University Librarian’s Letter

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to share noteworthy happenings and accomplishments in the University Libraries for the period April - June, 2013.

As in previous quarters, the items included herein are only representative but characteristic of the diverse work of our library faculty and staff. Of particular note is the recently inaugurated “After Hours” feature in the University Librarian’s Letter, as a way to get to know fellow employees outside of their responsibilities at Mason.

At the end of the quarter (effective June 25, 2013), the University Libraries’ administrative reporting line changed to the Office of the Provost. We look forward to working “officially” now with Provost Dr. Peter Stearns and our new colleagues in his office.

Congratulations to all, along with my thanks and appreciation, for the completion of another successful academic year!

Welcome to the Libraries!

- Stephanie Conover, Resource Acquisitions, Technical Services
- Erika Coronado, Circulation Desk Shift Supervisor, Fenwick Library
- Madeline Kelly, Collections Support Specialist, Collection Development & Preservation
- Megan Watson, Lead Circulation Assistant, Fenwick Library Circulation

Congratulations to our library faculty colleagues!

2013 Promotions and Reappointments

Promotions-in-Rank
Margaret Lam, Librarian II
Anne Driscoll, Librarian III
Andrew Lee, Librarian III

Reappointments
Tina Adams
Theresa Calcagno
Yvonne Carignan
Kim Edwards
Sally Evans
Tricia Mackenzie
Meg Manahan
Jenna Rinalducci
Sarah Sheehan
Joy Suh
Focus on: Measuring Up

Mason Libraries are currently participating in two national assessment and planning projects: *Assessment in Action: Academic Libraries and Student Success and Balanced Scorecard*. Mason is one of 75 institutional teams selected by ACRL to participate in the first year of the three year *Assessment in Action: Academic Libraries and Student Success* program. Funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and carried out in partnership with the Association for Institutional Research and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, AiA has three broad goals:

1. Develop the professional competencies of librarians to document and communicate the value of their academic libraries primarily in relation to their institution’s goals for student learning and success.
2. Contribute to higher education assessment work by creating approaches, strategies, and practices that document the contribution of academic libraries to the overall goals and missions of their institutions.
3. Build and strengthen collaborative relationships with higher education stakeholders around the issue of library value.

Mason’s project will study the impact of embedding librarians in Mason’s *Students as Scholars* program (SaS). The SaS initiative aims to foster a culture of student scholarship through increased participation in and celebration of undergraduate research and creative activities. Working within SaS program’s master rubric, modeled on the Association of American Colleges & Universities (AACU) Value rubrics and informed by the ACRL Information Literacy Competency Standards, the Libraries will focus on supporting Mason’s “Research Intensive” courses. The Libraries plan to use this opportunity to assess the level of impact on student learning that results from deeply weaving librarian participation into course development and curriculum through pre- and post-evaluation of student learning.

Encompassing the 2013-14 academic year, this 14 month professional development program is led by Mason’s project team: **Diane Smith; Dot Lockaby**, Chair; **Chris Dixon; Bethany Usher**, Director of Students as Scholars, OSCAR, and **Stephanie Hazel**, Associate Director of Institutional Assessment. Mason librarians **Claudia Holland, Margaret Lam, Victoria Martin, Janna Mattson, Jen Stevens, Jason Byrd, Theresa Calcagno, Mary Oberlies, Laura Jenemann, Jo Ann Henson, Steve Gerber, Kathy Butler, and Sarah Sheehan** are actively participating in modeling partnerships between Faculty and the Libraries as they integrate teaching research skills in courses across the disciplines.

Another assessment and planning project is underway: Mason Libraries was selected as one of five participants in the Association of Research Libraries’ (ARL) *Balanced Scorecard Initiative*. Mason’s cohort includes the University of California - Santa Barbara, University of Delaware, University of Montana, and Washington University in St. Louis. This group is the third cohort of institutions to be trained on how to develop a Balanced Scorecard for their institution’s library.

The Balanced Scorecard is a strategic planning and performance management tool that helps institutions prioritize their efforts towards the change they want, and serves to track progress towards that change. For Mason’s Libraries, it will serve as the organization’s strategic assessment plan, and will help the Libraries respond to the development of the university's strategic plan this fall, as well as possible and/or anticipated changing priorities among academic units.

The Libraries are sending four representatives to ARL's training program and these individuals serve as the Mason Libraries’ project team: **Chris Dixon, Wally Grotephorst, Diane Smith, and John Walsh**. The team attended workshops in June and July, and will continue with cohort activities throughout the Fall 2013. For questions about the process, please contact one of the team members.
Research & Professional Activities


- **Yvonne Carignan**, Head, Special Collections & Archives
  - "Formulas for Courting Donors." Panel Presentation. Mid Atlantic Archivists Spring Conference, April 26, 2013, Erie, PA.


- **Ian Fairclough**, Cataloging & Metadata Librarian.


- **Laura Jenemann**, Media, Film Studies & Dance Liaison Librarian.
  - Chair, American Library Association Video Round Table, effective June 2013.
  - Chair, Notable Videos for Adults Committee, American Library Association Video Round Table, effective June 2013.

- **Andrew Lee**, Humanities & Social Science Liaison Librarian. Peer Reviewer. CHOICE/ACRL’s *Resources for College Libraries (RCL)* in the area of anthropology.

- **Tricia Mackenzie**, Cataloging & Metadata Librarian.
  - “Authority Control: Why is it important?” Presentation. Virginia Library Association Paraprofessional Forum Conference, May 21, 2013, Richmond, VA.
  - “RDA and Audiovisual Cataloging.” Presentation. ALCTS CaMMS Copy Cataloging Interest Group, American Library Association Annual Conference, June 29, 2013, Chicago, IL.

- **Wendy Mann**, Head, Data Services Group.


- **Jenna Rinalducci**, Art & Visual Technology Liaison Librarian and **Jen Stevens**, Humanities Liaison Librarian.
  - Interview on Artists’ Books. "Lost in the Stacks" radio show, WREK (Georgia Tech’s radio station).
Exhibits

During Spring Semester 2013, Mason Libraries continued to foster preservation awareness by looking at *The History of Paper*, an exhibit celebrating the invention, development and use of this flexible and useful medium. Designed by *Lene Palmer*, Preservation Librarian, the exhibit highlighted the history of paper and the papermaking process, showcased a small number of the more than 5,000 products made of paper, and concluded with information on the preservation of paper. An opening reception was held on May 13.

Around Campus

- **Anne Driscoll**, Education Liaison Librarian, **Theresa Calcagno**, Volgenau School of Engineering Librarian and **Tina Adams**, Distance Education Librarian collaborated with Dr. Eirini Gouleta of the Center for International Education to provide four sessions to the National University of Science and Technology Professional Development Program of Islamabad, Pakistan on “Getting Connected: Online Tools for Scientists,” “Introduction to Mason Libraries,” “Conducting Research on College-level Instruction using Education Databases,” and “Finding Technical Information in Engineering Databases” on June 19 and 20, 2013.

- **Jo Ann Henson**, Business & Economics Liaison Librarian, was appointed to serve on a School of Management (SOM) Working Group, formed to help shape SOM’s Strategic Plan.

- **Eric Johnson**, Student Assistant, Gifts, and a student in the History M.A. program, was awarded the 2013 Randy Beth Clarke Fellowship in U.S. history. The fellowship is given each year to an outstanding student in the History M.A. program.

“Change demands new learning.” Rosabeth Moss Canter, *The Change Masters*

Research Leave

Recommended by the Librarians’ Council Professional Development Committee, the following librarians were awarded research leave by the University Librarian for Summer/Fall 2013.


- **Jordan Patty**, Processing Archivist/Librarian, to develop a presentation entitled “Another Look: Reprocessing Photograph Collections” for a panel at the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference 2013 Fall Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

- **Tricia Mackenzie**, Cataloging & Metadata Librarian, to prepare a presentation on “RDA and Audiovisual Cataloging” for the American Library Association Annual Conference, June 29, 2013, Chicago, IL.
Kim Edwards, Interim Head, Resource Description & Metadata Services, talks about her work *After Hours*.

**Q. What is lampwork?**  
A. It’s a type of glasswork where a torch is used to melt the glass, then the glass is formed into shapes.

**Q. What attracted you to lampwork?**  
A. As an artist, I’m a “serial medium hopper” - I will try anything once. I’ve never taken any formal art classes - I think art is in my DNA! My family’s always been interested in learning and “doing” artisanal crafts. None of was formally trained in a particular craft, but we spent many family vacations at craft camps, where we learned by doing. I’m self-taught, basically.

**Q. Tell me about your studio. Why is it called Lone Tree?**  
A. (Laughs) Well, my first glass “studio” was in my apartment at my first library job in Oklahoma: I worked on a microwave cart in my kitchen. When I look back on the open flame, the ventilation and other safety problems with that tiny cart, I cringe. When I first started thinking about a studio name, someone told me not to be “cutesy” but select something with meaning. One day, I looked out across the horizon and I could literally see for miles; in the distance I saw a single tree in the distant vista. Lone Tree! When I moved here, I purchased a home in West Virginia which could accommodate a studio. Actually, I have two studios – one in West Virginia and one in Chevy Chase at my parent’s home. But I’ve worked that out – my works in progress are in West Virginia and I finish my sale pieces in Maryland.

**Q. How did you develop this chainmaille technique? Have you patented it?**  
A. My mother took a blacksmithing class one summer, and I was taking a fused glass class and wasn’t particularly excited about it. I was chatting with another instructor, who said, “You need to try lampwork!” So, I signed up for her class the following year, and fell in love with the craft. Inspired by blacksmithing, I tried it with glass. I use borosilicate – it’s very hard glass requiring greater heat—it’s Pyrex, really. Using a rod of borosilicate, I form each link by hand in the flame, and then attach them together to make a larger piece. The entire piece is put in a kiln to be annealed for strength and durability. I’ve been doing glass chainmaille since 2009. And, no, I haven’t patented it (laughing)! Artists don’t tend to do that; we share techniques and insights.

**Q. You create each link “free form” and don’t use any molds or forms? How do you get the link sizes to be so uniform?**  
A. I make them individually, and then put them in piles by their size, then create the item – it’s kind of like cataloging! (Laughs).

**Q. What’s the most difficult part of your craft?**  
A. Planning the design takes a lot of time. I work out the plan on paper. But I’m a visual thinker, and sticking to a planned design can be hard when I see other possibilities develop while I’m working with the glass. I love the “zen” of this art.

**Q. Do you “do” shows? What are you working on right now?**  
A. I “do” 3 bead shows a year. Right now, I’m getting ready to teach and present in upstate New York – I’m a little nervous, as I’ve never taught before or presented, really. But it should be fun; you always learn something.
CONGRATULATIONS!

The following library colleagues were presented with University Service Awards on April 9 & 10, 2013 at the annual University Day Service Awards celebrations. We thank them for their service to George Mason University and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Thirty Years
Wally Grotrophorst, Digital Programs & Systems
Wendy Lim, Payments, Technical Services
Kathy Perry, Virtual Library of Virginia

Twenty-five Years
John Walsh, Resources & Collection Management Services

Fifteen Years
Lara Bushallow, Systems Group, Digital Programs & Systems
Phat Le, Systems Group, Digital Programs & Systems
Mary Berkebile, Mercer Library, Prince William Campus
Heather Groves Hannan, Mercer Library, Prince William Campus

Ten Years
Shannon Hogya, Mercer Library, Prince William Campus
Pierre Davis, Resource Acquisitions, Technical Services
Liz Wright, Virtual Library of Virginia

Five Years
Elyse Becker, Interlibrary Loan & Document Delivery, Access Services
Joe Becker, Resource Acquisition, Technical Services
Theresa Calcagno, Reference Department, Fenwick Library
Philip Glidewell, Arlington Campus Library
Jennifer Smith Hamilton, Gifts, Technical Services
Nick Hofmann, Circulation/Reserves, Johnson Center Library
Wendy Mann, Data Services Group, Digital Programs & Systems
Janna Mattson, Mercer Library, Prince William Campus
Jordan Patty, Special Collections & Archives
Mike Perini, Reference Department, Fenwick Library
Beth Roszkowski, Arlington Campus Library
Pam Thomson, Administrative Services Department