

The Associate Library

Winter/Spring 2014

A newsletter for Friends of University Libraries



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING



A Message from the Dean

The spring semester started so quickly that our winter break seems to be a dim memory. The students' energy always buoys us during the cold of winter, though. Everyone seems intent on avoiding the flu and colds but no one knows better how to find health information than Jim Honour, our National Library of Medicine Librarian. Jim works with other librarians in the west to ensure that libraries have training in medical information and access to full-text medical resources. The National Library of Medicine is a critical partner for UW, and Jim's work supports the outreach mission of the university.

I have noted previously that investing in the UW Libraries' collections is an investment for the state as our collections support broad research and education needs of Wyoming citizens. To assist us in documenting this impact, we collected some budget information that demonstrates how UW Libraries extends our services and collections to the state. UW Libraries is unique in that we pay for statewide access for public and school libraries, and we need to note this exceptional support whenever UW talks about the economic impact that the

university provides for the state, not just Laramie.

A key partnership for UW Libraries is the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW). For many years, ASUW has supported library activities, and they have funded a few special projects. Most recently, ASUW provided funds for purchasing additional iPads for students to check out. ASUW also worked with the libraries to install a digital sign in William Robertson Coe Library to display student information. The sign faces outside and is visible to students who wait for the bus or walk by the front of Coe Library. We were glad to partner with ASUW on the purchase and installation of this informative digital display. I continue to be amazed at the leadership of ASUW. They proactively work on finding solutions to address and articulate student needs. I am proud of our student leadership, and it is a joy to partner with them on projects in support of students.

Punxsutawney Phil is predicting a longer winter but we know at 7,200 feet there is always a longer winter. When you're in Laramie, pop by the Book & Bean Café at W. R. Coe Library for a hot beverage and enjoy a treat while we wait for our beautiful summer days to arrive. I hope to see you then!



Maggie Farrell

Maggie Farrell
Dean of Libraries
farrell@uwyo.edu

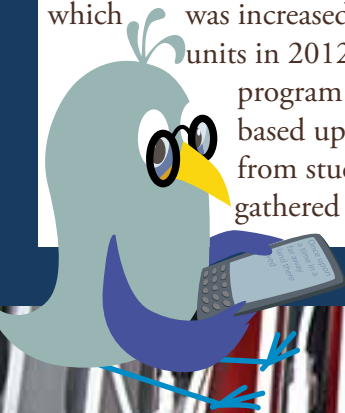
ASUW

Associated
Students of
UW

Funds 20 iPad Airls

The Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW) awarded UW Libraries one-time funds to purchase twenty iPad Airls, thus doubling the number of iPads available for checkout by UW students and faculty members.

UW Libraries has been providing iPads for student checkout since 2011. The iPad checkout program began with a loaner pool of ten units, which was increased to twenty units in 2012. The loaner program was initiated based upon feedback from students gathered from focus



groups and polling conducted by UW Libraries. We heard students wanted to learn about new technology such as eBooks, eBook readers, PDF annotation software, and mobile interfaces for academic use.

The libraries' iPads are equipped with WiFi and come preloaded with standard files and a wide range of applications for work and play. While users also may sync additional data and applications, all data is wiped and replaced with the standard preloaded files and apps when the iPad is returned to the library.

The loan period for iPads is seven days, which is generous by academic library standards and allows individuals to make good use of the equipment while still allowing for distributed access to the iPads. Units are available to UW faculty, staff, and students for checkout at the circulation help desk in William Robertson Coe Library.



University of Wyoming Libraries
about an hour ago 😊

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Greater Western Library Association Task Force Researches Student Learning and Engagement in Library Usage

By Melissa Bowles-Terry
Instruction & Assessment Coordinator

University of Wyoming Libraries recently became a member institution of GWLA, the Greater Western Library Alliance. One of the many benefits of belonging to GWLA is being involved with the interesting research coming from the Student Learning Outcomes Task Force. The task force was formed to find out what GWLA libraries are doing with regards to student learning outcomes and then to share the data in order to communicate evidence of the impact that academic libraries have on student learning. Libraries are often seen as the heart of campus and an important center for student learning and engagement, but it's helpful to universities and their governing bodies to know more precisely the types of impacts made on students when they use the library.

In 2012 the task force began by surveying all GWLA libraries about student learning outcomes practices at their institutions. Learning outcomes, related to information and the library, include things like research, critical thinking, finding and using information, and inquiry-based assignments. The survey asked

whether there are student learning outcomes that address information literacy at the campus level, college level, and in the library; whether student learning outcomes related to information literacy are assessed at the campus level, college level, or in the library; and whether the library measures the impact of collaborations with classroom faculty and other academic partners.

UW Libraries joined GWLA just in time to contribute to this initial phase of the research project. Because we have information literacy learning outcomes at the campus level that are assessed at the campus level and in the library, we were identified as an institution engaging in best practices. While the majority of GWLA institutions (61%) reported having information literacy learning outcomes at some level, only 43% reported assessment of those learning outcomes at any level. Librarians at UW have worked for years to integrate information literacy into the curriculum, and the libraries demonstrated a real willingness to prioritize assessment when they created the position of Instruction & Assessment Coordinator.

Librarians have gathered

assessment data at many levels over the past few years and have learned many things about student information-seeking behavior.

Students who attend a library instruction session are likely to use more sources and a greater variety of finding tools than students with no library instruction.

First-year students are more successful at research tasks when they have librarian assistance with choosing a database or search tool, developing a research topic, and evaluating sources.

Technology can, at times, prove a barrier in the classroom. Students working on a concept mapping activity were more successful with paper and pencil than with an iPad and app. Instructors should think

carefully about applications of teaching technology and not assume student familiarity.

There is a statistically significant positive correlation between upper-division library instruction (for sophomores, juniors, or seniors) and a higher GPA at graduation from UW. Instruction & Assessment Coordinator Melissa Bowles-Terry was invited to present on this research project at the GWLA conference, and it attracted quite a bit of interest among the librarians there.

The libraries is looking forward to the next phase of GWLA's research on student learning outcomes and UW

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UW Librarian Melissa Bowles-Terry (right) assisting students Jenna Woodard and Jon Knight in 2010.



UW Libraries Brings Specialized Electronic Resources to the State of Wyoming

By Julia Proctor
Assistant Librarian

In 2011, University of Wyoming Libraries signed on to be one of the few libraries purchasing ProQuest Comprehensive—a package of electronic databases provided by ProQuest. In 2012, UW Libraries secured access to the ProQuest Comprehensive package through the year 2020. These databases include a wide variety of resources ranging from general resources on the social sciences to highly specialized digitized archival collections. These resources provide unique content that supports the research and scholarship of UW students and faculty, but UW Libraries also saw the value that this information would have to the state of Wyoming as a whole. As a result, UW Libraries has purchased statewide access to ProQuest's Comprehensive package so that the entire state of Wyoming could have access to these databases as well as new databases that ProQuest releases.

The ProQuest Comprehensive package includes databases on statistics, historical documents, and government documents just to name a few, and the package continues to grow. Some of the newly released databases include ProQuest Legislative Insight that offers professionally researched legislative

histories, ProQuest International Datasets that contains aggregated datasets from national governments, international organizations, and research firms, and the Statistical Abstract of the World that is a statistics resource that contains the statistical abstracts of approximately 40 countries.

ProQuest also frequently adds new content and collections to existing products such as History Vault and the Digital National Security Archive. Recently, a collection called Law and Society since the Civil War: American Legal Manuscripts from the Harvard Law School Library was added to History Vault. These are the papers of Albert Levitt, Felix Frankfurter, Livingston Hall, Louis D. Brandeis, Richard H. Field, Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr., Roscoe Pound, the Sacco-Vanzetti Case, Sheldon Glueck, William H. Hastie, and Zechariah Chafee. The Digital National Security Archive (DNSA) also received a new collection: Mexico-United States Counter-narcotics Policy, 1969–2013. This collection focuses on counter-narcotics policy between the United States and Mexico—a topic of great relevance in current events at the moment.

The ProQuest Comprehensive package allows UW Libraries and the state of Wyoming to have access to a wealth of information, and it allows

Ann Patchett

Save-The-Date • April 22nd

Ann Patchett is UW Libraries' guest author for Spring 2014. Patchett is the author of six novels, *The Patron Saint of Liars*, *Taft*, *The Magician's Assistant*, *Bel Canto*, *Run*, and *State of Wonder*. She was the editor of *Best American Short Stories*, 2006, and has written three books of nonfiction, *Truth & Beauty*, about her friendship with the writer, Lucy Grealy, *What now?* an expansion of her graduation address at Sarah Lawrence College, and, most recently, *This is the Story of a Happy Marriage*, a collection of essays that examines the theme of commitment. Her books have been both New York Times Notable books and New York Times bestsellers.

Please save-the-date for April 22nd and more event information will become available online at www-lib.uwo.edu or follow us on Facebook for up-to-date information as it becomes available.



www.facebook.com/CoeLibrary

us to have this information as soon as it is released. The entire state of Wyoming automatically has access to cutting-edge research databases as soon as they become available while many major research libraries are still only discovering and trialling these products.

UW Libraries remains committed to supporting the information needs of not only UW students and faculty but also those of everyone in Wyoming. Whenever possible, UW Libraries speaks with vendors about statewide access to products we are considering, and we plan to continue our efforts to provide access to information resources on a wide variety of subjects.

GWLA Task Force Researches Student Learning and Engagement...

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Libraries is glad to be part of it. Three UW librarians attended a GWLA conference in Las Vegas in November where GWLA libraries presented their practices for assessing student learning. The conference concluded with a discussion of what research question the task force should tackle next. There is a great deal of interest in comparing student learning from online tutorials and guides to student learning in a classroom environment, as well as interest in collecting GPA information across several institutions to see if there is a positive correlation with library use.

UW Libraries Partners with the U.S. National Library of Medicine

By Jim Honour,
Wyoming/Member Services Coordinator, National Network of Libraries of Medicine

University of Wyoming Libraries has partnered with the world's largest medical library to bring biomedical information to Wyoming. The U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM) in Bethesda, Maryland, is located on the campus of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The NLM began in 1836 as the Library of the Office of the Surgeon General of the Army in Washington, D.C. and initially consisted of a meager collection of medical books on a shelf. After 178 years, the library now holds more than 17 million items in 150 languages and is actually one of the 27 institutes at the NIH. It also partners with many of the institutes

and other federal organizations with the aim to support the nation's health. Its information and research services offer support to those involved in clinical research, health care delivery, education, and public health and for consumers interested in having an active role in making their personal health decisions.

Through the Medical Library Assistance Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-291), Congress authorized the NLM to organize a system to improve the nation's medical library and health resources. That included the establishment of what is now known as the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM). The mission of the NN/LM is to

Important NLM Websites

The U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM)
www.nlm.nih.gov

National Network of Libraries of Medicine Members

<http://nmlm.gov/members>

National Network of Libraries of Medicine MidContinental Region (NN/LM)

<http://nmlm.gov/mcr>

National Network of Libraries of Medicine Mid-Continental Region Staff Members

<http://nmlm.gov/mcr/about/staff.html#wyoming>

Loansome Doc Portal

<https://docline.gov/loansome/login.cfm>



Jim Honour
UW Libraries
Wyoming/Member Services
Coordinator NN/LM Mid-
Continental Region

* (800) 338-7657
* Option 1-2-8
(307) 766-6537
jhonour@uwyo.edu

www-lib.uwyo.edu
<http://nmlm.gov/mcr>



advance the progress of medicine and to improve the public health by providing all U.S. health professionals with equal access to biomedical information and improving the public's access to information to enable them to make informed decisions about their health. The program is coordinated by the National Library of Medicine and carried out through a nationwide network of more than 5,600 member health science libraries, public/academic libraries, and information centers. The network is supported by Regional Medical Libraries (RML) in each of its eight regions with each operating under a contract from the NLM and each with NN/LM staff. Wyoming is one of the six states of MidContinental Region (MCR). The MCR's Regional Medical Library is the Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library at the University of Utah. University of Wyoming Libraries subcontracts with Eccles Library to support the NN/LM's mission in Wyoming. The MCR also has its staff distributed in each of the six states, with one staff librarian having an office at the University of Wyoming.

Lori Phillips, associate dean at University of Wyoming Libraries, shares some insights on this partnership. Wyoming has been a participant in the program for over a decade and Phillips sees the partnership as an important part of the outreach mission of the university. Citizen access to

information about medical issues and health care is critical, especially in a rural state like Wyoming. Having a designated position at the university serving as an expert in NLM products and services assures that Wyoming citizens benefit from that expertise.

UW Libraries is considered a resource library in the NN/LM, a role that is assigned to a limited number of libraries based upon the size of the collection and the size of the staff. Resource libraries are expected to serve the needs of network members within their state and also the region. Phillips meets quarterly with regional colleagues to discuss planning, budget, and strategic priorities. These meetings often highlight important services provided by the Regional Medical Library, including funding opportunities for Wyoming network members and continuing education and professional development opportunities for Wyoming librarians, healthcare professionals, and community-based organizations. Phillips sees UW Libraries participation in the NN/LM network as a critical partnership for the state: "Leveraging the collective knowledge and expertise of regional librarians improves the quality of service offered to Wyoming information consumers." Phillips also explains the importance of DOCLINE and Loansome Doc, which are two document-delivery services used by UW Libraries and the state. UW

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UW Libraries partners with the U.S. National Library of Medicine

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health sciences students, faculty, and Wyoming-unaffiliated health professionals have access to these two robust, free document-delivery services from the NLM.

DOCLINE is the automated interlibrary loan system UW Libraries staff members use to order articles in biomedical journals from health sciences libraries nationwide. Most staff and faculty aren't aware of this system, since they order articles through the *Request It* portal on the UW Libraries' website. However, once a request is received, the UW interlibrary loan staff may choose the DOCLINE system to find and order that article. This method is often a lot faster and more efficient for ordering biomedical literature than through other systems available to UW Libraries.

Loansome Doc (see page 8 for URL) may be used by Wyoming health professionals who don't have access to a medical library in their locality. Loansome Doc ties in to the DOCLINE system and sets up an ordering pathway for articles. Loansome Doc users can search to find the article needed and then order it from UW Libraries. All a Wyoming user needs to do initially is elect UW Libraries as their ordering library and be accepted as a client.

Of the NN/LM's more than 5,600

member libraries and information centers nationwide, Wyoming has 23 members including hospitals, college and universities, public libraries, and information centers. Membership is free and requirements can vary depending on the membership level. Most Wyoming members are affiliates. Affiliate Network membership is open to libraries or information resource centers providing health information services to its users but do not meet all the criteria of Full Network membership (i.e. DOCLINE users). Each Affiliate Network member is required to have at least one local contact from the network member institution to receive communiques from the NN/LM MCR. A Wyoming institution can join the NN/LM by visiting the MCR's web page (see page 8 for URL) and clicking on the *Join the Network* tab at the bottom. The visitor will be directed to more information about membership categories and also a link to fill out a brief web form. They may also contact the NN/LM Wyoming Coordinator.

Health professionals and the public are demanding current, authoritative, and reliable biomedical literature in the 21st century. UW Libraries and NLM are active partners in providing Wyoming access to this vital information.

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University Libraries

Department 3334

1000 E. University Avenue

Laramie, Wyoming 82071

