From the Director

Karen Lange Retirement

TEDxUWLacrosse

Meet New Librarian Katie Fox

Library Liaisons
Have you seen Murphy’s exterior façade lately? Throughout summer, contractors have been hard at work removing, repairing, replacing, and cleaning the limestone panels that cover the library. While the work was undertaken to address safety concerns related to the attachment of panels and water infiltration, it had the extra benefit of giving the campus a sparkling white building. She’s a beauty!

We enjoyed some new additions inside as well. Some new tables have been purchased for the information commons on the first floor. At bar-height, they permit students to work sitting or standing. They also have a whiteboard top, which proves useful to draw graphs, equations, and diagrams. We’ve also replaced some of the older seating in the curriculum center. And we’ve purchased several partition walls for students to create smaller semi-private areas in our large study rooms in the basement.

The modifications are in response to some of the comments students shared in the 2014 LibQUAL+ survey about the need for renovations, remodeling, group study space, etc. The library continues to be a heavily used facility with the gate count reaching 614,953 as of June 30, 2015, an increase of over 8,000 visitors over the previous academic year.

More good news: an upcoming reorganization of the Academic Affairs Division at the university will change the line of reporting of the Murphy Learning Center to the library director. This will permit the library to offer assistance to our 2nd floor colleagues be it administrative work, marketing, or technology. We’re looking forward to the increased collaboration!

The library also became the administrative home for the TEDxLaCrosse collective. TEDxLaCrosse is a campus-wide group that organizes TED-style events “celebrating locally-driven ideas and elevating them to a global stage.” Since Murphy is all about learning, exploring and sharing, it’s a great match.

We also have personnel news: in this issue, you will meet our new information literacy librarian, Katie Fox. Katie will help us review and rethink our library instruction program, especially as it’s more popular than ever. Librarians continue to make teaching a priority, providing instruction in research and information literacy for 7,971 students in the last academic year. The 350 class sessions marked an almost 16% increase over 2014-15.

Lastly, I would like to thank Karen Lange for 36 years of service at Murphy Library. Karen will retire this semester. Active in the collections management unit and the Alice Hagar Curriculum Resource Center, Karen also had a more discreet, but very important role, as a connector of people among the library personnel (and as resident prankster.) We thank her and will miss her.

Best regards,
Katherine Lavallée-Welch, Library Director
Karen Lange is Retiring!
After 36 years of outstanding service to Murphy Library and UWL, Karen Lange is retiring. Please join us as we celebrate Karen and her career on Friday, December 4, from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. in Murphy Library Room 121. Refreshments will be served.

Fall Book Sale

Tues, Dec 1 & Wed, Dec 2
Be sure to visit the semi-annual book sale, where bargains abound! The sale takes place on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 1 and 2, in Murphy Library Room 270. Hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. both days. Special deals are available on Wednesday: from 9:00 a.m. to noon, buy a bagful of books for $5.00; and from noon - 3:00, all remaining books are FREE!
TED talks are known around the globe as venues where interesting people share innovative and inspiring talks. Once you add the “x” to TED, you have an independently organized TEDx event. Once you add “UWLaCrosse” to TEDx, you have UWL’s own independent version of TED programming, TEDxUWLaCrosse.

The first TEDxUWLaCrosse event at UWL occurred in November 2013. Since then, the program has found a new home in Murphy Library, which translates to the library having administrative rights and sharing its space for organizational meetings, rehearsals, and this year’s series of TEDx Salon sessions.

TEDx can take many forms, from large-scale events, to smaller discussions. The TEDx Salons, which will be the focus at UWL for 2015-16, are smaller and more frequent events that keep a TEDx community engaged and running between bigger TEDx events. They are meant to be live and animated gatherings that include facilitators, the showing of TED videos, and conversation around the chosen theme.

The first TEDx Salon to start the series in Murphy Library was titled “Let’s Talk About Anti-Asian Racism...For Once.” Led by Dr. Roi Kawai, assistant professor in the Department of Educational Studies, and Meng Vang, UWL graduate student, the room was packed with around 100 attendees who kept up an animated, honest, and frank discussion on racism and racial equity.

The TEDxUWLaCrosse organizational group is forming a student organization that would be actively involved in the logistics and production of future TEDx campus events. Two staff from Murphy Library, Teri Holford-Talpe and Marc Manke, were part of the founding organizational team and continue as active members. With Murphy Library so involved with the success of TEDx on campus, it is rewarding to have the TEDxLaCrosse community housed in the library.

For more information, visit: http://www.uwlax.edu/TEDxUWLaCrosse/About-TEDx/

Teri Holford-Talpe, Academic Engagement & Curriculum Librarian
Katie Fox joined the staff of Murphy Library at the beginning of the fall 2015 semester as the information literacy librarian. Katie manages the library instruction program and is enjoying her quest to find the most engaging and efficient ways of teaching students to find their way in the ocean of information.

Where are you from?
I am from Colorado and went to college in Oregon. I was in Madison most recently for graduate school.

What is you favorite part of the job?
Knowledge is power, and I see my job as teaching students how to find, collect, and create knowledge. I really enjoy working with students, and hope to empower them to think independently and influence the world around them. I also love being part of a university community that values intellectual freedom, learning, and innovation.

What do you do when not at work?
I love being outside. I like running, biking, hiking and wandering. I also tend to attract calamity, so I enjoy swapping stories with friends about my most recent adventure. For example, I went to a friend’s wedding this fall and was staying in a cabin without electricity. It was dark out, so I lit the old-fashioned oil lamp on top of the dresser. When I shut a drawer on the dresser, the top of the lamp fell and shattered, the oil started burning and smoking, and the smoke detector went off. I later found out that was not even my cabin.

What have you read/viewed/listened to, etc. recently?
I have been reading “Stumbling on Happiness” by Daniel Gilbert. It is the most funny and insightful piece of nonfiction I’ve ever read. It’s great! Read it! It’s about how humans are bad at imagining our future selves and inaccurately predict what will make us happy. I also listen to a lot of podcasts, and I especially love “Freakonomics.” It turns out that economics applies to everything ever, and it’s a subject I’ve long neglected, so “Freakonomics” is helping me catch up. I hated “The Office” (American) when I first started watching it, but then I got really into it. I loved how the relationships between the characters evolved, and eventually everyone’s positive side was revealed. But their crazy and annoying traits didn’t go away either. I think that’s very true to life.

What might surprise us about you?
I was a Boy Scout (technically a Venture Scout) one summer when I taught archaeology at a Scout Ranch in Colorado. I tried to convince the Scouts that I was Indiana Jones. That failed entirely. Now that I’m a librarian, people seem surprised by anything about me that is not a “librarian” thing. But I do like cats, cardigans, quiet, and tea! I also really love Star Wars (the originals only!) and the Myers-Briggs personality test. Those are two things that people tend to be really for or against. I enjoy trying to show people who don’t like the Myers-Briggs how useful it can be (I have succeeded many times). I think love of Star Wars is more set in stone for people. You grow up with it and love it, or you’re like “What is this stupid movie??”

Meet Katie Fox

Special Collections & Steamboats in the News

The approximately 50,000 photos that make up the Murphy Library Special Collections/Area Research Center’s collection of steamboat photos were recently featured in a local TV news story.

WXOW News 19 interviewed Paul Beck, special collections librarian, and filmed the collection in Murphy Library. The story was shown on October 23, 2015.

The story can be viewed here, and the impressive digitized collection of steamboat photos can be viewed here.

The Murphy Library steamboat collection is one of the largest collections of riverboat photos in the world and has been requested and used on US postage stamps, a PBS documentary, in numerous books and magazines, on historical markers and roadside signs, in museums, on websites, as reference for famous painters, and in many other locations and for different purposes around the world.

Learn more about the steamboat collection at the Special Collections/Area Research center website.
Meeting with Academic Departments

The new library system, which includes the Search@UW discovery tool, has brought about many changes in the last year. These include a new search interface, a new process to request items from other libraries, and modifications to other circulation policies.

To help people better understand the changes and to learn how people are using the new system, librarians would welcome the opportunity to visit academic departments in person.

The following are examples of questions received from faculty and staff that librarians would be prepared to answer and demonstrate in these visits:

- How do I discover if Murphy Library has access to specific periodicals?
- What is the new Search@UW search box? What content does it search?
- How do I simply discover if Murphy Library has a specific book?
- What are the various options for requesting materials from other libraries, and what do the menu choices and various messages mean?
- Where are user guides that show how to use the new system?

Specific departmental questions and concerns can be determined during the scheduling process so that the visit is closely focused on each department’s needs.

To schedule or discuss further, please contact Stefan Smith, outreach librarian, at ssmith@uwlaux.edu or extension 8396.

Open for Collaboration: A Conversation about Open Access

To celebrate the 2015 International Open Access Week and raise awareness of open access issues at UWL, Murphy Library collaborated with the Faculty Senate Library Committee to host the brown bag lunch “Open for Collaboration: A Conversation about Open Access” on Oct. 22.

Plenary speaker Lisa Kruse, UWL Department of Sociology, outlined her experience with open access as the assistant director for the open access repository, ScholarWorks at Western Michigan University.

David Mindel and Jenifer Holman, both of Murphy Library, were available to answer questions about institutional repositories and open access publishing, respectively.

Open access is defined as “the free, immediate, online availability of research articles, coupled with the rights to use these articles fully in the digital environment” according to SPARC (the Scholarly Publishing & Academic Resource Coalition).

Open access resources include more than 10,000 peer-reviewed open-access journals; more than 2,900 open-access repositories where authors can share their research; and policies, tools, and best practices for management of author rights.

A one-page overview of Open Access can be found at:
http://www.sparc.arl.org/issues/open-access

Information about International Open Access Week is available at:
http://www.openaccessweek.org/
Library Liaisons

Murphy Library’s Library Liaison Program was purposely established to forge a closer connection between the library and the teaching faculty and staff in the many academic departments and programs at UWL.

Library liaisons are designated heads of their department or program who act as the primary contact person to Murphy Library. These liaisons play a critical role in working collaboratively with the library in identifying resources and building collections which best supports curricular and research needs. Other duties include: coordinating departmental resource ordering, reviewing resource pricing (specifically for journals and databases related to their discipline), arranging library visits, assisting with weeding projects, and communicating any other issues related to scholarly communication back and forth.

Two current examples of how library liaisons can be involved include the new focus on library visits to departments and the request to have faculty/staff complete the Core Journals survey.

Murphy Library recognizes the importance of this connection and thanks those willing to serve as library liaisons, who we believe further UWL’s overall academic mission. Your contributions are invaluable. For more information, please visit http://libguides.uwlax.edu/liaisons.

John Jax, Collection Development Librarian

Murphy Library thanks the 2015-16 library liaisons!

Accountancy
William Maas

Art
Kate Hawkes

Archeology/Anthropology
Vincent Her

Biology
Tim Gerber

Chemistry
Kris Rothhus

Communication Studies
Dave Solie

Computer Science
Mao Zheng

Economics
Donna Anderson

Education
Ahmed Ali

English
William Barillas

Environmental Studies
Meredith Thomsen

Ethnic & Racial Studies
Carol Oyster

Exercise/Sport Science
Scott Doberstein

Finance
Nordia Thomas

Geography/Earth Science
Joan Bunbury

Health Education & Promotion
Lori Reichel

Health Professions
Peggy Denton

History
Ariel Beajot

Information Systems
Brian (Kyung Hoon) Yang

Management
Weina Ran

Marketing
Gwen Achenreiner

Mathematics
Tushar Das

Microbiology
James Parejko

Military Science
Charise Buck

Modern Languages
Omar Granados

Music
Cheric Bohr

Philosophy
Jonathan Borja

Physics
Ronald Glass and Sharon Scherwitz

Political Science
Robert Ragan

Psychology
Steve McDougal

Recreation
Melanie Cary

Management
Gretchen Newhouse

Sociology
Julia McReynolds-Pérez

Student Affairs
Victoria Svoboda

Administration
Megan Morey

Theatre Arts
Christina Haynes

Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Identifying Core Periodicals for Each Discipline

As part of the new library system, the library’s discipline-specific lists of core periodicals are being moved to a new platform.

This presents a good opportunity to update those lists, which are used in many places within the library website and which instructors may link to in D2L or other course materials.

Please use the Core Journals Form to share the names of core journals in your discipline. These are the journals you read as soon as a new issue comes out, the journals that you want your students to read – in other words, the journals that Murphy Library should always have accessible.

Jen Holman,
Electronic Resources/Periodicals Librarian
Linda Jerome, Teen Librarian at the La Crosse Public Library, returned to her alma mater in October to share her passion for Young Adult (YA) Literature. Organized by Murphy Library and the UWL School of Education, Jerome talked about the renaissance in YA literature, also known as “teen literature,” which is embodied by best sellers like Harry Potter, the Twilight series, and the Hunger Games trilogy.

Jerome pointed out that teens are, surprisingly, not the biggest readers of YA literature. According to the Association of American Publishers, the “largest area of growth within the trade was the children & young adult books category. Children & young adult fiction surpassed the adult fiction market with 843 million units and 746 million units sold respectively.” But who is driving the trend? Not teens. People in the 18-35 age bracket are the true heavy-weight consumers of this genre.

Jerome sees this constantly at the public library. More often than not, it’s adults who are skimming the shelves, looking a bit embarrassed but admitting to their genre-of-choice. “Every book its reader,” Jerome pointed out. “There is such a wide array of subjects treated in these coming-of-age novels.”

Jerome also talked about how YA literature plays a role in the classroom in the form of challenged books. A former school teacher and graduate of the UWL School of Education, Jerome explained what a challenge is, the process that kicks in when a book is challenged, and the support systems that teachers can turn to when a book used in the classroom is challenged.

The YA literature presentation was the kick-off to Murphy Library’s second “Battle of the Books (BOB),” being held in early December. Jerome gave book talks for all ten books being featured for the battle, open to everyone.
Murphy Library’s annual “Freedom to Read” took place during Banned Books Week, Sept. 27–Oct. 3, 2015. Banned Books Week, which is sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA), is a national celebration that promotes the freedom of choice and the freedom of expression, even if that choice or opinion might be considered unorthodox or unpopular. Banned Books Week brings attention to the dangers of censoring books, ideas, and persons.

The public read-out was held on the first floor of the library. Readers signed up to read aloud from banned books of their choice for two to five minutes. Choices included children’s picture books, teen literature, popular novels, and classic works. The readings drew attention to many valued works of literature that have been banned or challenged.

Murphy library also held a brown bag lunch discussion on the topic of banned books from on October 1. The discussion was led and moderated by UWL faculty.
While many students were away during the summer months enjoying a relaxing vacation, a large project got underway in the basement of Murphy Library. A shift of all bound periodicals took place. This shift began at the end of May and has been recently completed in the month of October. The idea behind this shift was to condense and reorganize the periodicals as well as to create open shelving that could be removed to increase study space. So, what exactly did this shift entail?

If you would have walked through the stacks prior to this project, you would have found large spaces and gaps between many titles, where older titles had been removed. With a university enrollment of over ten-thousand students, the library decided that students could use more study space in the basement. The project encompassed shifting titles, book by book, making sure to eliminate the gaps and spaces that were there. Basically, all periodicals were being pushed together so that eventually all of the empty spaces were eliminated.

The empty shelving that is currently in the basement there will be removed, opening up a large amount of space. This space will be converted to an extension of the current study area by placing more tables where students will be able to complete homework, projects, or study.

Not only did this shift allow the library to create more study space but it also provided opportunity to reorganize and relabel the stacks. The large gaps between periodicals are no longer visible and the overall appearance of the stacks has improved. Once the empty shelving has been removed, students will be able to enjoy the larger quiet study area.

Megan Berg, periodicals department student worker
Paul Beck and Laura Godden presented “Illustrated in Postcards: Employing Visual Evidence to Author an Approachable Historic Narrative of La Crosse, Wisconsin” at the 2015 UW-L Faculty Research Day.

Mark Beckerjeck is the UPS representative on the Academic Initiatives Differential Allocation Committee (previously AIOC) for 2015-16. At the Classified Staff Breakfast, Mark accepted a certificate to recognize the nomination he received for the first Classified Staff Excellence Award.

Michael Current was presented with a video “Thank You” from the largest Atari club in the world, the Germany-based Atari Bit Byter User Club (ABBUC) for his efforts, along with Texas software engineer Thomas Cherryhomes and Oregon journalist/web publisher Kevin Savetz, to preserve and digitize a massive collection of about 370 Atari educational software cassettes produced in the early 1980s.

Laura Godden and Paul Beck presented “Postcard Mania in La Crosse” at the Riverside Museum as part of the 2015 summer LCHS History in a Bag: Brown Bag Lunch Series.

Laura Godden, Teri Holford-Talpe, and Marc Manke received a 2015 UW-La Crosse Community Partnership Incentive Grant (CPIG) for their work on the public history project, “Hear, Here: Voices of La Crosse.”

Teri Holford-Talpe served on the 2015 conference planning committee for the WAAL Annual Conference as speaker liaison. At that conference, she presented “Mentors & Mentees: Perspectives on the Research Relationship.” She also presented the poster session “Helping Children Heal with Stories,” which she also presented at the 2015 Death, Grief and Bereavement Conference in La Crosse.


Liz Humrickhouse-Lee and Teri Holford-Talpe presented "Gaining Ground: Building Lifelong Information Literacy Skills" at the 2015 LILi (Lifelong Information Literacy) conference in Los Angeles.

Ingrid Iverson served as an elected member of the Classified Staff Council. She was one of two classified staff representatives on the UWL Joint Budget and Planning Committee.


Karen Lange serves as secretary of the La Crosse Friends of International Students (LFIS) board.

Catherine Lavallée-Welch received the Stacey Greenwell Outstanding Division Member Award from the Academic Division of SLA.

Marc Manke is co-chair of the organization team of TEDxUWLacrosse events and community.

Terrence Stika served as a member of the Classified Staff Council.
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