Geology* (1830-1833).

Lauded Native American writer and Eidson Distinguished Professor of English at the University of Georgia, LeAnne Howe reads from her works with guests and other invited collaborators and speakers at an event at OU in honor Spring 2022. The event celebrated the availability of her papers in the University Libraries Western History Collections.

Ronald Keith Jones, OU Class of 1959, went from a brokenhearted college student and athlete, typing letters to legendary *Dr. Zhivago* author Boris Pasternak in the bathroom of his fraternity house, to a successful Dallas banker. In 2021, he gave back to his beloved alma mater with a monetary gift and unique treasure: the letter Pasternak wrote back to the lovelorn undergraduate.

### UL News

**DAVIS PILOTS NEW NSF-SUPPORTED NAUTILUS PROGRAM**

**UL Expertise Eases Access to High-Powered Computing Technology for OU Campus, National Partners**

By Dr. Mark Laufersweiler, Head of DAVIS, and Tyler Pearson, Head of Informatics

University Libraries’ Data Analytics, Visualizations, and Informatics Syndicate (DAVIS) unit partnered with researchers and departments across campus and the country to pilot a new program, called “Nautilus,” that facilitates access to high-powered computing technology through a common computing environment.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) funded the underlying infrastructure and support for the Nautilus effort, which was built and maintained by the National Research Platform. This cloud-hosted platform, composed of over 50 partner institutions, allows for real-time access to computational resources supporting research and learning.

To date, over 200 individuals across multiple organizations have accessed this UL pilot, which positively impacts OU research, UL Software Carpentry workshops, and multiple courses at OU.

One impact of containers on research practices is the ability to support FAIR practices, access research data and software, and aid in the reproducibility of research workflows. For instruction, the use of the Nautilus portal and containers allows for all students in a course to have access to the same computing resources and tools provided they have access to a reliable network connection.

The UL has made these configurations available to other institutions, sharing our knowledge and expertise to help lower other libraries’ barriers of entry for their use of the Nautilus project.

**NEW JOURNALS AND DATABASES**

**JSTOR (Ebooks)**

Ebooks from select publishers are now available on the JSTOR platform and via the University Libraries’ catalog. Available ebooks are from university presses and publishers supporting DEI-related scholarship. These ebooks are integrated with journals and images available on the JSTOR platform.

**PolicyMap**

An interactive online data and mapping tool that contains thousands of indicators used to understand communities.

**Shakespeare’s Globe on Screen**

Provides access to 30 productions of works by Shakespeare and his contemporaries.

**The Journal of Forensic Social Work**

A newly relaunched journal, now published open access in collaboration with University Libraries’ Open Initiatives and Scholarly Communication unit.
Oklahoma’s most famous—and perhaps, most obscure—poet, playwright, and author received long overdue recognition at OU in 2021-2022.

Rollie Lynne Riggs, the Oklahoma-born citizen of the Cherokee Nation whose play *Green Grows the Lilacs* inspired the Broadway musical *Oklahoma!*, received a posthumous doctorate degree at the Spring 2022 commencement ceremonies. Riggs’ nieces Edrye Riggs Doman and Amy Sperry accepted the posthumous honorary doctorate on his behalf in May 2022. Other family members and dignitaries traveled to Norman for the ceremony to honor the prolific writer.

In a collaboration between the Western History Collections of the University of Oklahoma Libraries, the Mark Allen Everett Poetry Series, as well as the Native Nations Center and Native American Studies, Lynn Riggs Week in November 2021 also highlighted Riggs’ life and writing. To celebrate the centennial of Riggs’ attendance at the University of Oklahoma in November 2021, project collaborators brought together scholars, poets, and performers from across the country, including Anna Smist (Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma, Deer Clan), John Dennis Anderson, Sy Hoahwah (Yapaituka Comanche/Southern Arapaho), and Craig Womack (Creek/Cherokee).

The week-long series of presentations, discussions, readings, and performances represented a cross-section of the scholarly expertise on and impact of his work, speaking to the prestige these collections bring to the University of Oklahoma Libraries and WHC.

“Lynn Riggs Week was amazing,” said Dr. Crag Hill, professor of English education in the department of Instructional Leadership and Curriculum. “It was like we had a miniature ‘dream course’ on Lynn Riggs. The presenters and performers provided insights about Lynn’s life and work that were illuminating, uplifting, and smart.”

On the heels of OU Libraries’ successful 2021 proposal to change the subject heading “Tulsa Race Riot” to “Tulsa Race Massacre,” the Library of Congress (LOC) has corrected yet another instance of “metadata injustice.” This time, the change concerned one of the deadliest instances of racial violence in the U.S.: a 1919 event in which hundreds of Black sharecroppers and community bystanders were massacred by a white mob in the small, mostly Black, Arkansas town of Elaine.

Previously, the LOC subject heading for the mass murder was “Elaine Race Riot,” the language of which effectively placed blame on both parties and erased the brutal acts of violence committed against Black community members. Metadata systems should reflect current culture; they should be unbiased, in users’ natural language, and not perpetuate harmful stereotypes. This includes the search terms and subject headings by which users search library catalogs, which is regulated by the Library of Congress. But as of April 2022, LOC corrected the metadata used after a petition by the OU Libraries’ Learning and Working Group on Metadata Justice. Library users across the country will now be able to find materials by searching for “Elaine Race Massacre,” the term most used today.

On the heels of OU Libraries’ successful 2021 proposal to change the subject heading “Tulsa Race Riot” to “Tulsa Race Massacre,” the Library of Congress (LOC) has corrected yet another instance of “metadata injustice.” This time, the change concerned one of the deadliest instances of racial violence in the U.S.: a 1919 event in which hundreds of Black sharecroppers and community bystanders were massacred by a white mob in the small, mostly Black, Arkansas town of Elaine.

Previously, the LOC subject heading for the mass murder was “Elaine Race Riot,” the language of which effectively placed blame on both parties and erased the brutal acts of violence committed against Black community members. Metadata systems should reflect current culture; they should be unbiased, in users’ natural language, and not perpetuate harmful stereotypes. This includes the search terms and subject headings by which users search library catalogs, which is regulated by the Library of Congress. But as of April 2022, LOC corrected the metadata used after a petition by the OU Libraries’ Learning and Working Group on Metadata Justice. Library users across the country will now be able to find materials by searching for “Elaine Race Massacre,” the term most used today.

On the heels of OU Libraries’ successful 2021 proposal to change the subject heading “Tulsa Race Riot” to “Tulsa Race Massacre,” the Library of Congress (LOC) has corrected yet another instance of “metadata injustice.” This time, the change concerned one of the deadliest instances of racial violence in the U.S.: a 1919 event in which hundreds of Black sharecroppers and community bystanders were massacred by a white mob in the small, mostly Black, Arkansas town of Elaine.

Previously, the LOC subject heading for the mass murder was “Elaine Race Riot,” the language of which effectively placed blame on both parties and erased the brutal acts of violence committed against Black community members. Metadata systems should reflect current culture; they should be unbiased, in users’ natural language, and not perpetuate harmful stereotypes. This includes the search terms and subject headings by which users search library catalogs, which is regulated by the Library of Congress. But as of April 2022, LOC corrected the metadata used after a petition by the OU Libraries’ Learning and Working Group on Metadata Justice. Library users across the country will now be able to find materials by searching for “Elaine Race Massacre,” the term most used today.
UL Exhibits Collaborates with Campus Partners to Display Former Professor’s Costume Designs

University Library Exhibits launched a campus collaboration in 2021 featuring a selection of costumes from the University of Oklahoma’s Department of Drama. Currently on display for the 2022-2023 academic year, the costumes were designed by late Mike Buchwald, a professor of costume design for 40 years with the University of Oklahoma Helmerich School of Drama.

Curated by OU’s current costume designer, Lloyd Cracknell, the costumes lining the large hallways on the main floor of the Bizzell Memorial Library are just a small sample of Buchwald’s designs for the 2010 performance of “The Three Musketeers”, which was his final show before retiring. It is an even smaller taste of the full corpus of Mike’s work which included designs for over 500 plays, musicals, operas, and ballets for OU theatre productions during his time as the resident costume designer for the School of Drama and University Theatre.

"Mike’s dedication to excellence, magnificent design, and superb artistry permeated every aspect of production and education in the School of Drama,” said Cracknell. “During his tenure at OU, Professor Buchwald was recognized with the Regents’ Award for Superior Teaching, the Associates’ Lecturer of Excellence Award, and as the Rothbaum Presidential Professor of Excellence in the Arts."

“Mike passed away on August 4, 2021. He will be greatly missed by all that were lucky enough to call him mentor, colleague, and friend. His service and legacy to the University lives on through the lives and careers of his students.”

University Libraries Signs Open Access “Read and Publish” Agreements with Oxford, Cambridge University Presses

University Libraries negotiated “read and publish” agreements with both Oxford and Cambridge University Presses that will increase journal article publishing and reading access to both presses for OU authors across all OU campuses and OU community members.

OU Libraries is only the second university library in the U.S. to sign a read and publish agreement with Oxford University Press.

With a read and publish agreement, corresponding authors pay nothing to be published open access, peer review processes remain in place, and the work will not be placed behind a publication paywall. They are part of a larger trend in academic publishing.

In addition to raising the research profile of the University of Oklahoma, open access scholarly articles undergo rigorous peer review before publication, said University Libraries Associate Dean for Scholarly Communications and Collection Management Karen Rupp-Serrano. But now, anyone with internet access in the world can read what OU authors publish in these journals.

ALTERNATIVE TEXTBOOK GRANTS RETURN IN 2022

OU Libraries awarded eight instructors sizable grants to abandon costly required course books in favor of free, open access materials. Recipients of the Alternative Textbook Grant (ATG) were awarded up to $2,500 each, with many colleges providing supplemental funds.

The flexibility of open resources materials means that instructors can tailor the textbooks to their specific curriculum, that the information can evolve over time, and that the students always have access to it. The grant is an OU Libraries’ strategic priority in action — providing robust, yet affordable and accessible information resources. The ATG ensures that all students, regardless of their economic circumstances, will have their necessary learning materials from the first day of class.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

Lilly Amechi
$1,500 Award Winner
“A Case of Mistaken Identity: State and Cultural Constructions of Mapache Womanhood Through Activism”

Julia Weatherford
$1,000 Award Winner
“Seoul: A Dilemma of Modernity or Affordability”

Brooke Donisi
$750 Award Winner
“Children of the Red Light”

2021-2022 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS

Three undergraduate students were awarded cash prizes and recognized for their innovative use of the OU Libraries’ collections. These students demonstrated excellence in their research methods, not only through their final submitted projects, but in a personal essay reflecting on their experience and outlining their process.

2022 ATG GRANT RECIPIENTS

Matthew Bejar (Sociology)
Dr. Ralph Beliveau (Creative Media Production)
Dr. Sarah Bren (School of Biomedical Engineering)
Dr. Iona Cionea (Communication)
Dr. Andrés González (Industrial and Systems Engineering)
Casey Haskins (Mathematics)
Dr. David McLeod (School of Social Work)
Dr. Katherine Pandora (History of Science, Technology, and Medicine)
2021-2022 Employee Awards

THE ANNUAL TRADITION OF UL WEEK CONTINUED IN MAY 2022. NOMINATED BY THEIR PEERS, STAFF GATHERED FOR THE EVENT WITH A RECEPTION IN THE GREAT READING ROOM.

BRIDGE BUILDER AWARD

The Bridge Builder Award recognizes an individual that builds partnerships to engage others in library initiatives. Recipients of this award advance University Libraries’ mission, strategic initiatives and/or organizational values through their engagement with others in the library and our OU and professional community.

Dr. Todd Fuller, Curator, Western History Collections

“Todd is always looking beyond the Western History Collections and how he can tie their work to the broader OU mission and strategic plan. [He] looks for collaborations that will enrich the scholarly pursuits of the university and leverage our assets to help the greater good.”

COLLABORATIVE SPIRIT AWARD

The Collaborative Spirit Award recognizes a work team or volunteer group that successfully works together to create a product or result that was strengthened by the effort of the team. Teams that win this award use teamwork and collaboration to further the mission of University Libraries and its strategic initiatives and embrace the organizational values as a method of relating to one another to accomplish goals.

Theo Acker, Digital Scholarship Specialist
Magen Bednar, Head of User Services
Kristal Sergent, Social Sciences Librarian
Cheryl McCain, Library Instruction Coordinator
Dr. Amanda Schilling, Science Librarian
Kristi Wyatt, Emerging Technologies Librarian

“The Working Group [underwent] detailed and ongoing work on the UL Lib Guides to meet accessibility standards...their coordinated effort has resulted in improved customer service and saved time and effort.”

CUSTOMER COMMITMENT AWARD

The Customer Commitment Award recognizes exemplary commitment to serving customers, either internally to University Libraries or externally to the broader OU community. Recipients of this award advance University Libraries’ mission, strategic initiatives and/or organizational values through their service to customers.

Jaymie Turnes, Head of Acquisitions

“Jaymie leads by example — she is the sort of department head whose strong work ethic rubs off on you and makes you want to do your best, not only for yourself and the Libraries, but also for her...”

EXTRA MILE AWARD

The Extra Mile Award recognizes an individual who goes above and beyond in the performance of their job responsibilities.

Tyler Franklin, Engagement & Outreach Coordinator, Western History Collections

“In her efforts to mitigate recent storm damage that occurred in the Western History Collections, with heavy rain and hail, [Tyler] had a lot to deal with. She managed superbly and gracefully while cool and calm.”

HIDDEN HERO AWARD

The Hidden Hero Award recognizes an individual who works behind the scenes to improve library operations. These employees’ efforts may not always be visible, but they are the ones who keep the organization running smoothly.

Logan Cox, Senior Software Engineer

“...as a senior developer with more technical expertise, [Logan] has carried the responsibility of monitoring and responding to issues 24/7...his dedication has made the team stronger and more robust.”

Kristal Sergent, Social Sciences Librarian

“Kristal’s leadership coordinating the [Research Horizons for graduate students in Social Sciences and Humanities] meant developing the program, the registration and promotion of the event, and as well as assisting her colleagues with the technology and making sure everyone was comfortable with the plan.”

INNOVATION AWARD

The Innovation Award recognizes innovative ideas that result in improved service to our customers, enhanced efficiency of operations, or a cost savings to the library. These ideas may be of benefit internally to the library or externally to our community.

Dr. Beth Tweedy, Science Librarian

“Beth’s approach to instruction...is the approach all instructors should take and is how innovations happen. Her work on the science literacy curriculum utilizing social media, and her most recent project looking at D3D to teach 3D printing, are innovative approaches that should resonate with students in every traditional library instruction may not...”

LIBRARY PARTNER AWARD

The Library Partner Award recognizes a person, business or institution not employed by University Libraries that has demonstrated outstanding support and encouragement for the University Libraries. Recipients of this award advance University Libraries’ mission, strategic initiatives and/or organizational values through their service or support.

Scholarly Communications Task Force: Michael Bemben, Lee Frithian, Raphael Folsom, J. P. Mady, Claude Miller, Katherine Pandora, Darren Purcell, and Caroline Schoeder

“Since 2015, these faculty members have devoted countless hours in furthering the Libraries core mission of making scholarly work more accessible to the world through their participation on the task force...”

THOMAS AND CATHERINE LUCOCK OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The University Libraries’ Outstanding Library Student Employee Award recognizes the outstanding performance and contributions to the services and programs of the University of Oklahoma Libraries by student employees. This award is sponsored through the generous support of the Luccocks, long-standing members of the Bizzell Library Society board of trustees. Up to three awards will be given annually to undergraduate student employees, and one award to a graduate student employee, at a reception to be held in the spring. The recipients will receive a cash award and a certificate of recognition.

Savannah Knutson, Student Supervisor – Billing

“I don’t know how many missing/lost/damaged returned books that she has found, but I bet it’s well over 100! Finding a student who loves searching for books is a super rare quality and I love that she considers it a treasure hunt.”

Sam Mentzner, Student Assistant – Library Makerspace

“In a group of employees that is made up of EXTREMELY high achievers...Sam is a standout. Their professionalism, willingness to clarify, and work ethic never cease to amaze me.”

Megan Vela, Student Supervisor – Library Service Center

“...[Megan] has proven time and time again that she is innovative, collaborative, inclusive, and always eager to learn more about the University Libraries...I have even had student employees ask for schedule changes so they can work alongside Megan.”

THOMAS AND CATHERINE LUCOCK OUTSTANDING GRADUATE ASSISTANT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The University Libraries’ Outstanding Library Student Employee Award recognizes the outstanding performance and contributions to the services and programs of the University of Oklahoma Libraries by student employees. This award is sponsored through the generous support of the Luccocks, long-standing members of the Bizzell Library Society board of trustees. Up to three awards will be given annually to undergraduate student employees, and one award to a graduate student employee, at a reception to be held in the spring. The recipients will receive a cash award and a certificate of recognition.

Victoria Funk, Graduate Assistant – Learning Lab

“Being able to put patrons at ease, letting them know that there are people and systems in place to support them and help them succeed, is a skill unto itself, and one core to the mission of the library.”

THOMAS AND CATHERINE LUCOCK LIBRARY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The Thomas & Catherine Luccock Library Award of Excellence is the highest honor awarded by the University of Oklahoma Libraries. This award is sponsored through the generous support of the Luccocks, long-standing members of the Bizzell Library Society board of trustees. This prestigious award will be presented annually to recognize and commend an individual for superior performance and contributions to the University of Oklahoma Libraries.

Dr. Claire Curry, Science Librarian

“Dr. Claire Curry is an excellent librarian who goes above and beyond to serve the students, faculty and staff in the departments she serves...She treats others fairly and works hard to ensure the highest standards of service are met.”

Photo Credit: Travis Caperton

Thomas and Catherine Luccock attended the UL Staff Awards event to personally hand out their namesake awards. This prestigious award will be presented annually to recognize and commend an individual for superior performance and contributions to the University of Oklahoma Libraries. This award is sponsored through the generous support of the Luccocks, long-standing members of the Bizzell Library Society board of trustees. Up to three awards will be given annually to undergraduate student employees, and one award to a graduate student employee, at a reception to be held in the spring. The recipients will receive a cash award and a certificate of recognition.

Savannah Knutson, Student Supervisor – Billing

“I don’t know how many missing/lost/damaged returned books that she has found, but I bet it’s well over 100! Finding a student who loves searching for books is a super rare quality and I love that she considers it a treasure hunt.”

Sam Mentzner, Student Assistant – Library Makerspace

“In a group of employees that is made up of EXTREMELY high achievers...Sam is a standout. Their professionalism, willingness to clarify, and work ethic never cease to amaze me.”

Megan Vela, Student Supervisor – Library Service Center

“...[Megan] has proven time and time again that she is innovative, collaborative, inclusive, and always eager to learn more about the University Libraries...I have even had student employees ask for schedule changes so they can work alongside Megan.”

THOMAS AND CATHERINE LUCOCK OUTSTANDING GRADUATE ASSISTANT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The University Libraries’ Outstanding Library Student Employee Award recognizes the outstanding performance and contributions to the services and programs of the University of Oklahoma Libraries by student employees. This award is sponsored through the generous support of the Luccocks, long-standing members of the Bizzell Library Society board of trustees. Up to three awards will be given annually to undergraduate student employees, and one award to a graduate student employee, at a reception to be held in the spring. The recipients will receive a cash award and a certificate of recognition.

Victoria Funk, Graduate Assistant – Learning Lab

“Being able to put patrons at ease, letting them know that there are people and systems in place to support them and help them succeed, is a skill unto itself, and one core to the mission of the library.”

THOMAS AND CATHERINE LUCOCK LIBRARY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The Thomas & Catherine Luccock Library Award of Excellence is the highest honor awarded by the University of Oklahoma Libraries. This award is sponsored through the generous support of the Luccocks, long-standing members of the Bizzell Library Society board of trustees. This prestigious award will be presented annually to recognize and commend an individual for superior performance and contributions to the University of Oklahoma Libraries.

Dr. Claire Curry, Science Librarian

“Dr. Claire Curry is an excellent librarian who goes above and beyond to serve the students, faculty and staff in the departments she serves...She treats others fairly and works hard to ensure the highest standards of service are met.”
Employee Publications


Employee Presentations

Claire M. Curry, Science Librarian


Cassondra Darling, Discovery Librarian

Deciphering Wonderlands: Creating a Martin Gardner Digital Library, 4/10/22, 14th Gathering 4 Gardner, Atlanta, GA.

Jay A. Edwards, Circulation Supervisor, Fine Arts Library; Courtney Oliphant, Administrative Assistant, Public Services; Patrick Wright, Administrative Assistant, Research Hub

“We are What They Grow Beyond: Student Employment as High-Impact Practice”, July 28, 2021, Oklahoma Library Association Annual Conference, Norman, OK.

Jay A. Edwards, Circulation Supervisor, Fine Arts Library

“Yes-And/Or/Not: Information Literacy and Instruction Through an Improvisational Lens”, May 6 2022, LOEX 2022, Ypsilanti MI.


Barabara Laufersweiler, Director, Digital Collections and Digitization; Lina Ortega, Associate Curator, Western History Collections


Denise Stephens, Peggy Helmerich Dean of the University Libraries


Jay Shorten, Cataloger, Monographs & Electronic Resources

ELUNA learns - DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion). Changing the Name of the Tulsa Race Riot to Tulsa Race Massacre in LCSH. Online, October 19 & December 1, 2021.

Matt Stock, Fine Arts & Architecture Librarian

UL By the Numbers

THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES’ IN-PERSON ACTIVITY, FROM STUDENTS IN THE LIBRARY TO WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS, CONTINUED TO REBOUND FROM THE PANDEMIC CLOSURES.

GATE COUNT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2019-2020</th>
<th>2020-2021</th>
<th>2021-2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>1,115,183</td>
<td>289,062</td>
<td>875,203</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RESEARCH WORKSHOPS

- 2021-2022: 56

FEEDBACK ON THE UL RESEARCH WORKSHOPS

- “The material was really well chosen and the pace of teaching and quality of assistance and answering questions were great.”
- “It gives me more options to bring out the ‘beauty’ in my data.”

USER SERVICES FEEDBACK FROM OU STUDENTS

- “I received a 100% on my paper... I had been so overwhelmed when I reached out to you for assistance in gathering resources for my paper and, I know I have already told you thank you, but if you only knew the personal challenges I overcame, you’d understand why I am so grateful.”
- “You should know that our meeting was a catalyst to overcome the discouragement that I was feeling for having taken on such a challenging project (for me). This is such a vast topic, and I will merely scratch the surface, but overall it is teaching me that challenging is not the same as impossible.”

SHAREOK Repository

ShareOK is the institutional repository for OU, Oklahoma State University, and the University of Central Oklahoma.

DATABASE SEARCHES: 3,978,522

CATALOGUE SEARCHES: 393,454

WEBSITE USAGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2019-2020</th>
<th>2020-2021</th>
<th>2021-2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Page Views</td>
<td>1,911,419</td>
<td>1,476,105</td>
<td>1,485,546</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Users</td>
<td>235,025</td>
<td>231,632</td>
<td>274,896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Users</td>
<td>221,597</td>
<td>220,885</td>
<td>259,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sessions</td>
<td>846,938</td>
<td>710,065</td>
<td>727,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sessions per User</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>3.07</td>
<td>2.65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- OU Authors
- Item views: 875,302
- Downloads: 949,474
- New items: 1,228

2021-2022:
- 20,685 items checked out
- 367,882 items lent
- 11,098 items lent
- 3,978,522 database searches
- 393,454 catalogue searches
- 1,983 research consultations
- 374 course integrated instruction sessions

COURSE INTEGRATED INSTRUCTION SESSIONS

- 2021-2022: 374

INDEX TO USER SERVICES FEEDBACK FROM OU STUDENTS

- Your feedback is appreciated and valued.
- It helps us improve our services and resources.
- Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts.

"You should know that our meeting was a catalyst to overcome the discouragement that I was feeling for having taken on such a challenging project (for me). This is such a vast topic, and I will merely scratch the surface, but overall it is teaching me that challenging is not the same as impossible.”

"I received a 100% on my paper... I had been so overwhelmed when I reached out to you for assistance in gathering resources for my paper and, I know I have already told you thank you, but if you only knew the personal challenges I overcame, you’d understand why I am so grateful.”

"The material was really well chosen and the pace of teaching and quality of assistance and answering questions were great.”

"It gives me more options to bring out the ‘beauty’ in my data.”

"You should know that our meeting was a catalyst to overcome the discouragement that I was feeling for having taken on such a challenging project (for me). This is such a vast topic, and I will merely scratch the surface, but overall it is teaching me that challenging is not the same as impossible.”
The Peggy Helmerich Collaborative Learning Center on LLI in Bizzell Memorial Library is a vital study location for individuals and groups, and a locus of community activity throughout the year.
Jeffrey Wilhite, associate professor of bibliography, government document librarian, and art liaison for the University Libraries, adjusts the latest acquisitions of student art in the Bizzell Memorial Library stairwell. Wilhite acquires multiple works each year from OU fine arts students to hang in the University Libraries.

Photo Credit: Shevaun Williams