Winter 2015

Library News, Winter 2015

San Jose State University Library

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Upgraded classroom enables collaborative learning

Thanks to a generous gift from SJU alumni Lionel and Bernie Goularte, the university library has renovated a library instruction classroom with furniture and technology to create a more collaborative space for students to interact with their peers, instructors and librarians.

Room 219 on the second floor of the King Library now includes mobile seating for 30 students, a new projector and large projection screen, recessed ceiling speakers and mobile whiteboards. The previous classroom laptops and instructor’s computer have been replaced with new machines that include all the software needed to support classroom instruction. The mobile furniture and improved audio-visual capabilities give instructors and librarians the ability to easily rearrange the room to suit the needs of each class.

Prior to the upgrade, room 219 was outfitted with stationary tables set up in a traditional classroom lecture style, seating 28. Laptop computers were wired into the walls and unable to access the library’s wireless network. The projection screen was small and difficult for students to see from the back of the room.

The new classroom is now fully operational and has already been used for 80 library research orientation sessions during the Fall 2014 semester.

The King Library staff would like to thank the Goulartes for their generous gift. We are sad to note that our dear friend Bernie passed away in 2014. We at the King Library are grateful to have known her and will remember her warmth.

LibraryNews is published by the SJSU King Library. For more information, visit our website at library.sjsu.edu.
Editors: Elisabeth Thomas and Cynthia McCarthy
Contributors: Mallory DeBartolo, Sabra Diridon, Bridget Kowalczyk and Danelle Moon
Welcome to the Winter 2015 issue of LibraryNews. University library staff continue to develop high-quality services and collections while remaining current with library trends and technology to better serve SJSU students. In a semester, librarians teach more than 100 research classes to thousands of students, a technology trainer is available on the library’s fourth floor to provide one-on-one software assistance, study rooms are available for group work, and movable whiteboards are available for students to create spaces effective for their learning styles. Currently, the library provides access to more than 500 online journal databases and more than 195,000 ebooks. These resources can be accessed within the King Library building and remotely by SJSU students.

None of this could be possible without the generosity of our donors. Over the past year, donors have contributed to endowments that pay for database subscriptions, support our one-of-a-kind items in the university’s Special Collections, and fund professional development for our librarians and staff. This year, with a generous donation from Lionel and Bernie Goularte, we were able to update our library instruction classroom. Renovated with a new screen, new laptops and a seating arrangement that allows for group work, this classroom opens up the opportunity for students to collaborate with their peers, librarians and professors. Read more about this new classroom in our cover story.

To acknowledge the support given, the library annually hosts the Dean’s List dinner, now in its seventh year. This year the featured speaker was Gloria Duffy, president and CEO of the Commonwealth Club. Read about this event and learn how to join in future festivities on pages 7 and 8. Here we also showcase the names of those who have generously given from January 2013 to June 2014. I personally want to thank you all for being a part of the success of this library.

Last May, the university library successfully completed its second five-year self-study review since the SJSU library merged with the San José Public Library (SJPL) in 2003. In accordance with SJSU policy, every five years the university library undergoes this study in consultation with other SJSU faculty and staff. This process creates an opportunity to celebrate accomplishments, reflect on challenges and move forward in alignment with the university’s mission. See page 6 for more information about our self-study.

SJSU Special Collections has just acquired the national political papers of Norman Y. Mineta, retired U.S. congressman and former secretary of both commerce and transportation, who played an important role in creating the U.S. Transportation Security Administration and transportation legislation after 9/11. Read more about the Mineta Collection, 1961–2001, on page 5.

We hope you enjoy this issue of the newsletter. As always, I welcome your questions and feedback regarding the library!

—Ruth Kifer, SJSU Library Dean
408-808-2419, ruth.kifer@sjsu.edu

Help create two permanent endowments

As you make your philanthropic plans for the new year, please keep two opportunities in mind: the Library Science Collection Pre-Endowment and the SJSU Special Collections Pre-Endowment. The library is in need of immediate support for these programs and must raise $25,000 by February 2015 to establish the endowments as permanent.

The Library Science Collection Pre-Endowment was created to provide a collection to support the largest graduate degree program at SJSU and most recognized library science program in the world. This pre-endowment was championed by the late Peggy Valentine, a retired teacher and librarian who earned her undergraduate and graduate library degrees from SJSU.

The SJSU Special Collections Pre-Endowment was established to expand and enhance the collections and services of the SJSU Special Collections and Archives. These collections document local, regional and California history with a focus on SJSU and South Bay history, politics, culture, literature and art. The book collection includes rare, first edition, and fine press and artist books.

Through the generosity of alumni, emeritus faculty and friends, endowed funds strengthen the university’s academic reputation by providing the library with a sustaining source of support. Since the principal of an endowed fund is never spent, it is forever a source of revenue for the library, creating a lasting legacy for future generations.

To discuss these or other giving opportunities, contact Sabra Diridon at sabra.diridon@sjsu.edu or 408-924-1510.

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Upcoming events and exhibits

For more information about these and other public events, visit the King Library website at library.sjsu.edu/events.

Tours of the King Library
Every Thursday, 11:30 am–12:45 pm
Welcome Desk, 1st floor
Drop-in tours covering the King Library building’s design, collections, and art are offered every Thursday at 11:30 am on a first-come, first-served basis. Where else can you see a revolving secret door, a low-rider table complete with hydraulic lifts, or a set of tables shaped like the seven continents? These pieces and more comprise 34 public art installations designed to provoke curiosity and encourage exploration throughout the King Library. Sign up for a tour at the Welcome Desk on the ground floor of the library. For more information, call 408-808-2181.

Friends of the King Library book sale
Saturday, January 24, 10 am–5 pm
Sunday, January 25, 1–5 pm
1st-floor patio, outside of the Friends Bookstore
One weekend each month, the Friends of the King Library host a book sale, donating revenues to the library for a variety of programs that benefit the community. Saturday sales run from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday sales run from 1 to 5 pm. For more information or to volunteer, call the Friends Bookstore at 408-808-2681.

“Portraits” exhibit by Joe Ramos for Project Homeless Connect
January 6–February 26
2nd-floor exhibit area
This exhibit features portraits of homeless clients and volunteers taken by Joe Ramos, volunteer photographer for Project Homeless Connect, a nonprofit organization that provides services for poor and homeless people. For this project, Ramos photographed more than 2,000 people, who received copies of their portraits. Many also gave oral histories of their experiences of being homeless. To learn more about the project, visit joeramosphotography.com and projecthomelessconnect.com.

Readings from the Steinbeck Fellows
Wednesday, April 15, 7–8 pm
Steinbeck Center, 5th floor
2014–2015 Steinbeck Fellows Cara Bayles, Yalitza Ferreras and Reese Okyong Kwon will read from their works in progress. A reception will follow. Sponsored by the Martha Heasley Cox Center for Steinbeck Studies, the Steinbeck Fellows program offers new writers of any age and background fellowships in creative writing and the study of Steinbeck’s life or work. For more information, visit sjsu.edu/steinbeck/fellows.

Author reading: Daniel Arnold
Monday, May 4, 6–7 pm
Steinbeck Center, 5th floor

“Classroom to Classroom” exhibit
March 12–April 30
2nd-floor exhibit area
This exhibit highlights a Fall 2014 collaboration between students of SJSU and students of Alzahra University in Tehran, who used photography to enrich the conversation between two cultures. Twenty photos by 20 student photographers will be on display, capturing the life of San José and Tehran. To learn more, visit sjsualzahraproject.com.

“Political Beethoven: Music as Propaganda During World War II” lecture
Wednesday, May 6, 7–9 pm
Schiro Room, 5th floor
In this First Wednesdays event, William Meredith, director of the Beethoven Center, will discuss how Beethoven’s music, biography and ideals were exploited for propaganda by both the Allied and Axis powers during WWII. Meredith will explore how Beethoven’s music was used in movies, postcards, concert halls, comic books, concentration camps, works of art, and other media, and how those uses affected the postwar understanding and performances of his music.

Author reading: Charles McLeod
Wednesday, March 4, 7–8 pm
Steinbeck Center, 5th floor
In this First Wednesdays event, former Steinbeck Fellow Charles McLeod will read from his new collection of short stories, Settlers of Unassigned Lands. A reception and book signing will follow.
New databases, new research opportunities

Electronic databases provide access to information and scholarly research in many disciplines. The university library subscribes to hundreds of online databases, and continues to add new databases to support faculty and student research. Like other library databases, the selected new resources below may be accessed from both the library’s online catalog and the library’s Articles & Databases web page at library.sjsu.edu. Members of the community can access these databases when visiting the library, and SJSU students can access them anytime, from anywhere.

Chandos Publishing Online specializes in the areas of library and information science, knowledge management, business information trends, Asian Studies, social media, the Internet and the web. Chandos ebooks are designed primarily for the academic library and research community and, in particular, library science and information management professionals.

Dance in Video, Vol. II holds approximately 400 hours of dance productions, documentaries, interviews and coaching sessions from around the world. This volume showcases a new catalog of dancers and partners, including the Joffrey Ballet, John Jasperse Company, Cloud Gate Dance Theatre, Bavarian State Ballet, Royal Ballet of Cambodia, Kirov Ballet, and Compañía Nacional de Danza.

Early English Books Online contains digital facsimile page images of virtually every work printed from 1473 to 1700 in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and British North America along with works in English printed elsewhere during the same time period. The collection runs from the first book printed in English by William Caxton through the age of Spenser and Shakespeare and the tumult of the English Civil War.

Education Week contains up-to-date news about issues and policies regarding all aspects of education. This database includes links to blogs about teacher education, technology in schools, videos, statistics and much more.

Middle Search Plus contains full text for a variety of popular middle school magazines. All full-text articles are assigned a Lexile reading-level indicator. Full text is also available for thousands of biographies and historical essays.

Note: This subscription is supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this database do not necessarily represent those of the NEH.


NBC Learn provides thousands of film and video clips, including news reports and historic footage, from the NBC news outlets. The collection includes 400-plus mini-documentaries and 500 nonvideo primary documents provided in cooperation with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. Videos can be organized into playlists with shareable URL links, and the films can also be downloaded to an offline video player and viewed without an Internet connection.

NBC Learn K–12 makes thousands of historic videos, current events and original resources available to K–12 teachers and students, all aligned to state standards and mapped to curricula.

New Day Digital Films specializes in social-issue documentaries that address human rights issues, sexual roles in society, environmental concerns, aging and much more. Collected by a distribution cooperative that is run by the filmmakers themselves, New Day Digital Films includes Academy Award winners and nominees, Emmy Award winners and nominees, plus winning entries from film festivals around the world.
Norman Y. Mineta, the former San José mayor who became the first Asian Pacific American to serve under two U.S. presidents, recently donated the remainder of his political papers to San José State University. Mineta previously donated to SJSU papers documenting his political career from 1961 to 1995.

Over the last five years, the university library has worked closely with Rod Diridon, emeritus executive director of the Mineta Transportation Institute, to bring the rest of Mineta’s papers to SJSU. The 1996–2001 papers document Mineta’s work as U.S. secretary of commerce under President Bill Clinton and secretary of transportation under President George Bush.

Mineta retired from Congress in 1995, returning briefly to San José to assume the position of vice president at Lockheed Martin. He served as secretary of commerce from 2000 to 2001 and as secretary of transportation from 2001 to 2006.

Mineta’s rich experiences in politics, and particularly his expertise in transportation legislation, enabled him to succeed during the tumultuous period after 9/11, when he helped restore the nation’s confidence in its transportation system and played a key role in the establishment of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

Mineta received numerous honors throughout his 40-year political career, including two local namesakes: the Norman Y. Mineta San José International Airport, and the Mineta Transportation Institute, an SJSU research institute devoted to transportation policy.

The King Library is grateful to Secretary Mineta for his unique contributions to local and national politics, and for his continued support of scholarly research at SJSU. We are confident that this new donation will advance student, faculty and scholarly research in the area of local and national transportation policy and bring new understanding to the establishment of the TSA.

The Mineta Papers, 1961–2001, can be found in the SJSU Special Collections & Archives unit of the library, which holds a rich set of political records connected to the region. To learn more, visit the library’s Political Papers guide at tinyurl.com/PoliticalPapers or contact Danelle Moon, director of SJSU Special Collections and Archives, at 408-808-2061 or danelle.moon@sjsu.edu.
Library completes five-year program review

The SJSU library successfully completed its five-year self-study review, gathering both praise from external reviewers and key recommendations that library staff will target in coming years. Every five years, SJSU library staff assess services and collections to recognize previous accomplishments, gain insight from various stakeholders and note recommendations for future direction.

After examining the library’s self-study and meeting with campus administrators, faculty, staff and students in May, external reviewers from Sonoma State and CSU Los Angeles commended the library on its Spartan pride, best practices in “digital futures,” student computing services, creative thinking in new services and redesign of library spaces.

University librarians and staff are making plans for future changes to the library based on recommendations to expand instruction, to initiate a campus conversation about establishing Learning Commons services, and to explore the idea of using student assistants as ambassadors for outreach and marketing.

Between 2008 and 2013, the five-year review period, university library collections and services expanded in many areas. SJSU ScholarWorks (scholarworks.sjsu.edu), SJSU’s institutional repository, was launched to gather and display faculty, staff and student research. More than 5,500 documents have been logged into the repository, including master’s theses and projects, faculty publications, journals, newspapers, and event and conference proceedings. The library’s collection of electronic journals, databases and ebooks also grew significantly (see figures 1 and 2).

Librarians played a critical role in academic success by creating online tutorials and subject guides for students and by supporting students and faculty with research at the reference desk, in faculty offices and in the classroom. In addition, librarians reached significantly more students at campus outreach events (see figure 3).

Keeping students’ needs at the forefront, the library relocated the Student Computing Services Center to the fourth floor, repurposed space on the second floor to create additional study areas, created the Student Learning and Research Commons on the mezzanine (soon to be moved to the fourth floor), and created the Student Technology Training Center to train students in software applications needed to complete assignments.

Finally, the library’s Affordable Learning Solutions Initiative (library.sjsu.edu/als), introduced in 2010, is estimated to have saved students more than $200,000 in textbook costs in one academic year alone, winning appreciation from faculty and students. The 242 laptops and 100 iPads available for students to check out, as well as a recent addition of 72 MacBook Pros, further bolster student learning.

To read the complete Self-Study 2008–2013 (Five-Year Review) and the External Reviewers’ Report, go to library.sjsu.edu/university-library-board-ulb and look for the Program Planning Documents header.

![Growth in electronic resources](figures_1_and_2)

![Increased librarian outreach](figure_3)
Public affairs expert highlights Dean’s List event

Last June, SJSU Library Dean Ruth Kifer hosted the seventh-annual Library Dean’s List Dinner. Featured speaker Gloria Duffy, president and CEO of the Commonwealth Club, captivated guests in a question-and-answer session. The Commonwealth Club is the oldest and largest public affairs forum in the United States.

This year’s celebration kicked off with a cocktail reception on the library’s second floor. Guests proceeded to the eighth floor’s grand reading room, which overlooks downtown San José. Students and graduates from the SJSU School of Music and Dance welcomed guests with live music. Dean Kifer and SJSU President Mohammad Qayoumi thanked guests for their dedication and generosity to the library and emphasized the importance of the King Library to both the SJSU campus and the San José community.

SJSU Provost Andy Feinstein interviewed Gloria Duffy about the Commonwealth Club and foreign and domestic policy. Duffy touched on current issues in Ukraine and negotiations to dismantle weapons of mass destruction during her time as the U.S. deputy assistant secretary of defense and special coordinator for cooperative threat reduction from 1993 to 1995. She and Feinstein also discussed the importance of seeking education to become better citizens, the role of libraries in our communities and the future of libraries.

To learn more about the Library Dean’s List and future festivities, contact Dean Ruth Kifer at ruth.kifer@sjsu.edu or 408-808-2419.
A very special thank you to members of the University Library Dean’s List, those who have contributed $1,000 or more to the SJSU library over the course of a calendar year. These lead supporters are helping the library stay true to its mission of providing the university and local communities with resources and services for a lifetime of learning.

Please consider becoming a Dean’s List member and joining our leadership donors. To learn more, contact SJSU Library Dean Ruth Kifer at ruth.kifer@sjsu.edu or 408-808-2419.

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SJSU library makes a long-term commitment to the humanities

Over the past six years, donors have given generously to support the library’s challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), which helped fund the licensing of humanities databases. The NEH grant matched every donor gift by one-third, resulting in a total endowment currently standing at more than $865,000.

Thanks to you, we have added 10 new databases from a variety of humanities disciplines to the library collection, including our most recent acquisition, Early English Books Online (see page 4). Since the very first database was licensed with the NEH endowment funds, students, faculty, staff and the general public have conducted more than 107,000 searches in this growing collection—and the numbers continue to increase. To see a complete list of library databases supported by the NEH grant, visit tinyurl.com/k4gj6w5.

Study of the humanities exposes people to a variety of perspectives, creating opportunities for growth and positively affecting decision making and personal interactions in our global society. “People who engage in a profound way with a broad range of disciplines—including, and in some cases especially, with the humanities—are preparing to engage the challenges of life,” says NEH chair William “Bro” Adams. “They are creative and flexible thinkers; they acquire the habits of mind needed to find solutions to important problems; they can even appreciate the value of making mistakes and changing their minds. I am convinced that this kind of study is not merely defensible but critical to our national welfare.”

The SJSU library is committed to continuing to build the NEH endowment, thus ensuring that all library users have access to humanities databases. Although the grant period has closed and matching funds are no longer available, donations will be gladly accepted to continue building this worthwhile endowment. To learn more, contact Library Dean Ruth Kifer at 408-808-2419 or ruth.kifer@sjsu.edu.

DID YOU KNOW?

During the 2013–2014 academic year, SJSU librarians answered more than 2,000 questions by email or phone, at in-person appointments, and in virtual, online settings. These were in addition to second-floor reference desk interactions.
Remembering special library supporters

The King Library lost several cherished supporters this past year, but their contributions to our collections and facilities carry on their legacies.

Carl Cookson

A San José State alumnus and the retired owner of a successful local title company (originally Santa Clara Land Title Co.), Carl Cookson was also a career philanthropist. In addition to contributing to the King Library, he supported or spearheaded more than a dozen San José arts, music and non-profit organizations with both his time and money. He was 81.

Bernadine Goularte

An SJSU alumna and lifelong South Bay resident, Bernie Goularte taught in the Fremont Unified School District for many years and volunteered with the Washington Hospital Service League for a quarter century. Her work with the Portuguese Historical Museum in San José’s History Park and membership in the Portuguese Fraternal Society of America extended to contributing to the King Library’s Portuguese Heritage Collection. She and her husband Lionel also contributed to remodeling one of the library’s classrooms. She was 80.

Janet Gray Hayes

Indiana native Janet Gray Hayes moved to California in 1958 and was elected San José’s first female mayor in 1974, after serving terms on the city council and as vice mayor. Even after her historic political career was over, Hayes was a dedicated supporter of the university, donating her papers to the King Library’s Special Collections and contributing to SJSU’s Schools of Education and Humanities & Arts. Her death this past year made headlines around the Bay Area and the state. She was 87.

Cliff Johnson

In 1975 Cliff Johnson moved from New York to San José, where he continued his career as a librarian at San José State University. He retired from SJSU in 1989. Johnson, who served in the Air Force after high school, traveled widely and entertained frequently, developing a reputation as an excellent chef. He died in 2013 at age 79.

Sidney Tiedt

San José State University Emeritus Professor Sidney Tiedt discovered the Bay Area when he was stationed on Treasure Island in the U.S. Navy after World War II. A Chicago native, Tiedt earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Northwestern University through the GI bill. He earned his doctorate at the University of Oregon in 1961 and joined the faculty at San José State that year, retiring in 1999. Tiedt donated to the library during his lifetime and also requested that donations to the library be made in his honor after his passing. He was 86.

Peggy Valentine

A retired teacher-librarian at Luther Burbank School in San José, Peggy Valentine has been described as having “a mind like a library card catalog.” Valentine returned to college after her children were grown to earn a bachelor’s degree in sociology and a master’s degree in library science, becoming a San José State University alumna twice over. Her support of the library extended well past her career as a librarian. She was 89.
Make a difference

Support a vital field of study with a library endowment

Endowments help fund library programs and collections vital to the university’s educational mission. By providing supplemental funding for the library in perpetuity, endowments provide an annual income to enhance library services and resources in ways that go far beyond base budgets. The RuthAnn Moore Art Collection Endowment supports the library’s art, design, art history and graphic arts collections. It was established in 2005 in memory of RuthAnn Moore, a book lover and one of the King Library’s first docents.

If you would like to contribute to the RuthAnn Moore Art Collection Endowment or establish an endowment of your own to honor a special person or particular area of interest, visit library.sjsu.edu/giving-library, or contact Ruth Kifer at 408-808-2419 or ruth.kifer@sjsu.edu. Your support can help ongoing efforts to enrich the library’s collections and offer enhanced services that will foster student success for years to come.