

Pennsylvania Libraries: *Research & Practice*

News

Noteworthy

News Briefs from PA Libraries

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Rapchak Named 2018 Routledge Distance Learning Librarianship Conference Sponsorship Award Winner



Marcia Rapchak, head of teaching and learning at Duquesne University (Photo by Mark May)

Chicago, IL—Marcia Elizabeth Rapchak, head of teaching and learning at Duquesne University, has been named the 2018 recipient of the Routledge Distance Learning Librarianship Conference Sponsorship Award.

This annual award, sponsored by Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group, and administrated by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Distance Learning Section (DLS), honors an ACRL member working in the field of, or contributing to, the success of distance learning librarianship or related library service in higher education. Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group will present the \$1,200 award and plaque at the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans.

“Marcia Rapchak has demonstrated longstanding dedication to distance librarianship through her extensive research, publications, and work focused on information literacy instruction in online environments,” said award co-chairs Rebecca Nowicki of Grossmont

College and Cynthia Thomes of the University of Maryland. “Her dedicated efforts include the creation of for-credit, required information literacy courses for online learners at her home institution of Duquesne University, as well as professional service for PRIMO, the Distance Library Services Conference, and LOEX.”

“Furthermore, she has incorporated mentorship of students and of colleagues, as well as collaboration, into her role,” continued Nowicki and Thomes. “Rapchak acts as a leader on her campus in developing distance education and online library services, and her important work has significantly impacted the field of distance librarianship.”

Rapchak received her M.S.L.S. from the University of Kentucky and her EdD in Instructional Technology and Leadership from Duquesne University.

Additional information on the award, along with a list of past winners, is available in the [awards section](#) of the ACRL website.

Courtesy of Chase Ollis, American Library Association

Waidner-Spahr Library Wins First-Year Experience Innovation Award



Waidner-Spahr Library (Photo by Joe O'Neill, Dickinson College)

Carlisle, PA—Dickinson College's Waidner-Spahr Library earned the inaugural First Year Experience (FYE) Innovation Award for its “strong collaborative efforts, established assessment practices and proven record at improving learning outcomes.” Granted by Case Western Reserve University and CREDO, an international library information-skills solutions provider, the award includes a \$1,500 cash prize and a commemorative plaque presented at the 2018 Personal Librarian & FYE Library Conference in Cleveland, Ohio, in March.

The award highlights the library's integration of information literacy into the First-Year Seminar program, which resulted in 89 percent of participating students surveyed reporting that they used the information literacy skills learned during their First-Year Seminars in other courses. “Not only is information literacy instruction a part of Dickinson's First-Year Seminar, but librarians also work to create customized and scaffolded instruction for specific courses in a variety of formats (online tutorials, in-class workshops and student consultations) leading to greater engagement and improved learning outcomes,” said Marian Traynor, library user services manager at Sheridan College, and one of the Innovation Award judges.

This story originally appears at http://www.dickinson.edu/news/article/2968/innovation_honored.

Courtesy of Dickinson College

PA College Learning Commons Gets Star Status

Lancaster, PA—The Learning Commons at Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences (PCHS) is now a PA Forward Silver Star Library. The Learning Commons has earned silver stars for four of PA Forward's five literacies. The Learning Commons will continue to work to achieve the remaining silver star and then gold star status.

The Learning Commons was awarded a bronze star and quickly followed that up with the two silver stars for specific literacies. Basic literacy is supported by the common book program, which is a college-wide initiative led by the Learning Commons. Civic and social literacy is supported by the Learning Commons hosting “Surviving and Thriving: AIDS, Politics, and Culture,” the traveling exhibit by the National Library of Medicine and National Institutes of Health. Shortly after that, the Learning Commons earned the silver star in health literacy for its “Taking the Stress out of Finals” workshop and the silver star in information literacy for its research parties.



The Learning Commons at Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences has been named a PA Forward Silver Star Library. (Image courtesy of the Pennsylvania Library Association)

PCHS Learning Commons will host “Schedule Your Financial Health Check Up – Money Smart Week at PA College” in April to earn the silver star in financial literacy.

For more information on the Learning Commons’ involvement in PA Forward, visit <http://pacollege.libguides.com/paforward>.

PA Forward is an initiative of the Pennsylvania Library Association (PaLA).

According to PaLA, “PA Forward is built upon the belief that libraries are uniquely positioned to help citizens improve their command of five types of literacy essential to greater success in all vital forms of life: as students, as parents, as employees, as consumers, as citizens. These literacies are basic, information, civic and social, health, and financial.”

The PA Forward Star Library program recognizes libraries that are committed to advancing the ideals of PA Forward by showing how current programs already advance the PA Forward literacies or developing programming to advance these literacies. Libraries can earn bronze, silver, and gold stars.

The Learning Commons is the central location for library and learner support at Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences (PCHS). A dynamic and academically rigorous institution, PCHS is a private, accredited, four-year college offering associate and baccalaureate degree programs as well as certificate programs. Located in Lancaster, Pa., the College attracts a select group of more than 1,300 students to study with faculty who are experts in their specialty fields.

Submitted by Christina Steffy, Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences

Gettysburg College Awarded \$150,000 Mellon Presidential Leadership Grant

Gettysburg, PA—Gettysburg College has been awarded a grant of \$150,000 from the Mellon Foundation. The Mellon Presidential Leadership Grant will support initiatives to deepen students’ engagement with the humanities. Musselman Library has been allocated \$89,500 of the grant to support digital scholarship.

The library will use the funds to support the Digital Scholarship Fellows program for the next 3 years. The Digital Scholarship Fellows learn Digital Humanities tools and methods during a structured curriculum and apply them to a public-facing, academic, digital project. The grant will also provide professional development funds for library staff.

Submitted by Mallory Jallas, Gettysburg College

Open Action Kit Available to Librarians

Pittsburgh, PA—This spring, an international group of librarians active in the [OpenCon librarian community](#) including Lauren B. Collister from the University Library System at the University of Pittsburgh, came together to produce resources to support academic libraries and their patrons in participating in International Open Access Week. Although Open Access Week 2017 has passed, these resources can also be used by any librarians planning work on such initiatives as Professional Reports, Love Data Week, Open Education Week, OpenCon Satellites, Open Access Week 2018, and more. The possibilities are endless!

The resources, dubbed “The Open Action Kit,” were designed with everyone in mind, from novices to veterans. The [Open Action Kit team](#) is here to help you get inspired, connect with each other, make a plan, run a successful action, and tell the story of your success.

The [Open Action Kit](#) addresses the following themes:

- Exploring and choosing your action
- Planning your action over several months instead of waiting until the last minute
- Making creative use of resources in your environment
- Crafting your message and inspiring engagement
- Getting to the finish line and connecting with other champions
- Telling the story of your efforts and success

If you use the Open Action Kit to plan any new projects, let one of [our team](#) know. Do you want to get updates on the project or share your ideas with the team? [Get in touch!](#)

Submitted by Lauren B. Collister, University of Pittsburgh

WWII Enigma Machines among Computing Treasures Added to Carnegie Mellon University Libraries Collection

Pittsburgh, PA—Crucial World War II encryption devices have found a home at the Carnegie Mellon University Libraries thanks to the generosity of author Pamela McCorduck, wife of the late Computer Science Department Head Joseph Traub.

Totaling more than 50 calculating machines, letters and books, the collection contains important items in the history of computing. Included are two Enigma machines, electro-mechanical rotor cipher machines used to encrypt communication. Most notably, they were used by Nazi Germany to protect military communication during World War II. With this gift, which includes one 4-rotor machine and one 3-rotor machine, CMU becomes one of a handful of American institutions to own an Enigma machine.



First designed to encode business communications, the German military embraced the Enigma cipher machine in World War II. Thousands were used in both headquarters and other field environments to encrypt tens of thousands of tactical messages. This example is part of the Joseph Traub and Pamela McCorduck Collection, on loan from Pamela McCorduck. (Photo courtesy of Carnegie Mellon University Libraries)

Other highlights include:

- A Thomas Arithmometer, the first commercially produced mechanical calculator;
- A Curta Type I Calculating Machine, designed by Curt Hertzstark while he was a prisoner in a concentration camp; and

- Rare books by Charles Babbage, the 19th century mathematician considered by some to be a "father of the computer."

The items from the Traub-McCorduck Collection will be added to the University Libraries Special Collections. The University Archives, also housed in the Libraries, contains the papers of Traub and McCorduck, as well as noted computer science pioneers Allen Newell and Herb Simon, who worked alongside Traub in the department.

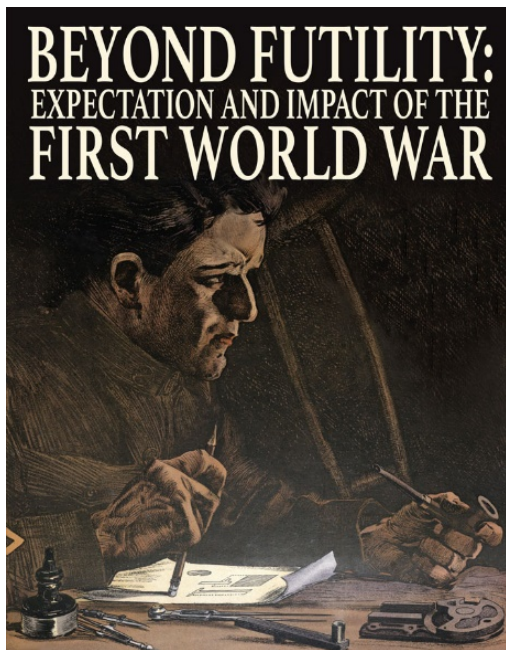
A pioneering computer scientist who led Carnegie Mellon's Computer Science Department during a crucial period in its history, Traub, who died in 2015, went on to found the computer science department at Columbia University. McCorduck is an author of influential books on artificial intelligence.

"As the second chair of what was then CMU's Computer Science Department, Joe's career eventually took him back to his alma mater, Columbia, but he never lost his deep loyalty, affection and admiration for CMU," McCorduck said. "Moreover, for one of the best schools of computer science in the world, a collection of ancestral machines seems a good marker of where the field has come from."

According to Ralph Simpson of the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, California, and the Cipher History Museum in San Jose, California, some 35,000 Engima machines were manufactured, but only 350 are known to exist today. Simpson said the National Security Agency is home to 21 machines and some 18 U.S. institutions, including CMU, have them in their collections. They include places such as the International Museum of World War II, the Smithsonian, the International Spy Museum, the Computer History Museum, Chicago's Museum of Science & Industry and the U.S. Air Force and Naval academies.

Submitted by Shannon Riffe, Carnegie Mellon University Libraries

Gettysburg College Hosts World War I Exhibit



Beyond Futility is open until December 18. (Image courtesy of Musselman Library, Gettysburg College)

Gettysburg, PA—Special Collections and College Archives, Musselman Library, Gettysburg College recently opened a new, yearlong exhibit entitled "Beyond Futility: Expectation and Impact of the First World War." The exhibit explores the First World War as a transformational experience for many, Gettysburg College alumni included. Through documents, photographs, and artifacts from the collections of Gettysburg College, the Adams County Historical Society, and private collections, Beyond Futility focuses on the creativity and adaptations that soldiers and civilians expressed on the Western Front and how the War followed these men and women home, impacting their perspectives and prospects. It was curated by College Archivist, Amy Lucadamo, in consultation with Dr. Ian A. Isherwood, Visiting Assistant Professor and Chairperson of Civil War Era Studies.

Beyond Futility is free and open to the public from January 30 – December 18, 2018. Exhibit hours are Monday-Friday 1-5 p.m. and Tuesday and Wednesday evenings 6-9 p.m., all other times by appointment.

Submitted by Amy Lucadamo, Gettysburg College

Penn State University Libraries News

Penn State Librarian Named as Library Senior Fellow at UCLA

Los Angeles, CA—Seventeen top managers of academic libraries, including the Penn State University Libraries, have been selected to be Library Senior Fellows at UCLA in 2018. This international cohort will come to UCLA in August for a three-week residential program featuring lectures, guest speakers, case studies and field trips.

Brian E. C. Schottlaender, the new director of the Library Senior Fellows program at UCLA, announced the cohort's members, including Athena Jackson, the Dorothy Foehr Huck Chair and Head of the Eberly Family Special Collections Library at Penn State University.

"I'm delighted to welcome this distinguished group of accomplished library managers to the Senior Fellows program," said Schottlaender, himself a member of the 1995 cohort. "Through the competitive selection process, these individuals have demonstrated that they are part of the next generation of library leaders in the academic world."

Library Senior Fellows at UCLA combines management perspectives, strategic thinking and practical and theoretical approaches to the issues confronting academic institutions and their libraries. Of some 250 alumni, nearly half have gone on to positions as library directors. The program is a collaborative effort of the UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Studies (GSE&IS), the UCLA Library and Ithaka S+R.

More information on the Senior Fellows program is available at seniorfellows.library.ucla.edu.

Submitted by Dawn Setzer, UCLA Library



Athena Jackson is the Dorothy Foehr Huck Chair and head of the Eberly Family Special Collections Library at Penn State University (Photo courtesy of Penn State University Libraries)

Andrew Named Distinguished Librarian



Paige G. Andrew, maps cataloging librarian at Penn State University Libraries since 1995, is one of 15 University faculty to be named 2018 distinguished faculty. (Photo by Wilson Hutton, Penn State University Libraries)

University Park, PA—Paige G. Andrew, Penn State University Libraries maps cataloging librarian, is one of 15 University faculty to be named distinguished faculty in 2018 by Penn State's Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs.

Andrew was selected by the Distinguished Librarian Review Committee based on his national reputation in the field of map librarianship and map cataloging, including publications and presentations. He has been recognized nationally for his work in map cataloging as the recipient of the 2016 Margaret Mann Citation, the highest professional honor

available to members of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services, a division of the American Library Association. He has served as the maps cataloging librarian at Penn State since 1995.

Andrew joins Linda Musser as Penn State's two current University Libraries distinguished librarians. Musser, who also is head of the Fletcher L. Byrom Earth and Mineral Sciences Library at the University Park campus, was named a distinguished librarian during the 2008-09 academic year.

Courtesy of Jill Shockey, Penn State University Libraries

New Brandywine Head Librarian Brings Big Ideas from California to Philly Region



Teresa Slobuski, head librarian at Penn State Brandywine (Photo by Michael McDade, Penn State Brandywine)

Media, PA—The Penn State Brandywine community welcomed a new head librarian, Teresa Slobuski, at the beginning of the spring semester. Slobuski joins the Brandywine faculty after six years at San Jose State University in California, where she oversaw reference and research services.

“My position at San Jose was very focused on public service — making sure that both students and faculty have access to the information they need,” Slobuski said.

Although Slobuski acknowledges a library's role as a research facility, she also sees it as an expansive hub for networking, personal research and technological exploration, citing its ability to provide space and resources for curious learners in all walks of life.

“You might not think of it today, but books were once an expensive technology that not everyone could afford,” she said. “That's what libraries came out of — and providing access to new technologies and resources that the average person can't afford is still one of the core missions of a modern library.”

In particular, Slobuski is passionate about the potential of virtual and augmented reality as learning tools and hopes to integrate those technologies into Brandywine's Vairo Library.

At San Jose State University, Slobuski encouraged crossover between traditional and modern learning styles by running engagement activities in the library, such as study breaks, technological explorations, and gaming and crafting events. Now that she is heading the library effort at Brandywine, she hopes to foster similar programs on campus.

“My role as head librarian allows me a little more leeway to experiment with a library's role in engaging students,” she said. “Penn State is already one of the top research institutions in the country. As a new part of it, I'm interested in increasing curiosity and exploration — giving people a safe place to not only study for class, but explore interests that are not assignments.”

Slobuski also emphasizes a librarian's duty to provide support for researchers at all stages of their academic careers. “We are here to assist people regardless of whether they are brand new students who have never done research before or faculty members with \$100,000 grants,” she said. When she's not busy supporting researchers and fostering curiosity on campus, Slobuski, a New Jersey native, plans to reconnect with her East Coast roots in the Philadelphia region.

Courtesy of Haleigh Swansen, Penn State Brandywine

Abington Redesigns and Reenergizes Library to Inspire Collaboration, Research

Abington, PA—Writing on walls and tables is frowned on in most public spaces, but the staff of the renovated Penn State Abington library views scribbles as signs of success.

The library opened for the spring semester with new collaborative spaces, or glass bowls as one student referred to them, equipped with writable walls for puzzling through complicated equations or plotting out presentations with classmates.

Dolores Fidishun, head librarian, said the collaborative spaces are already heavily used.

"Students particularly like them and the ability to extensively use whiteboards and other white surfaces to share their work," she said.

Designed around the Knowledge Commons model, the re-imagined library provides students and faculty with the opportunity to work individually or in groups close to resources such as reference, research and writing support; technology assistance; and media resources.

"The design is smart. It gives everyone their own spaces whether you need to work by yourself or with other people," a student said.

Among the highlights of the renovation to the nearly 15,000-square-foot library include:

- Increased number of collaborative spaces with writable surfaces.
- Comfortable furniture sprinkled throughout the library with whiteboard-covered tables to enhance teamwork, even in informal seating areas.
- Technology that allows students to interactively share a computer.
- Students who need to work alone benefit from new study pods built to accommodate technology and privacy.
- Upgraded One Button Studio. The One Button Studio allows users to record high-quality video presentations with no experience in video production.
- Moveable furniture to enhance user ability to adapt the space to their study needs.

In keeping with the premise of the Knowledge Commons to meet student and faculty needs, the library partnered with other campus units to bring some new services to the Library:

- The Technology Support Center moved into the Library's main level and can provide students, faculty and staff with a variety of services.
- Math and writing tutoring.
- Media Commons so students can create and edit audio and video.

"Our 21st-century library is a village, a place of engagement, and a place for students, faculty and staff to do research and enhance their lives and learning," Fidishun said.



Pods feature writable walls and plenty of ports and privacy for Abington students to successfully collaborate. (Photo by Pam Brobst, Penn State Abington)

Courtesy of Regina Broscius, Penn State Abington

PaLA Southwest Chapter Financial Literacy Summit Scheduled for May 18, 2018



Youngwood, PA—The Southwest Chapter of the Pennsylvania Library Association and the PA Forward Financial Literacy Team will present the Southwest Chapter’s Financial Literacy Summit at Westmoreland County Community College on May 18, 2018. The Summit will focus on financial literacy and will feature sessions on how to manage your financial outlook, how to make financial literacy appeal to teens and college students, and how to make sure your library is handling information in a safe and secure manner.

Registration is \$25 for PaLA members and \$40 for non-members. Register at www.palibraries.org.

Pennsylvania Library Association College & Research Division Spring Workshop Scheduled for May 24, 2018

Shippensburg, PA— The College & Research Division’s Spring Workshop, “Open Educational Resources in Pennsylvania Academic Libraries,” will take place at Shippensburg University on Thursday, May 24, 2018.

The program, which features keynote speaker Steven Bell from Temple University, will focus specifically on how open educational resources are being used (and can be used in the future) in Pennsylvania academic libraries. Librarians will share their success stories and challenges they have overcome with other academic librarians to contribute to a greater shared understanding of how open educational resources fit into the context of academic libraries.

Registration, including breakfast and lunch, is \$45 for PaLA members, \$65 for nonmembers, and \$10 for students. Registration closes May 15. Register at www.palibraries.org.



Shippensburg University
May 24, 2018

Share news about your PA library!

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