Fall 2020

John M. Pfau Library
The Pfau Library Pivots to an Online Environment

The CSU system and CSUSB have announced that most classes will continue to be taught in an online mode throughout the 2020 fall semester, due to COVID-19 concerns. The Pfau Library successfully pivoted to a mostly online mode during the Spring Quarter and continued in that mode throughout the Summer Session.

Luckily, our normal operations and services already support online teaching, research, and learning. We have vast amounts of library materials in digital format: e-books, journal databases, streaming video, government documents, and the contents of our institutional repository, CSUSB ScholarWorks.

Of course, in these abnormal times, we had to meet the sudden surge in demand for online library resources to support the altered teaching and learning environment, such as e-textbooks, by acquiring additional digital materials, digitizing some things ourselves, and continuing to secure needed items via our Interlibrary Loan service for faculty use.

The Pfau Library has become the main provider of laptops to students who do not have one of their own via its Laptop Lending Program. When the campus went into an online modality, many additional laptops were made available to students. A student that responded to a recent survey wrote: “I am very thankful that I was able to borrow a laptop from the library. I could not have taken my classes without it.”

During the fall, the library will continue to deliver resources and services online. It also is planning to implement a retrieval service for printed and other non-digital materials that will use a no-touch locker system. Such a system would also allow patrons to pick up materials outside of business hours. Both the San Bernardino and Palm Desert campuses will be provided these access services.

Courier service was resumed throughout the CSU system on August 1. It will provide both campuses with access to all materials in libraries throughout the CSU system, which was made possible when the Unified Library Management System was implemented a couple of years ago.

Other library services, such as research assistance and library instruction will continue to be provided online. We are planning programs dealing with current topics that will be delivered via Zoom. We are also exploring additional ways to provide online access to our users by using new technologies, such as controlled digital lending.

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Welcome, Eric Milenkiewicz!
Jill Vassilakos-Long
The COVID-19 pandemic has tragically impacted the world, transforming our daily lives and the way we perform various functions. The CSUSB community has experienced many changes over the past few months as we have dealt with the crisis; adapted to social distancing and shelter in place orders; worked remotely; learned in a shifting educational environment; and found new modes to care for each other.

The COVID-19 experience at CSUSB aimed at capturing the university’s response to the pandemic along with first-hand accounts of how students, faculty, staff, and alumni have been impacted.

Eric Milenkiewicz

The focus of this collecting effort is on the transition from an on-campus to a remote environment; the experience of essential workers who have continued to work on-campus; the impact of technology on learning and work; and the ability of individuals to stay connected to classmates, teachers, and co-workers during this time.

In the first few months of this project the University Archives has actively been collecting university memorandums, announcements, promotional videos, and other materials along with user contributions from the campus community that have included journals and photographs.

These materials have been uploaded into the CSUSB ScholarWorks institutional repository for long-term preservation and form the basis for a newly accessible digital collection that is now available online.

This collection will continue to grow and evolve over time as new content is added and will serve as an important resource for teaching and learning in the years ahead.

Special Collections & University Archives staff will be working with faculty members in the fall and spring semesters to develop student assignments and projects on their experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic that will then become part of this digital collection. Items will range from reflective pieces such as journals or diaries to creative works like art, photography, and poems.

Creating a digital collection that serves as a memory archive such as this requires widespread participation and the University Archives will continue to forge partnerships across campus to further develop the collection into an important scholarly resource. One that will provide an accurate and detailed glimpse into how the CSUSB community navigated its way through this global pandemic that can be used by future generations of students, scholars, and researchers to gain a better understanding of this transformative historical event.

For more information on the project and how to get involved please visit Documenting the CSUSB COVID-19 Experience.

When asked what brings him back to CSUSB:
“Something very interesting to me about CSUSB is their commitment to diversity. There are so many different colors and cultures of people represented. It’s as if the whole world is on campus at CSUSB.”

Please join me in welcoming him back to our campus!

James Knight III Returns
Jill Vassilakos-Long

Guy Stoil Joins the Library Team
Barbara Quarzon

The peer-to-peer Library Ambassador program has reached approximately 1,200 students to date.

The excellent team of librarians, staff, and student assistants that make up the Library Team of the John M. Pfau Library have gone to be very knowledgeable and skilled, as well as adaptable and able to address changes in the academic environment.

A faculty member sent an email to me to say: “I want to offer kudos and thanks because the amount of help and support from the library on this campus is simply stellar.” She also said: “I can’t say enough about the knowledgeable and indispensable resource you are. Thank you for having our backs, especially now!”

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Guy Stoil joins the Library Team as the new General Education program Librarian.

The Peer-to-peer Library Ambassador (LA) program, which started in 2016 with just a handful of library student assistants, has grown into a vibrant collaboration that has reached approximately 1,200 students to date.

In 2018, the Pfau Library entered into a partnership with the Office of Undergraduate Studies’ Student Mentoring Program (SMP), which allowed us to grow the number of LAs from around five to forty-five, in turn increasing the number of courses that have been able to support through the program.

LAs are trained in the basics of the Pfau Library and visit first-year courses that have a critical information literacy outcome, therefore reinforcing learning that occurs in the classroom. During the classroom visits, LAs share their own experiences with college-level research, deliver a brief presentation about library resources and services, and describe the benefits of the program.

We look forward to working with faculty teaching first-year courses that have a critical information literacy outcome as the new General Education program launches this fall.

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Barbara Quarton to Retire this December
Bonnie Petry

In the fall of 1998, Barbara Quarton, then a library school intern, completed her practicum project. The Research Survival Guide, one of our first online guides for students, was a welcome addition to the library’s website. She began working at the Pfau Library in 1997 in a part-time capacity and was hired as a full-time, tenure track librarian in 2000.

Quarton has proudly worn three different hats during her career here:

“Over the years, as I moved from one leadership role to the next, I tried to leave each department with a strong foundation so that my successors could take those departments to their next level for the good of the library. It’s been my goal and my pleasure to contribute to making the library a better place for all.”

Head of Reference 2003-2010

“My happiest achievement at Head of Reference, 2003-2010, was building with my reference colleagues a comfortable, friendly team of professionals dedicated to good librarianship and collegiality.”

Coordinator of Instruction 2010-2018

Drawing on research, collaboration with colleagues, and her “good instincts,” she designed the library’s first-ever instruction plan to include outcomes, methods, and assessments.

Through extensive university-level committee work, she succeeded in getting critical information literacy incorporated into CSUSB’s Institutional Learning Outcomes and the new GE Student Learning Outcomes.

“This was a milestone for the campus, and I’m proud that therubric for critical information literacy that I authored is linked to the Office of Academic Programs: GE Assessment page.”

In 2016, Quarton reached out to the directors of two courses required for their respective majors, resulting in a fruitful collaboration to incorporate student-centered critical information literacy assignments into Psychology 311 and Chemistry 323.

She designed, wrote, and implemented innovative hands-on, activity-based, library instruction sessions for these two classes which see hundreds of students each time they are offered. “These two integrated courses represent the library’s first-ever successful, on-going partnerships to integrate critical information literacy, in a systematic way, into required course work.”

Coordinator of Media Services 2018-present

Students with term paper assignments do not necessarily arrive at the library (actually or virtually) already knowing how to do research. Similarly, students with video assignments do not necessarily know how to use audio-visual equipment and video editing software.

Ever on the lookout for ways to enrich and enhance the library’s services for students, Quarton began a campaign to hire a Library Multimedia Center staff member qualified in all aspects of media production who could offer much-needed, specialized assistance to students.

Those of you who have been involved in hiring staff know that the required process can take a long time. Ultimately, Quarton’s campaign was successful and Guy Stool, Media Services Specialist, joined the library staff. Read more about Stool on p. 3.

The Next Chapter

Quarton will be participating in the Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP) which means that after December, we won’t be seeing her until the following August when she will resume oversight of streaming media collection development and management on a part-time basis.

And what will she be doing with all her free time? Well, if you’ve read this far, you know that she excels at making plans.

Her husband, Walter Buddy Froton, is due to retire this December as well and between the two of them, they have a long list of things they want to do together, but at a leisurely pace of course!

The list includes, but is not limited to, traveling (8 widely scattered grandchildren), gardening, bike riding, walking, and painting.

We are very happy for her and congratulate her on many, many jobs well done! We also are very glad for ourselves that this is not goodbye forever.

Nano Art Gallery

Copy of a Matisse painting “Le Chat Aux Trois Points,” by Barbara Quarton.

Copy of a Matisse painting “Red Shoes,” by Barbara Quarton.

Copy of a Matisse painting “Le Chat Aux Trois Points,” by Barbara Quarton.

Copy of a Matisse painting “The Little F咳mer,” by Barbara Quarton.

Copy of a Matisse painting “Le Chat Aux Trois Points,” by Barbara Quarton.

Picking up a laptop.

Expanded Library Laptop Lending Program

John Hernandez

In mid-March, the word came down from the Chancellor’s office—all CSU campuses were shutting down—students had to take their final exams for winter quarter online, and classes for the following spring quarter moved to exclusively online. The move to online-only classes meant that students who did not have their own computers or the resources to buy one quickly faced a major challenge to keep up with school. In came the CSUSB library! Since 2012, both the San Bernardino and Palm Desert campuses’ libraries have offered laptops for students to borrow from the Check-Out Desk. We launched the Library Laptop Lending Program with funding from the Vital and Expanded Technologies Initiative (VETI). Thanks to VETI, the library has also upgraded and expanded the number of student laptops over the past several years.

We checked out laptops to students taking their winter final exams, supplementing the computers that were available in our lab on the main floor. The upcoming spring quarter, however, posed another challenge because of the significantly increased demand. This is where CSUSB’s Information Technology Services (ITS) came in.

The library and ITS have a close working relationship, so it was no surprise when Dr. Samuel Sudhakar, Chief Information Officer and Vice President for Information Technology Services, approached the Library Information Technology department to explore how we could collaborate to expand the number of laptops for student use in the spring and following terms.

Our partnership worked very well—ITS had the resources to acquire a sizeable supply of laptops quickly and the library had the circulation system in place to distribute them to students.

ITS purchased 400 Dell Latitude 3400 model laptops specifically for the library to administer, which we added to our existing inventory of Windows-based laptops and MacBook Pros. With help from ITS, we created a web page with an online laptop reservation form to manage requests.

Eva Sorrell, the library’s Coordinator for Cataloging entered the new equipment into our circulation system and the student assistants of the Library Information Technology department did the work of installing all the necessary software and preparing the laptops for student use.

Our expanded laptop lending effort would not have been possible without the cooperation and commitment of a diverse staff on both campuses. We have a great team here at CSUSB!
IN 2013, three retired educators, Henry J. Vásquez, Frank Acosta, and Dr. Tom Rivera, in collaboration with Dean Cesar J. Vásquez, Frank Acosta, and Dr. Tom many more followed. Interviewees speak about relatives who immigrated to join family members already living in Colton.

Railroad tracks formed the dividing line between south and north Colton. Public policies enforced segregation; realtors would not sell homes in north Colton to customers of Mexican descent, and a curfew barred people of Mexican ancestry from north Colton after eight every evening.

South Colton developed its own shops, restaurants, schools, churches, etc., but a 1952 list of Colton businesses did not mention a single business in south Colton. The history of an entire community was made invisible.

SCOHP’s mission is to capture a history of the years 1890-1960 in South Colton, a 1.3-square-mile, ethnically segregated, Mexican American community within the city limits of Colton, California.

Video interviews with life-long residents are painstakingly transcribed, then uploaded to the Pfau Library’s institutional repository, ScholarWorks, in order to preserve access for future generations.

To date, 90 interviews have been conducted and 32 of those have been transcribed. Staff, students, and even volunteers continue to work on transcribing interviews. Interview subjects’ ages range from 60-101. During the pandemic, taping in-person interviews has been halted.

Time is of the essence, though. The project depends on the memories of our elders. We lose our history when we wait too long to capture their stories. Therefore, researchers are ready and able to work with interviewees who have strong memories of pre-1960 south Colton and who are willing to be interviewed via Zoom. Face-to-face interviews will resume when safety allows.

Subjects tell family stories—stories of ancestors who settled in Colton. Some tell us about family members who fled Mexico during the Mexican Revolution; others about family members who came to California in hope of a brighter future with better economic opportunities.

One such opportunity came from the Southern Pacific Railway when it began running trains from Los Angeles to Colton in 1875; in 1882 the railway completed a line from Colton to San Diego. The railroad gave workers stationery and stamps and encouraged them to invite relatives in Mexico to “come work for the railroad in Colton, California.”

Before the turn of the century, California Portland Cement opened a limestone quarry and a cement plant at Tahualtapa (Slover Mountain). It was another major employer in this area.

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