A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Gale S. Etschmaier, Ed.D.

Last year was a great year for the SDSU Library. We completed our largest study space remodel, made the most significant purchase of humanities materials in over eight years, restored two historic murals, and commissioned a new student mural. We hired three new library faculty members and five staff members, building on service excellence. I’m pleased to share some highlights.

The new school year is now underway and students are already filling every corner of the library space and using our services. This is an exciting, energizing time. This year we will:

• Open Map-IT, a geographical information systems studio where students from any major will be able to explore data and experiment with ways to present research.

• Develop a Digital Humanities Lab where students and faculty can use advanced technologies to analyze and explore art, literature, and social science research.

• Enhance student life with art, performances, and exhibits.

• Offer all students free 3D printing and more in Build-IT makerspace.

• Dedicate the new room for the Edward Marsh Golden Age of Science Fiction Collection.

• Implement a new Unified Library Management System to promote access and visibility to millions of CSU resources.

Together we can make extraordinary things happen. Thank you for your support.

Gale S. Etschmaier, Ed.D.
The Library Computing Hub is one of the most heavily used areas of the library. In this space, 54% of student-users who responded to a survey received tutoring and 47% worked with an instructor or TA on a course assignment. The renovation increased seating by 64% and included painting, flooring, mixed-use furniture, additional electrical outlets, and adjustable height workstations.

Updating the 45 year old Love Library is positively impacting students’ success. Over the past 5 years, 112,000 sq. ft. of remodeled space has transformed the student experience in the library.

Build-IT @ SDSU Library moved to a visible, busy, and central location in the Computing Hub. More than 69 students became ‘Master Builders’ for the studio, printing over 2,000 free 3D objects for students from all parts of campus. The program fosters interdisciplinary collaboration for student motivated do-it-yourself learning of technology and exposes students to emerging technologies that empower their creativity.

Math & Stats Tutoring is a partnership with the College of Sciences to provide tutoring in a new, larger space in Love Library. This collaboration expands opportunities for math tutoring and directly impacts student success in high-risk math classes.
While teaching students how to find scholarly information, SDSU librarians answered 13,000 research questions. Learners at any level receive high quality assistance face-to-face or virtually via chat services, email, and text. Help is also provided through research and course guides, tips, blog posts, and multimedia tutorials.

The new Textbooks on Reserve program addresses financial pressures facing many students. They can now check out some textbooks for a 2-hour period. Last year, the library purchased 114 textbooks and placed them at the Circulation/Course Reserve desk. Comprising only 7% of the library’s total reserve collection, the textbooks accounted for nearly 20% of all circulation transactions.

The library’s recent elimination of book fines removes obstacles to registration and graduation. Until last year, students with overdue books were not able to register for the classes they needed. Now, the loan period is longer and overdue fines are a thing of the past.

Launched last fall, a dynamic library website makeover is more intuitive for students searching for the resources they need for class assignments. Changes include prominently displayed hours of operation, featured services, news and events, and a single “Google-like” search box.

Over 120 students are employed in the library. Their work is a valued part of our operations and provides résumé worthy experience. The student liaison positions are grant funded.
Last year 1,251 students received in-person library instruction at 370 teaching events. Also, 600 first year students completed the library’s mobile tour.

The new proximity beacon tour of library student success zones helps students discover services. Using cellphone technology, students are alerted to new and exciting learning opportunities in the library.

Supporting student success is the focal point of library operations. Further, it is the vision and mission of our highly responsive faculty and staff members.

24/7 study extended to all five floors of Love Library during the exam periods. This expansion provides 24/7 access to many more group study rooms, which are in high demand during finals.

Relocating Volunteer Income Tax Assistance to the library enhanced both the program’s environment and its technological support. Student volunteers gave tax preparation assistance to 178 low-income individuals and 229 international students.
Through publications and presentations, library faculty contribute to the research of the practice of librarianship and their disciplines. They are also engaged in transformative partnerships such as the Area of Excellence for Digital Humanities and Global Diversity. Working with teaching faculty from across the university, we are planning a state-of-the-art digital humanities lab. It will create new ways to experience literature, art, and social science research.

Collaborating with Lambda Archives in San Diego led to a CAL Humanities grant documenting the emergence of the Gay Pride Movement in Southern California. The project will make original source materials available digitally on the World Wide Web. Lambda Archives houses the region’s most comprehensive archive of LGBT related materials.

The migration to a Unified Library Management System will move the library to the next generation of online catalog systems. Implementation for all 23 CSU libraries will provide easy access to millions of the books and resources held by CSU libraries. Launched in 2015, the project will go live June 2017.

The library is committed to creating more robust technology support, expanding collaborations across the campus, and streamlining collections.
Academic Affairs increased funding for library collections by $700,000. This addition will sustain current subscriptions, purchase books, add critical subscriptions, and replace resources in obsolete formats. Faculty have responded very positively to increased resources, especially The Chronicle of Higher Education, and Pivot, a database of awards, fellowships, and grants from federal, corporate, private, and international funding sources.

Notable gifts to Special Collections during last year include books and materials from Judge Bernard Revak’s Winston Churchill collection; 13,000+ comic books and collectibles from alumni Mr. and Mrs. Rob O’Carroll; 1,100 science fiction and fantasy books from the Barbara Briggs collection, and over 350 volumes on the history of jewelry.

Library faculty and staff select, purchase, and provide access to print, media, and electronic collections that are essential to teaching and research across the university.

A review of the SDSU Thesis Collection recognized and celebrated the scholarship of our alumni’s work. The Most Accessed Project identified heavily used online and print SDSU theses and dissertations. Each online title in the Top 100 had been accessed over 1,000 times.

Digital collections grew to over 8 terabytes of material, including the new exhibit, Art at San Diego State University. This collection displays high resolution photographs of the campus murals and other campus art pieces.

Did you know?

In 2015 at SDSU there were...

- 1,084,103 Full-text articles delivered
- 627,095 Electronic books and music scores downloaded
CREATIVE ENDEAVORS

EXHIBITS

“Howard B. Singer Collection of Judaica.” Artifacts and ancient Torah Scroll fragments.

“Bookish: or, a Compendium of Student Work in the Book Arts at San Diego State University.” A decade of outstanding student creativity and imagination.

“The Energy of Migration in Captivity: A View from Italy.” Common Experience exhibit, collaboration with Italian Studies.

“People’s Temple at Jonestown: Interpretations of Jonestown in Art, Photography, Sound, Film, and Words.” Materials from the Peoples Temple Collection, the Jonestown Institute, and a Jonestown survivor.

“Speculative Fiction” exhibit featuring SDSU’s Chater and Marsh collections of science fiction appeared at the Ruben H. Fleet Science Center in conjunction with their exhibit, “Science Fiction, Science Future.”

“Unidos por la Causa: The Chicana and Chicano Experience in San Diego” Library traveling exhibit transferred from the Malcolm X Branch Library to San Diego Community College.

“Will Eisner Week at the SDSU Library.” Book exhibit celebrating the pioneering artist and writer of graphic novels.

SELECTED READINGS, LECTURES, EVENTS

Hugh Hyde Living Writers Series. The library hosts one of the longest continuous poetry reading programs in the country. Last year 11 living authors presented their work.

Digital Workshop Series. Explored topics such as creating infographics and digital maps, designing research posters, 3D modeling, and social media professionalism.

Rock 'n' Roll Mural. Historic campus student mural was restored, installed and unveiled on the 3rd floor of Love Library.


Valentine’s Day celebration: The fifth annual Love Library event featured the dedication of the “Circle of Knowledge” student mural, an interactive poetry event by the Writers’ Collective, and contests initiated by the Writing Center and the Math Tutoring Center.

Alice in Wonderland Mural: Celebration of the restoration of a historic campus mural in Hardy Tower. Conservation project was led by the Library and Anthropology Department.

Special Event for the First Folio! Exhibit at the San Diego Public Library: “Collecting Shakespeare: The Story of Henry and Emily Folger,” a presentation by biographer Dr. Stephen Grant.