OUTREACH ACTIVITIES—DECEMBER TO MAY!

—Kyle Lynes

Two students pose for the 1st Annual "Ugly Christmas Sweater" contest.

Candy was offered at the reference desk to help relieve stress and advertise our services during finals.

Two students receive stress relief during the Therapy Dog Event on May 3.

Beau and Leeta put on a show for onlookers during the Therapy Dog Event.

During the month of February, members of the University community were encouraged to go out on a "Blind Date with a Book."

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OUTREACH ACTIVITIES:

April showers bring May flowers. What does the month of May bring… Contractors! Right after graduation all the activity started regarding the expansion and renovation of the Mortensen Library. Contractors were in, up and down, and all around. Windows have been covered, caution tape is in place. Some staff has been moved to temporary quarters and some to their new locations. Library materials have been relocated and will most likely move again before the project is completed. In back of the Mortensen Library, the area has been converted to a construction work zone complete with the neatest contractor offices.

May 25 was the ribbon-cutting ceremony to kick off the project. It was a great event and the Mortensen Library was filled with people representing every aspect of the University community. You will see event photos throughout this newsletter, as well as an article on Page 4 about how we went about the process of weeding out outdated material for the new space.

Many thanks go to President Walter Harrison, Provost Sharon Vasquez, the University Board of Regents for approving the project, all the committees that worked on the ideas and brought the project to head, the architects Sasaki Associates and the contractor Shawmut. One could never forget all the donors and the hard work that Institutional Development had to do. The Libraries staff deserves more kudos for making all the moves involving materials and offices easy (or seem easy). They can never be thanked enough.

Our University Facilities and Grounds Departments have gotten us to this point in the project and have helped us lug, tug, move, shift, rewire, and recycle and always with smiles. The project managers have kept us up-to-date on all the mechanics of this major project and kept us out of harm’s way.

The expansion and renovation is exciting and full of future possibilities and opportunities for the University Libraries.
STAFF HAPPENINGS

Mike Anderson, Allen Library public services coordinator, was busy with performances this past year, including five premieres with the Hartford Independent Chamber Orchestra, all by Hartford faculty or alumni composers. Anderson also gave solo and chamber performances at the Hartford Public Library, UConn West Hartford campus (premieres of two pieces written for him as part of a Hartford Arts & Heritage Jobs Grant), and a colloquium for Central Connecticut State University music studies with Hartford faculty member Charles Huang on free improvisation, performing David Macbride’s Ave Maria Stella.

As part of her role as Connecticut Library Association’s (CLA) Technical Services section chair, Laurie Haggan attended the 2016 CLA annual conference, “Libraries Through the Looking Glass” on Thursday, April 21, at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, Conn. Her section sponsored a presentation given by Jen Eustis and Greg Caloli of the University of Connecticut on the Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA), a collaborative, digital preservation program for Connecticut’s cultural heritage community, ctidigitalarchive.org.

George Lechner, was honored this past spring for his 25 years of service to the University of Hartford. Lechner came to Mortensen Library in 1991 as the circulation coordinator working with general reserves and charging out books. After three years, Lechner moved to the Reference Department and although the Reference Office has moved several times, he continues to offer instruction and guidance in research and information literacy. He teaches nearly 40 classes per academic year in the library and brings his erudite knowledge and years of experience as a scholar, teacher, and student to each workday.

In 2007, Lechner was promoted to reference librarian based on his years of service to the library and his academic expertise. Lechner maintains the collections in architecture, law, politics, history, foreign language, literature, philosophy and religion. Concurrently for the past 25 years, he has been teaching an adjunct professor at the University of Hartford’s University Studies Division of the Arts and Sciences College. Lechner earned the “Land of Promise Award for Teaching Excellence in Teaching Award for Part-Time Faculty” in 2009, and the “Gordon Clark Ramsey Award for Creative Excellence for Adjunct and Part-time Faculty” in 2012 in recognition of his service to the University and its students.

Over the past 10 years, Lechner has taught classes for the Presidents’ College (PC) which promotes lifelong learning opportunities to the adult community and in turn donates time and funding to the libraries. His PC classes are always filled to capacity! Please congratulate him on his continued dedication to University Libraries and the University of Hartford, and on earning his University rocking chair.

Carol Lukiwski, Allen Library public services librarian, was profiled in a new journal, Metal Music Studies, in the March issue of the Music Library Association’s journal, NOTES, and gave a presentation at the MLA meeting in Cincinnati in March, entitled “How Much of A Basic Music Library (BML4) is Available Online? Some Genre/Format Preliminary Findings,” co-presented with Misti Shaw, DePauw University. Lukiwski and Shaw looked at the forthcoming 4th edition of A Basic Music Library: Essential Scores and Sound Recordings, and began determining how many items are actually available online via Naxos, DRAM, and Alexander Street Press databases that can inform collection development, library instruction, and reference services.

On April 15, Jillian Maynard was inducted into the Beta Iota Chapter of Beta Phi Mu International Library and Information Studies Honor Society at the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Library and Information Studies’ Annual Gathering. Founded in 1937 by a group of librarians, the Society acknowledges and encourages scholastic achievement of students in library and information studies programs. To date, more than 35,000 graduates of accredited library and information studies programs have been inducted into Beta Phi Mu. Members come from programs in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Rhode Island Senator Jack Reed, WHAT ARE ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS? —Sean Parke

What are archives and special collections?

The University of Hartford’s Archives and Special Collections department is a part of the University Libraries, and is responsible for preserving materials of historic value for the benefit of students, staff, faculty, and other researchers.

Why are there two names?

While many university archives and special collections are commonly referred to simply as the archives, there is a distinction between the two. The term archives has many meanings—it can be used to refer to a physical place, a department, an organization, or, as it is in this case, to the actual records of an institution. The archives maintains the historic records of the University, its schools, and its organizations.

Special collections, on the other hand, are materials donated to the university. Some universities refer to their special collections as manuscripts, which document the everyday history of individuals or families. These donated materials often document the history of the university and the people who are closely associated with it. Works of faculty members are the most common example of a special collection.

What kind of University records are in the Archives?

Since the archives is primarily focused on the research value of records, the archives do not maintain records like student transcripts, personnel records, or security incident reports as these records are highly confidential and have limited research value outside of their office of origin. The archives also do not preserve active records (active: meaning the record creator is still using the record for its original purpose and/or is still responsible for maintaining the record). The archives do, however, maintain some restricted materials. Since the archives can be utilized by all researchers, some records are restricted to University staff only, while others may be restricted to all researchers for a certain period of time.

Other examples of materials the archives generally do not collect from offices are receipts, invoices, and reimbursement forms. The information in each specific example is useful, but the records likely have little value and the records can be better summarized in annual reports and budgets which are important to save. Offices should consider three things when considering whether a record should eventually go to the archives: 1) Does the record help the organization? 2) Is the record helpful to the history of the University or the particular office? 3) Is the information available/repeated elsewhere in our records? But, if you are ever unsure, please feel free to ask!

Are you limited to any formats?

The answer is no. The University Archives do not usually refuse anything based on format alone. The Archives are filled with various kinds of media and materials including paper, photographs, negatives, digital files, CD, DVDs, 16mm film, reel to reel audio, cassette tapes, JAZ disk drives, floppy disks, inch magnetic tape, VHS, and phonograph records. Our only limitation in some cases is size. Large artifacts may not be possible to archive if the Archives can’t find space. This assessment process is often not saved unless it is in good enough condition to be used. Fun fact—the Archives reading room desk belonged to Appleton Hillyer and was once used by University President Trachtenberg at the Bates House.

How can the Archives help me?

Anyone is welcome to schedule an appointment to visit the University Archives. All visitors are required to present a valid University of Hartford or government photo ID. If you have a specific question, we may be able to provide an answer without an appointment. All inquiries should be sent to Sean Parke, University Archivist, at parke@hartford.edu or call 860.768.4143.
REPORT ON THE MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEETING

—Tracey Rudnick

A portion of my March 2016 Music Library Association (MLA) conference in Cincinnati was spent on executive board activities (an elected position). It is an honor and a privilege to serve, and an excellent opportunity to participate in (and learn more about) the inner workings of a non-profit organization.

This year’s first plenary focused on the ARL/MLA Diversity and Inclusion Initiative (DII), a joint effort by the Association for Research Libraries and MLA to address diversity issues in the field of music and performing arts librarianship. The initiative provides a suite of financial benefits to library school students in the program, including tuition support, relocation funds, MLA conference attendance, MLA membership, mentoring, and music or performing arts library internships. Initiative leaders and administrators from libraries, library schools, and arts programs gave advice on converting commitment to plans, being effective allies, and on ways to increase pre-professional exposure, experience, and support for students. DII program participants described their experiences and explained how the support brought them to the profession, or how it provided intellectual, emotional, and financial support that enabled them to continue.

The second plenary featured some practical application of linked data, which applies standardized labels to names, things, places, and other elements in online documents. This increases discoverability, makes it possible to spot meaningful connections (e.g., between people), and provides new methods for analysis. As an example, the Linked Jazz project (linkedjazz.org) is marking names in jazz musician oral history transcripts. Interestingly, as names were linked and analyzed across transcripts, researchers found that male musicians do not talk about female colleagues that much, and that female musicians refer more extensively to other female musicians. Cornell University experimented with flyers from its Hip Hop Collection. Flyers provide details about people, venues, culture, dress codes, and more, and patterns can be seen and analyzed after linking. Researchers found it was a good test case, but the project needs more standardized vocabulary, so it is not yet public.

Back in our home libraries, users and library staff depend on our online tools, such as WorldCat, but music has specific needs. I attended presentations that assessed the impact of changes, or that offered solutions for service providers. Music librarians spoke of their experiences using new services, with some successes, and some dire warnings. I heard updates on the state of online music score publishing. One publisher found that 98 percent of students and faculty surveyed still preferred paper over online formats (for usability’s sake). Another presenter explained how there is no mechanism for libraries to systematically identify and collect the music of composers who self-publish on the web, and gave examples of music that is already disappearing when the composer dies or the site is taken down. Another publisher has a new music score app with music-friendly features (not yet fully assessed), but only limited scores are available.

LOEX 2016 — p. 11

and Jen Thomas, diverged a bit from focusing on the one-shot for college students and instead, the presenters shared their experience with creating a college research day for local high school students. Juniors from one local high school in Rhode Island spent a day at the URI Library, where they attended a one-shot instruction session given by the librarians and conducted research using the libraries stacks and databases. They were also able to have lunch on campus and explore the library on their own. This accomplished many goals, such as: It helped them complete the research needed to do well on their projects; it gave them a chance to see what one aspect of college is like; and it also highlighted the benefits of all kinds of libraries—academic, high school, etc.—working together to promote the importance of information literacy in today’s world.

Overall, this was a great opportunity to interact with passionate, like-minded individuals. Additionally, with so many sessions to choose from, the conference organizers ensured that there was always something for everyone. Indeed, we brought back enough ideas to keep us busy until the 2017 LOEX conference, which will be held in Lexington, Ky. ✪

gave a few remarks about the importance of libraries in the digital age and Dr. Micah Altman of Massachusetts Institute of Technology spoke on the logistics of libraries handling seemingly insurmountable loads of data brought about by the surge of technology. Congratulations to Maynard on this honor.

Jennifer Olson, Allen Library technical services librarian, celebrated 15 years of service at the University. Olson oversees cataloging and processing of music- and dance-related materials, and supervises the Allen Library’s cataloging coordinator and several student employees. She currently serves on the Music Library Association’s (MLA) Content Standards Subcommittee, which reports to MLA’s broader Cataloging and Metadata Committee, previously served on the New England Music Library Association’s (NEMLA) Publications Committee, and was NEMLA webmaster 2015-16. Previously, she held two Allen Library positions: technical services coordinator (2001–08) and senior cataloger (2008–10). Jennifer earned her Master’s degree in library and information science from Simmons College, a Master of Music in composition from Butler University, and a Bachelor of Music in composition from Minnesota State University at Moorhead. Please join us in congratulating her!

Olson also gave a presentation at the Music Library Association meeting in Cincinnati, March 2016, as part of a session on “Expecting the Unexpected: Gifts Workflow in Technical Services.” Presenters shared strategies, tips, and tools for working with the many generous book, score, sound, and video donations received from their communities.

Sean Parke, archivist, attended the New England Archivists’ (NEA) spring meeting in Portland, ME. The first day of the conference was an all-day workshop regarding active learning and engaging students in archives, which can play a vital role in education across all grade levels. The facilitator helped discuss emerging and innovative ideas and practices related to engaging students and how to incorporate them into the curriculum framework. In the following days there were sessions on a range of topics including teaching students about archival theory and practice, prioritizing the digitization of various magnetic media, and how to manage being a lone arranger (what we call an archivist who works alone). Archivists all left the NEA spring meeting with new ideas that will help with upcoming projects and accomplishing future goals and promote the use of primary materials in a world of electronic resources.

Tracey Rudnick, Allen Library head, finished her term on the Music Library Association’s (MLA) board of directors as member-at-large and fiscal officer, and chair of MLA’s finance committee. Her service to the organization helped her learn more about the inner workings of a medium-sized non-profit organization. As a board member, she worked with others to consider matters of interest to the broader library profession, such as copyright legislative initiatives, RDA and Frameworks initiatives, online content delivery, and conference streaming. She also ended her work as MLA’s assistant editor for NOTES for Electronic Vendors (ca. March 2015), and is still assisting her successor. ✪

President Harrison raises a glass to toast the start of library construction. A 3D model shows the proposed new addition to the existing Mortensen Library.
Expansion has always been the American way. From Manifest Destiny to more is better economics, the concept of adding to something has been our template for success. The imminent library renovation project follows that concept. The redesigned space, which puts a three-story addition onto the back of Mortensen (facing north) and moves Allen Library into the lower level, will have more physical area, more natural light, more seating, and more amenities for our users. But what it won’t have more of is shelf space.

For more than 50 years, University of Hartford librarians have dutifully selected materials for our shelves. We have collected printed information sources in the form of books and journals for every topic under the sun. Most of it has been in support of the subjects we teach—health sciences, engineering, mathematics, literature, business, and much more. We’ve also collected a lot of reading material that’s tangential to the University’s primary educational mission—works on fox hunting and beekeeping, journals on Soviet-era agricultural practices, proscriptions on how to type up library cards—things that might have once been of interest or could possibly be useful under the right circumstances, but would ordinarily go unused. When we have lots of space, it’s fine to keep anything we want; but when space grows tight, it’s time to reconsider what we keep on our shelves. In addition to ancillary material, we have also accumulated a lot of information that is out of date. These sources in particular are ideal candidates for removal. It’s one thing to keep superfluous materials; it’s something else altogether to keep information that is no longer accurate or up-to-date.

But how do you decide what stays and what goes? The first consideration is format. Electronic resources, especially e-journals, are the preferred format for research with our students and faculty in many fields. So we launched a project to see what periodicals were available online that we already had on our shelves. Our librarians checked every title from our journal collection to identify candidates for weeding. Turns out there were a lot. At the end of this massive process, we identified and removed over 35,000 volumes of journals that were either unsuited to our collection or were available online. After shifting around the rest of the bound periodical collection, we cleared out enough space on the lower level of Mortensen Library to, after the renovation, move Allen Library into the vacated area with room leftover for additional student seating. And we did it without sacrificing Mortensen Library’s core content for the University’s academic purposes.

That took care of our journals, but weeding our books is a more difficult matter. We started by sending all of our bibliographic data to a company called Sustainable Collection Services (a product of OCLC). They used their GreenGlass software to sort our data by date of acquisition, date of publication, circulation statistics, and compared our holdings with peer institutions across the United States. Our librarians used GreenGlass to prepare an initial set of records, culled using data that indicated low use and older materials, to present to faculty for review. We then created an online application presented these records, sortable by several variables, and allowed the faculty to vote on whether an item should be kept or weeded. Librarians used these recommendations to determine which books should be kept and which should be pulled from our collection.

The online application used to gather faculty votes, dubbed the Collection Evaluation Tool, was entirely homegrown but based on similar projects done at Wesleyan University and Connecticut College when they went through their renovation-inspired weeding programs.

It’s been a lot of work and the weeding will continue for quite a while longer. But in the end, our efforts will be worth it. We’ll have not only a wonderful, redesigned library building, but a better handle on our holdings. We’ll be ready for future growth in our collection and have content that’s current and relevant to the University’s needs.

All items being pulled from the collection will be sold to Better World Books, given away, or recycled. We are trying extremely hard not to add to the carbon footprint. We worked with the Book Arts Program from the Hartford Art School and supplied interesting items for the students to use for their projects.

TOOLS FOR WEEDING

—Ben Ide

We’ll be ready for future growth in our collection and have content that’s current and relevant to the University’s needs.
PRESIDENTS’ COLLEGE FALL 2016 CLASSES/LECTURES
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SEPTEMBER
» Writing Memoir—Beth Richards
Thurs., Sept. 8, 15, 22, 29; Oct. 6, 13; 9-11 a.m.

» Symmetry and Group Theory—Laura Pence
Fri., Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30; 2-3:30 p.m.

» Treasure and Treachery in the Nutmeg State—Wick Griswold-McAuley Lecture
Fri., Sept. 9; 2 p.m.

» Paris Seen—Michael Walsh
Mon., Sept. 12, 19, 26; 3:30–5 p.m.

» The History of the Book: From Scroll to Screen—Jonathan Elkin
Fri., Sept. 16, 23, 30; 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

» Anne Tyler—Joseph Voelker
Wed., Sept. 21, 28; Oct. 5, 19, 26; Nov. 2; 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

» Acting Class: A Window on Contemporary Practice—Diana Moler-Marino
- Fellows Lecture
Thurs., Sept. 22; 12:15-1:15 p.m.

» 16th Century England—Humphrey Tonkin
Tues., Sept. 27; Oct. 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1; 12–1:30 p.m.

» Hot Spots and Burning Issues: The Foreign Affairs Discussion Group—Chris Doyle
Wed., Sept. 28; Oct. 26; Nov. 30; Dec. 14; 5:30–7 p.m.

OCTOBER
» West Hartford Business: A Model for Suburban Development—Jennifer DiCola Matos and visiting lecturers
Tues., Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; 2–3:30 p.m.

» Women, Wisdom, and Wrinkles—Mala Matarcin-Duncaster Lecture
Tues., Oct. 4; 4:45–6:15 p.m.

» The Medieval Monasteries: Art and Culture—David L. Simon
Thurs., Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; 1:30–3 p.m.

» A Round-Up of the U.S. Supreme Court’s 2016 Term—Jildi Aliotta
Mon., Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31; 5:30–7 p.m.

» (More) Psychology of Religion and Spirituality—Jack Powell
Tues., Oct. 18, 25; Nov. 1; 10–11:30 a.m.

» Religion in the Caribbean—Leslie Desmangles
Wed., Oct. 19, 26; Nov. 2; 2:30–4 p.m.

» The Complex Fate: John Singer Sargent and Frank Stella—Patrick McCaughey
Fri., Oct. 21, 28; Nov. 11; 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

NOVEMBER
» Tuskegee Airmen—Roy Collins-Duncaster Lecture
Tues., Nov. 1; 4:45–6:15 p.m.

» He can no longer remain silent … Literary Protests in Russian and Soviet History—Kenneth Poppe-McAuley Lecture
Fri., Nov. 4; 2 p.m.

» Putin’s Way—Mari A. Firkatian
Mon., Nov. 7, 14, 28, 4:30–6 p.m.

NEW ENGLAND TECHNICAL SERVICES LIBRARIANS ANNUAL CONFERENCE
—Laurie Haggan

The theme for the 2016 New England Technical Services Librarians (NETSL) annual conference was “Open Tomorrow: Collaborating for a Better Future.” Held at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass., on April 8, 2016, the conference did not disappoint! The day’s events were kicked off with a keynote presentation from Kyle K. Courtney, Esquire, Copyright Advisor for Harvard. Courtney’s speech focused on Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) and librarians in the 21st century. Less than 8 percent of library MLIS programs cover copyright, a very hot and debated topic. Therefore, librarians in the room were eagerly tuned in to the advice and valuable information provided by Courtney on such topics as: institutional fear; best practices for collaboration and openness; risk mitigation and establishment of the “Copyright First Responders” program at Harvard; avoidance; public domain; open access; risk acceptance; fair use factors; HathTrust; and transfer of risk.

The following breakout-session, “Shared Print Monographs: Analysis and Action” was presented by Rick Lugg, executive director of Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) Sustainable Collection Services, and Ruth Fischer, senior product manager for GreenGlass, OCLC Sustainable Collection Services. This session dealt with using OCLC’s GreenGlass product to analyze and compare a particular institution’s collections to others similarly-sized universities, as well as to provide valuable data on usage. Library staff can then easily identify which items in their collection are unique to a particular library. University of Hartford Libraries is actively using this product in its collection assessment prior to the library renovation. An added in-house Collection Evaluation Tool (CET) was applied to the results received from GreenGlass, which allowed for faculty to “vote” on whether to keep or withdraw a book. Excellent interactive discussions ensued with librarians from all over New England regarding the GreenGlass product.

“What Now? Current Opportunities in Preparation for Linked Data in Libraries” was the next breakout-session. A hot topic, this talk presented by Steven Foslon, Metadata Technologies program manager, presented what everyone can do with linked data. He explained how no one searches for marc on the web; discussed engaging with other vendors and opening new open source communities; explained the workings of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging roles at the Library of Congress, in which a task force dedicated to URIs (Uniform Resource Identifiers) has been established to investigate current restraints with existing URIs in library records. Libraries across the globe have to find more efficient ways to store their data. As libraries frequently lose prime real estate in their libraries to free up creative, interactive learning spaces, a more concentrated effort has been made to find ways to store data more accessible with less space. Culuminating the day were a series of lighting talks ranging from workflows and catalog clean-up projects to metadata extraction and conversion of print standing orders to electronic format.
Kyle Lynes and Jillian Maynard, reference librarians from Mortensen Library, ended their semester by attending the 44th Annual Library Orientation Exchange (LOEX) conference in Pittsburgh, Pa., in early May. Dedicated to library instruction and information literacy, this three-day conference featured content in the form of 11 breakout sessions, poster sessions, lightning talks, and one plenary speaker. The theme for this year’s conference, Learning from the Past, Building for the Future, introduced overarching elements such as reflection, transformation, and recycling. These elements were interwoven into much of the content presented at the conference.

In her plenary presentation, Dr. Sheila Corrall spoke about self-reflection and how it fits into information literacy development. She introduced the various models of reflective practice and how we, as practitioners, might use them to not only become more effective professionals, but also how we might use these models to help students become more effective learners by modeling these processes in our own practices. Susan Ariew also touched upon reflective practice in her breakout session, Making the Invisible Visible: Metacognition and the Research Process. She spoke about metacognition, or “thinking about thinking” and the different ways in which we might get students to do this which helps them in their research process. The various methods Ariew uses at her own institution to encourage metacognition includes role playing, research plans, and research logs.

There were several interactive breakout sessions to choose from. In their session Everything in its Right Place: Effective, Strategic, and Differentiated Outreach, Megan Press and Amy Pajewski introduced the use of personas that help identify the unique needs of specific groups of library users. Attendees were then put into small groups and tasked with the creation of a persona and an accompanying plan of action that would incorporate possible outreach initiatives and possible strategic partnerships to address the persona’s specific needs. In the session titled As Seen on TV: Remapping Monroe’s Motivational Sequence for Library Instruction, Candice Benjes-Small introduced participants to Monroe’s Motivational Sequence, a tried and true structure used to persuade and deliver information. Participants were asked to deconstruct two infomercials, assign them to categories, and create a plan to sequence. We then discussed the possibilities for implementation in a library instruction session.

Maggie Nunley and Paula Roy discussed the flipped classroom, a concept on everyone’s mind, in their session Gearing Up: Using Invigorate to Invigorate. They spoke about reducing the amount of time spent talking at students and replacing it with constructivist learning, or “learning by doing.” It was interesting to see how Nuly and Roy utilize technological applications to blend constructivist learning with some of the threshold concepts found in the new ACRL Framework for Information Literacy. The three major outcomes are: 1. “Authority is Constructed”—focus on the authority of the students (What insight can they provide?); 2. Scholarship as a conversation—focus on the valuable conversation happening between the students (in-house peer review); and 3. Searching as Strategic Exploration—focus on creating a safe space for students to “figure it out.” Although several web-based tools were highlighted, the most interesting was the use of Padlet, a free-form tool that allows for instant collaboration between students using mobile devices.

Candice Benjes-Small’s second breakout session, Assessment Remix: A Mixed Methods Approach to Assessing Instruction, focussed on observational assessment as a way to evaluate the effectiveness of the one-shot. By immediately reflecting on a class, and then comparing that reflection to short student surveys, instructors can determine where they need to improve and what is already working well. Crystal Goodman and Tamara Rhodes’ presentation Recycling the First Year One-Shot Workshop: Using Interactive Technology to Flip the Classroom, discussed the merits of using educational technology such as Padlet and online tutorials to prep students for the one-shot session. By having the students view tutorials on the research process and on library services beforehand, there is more time during the actual library session to focus on specific aspects of instruction and hands-on research under the guidance of a librarian.

A particularly interesting breakout session, On the Rhode to Success: DIY Designing a College Research Experience for High School Students, presented by Mary MacDonald.
### Student Merit Awards

The University Libraries Board of Visitors annually sponsors student merit awards, given to student library employees who have demonstrated outstanding service and commitment. The awards are given at a luncheon in conjunction with the board’s spring meeting.

Alcadelin "Alli" Herrera has been with the Access Services Department at Mortensen Library for three years. Always punctual, she jumps immediately wherever needed at the start of her shift. Herrera demonstrates diligence in every aspect of the job, and a willingness to help out even when she was not on the clock! She knows her job inside and out and can handle anything that is tossed into the mix. Whether it’s dealing with patrons, shelving books, cleaning, running across campus, or helping with a mailing, she is ready to pitch in. She has always displayed a very enthusiastic attitude about anything new that might present itself during the day. Most importantly, Herrera is always polite and approachable, greeting everyone with her infectious smile.

Aidan O’Connell has worked at the Allen Library for over two years. He has been a valuable part of our student staff in technical services. O’Connell has demonstrated a great deal of commitment to working in the library, and does his job with a high level of enthusiasm, thoroughness, and productivity. He completes all of his tasks, which can be diverse and ever-changing, thoroughly and accurately, with little supervision. He always understands how his tasks fit into the larger system and processes throughout the library, and adapts accordingly. We have many important projects this year, and O’Connell has been a huge help, and a pleasure to have on our staff!

Mary Young has worked at the Allen Library for a little over a year and is a valuable addition to the library staff. Young has a knack for interacting with patrons in a friendly, warm, and helpful manner no matter who the patron is or what they need. Over the past year, she has grown and expanded her skills and expertise, especially with regard to assisting patrons and answering questions. She has worked on several projects including sorting donations and researching works by MacArthur Genius Grant recipients in music, dance, and theater. She goes above and beyond to offer excellent service to our patrons, bringing exemplary friendliness and patience to all patron interactions. We are very happy to have her on our staff.

Nicole Wynter joined the Mortensen Library Access Services staff in September 2014. A motivated, diligent, dependable student worker, Wynter works hard, leaving no task incomplete. From the start of her tenure, she was determined to learn the workflow. She has mastered the basic tasks, as well as the tips and tricks that help the Circulation Department run smoothly. When Wynter arrives for her shift, she gets to work immediately, taking it upon herself to see what needs to be done. She is always ready to go the extra mile, whether that involves shelving the only three books left in circulation or guiding patrons to their destinations. Regardless of the task at hand, she is always cheerful and patient, qualities that are invaluable when working in Access Services.

Fred Sweitzer, chair of the Libraries Master Plan Steering Committee, addresses the University community.

Cupcakes with special frosting book themes were served at the celebration.

President Emeritus Humphrey Tonkin and Professors Mark Blackwell and Joseph Vukelich at the library expansion celebration.

### Library Instruction and Reference Resources at the MLA Meeting

Library instruction was an important topic at the 2016 Music Library Association (MLA) meeting. Two presentations approached library instruction from a programmatic perspective, with sessions integrated into the curriculum rather than given ad hoc.

At Ithaca College, Kristin Shannon implemented a series of sessions for instrumental repertoire courses where she meets with students according to class year and instrument. Material is tailored to the needs and skill level of each group of students. The instruction is efficient and non-disruptive to the repertoire classes since only one group of students are absent for any one class session. At Chapman University, Scott Stone and Taylor Greene created a series of required four zero-credit courses, one for each class year, that meet once a semester for 90 minutes. This allowed sessions to build on each other.

Another set of presentations addressed copyright issues. Tammy Rivas (University of Montana) taught an undergraduate copyright online course. She recommended giving a pretest at the beginning of the course, but cautioned that her students did not like using discussion forums. Kathleen DeLaurenti, (College of William and Mary), and Kyra Folk-Farber (UC Santa Barbara) presented their research-based designs for copyright classes. DeLaurenti used backwards design, starting from what she wanted her students to know, then allowed the resulting seminar to be more student-driven. She found that her students viewed copyright as an important tool for artists rather than a barrier. Folk-Farber discussed her assessment of graduate students’ behaviors around copyright and how she is using it to design an upcoming copyright course. Folk-Farber’s students found copyright to be a hurdle in carrying out their own work.

Two sessions dealt with more specialized library instruction. At the University of Virginia, Winston Barnham and Matthew Vest taught students on archival research. They found such instruction does not have to rely on large or rare collections, but on the importance of collaboration with the course instructor. Sara Manus and Holling Smith-Borne (Vanderbilt University) provided instruction and outreach for children and teenagers in the pre-college music program. Library instruction was presented as a “feature” of the program, and has taught both the students and parents about the importance of the music library. Manus and Smith-Borne also found that older pre-college students can be test audiences for sessions intended for first-year college students.

The MLA meeting also included discussions of new and old music resources. Oxford Music Online announced a series of updates, including a new site search engine and making short articles or excerpts free. Recently redesigned, Playbill Vault (playbill.com/vault) is an online archive of playbills and other information for Broadway and off-Broadway productions going back to 1732 and searchable by person, show, or theater.

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President Harrison thanks faculty and staff for their work during the libraries renovation.
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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

During the fall and spring semesters, Mortensen Library holds a weekly “Question of the Week” contest. Each Monday, a trivia question is posted in the lobby of Mortensen Library. Students, faculty, and staff are given the opportunity to submit an answer for the chance to win a $5 gift card to Starbucks. The first correct answer pulled the following Monday wins the gift card. In case you missed them, here are the questions and answers from the spring 2016 semester:

Q. Which country, smaller than England, was a colonial rival with which England fought four wars, the last from 1780 to 1784?
A. The Netherlands.

Q. What was the fourth film in which Bruce Willis’ series was inspired by an article about cyberhacking?
A. Die Hard.

Q. Which senator was the first New Yorker to serve on the Armed Services Panel?
A. Hillary Clinton.

Q. Which 19th century actor, known as the “Prince of Players,” was the brother of a presidential assassin?
A. Edwin Booth.

Q. Which type of shelter in use during the Civil War is named for its resemblance to a dog kennel?
A. A pup tent.

Q. In Sophocles’ play about her, revenge is on the mind of this daughter of Agamemnon.
A. Electra.

Q. Where on the University of Hartford campus is the time capsule located?
A. Under the “H” in front of Hawk Hall.

Q. Which type of small rocky space object was named after Neil deGrasse Tyson in 2001?
A. An asteroid.

Architectural drawings from Sasaki Architects shows all three levels of Mortensen’s proposed expansion and renovation. Completion date is slated for May 2017.