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Collections & Connections

A NEWSLETTER OF WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

A MESSAGE FROM THE NEW DEAN

WKU Libraries Dean Susann deVries shares vision and values

I am delighted to be here at WKU, and I would like to say thank you to everyone who has given me such a warm welcome to WKU, Bowling Green, and Kentucky! The weather here has been outstanding, and I surely do not miss all of the snow I was accustomed to back in Michigan. It's exciting to be at WKU as we chart the path for the future with a new president.

My vision for libraries is actualized through my deliberate commitment to the following values:

- Go where they go. Connecting with students where they are requires ongoing outreach and partnerships with all campus faculty and staff, as well as the students themselves. These collaborative efforts lead teaching, learning, and knowledge creation to facilitate achievement and success on campus, at home, or on-the-go.

- No idea is too small. Connecting with people in the library organization requires shared governance for advancement. I value the importance of understanding the needs of the library community, which often presents in open listening sessions, chance conversations, and small bursts of insight. Working transparently in an open-minded environment contributes to developing dynamic teams, space, and systems to ensure the success and sustainability of the Libraries.
- Build what they need. Connecting patrons with collections and supporting all avenues of student success is the essence from which the library's sustenance is traditionally derived. We will keep an eye to the advances in technology, digital resources, and the plethora of information that have transformed library services to elevate the curation, preservation, and dissemination of knowledge to serve the needs of today's modern library.
- No library is an island. Connecting with the wider community is imperative to furthering the values, missions, and goals of libraries. The Libraries will engage, influence, and facilitate synergies with WKU's external constituents, including state, regional, and national consortia and organizations. I value creative partnerships that can promote cross-functional programming, manage a complex network of shared resources, or create a new operating system to highlight scholarship, creative works, and archival materials to the world.

Academic institutions create connections through teaching, learning, and research. We learn together about the research process and the recorded work of others in order to contribute to, and become part of, the larger community so we may become independent thinkers, lifelong learners, and global citizens. I look forward to the bright future of the Libraries' role in connecting WKU to a global information infrastructure in the comfort of their personal community.

Kindest regards,

Susann E. deVries





Student scholarship endowment created

A new student scholarship endowment fund has been created to aid WKU students and to honor retired WKU Libraries Dean Connie Foster. The newly formed endowment, named the Connie Foster Student Scholarship Endowment, aims to assist WKU students with priority to those students working in the libraries.

Former Dean Connie Foster helped create an account to give out scholarships to library student assistants from its existing Friends of the Libraries fund. Dean Susann deVries said, “It was a natural fit to put Connie Foster as the namesake for the scholarship fund she had a hand in creating. The new endowment will take the fund a step further by making it sustainable.”

To honor 41 years of service at WKU and to further her legacy, friends, colleagues, and the WKU Library Advisory Council created a scholarship endowment in Foster’s name to ensure students will have scholarship funds perpetually. Through the generosity of WKU Friends of the Libraries, a matching gift was made to jump start the endowment.

“We are so grateful for the supporters who have donated to make this endowment a reality,” said Jennifer Wilson, communications coordinator for WKU Libraries. “The initial goal of \$10,000 was met to create the endowment and we are now accepting donations to keep the scholarship at the same level as previous years.” Go to <https://www.wku.edu/chf/conniefoster/index.php> for more information.

Calendar of Events

WKU Libraries Spring Semester 2018

- 2/15** *Kentucky Live: “College Life and the Making of Modern Nashville”
Mary Ellen Pethel, Nashville, TN
- 2/21** Evening with Randall Curry, Mayor of Horse Cave
WKU Libraries Glasgow Campus, 3pm
- 2/22** *Far Away Places: “The Magic, Mystery and Misfortune of Modern Kenya”
Nancy Rice, WKU Biologist
- 2/28** History of the Banjo
WKU Libraries Glasgow Campus, 2pm
- 3/2-4** Used Book Sale
Warren County Public Library, Bob Kirby Branch
- 3/8** *Kentucky Live: “Altogether Fitting and Proper: Civil War Battlefield Preservation in History, Memory and Policy, 1861-2015”
Timothy B. Smith, University of Tennessee Martin, TN

*All Kentucky Live and Far Away Places events will take place at 7pm at Barnes & Noble Booksellers

- 3/22** *The Bosnia List* with Kenan Trebinčević
Warren County Public Library, Bob Kirby Branch
Reception 5pm, presentation/book signing 7pm
- 3/22** *Far Away Places: “Poverty is a Person: Human Agency, Women and Caribbean Households”
Theresa Ann Rajack-Talley, University of Louisville, KY
- 3/29** “Votes for Women:” Portrayal of Madeline McDowell, suffragist from Breckinridge County
Ogden Hall Auditorium, Room 1006, 6:30pm
- 4/12** *Far Away Places: “Morocco at the Crossroads of Europe, Africa and the Middle East”
Soleiman Kiasatpour, WKU Political Scientist
- 4/19** *Kentucky Live: “The Vine That Ate the South”
J.D. Wilkes, author, musician, filmmaker, visual artist
- 4/20** Kentucky Writers Conference, Teen and Children’s Day
- 4/21** SOKY Book Fest



Lemony Snicket & Maggie Stiefvater



headline the 20th annual SOKY Book Fest

The 20th annual Southern Kentucky Book Fest is scheduled for April 20-21, 2018 at the Knicely Conference Center. We're excited to welcome Lemony Snicket (Daniel Handler), #1 bestselling author of the Series of Unfortunate Events books, along with Maggie Stiefvater, bestselling author of the Raven Cycle series of young adult books. SOKY Book Fest favorite Phil Bildner will also attend, along with Kentucky natives Debbie Dadey and Holly Goddard Jones; former Governor Steve Beshear; renowned sociobiologist Rebecca Costa; National Book Award-nominated Mitali Perkins; Mike Mullin, author of the Ashfall series; and 140 more authors representing all literary genres. WKU faculty Cheryl Hopson, Tom Hunley, and David Bell will also be in attendance, participating in panels and workshops during the weekend.

Teen & Children's Day is Friday (9am-2pm), featuring 60 authors. Kids of all ages will be able to attend panels and workshops and participate in fun activities like yoga and crafts. The event is open to the public, but pre-registration for school groups is available on our website, sokybookfest.org or by contacting Lisa Rice at the Warren County Public Library (270-781-4882).

The Kentucky Writers Conference will feature 16 writing-intensive sessions on Friday, with four additional workshops being offered Saturday for the first time ever! With a focus on fiction this year, writers of all experience levels will learn from top professionals about how to get published, writing memoir, marketing short fiction, and much more from authors like Sarah Loudin Thomas, Jessica Strawser, Catherine McKenzie, Lorie Langdon and Carey Corp, Wendy Tyson, and more. All are free and open to the public, and registration opens on our website mid-February.



SOKY Book Fest

BARNES & NOBLE
BOOKSELLERS

WARREN COUNTY
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

WKU
Libraries

Lemony Snicket (Daniel Handler) will sign books after his 10am presentation Saturday morning (11am signing). Maggie Stiefvater will speak at 11am Saturday, with signing to follow. Book sales will be provided by Barnes & Noble booksellers. This year, we will also have a commemorative SOKY Book Fest t-shirt designed by Mark Wayne Adams available for purchase at the event! After buying your shirt, bring it around to get it signed by attending authors!

See www.sokybookfest.org for information about each author attending, full schedules, workshop sign-ups, and to get your tickets to the Meet the Author Reception on April 20 from 5pm-7pm (our sources say there will likely be a Lemony Snicket sighting there). Hope to see you there!



WKU Libraries
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SOKY Book Fest

2018 Used Book Sale

**175 Iron Skillet Court | Warren County Public Library
 Bob Kirby Branch**

Friday, March 2 • 9am to 5pm
Saturday, March 3 • 9am to 5pm
Sunday, March 4 • 1pm to 5pm
sokybookfest.org

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