

# Pennsylvania Libraries: *Research & Practice*

News

## Noteworthy

*News Briefs from PA Libraries*

Annie Jansen

*Annie Jansen is a Reference & Instruction Librarian Penn State Brandywine, [amj53@psu.edu](mailto:amj53@psu.edu)*

### University of Pittsburgh Library System Renovates Archives & Special Collections Space in Hillman Library



*The University of Pittsburgh's Hillman Library features a newly renovated Archives & Special Collections Department, including a 20-foot long, 5-foot high digital interactive wall to enhance the physical exhibits in the department. (Photo by Justin Pastrick, University of Pittsburgh Library System)*

Pittsburgh, PA — As part of a multi-year renovation of the University of Pittsburgh's Hillman Library, the Archives & Special Collections Department within the University of Pittsburgh Library System (ULS) has undergone a major renovation. The new space, located on Hillman Library's third floor, includes an exhibition gallery, digital interactive wall, expanded reading room, and a technology-equipped classroom for instruction and public programming.

Visitors to the floor will currently view materials from Archives & Special Collections, Center for American Music, Theodore M. Finney Music Library, East Asian Library, and Frick Fine Arts Library. To

enhance and expand the physical exhibits, a 20-foot long, 5-foot high digital interactive wall was developed with the New York-based company Potion, Inc. It brings a selection of materials traditionally included in physical exhibits to life and can feature up to six unique

digital exhibits. Visitors can explore archival material, maps, rare books, photographs, videos, audio recordings, and 3-D objects. This currently includes a timeline of the construction of one of the University's most iconic buildings - the Cathedral of Learning.

The instruction room offers a place for in-person and virtual instruction sessions that focus on the use of distinctive and unique collections, while remaining flexible to accommodate future group collaboration, presentations, performances, and more. It includes a high-resolution document camera, which allows an instructor to project images of books, notes, or archival materials for viewers in the room or online.

In addition to added study spaces on the floor, the new Text & conText Lab offers programming on typography, printing, and bookbinding techniques. In this partnership between the University's Center 4 Creativity and the ULS, activities will complement examples of bookbinding and printing in the archival holdings.

*Submitted by Megan Massanelli, The University of Pittsburgh Library System*

## Zanin-Yost Receives Medical Library Association Award for Professional Excellence in the Health Sciences

Slippery Rock, PA— Alessia Zanin-Yost, Health Sciences and Instruction Librarian at Slippery Rock State University, has received the Award for Professional Excellence in the Health Sciences by the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association.

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association (MAC- MLA) is an organization of health sciences librarians and other information professionals serving the District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, Western Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

This award is presented to a MAC member of MLA for outstanding contributions in health sciences librarianship.

Recipients of the award demonstrate the following:

- leadership in the profession
- scholarship/publications/research
- teaching/training/mentoring
- professional activity
- service to the health profession
- development of special projects

The award will be presented at the 2020 MAC conference in October.

As a member of the annual Planning Committee, Zanin-Yost facilitated poster sessions for the MAC-MLA Conference. Alessia is an outstanding representative of MAC. She is passionate about all aspects of health sciences librarianship and looks forward to collaborating with members and colleagues at the MAC-MLA conference held virtually, October 19-21.

*Submitted by Allison Brungard, Slippery Rock University*



*Alessia Zanin-Yost, Health Science and Instruction Librarian at Slippery Rock State University, received the Award for Professional Excellence in the Health Sciences from the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Library Association (Photo courtesy of Slippery Rock State University Library)*

## University of Scranton Celebrates Faculty Accomplishments



*The University of Scranton Library faculty and staff gathered to celebrate at Dean of the Library and Information Fluency Charles Kratz's retirement party in December 2019. (Photo courtesy of The University of Scranton)*

Charles Kratz retired in December 2019. Dean Kratz is greatly missed by the Library faculty and the University community. Jean Lenville currently serves as Interim Dean of the Library. In February 2019, Sheli Pratt-McHugh became the Assistant Dean of the Library.

George Aulizio and Colleen Farry were both selected to the inaugural class of Slattery Humanities Fellows. Each will spend one semester working on a project of significance to the Humanities.

Ian O'Hara developed a research guide on Race, Racism, & Anti-Racism Resources, which has gained important recognition by the local community.

Kelly Banyas was elected to serve as Secretary of the College & Research Division of the Pennsylvania Library Association.

Marleen Cloutier was elected to serve as Chair of the Northeast Chapter of the Pennsylvania Library Association.

Frank Conserette was elected to serve as Secretary/Treasurer of the Northeast Chapter of the Pennsylvania Library Association.

Donna Witek was elected to the 2-year office of Member-at-Large on the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Instruction Section Executive Committee (will serve 2020-2022).

Narda Tafuri was awarded the Provost's award for University Service and Leadership. Narda is retiring at the end of December 2020 after a distinguished career. Sylvia Orner will become Assistant Professor and the Collection & Resource Management Librarian in November 2020.

Additional faculty accomplishments and publications can be found in faculty CVs, accessible here: <https://www.scranton.edu/academics/wml/directory/faculty.shtml>.

*Submitted by George Aulizio, University of Scranton*

## Lehigh University Libraries Successfully Migrate to FOLIO

Bethlehem, PA — On August 17<sup>th</sup>, the Lehigh Libraries migrated from the Kuali OLE (Open Library Environment) to the open source library platform, FOLIO (The Future of Libraries is Open). This migration was completed in time for the fall semester and faculty, students and staff did not experience any interruption to library services. The library staff already see some benefits in terms of the nice user interface and some easier workflows. The faculty, staff and students did not notice much of a change since Lehigh connected the same discovery layer, VuFind, to FOLIO and the same user services remained in place such as requests.

The Lehigh Libraries are now well-positioned to participate in Project ReShare and to fully automate Lehigh's electronic resources management workflows. Lehigh was one of the first universities that went live with the FOLIO Goldenrod release and is helping to identify software bugs and continuing to help with the development of the system. The system is hosted in the cloud by Index Data for Lehigh. The teams at the Lehigh Libraries look forward to new releases and upgrades in FOLIO and the new opportunities to integrate with other systems and collect library data into the data platform. Congratulations to the Lehigh implementation team that took the risk to migrate to a new system during a pandemic.



*Migration celebration for The Lehigh Libraries after successfully moving from OLE to FOLIO on August 17, 2020. (Image by Diana Toolan, Lending Services Assistant, Lehigh University Libraries)*

*Submitted by Sharon Wiles-Young, Lehigh University*

## Civic Literacy, Voting, & Captive Audience Library Outreach at Shippensburg University's Ezra Lehman Library



*Ship Votes is a non-partisan voter education coalition promoting civic engagement (Logo courtesy of Shippensburg University's Communication and Marketing Office)*

Shippensburg, PA — Faculty from the Ezra Lehman Library joined the leadership of Shippensburg University's non-partisan voter education coalition, Ship Votes, this fall semester. A natural partner in promoting civic engagement and civil literacy, the library made voter education a priority in its outreach efforts. In collaboration with campus offices including Multicultural Student Affairs, First Year Experience, and the Athletic Department, Ship Votes and the library hosted numerous virtual voter education programs, seeing more than 500 students participate over a span of a month. Library faculty were also co-authors on a \$10,000 grant that Ship Votes secured from the national non-partisan organization, Students Learn Students Vote, to promote and enhance voter education programs around campus.

*Submitted by Eyoel Delessa, Shippensburg University*

## Pennsylvania College of Technology Librarian Honored for Leadership in Statewide Initiative

Williamsport, PA — The assistant director of library services for Pennsylvania College of Technology's Madigan Library, the first academic library in the Commonwealth to reach top-of-the-line Gold Star status in the PA Forward Star Library program, is among three recent recipients of a Certificate of Merit from the Pennsylvania Library Association. Joann L. Eichenlaub, a director-at-large for the state association's Board of Directors since 2017, spearheaded Penn College's pilot involvement in the Star program, which spotlights the crucial role that libraries play in their communities.

Through the guidance of the honoree and her co-workers, Madigan Library offers a variety of activities – from therapy dogs during Finals Week to informational displays, from vintage automobiles to gallery exhibits – that reflect PA Forward's five foundational tenets: basic literacy, information literacy, civic and social literacy, health literacy, and financial literacy.

"Joann's enthusiasm for libraries at the forefront of literacy education has been tireless. She's an inspiration, not only for the students, faculty and staff at the Madigan Library, but for library users and personnel throughout Pennsylvania," said Tracey Amey, library director. "This award recognizes Joann's dedication to all Pennsylvania residents' lifelong learning."

Eichenlaub was acknowledged Sept. 24 during an online ceremony led by Carrie Sturgill, co-chair of PaLA's awards committee and head of youth services at Radnor Memorial Library. "As an attendee at the 2015 Pennsylvania Library Association's Academy of Leadership Studies, Joann was a key member of the project to design the integration of the PA Forward initiative into public library programming and services and, concurrently, to recognize libraries for their commitment and involvement," Sturgill read from the citation.

"The cohort worked with 19 libraries, helping 10 of them achieve Gold Star status. After the initial success of the pilot program, Joann and members of the PALS group joined the PA Forward Training Team, which readied the program for statewide launch." In 2018, the team identified the need to extend PA Forward into academic and school libraries, and Eichenlaub was able to use Madigan Library to demonstrate how the program would fit the structures of academia.

"Upon completion of the pilot program," Sturgill continued, "she worked tirelessly to help other university, college, special and school libraries achieve the same success and communicate the importance of this initiative for the sustainability of Pennsylvania libraries in the future." Eichenlaub has gone on to chair the PA Forward Steering Committee and is helping the PA Forward and Star programs adapt to the changing landscape of library services during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond.

"The Pennsylvania Library Association is able to do what we do thanks to the unwavering efforts of our volunteers and our members," said Christi Buker, executive director. "These awards are just our small way of shining a light on what all librarians, library staffs and our volunteers do to continue promoting the value libraries bring to communities they serve. We are thankful for their support and engagement and are honored to be able to recognize their efforts."



*Joann L. Eichenlaub, assistant director of library services for Pennsylvania College of Technology's Madigan Library (Photo courtesy of Pennsylvania College of Technology)*

*Courtesy of Pennsylvania College of Technology*

## The Bethlehem Area Public Library Presents “The Black Bethlehem Project”

Bethlehem, PA — The Bethlehem Area Public Library (BAPL) is thrilled to share the Black Bethlehem Project with the community – a first-of-its kind historical study of the Black experience in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

The Black Bethlehem Project was funded through the Lehigh Valley Engaged Humanities Consortium (LVEHC), a grant initiative generously sponsored by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The LVEHC Digital Archive is hosted by Lafayette College Libraries. The Black Bethlehem Project was spearheaded by BAPL’s Rayah Levy, with support from collaborators Sholomo Levy and Matthew Rothfuss.

“I am so thankful a vision has become a reality, and that Bethlehem’s Black community placed their trust and confidence in me to have their voices and stories heard,” says Rayah Levy. “To see it come to life after a year of planning, remaining steadfast. Seeing it come to fruition during a tumultuous time of racial divide and continued systemic racism, in which one must now protest that ‘Black Lives Matter,’ gives such a sense of accomplishment. It’s a contribution and a reminder to American history that Black voices need to be heard. Additionally, my hope is that the Bethlehem community takes the time to listen, learn, and write about a small and deep-rooted African-American village that continues to thrive no matter the obstacles.”

The collection focuses on the Black experience in Bethlehem from the mid-twentieth century to the present, using the oral histories of those who lived it to tell their own stories. Visitors to the site can read transcribed interviews or listen to recordings of these fascinating individuals. Additional photographs and other historical documents will be added to the project as it continues to grow.

The nineteen initial interviewees are teachers and chess players and golfers, entrepreneurs and leaders, and include the legendary Mrs. Esther Lee, president of the Bethlehem NAACP; Robin Hemmons Alozie, Liberty High School special education teacher (whose father, Alfred Hemmons, was the first Black admitted to the Lehigh County Bar Association); Clyde Bosket, owner of six barbershops and salons across the Lehigh Valley; and Vivian Hungerford, whose father, Bert Tarboro, not only worked for Bethlehem Steel for four decades, but founded a local Black baseball team and organized a banquet that once brought baseball greats Jackie Robinson and Don Newcombe to the Lehigh Valley.

Each individual story is a piece of a larger tale--a tale of work, faith, family, and community; of joys and struggles; of time and change; and of Black lives lived in Bethlehem. To view the oral history collection of The Black Bethlehem Project, visit <https://lvehc-archive.lafayette.edu/s/welcome/page/black-bethlehem-project>.

*Submitted by Rayah Levy, Bethlehem Area Public Library*

## PALCI’S First “I CLAP” Award Winners Announced

Drexel Hill, PA – The Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortium, Inc. (PALCI) held its first I CLAP Awards and Community Recognition Ceremony on Wednesday, September 16, capping off its 2020 Summer Event Series.

I CLAP Awards were presented to Clinton Baugess, Research and Instruction Librarian at Gettysburg College; Jill Hallam-Miller, Director, Research Services & Information Literacy at Bucknell University; and Michelle Suranofsky, Senior Analyst at Lehigh University. Each was nominated by their colleagues for outstanding contributions to both their institutional libraries and the wider PALCI community. Each winner was also awarded a \$100 Visa gift card, made possible by sponsorships from EBSCO and ProQuest.

I CLAP, which is PALCI spelled backwards, was designed to allow PALCI members to celebrate the variety of ways in which PALCI member libraries’ staff make a difference. All staff at PALCI member institutions were

eligible as both nominators and nominees. Nominations were left entirely open-ended to allow libraries to honor the diversity of individuals who support and enhance academic libraries in the PALCI region.

Jill Morris, Executive Director of PALCI, stated, “Our PALCI colleagues are well-known for their passion, ingenuity, and excellence, and also their contributions to their institutions, the consortium, and beyond. This year’s Member Meeting Planning Committee was thrilled to recognize those contributions by developing this inaugural awards ceremony as a fun, new celebratory event.”

Reflecting on the recent win by one of her staff members, Robin Wagner, Dean of the Library at Gettysburg College, noted “Clint Baugess organized a series of nine helpful Zoom sessions covering best practices, technology tools, and pedagogical skills for librarians teaching in this new and challenging remote learning environment. The sessions were participatory, relevant, and joyful. He helped put the ‘FUN’ in the dysFUNCTION of 2020. This is a stressful time for libraries, and I am grateful that PALCI has offered a way to recognize creative staff contributions.” In addition to celebrating those nominated for I CLAP Awards, the ceremony also included recognition of the work done throughout the past year by individuals serving on PALCI’s many committees, advisory councils, task forces, working groups, and sub-communities. PALCI intends to repeat this event each year as part of the consortium’s annual Member Meeting. Watch the recording from the PALCI ICLAP Awards & Community Recognition Event: <https://youtu.be/tLaBqs6ll6k>.

Courtesy of PALCI

## Carnegie Mellon University Libraries Use Computer Vision to Explore Archival Photo Collection



*A montage of the resulting photographs from a search for the College of Fine Arts building. Similarity search proved particularly effective at clustering buildings together—all these shots show different views of the College of Fine Arts, with many of the images coming from different parts of the collection outside the original job. (Image courtesy of Carnegie Mellon University Libraries)*

Pittsburgh, PA -- An internal web application built by Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) Libraries faculty and staff leverages computer vision to improve the discoverability of archival photos. Here, archivists can quickly find groups of images depicting similar subjects and add descriptive metadata tags in bulk. This approach combines the best of both worlds: utilizing the existing structure of the photo collection to make tagging efficient and context-sensitive, while also applying visual search component, allowing users to nimbly navigate across folders and boxes of the collection and identify potential photos for tagging that might have otherwise been missed.

A white paper explaining the project in greater depth is now available which includes the high-level technical architecture, explaining how such a system would connect to existing collection catalogues and image databases that libraries and archives already

use. For more information, go to <https://www.library.cmu.edu/blog/information-environment/10052020>.

*Submitted by Shannon Rife, Carnegie Mellon University Libraries*

## Staffing Changes at Messiah University

Mechanicsburg, PA -- Messiah College transitioned to Messiah University on July 1, 2020.

The campus's Murray Library had two retirements this summer: Lawrie Merz, Public Services Librarian, and Joanna Matlak, Evening Circulation Supervisor. Sarah Myers, who served as Collection Development Librarian, replaces Merz as the Public Services Librarian. New hire Rachael Jasitt replaces Matlak.

*Submitted by Sarah Myers, Messiah University*

### Share news about your PA library!

Have news you would like to share in our next issue? Submit your news items via our online form: [bit.ly/1rkSdcR](http://bit.ly/1rkSdcR)

We look forward to making your Pennsylvania library accomplishments, experiences, events, and news part of the *PaLRaP* conversation.