Annual report of the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library 2014/2015

Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

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This fiscal year was particularly eventful for the library with Dean Carol Hixson departing in early June, 2015. Dean Hixson led the library for more than five extremely productive years and enabled a great many positive changes in both the physical appearance of the library building and in library services. New ventures and continued excellence in service offered by the library are due, in large part, to her leadership and her support of the library faculty and staff.

There are several points of pride this year, as evidenced in the individual department reports, available in the USFSP Digital Archive. http://dspace.nelson.usf.edu/xmlui/handle/10806/4247

**Access Services**

Door counts continue to rise over time, demonstrating the stable appeal and need for the library in the campus life of the students and faculty. The Access Services Department added new responsibilities this year including daily maintenance of the AV materials, periodical stacks, and shelf-reading. Staffing levels are very lean, yet the department members offer full circulation services and triage reference queries in a commendable fashion. Staff members serve on several system and campus committees and participate in the creation and implementation of many of the fine displays seen in the library. The staff avail themselves of many professional development opportunities to keep their skills current and honed.

**Collection Development & Technical Services**

In spite of staffing vacancies, the CD&TS Department continues to reshape the library’s collections through strategic deselection and relocation as the library continues to remodel its physical space to accommodate new services and study spaces. The department coordinated and made substantial progress in the circulating collection weeding project. Collection guidelines were reviewed and revised. Library assessment reports were prepared for the Interdisciplinary Social Science and Environmental Science and Policy programs. The department staff took advantage of many professional developments opportunities this year.

**Online Learning & Instructional Technology Services (OLITS)**

The OLITS Classroom Technology unit is a major participant in the planning for a technology upgrade in two existing campus buildings, new technology for the renovated Harbor Hall, and the new KT College of Business building construction. The Instructional Design unit implemented a new time tracking program, conducted 9 internal quality reviews, and was instrumental to the success of four courses receiving QM certification. The Video Productions unit upgraded technology in the studio and created two small studio booths for faculty use. They have become the video conferencing hub for the campus. OLITS Professional Development reached out to 165 faculty with training this year and continues to offer a wide array of training and instructional sessions both web-based and in-person.

**Research and Instruction**

The number of individual reference consultations increased 3% this year as did the number of class sessions provided (+16%), reaching a record 1622 students. Instructional sessions were rated 4.88 (out of 1-5) for usefulness and clarity. Promising statistics demonstrate the usefulness of department LibGuides and instructional modules. Camielle Swenson was hired as an Instructor Librarian (full-time, promotion-earning). Departmental faculty continue active liaison work, providing research instruction and assistance to the students and faculty in their assigned disciplines.

**Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA)**

User requests for research assistance and access to the valuable and scholarly collections in this department has increased almost 10% this year. Special Collections continues to grow physically and,
under the auspices of SCUA, over 4000 items have been added to the USFSP Digital Archive. The Department sponsored field work opportunities for two graduate students this fiscal year as well.

**Systems & Digital Technology**

The Department grew the number of open use computers by roughly 15% and continues to make improvements in the library’s network structure, including a dramatic increase in the amount of server storage and increasing wireless service. The Department also supports the very active USFSP distance learning program. Significant expansions this year included the creation of a “Quiet Study Computer Commons” on the library’s 3rd floor and more work stations on the first floor in a response to frequent student requests. Department staff continue to provide needed assistance to students from the Tech Desk.

**Scholarship, Publications, & Awards**

Jim Schnur received the Florida Historical Society’s Presidential Citation and presented at the annual meetings of the Society of Florida Archivists and the Southern Historical Association. He published articles in the *Florida Archivist*, *Bay Soundings*, and the book, *St. Petersburg Through Time*, with Arcadia Publishing.

Karla Kmetz Morris, with co-author Chris Davis, published two articles for the peer-reviewed *Information Systems Education Journal* and contributed to the *2013 CONISAR Proceedings*.

Tony Stamatoplos, Tina Neville, and Jim Schnur were awarded an USFSP Internal Grant. Tina and Tony presented some preliminary data from this grant at the 2014 Florida Association for College & Research Libraries (FACRL) fall program.

Deb Henry and Tina Neville were awarded the inaugural Florida Library Association (FLA) Research Award for their 2014 peer-reviewed article on ranking book publishers, which appeared in *Journal of Academic Librarianship*.

With Carol Hixson, Tina and Deb presented a live webinar for the American Library Association (ALA) Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) and a poster session at the 2014 Florida Academic and College Research Libraries' (FACRL) fall program on Digital Archive participation and services to faculty.

Tony Stamatoplos presented at the National LOEX (Library Orientation Exchange) Conference and published in the *LOEX Quarterly*.

Kaya van Beynen and Camielle Swenson co-authored a peer-reviewed article in *College and Research Libraries*, and peer-reviewed poster presentations at both the FLA and ALA conferences. With a visiting colleague, Kaya also co-authored a peer-reviewed book chapter on reference service.

**Faculty Service** (highlights)

Patricia Pettijohn actively served on the Graduate Council, the Title IX Team, and the Chancellor’s Advisory Council for Diversity and Inclusive Community.

Jim Schnur serves on the USFSP 50th Anniversary Steering Committee and chaired the Library Promotion Committee. His service to the profession and the community is too numerous to mention in detail but included serving as a President of the Pinellas County Historical Society, several memberships on the boards and committees of local and state historical organizations, and Editor of the Florida Historical Society’s *Florida History in Publications*.

Tina Neville, Deb Henry, Gary Austin, Camielle Swenson, and Tony Stamatoplos serve on Florida Library Association committees. Tina acts as Vice-chair of the FLA Conference Planning Committee. Deb chaired a sub-committee of the FLA Scholarship committee and is Past-chair.

Gary Austin serves on the USFSP Quality Matters Review committee.
In addition to numerous university service assignments, Kaya van Beynen is vice-chair of the Association for College & Research Libraries Education and Behavioral Sciences Section Research Committee.

Tony Stamatoplos sits on the Editorial Board of the *Learning Communities Research & Practice* journal.

**Challenges**

The library continues to struggle with staffing shortages in key departments. It is a testament to the quality and efforts of the staff that the library continues to receive high marks for service. Space challenges will also need to be considered as the campus strategic plan drives initiatives to grow the campus population to meet its Vision 20/20 goals. For example, SCUA is limited in its outreach efforts because of lack of space in the current Special Collection space. Growth of physical collections is hindered as well. As the faculty and student population grows, the general study and collaborations spaces may be insufficient for the USFSP community needs.

Deborah Henry
Interim Dean of the Library