

Dean's Report
Library Advisory Council
James E. Brooks Library

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Introduction

It's been a busy summer in the CWU Libraries! We completed a makeover on the entrance to bring light, color, and inviting places to sit. The entrance should set the tone for our next steps.

The library faculty and staff met over the summer to identify potential initiatives for strategic planning. After in depth discussions about the ideas gathered, we will publish them for wider input, including LAC.

Collections:

This year, we are focusing our purchasing strategy on faculty requests and current topics of interest. For example, we are asking for bibliographies for speakers at the library and their related topics, and purchasing the books we don't already have.

Faculty can make individual requests via their subject librarian or the [request form](#).

We are using mobile book displays for popular reading (first floor), program-related reading (Student Commons), and new children's literature (fourth floor).

We are seeking to lock in journal subscriptions pricing when possible. In most cases, this will mean signing three-year agreements rather than year by year.

Our Special Collections have been enhanced with a comprehensive local authors collection, celebrated with a reception on 8 October. The High Mountain Valley Authors Collection will provide opportunities for study of Central Washington intellectual life. We plan to have a speaker series organized around it.

We have recently added primary resource databases to the collection:

[American Indian Histories and Cultures](#)
[American Indian Newspapers](#)
[American West](#)
[Everyday Life and Women in America, c1800-1920](#)
[Gender Identity and Social Change](#)

Instruction:

We are responsive to the new general education model. Librarians are working closely with 184 instructors, and we will meet at the end of the quarter to assess.

Access:

Over Winter Break, we will have a major upgrade to our interlibrary loan system, which should make using ILL easier for end users.

Scholarly Communications:

The Open Educational Resource grant is moving ahead, with 27 development grants given to faculty.

Programs:

October has been full of events – we've already held a Game Night and hosted the Archives Crawl. Coming up are Open Access Week, the Daisy Reyes panel, and the first Lion Rock speaker of the year. Next month we'll have the Friends book sale, Irish Storytelling, and Cultural Conversations.

We'll continue the expanded version of Finals Week with Waffle Night, Paws and Relax, the Friends-sponsored Pizza Night, and more.

Searches:

- Recruitment for the library's Associate Dean is underway, with finalists coming for campus interviews in October. The target start date will be Winter Quarter
- Filling the Collections Strategist position is a challenge due to demand in the market both in the region and nationally
- Planning recruitment for an Arts & Humanities Librarian

New Hires:

- Elizabeth Kuykendall, Library & Archives Paraprofessional, joined the Circulation unit in May
- Daniel Levy, Library & Archives Paraprofessional, joined the Government Information & Periodicals unit in September