Dear CWU Family,

The news surrounding COVID-19 has all of us adjusting to new realities and degrees of uncertainty. At the CWU Libraries, we responded rapidly to the needs of our students in an all-online Spring Quarter.

While the Brooks, Lynnwood, and Des Moines locations will be closed, our vital Virtual CWU Library is wide open. We have quickly expanded our capacity for online chat, phone, and virtual reference appointments. We have moved all book purchasing to eBooks and audiobooks. Our Access Services has pivoted to scanning services and even mailing books.

I’m so very proud of how the workers of CWU Libraries, from systems, to collections, to access, to digital initiatives, to archives, to instruction, to programming, and to user experience have been all-in this massive effort.

If you are in a position to donate during this time of uncertainty, please consider a gift to the Library Fund for Excellence. It’s difficult to predict what challenges the next year will bring, and the Fund for Excellence is our most flexible source to support needs both predictable and not.

When we open our doors again, we will celebrate library spaces by dedicating the Normal School Reading Room. I also invite you to join us for Cowboy Week and Browse and Brews when we reschedule those exciting events.

I wish you all health and happiness, and I look forward to welcoming you to the CWU Libraries in person, in the future!

-Rebecca L. Lubas
Dean of Libraries

Library Receives $1.5 Million Endowment from Wilma Bowers Stellingwerf

The library received the good news in mid-March that it is receiving a gift of $1.5 million from the estate of the late Wilma (Bowers) Stellingwerf who passed away in Wenatchee in November 2019. Stellingwerf is an Ellensburg native who grew up on the Bowers farm. She graduated from Ellensburg High School and started as a student at Central Washington College of Education (CWCE) in 1944.

While a student, Stellingwerf was an officer in the Off-Campus Women’s Club and a member of the Whitbeck Club. In August 1947, she was one of 16 students who decided to teach on the war emergency certificate rather than stay at CWCE for her senior year and finish her B.A. degree. She taught in Wenatchee at the Whitman School. Stellingwerf graduated from CWCE in August 1948 with her B.A. degree in education. She went on to take additional courses to become a librarian.

Stellingwerf moved to Wenatchee where she resided for the rest of her life. She taught fifth grade at Whitman School and was a librarian at Washington Elementary. She was an active resident of Wenatchee, delivering mobile meals for 35 years before retiring at the age of 91. She also volunteered at the Wenatchee Valley Museum, for the American Red Cross, and for the election board.

Stellingwerf was a member for 70 years at the Saddlerock EPC/First Presbyterian Church.

Stellingwerf’s generous gift will enable the library to update library facilities as well as enhance the education and research resources.
Providing awards and scholarships to deserving students is one of the best parts of any job. These hard working, dedicated students are inspiring to their peers and those around them. This year’s library scholarships honored an exceptional student in the Library and Information Science Program and a high achieving student worker.

Carolin Bigwood is the recipient of both the Tullis and the Brooks/Cutright LIS Scholarships. Carolin is a sophomore majoring in elementary education. She works in the Circulation Department of the Brooks Library and is a highly dedicated employee. Her interest in library work was ignited through her time with us. Her positive, quiet nature, and can-do attitude make her a valuable addition to the Circulation unit and the Brooks Library overall.

The Brooks/Cutright LIS Scholarship was established in 2017 to honor our namesake and staunch advocates James E. Brooks, PhD and library Dean Emeritus Patricia Cutright. This scholarship is awarded to a student pursuing coursework in either the Library and Information Science Certificate or Minor. We were honored to celebrate this award by having Patricia Cutright and Lillian Brooks at the reception.

roods Library Increases Online Resources During Shelter-in-Place

In compliance with Governor Inslee’s ‘Stay Home, Stay Healthy’ emergency order and decisions from the Kittitas County Public Health Department, all spring quarter classes at CWU have shifted to online instruction for the first time in the institution’s history. As of March 18, all CWU Libraries locations have closed and will remain closed through at least spring quarter.

To best meet the research needs of our students, faculty, and staff in these unprecedented times, we rapidly implemented changes, including:

- CWU, Summit, and Interlibrary Loan books and media will be automatically renewed for borrowers until the beginning of fall quarter and late fees will be waived.
- While we already offered 24/7, synchronous chat assistance, we expanded the number of staff responding to chat in an effort to connect with our users who may have more questions than usual.
- We added Zoom appointments, which allow our librarians to provide synchronous consultations to help users define a research question, generate useful keywords, and find and evaluate sources.
- Online instruction has expanded to include synchronous and asynchronous virtual sessions as well as tutorial requests focused on using library resources.
- We are scanning articles and book chapters and delivering the PDFs via email in approximately 24 hours.
- We are now offering home delivery of books and media to students, faculty, and staff.
- We temporarily loaned our laptop collection to students with limited access to technology.

In addition to the aforementioned services, we have expanded our database subscriptions and trials. We now offer access to over 215 databases, including the following recently acquired resources. For the complete list of all the databases we subscribe to, check out our A-Z Databases page. (Please note: Our databases are only available to current CWU students, faculty, and staff.)

- ProQuest History Vault: American Indians and the American West, 1809-1971 - Coverage of American Indians in the first half of the 20th century, including first-hand accounts of the Indian Wars and westward migration. We were able to acquire this particular resource thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Brooks Library.
- EBSCO Audiobook Collection - Over 660 audiobooks from a wide array of genres, including humorous memoirs, sports biographies, science fiction, true crime, and many more.
- Academic Video Online (Alexander Street Press and ProQuest platforms) - Both of these platforms offers tens of thousands of videos across multiple disciplines as well as award-winning films and content from PBS, BBC, 60 Minutes, National Geographic, and more.
- Archives Unbound - Digital collections from the Middle Ages forward, including topics ranging from Witchcraft to World War II to twentieth-century political history.
- HathiTrust - A partnership of over 100 academic and research institutions around the world. Collection of over 15 million volumes of searchable books, journals, and government documents. Approximately 50 percent of CWU Libraries’ physical collection is available digitally through this resource.

For the most up-to-date information about CWU Libraries services, please visit our Service Updates page. We will also be hosting virtual events and sharing new resources you can access from home. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.
During winter quarter, the Friends of the Brooks Library (FOBL) enjoyed the chance to support a variety of library activities. The board sponsored its regular finals week pizza night for students, while collaborating with library staff to observe new social-distancing precautions. As part of the Lion Rock Visiting Writers Series earlier in the quarter, FOBL purchased copies of author Elissa Washuta’s recent co-edited anthology, Shapes of Native Nonfiction for CWU students. The board will continue to support the lecture series this spring in its new virtual format. The FOBL also approved funding new materials for the library, including the digital collection, History Vault: American Indians and American West, 1809-1971, that students, faculty and staff can access remotely.

For those interested in supporting Friends of the Brooks Library, please consider donating to the annual book sale. When the library re-opens to the public, you can drop off donations at the circulation desk. If you are unable to store your donation until then, please contact board vice-chair Bob Hickey (robert.hickey@cwu.edu) to arrange a pickup. We accept a wide array of popular fiction and nonfiction, especially children’s books and YA literature.

If you’re a member of the Ellensburg community and want to learn more about Friends of the Brooks Library, please reach out to us via email brooksfol@cwu.edu, or visit our website www.brooksfol.org. We’d love to chat about how you can get involved or support our activities.

Kerry Slaughter to Retire in September

Kerry Slaughter, longtime head of the library circulation department, will be retiring this September after 24 years at Brooks Library. Slaughter’s career in libraries began in 1985 when she accepted a part-time entry-level position at Ellensburg Public Library (EPL). During her 11 years at EPL, Slaughter’s role evolved into full-time library assistant overseeing the circulation department, and eventually included a 9-month stint as interim director. In 1996, Slaughter brought her expertise and enthusiasm to the CWU Library, seven years before it was to be rechristened in honor of former university president James E. Brooks, PhD. Slaughter’s first position was in the interlibrary loan department on the second floor (later to be relocated and incorporated into the circulation department on the first floor). When a job in the circulation department opened up a year later, Slaughter jumped at the chance to return to her library roots. “Circulation was where I felt at home,” Slaughter said. And when the head of circulation retired in 2009, Slaughter assumed her current role as leader of the department.

Slaughter oversees the library’s resource sharing service and was on board for the creation of the Orbis Cascade Alliance, from which our current Summit resource sharing service grew. And through it all, Slaughter has been ultimately responsible for maintaining our collection of resources and ensuring seamless access for our patrons.

Her favorite thing about working at Brooks Library? “Is has always been, and will forever be, the people that I work with. I was greeted with warmth, and I felt included from the start.” Slaughter finds the prospect of retirement bittersweet, but she’s focusing on the sweet. She looks forward to traveling with her daughter Erin, and having time to explore other interests. “I am both looking forward to, and daunted by, the idea of being the captain of my own ship with no pre-set schedule to follow.” Bon voyage, Kerry!

Notes From The Stacks

Stella Moreno Collection Dedication and Poetry Reading

On March 3, Brooks Library hosted the Stella Moreno Collection Dedication and Poetry Reading to honor longtime CWU professor Stella Moreno Monroy, PhD who passed away last August. Moreno was a professor of Spanish and Latin American literature.

Moreno was a dedicated educator at CWU for 31 years who, among many other contributions, will be remembered for her passionate advocacy of humanities education.

Xavier Cavazos, lecturer in the CWU English Department said, “Even though she was primarily a world language instructor… she was very involved in the creative writing community here.” He added, “I believe that one of Stella’s strongest impacts she had on students here at Central was instilling a sense of passion toward literature and language.”

In addition to the dedication, poems from the book Poetics Without Borders/ Poética Sin Fronteras were recited by Julieta Altamirano-Crosby, PhD, Anthony Geist, PhD, Antonio Sanchez, PhD, Michael Johnson, PhD, Phil Garrison, Jen Lynn, Xavier Cavazos and Andreina Delgado. MECHA (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicanx/o de Aztlan) students also read poetry from the collection in honor of Moreno. J.P. Shields’ soothing acoustic Peruvian music closed the event.

Books included in the dedicated collection have been identified by a special bookplate. Selections from the collection can be found in the reading room in the southeast corner of the fourth floor.

The event was co-sponsored by Africana and Black Studies, CWU Brooks Libraries, College of Arts and Humanities, Communications Department, Diversity and Equity Center, El Centro Latinx, English Department, MEcha, SISTERS and World Languages.
Jessica Krill Joins Brooks Library as Arts and Humanities Librarian

Please give a warm welcome to our newest faculty member, Jessica Krill. On April 16, Krill came on board as the arts and humanities librarian for Brooks Library. With a master’s degree in library and information science from San Jose State University and a bachelor of arts in art history from the University of California, Irvine, she comes to us with a wealth of knowledge. Krill has a diverse background of library experience. She has worked in a museum research institute, a K-12 school, and at academic and public libraries. Most recently, Krill held the title of digital content librarian for the Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) where she managed and developed numerous digital projects and exhibits. Before that, Krill was an adult services librarian, also at the LAPL, where she provided reference services, created library programming, and worked on weeding and selecting library materials. Krill is interested in the areas of privacy, digital safety, user experience, and instructional design in libraries.

A member of the American Library Association (ALA) since 2010, Krill has worked recently with the ALA’s digital content working group representing REFORMA, an association that works to improve library services for the Latinx and Spanish-speaking community. Since 2019, she has also been a member of the Library Freedom Project, which is committed to conserving and upholding privacy rights within the library. For reader-friendly information on data and privacy, Krill recommends Permanent Record by Edward Snowden.

Krill enjoys spending time with her partner Kyle and their three cats, Arwen, Aragorn, and Gabe. Krill also collects vinyl records with an eclectic variety of tastes. If she had to choose just one record to listen to, however, it would have to be The Bends by Radiohead. She also loves to travel.

The Graduate Assistant Experience at Brooks Library

By Jasmin Moreno Sanchez

Being a graduate assistant in the Brooks Library has not only helped me improve academically but also professionally. This position allowed me to come out of my comfort zone, and it has helped me improve skills, such as time management and public speaking.

I’ve had the privilege of working with transfer students as part of the Peer Accountability and Connections Program (PAC). Through this experience, I realized how much I enjoy collaborating with others. Additionally, being part of the development of PAC taught me what it looks like and means to be a leader. PAC has also taught me the hard work every professor and librarian puts into a program or project in order to improve the learning ecology for all Central students. As a graduate student majoring in school psychology, my experience in PAC has also allowed me to be a better listener and be more present in a conversation when interacting with parents and other students in my practicum site. Based on the weekly interactions I have with PAC students, I have confirmed the passion I have when it comes to helping other students meet both their academic and personal goals, leading them to become a better version of themselves. Through the guidance of my supervisor, Elizabeth Brown, not only have I been able to do my job more effectively and efficiently, but I have also improved my research skills through the various projects I’ve worked on. I can say that I have not only enjoyed being part of an amazing community of professionals in the library, but I have honed a variety of skills that will follow me through my professional and academic career.

For more information about the School of Graduate Studies and Research Graduate Assistantships, visit https://www.cwu.edu/masters/graduate-student-funding#Assistantships. For more information about the Brooks Library Peer Accountability and Connections Program, visit https://libguides.lib.cwu.edu/PAC.

Moreno Sanchez has been a graduate assistant at the library for two years and is a graduate student in the School Psychology program. Graduate assistant positions are funded through the Office of Graduate Studies and Research. Brooks Library employs graduate students from a variety of CWU programs.

Contributors: Elizabeth Brown, Andreina Delgado, Elizabeth Kuykendall, Daniel Levy, Rebecca Lubas, Jasmin Moreno Sanchez, Maureen Rust, Sarah Sillin, Julia Stringfellow, Sydney Thompson, Maura Valentino, and Lauren Wittek