

Pennsylvania Libraries: *Research & Practice*

News

Noteworthy

News Briefs from PA Libraries

Bryan James McGeary

Bryan James McGeary is News Editor, Pennsylvania Libraries: Research & Practice

Three PA Colleges Receive PA Consortium of Liberal Arts Grant

Gettysburg, PA—Three Pennsylvania liberal arts colleges, Gettysburg, Muhlenberg and Ursinus, were recently awarded a \$17,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Consortium for the Liberal Arts (PCLA) to create digital humanities initiatives throughout their curricula. The grant was part of a \$250,000 grant the PCLA received from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations.

The colleges used part of the funding to host a workshop for faculty and student digital scholars from the three institutions during the summer of 2017. The conference offered a forum for creativity, professional development and the opportunity to experiment with various digital tools to enhance teaching and student engagement.

“This grant was particularly helpful for smaller schools like Gettysburg College,” said Robin Wagner, Dean of the Library. “The workshop offered access to training opportunities that we wouldn’t otherwise have. We can do more and do better work together, by pooling our human and financial resources—far more than we could do alone.” The grant will further support digital initiatives throughout this academic year. At Ursinus, students are writing the history of the nearly 150-year-old institution through Bears Make History, which brings the college’s written and oral past online.

Gettysburg College launched a summer 2017 digital scholarship program with six undergraduate fellows, who will work as digital assistants during the academic year. They will be paired with faculty who wish to introduce digital assignments into their coursework.

At Muhlenberg, eight digital learning assistants are providing peer support for students working on digital projects and facilitate in-class workshops with faculty partners.

Submitted by Mallory Jallas, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College

Gettysburg College Welcomes New Librarians



Christopher Barnes (Photo courtesy of Musselman Library, Gettysburg College)

Michigan where he earned a PhD in English and an MSI in the School of Information.

Kevin Moore joined the staff of Musselman Library at Gettysburg College as a Research & Instruction Librarian. He will be designing and leading information literacy sessions in addition to serving as the liaison to the Biology and Psychology Departments. Kevin earned his MSLIS from the University Of Illinois School of Information Sciences in 2017.

Gettysburg, PA—Over the summer we hired two librarians at Musselman Library in our Research & Instruction and Scholarly Communications departments.

Christopher Barnes is Gettysburg's new Scholarly Communications Librarian. He will be working with faculty and students on expanding access to their scholarship, advocating for open and affordable textbook adoption, organizing campus programming

related to copyright and fair use issues, as well as overseeing The Cupola, Gettysburg's institutional repository. Chris comes to Gettysburg from Ann Arbor,



Kevin Moore (Photo courtesy of Musselman Library, Gettysburg College)

Submitted by Mallory Jallas, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College

PA Citizens for Better Libraries Names Business Friend of the Year

Oakdale, PA—The Western Allegheny Community Library is pleased to announce that library sponsor and supporter Gary Klobchar of Milestones Financial was awarded the Pennsylvania Citizens for Better Libraries Business Friend of the Year Award.

Gary has made an outstanding contribution to the improvement of the library throughout the last few years and has helped to bring in outstanding programs and services. He has been a lead sponsor at the library's annual fundraiser, Fall For Your Library, the last 3 years. He also sponsors Money Smart Week, a series of financial literacy programs hosted at the library in April.

Beyond monetary contributions, Gary is an advocate for library services and a he and his family are strong community supporters. The library is so fortunate to have his support and thrilled that he was awarded with this honor.

Submitted by Amanda Kirby, Western Allegheny Community Library

Anita Ditz Retires from Schlow Centre Region Library

State College, PA--Schlow Centre Region Library director Cathi Alloway announced that Anita Ditz, head of Children's Services at Schlow Centre Region Library, retired from the library after 34 years of service, effective Friday, September 8.

Paula Bannon, currently serving as children's librarian at Schlow, succeeds Ditz as head of Children's Services. Bannon has been at Schlow for four years. Katie Brennan, currently the library technician for the Children's Department, will become children's librarian.

Ditz became head of Children's Services at Schlow in 1983. Under her guidance, Schlow became one of the first "Family Place" libraries in Pennsylvania, featuring toys, creative play areas, and parent resources. She also established a nationally recognized Parent/Child Workshop for families with toddlers with special needs. Under her guidance, the Children's Department came to feature popular artwork, including sculptures and murals, that are ritual touchpoints for visitors.

She also has been recognized for taking the "library out of the building" through her participation in several community groups, including working with Smart Start Centre County, to create educational resources for parents of young children, and reading to children from low-income families at the Park Forest Day Nursery. She also has been active for many years with the area's 4thFest celebration held on Independence Day.

In 2013, Ditz received the Distinguished Service Award from the Pennsylvania Library Association. It is the organization's highest honor and is given to someone for "exceptional meritorious service to libraries."

Alloway calls Ditz "a community treasure." "Anita has served several generations of State College area children and made Schlow's Children's Department an award-winning enterprise," notes Alloway. "Schlow Library is considered a statewide leader in public library service to families, and we look forward to building on her legacy."

The Anita Ditz Fund for Schlow Library Children's Department has been established through [Centre Foundation](http://Centre.Foundation). Visit centre-foundation.org and search for "Ditz" for more information.



Anita Ditz (Photo courtesy of David Pencek, Schlow Centre Region Library)

A special retirement party for Ditz was held on Saturday, September 23 in the library's Downsborough Community Room to say "Thank You" to Anita and wish her well!

Submitted by Catherine Alloway, Schlow Centre Region Library

West Chester University Names Mary Page as University Librarian

West Chester, PA—Following a national search, Mary Page has been named university librarian at West Chester University (WCU), the largest of the 14 universities in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE). Page brings to WCU over 30 years of senior-level experience and leadership in library administration, research and services in a variety of public higher education settings. An expert in special collections and digital initiatives, Page was until most recently a member of the senior leadership team at the University of Central Florida (UCF). At UCF, she directed acquisitions, collection development, cataloging, electronic resource management, and interlibrary loan. Having held the position since 2010, Page also represented UCF in national, regional and statewide consortia on collections and technical service issues, including FLVC (Florida's public colleges and universities consortium), the Association for Southeastern Research Libraries, and the Center for Research Libraries. Page's position at WCU is effective as of August 7, 2017.



Mary Page (Photo courtesy of West Chester University Libraries)

Prior to UCF, Page worked at the University of California, Davis Library, and Rutgers University Libraries. In addition to her eclectic work experience, she is an active member of her professional community, having served as president of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services, a division of the American Library Association, as well as the North American Serials Interest Group. She also serves on library advisory boards of major publishers and has presented nationally on topics such as leadership in libraries, open education resources, and consortia programs for libraries.

Page received a Master of Library Science from Rutgers University, Beta Phi Mu, and a Bachelor of Arts with high honors in English literature from Douglass College, Rutgers University, Phi Beta Kappa.

Submitted by Amy Ward, West Chester University

University of Pittsburgh Awarded IMLS Grant of \$224,761

Pittsburgh, PA—The University of Pittsburgh has been awarded a grant of \$224,761 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Aaron Brenner, coordinator of Digital Scholarship for the University Library System, will serve as principal investigator.

The ULS, in partnership with the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, the Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center, and the Urban Institute, which supports and coordinates the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership, will develop the capacity of public



Institute of Museum and Library Services logo (Image courtesy of IMLS)

and academic libraries to serve as key partners in local open civic data ecosystems. The project's primary output will

be a guide and toolkit to help public and academic libraries: identify local needs and contexts around open civic data; consider roles, opportunities, practices, and governance in the civic data ecosystem; anticipate and address common challenges; measure local civic open data health and capacity; and learn from examples of successful civic data partnerships.

Courtesy of the University Library System at Pitt

Lions Help the Library!

Whitehall, PA—
The Whitehall Lions Club sponsored a Duck Race to raise funds for a CCTV for visually impaired patrons. The Whitehall Township Public Library is the only library in the area with this equipment. It is free to be used by all patrons. It has speech and visual capabilities. Patrons can read or listen to newspaper, magazines, etc.

The Lions also donate funds each year after their basket raffle to purchase large-print books and books on CD for visually impaired patrons.



Whitehall Library Board members (left to right) Joe Ebner, Mike Gerould, Judy Ott, Tom Lindeman, Helga Grundmann and Library Director, Patty Vahey pose with new CCTV unit. (Photo courtesy of Patty Vahey, Whitehall Township Public Library)



Whitehall Lions Club members (left to right) Marsha Johnson, Denise Shaffer, Beth Karloy (baby Campbell), Bob Hauck, Phil Armstrong, Dennis O'Connell, Joe Ebner, Shari Noctor, Sharon Bodor, Judy Ott, Tom Lindeman, and Jessica Paulas. pose with new CCTV unit. (Photo courtesy of Patty Vahey, Whitehall Township Public Library)

Submitted by Patty Vahey, Whitehall Township Public Library

York College of PA Welcomes New Director

York, PA—York College of Pennsylvania welcomes Jim Kapoun as Library Director. Jim has served in a variety of academic libraries in the United States, most recently having served as the Library Director at Antioch College in Ohio. He started at Schmidt library in June and brings a wealth of experience in instruction, administration, and user experience.

Submitted by Beth Jacoby, York College of PA

Penn State University Libraries News

Penn State Libraries, Short Edition Partner for First University Collaboration

University Park, PA—Penn State has become the world's first university partner and first U.S. partner with the startup company Short Edition of Grenoble, France.

This partnership helps extend the French startup company's concept — to adapt literature to the modern world by combining short stories, community and technology — and brings it to an academic community setting.

The agreement between Penn State Libraries and Short Edition also includes a custom online content platform that will enable Penn State creative writers — from among nearly 100,000 students at any of Penn State's 24 campuses as well as World Campus online students, and more than 36,000 faculty and staff — to share their short works through Short Edition's short story dispensers.

Initially installed on the University Park campus and in Schlow Centre Region Library in downtown State College, Pa., the latter reflecting the latest in an increasing partnership between the neighboring libraries.

“This partnership is an experiment in connecting Penn State’s literary creators one-on-one with individuals visiting several of University Park’s busy portals, and the University Libraries is excited to be the conduit supporting this new means of conversation about the arts and humanities in our community,” Barbara I. Dewey, dean of University Libraries and Scholarly Communications, said. “We see the partnership with Short Edition as the first step toward a growing number of thoughtful and creative exchanges, beginning with the installation of Short Edition dispensers around the University Park campus and the development of the online content management platform.”

Read more: news.psu.edu/story/468845/2017/05/18/arts-and-entertainment/penn-state-libraries-short-edition-partner-first



*The redesigned space includes private meeting rooms, individual work areas, and collaborative spaces
Barbara I. Dewey, Penn State's dean of University Libraries and Scholarly Communications, receives one of the first short stories dispensed from a Short Edition short story dispenser at a university anywhere in the world. (Photo courtesy of Penn State University Libraries)*

Submitted by Jill Shockey, Penn State University Libraries

Penn State Libraries Ranked 2nd among U.S. Public University Libraries

University Park, PA—The Penn State University Libraries again have been recognized among the top 10 research universities in North America, this year ranking No. 7, and rising to second among public university research libraries in the United States, according to the 2015-16 Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Library Investment Index.

The ARL index, published in the Almanac of Higher Education 2017-18 and included in the Aug. 18 issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education, provides a yearly snapshot of the size of each research library's collections and its capacity to provide services to students, faculty and staff, as well as to visiting researchers. The University Libraries consistently rank among the top 10 among more than 110 peer institutions' libraries surveyed.

This year the University Libraries rose to second among its public institutional peers in the U.S., behind only its Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA) partner the University of Michigan Library, which is third in the overall rankings. Libraries of BTAA members the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Ohio State University are listed as No. 15 and No. 16, respectively.

"The University Libraries receives strong, ongoing support from our University leadership that empowers our faculty and staff to provide robust collections that support Penn State's threefold mission of research, teaching and public service. We hear often that our physical and online collections' scope and scale, and our ability to provide that information to them conveniently, are significant factors in helping Penn State recruit and retain top faculty and students," Barbara I. Dewey, dean of University Libraries and Scholarly Communications, said.

"Our faculty librarians and staff at every Penn State location take great pride in being able to provide critical support for knowledge creation and student academic success at the University and in research collaborations with highly regarded peer libraries across the continent — and, increasingly, around the world," she added. "This ranking validates our efforts to provide the highest level of scholarly resources, services and innovative spaces, across the University and online, for each student, faculty and staff member."

The ARL ranking system, which this year examined 114 colleges and universities that provide data based on the prior academic year, is based on dollars spent for total library expenditures, as well as for salaries and wages and library materials, plus the number of professional and support-staff employees.

For additional information about University Libraries collections, visit libraries.psu.edu/about/collections.

Submitted by Jill Shockey, Penn State University Libraries

Penn State DuBois Library Announces Staff Changes



John Siegel (Photo courtesy of John Siegel, Penn State DuBois)

DuBois, PA—Penn State DuBois Library changed leadership during the summer. Karen Fuller, Head Librarian, retired at the end of June after 34 years of dedicated service.

John Siegel was named Head Librarian effective August 15. Prior to joining Penn State, John was Instruction Coordinator/Student Success Librarian at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He previously worked for the University of Pittsburgh's Health Sciences Library System (HSLs) as a Reference Librarian. John is happy to re-join the Pennsylvania libraries community. He can be reached at jxs1637@psu.edu.

Submitted by John Siegel, Penn State DuBois Library

Penn State Libraries Receives Gen. Beaver's Civil War PA 148th Regiment History Volume

University Park, PA— Sisters Stephanie Dinges Bender and Cathy Dinges Torsell presented a unique copy of Gen. James A. Beaver's "The Story of our Regiment: A History of the 148th Pennsylvania Volunteers" to the Special Collections Library on Wednesday, Aug. 9. The item was donated from the estate of their parents, Robert H. and Edith Hopple Dinges of Bellefonte, Pa.

This volume of the regimental history was presented by Gen. Beaver to his wife, Mary McAllister Beaver, and was inscribed "To my dear wife, Mary McAllister Beaver, With the love of her husband James A. Beaver, Bellefonte, Pa 8 April 1905."



Athena Jackson, Dorothy Foehr Huck Chair and Head of Special Collections (far left), and Jackie Esposito, University archivist (far right), receive Gen. James A. Beaver's "The Story of our Regiment: A History of the 148th Pennsylvania Volunteers" from sisters Stephanie Dinges Bender and Cathy Dinges Torsell. (Photo courtesy of Penn State University Libraries)

In addition to serving in the U.S. Civil War as Commander of the 148th Pennsylvania Volunteers, Beaver was President of the Penn State Board of Trustees for two terms (1874-1882 and 1898-1914), acting President of the College from 1906 to 1908 and is the namesake for the University's football stadium. Beaver also served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as its 20th Governor (1887-1891).

For additional information about this unique donation, contact the Eberly Family Special Collections Library at ul-spcolref@lists.psu.edu or 814-865-1793.

Submitted by Jill Shockey, Penn State University Libraries

Carnegie Mellon University Libraries News

Carnegie Mellon Receives Andrew W. Mellon Grant for Digital Scholarship

Pittsburgh, PA—The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh a grant to research the development of a standardized platform for digital scholarship. The \$60,000, 18-month grant will support "Digits," a project that will explore how new technologies that make it increasingly easy to publish, share, reproduce and archive complex digital materials can be sustained in a unified and flexible way.

University Libraries' Jessica Otis and Scott Weingart, digital humanities specialists, and Pitt's Matt Burton, visiting assistant professor, and Matt Lavin, clinical assistant professor of English and director of the digital media lab, will lead the Digits project. Their goal is to deliver a solution to several limitations that advances in technology have placed on traditional research publications. Their approach will focus on "containerization," a technology used to minimize software system administration costs while increasing scale and flexibility.

Currently, researchers invest countless time and resources creating interactive pieces and self-publishing them online.

“But scholars might change web hosts or let subscriptions expire,” said Lavin. “This leads to something called link rot. The responsibility of digital preservation needs to be shifted from individual researchers to journal publishers or university archives.”

Digits will also allow digital projects and small-scale work to be preserved and updated to remain current.

“It is often considered double-dipping or even cheating to publish nearly identical research as more data becomes available,” Weingart said. “Digits would provide infrastructure for regularly-updating publications, as with an article that relays perpetually current popular opinions about romance fiction based on a large-scale analysis of online reviews.”

In addition to the four principal researchers, an advisory board has been established for Digits and includes Dan Cohen, director of the Digital Public Library of America; Andrew Odewahn, chief technology officer of O’Reilly Media; Sharon Leon, director of public projects at the Center for History and New Media; and Martin Paul Eve, founding editor of the Open Library of the Humanities.

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation recently awarded CMU a five-year, \$2 million grant to train humanities Ph.D. students in digital scholarship and the pedagogic use of technology-enhanced learning (TEL) tools.

Courtesy of Carnegie Mellon University Libraries

Keith Webster Elected Vice Chair of NISO

Pittsburgh, PA—Keith Webster, dean of University Libraries at Carnegie Mellon University, has been elected as the new Vice Chair of the National Information Standards Organization (NISO) for the 2017-2018 term, which began on July 1, 2017. In addition to his position as dean at Carnegie Mellon, Webster has a courtesy academic appointment at the University’s H. John Heinz III College. He has also been a leader within NISO, having served as a Director and most recently as NISO’s Treasurer.

NISO, based in Baltimore, Maryland, fosters the development and maintenance of standards that facilitate the creation, persistent management, and effective interchange of information so that it can be trusted for use in research and learning. To fulfill this mission, NISO engages libraries, publishers, information aggregators, and other organizations that support learning, research, and scholarship through the creation, organization, management, and curation of knowledge.

“NISO is an international organization, and I’m looking forward to bringing my experience at academic institutions inside and outside the United States to my new role on as the organization’s Vice Chair,” says Webster. “Several of NISO’s ongoing projects show promise in streamlining how libraries and vendors worldwide collaborate and communicate, and it’s very exciting to be a part of that.”

Courtesy of Carnegie Mellon University Libraries

Save the Date—Upcoming PA Library Workshops

Registration Open for ACRL/DVC Workshop “Fact, False, or Just Flawed: Critically Examining News in the Age of Truthiness”

Philadelphia, PA—The current political climate has called into question basic ideals of information quality. Objectivity, bias, opinion, fact, and evidence are thrown into question at every turn. Even for the savviest media consumer, the firehose of information seems to blast away any hope of reflection, critical thinking, or good judgement. The old standbys for teaching source evaluation now seem insufficient. So how do we teach our students to be ethical information consumers and producers? We’ll hear from expert journalists and academics about the guiding principles of their professions and how those principles can be used to teach students to find an ethical center to help them on their path to information enlightenment.

Keynote Speaker: Award winning author and journalist, [Dr. Pamela Newkirk](#) is a professor at the NYU Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute. Her books include *Within the Veil: Black Journalists, White Media*, (NYU Press 2000), *Letters from Black America* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux 2009), and her latest book *Spectacle: The Astonishing Life of Ota Benga*, (HarperCollins).

Moderated Panel:

- Moderator: Tom Ipri, Associate Director for Public Services & Programming, St. Joseph’s University
- [Vanessa Schipani](#), Annenberg Public Policy Center and Science Writer for FactCheck.org
- [Mark Dent](#), Reporter/Curator for Billy Penn/Politifact Pennsylvania
- [Sarah Hartman-Caverly](#), Reference and Instruction Librarian at Delaware County Community College.

Lightning Talks: Hear from your colleagues on how they are addressing these issues in their libraries.

When: Friday, November 17, 2017

Time: 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

Where: University of Pennsylvania Law School Silverman Hall

Breakfast & Lunch included

[Register Now!](http://bit.ly/2fUCgfb) (<http://bit.ly/2fUCgfb>)

Courtesy of Nancy Bellafante, University of Pennsylvania Law School

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

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