

# University of Michigan-Dearborn

## Mardigian Library

Winter 2013



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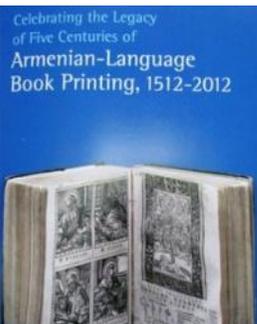
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### Mission Statement

Create a student-centered environment that fosters learning by providing access to authoritative sources of knowledge and information and by helping students learn critical information literacy skills and concepts.



### Library Helps Celebrate 500 Years of Armenian Book Printing



Last fall, the Armenian Research Center at the University of Michigan-Dearborn created the exhibit “Celebrating the Legacy of Five Centuries of Armenian-Language Book Printing, 1512-2012.” The exhibit, held in the Mardigian Library, commemorated the long heritage and diversity of Armenian printing, including books from the permanent collections from the Armenian Research Center and the Alex and Marie Manoogian Museum in Southfield. There were

also Armenian translations of familiar books by John Milton, William Shakespeare, and Harriet Beecher Stowe.

“It was our pleasure to provide space for such an important exhibit,” said Elaine Logan, Director of the Mardigian Library. “The library is committed to enhancing scholarship and connecting with the metropolitan community by providing a forum for events like this; it truly provides an opportunity for professors, students, and the public to meet and enjoy literature and culture together.”

Following its run at the Mardigian Library, the exhibit moved to the Manooogian Museum where it was displayed until the end of January 2013.

### In Living Color



Last summer, some of the public areas in the library received a mini-renovation, or as we like to call it, a botox treatment, but not quite a facelift. All the public areas were repainted, adding a different accent color to one wall on each floor, and changing the remaining walls from “cool beige” to “warm beige.” Adding color made a striking difference in the feel and look of the library.

On the second floor, where groups of students study, we removed some shelving, bought additional pieces of comfortable furniture, added more electrical outlets, bought a few more of the wildly popular whiteboards, and rearranged furniture. The change is quite dramatic and the area is very popular with the students.

On the first floor, tired and worn car-

rels were reupholstered to coordinate with the new colors. Beautiful wooden end panels were added for the expanded juvenile collections.

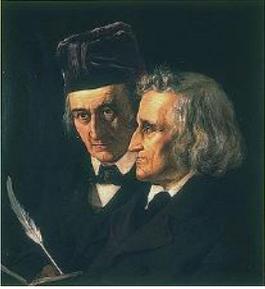
Since we have been hosting more public events and exhibitions, a portable expandable wall was purchased enabling us to create a temporary exhibition area with space to hang items. The wall got its first use in January when the Voice/Vision Holocaust Survivor Oral History Archive hosted “Architecture of Murder: The Auschwitz-Birkenau Blueprints,” an exhibit on loan from the American Society for Yad Vashem.

If you haven’t been to the library in a while, please

come for a visit. We’d love to see you!



## 200 Years of Terrifying Children: The Brothers Grimm



The Grimm Brothers

In celebration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Grimms' Fairy Tales, staff created a special exhibit for December and January with books from our Juvenile Historic and Juvenile collections, along with Disney collectibles related to Grimm brothers stories such as "Cinderella" and "Sleeping Beauty." We challenged library users

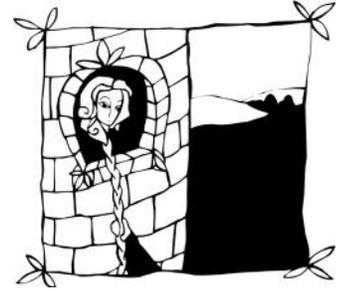
to test their "Grimm" knowledge with a special trivia contest based on the exhibit, and one lucky student, Gabe Elghoul, won a gift certificate to Club Cappuccino. The exhibit generated a lot of interest from students as they learned more about their favorite stories from childhood.

Jacob (1786-1863) and Wilhelm (1786-1859) Grimm were born in Germany. While studying at the University of Marburg, they became interested in philology, Germanic studies, and folklore. The Grimm brothers were more than collectors; they created a methodology for collecting folk stories, worked to achieve a standard story style, and helped establish the basis for folklore studies. After the tales were collected, the brothers began to refine them – comparing different versions, making major changes such as eliminating offensive sexual details, and making them more appropriate for children. The first volume of Grimms' Fairy Tales, containing 70 stories, was published on December 20, 1812. By 1857, additional volumes had been published, comprised of more than 200 stories. Many of us are familiar with some of the more popular Grimm stories, such as "Cinderella," "Little Red Riding Hood" ("Little Red Cap"), "Sleeping Beauty," and "Snow White." But have you heard of "Riffraff," "The Three Snake Leaves," "Lazy Heinz," or "The Glass Coffin"?



Many of us grew up on the Disney versions of Grimms' tales and think we know the stories. However, earlier editions and transla-

tions can be quite different from the versions we know and love. Some of the stories are violent, gruesome, and frightening. The basic plot may be the same, but the details can be different. For example, in some versions of "Cinderella," her father is alive and present while Cinderella's step-mother and step-sisters mistreat and abuse her. A white bird provides beautiful gowns and carriage (not a fairy godmother and cute mice). A gold slipper is left behind (not a glass slipper), and one step-sister actually cuts off a toe in order to wear the slipper (ouch?!). As the step-sisters leave Cinderella's wedding, pigeons peck out their eyes and blind them (think Hitchcock). It's enough to give anyone a nightmare! Certainly not bedtime reading for small children!



From the characters of the popular movie "Shrek" to the toys found in local toy stores, the influence of Grimms' fairy tales permeates our culture. Recent films such as the 2012 movie "Snow White and the Huntsman" and the 2011 film "Red Riding Hood" were popular.

"The Sisters Grimm," a recent series of children's books, follows the mysterious adventures of a fictional pair of sisters who are descendants of the original Grimm brothers. Current TV shows include "Grimm" and "Once Upon a Time." All of these examples illustrate how much we continue to be fascinated by our favorite fairy tales. Grimms' Fairy Tales have been retold by many authors, and many of the books have beautiful illustrations. Although the exhibit is over, we invite you to come take a look at some of the jewels in our juvenile collections!



Sources: "The Complete Fairy Tales of the Brothers Grimm" by Jack Zipes (Bantam Books, 1987) and Wikipedia.

## Mardigian Library Welcomes the Integrated Learning and Community Partnership



In March, the Integrated Learning and Community Partnership Office (ILCPO) will move into newly renovated space on the first floor of the Mardigian Library. Established in 2011, the goal of the ILCPO is to expand community partnerships for research, teaching, learning, and service. ILCPO seeks to support and deepen the quality of teaching and learning on the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus, to inspire innovative pedagogy and research, enrich professional preparation, and catalyze our metropolitan mission. At the same time, the organizations and businesses that are transforming the region will have opportunities to develop meaningful relationships leveraging the intellectual resources of the faculty, work with our highly capable students, and employ our knowledgeable, creative graduates. This collaborative, interdisciplinary organization is a perfect partner to help transform the Mardigian Library for its 21<sup>st</sup> century mission of becoming a dynamic, integrated, and technologically sophisticated hub for the campus community, inspiring individual and collaborative learning. Designed and developed utilizing grant funding from the Ford Motor Company Fund, ILCPO is creating a welcoming, interactive space where faculty, students, and community members can work together to actively shape the future of the Metropolitan Detroit area.



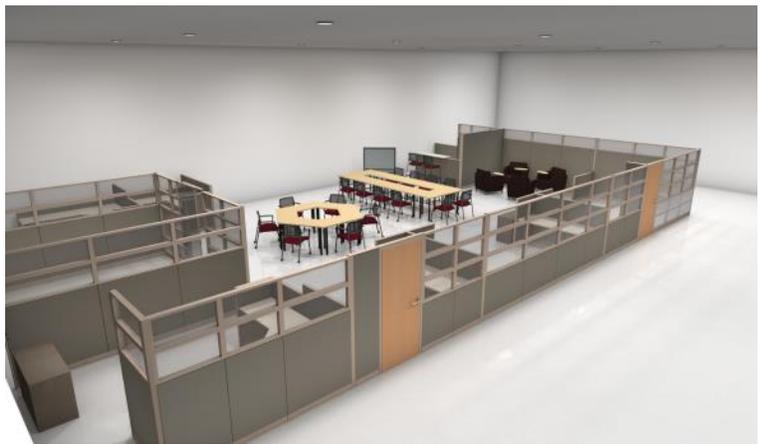
ILCPO is led by a core team of highly motivated academic leaders, including Associate Provost Ismael Ahmed, Dr. Tracy Hall, Dr. Carla Vecchiola, and Dr. Tiffany Marra.

UM-Dearborn graduate and nationally recognized expert on poverty, immigration, and social reform, Ahmed served as Executive Director of the Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS) before joining UM-Dearborn in 2010. He works closely with the deans and faculty to build support for academic programs that engage community partners far and wide.

For the past 18 months, Dr. Hall has been establishing the community engagement functions of

the ILCPO, as well as supervising a team of Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) volunteers and administrative personnel to establish strategic partnerships with nonprofit organizations throughout the metropolitan region.

A key component of the ILCPO is the Civic Engagement Project, led by Dr. Carla Vecchiola. At the heart of the Civic Engagement Project is Academic Service-Learning (ASL). ASL is an innovative and rigorous teaching methodology utilizing community-based activities as a means of enhancing academic learning. Students gain a deeper understand-



Architectural Drawing

ing of course content while engaging in the civic life of their community.

Dr. Tiffany Marra leads the ILCPO Integrative Learning initiative, assisting faculty, staff, and students to utilize integrative learning systems (weaving curriculum, technology, and collaboration to enhance student learning) across campus. Her research focuses on how curriculum shapes learners' perceptions of self—specifically in the ability to transfer knowledge and skills across contexts, and to use technology to tell their story.

ILCPO also oversees seed grant funding in support of academic service learning, innovative teaching practices, and community-based research. These seed grants represent an important step toward eliminating barriers that have thwarted UM-Dearborn faculty from doing this kind of work in the past. Submitted proposals are vetted by a faculty review committee, and the resources, provided by the Office of Academic Affairs, will be managed out of the ILCPO.

We look forward to partnering with our new colleagues and residents!

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## Architecture of Murder: The Auschwitz-Birkenau Blueprints



The Voice/Vision Holocaust Survivor Oral History Archive and the Mardigian Library at the University of Michigan-Dearborn recently co-sponsored the

exhibit “Architecture of Murder: The Auschwitz-Birkenau Blueprints.”

The exhibit, which ran from January 20 to February 24, consisted of 22 panels of photographs, documents, and blueprints from the camp. It also contained poetry by Paul Celan and a short audiovisual presentation.

The opening reception on January 20 featured a brief discussion by Jamie L. Wraight, curator of the Voice/Vision Archive. Dr. Wraight discussed the importance of having both documented facts—such as the blueprints—

and personal testimonies—like those preserved in the Voice/Vision Archive—for those studying the Holocaust.

Award-winning author and Auschwitz scholar Robert Jan van Pelt, Professor of Architecture at the University of Waterloo, led a discussion about the camp and the exhibit during the closing reception. “Architecture of Murder: The Auschwitz-Birkenau Blueprints” was made available by the American Society for Yad Vaseem.

