

Fall 2020

Library News, Fall 2020

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SJSU | KING LIBRARY

Library News

FALL 2020 NEWSLETTER



LIBRARY NEWS



FALL 2020 NEWSLETTER

SJSU King Library

DESIGN

Christian Faria
BFA Graphic Design

WRITERS & CONTRIBUTORS

Eduardo Teixeira
BS Journalism

Ann Agee
Emily Chan
John Deever
Carli Lowe
Anh Ly
Joan Merdinger
Christina Mune
Mantra Roy

PHOTOGRAPHY

Yvonne Bellido
BFA Photography

STAFF SUPERVISORS

Mariah Ramsour
Lesley Seacrist



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Events and Exhibits

SJSU Annual Author and Artist Awards

Our Annual Author & Artist Awards 2020 event has been postponed to a later date when we can once again host guests in person. At the future event, we will honor faculty and staff who have recently authored a published first edition book or exhibited a significant work of art.

Celebrating Woman Suffrage (1920-2020) & the Ongoing Campaign for Voting Rights by Dr. Bettina Aptheker

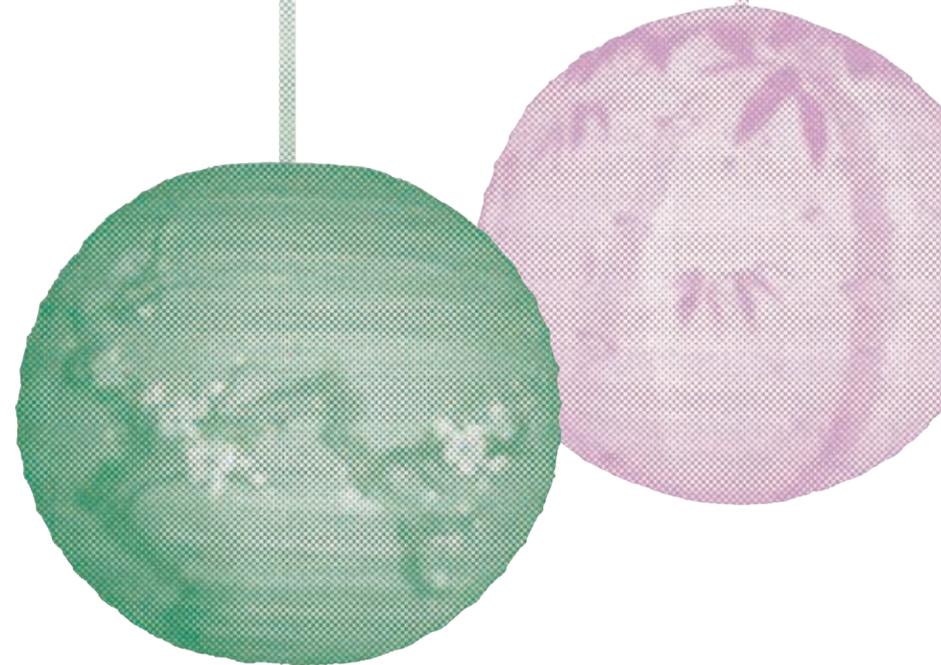
Thursday, October 22, 2020

4 - 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

Virtually celebrate 100 years of women's suffrage with SJSU King Library! Join us for a virtual talk given by guest speaker Dr. Bettina Aptheker. Dr. Aptheker will discuss the struggle by minority women for their right to vote and the ways in which woman suffrage was always intertwined with struggles against racism, white supremacy, lynching, settler colonialism, and anti-immigrant insularity. The presentation will be followed with a Q&A discussion.

RSVP by visiting library.sjsu.edu/events/100-years-womens-suffrage.

Dr. Bettina Aptheker



Virtual AAACNA Exhibits

“20 @ 2020”

We are excited to announce the launch of our new virtual exhibit “20 @ 2020” created by the Chan Lim Family. This exhibit includes 70 virtual Chinese brush-painted lanterns in a digital environment hosted by the Africana, Asian American, Chicano, and Native American Studies Center. The Chan Lim Family is best known for their Asian-themed art using a multitude of media, styles, and techniques to incorporate Western influences into Eastern art. To learn more, visit library.sjsu.edu/exhibits/20at2020.

14th Annual Art of Remembrance Altar Exhibit

Explore the Art of Remembrance Altar Exhibit in virtual reality! This interactive 3D experience will give you an opportunity to learn the meanings and history of this 3,000 year old ritual that honors, welcomes, and celebrates the legacy of the dead. Visit library.sjsu.edu/events/art-remembrance-vr-experience to learn more.

Take a deeper look at these online exhibits in virtual reality or on a web browser in the comfort of your own home!



A Message from the Interim Dean

In Fall 2020, we began a semester like no other. This past March, classes were moved online in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Now, the campus community has reopened—cautiously. Fall will look very different for students as they continue their education online except for a select few that must meet face-to-face in labs, practicums, and studio-based courses. I want to share with you what we are doing to make this shift as seamless as possible.

The library's proposed plans include a paging service available to students and faculty who need access to the print collection. As such, books are located and retrieved by library staff and placed in lockers for touchless checkouts. To ensure as little contact as possible, most library employees continue to work remotely. Throughout this tumultuous year, many library services remained constantly available, moving from in-person to online.

Despite these challenges, the SJSU King Library continues to innovate. Special Collections and Archives has embarked on an amazing project to document the current historical pandemic in Spartan "Speaks on COVID-19" (see page 10). Additionally, the Black Lives Matter movement has inspired the library to review its practices and procedures. Our library team is examining how we can improve our collection policies, recruitment strategies, and daily interactions to promote the fight against systemic racism.

In May, we celebrated 16 graduating library student assistants via a Zoom gathering, which highlights our students'

resiliency to push forward despite unforeseen obstacles. Two of these graduating student assistants were from our first cohort of Library Research Scholars. A total of three undergraduates demonstrated their research skills by presenting the findings of their year-long projects in a Zoom event (see page 24).

The pandemic has resulted in soaring unemployment, and our students are among those without work. The library's immediate need is for contributions to the Dean's Excellence Fund. Monies from this fund will help keep students employed so they can continue their education. A second need is for our Digital Collections Endowment to support the SJSU King Library's existing database subscriptions as well as new subscriptions for electronic journals and e-books. Both are of vital importance in today's virtual learning environment.

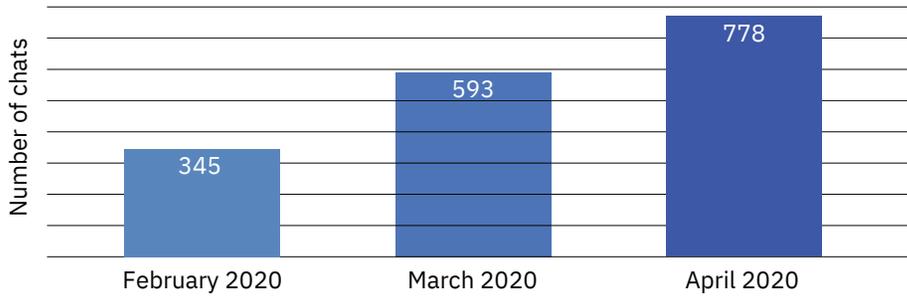
Thank you for your ongoing support and enjoy our *Library News*! Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Ann Agee

Interim Dean, University Library

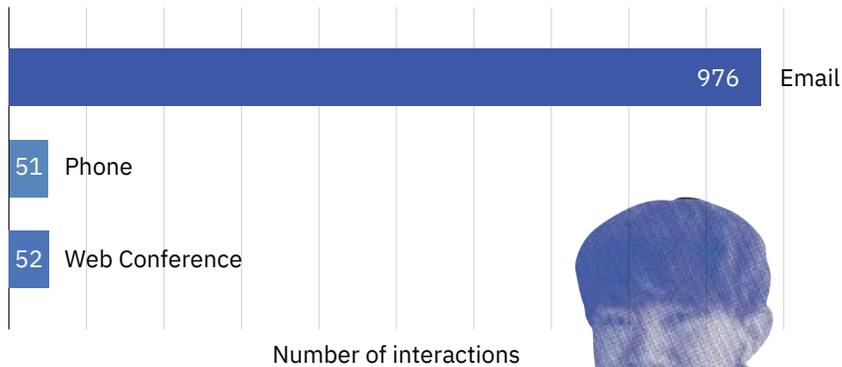
Online Services During COVID-19

Virtual Chat



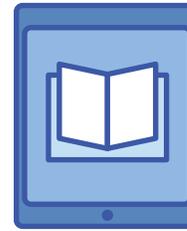
How Spartans Reach Out to Us

January - June 2020



Number of E-books Added

Since February 2020



194,909

1,188,981 total e-books in our collections

Number of E-journals Added

Since February 2020



64,954

455,808 total e-journals in our collections

Late-Night Tutoring

March 16 - May 18, 2020

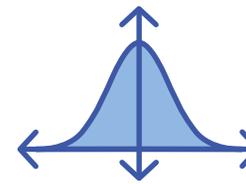


165

Student Sessions

SPSS*

March 16 - May 18, 2020

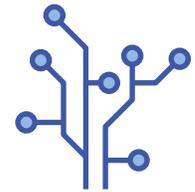


64

Student Trainings

STTC**

March 16 - June 26, 2020



125

Student Consultations

127

Course Reserve E-Books Added

January - June 2020

90

Free COVID-19 Resources Added

January - June 2020

*SPSS is a software suite used for data management and statistical analysis.

**The Student Technology Training Center provides software training and support to SJSU students, faculty, and staff.



COVID-19 ARCHIVE

Spartans Speak, the Archives Listen

By Carli Lowe, University Archivist

History is unfolding before our eyes and archive centers across the nation are responding to a rare opportunity to collect documentation about people’s personal experiences in the midst of a global pandemic. In a concerted effort to collect this valuable documentation, the University Archives initiated the “Spartans Speak on COVID-19” project, which will gather digital, and eventually physical materials, from SJSU students, staff, faculty, alumni, and administrators about their daily lives during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Spartans Speak” is an unusual project for an archive in that it involves contemporaneous collecting. It is rare to be able to recognize a historic moment as it unfolds, but we have an opportunity to preserve information that will allow others to better understand what it means to be living in this time.

To gather as many stories and voices from our SJSU community as possible, library student assistant Alexander Castillo is interviewing Spartans about the effects of COVID-19 on their lives and educational experiences for the “Spartans Speak on COVID-19 Podcast.” Castillo sees the podcast as a pivotal moment in time “to take an account of our experiences as we go through them, as well as to see how other people are handling the situation.” The community has been generous in their willingness to share and we are working to make the first contributions available.

Many are seeking a historical lens through which to understand the present day. The convalescent hospital for 1918 Influenza patients, run by students on the San José State campus, which was the Normal School at the time, has come to be of special interest locally. The 1919 Normal School yearbook, which was recently featured in a KTVU news story at bit.ly/ktvuspanishflu, includes excerpts from a student’s journal describing frustration with movie theaters being closed and a sense of loneliness while social distancing—experiences that remain relatable to us in the present day.

Are you an SJSU alumni? Contribute to the Spartans Speak on COVID-19 project by going to bit.ly/sjsucovid19.

Records of our individual experiences may be the key to a future researcher understanding what life was like at this moment. These materials also hold potential in the present to allow us to consider how others’ lives are similar to or different from our own, increase empathy, influence action, and make better-informed decisions as we consider an uncertain future.

Help us support the ongoing growth and care of our University Archives by donating to the Special Collections and Archives Endowment. Contact Director of Development Anh Ly at anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu or 408-924-1104.

Staff Step Up Employee Safety

By Eduardo Teixeira

With the beginning of the Fall 2020 semester and the potential return of patrons into the physical building, there were many logistical discussions and initiatives to ensure the safety of SJSU King Library faculty, staff, and students from the COVID-19 virus.

Two staff members, Opinder Dhami, prototyping services coordinator, and Sharon Thompson, student technology training coordinator, led an inspirational project to supply 3D-printed face shields for every employee to prevent the spread of COVID-19 using the library's very own prototyping lab equipment.

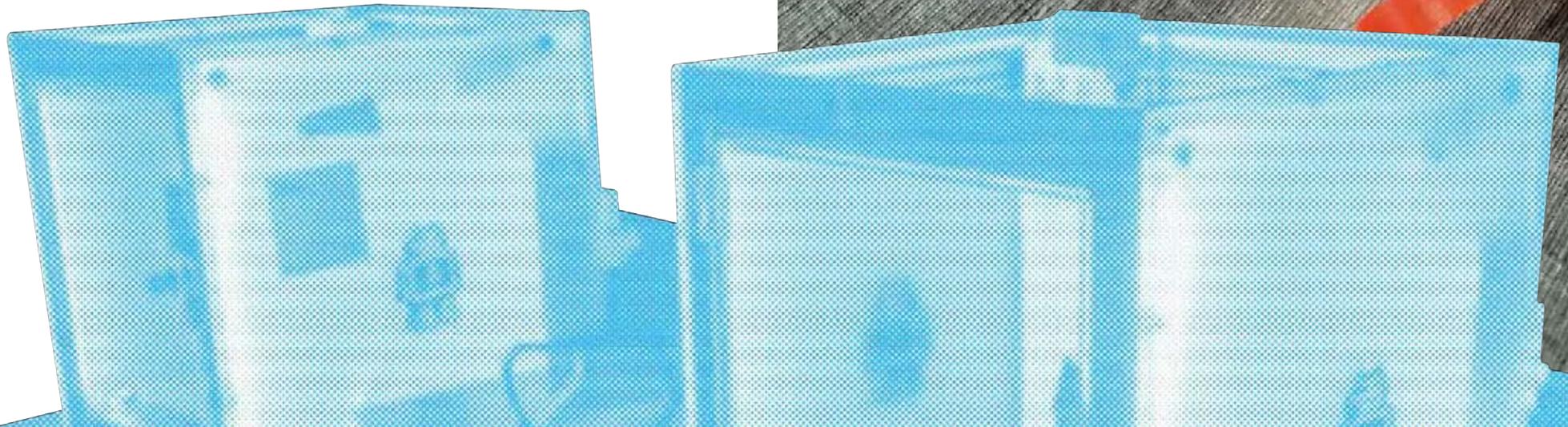
"In times of crisis, people look for ways to serve their communities and those on the front lines. Using our 3D printers is one way we are able to support our essential library service providers supporting students, staff, and faculty," said Thompson.

Dhami says that this project is a result of necessity and innovation using the library's resources.

"Obviously the library was going to open at some point, and currently there's no vaccine [for COVID-19]," she said. "So there was going to be a need for some sort of personal protective equipment or precaution to protect both the employees and the people who come to the library."

After conducting research on effective mask designs and materials, Dhami and Thompson decided to go with a face shield that consists of 3D-printed frame pieces and a plastic film. The general design is similar to how some welder's masks look, covering the entire face of whoever is using it.

The ingenuity and initiative highlights how these team members step up for employees and student safety, ultimately allowing the library to open with confidence during these challenging times.



The Digital Divide: Supporting Students During a Pandemic

By Christina Mune
Associate Dean, Innovation and Resource Management

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a resounding impact on SJSU's low-income, underserved students, striking communities of color in alarmingly disproportionate numbers. At a time when students and their families are likely facing financial hardships due to job loss and healthcare costs, they are also experiencing expenses associated with the transition to online education.

For many, the cost of a laptop and monthly internet access is beyond their means, especially during the pandemic. Without access to computer labs or free Wi-Fi on campus, students without these resources have limited options.

The SJSU King Library currently offers long-term, no-cost loans of laptops to students through its Student Computing Services Center.

Additionally, SJSU King Library has applied for a CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to fund a Digital Inclusion Hotspot Program to further help students bridge this digital divide.

In partnership with SJSU's Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) that supports underrepresented, first-generation students, the Digital Inclusion Hotspot Program would identify the students in need of reliable internet access and provide them with

internet hotspots and unlimited 4G data connections for the entire academic term. The Hotspot Program would further combine this technology with digital literacy instruction, teaching students how to connect with the digital resources required for successful online learning such as e-textbooks and library databases.

If awarded, the \$150,000 grant would fund the Hotspot Program for two years. The Hotspot Program would be a crucial part of the library suite of support services for online learning - laptop loans, reliable internet connection, and digital literacy instruction - that is designed to mitigate the harm of COVID-19 on underserved student populations and ensure their academic progress and success continues uninterrupted.

If you would like to support the Digital Inclusion Hotspot Program, please contact Director of Development Anh Ly at anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu or 408-924-1104.



Dean's Excellence Fund

Gifts to the Dean's Excellence Fund are among the most important and valuable forms of support for SJSU King Library. They represent unrestricted funds that can be quickly accessed to provide immediate and direct support to library programs and staff, including student assistants who are able to acquire hands-on experience by working in all areas of the library. The unrestricted nature of the Fund allows it to be both flexible and responsive to the changing needs of the library. Your gift to the Dean's Excellence Fund provides SJSU King Library a solid source of support to meet the library's greatest needs as they appear, helping to enhance the learning experience for both the SJSU community and the public.

King Library Digital Collections Endowment

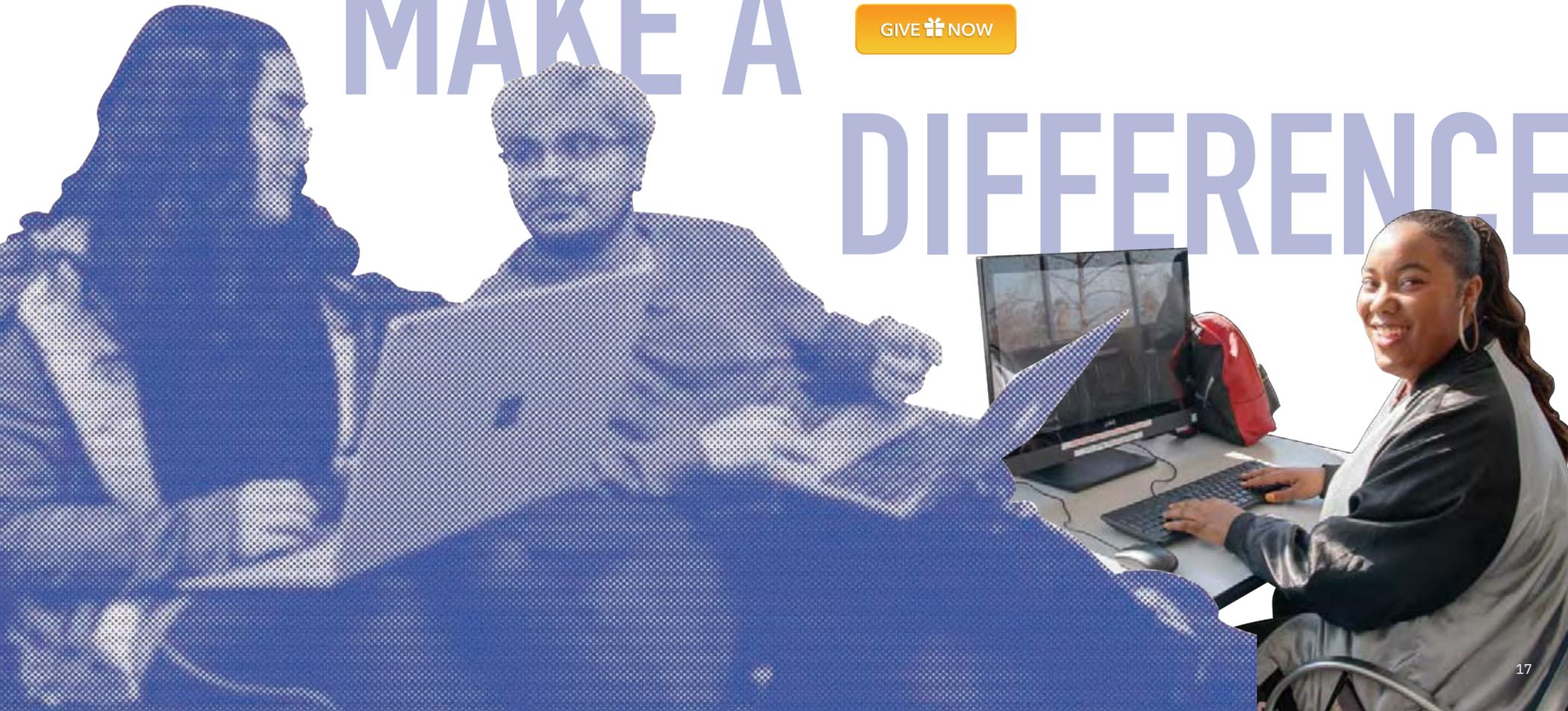
Recognizing technology's impact on how SJSU students and faculty access information, learn, and conduct research, the King Library Digital Collections Endowment supports subscriptions to online databases, electronic journals, and e-books. The endowment was established and supported over the years by cherished friends of SJSU King Library, Diana and Keith Morabito. Their commitment has enabled the library to grow its digital collections and make them openly accessible. The Morabitos are avid readers who are lifelong learners, supporting education for future generations. Your gift to the King Library Digital Collections Endowment will support the continued growth of the library's digital collections.

Interested in making a gift to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library? Please contact Director of Development Anh Ly at anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu or 408-924-1104. You can learn more about ways to give by going to library.sjsu.edu/giving-library/ways-give.

GIVE  NOW

MAKE A

DIFFERENCE





SUPPORT

Thank You for Your Continued Support

By John Deever, Writer, SJSU Strategic Communications

Michelle G. Sandler feels most at home in a library—surrounded by well-organized information accessible to others.

“I spent most of my life living in libraries, whether I was working in them or not,” says Sandler, ‘93 Master of Library and Information Science. “I really liked library school.” Sandler described the feeling of building up a library collection as “euphoria.”

Sandler and her husband Robert D. Altman made SJSU the recipient of a gift for \$250,000 in their living trust. Half will go to scholarships for students in San Jose State’s School of Information (iSchool), and half will support student research in the Library Research Scholars Program at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. “When I heard about the program with King Library, student intensive research,” she said, “I thought that sounds like something I would like to support, too.”

Sandler and Altman make annual gifts to support the School of Information Alumni and Friends Scholarship, and they decided to arrange a planned gift as well. “I want to help out the iSchool specifically because I don’t want to see the profession tank, I want to see it thrive,” Sandler said. “There’s always going to be a need for a library. Library science is changing, with artificial intelligence and automation,” she explained. “And I want to see the field survive – however it evolves as a field.”

Sandler was a librarian at Westwood College (Anaheim campus) for 12 years, and for the past eight years was a librarian for her synagogue, Temple Beth David. A “passionate” specialist in Judaica and Jewish genealogy and longtime president of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Orange County, Sandler has assisted numerous institutions with her expertise for more than 30 years. “I have about 3,850 books in my catalog,” she said, “including the 215 volumes in my garage.” She described how she views her chosen profession: “To help guide people to the right places.”

“Michelle likes the idea of supporting scholarships because she thinks everyone should have an opportunity like she had,” added Altman, who worked at Boeing and graduated from UC Irvine’s engineering school. “And why now? Why not now? Now is the time to think about it, not after we’re gone.”

“My world is libraries,” Sandler added, “Maybe I can make a difference.”

You can join Michelle and Robert by leaving a legacy at San José State. Help us realize the university’s potential as a nationally prominent urban public university with a gift in your will or a gift that pays you income to support the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library and benefit current and future Spartans. Learn how you can make a legacy gift at legacy.sjsu.edu.

THE LIBRARY

Grant Enables Assessment of Scholarly Communications

By Emily Chan
Associate Dean, Research and Scholarship

Sacramento State University and San José State University were awarded an Institute of Museum and Library Services National Forum grant to hold a forum focusing on the assessment of scholarly communication programs at M1 Carnegie-classified public institutions. The grant's goal is to create opportunities to obtain practitioner and campus stakeholder feedback on current efforts, investigate best practices, and make recommendations for better tracking of academic libraries' engagement in supporting the research lifecycle.

With new tools and methods for creating and sharing work, scholars across all fields have seen changes in output, dissemination and preservation of the scholarly record, publishing models, and the quantification of impact. Libraries' efforts to address these concerns have been labeled as "scholarly communication" services. While many libraries have invested in personnel, software, and other resources to grow

these programs, measuring the actual outcomes or impact of these activities remains elusive, beyond simple counts of consultations, workshop attendance, or by repository downloads or growth.

SJSU has two participants in this project: Co-Principal Investigator Emily K. Chan, Associate Dean for Research and Scholarship in the University Library, and Consultant Lili Luo, Professor in the School of Information. Chan and Luo facilitated focus group discussions at the Digital Library Federation (DLF) Forum in October 2019, conducted virtual group discussions with scholarly communication professionals, held individual campus stakeholder meetings, and convened the Scholarly Communication Assessment National Forum on May 4-5, 2020 in an online modality. Participants included Assessment Librarian Anamika Megwalu and Research Impact Librarian Yen Tran; their contributions to the discussions and sessions were incredibly helpful in moving this conversation forward.

Global South Speaks

By Mantra Roy, Open Education Librarian

In April 2020, Mantra Roy received the NASIG's Marcia Tuttle International Award which will help her extend her current ACRL-funded project, "Global South Speaks: A Librarianship Perspective." In this project she examines the challenges librarians in India encounter that hinder their active participation in scholarly communications. Effectively, global scholarly communications hears very little directly from librarians in the Global South about their challenges, opportunities, and achievements.

One of Roy's propositions for the ACRL project includes a first-hand collaboration with a librarian in India in an attempt to hear directly from the Global South. The Marcia Tuttle International Award will enable her to travel to India and work with a librarian in Kolkata, in eastern India, and co-author an article. Roy's colleague is a tenure-track librarian at Presidency University, established in 1817. MIT's

Dr. Abhijit Banerjee, one of the 2019 winners of Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, completed his undergraduate work at this school.

The Marcia Tuttle International Award will also help fund Roy's work-related expenses while in Kolkata, including temporary memberships in libraries, local transportation, office supplies, and use of an office space. By co-authoring a publishable draft with her colleague, she invites a librarian from the Global South to actively participate in the scholarly communications system which tends not to hear much from the margins.

Mantra Roy



Would you like to help support faculty research, scholarship, and creative activity? Contact Director of Development Anh Ly at anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu or 408-924-1104 for potential funding opportunities.

Leave Your Lasting Legacy in SJSU ScholarWorks

By Joan Merdinger

Retired SJSU faculty members and academic administrators are able to stay connected with other retired colleagues and the university by becoming a member of ERFA (Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association). Since its founding in 1986, ERFA has created an opportunity for its members to chronicle their accomplishments and create a legacy with the ERFA Biographies. Today, there are over 300 biographies of ERFA members posted on SJSU King Library's institutional repository, SJSU ScholarWorks. The collaboration between ERFA and the library greatly increases the visibility of ERFA members' contributions and achievements to the university community and beyond.

Joan Merdinger, member of ERFA's Biographies and Membership Committees and Emeritus professor of Social Work, recalls ERFA's early efforts to gather and record the achievements of its members. Beginning in 1987, ERFA's Executive Board began collecting accomplishments of SJSU retired faculty members to create a legacy for them. Their work over a ten-year period resulted in a sizable compendium entitled, *The Biographies of Retired Faculty, San José State University, 1997: A Project of the Emeritus Faculty Association of San José State University*. The compendium was over 450 pages long and included 214 biographies of Emeritus faculty; it is still available at SJSU King Library today.

Following this initial effort, Patricia Nichols, then-President of ERFA and Emeritus professor of Linguistics and Language Development, decided to undertake a new

Patricia Nichols Gail Fullerton

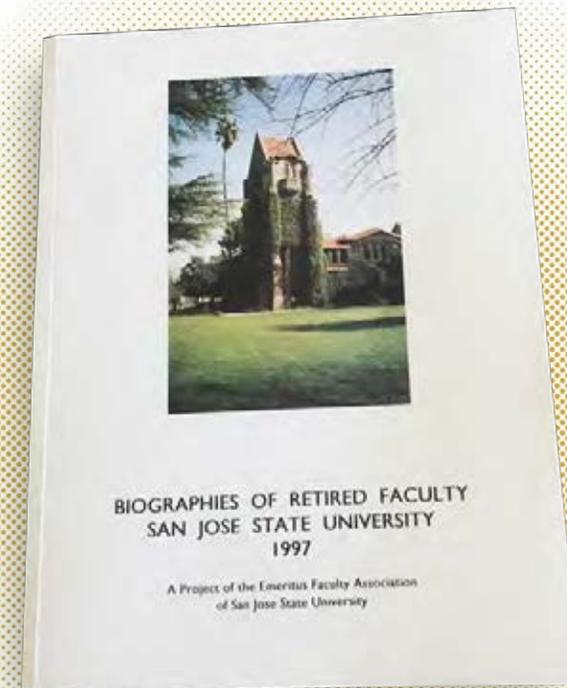


direction in preserving the biographies of ERFA members, beginning in 2009. ERFA members were encouraged to revise existing biographies or submit their own biographies on the Bios page of ERFA's website to record past accomplishments and inform other retired colleagues of their current interests and projects. A total of 262 biographies, which includes those on the Bios page created by Nichols and in the earlier compendium, were recently moved to SJSU ScholarWorks with SJSU King Library dedicating an area to "The Emeritus and Retired Faculty Biographies."

Merdinger hopes all current and future ERFA members will establish a biography on SJSU ScholarWorks. "It's such an important review of their life," says Merdinger who herself has contributed her own biography.

Together, the biographies create an incredible "mosaic" chronicling the work of the emeritus and retired faculty. By creating a biography, ERFA members join a growing scholarly community through sharing their personal and professional journey. The biographies they create will become an important historical record for others to learn about, find, and reference inside and outside of SJSU. All the while making it possible for ERFA members to leave a lasting legacy as a part of the university community.

In collaboration with ERFA, SJSU King Library looks forward to growing its Emeritus and Retired Faculty Biographies SJSU ScholarWorks project with contributions from ERFA members. **Current and soon to be ERFA members interested in contributing their biography can contact ERFA Biographies Committee members Jo Bell Whitlatch at jobellw@gmail.com. Interested in becoming a member of ERFA? Contact Joan Merdinger at jimmerdinger@gmail.com.**



STUDENT SUCCESS

Library Research Scholars' Knowledge Quests

By Eduardo Teixeira

The 2019-20 Library Research Scholars Program (LRSP) concluded on April 22 with three undergraduate students presenting their research projects to a live audience online. For the past academic year, the “scholars” worked closely with a library mentor to craft and complete a project on their own while developing essential research skills.

“This program helped the students develop a sense of agency; it is an experience where they play an active role in their learning,” said Yen Tran, LRSP coordinator and mentor. “Students select their own research topics, develop ideas to answer to their inquiry, and have a voice in their learning process. Implementing and being a mentor for this program has been rewarding; I have enjoyed seeing the students grow as future scholars.”

Lindsay Cutler, a fourth-year psychology student, conducted her research on COVID-19 and the effects on the housing crisis in San José.

“It’s been amazing because I’ve worked with experienced librarians that helped me build up my research skills,” Cutler said. “And it was the best way to explore a variety of topics across multiple disciplines. Even though I am a psychology major, my research focused on public health and sociology.”

Alexander Werdmuller von Elgg, a third-year pictorial and art education student, focused his project on a college-level art education and compiled an annotated bibliography about the history and current trends on this topic.



Ricardo Pimentel, Alexander Werdmuller von Elgg, and Lindsay Cutler

His goal is to become a teacher, and this experience has encouraged and inspired him to learn more about his future profession with more clarity.

The third research scholar, Ricardo Pimentel, a fourth-year justice studies student, researched the attitudes of veterans with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) towards their service dogs.

“I have learned so many techniques that would’ve otherwise never been offered to most undergraduate students,” Pimentel said. “The most valuable skill is navigating the web to find exactly what pieces of information I need.”

All scholars finished with not only enhanced research skills, a culminating research product, but also a passion to explore questions that will help them not only in their academic and professional development, but in their personal quest for knowledge.

“These kinds of experiences facilitate lifelong learning opportunities which is exactly what we want all of our students to achieve,” said Interim Dean Ann Agee. “It’s tremendously rewarding to see tangible evidence of how the library directly contributes to student success.”

You can read their research and watch their presentations on the Library Research Scholars Program libguide at libguides.sjsu.edu/LRSP.

**Interested in supporting the next cohort of library research scholars?
Contact Director of Development Anh Ly at anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu or 408-924-1104
for potential funding opportunities.**



Where Are They Now?

By Eduardo Teixeira

Rebecca Heine is dedicated to libraries. So dedicated that she earned her Master's degree in Library and Information Science in 2018 from San José State University. However, it was the five years of experience working as a student assistant in the SJSU King Library that landed her a position as a course reserves specialist at Cabrillo Community College Library almost immediately after graduation.

"As a student assistant I had already learned many of the cloud-based library services platforms like Alma and Sierra. I already knew how to troubleshoot, migrate course reserves, and train student assistants on switching to a new platform," Heine said. "I think that was one of the reasons Cabrillo hired me."

As a course reserves specialist, Heine works with faculty to collect and distribute instructional materials, coordinates seasonal displays and on-campus events, and oversees circulation and student assistant duties. Her current position mirrors many of the responsibilities assigned when she was a student assistant, which set her up for success.

"Working at the SJSU King Library helped me encounter a multitude of possible

scenarios that I deal with every day in my current role," she said. "Being able to start your professional career with already having these skills is a real asset."

"Rebecca was a simply delightful and reliable student assistant who loves libraries," said Unified Service Point Coordinator Jeff Frank, who was Heine's supervisor at the time. "She understood the opportunity to learn skills and experiences to add to her professional toolbox."

Heine acknowledges how important SJSU King Library was in shaping her college experience, as well as preparing her for that next step in her career.

"Being a student assistant not only provides you with employment that allows you to prioritize your education," she said. "It can also provide you with job skills that you can usually only get after you have entered the professional field."

For Heine, as a student assistant at the SJSU King Library, she was able to not only enter her ideal professional field immediately after graduation, but to dedicate and contribute to her love of libraries for a lifetime.

Interested in supporting our student assistant program to help them gain valuable skills and experience while contributing to the vitality of the library? Contact Anh Ly, Director of Development, at anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu or 408-924-1104.

CAREER GROWTH