We are close to the end of the third-year implementation of the Mansfield Library Strategic Plan, titled “Building the Future: UM Mansfield Library Strategic Plan 2014-2017.” Guided by the vision and mission of the plan, we have made marked progress through a series of improvements, updates, and new programs in support of UM students and faculty. The library faculty and staff also completed another busy academic year in 2017-2018 with outstanding efforts.

This year, the library’s Student-Centered Innovative Projects received five excellent proposals by library faculty and staff, which included citation analysis of UM graduate students’ theses and dissertations, student understanding of library jargon, Snapchat stories in the library with Spectacles, mapping oral histories of Montana, and implementing solid-state drives at the library. The library launched the Student-Centered Innovative Projects program in 2013, and it has been a great way to encourage all to engage in student-focused projects with innovative approaches.

In supporting UM’s research endeavors, the library completed a digitization project for all UM theses and dissertations published prior to 2007. These publications are online now via ScholarWorks, the UM’s online repository platform led by Professor Wendy Walker, and can be accessed by a worldwide audience. In addition, in early May this year, ScholarWorks reached a milestone of one million downloads. It is a significant accomplishment, and Professor Walker deserves recognition for her great efforts toward this goal. Now, researchers from all over the world use the research findings accomplished by UM faculty and students as they are posted to the online repository.

In leading the library’s assessment activities, Professor Kate Zoellner contributed writing on information literacy courses across disciplines, students’ learning outcomes, and experiences in using library collections and services to the final report of the University of Montana’s “Demonstration Project,” which was submitted to the Northwest Commission of Colleges and Universities.

Finally, after smooth implementation of a new library system in December 2016, Professor Jaci Wilkinson and her team have continued working on the enhancement of the discovery platform to enable user-friendly access to all library resources through the new system.

Looking forward, the library faculty and staff have been gearing up in preparation to welcome a new freshman class and the returning students in fall. They are busy processing acquired collections, designing instructional courses, upgrading technologies, preparing workshops and programs, and cleaning up study area furniture. The funding contributions from generous library donors have enabled us to do more for UM students and faculty in their teaching and research endeavors. The stories in this issue of “Connections” demonstrate the impact that you are helping to make. I am most grateful and a big “thanks” to you!

Shali Zhang

A Message from the Dean of Libraries
PARTNERING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Student-Centered Innovative Projects

Last fall, Mansfield Library faculty and staff submitted proposals for Student-Centered Innovative Projects (SCIP) to pursue during spring semester 2017. For the last three years, this program has been extremely successful in identifying needs of students, assessing how materials and resources are used, and creating interesting new avenues to use the library while prioritizing the student perspective. Each year, the projects proposed must be student-centered, innovative in nature, and include one or two measurable outcomes toward student success. Below are summaries of approved projects this year.

Citation Analysis of UM Graduate Student Theses and Dissertations

Coordinator: Professor Barry Brown

Professor Barry Brown defined this project as “a window into collection use by researchers” to examine theses and dissertations written by students who received research grants and determine the sources used for research. The project compares the actual use of sources with the availability of materials and further evaluates items used in relation to any changes in resource availability. The primary outcome of this evaluation is to advocate for a stable collection budget and maintenance of collections used for student scholarship.

Student Understanding of Library Jargon

Coordinators: Assistant Professor Adrienne Alger and Assistant Professor Jaci Wilkinson

Previous library studies have identified that there are some commonly used library terms that students do not fully understand, such as “interlibrary loan,” “course reserves,” and “liaison librarian,” among many others. To address this issue, Adrienne Alger and Jaci Wilkinson created a survey to determine which terms were difficult for students to decipher. Then, instructors will evaluate if those terms can be replaced or if they are integral to the department’s research and information literacy goals. This project will inform student-centered changes to the language on the Mansfield Library website, improve instruction at the library by using terminology that students can understand, and indicate to students that the library wants to involve them in creating the best possible resources and library experience for them.

Snapchat Stories in the Library with Spectacles

Coordinators: Assistant Professor Adrienne Alger and Assistant Professor Jaci Wilkinson

The company Snap, Inc., (formerly Snapchat), created a new form of wearable tech called Spectacles, a funky pair of sunglasses with two 115-degree video cameras embedded in the rims. The glasses record 10 seconds of video at a time with a simple tap and connect the videos directly to Snapchat.

Adrienne Alger and Jaci Wilkinson have found a way to connect with students through social media and engage in the video conversations already taking place online. They proposed to purchase two pairs of Spectacles for checkout, and launch the items through a “Snapchat Story in the Library” contest. For the contest, students can use the Spectacles to track their personal library experience and how they use the Mansfield Library. The story will then upload to a library social media account with oversight from a librarian. The project enables students to build community through social media with library users, staff, and resources, while expanding the ability of the library to meet students where they are in regards to technology and social media connectivity.

Mapping Oral Histories of Montana

Coordinator: Hannah Soukup, archives specialist

As Hannah Soukup developed an earlier SCIP to increase access to oral histories, it became apparent the mapping software used was difficult for students to navigate and use. This new proposal will fix those issues by identifying mapping software designed specifically for digital humanities projects while also creating a user-friendly tool for UM students. The tool will allow students to access oral histories by using a map of Montana to access clips categorized by location.

The primary goal of the project is to increase accessibility and usability of the Archives & Special Collections Department oral history collections and provide students with an interactive research experience. This project recognizes the innovative ways that students use research to access library sources, and may help make the availability of sources more visual and therefore easier to use.

Implementing Solid State Drives at Mansfield Library

Coordinator: Bon Phillips, technical support specialist

Library computers designated for student use have become slow to load applications and to boot up. This problem can deter students from using computers at the library, as it seems inefficient to wait for computers to load. Bon Phillips proposed this project to test and swap out the old hard drives for solid-state drives on some student computers on the third floor. The successful outcomes will inform the library’s decision on the changes on all student computers.

Solid-state drives have significantly better access speeds than regular hard drives –almost 100 times faster! The replacement would create a more reliable and faster computing environment for students at Mansfield Library to improve efficiency. Technological updates are critical to stay current and ensure that the library has the most useful tools for today’s students.
Sue Samson Brings Poetry-for-Lunch to Mansfield Library for 18 Years

In 2000, Professor Sue Samson had the idea to collaborate with the advanced poetry-writing workshop to celebrate undergraduate student creativity and National Poetry Month by creating Poetry-for-Lunch, a poetry-reading event at noon on the main floor of the library. This year, Poetry-for-Lunch held its 18th reading event at Mansfield Library in combination with the publication of the latest issue of “The Oval,” the undergraduate literary magazine. Samson is extremely pleased with how the events have unfolded over the years; she said it is one of her favorite events at the library.

The strategy of the event is to hold a poetry reading in a central location during a high traffic time at the library—the lunch hour—so that students will stop to listen as they walk in and out of the library. Samson said that even in its first year, the event was very successful. Since then it has consistently enjoyed a sit-down audience and many people lingering to listen.

Poetry-for-Lunch also combined with a table display of “The Oval,” at the reading event, because many students who were reading at the event also had their works published in “The Oval.” It has since been a wonderful annual literary event.

Samson said that the event is “quite celebratory,” and is an opportunity to advertise “The Oval,” provide undergraduates an opportunity to read in public, and to celebrate creative scholarship, poetry, undergraduate students, and National Poetry Month. Mansfield Library has been honored to sponsor the event in cooperation with the Creative Writing Program for these years.

UM Mansfield Library Now Offers Access to Academic Libraries Statewide

University of Montana students and faculty can now access the library holdings of 16 colleges and universities across the state through a single online search, following the Mansfield Library’s successful migration to a new library system, Alma, in December 2016. The new system is designed to not only support print materials, but also the majority of digital materials and other types of resources the library purchases.

“This next-generation system presents a single location for users to discover both print and electronic materials with a simple, clear search interface,” said John Greer, the Mansfield Library’s Head of Technology and Systems. “The UM users are now able to request materials owned by any participating library with just a few clicks and can search the full text of thousands of electronic materials right from the Mansfield Library homepage.”

Starting last May, Greer led the major system implementation among academic libraries statewide. The implementation teams, with members from all participating libraries, wrapped up the process of data comparison, cleanups, data testing, system reconfiguration and migration. During winter break, library faculty and staff tested and navigated through the migrated data to ensure the system was ready for full use by UM faculty and students for spring semester. The library has used multiple venues to communicate the changes and new features of the system to ensure a smooth transition.
UM International Students Visit the Library’s One Button Studio

In fall semester each year, the library hosts a welcome meeting for the UN Council members, a group of the presidents of international student associations at UM. This year, the group of student presidents toured the library, visited the major service points, and had the opportunity to hear about library services, collections, and programs at the meeting. Most of UM’s international students live on campus. They find that the library is the best place (and quieter than their dorms) to study. They also discover that there are many other helpful services, such as 3D printing, video/audio editing stations, and the One Button Studio for video productions, at their disposal.

"Another thing I really envy about UM’s students is that they have a very comfortable environment to study. You don’t need to worry about not finding seats before the final exam. When you are tired, you can lean on the sofa—what an amazing library it is!"

https://susienvironmental.wordpress.com/

Internship at the Mansfield Library

“What do librarians do, anyway? How do you become a librarian?” While teaching students at UM, Professor Megan Stark regularly received these questions and had the increasing sense that students were interested in the career of librarianship. There is not a Master’s in Library Science (MLIS) Program in the region (Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, North Dakota, and South Dakota). Therefore, students may not be fully aware of the opportunities and benefits of this career. In 2013, Professor Stark created an internship (Careers in Academic Librarianship) for students interested getting a library experience on their academic transcript. Since then Professor Stark has mentored several students through the program. Nearly all the interns have been successfully accepted into master’s programs in library and information sciences or plan to enroll soon. Professor Stark has been contacted about this model by librarians on other campuses trying to implement a similar program.

2017 Humphrey Fellows at the University of Montana

Each year, the University of Montana hosts a group of Humphrey Fellows from March to August. The library offers an introduction session upon their arrival to connect them with library resources and subject library liaisons. Toward the end of their studies and before they head to other universities for further studies in their respective fields, the Fellows give presentations to the entire library staff on their countries, cultures, and their work. This kind of interaction gives the opportunity to all library personnel to learn from professionals from across the globe. This year, the Humphrey Fellows are from Colombia, Chile, Iran, Georgia, Cuba, Turkey, China, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Cameroon, according to Professor Julie Edwards who organizes the library sessions each year.

The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program brings young and mid-career professionals from designated countries to the United States for a year of non-degree graduate-level study, leadership development, and professional collaboration with U.S. counterparts. The UM English Language Institute serves as one of only two long-term English programs in the United States to assist Fellows with their transition to the United States and the English language.
Dean Zhang at the Southwest University of Political Science & Law (SWUPL)

In April 2017, upon the invitation from the Southwest University of Political Science & Law (SWUPL), a UM partnership university in China, the Mansfield Library Dean Shali Zhang visited the university. Dean Zhang had a series of meetings with the Vice President of SWUPL Yuan Yongxin, International Programs Director Guo Meisong, and the Program Officer Ju Liya, on the topics of exchanges between SWUPL and UM. Dean Zhang, in coordination with administrators, also explored the opportunity to host SWUPL students at UM. Students from SWUPL are interested in spending one or two semesters at UM and focusing on such programs as English, journalism, economics and business management, political sciences, law, etc. In addition, Dean Zhang visited the SWUPL Library and introduced the services and programs of the Mansfield Library to the librarians there.

SWUPL and UM established the Confucius Institute in 2009 and have engaged in numerous programs and exchanges since. The Confucius Institute is part of an international network of Confucius Institutes dedicated to providing education, public programming, and teacher training on Chinese language, history, culture, and current affairs.

The Mansfield Library Hosts a Visiting Librarian in Spring 2017

In February 2017, Professor Yijing Fan, Associate Director at the Guangdong Ocean University Library in China, arrived in Missoula, Montana. While Professor Fan was from a warm, coastal place in the southern part of China, she immediately liked everything in Missoula—the puffy snow, clean air, dry climate, and most importantly, the friendly people in this college town.

During her six-month visit at the Mansfield Library, Professor Fan engaged in research to understand library development, planning, organization structures, management concepts, management methods, and reader services. She met with library faculty and staff to learn the workflows and library policies and procedures. She observed several information literacy classes to learn various teaching methods, and she researched the library’s subject and reference services programs. In June, Professor Fan gave a public presentation and introduced the cultures and foods from her home city in Zhanjiang, Guangdong Province, her university, and the library where she works. She also offered her comparisons on library services and operations between the Mansfield Library and the Guangdong Ocean University Library:

“...In America, librarians’ professional admittance system ensures that the work is the librarian’s professional choice, and this basically determines their work attitude. I observed that every librarian loves his/her work from his/her deep heart, and every librarian concentrates on the work he/she does in the Mansfield library. I am moved by this professionalism.

The practice of information literacy education in Mansfield library has given me a specific understanding of the meaning of information literacy, including educational goals. After I return to China, I will draw on the experience and practice of Mansfield library, redesign the educational programs for information literacy, and integrate the courses into specialized educational programs so as to ensure the pertinence and continuity of information literacy education.”

The library staff will miss you, Yijing, when you return to China.

Professor Roy Lectures at the Mansfield Library

There is increasing attention given to diversity within libraries both as work settings and in the collections and other services they provide to user communities. In her lecture at the Mansfield Library on May 18, 2017, Professor Loriene Roy, from the University of Texas at Austin, discussed the protocol and resources available for libraries to develop, sustain, and refine services for and with American Indian patrons. Professor Roy is of Anishinabe heritage, enrolled on the White Earth Reservation (Pembina Band), and a member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. She served as the 2007-2008 President of the American Library Association. Currently, she is a member of the Library of Congress Literacy Awards Advisory Board. The library faculty, staff, and librarians from the area attended the lecture and enjoyed engaging discussions with Professor Roy.
UM ScholarWorks Reaches One Million Downloads

ScholarWorks, the University of Montana’s online scholarly repository, achieved the notable milestone of one million downloads in May this year. This means that users throughout Montana, the United States, and around the world have collectively downloaded one million journal articles, dissertations, graduate and undergraduate theses, conference papers and presentations, creative works, datasets, oral histories, special collections documents, manuscripts and more from this online platform since fall 2013.

“These works represent the outstanding research and creative scholarship produced and curated by University of Montana faculty, students and staff,” said Professor Wendy Walker, digital initiatives librarian at the library.

Managed by the Mansfield Library, ScholarWorks includes more than 29,300 items, most of which include open access to searchable full text. Because items in ScholarWorks are highly discoverable through Google and other search engines, the repository has significant international reach and expands the impact of UM’s scholarship around the globe.

While graduate student theses and dissertations top the list of most downloaded collections in the repository, UM faculty and undergraduate students’ work are well represented in the top 10 lists. In particular, publications from biological sciences faculty, wildlife biology researchers, and UM’s Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research are frequently searched and downloaded. Other top downloads include articles from “The Mathematics Enthusiast” journal, edited by UM faculty, undergraduate theses, and presentations and posters from the UM Conference on Undergraduate Research, according to Professor Walker.

ETD Digitization Project

The Mansfield Library recently completed the five-year project to digitize all pre-2007 University of Montana theses and dissertations. Therefore, UM graduate student theses, dissertations, and professional papers published from 1899 to the present are now available in ScholarWorks (http://scholarworks.umt.edu/etd), an open access repository service showcasing and preserving published and unpublished works by UM faculty, students, and staff. This digitization project helps to preserve published research and makes theses and dissertations easily discoverable via Google, ScholarWorks, and Primo. Graduate students can retain the copyright to their work and choose to restrict access to it for future publication opportunities.

One UM Alumni, upon seeing his digitized 1980 thesis, sent the following comment to a librarian, “Thank you so much for all your efforts. It is truly appreciated!” The library is excited to highlight unique and high quality UM graduate student research and creative scholarship publications and provide greater access for scholars around the world.
DYNAMIC LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Missoula College Moves to New Building
The new River Campus of Missoula College opened July 3, 2017 and will welcome new students this fall. The Mansfield Library at Missoula College has moved as well. After UM Commencement, the push began to move from the old campus to the new building. For the library, that meant packing up the entire collection and moving the shelving and books to the new library space. Mansfield Library employees volunteered to help in any way they could, and they managed to get all of the books and DVDs packed up in one day – in 323 boxes! The new set-up was completed by July 3, and the library is now up and running.

Library Demonstrates 3D Technology
This year, the Mansfield Library was invited to participate in the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) Lounge event as part of the Montana Science Fair. According to Glenn Kneebone, the library’s Paw Print Manager, approximately 600 Montana students along with judges, parents, teachers, and guests were in attendance. The library’s participation in this event with the actual 3D printers on site marked the first time that many of the young attendees were able to feel and see 3D printing technology first-hand. It also sparked conversations and interest in the fact that this kind of technology is a valuable learning tool. The presence of the 3D printers, models, and materials used for printing, in addition to conversations with library staff (Greg Kattell and Glenn Kneebone) at the fair, has furthered the message that the library offers so much more than just books.
A New Perspective – Virtual Reality Available at the Library

In keeping with the library’s recent record of innovation, the Mansfield Library will introduce a Virtualization Room to the campus community. The space consists of a powerful computer, a specialized monitor, and a virtual reality headset.

Virtual reality and immersive display technologies are being integrated into academic libraries across the country. This technology has broad implementation potential and is being explored in the arts, sciences, health and other fields. This innovative and exciting technology will serve as a way for UM students, faculty, and staff to explore new perspectives and use new learning techniques.

The new Virtualization Room will be launched in fall 2017. All UM students, faculty, and staff will be able to reserve the room in advance through the library’s online reservation system and use the equipment for up to three hours for each reservation.

“Library Accessibility” was added to the Library Website

The library’s Diversity Committee, chaired by Professor Julie Edwards, completed the development of the accessibility policy that provides, whenever possible, universal access enabling all library users to study and work independently. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to take advantage of the services and to make individualized arrangements with the library for assistance with their independent research or for participating in any of the library’s events and programs.

According to Professor Theresa Keenan, the library’s liaison with the UM’s Disability Services for Students, the library will make every effort possible to meet modification requests in a timely manner.

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities Visits UM

In May 2017, the team from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) visited the UM campus and held a series of events in reviewing the “UM Demonstration Project,” led by Dr. Nathan Lindsay, Associate Provost for Dynamic Learning. Only four institutions within the Commission were selected for the project. Associate Professor Kate Zoellner, assessment coordinator at the Mansfield Library, helped contribute needed materials from the library to complete this report. Here are just a few examples from the Report:

- The Mansfield Library provides critical academic support for all of our general education offerings. The central mission of library instruction is to create information literate students. Information literacy provides a foundation for life-long learning, the ultimate goal of education, and is common to all disciplines, learning environments, and levels of education. As information professionals, librarians are uniquely positioned to guide the process of integrating information literacy within the university curriculum and to ensure that students are prepared to address local and global issues and to make a difference in the cultural and economic fabric of Montana and the world.

- The Mansfield Library conducts extensive assessment of the information literacy of UM students. Information literacy learning outcomes have been mapped for 100, 200, 300, and 400 level courses. Assessment methods have included an analysis of NSSE findings related to information literacy, as well as “LibQual” findings, course evaluations, student evaluations, and a study on eResource use and student attainment.

- The Mansfield Library personnel collect data on students as described earlier in order to measure learning outcomes, identify students’ perceptions of library instruction and services, and document students’ information use behaviors and experiences.
**News**

**Professor Sue Samson announces her retirement**

Professor Sue Samson has announced her retirement, effective on June 30, 2017.

Professor Samson started at the Mansfield Library in 1991. She has been an outstanding faculty, a prolific scholar, and has an extensive record of service at the library, UM, and for the library profession at the state and national levels. Professor Samson was the Library Instruction Coordinator and Humanities Librarian throughout her tenure at UM. She provided an outstanding leadership role in designing and developing an information literacy instruction program and curriculum. The success of this instruction program received recognition from librarians across the country.

Professor Samson engaged numerous collaborative projects with other campus units, including an annual Poetry-for-Lunch reading event for 18 consecutive years that integrated the launch of the “Oval,” a publication of undergraduate creative writing, and spotlighted the creative works of hundreds of students. Professor Samson received grants to create the Poetry Corner in the library, a room designed for quiet study and containing the collections of poetry books from the Montana poets, and a group study room for student veterans designed for both quiet and groups study - with high quality electronics.

Professor Samson’s scholarly records are outstanding and influential in the library profession, with focuses on the assessment of information literacy instruction and library outreach to student groups. Her research manuscripts were published widely in peer-reviewed publications.

Professor Samson’s accomplishments were recognized by numerous awards at UM and beyond. The Mansfield Library wishes her the best in her new endeavors.

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**Exhibits**

**Women’s History Month**

In honor of Women’s History Month in March, Archives & Special Collections at the Mansfield Library presented an exhibit of Montana women’s diaries, letters, interviews and drafts of published and unpublished works.

This exhibit, “Women’s Words, Writings and Reminiscences,” was on display March 6 through July 7.

The library, in conjunction with UM’s Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program (WGSS), also hosted an opening event for the exhibit that was free and open to the public. The event featured a viewing of the exhibit, an exclusive tour of additional Montana women’s writings and reminiscences not included in the exhibit, and presentations about female writers by Caroline Patterson and Elizabeth Hubble. Patterson is the editor of the anthology “Montana Women Writers: A Geography of the Heart” and the director of the Missoula Writing Collaborative. Hubble is the director of the UM WGSS Program and an adjunct assistant professor of women’s studies.

**Cosplay Culture: Performing Identity**

This exhibit was dedicated to Cosplay and the technical, physical and artistic endeavors that shape it. The exhibit and related lecture explored what it means to Cosplay, how to start, and different interpretations of character that lead to fun and creative Cosplays.
Awards

Irene Evers Award for Outstanding Staff Member

Mark Fritch, the archives photo specialist in the Mansfield Library’s Archives & Special Collections, was this year’s recipient of the Irene Evers Award for Outstanding staff member.

Irene Evers was an admired employee of the library who did much to enhance the work environment. To honor Irene, the library established the Irene Evers Award to recognize the staff member who best reflects the qualities that made Irene such an exceptional part of the library.

Mark’s nominator wrote, “Mark is always willing and ready to take on a new project or lend a hand to a colleague. He can be counted on to lead or help out with any type of project from photo research to shifting archival boxes to helping mount exhibits, covering a desk shift at the last minute, or prioritizing a researcher’s rush request to meet a publisher’s deadline. Mark’s positive attitude is a defining characteristic. His interactions with patrons are exemplary. He is patient with new students and researchers alike, dedicated to assisting the research process, displaying the ultimate example of outstanding customer service at all times. He has the ability to maintain his composure and calm during times of stress, change and upheaval.”

Congratulations Mark!

Shali Zhang Receives Recognition

At the 2017 American Library Association’s (ALA) Annual Conference, held in June 2017 in Chicago, the ALA’s International Relations Round Table (IRRT) presented a citation to Dr. Shali Zhang as a “Notable IRRT Member.” The program recognizes active IRRT members who have made substantial contributions to ALA’s core values on the international scale. Dr. Zhang is the 26th Notable IRRT Member to be accepted into this program. IRRT is one of largest roundtables within ALA and has over 1,800 members in the U.S. and around the world.

2016 Joseph H. and Ruth M. FitzGerald Library Scholarship Recipients

Student employees Ashley Olsen and Amber Richter were recipients of the 2016 Joseph H. and Ruth M. FitzGerald Library Scholarship. Recipients are chosen based on their reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism, and/or uniqueness of contribution as a library employee.

Congratulations Ashley and Amber!

Student Employee Appreciation Week, April 9-15.

Student Employees at the Mansfield Library were recognized for their important contributions to the library’s mission. The library values their commitment and enthusiasm for their jobs.
The Mansfield Library is grateful for the support of our donors. Their generous contributions enabled the library to provide the resources required to help UM students achieve success in their academic pursuits.

Thank you!

UM Alum Thanks the Mansfield Library

The following letter demonstrates the significant influence the Mansfield Library has on student success at UM.

“Before I discovered the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library, I struggled finding my place in academia and wondered if college was right for me given my poor grades and lack of interest. The library is a place I found where one could fully immerse oneself into the cosmos of curiosity – from pouring over the K. Ross Toole Archives, discussing project ideas with librarians, troubleshooting IT issues with the front desk, or even enjoying the quiet peace on Level Five. Thanks to the support from the library, I raised my GPA almost an entire point and graduated with double-majors, a minor, and with Honors. Now I get to work at a non-profit law firm managing technology development and community outreach, no doubt due in part to my strong academic experience. The library is so much more than just a building; it’s a resource to help you reach your greater potential.”

Alex Clark
Community Outreach Assistant for the Montana Legal Services Association