Veterans Group Study Room

A newly refurbished space in the library, the Veterans Group Study Room is the result of a collaboration with Shawn Grove, director of UM's Veterans Education and Transition Services (VETS) Office and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. The library was identified as one of the most commonly used places on campus by student veterans and now has a designated veteran's study room within its walls.

The $10,000 grant to refurbish the study room provided the resources for study tables and task chairs, soft seating, task lighting, and a full complement of state-of-the-art equipment to serve the research and group study and meeting needs of these students. The grant funding is part of a statewide investment to improve veteran resources on campus in Montana.

Continuing the design themes that are part of each group study room, this room hosts the insignia of each branch of the military to further enhance the sense of place that student veterans seek as they shift from the military to the academy. The reservation system is designed so that veterans can request the username and password from the V.E.T.S office to reserve this room. If available, all UM patrons are welcome to reserve this space in 3-hour blocks for the current day at the Information Center. Thus, while use of the space gives priority to student veterans, all students, faculty and staff can benefit from this newly refurbished space. This has been an extraordinarily successful collaboration documented by the total number of reservations for the group study room—123 reservations from October through December, 2014, 87 (70.7%) of which were by student veterans.

“...The Mansfield Library is one of the most commonly used places on campus by student veterans...”

- Sue Samson

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Welcome Veterans  Mansfield Library  Room 504
Faculty Publications


Professor Kim Granath presented “The ‘No Book:’ Turning No into Yes at the Reference Desk” at the Quint MLA Chapter Meeting (a joint meeting of five chapters of the Medical Library Association) in Denver, CO in October 2014. Professor Granath also completed a three-year term as Chair-Elect, Chair, and Past-Chair of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Medical Library Association.


Associate Professor Julie Biando Edwards’s article “New Year, New Library!”, written with Kelley Rae Unger and Melissa S. Robinson, was the lead article on Public Libraries Online in mid-January 2015. The article was also published in the November/December issue of Public Libraries. Professor Edwards also has an article, “Diversity Plans for Academic Libraries: An Example from the University of Montana” forthcoming in Library Leadership & Management.
How do you use the Library in your curriculum building and teaching?

I teach an Honors scientific writing course for the College of Forestry and Conservation. Early in the semester, I have my students take a “tour” of the Library’s resources with Science Librarian Barry Brown. Barry shows them how to use the various databases, journal titles, book catalogues, and search engines. Once they are familiar with these, he gives them an exercise based on a topic they will have to write a research paper on later in the semester. They search for papers on this topic in reputable primary and secondary literature and come up with sources they can use. For instance, last year, the topic for the research paper was sexual reproduction in native mosses. I sent Barry a few relevant papers on the topic beforehand, and from these he designed a neat little exercise showing the students how to select appropriate search terms and how to use them to find other papers they could use. This class is always extremely useful to my students.

Do you require your students to use Library services and resources in their assignments?

Yes, in almost all the assignments, my students have to use the Library’s resources. I have three large written assignments, and two of them require that they search out information from primary sources. Most of this information comes from the scientific literature, but also from government documents and graduate theses. All these sources reside in the Library’s databases.

What do you hope your students learn by engaging in research and incorporating academic or primary source resources into their papers?

When students come to my course, many don’t know how to search efficiently for sources, how many search options they have, or how to evaluate sources once they find them. Yet, every career scientist must be familiar with the literature of his or her field and know how to use library resources to keep current. (The subscription costs of journals these days make it impossible for most scientists to have journals delivered to them individually.) By requiring all my students to learn how to search for, use, and cite the literature in their papers, I hope they learn essential skills about how to use a library’s resources. Thanks to Barry and the Mansfield Library, I believe they do.
New Faculty

Natalie Bond joined the faculty of the Mansfield Library as Adjunct Political Papers Archivist on December 1st, 2014.

Originally from Baltimore, Maryland, Natalie has spent the past 3 years living in the Bay Area of California. There, she was a Processing Archivist at UC Berkeley’s Bancroft Library, working on the Edmund (Pat) G. Brown Papers.

Previous work experience includes the Ugandan National Archives, the Bentley Historical Library, Smithsonian Folkways’ Ralph Rinzler Archives, and the Montana Heritage Commission.

Natalie received her B.A. from Northwestern University in History and American Studies, and her M.S.I. from the University of Michigan in Archives and Records Management.

Her (varied) research interests include post-WWII political and cultural media, the Northern Irish Troubles, and issues of social memory, particularly in relation to identity formation in developing countries.

New Reference Technician

Greg Kattell has been with the library for about five years. Just as he was finishing his undergraduate work in Communication Studies in 2010, he started working full time as a Circulation Supervisor. This January he has joined the Information & Research Services Division as a full time reference technician. He’s excited to work more closely with students and patrons in this position answering any questions they may have.

Greg has a broad background that includes being a program director at Camp Make- A- Dream for many summers, performing in several Missoula Community Theater shows, and even teaching hip hop dance classes at various local studios. He also is an avid reader and fan of comics and superheroes. He recently got engaged this last Christmas and is very excited to begin planning the wedding with his fiancée.
Ten Questions
Sue Samson

Tell us a little bit about your current position.

I am the Humanities Librarian & Library Instruction Coordinator. I work with the research and instruction needs of students and faculty in the humanities departments, and I collaborate with my library faculty colleagues to develop a strong information literacy curriculum.

What was your background before you became a librarian?

I have an undergraduate degree in English Literature and Education. I have a long history of working in libraries. Since receiving my graduate degree in Library and Information Science, I have been fortunate to work at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center Library in Maryland, the Missouri Department of Fish and Game Library in Columbia, the Alaska State Library in Juneau, and two academic libraries.

What would you be doing if you weren’t a librarian?

I may well have gone into dog training either with Gordon Setters or Great Pyrenees.

What do you think is the most important issue in librarianship today?

Open access to information. Publication models for both journals and monographs are changing dramatically. Faced with this rapid change, it is critical to make it possible for all citizens to get the information they need and to not have libraries priced out of the market.

What do you think is the most underrated service in the Mansfield Library?

Research assistance. Students and faculty can get a wide range of assistance with their research and writing projects. Those who do get assistance are eager to let us know how it helped them be successful in completing their assignments or projects.

Is there a library service that you could not live without?

The Popular Reading Collection. I am an avid reader and am constantly working with subject librarians to acquire books that can support this highly used collection.

What are you most proud of?

My reference colleagues. It has been extraordinarily rewarding to work with such vibrant, intelligent, and capable coworkers who are committed to assisting library users on our campus.

What are you reading/watching/listening to right now?

I am currently reading the new Jane Smiley novel, Some Luck. I selectively see as many movies as possible, and I am a news junkie.

What do you do to relax?

I have a sunny spot in my backyard for reading Joyce Carol Oates novels. Home & Garden TV is a gray day alternative.

Is there anything about you that others would be surprised to know?

I was the fastest runner in my age group in a city-wide competition in my hometown when I was 13.
Lincoln Exhibit

*Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*, a traveling exhibition organized by the American Library Association and the National Constitution Center, will be hosted by the Mansfield Library from January 21 through March 6, 2015. The exhibit examines how President Lincoln used the Constitution to confront three intertwined crises of the Civil War—the secession of southern states, slavery, and wartime civil liberties.

Lincoln is widely acknowledged as one of America's greatest presidents, but his historical reputation is contested. The exhibition encourages visitors to form a nuanced view of Lincoln by engaging them with Lincoln's struggle to reconcile his policy preferences with basic American ideals of liberty and equality. Visitors develop a more complete understanding of Abraham Lincoln as president and the Civil War as the nation's gravest constitutional crisis.

In conjunction with the display, Professor Diana Schaub will give a lecture on Lincoln's approach to slavery the evening of February 12, 2015, President Lincoln's birthday. Dr. Schaub is a Professor in the Political Science Department at Loyola University in Maryland. She has contributed to the *New Atlantis*, served on the President's Council on Bioethics, and is a member of the Hoover Institution Task Force on the Virtues of a Free Society. From 1994 to 1995 she was a postdoctoral fellow of the Program on Constitutional Government at Harvard University. More recently, she has written on President Lincoln's legacy.

This traveling exhibition is brought to UM by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities garnered by the Mansfield Library in collaboration with Rob Saldin, Director of the Project on American Democracy, and Tobin Miller Shearer, Director of the African-American Studies Program.
Professor Tobin Miller Shearer Presents Lecture for Black History Month

In honor of Black History Month, Tobin Miller Shearer, PhD, Associate Professor of History and Director of African-American Studies, will present Homing In: The Effects of WWI on Black Women and Men on February 26 from 6-7:30 in the Theta Rho Room, Mansfield Library.

The lecture is part of the Mansfield Library’s exhibit on African Americans in World War I.

The month of February 2015 will feature an exhibit on WWI African American Soldiers, Mansfield Library, Level 3.

Free and open to the public.
We Want to Hear From You: LibQUAL+® Library Services Survey

This spring the library will be administering the LibQUAL+® survey, developed by the Association of Research Libraries, to measure library service quality.

The library conducted the LibQUAL+® survey in 2003, 2006, and 2010 and made several improvements based on the results including increasing electronic resources, extending hours, and refurbishing study spaces.

The goals of LibQUAL+ are to:

- Foster a culture of excellence in providing library service.
- Help libraries better understand user perceptions of library service quality.
- Collect and interpret library user feedback systematically over time.
- Provide libraries with comparable assessment information from peer institutions.
- Identify best practices in library service.
- Enhance library staff members’ analytical skills for interpreting and acting on data.

The survey will run from February 23 – March 16.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Your survey responses will help us better understand your perceptions and expectations in order to provide the library services and resources that you need.
Mansfield Library Receives Institute of Museum and Library Services Grant

In September 2014 the library received a National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for almost $50,000 to develop a learning platform on the Irish Diaspora.

The Electronic Irish Research Experience (EIRE) is a digital humanities project that will serve as a national model for conveying the diaspora experience through primary source content and scholarly context. In this grant cycle, the EIRE project team will design a community- and learning-focused platform to convey the Irish American experience.

Planning activities will include solidifying target audiences, determining the scope and depth of content for inclusion in EIRE, identifying relevant content for focus group testing, and developing a small scale model or wireframe mockup. EIRE will establish and support collaborations between libraries, archives, universities, and academic programs internationally to identify and gather materials that build community and preserve cultural heritage. It will strengthen existing and create new communities of learners through content and context.

This project is particularly exciting given the close relationship between Irish Americans in Montana and the Irish in Western Ireland. Montana is an excellent focal point for EIRE because of its depth of regional primary source materials and strong local interest in Irish America. The close relationships between the Irish in America and in Ireland, relationships that persist to this day, make EIRE a valuable tool for bringing together materials currently scattered across the ocean and for providing them to interested scholars and learners on an international level.

EIRE project partners include the Mansfield Library, the Irish Studies Program at UM, the Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives, and University College-Cork in Ireland. An advisory board has been identified to help inform the development of EIRE and consultants in various areas of expertise have been identified to help plan development.
Missoula College Helps Students Get through Finals Week – With Cookies!

Libraries are always the best place to be during finals week, but the Mansfield Library at Missoula College has raised the bar the past few semesters. Joining forces with Missoula College’s renowned Culinary Arts department, we offer cookies and coffee for the first two days of finals week at our main campus and cookies on the first day of finals on our West Campus.

Students love the sweets and the caffeine as well as the quiet place to study and work and some have even credited us with making it through their tests!

Thanks to the Mansfield Library administration for helping fund this program for our students.

About Missoula College

Today, the variables that define career success are ever-changing. In order to get ahead and stay ahead you need the right kind of preparation.

Career-focused education teaches you the skills that employers demand. You need hands-on, practical experience with real-world applications. And you need the right kind of job placement assistance to get started in your new career.

The Missoula College can give you the education you need to reach your goals.

Missoula College
909 South Avenue West
Missoula MT 59801
Phone: (406) 243-7852

Missoula College Library
Phone: (406) 243-7820
Mansfield Library Diversity Committee Announces Student Art Competition

Currently enrolled UM students are eligible to submit proposals to create a piece of art with the theme diversity, depicting the word ‘library’ in the international languages for permanent display in the Missoula College Library. Interested students are welcome to creatively interpret this idea in the creation of their piece.

Site Responsiveness: Evidence of the artist’s ability to create artwork that addresses the physical and/or community context of its placement.

Artistic Excellence: Evidence of some or all of the following: mastery of skills & techniques, professional approaches to process & presentation, & /or communication of unique vision or perspective.

Creative Expression: Evidence of the artist’s ability to creatively interpret the commission guidelines to create a piece that is visually interesting and inspiring.

All eligible applicants need to submit a portfolio, with the above criteria.

Requirements for the final product:

The art must be 5’x7’ and weigh no more than 50lbs.

The depiction of the word library should focus on the non-English languages spoken by international students at UM – example, Japanese, Chinese, Arabic, Blackfeet, etc.

Submit application materials via our online form: Art Competition Form

Commission Timeline:

March 2, 2015 - Deadline for Submissions
March 9, 2015 - Committee will select artist
May 15, 2015 - Artwork completed & unveiled at the Missoula College Library

$750 prize & $450 towards materials purchased from UM Bookstore

Library faculty and staff will review and score each applicant’s portfolio based on the above criteria. The successful candidate will be selected via a competitive process to produce a piece that reflects the spirit of the library and of diversity. Students who submit applications may be asked to visit with the selection committee. A supply stipend will be presented to the chosen artist upon selection. The award will be presented to the chosen artist when the piece is completed.

Questions please contact Diversity Committee Chair, Julie Edwards at Julie Edwards Email or Tammy Ravas, Selection Committee Chair, at Tammy Ravas Email

Thank you for your interest in this exciting project!

Any submissions received after the deadline will not be considered.
SNMIPNUNTN
A Salish word meaning
~a place to learn,
a place to figure things out,
a place where reality is discovered~

Pronunciation:
sin-mee-pi-noon-tin

Thanks to Tachini Pete, Executive Director
of the Salish Language Institute in Arlee, MT, for the word and definition.
Salish Language School