

University Authors' Publications Honored at Annual Reception

The Cheng Library held its 27th annual reception for University authors on April 19, 2016 in the University Commons. This yearly event acknowledges and celebrates the publications of William Paterson University's faculty and staff. It has evolved from a small gathering held in the Library to a large, widely recognized and well-attended event.

In recent years, the reception has become part of the University's Research and Scholarship Day activities. This year, the events developed and expanded into more than a week of activities and was renamed "Explorations 2016: Research, Scholarship and Creative Expression."

Dr. Edward Owusu-Ansah, Dean of Cheng Library, welcomed the faculty, staff and administrators to the reception. He was impressed with the depth of knowledge and academic expertise demonstrated in the abundant publications exhibited.

President Waldron noted the increase in the number and variety of publications. Provost Sandmann mentioned the breadth and quality of the publications and how they truly represented the areas of research, scholarship and creative expression at the University. "This is a testament to what you do," he stated. Provost Sandmann also commented on the many articles which were co-authored by faculty and students. He also recognized the Research and Scholarship Council of the Faculty Senate for organizing the events and presentations associated with "Explorations 2016."

In addition to the display of works at the reception, the library staff compiles and prints a bibliography of citations for all of the items displayed. This bibliography is produced as a booklet and includes citations for the books, journal articles, book chapters and other publications recently pub-



Brenda Marshall, Nursing Dept., Victoria Wagner, Cheng Library and Nhat Nguyen, Honors Student and Nursing major, authors of an article published in *Psychology and Neuroscience*.

lished by William Paterson University faculty and staff. This year the bibliography was larger than ever. Months before the event, announcements were posted, asking faculty to submit the citations of their publications. Information was also gathered from the deans of all five colleges to compile the list of 364 entries, nearly double the amount of the previous year.

The variety of publications was also noteworthy. Some faculty members published in both their 'official' area of expertise, as well as areas that they passionately pursue in their free time. For example, Dr. Raza Mir of the Marketing and Management Department published numerous journal articles and book chapters in his field and he also edited and translated a book of poetry.

Dr. Vince Parrillo of the Sociology Dept. published advanced editions of his textbooks, as well as a novel, *Defenders of Freedom*, a sequel to *Guardians of the Gate* published in 2013. Dr. Mathew Crick of the Communication Dept. wrote the book, *Power, Surveillance, and Culture in YouTube's Digital Sphere*, and he also produced, directed and edited the documentary film *Creature Feature: 60 Years of the Gill-Man*, about the classic genre movie "Creature From the Black Lagoon."

In addition to publishing in traditional formats, some faculty have embraced electronic-only publishing and these works appear exclusively online. One example of this growing trend is the essay co-authored by Prof. Lauren Razzore, Art Dept., "Mary Reid Kelley" that was included in an online art journal, *The Art Section*.

One of the articles to include a student as co-author was published in *Psychology and Neuroscience*. It was written by Prof. Brenda Marshall, Nursing Dept., Victoria Wagner, Cheng Library and Library liaison to the Nursing Dept. and Nhat Nguyen, an Honors Student and Nursing major.

The library staff plans to continue to support the growth of this event. We are happy to accept publications and/or citations of publications by faculty and staff at any time of the year for inclusion in the next bibliography. Many University authors also donate a copy of their book to the library. Works by University authors are housed in a special collection in the Library's Paterson Room.

The next annual Authors' Reception is scheduled to be held in April, 2017. Please contact Pamela Theus, Asst. Dir. for more information about the reception: by email at theusp@wpunj.edu or by phone at 973-720-2160.

Richard Kearney Receives Distinguished Service Award

Richard Kearney, Electronic Resources Librarian, received the Distinguished Service Award from the New Jersey Library Association's College and University Section. The award was presented at the luncheon for the NJLA College and University Section on May 18, 2016 as part of the New Jersey Library Association's Annual Conference held in Atlantic City, NJ.

Heather Dalal, Chair of the New Jersey Library Association's College and University Section, presented the award to Richard. This award is bestowed to honor someone whose contributions have enriched librarianship in higher education in New Jersey.

This award recognizes Richard's contributions in several capacities. Richard served as President of the NJLA College and University Section in 2008-2009. He has been a member of the VALE Electronic Resources Committee since 2005, and currently serves as Chair of the committee. He also served on the VALE Users' Conference Committee for fifteen years.



Richard Kearney receiving his award from Heather Dalal, Chair of the College and University Section of NJLA.

Since 2013, Richard has also served as one of the academic library representatives to the New Jersey Statewide Database Advisory Committee. Richard has also pursued an enthusiastic interest in promoting electronic resources and open access publishing.

He is resolute in locating and evaluating free electronic resources and is known throughout the state as a leader and advocate for both open access publishing and other educational issues.

Congratulations to Richard for this notable and well-deserved award!

Student Assistants Are Recognized at Annual Reception

At the Cheng Library's annual Student Assistant Recognition Reception, two students received the "Outstanding Student Assistant Award" for the 2016 academic year, and two additional students were recognized as graduating seniors.

The Periodicals Department presented one "Outstanding Student Assistant" award to Eleazar Segovia Gazul. Eleazar is a dual major in Accounting and Financial Planning with an anticipated graduation date of May, 2017. He has been working in the Periodicals Department since fall 2014, and he is noted for his motivation, punctuality, and pleasant personality.

The Lending Services Department presented an "Outstanding Student Assistant Award" to Kwame Gambah, a senior majoring in Marketing. Kwame has worked in the Cheng Library for the past six semesters. He majored in Marketing and graduated in May 2016.

Kwame was also recognized as a



Student assistants at the Recognition Reception (from left to right) Justin Minnella, Kaitlyn Lysaght, Amina Begum, Jackeline Reyes, Oluwatimilehin Adedokun, Nicole Listmeier, Katelynn Sirilan and Eleazar Segovia Gazul.

graduating student assistant along with two other students, Kaitlyn Lysaght and Nicole Listmeier. Kaitlyn is an English major who has worked at the Library for four semesters. Nicole, an Environmental Science major, has worked at the Library for two semes-

ters.

The Library staff extends a big "Thank You" to all of the students assistants who help in numerous ways throughout the Library.

Congratulations to Eleazar, Kwame, Kaitlyn, and Nicole!

We Thought You Might Want To Know

Thoughts from the Dean, Dr. Edward Owusu-Ansah

We thought you might want to know that Cheng Library has the third highest gate count in our eight-institution peer group. We thought you might want to know that we conduct more instructional sessions than all but one of our peers. And we thought you just might want to know what we are doing for you as you wonder what the answer might be to that quintessential question of whether or not you really need us anymore in this 'Age of Google.' We thought you might enjoy a little read about us and what we are doing to provide our users the information and knowledge they need to succeed academically and professionally, to support the University's mission, and be a valuable resource to our broader community.

Let's begin with a perspective that grounds all of what we do within a national and professional framework. The American Library Association's State of America's Libraries Report 2015 has this to say about libraries functioning within institutions of higher learning: "Academic libraries provide resources and services to support the learning, teaching, and research needs of students, faculty, and staff." The report also mentions an area of growing importance: library spaces and their reconstructions in response to institutional goals and user needs and preferences. These resources, services, and space considerations translate into concrete collections, collection related activities, instructional and other user services, and their enabling infrastructure. They allow the library to provide and enhance access and effective use of an increasing number of resources and dictate the nature, quality, and diversified use of library spaces.

Regarding the library's collection, the current 347,501 volumes housed in Cheng Library remained steady for over a decade. The introduction of a major e-book package in 2012 changed significantly the available volumes by instantly adding over 128,000 electronic titles to our collection, which has grown by an average of 2000 titles every year since. This transition and growing reliance on electronic books to expand the collection and provide access to more content continues as the conversion to digital formats and growing dependence on access to content rather than

ownership of materials presents libraries with new collection dynamics and opportunities. We are working diligently on expanding our e-book collections and providing more resources in electronic form. We are also expanding our archival collections and activities, embracing digitization of important institutional materials for posterity, and cultivating collaborations and consortia relationships that provide cost efficiencies and professional synergies.

Cheng librarians and staff also do more than build and expand collections. They provide critical services to help faculty and students navigate the information and knowledge the library provides access to. Our librarians fielded over 14,500 reference questions in fiscal year 2014/2015 and are exploring 24/7 virtual reference so that library users can reach a live librarian conveniently and at any time.

Our instructional librarians worked with faculty and students to improve student information literacy and research skills, and empower lifelong learning. They conducted more than 300 instructional sessions and more than 50 workshops toward that objective, reaching 70 percent of our undergraduate, 26 percent of our graduate, and 84 percent of our first year students. They explored innovative delivery methods, assessed effectiveness of their instructional activities to inform improvements for better outcomes. Textbooks are an important fixture of university life. However, cost and library funding has curtailed the library's ability to provide an extensive textbook collection for student use. So, to provide William Paterson University students with free access to textbooks the library has had to rely on copies submitted to it by WP faculty. We encourage classroom faculty to place print textbook copies on reserve to ensure a larger textbook collection to support our students. On the electronic side of things, there has been more success. Access to electronic reserve materials continues to grow. New submissions by faculty for electronic reserves increased by 50% in 2014/2015 over the previous fiscal year and searches on the E-Reserves homepage and access to its reserve documents were up an impressive 160%.

Actual use of library resources and services remains stellar. While circulation of print materials is down, overall circulation figures are up, likely due to use of e-books, streaming video, and reserve materials. Our gate count, a traditional measure of library/building usage, remains high at 405,732 in 2014/2015. The numbers have persistently stayed above 400,000 for the past 13 years, a testament to the importance of Cheng Library to its users. Demand for library study rooms remains high as demonstrated by use data. Plans are underway for increasing the number of study rooms. Laptops available in the library for loaning continue to be very popular, with their circulation reaching a total of 25,441 in 2014/2015, which represented a 158% increase over fiscal year 2013/2014. Each laptop circulated over 900 times.

There you have it in a nutshell; many of the focused ways in which your library provided vital resources and services and responded to institutional needs in the 2014/2015 year. That service continues with an ongoing attention to efficiency and effectiveness in the spirit of maintaining our relevance to your success and intellectual growth. To ensure that, the library conducts regular surveys and studies to gauge user interests, preferences, satisfaction. It communicates its findings, plans, services, and resources through the library webpage, its main portal, and periodically through its newsletter, Connections. Going forward, we hope to be able to improve our operational efficiencies, enhance our services and resources in response to university and community needs. We will strive to achieve better balance in our collections, continue to support faculty research, publication, and teaching. We will work diligently on improving user education to enhance student information literacy. We will redesign library spaces, improve communication with our user community, and provide more seamless access to our resources to better facilitate their anytime-anywhere use. These actions and aspirations are in line with the University's mission and aligned with Cheng Library's strategic goals. We look forward to achieving them with you.

Beth Ann Bates Receives CARES Award

Beth Ann Bates, Professional Services Specialist, received a CARES Award as part of the Staff Excellence Awards Program. This award acknowledged her careful and thorough management of the bibliography of University authors' publications.

Desyra Highsmith, Assoc. Dir. of Human Resources, presented the award to Beth Ann in the Library's Paterson Room on May 23, 2016.

Pamela Theus, Assist. Dir. for Resource Management, nominated Beth Ann for this award which is presented to employees "who demonstrate concern, resolve challenges, or establish strong connections with students and colleagues."

Beth Ann was primarily responsible for compiling the citations for all of the University authors' publications - 364 in all, and the largest number ever included in the bibliography. The citations were obtained directly from the authors and also from the annual reports of the deans of the five colleges. Each citation had to be verified for ac-



Desyra Highsmith, Assoc. Dir. of Human Resources, presenting the CARES award to Beth Ann Bates.

curacy. The bibliography was printed as a booklet and distributed to those attending the University Authors' Reception on April 19, 2016. It is also available in digital format on the Library's Web site.

Beth Ann also coordinated the activities associated with the Authors'

Reception. She informed all of the authors of the event via email and organized the display of the authors' publications arranged by college in the University Commons Ballroom.

Congratulations to Beth Ann for this recognition and for receiving this well-deserved award!

Extended Hours Repeated During the Spring Semester

The Cheng Library once again extended its hours during pre-exam and exam weeks of the spring semester. Following the highly successful launch of the Library's first experiment with a 24/7 schedule,

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the extended hours were repeated during the last two weeks of the spring semester. The 24/7 schedule began at noon on Sunday, May 1st and ended on the final day of exam week, Friday, May 13th at 4:30 p.m.

The data collected for the overnight hours indicated that the most popular time period is between midnight and 2:00 a.m., but many students could still be seen studying in the Library until dawn.

The extended hours service also includes coffee, drinks, and snacks made available in the Friends' Room. These refreshments proved to be extremely popular and were often depleted within one hour of delivery. The snacks were replenished at regular intervals during the day and evening.

The Cheng Library is committed to maintaining this popular service. Many students commented positively when told that the Library would not be closing overnight during these two weeks. The extended hours provide an opportunity for students to prepare and work intensively toward the completion of projects and to get ready for exams. The 24/7 schedule was first introduced to respond to students' requests for a late-night study area during this busy time of the semester. The extra time also aims to improve student success and retention.