2017 Spring Library News

DeWitt Wallace Library

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library news
Spring 2017

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We held our first noon-time conversation on Tuesday, January 31 and had a good wide-ranging conversation about many aspects of change in the library. Beginning with a question based on visiting academic libraries with sons and daughters looking at colleges, what kind of changes are currently underway in libraries? And another question was how do librarians talk about the changes when we are at conferences? And the question was asked as to what do students experience when coming to college that is different from their high school library experience, if they used a high school library.

Read more >>

Library Conversations

Mark your calendars for our three upcoming sessions to discuss the future of the library:
- Spaces: Tuesday, February 28, 2017
- Collections: Tuesday, March 28, 2017
- Digital Publishing and Projects: Tuesday, April 25, 2017

All sessions will be held on the last Tuesday of the month from 11:30am-1:00pm in the Barbara B. Davis SPACE, Room 309, in the Library.

Library receives Grant Funding to support Faculty Development of Open Textbooks
We received grant funding from the Mansergh-Stuessy Fund for College Innovation in January 2017 to support the development of a sustainable framework and resource toolkit to assist Macalester faculty in the adoption and creation of open textbooks and other open educational resources.

The objective of this grant is to spur development and use of open textbooks in Macalester classrooms by identifying and/or creating on-campus documentation, resources, tools and services that will eliminate many of the obstacles that often deter faculty from considering open textbook adoption or creation.

In order to accomplish this goal, librarian Ron Joslin will be working closely with Britt Abel, German and Russian Studies, as she and a colleague from Central College (IA) work on an open-access curriculum for first-year German language called the Grenzenlos Deutsch project.

During 2017, we will be working alongside these two faculty to document the process of open educational resource creation and to help them identify tools and resources to support their work.

In addition to supporting the creation of the framework and resource toolkit, funding for professional development opportunities to share the work being done with faculty campus-wide will be provided. Contact Ron Joslin joslin@macalester.edu to find out more about this exciting project.

Shiny new toys for research

Seemingly a remnant of the past, microfilm is actually still an important means for exploring primary source materials. Library staff, along with Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow Rebecca Wingo, successfully submitted a Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant proposal to fund the purchase of the ViewScan III microfilm machine, computer, and monitor, now available on the library’s lower level. The reader will scan from microfilm to PDF (or to other image file formats) and then the file may be emailed or saved to a USB drive. As stated in the grant proposal: “A new scanner will facilitate transformative use of historical materials, and enable community-centered projects that could take advantage of better access to primary source materials, particularly specialized documents of local interest that are more likely to only be available on microfilm.”

Developments in the College Archives

We saw tremendous growth in the College Archives this past semester. Despite already being at collection capacity, several compelling collections opportunities arose, leading to some major changes. We created a teaching/learning/work space on the library’s lower level that will also provide additional storage space. A
A significant collection of personal papers of Louise Walker McCannel (of the family behind the establishment of the Walker Art Center) was donated, with a particular focus on Walker McCannel’s anti-racism and community empowerment efforts in the Twin Cities. These materials will provide rich hands-on experiences for students conducting research with primary source materials. Finally, we also welcomed Kova Walker-Lečić, our newly-hired part-time assistant in the Archives. With Kova’s help, the Archive’s collections will see improved organization and description, resulting in increased accessibility and usability.

Welcome Kova Walker-Lečić!

The Library celebrates 'The Year of Open'

2017 is the fifteenth anniversary of both the coining of the phrase ‘open educational resources’ and the creation of the first Creative Commons licenses. The worldwide Open Education Consortium has declared 2017 the Year of Open. This year is an opportunity for everyone who supports open resources and open education to celebrate the progress that has been made and encourage future action and momentum. Our library has long supported open access resources and open publishing, including providing a number of open access resources and our Digital Commons institutional repository. Join us in celebrating the Year of Open.

To find out more, see our Search Open Access resources below, or visit the web site: www.yearofopen.org.

Digital Commons@Macalester

Professors Arjun Guneratne, Duchess Harris, Tonnis ter Veldhuis, and Beth Severy-Hoven share how they have used Digital Commons@Macalester to teach the peer review process and showcase student scholarship. Learn more.

Partnering LibGuides Use

We have been delighted by the favorable response to and interest in our new LibGuides system. Per the company web site: “Librarians use it to curate knowledge and share information by creating online Guides on any topic, subject, course, on any process, on any thing.” Implemented in the summer of 2016, LibGuides replaced an older system that was more limited in options, flexibility and discoverability. In addition to creating guides for subjects and courses, we can also create specialty guides such as the one based on Marlon James’ convocation speech, the International Roundtable, and a Voting Guide. We welcome opportunities to work with faculty to create guides connecting our community to our library resources using this powerful LibGuides platform.
Have books or media items you want added to the collection? March 1 is the deadline for submitting orders for this fiscal year. Orders submitted after that date will be held for processing until June 1, with the exception of materials needed to support a spring 2017 course.

It is not too early to start thinking about fall 2017 Course Reserves. The earlier we receive your request, the more successful we will be at having those materials available for you and your students this fall.

See our new Library Acquisitions Guide for more information about ordering resources for our library.

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**Annual Serials Review**

We review periodical subscriptions annually each spring, and solicit any changes and new requests from faculty at that time. Serials requests that are received outside of the annual review cycle are handled on a case-by-case basis and usually held in a queue until the following spring. Due to increasing journal costs and a shrinking library budget, no new journals may be added to our collection unless a journal of equivalent price is cancelled. If electronic formats are available (for current print-only or new subscriptions), and meet our access needs, online access is the preferred subscription.

Current journal subscriptions and costs will be sent to your department when the review begins. Your department will be asked to provide feedback on the titles paid for with your department’s library serials budget allocation, as well as any proposed changes to subscriptions. Library staff are able to provide additional information about current or potential titles at any time. If you have questions, contact Denise Tyburski at x6325 or tyburski@macalester.edu.

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**New Arrivals**

Wonder what new library materials ordered by your academic department have been added to our collections? Visit our New Arrivals webpage and limit by your department.

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Start your research with open access materials! Check out the searching resources below to help you find articles and peer-reviewed research that is open and freely available. There’s more than just Google Scholar!

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**Macalester’s Catalog**

Did you know Macalester’s Catalog has access to Open Access materials too? Start here to get your research on the right track. The Library also subscribes to some databases that offer free content. For example [Green File](http://www.greenfile.com) and [PubMed](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed) offer freely available content.
oaDOI allows you to search using an article's DOI. The search service will then try to find an open access version of the article instead of the paywalled one.

oadoi.org

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