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20
24

The Commons at Helm Library



ANNUAL REPORT



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Between the Bookends

It is fitting I started this position in 2017 during the summer of a total eclipse and ended my tenure as dean with the eclipse of 2024. The event of an eclipse drastically changes the appearance of the sky, just as my time here has drastically changed the appearance of the libraries. With the complete renovation of Helm into the Commons at Helm Library, we have not just preserved the structure, but it has been reborn and given another life as an open and welcoming space for future Hilltoppers.

The Cravens Library has also been refreshed with new floor-to-ceiling windows with amazing light and access to the best views of campus. Cravens was revitalized with new furniture to create inviting group and individual study spaces.

By relocating the collections and services of the Beulah Winchel Education Library (BWEL), Special Collections, and Archives for the convenience of all patrons to Cravens Library, all library faculty and staff are now located in close proximity for opportunities of cross-departmental collaboration and teamwork.



I am proud the American Library Association (ALA) and the International Interior Design Association (IIDA) have recognized our efforts and have awarded The Commons at Helm Library winner of Outstanding Historic Renovation Project. This high honor awarded at the ALA Annual Conference in San Diego June 2024, is the perfect cherry on the top. Thank you President Caboni, Gensler's architects, Luckett & Farley, and the steering committee for the amazing adventure.

Message from the Dean

What are the results of these changes?

- Circulation of BWEL books and materials are up by **65%**
- Circulation of the main collection of books and materials have increased by **16%**
- Patron counts and usage of the two buildings are up by almost **300%**
- Study room usage is up **54%**

Of course, great things happen only with collaboration and support. Special thanks to Provost Fischer for all of his guidance and wisdom. Greatest thanks goes to my entire library team for their outstanding dedication and positive can-do attitude. It has been an honor to serve the WKU community for the past seven years.

Go Tops!

Susann E. de Vries

Susann de Vries, Dean of University Libraries



IIDA
ALA/IIDA
LIBRARY INTERIOR
DESIGN AWARDS 2024

WKU Libraries

WINNER & BEST IN COMPETITION

Honoring achievement in outstanding interior architecture and design that encourages and uses innovative interior design ideas, techniques, and furnishings. The ALA/IIDA Interior Design Award recognizes outstanding interior design in libraries. The award is co-sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and the International Interior Design Association (IIDA) and is given every two years.

Not only did The Commons at Helm Library win the ALA/IIDA Interior Design Award for Outstanding Historic Renovation Project, but also received the Best in Competition Award. Susann de Vries, Dean of University Libraries, accepted the awards with Brian Watson, Design Director at Gensler, at the annual ALA Conference in San Diego.

WKU Libraries wins the prestigious ALA (American Library Association) and IIDA (International Interior Design Association) award for Outstanding Historic Renovation Project!

The Commons at Helm Library project was announced during President Timothy Caboni's investiture on April 27, 2018. This was a major milestone in the evolution of WKU's campus. President Caboni envisioned the Commons as a place where



ideas are created, shared, and shaped, highlighting its role as the intellectual hub of the university community. Designed by the architectural firm Gensler in collaboration with Lockett & Farley, The Commons at Helm Library represents a harmonious blend of historic preservation and contemporary design. The adaptive reuse of the Helm Library building has provided a dynamic setting that fosters learning, collaboration, and community engagement.



Susann de Vries, Dean of University Libraries and chair of the University Steering Committee, played a crucial role in guiding the renovation project.

Leveraging her background in academic libraries, historic conservation, and a M.S. in Historic Preservation, she worked



to merge the building's rich history with a vision for future student success. Her experience ensured that The Commons at Helm Library would serve as a transformative space for generations of Hilltoppers. "The Commons at Helm Library has been preserved and reborn to foster a vibrant and inclusive space of collaboration, innovation and academic excellence for many Hilltopper generations to come," said de Vries.

Brian Watson, Design Director at Gensler, highlighted the evolving role of libraries in today's educational landscape.

He emphasized the library must

transform from a static purveyor of information to an active academic hub. The design of The Commons at Helm Library embodies this forward-thinking approach, providing a seamless blend of individual and social learning spaces.



WKU Libraries is honored to receive the ALA/IIDA Library Interior Design Award for Outstanding Historic Renovation Project, recognizing The Commons at Helm Library as an inspiration of innovation and excellence in library design.

As President Caboni aptly stated,

"While no one graduates from the library, no one graduates without the library."

The Commons at Helm Library stands as a testament to the enduring legacy of learning and community at Western Kentucky University.



New Online Subscriptions to *The New York Times* & *Wall Street Journal*

WKU Libraries is thrilled to announce that our digital resources have been enriched with the addition of two prominent publications, which will benefit students, faculty, and staff. *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* are now available to the entire WKU community, providing a wealth of information and entertainment to enrich academic and professional endeavors.

“The acquisition of digital subscriptions to *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* at WKU is a testament to the library’s commitment to fostering a culture of academic excellence and providing students and faculty with the necessary resources to succeed,”

~ Susann de Vries, Dean of University Libraries.

[CLICK HERE](#)
TO ACCESS THE
SUBSCRIPTION!

WSJ

The New York Times

[CLICK HERE](#)
TO ACCESS THE
SUBSCRIPTION!

For any questions or assistance regarding these new subscriptions, individuals are encouraged to visit the [FAQ page](#) on the library’s website or contact Karen Schifferdecker, Electronic Resources Librarian, at karen.schifferdecker@wku.edu.

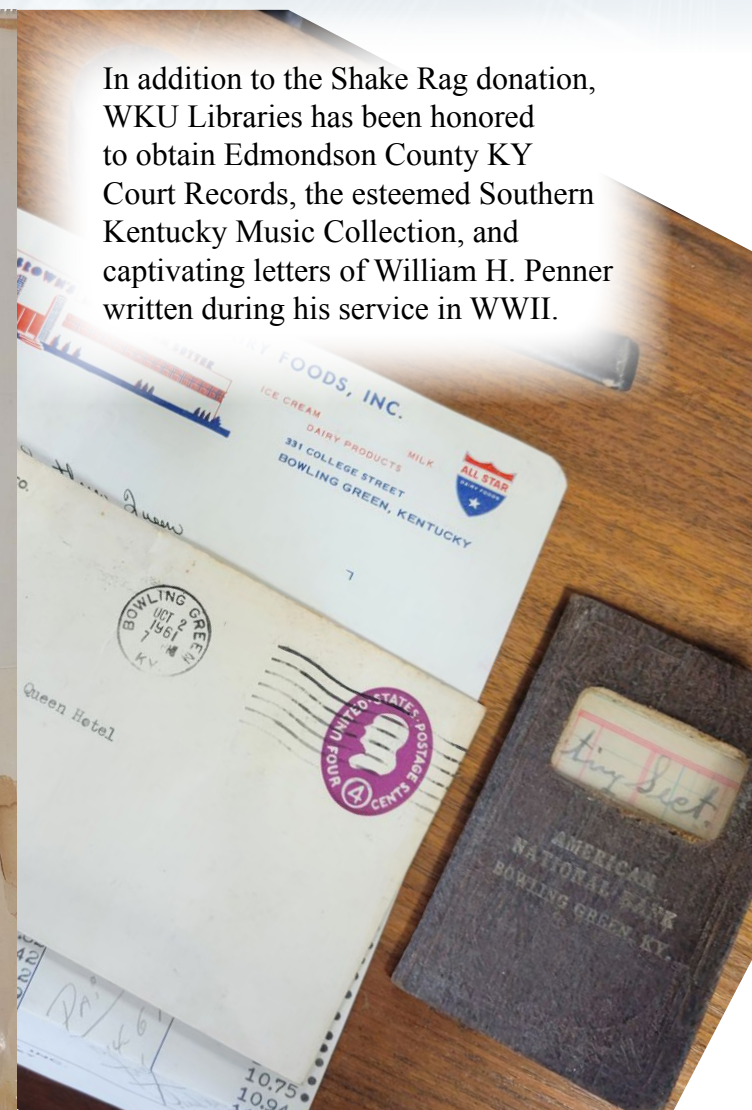
Andrew Adler, Chair of the Department of Library Collections & Discovery, emphasized the importance of these new subscriptions in preparing students for the global stage. “It is important that the library provides access to resources that inform our students about events and offer perspectives they can use to inform their opinions and outputs,” Adler stated.

“Resources like the *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* allow students to engage in discussions from an informed position and formulate their own viewpoints.”

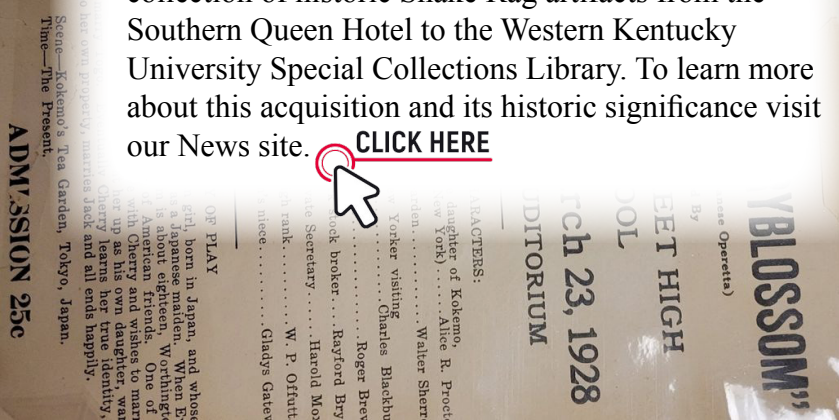
~ Andrew Adler, Chair of the Department of Library Collections & Discovery



In addition to the Shake Rag donation, WKU Libraries has been honored to obtain Edmondson County KY Court Records, the esteemed Southern Kentucky Music Collection, and captivating letters of William H. Penner written during his service in WWII.



The City of Bowling Green donated an extensive collection of historic Shake Rag artifacts from the Southern Queen Hotel to the Western Kentucky University Special Collections Library. To learn more about this acquisition and its historic significance visit our News site. [CLICK HERE](#)



We have expanded our main library physical collection with 1,292 new academic titles!



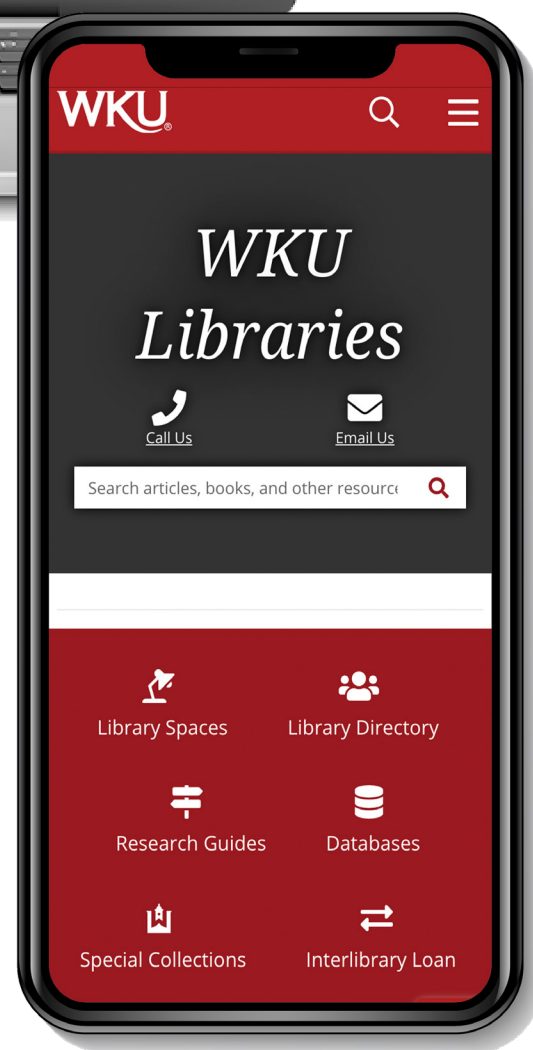
Check out our new website!

Our library website has recently undergone an update that brings a modern and streamlined look to our website visitors. The updated design focuses on enhancing the overall user experience and simplifying access to the library's resources and services for students, faculty, staff, and researchers.

One of our WKU Libraries goals is to foster a culture of innovation, and this includes enhancing teaching and active learning in both the physical and digital library presence. Accordingly, we periodically audit the website to guarantee that our content remains relevant, up-to-date, and optimized in a way that is easy to navigate and meets the needs of our patrons. Our website committee is chaired by Michael Moore, Information Technology Consultant, and includes members Sean Kinder, Todd Seguin, and Amanda Hardin.

"We wanted to promote the most visited pages while consolidating those with lower traffic to streamline the user experience," Moore explained. "Ensuring responsiveness across devices was a key focus to make content easily accessible and readable regardless of the device being used."

Our updated website provides a seamless and efficient experience for our patrons, offering a wealth of resources and services at their fingertips. Whether users are looking for research assistance, library hours, or library spaces, the new website is designed to meet their needs effectively.



◀ Dr. Anthony Paganelli conducted a "Murder in the Library" themed scavenger tour of the library for education majors during their Professional Development Day. He also assisted with high school campus tours for the TRiO program.



◀ Brooke Gross leads the Practice Student Learning Group in the WKU Generative AI Community.



◀ Ashley Orehek, who served on the Student Scholar Showcase Council, along with Anthony Paganelli, Sara McCaslin, Natalya Melnyk, Todd Seguin, Brooke Gross, and Dan Forrest served as a session chair at the 2024 Student Scholar Showcase.

The WKU Student Scholar Showcase features the scholarly work of graduate and undergraduate students from diverse disciplines across campuses. It has been an annual tradition at WKU since 1970, providing a platform for students to present their research and creative endeavors.



◀ Overall, WKU Libraries' social media presence has experienced a positive trajectory, with a notable increase in engagement and visibility compared to the previous year. We continue to adapt our social media strategy to meet the evolving needs of our students and look forward to further growth in the future.



Outreach



▲ Our librarians participated in the Hope on the Hill events. Ashley Orehek (left) and Dr. Sara McCaslin (right) at the E. A. Diddle Arena



Our Special Collections Library also started its own Instagram page this year to highlight exhibits, archives, and all the cool treasures they hold. To visit the Special Collections Library





Our librarians have exceeded expectations by delivering an impressive 284 information literacy instructions during the academic year, directly impacting 4,189 students. Based on our Fall 2022 Full-Time Equivalent Enrollment our librarians have provided information literacy instruction to 31% of our total student population. These sessions align with WKU’s strategic plan, specifically the goal of enhancing student success and fostering a culture of lifelong learning. By equipping students with essential information literacy skills, our dedicated faculty librarians are actively contributing to WKU’s mission of empowering individuals to engage in critical thinking and discovery. We strive to be a lighthouse of research and knowledge on campus, and our librarians commitment to student success helps us be the guiding light of information literacy.



◀ Todd Seguin organized a statewide OER panel and led the discussion at the Kentucky Convergence Conference. To learn more about our WKU Libraries Open Educational Resources and Affordable Textbooks initiative visit our website or [CLICK HERE](#)



During the 2023 fall semester, Sara McCaslin joined a professional learning community called “First Gen Faculty Advocates” sponsored by CITL. The group met monthly and examined the book *Creating the Path to Success in the Classroom* by Kathleen F. Gabriel. They presented at the Faculty/Staff Professional Development Day on January 11, 2024.

Information Literacy

Over the past academic year, our librarians participated in innovative teaching, outreach, and professional development to bring student success initiatives. They engaged in collaborative learning endeavors with various departments at WKU, showcasing their commitment to enhancing educational experiences through innovative approaches.



◀ During the Spring 2024 semester, Todd Seguin, Dan Forrest, and Dr. Sara McCaslin worked with Dr. Marko Dumancic and his HIST 438 20th Century Russia class. Dr. Dumancic organized a simulation of the Yalta Conference, where students roleplayed key figures representing the Allied Forces from the United States, Russia, and the United Kingdom. Our librarians assisted the delegations by offering research and information sources to help them prepare for the classroom debates and negotiations during the mock conference. Additionally, the librarians attended the debates to provide real-time support for the students.

Joe Shankweiler worked with the Secret Societies class throughout the Spring 2024 semester to assist them in identifying, handling, and displaying materials for an exhibition in the Helm History Room in the Helm Commons. This was a collaborative effort that involved partnering with Emma Newton, Nancy Richey, and Suellyn Lathrop to showcase items in the Special Collections & Archives and engage students in the process. Joe Shankweiler met with Dr. Katharine Lennard’s class every Friday to discuss the planning and tasks involved in creating the exhibition and also guided students through the physical setup of the space and displays. The exhibition will be on display until Fall 2024.



By actively participating in professional learning communities and providing hands-on support during classroom activities, our librarians play a key role in supporting students at WKU by enhancing the educational experience for students and faculty alike.

Behind The Collection



Meet Kenneth Foushee,
the Department of Library
Collections & Discovery
Accounts Specialist at WKU
Libraries. Foushee plays a
crucial role in overseeing
the management of the
library's resources and
acquisitions. With sixteen
years of experience
at WKU Libraries and
working in various roles
and departments within the
library, Foushee's journey from
a student worker to a staff member
reflects his deep-rooted passion for
library work.



Meet Daniel Newman,
our Library Assistant at Access
Services, who plays a crucial role in
overseeing library operations during
evening hours. His responsibilities
include supervising Circulation
and Security students, ensuring
compliance with library policies,
managing the stacks in the library,
and running monthly reports
for any missing items or items
that may have other inventory
errors in Alma. With a background
in History and Classical Studies from
WKU, Newman's passion for academia
and enriching students' lives has been a driving
force in his commitment to the library.



Student Support Driven & Accountable Library Resource Management

Although a lot of his work happens
out of the spotlight, it significantly
affects the library's mission and the
success of our students. For example,

Foushee's contributions to the
Collection Development team, where
he assesses resources to guarantee
they fulfill the requirements of the
WKU community. Part of this is
responsibly managing the library's
acquisition funds, as the efficient
utilization of these resources directly
influences the institution's capacity to
effectively support our students.



***"A lot of my job involves
being a good steward of the
finite funds the library has for
acquisitions," ~ Kenneth Foushee***



One of the recent success stories is a
collaboration with Anthony Paganelli,
First Year Experience Librarian, and
the music faculty to provide multi-
user access to Grove Music Online for
music appreciation student projects.
They identified lesser-used music
journals that could be canceled to
reallocate funds for this purpose.

To ensure that patrons still had
access to the canceled titles, Foushee
coordinated with our library
Interlibrary Loan Specialist to procure
any necessary articles from alternative
sources. This strategic approach not
only increased the usage of a valuable
resource for the music department but
also maintained access to the canceled
titles for users who may require them.

Foushee emphasized the unseen nature of his work, noting that many efforts go unnoticed by the campus community. "However, the positive response I get when I can quickly provide access to a class for a streaming video is gratifying," noted Foushee. Additionally, he highlighted the overwhelmingly positive response when the library secured access to *The Wall Street Journal*, underscoring our libraries mission and commitment to enhancing resources for the campus community.

Revolutionizing Patron Count Data Management at WKU Libraries



Newman explains that the rounds
of data collection serve two
purposes. The first purpose
is to ensure that there is a
regular presence of staff and
security students on the library
floors. The second purpose
is to provide accurate patron
counts throughout the day.
Before the fall of 2022, patron
counts were done through
gate counts, which were not
very reliable since not all areas
had gate counts. Additionally,
manual patron counts were only
conducted in the evening, resulting in incomplete
data. Newman recognized the need for consistent
and comprehensive data to accurately gauge patron
traffic and identify peak usage times. As a result,
patron count data collection is now done every two

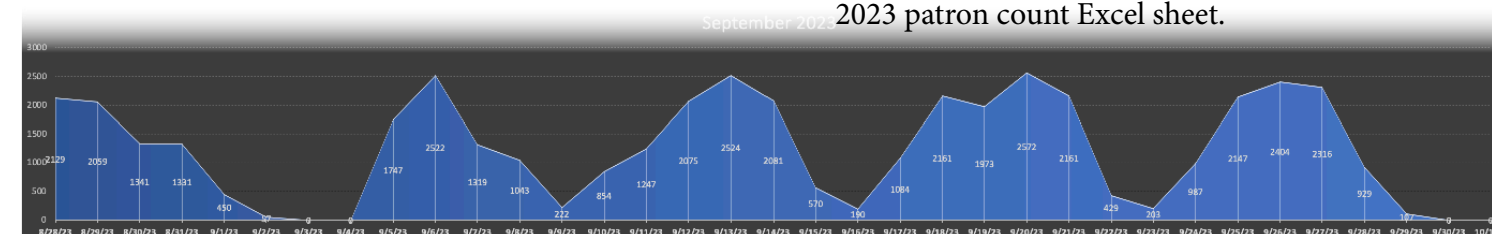
hours by one of our Library Assistants at Access
Services, in all open library spaces and locations.

Having joined WKU in April 2022, Newman's
motivation stems from his desire to contribute to the
academic environment that once nurtured his own
educational journey.



***"This place (WKU Libraries) has the
power to really enrich students' lives, I
love being a part of that" ~ Daniel Newman***

The graph below is a chart sample of the September
2023 patron count Excel sheet.





**ALL INFORMATION
LITERACY INSTRUCTION
VIDEOS USAGE INCREASED.**

↑ 42%

Electronic Usage Statistics

e-books
27,025

e-media
(streamed
videos/plays)
6,415

e-series
222,535



**SINCE THE OPENING OF THE COMMONS AT
HELM LIBRARY, OUR PATRON COUNT HAS
INCREASED, INCLUDING CRAVENS LIBRARY.**

↑ 300%

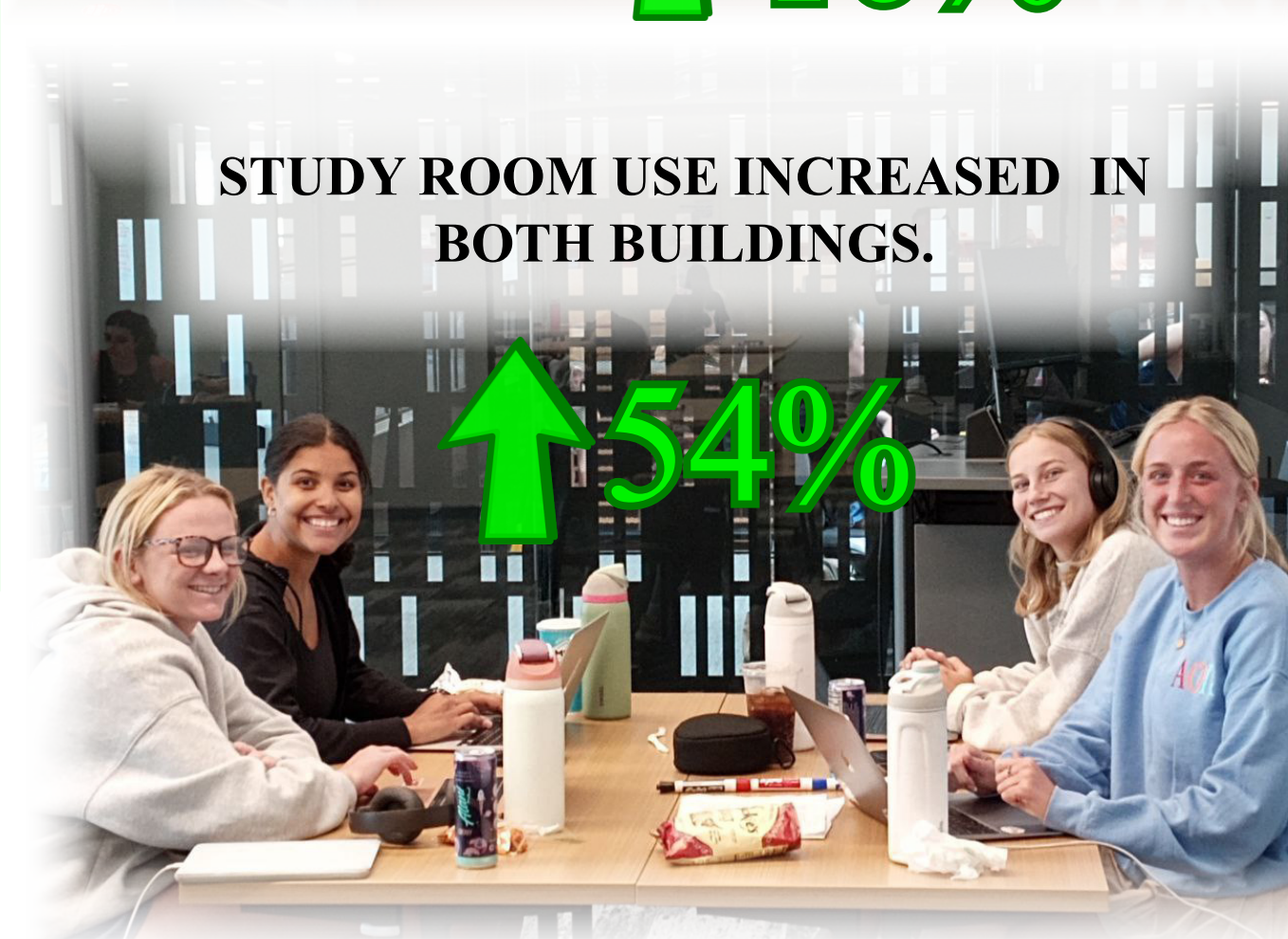


By The Numbers



**CIRCULATION HAS
INCREASED.**

↑ 16%



**STUDY ROOM USE INCREASED IN
BOTH BUILDINGS.**

↑ 54%

Congratulations to the 2023-2024 WKU Libraries Connie Foster Student Scholarship Endowment winners Avery Pope and Tameka Ferguson!



Tameka Ferguson, a junior majoring in Computer Science from The Bahamas, expressed that winning this scholarship has had a profound impact on her education. Not only does it make her education more affordable, but it also serves as a source of encouragement for her to excel in her studies. “It lifts a burden off of my parents on the amount they pay for my tuition and fees,” Ferguson expressed gratefully.

Ferguson first learned about the scholarship while working at WKU Libraries, where she served as an Evening Security Student Assistant. During her time at the library, she found the staff to be incredibly welcoming and helpful, making it a great community to be a part of. While Ferguson couldn’t recall a specific standout experience, she emphasized her appreciation for the supportive environment.

As for her plans for the future, Tameka Ferguson is interested in becoming a Java developer, although she acknowledges that her career path may evolve over time. With the financial burden alleviated by the scholarship, Tameka can now focus on her studies and explore her passion for computer science.

“We believe that investing in our students’ education is an investment in their future success,” expressed Susann de Vries, Dean of WKU Libraries. “We are proud to support their academic journey and look forward to witnessing the impact they will make in their chosen fields and beyond.”

Avery Pope, a junior double majoring in Philosophy and Political Science with a certificate in Strategic Communications from Elizabethtown Kentucky, expressed her excitement about winning the Connie Foster Student Scholarship which will alleviate some of the financial burden associated with her education. As a student with courses that require extensive reading, the scholarship will contribute towards the cost of books, making her academic journey more manageable.

“It means a lot to win this scholarship,” Pope stated. “I am honored that the selection committee has chosen me as the recipient. I was actually at the library when I found out I won, so it was a nice surprise!”



Avery Pope learned about the scholarship through TopDollar and the staff at WKU Libraries, where she has been working for two years. Starting her position in the fall of 2021, Pope has been a meaningful part of the library’s circulation desk on the 4th floor of Cravens. Reflecting on her experience, she shared her admiration for the library staff and the positive environment they foster.

“My favorite part about working at the library is the people there and how much I have learned,” Pope expressed. “The library staff is always positive and uplifting. They care about the well-being of the student workers and are always checking in on us. Had I not taken the student worker position, I would not have met some of the best staff on WKU’s campus.”

Looking ahead, Avery plans to attend law school after graduating from WKU in May 2024. While she has yet to decide on a specific institution, she will be taking the LSAT this summer as part of her preparation.

For more information on the Connie Foster Student Scholarship Endowment, go to <https://www.wku.edu/chf/conniefoster/index.php> or



Recognizing Success

Jan Renusch dedicated many years of her professional life to the Libraries’ Dean’s Office, where she served with distinction as an Office and Budget Coordinator. Throughout her tenure, she worked closely with three different deans, demonstrating exceptional adaptability and unwavering commitment to the office’s success. Jan’s outstanding professional knowledge, coupled with her wisdom and impeccable organizational skills, made her an invaluable asset to our team. Her friendly and helpful nature endeared her to colleagues and students alike, always ready to offer sage advice in challenging situations. Jan’s retirement marks a significant milestone for the Libraries’ Dean’s Office, but her legacy of excellence and kindness will continue to inspire us all.

Connie Foster, Retired Dean of WKU Libraries, remarked, “I wish Jan the very best in retirement, a milestone well-deserved. Jan brought to her position a knowledge and wisdom that was unmatched. She was the ideal confidante and competent in budget-related matters, which always stayed at the forefront of University life. If she were a jewel, she would be a diamond of the rarest kind! I was so fortunate to have her as my office assistant. Thank you, Jan.”

Jan’s contributions have left an indelible mark on our University Libraries, and her absence will surely be felt by all who had the pleasure of working with her. We extend our deepest gratitude for her many contributions and wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement.

Susann de Vries, who is also stepping down this year as the Dean of University Libraries, expressed that working with Jan has been an absolute pleasure. “She was my right (and left) hand in managing fiscal operations in the Dean’s office. As my stalwart counsel, Jan was always the consummate professional with a ready smile and an upbeat attitude. The WKU Libraries could not function without her. Cheers to your retirement.”

Under de Vries’ leadership, the implementation of Library Task Forces has been a cornerstone of her commitment to teamwork and inclusivity. Each year, these task forces bring together faculty and staff from across the library to collaborate on strategic initiatives, ensuring that all voices are heard and creative ideas are welcomed. This inclusive approach not only empowered the library staff and faculty to contribute their expertise and insights but also led to significant enhancements in library services and collections. By fostering a culture of shared responsibility and collaboration, de Vries has strengthened the library’s ability to meet the evolving needs of the university community.

“Dean de Vries has led the Libraries through a period of dynamic growth and change, always seeking innovative ways to keep WKU on the leading edge of the field. The entire WKU community is very grateful for her outstanding work as Dean of Libraries,” noted Provost Dr. Robert Fischer.

As de Vries prepares to transition from her role as Dean of University Libraries, she leaves behind a lasting legacy of excellence and dedication. Her visionary leadership has elevated the library at WKU to new heights, leaving an unforgettable mark on the university community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Susann de Vries for her outstanding contributions and wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.



Susann de Vries & Jan Renusch

Ashley Orehek is being recognized for the College-Level Faculty Award for Excellence in Service!

Ashley Orehek attributes her passion for service to her upbringing, stating that her family instilled in her the importance of giving back to the community. Growing up, she frequently volunteered through Scouting, which emphasized the principle of leaving the world a little better than you found it. This principle has guided Orehek in all her service endeavors, including those at WKU.



Although most of Orehek's service activities have taken place outside the university, she believes that they indirectly contribute to student success and information literacy at WKU. One notable on-campus role she has taken on is being a session chair for the Student Scholar Showcase. This experience led her to become the Libraries' representative on the Showcase Council, where she helps plan and coordinate future Showcases. Additionally, Orehek served as a group facilitator for MASTER Plan, an orientation program that introduces first-year students to college life. Through all her roles on campus and throughout her service, Orehek provides WKU students with the skills and support to navigate their academic research. She stated, "I hope that all this work will teach students how to be digitally and informationally literate and become better professionals and members of society."

Anthony Paganelli is being recognized for the College-Level Faculty Award for Excellence in Research & Creative Activity!

Anthony Paganelli discovered his love for research during his undergraduate studies when he surveyed students' perceptions of Scooby-Doo and Scrappy-Doo. This project ignited his interest in the research process, and he has been passionate about it ever since. He enjoys generating research ideas, progressing through the research process, as well as presenting and publishing research, and helping others with their research.



Paganelli's research is centered on understanding how students learn so that academic librarians can develop effective learning opportunities to teach students information literacy. He emphasizes, "If we can gain a better understanding of how our students learn, we can teach them the information literacy skills they need to succeed academically and in their careers." Paganelli also explores ways to make information literacy pertinent to students by connecting it to career skills.

In addition to his research, Paganelli actively engages with students, colleagues, and the wider community to foster creativity. He encourages students to tailor their college research assignments to focus on current trends in their respective fields of study, enabling them to confidently and intellectually discuss the knowledge they have acquired with potential employers.



Picture: Amanda Hardin (left), Susann de Vries (center), and Tish Roberson (right).

Congratulations to Tish Roberson for winning the WKU Staff Excellence Award for Teamwork!

Her passion for learning, dedication to service, and desire to make a positive difference in people's lives, is what fuels Tish Roberson every day at her job as a Library Assistant. It all started with her love for books, knowledge, and the transformative power of libraries. "Recognition validates these efforts and inspires me to continue striving for excellence in my role," said Roberson.

A firm believer in the power of teamwork, Roberson explains the significant impact we can all have when we unite and support each other.

Congratulations to Amanda Hardin for winning The Staff Excellence Award for Unsung Hero!

"This award reflects my work, but it also reflects the amazing work that the libraries do in supporting WKU, said Hardin.

As the Assistant Director of Access Services, Hardin's goal is to support the growth of her team so that they can perform their jobs effectively and continue to develop professionally. She emphasizes the shared energy and drive of her team in achieving every goal and project set for them. They communicate well and function as a cohesive team, which is a result of their hard work and something she takes great pride in.

Access Services differ from other departments within the library or on campus as they operate longer hours and have the opportunity to interact with students at all times of the day or night. This unique connection to the students, especially during night shifts or weekends when other areas of the campus are closed, is something Hardin values. She expresses pride in her team's dedication to serving the campus seven days a week and how their work significantly contributes to student success.





WKU CHRISTOPHER WARE
Staff Star
AWARD

March 2024
 Recognition

Daniel Peach
 Library Facilities Coordinator



WKU CHRISTOPHER WARE
Staff Star
AWARD

January 2024
 Recognition

Allison Salmon
 Supervisor, Circulation Desk
 Department of Libraries

Faculty

 Todd Seguin

Student

 Cal McDermott

Student

 Rian Saul

Staff

 Allison Sircy

Student

 Hannah Smith

Student

 Samantha Martinez De Freitas

Margie Helm Award Winners
 for outstanding performance


 Become a Friend
 of WKU Libraries


 Make a Gift


 Connie Foster Student
 Scholarship Endowment

Celebrating Our Achievements

WELCOME TO THE TEAM!

Andrew Adler, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Library Collections & Discovery, explained that leading the Technical Services and Special Collections & Archives departments during a time of transition has been a valuable learning experience. Merging these two departments involved identifying areas of alignment between jobs and skills, providing an opportunity for the department and its members to gain a broader understanding of their roles within the library and their future direction. The faculty and staff of the department have been receptive to the changes and have demonstrated their dedication to the success of WKU Libraries and its students.



To ensure that everyone felt supported and engaged during this transition, Adler set up meetings with each team member to establish a personal connection. This approach helped him stay informed of strategies for addressing immediate and long-term priorities. Additionally, Adler introduced a tradition from his previous position of bringing in a dozen donuts for everyone's birthdays, which has helped foster a positive atmosphere within the department.



KAREN SCHIFFERDECKER

Assistant Professor
 Electronic Resources
 Librarian



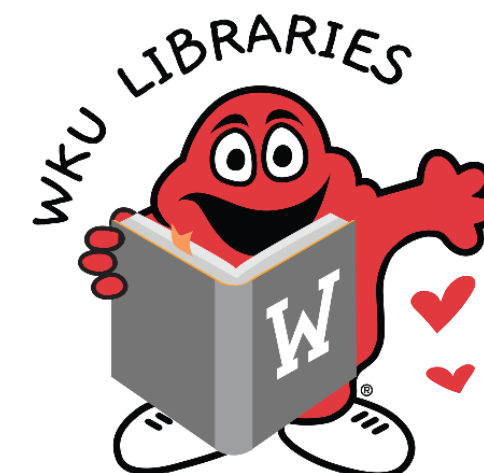
BROOKE GROSS

Assistant Professor
 Health Sciences
 Librarian



CLARKE JAMES

Library Assistant
 Access Services



Thank you to our amazing library team for another successful year!



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wku.edu/library