

## 2014-15 Annual Report

Like all academic libraries, the mission and vision of the Mardigian Library has changed as we embrace our emerging role as a campus hub for collaborative learning and integration of academic support services.

### Vision

The Mardigian Library is an essential part of the University of Michigan-Dearborn experience-- a campus hub for academic success, creativity, knowledge creation, and interdisciplinary collaboration; a gathering place for learners; and a catalyst for integrated learning and community engagement.

### Mission

The library actively supports UM-Dearborn's commitment to excellence in teaching and learning by:

- providing diverse information resources, technologies, and study spaces;
- collaborating to provide research, writing, and academic support services;
- partnering with instructional faculty in teaching, research, and scholarly publication; and
- advancing the Metropolitan Vision of the university through professional and community service, and by hosting exhibits, programs, and events.

The transition in our collections from being paper focused to being electronic continues to accelerate. We are using new technologies to enhance services for our students and faculty, and we are re-imagining our physical space to provide a more dynamic, collaborative, and comfortable learning environment. This report highlights the activities we have undertaken in the past year to fulfill our mission and support Vision 2020 goals.

### Library Conceptual Design

Everything has changed since the Mardigian Library was designed in the 1970's: the campus, students, teaching and learning, information technology, librarians and librarianship. In 2013-14, Quinn Evans Architects and the independent consultancy firm, BrightSpot worked with the library to

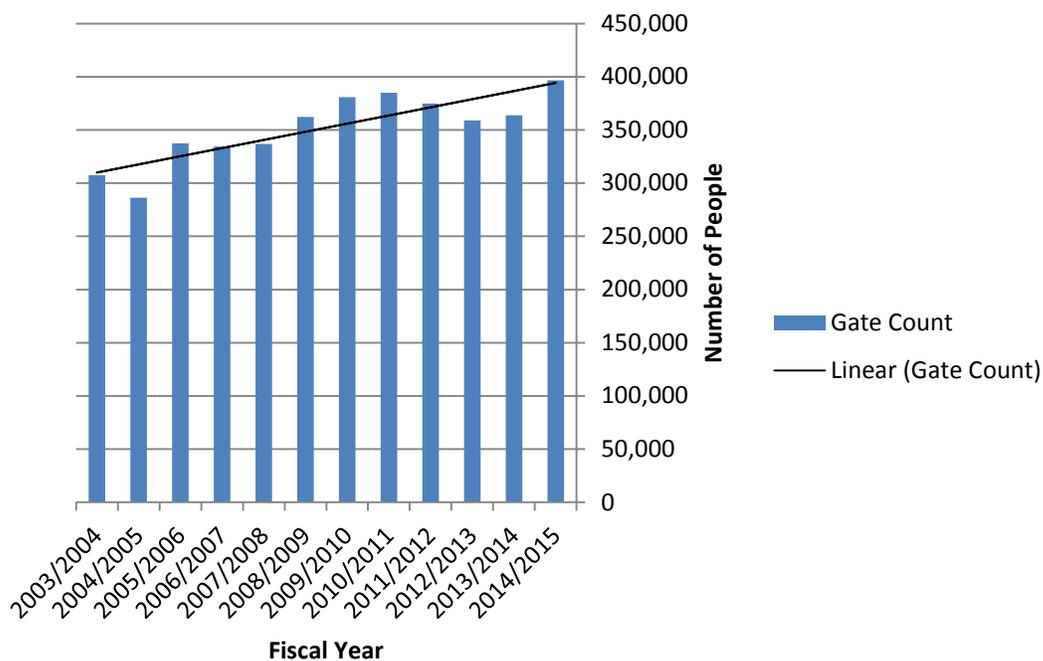


help define what it means to be a physical library in a digital age.

With a full renovation, the Mardigian Library will be transformed into a 21<sup>st</sup> century Knowledge Center and a point of pride for campus. The Conceptual Design proposal was presented to senior campus leadership in October 2014 and received overwhelming support. Renovation of the library is second on the campus capital outlay priority list.

We are already beginning to pilot some of the concepts from the Quinn Evans and Brightspot like group study rooms and open lab computing and library building usage is on the rise.

## Mardigian Library Building Usage, 2003-2015



### Key Initiatives

Information Literacy Instruction: The Mardigian Library offered a one-credit online course titled, *Library Research Skills (LIBS 320)* in Winter Semester 2015. The goal of this course is for students to acquire basic library research skills, including understanding an assigned topic, navigating library databases for journals articles and other e-resources, locating materials through the library catalog, and how to avoid plagiarism. A total of 18 students were enrolled. The course was a mixture of lectures, quizzes, and a final paper. The biggest challenges to creating this course were learning Canvas and other tools (Camtasia) while putting together the weekly lessons. It does take a great deal of planning and effort to get these done. However, now we are better versed in each of the software projects, continue to learn other applications, and our upcoming courses will be easier to plan.

In addition to LIBS 320, subject specialist librarians partner with faculty to provide information literacy instruction as part of their classes. This past year saw a dramatic increase in the number of instruction sessions and student contacts.

### 2013-2014/2014-2015 Academic Year Comparisons

Year	#of Sessions	#of Students	#of Hours
2013-2014	53	1,042	65
2014-2015	88	1,753	91
Change from '13-'14 to '14-'15	+35	+711	+26
+/- %	+66%	+68%	+40%

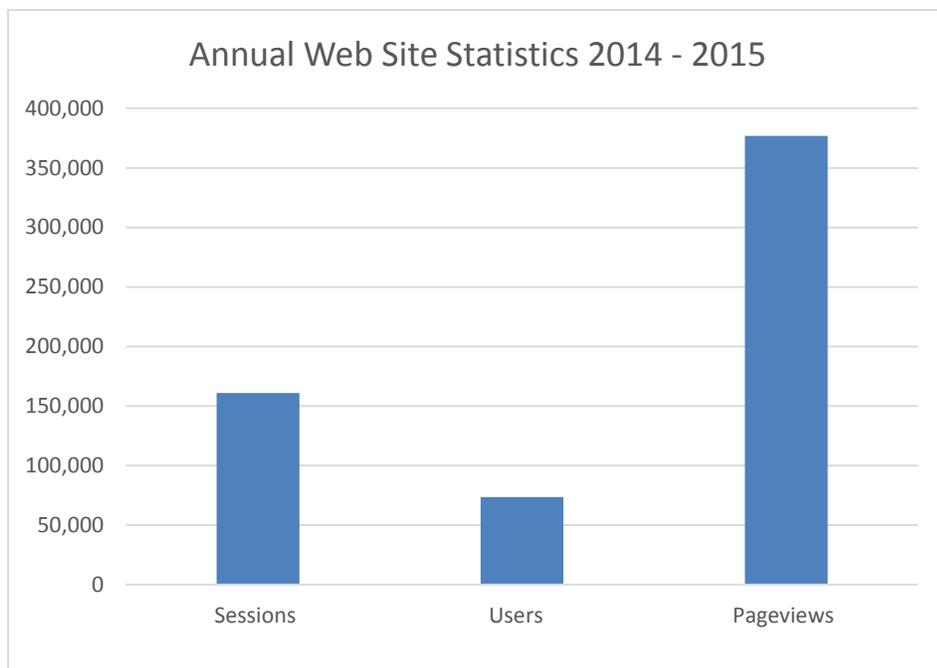
Single-Service Point: The User Services department and the Library Research Center (LRC) established a “single service point” for interaction with library users. The goal of the new service point is to resolve basic information assistance issues at the main desk, creating a focused point for help. More complex information issues are referred to the appropriate subject specialist librarian. The project moved more quickly than we expected. We monitored success and challenges closely, and were able to “tweak” things along the way. It became clear that a different type of oversight of this new service would be needed. A new position in User Services was formed in part to supervise the students at the SSP. User Services will continue to partner closely with the LRC subject specialist librarians to make sure reference needs are covered.

Gallery Strategy: Fully integrating the Berkowitz Gallery as a department in the library was a priority this past year. Laura Cotton joined the staff as Art Curator and Gallery Manager in January 2015. She hit the ground running, updating a number of key guidelines, processes and procedures. Laura created a vision statement for renovation of the gallery. She oversaw two exhibitions, curated another and supervised an intern. She has also established important new relationships with gallery friends and supporters and the gallery and art community within southeast Michigan.

Digital Branch: We believe that the Digital Branch is the technology enabled extension of the physical library. The library began discussing the future development of our website in 2013-14. This year was spent concentrating on developing the necessary scripts for student and faculty focus groups as well developing new information architectures for the site. This digital branch philosophy requires that we support online services with the same energy and resources as we would if someone came to the physical library for services. At some point during the day, every faculty, staff and student is a virtual user of Mardigian Library service and

information resources. Initial access to all of our print, audio-visual, and electronic information resources starts at the library website, no matter whether you are in the building, in a coffee shop, airport, or at home. We are leveraging information delivery/search tools, best practices and campus web standards, and device agnostic strategies. We are focused on usability to enhance student success in their research process.

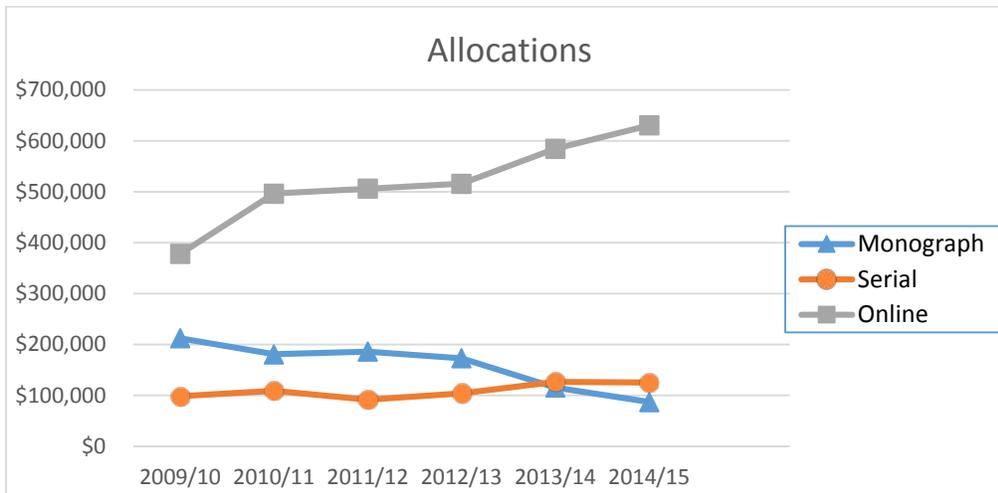
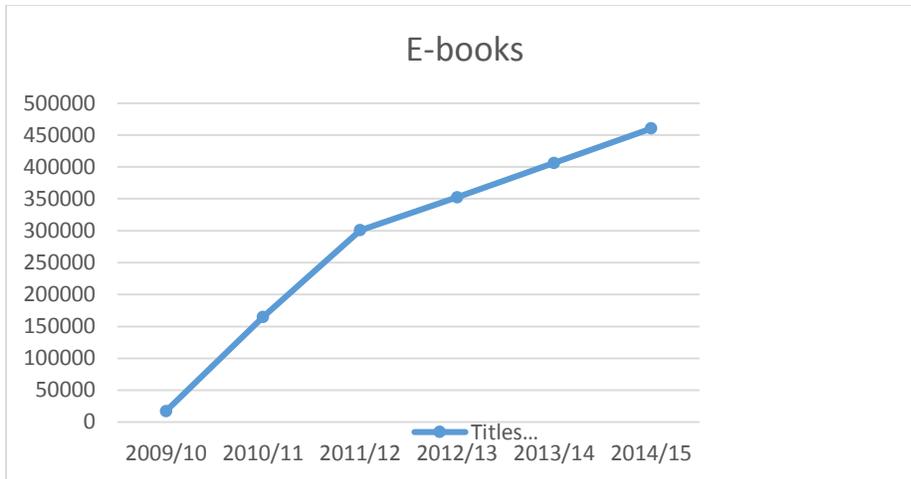
### Web Statistics July 2014 – June 2015



## Collections

### Trends in Acquisitions

The number of print and electronic materials we are able to acquire is down or slowing. There was a 4.5% decrease in ordering and a nearly 15% decrease in receiving this year for all formats. The downtrend of ordering and receiving physical items is not a surprise. The only area of increase is in e-books. At the end of fiscal 2014/15, we had 460,187 e-books cataloged, which was up about 13% over our holdings from last year. Even the growth of e-books is also slowing. These trends will continue unless we receive a significant increase to the materials budget since each year the increasing cost of online databases and journals outpaces the increases to our materials budget.



### Michigan Shared Print Initiative (Mi-SPI)

The Michigan Shared Print Initiative is a collaborative effort among a number of public university libraries within Michigan. The goal of the project is to provide detailed analysis of print collection usage compared across institutions. Decisions about what titles are retained in each library are made collaboratively to ensure state-wide access. The Mardigan Library, in partnership with a number of other Michigan public university libraries, spent time planning for round two of this important 2015-16 project. Parameters were set, guidelines established and data was extracted from our library automation system and sent for analysis.

Interlibrary Loan Transition: Interlibrary Loan is a primary mechanism for supplementing our collections. After evaluating our ability to meet the needs of our campus, the library negotiated a pilot project with MLibraries Document Delivery in Ann Arbor to handle interlibrary loan operations for Dearborn this coming year. This Ann Arbor operation has the staffing and technology to greatly improve service while allowing us to focus resources in other areas. Although there were some bumps during the implementation process, it is expected that the pilot will result in a long-term partnership with Ann Arbor for this service.

## New additions to gallery studio glass collection



Two major gifts of studio glass were received in November. Mrs. Louise Abrahams sent 41 pieces of glass from a collection she and her late husband, Richard, agreed to bequest to the university. The glass pieces are stunning, and we are planning an exhibition of the gift in early 2016.

Another bequest came from Professor Emeritus William Culp. Dr. Culp taught accounting from about 1962 until his retirement in 1992, and many of our early graduates remember him fondly. Dr. Culp was a long-time library donor. The beautiful stained glass piece in the library's lobby, *Wings of Love*, was created in memory of Nancy, his first wife who was a librarian at UM-Dearborn. When Dr. Culp passed away in 2013, he made a bequest to the gallery of about 24 pieces of studio glass. We look forward to highlighting his donation in a future exhibition.



## **Events**

### Young Authors' Festival

Despite an early morning ice storm, over 150 children and adults braved the bad weather to attend the 2014 Young Authors' Festival! Our special speaker was Toni Buzzeo, UM-Dearborn alumna and author of over 20 children's books. Toni shared her experiences about writing *One Cool Friend*, a Caldecott 2013 Honor Book. She also encouraged the children to pursue their own writing by giving tips and demonstrating techniques.



Children selected two breakout sessions created and led by our students enrolled in Department of Education classes. Topics included how to keep a story plot moving, how to help the reader see the story from a different point of view, and exploring characters' feelings and actions. One session even had children creating stories with the help of ukuleles! While the children were engaged in their breakout sessions, adults were busy hearing about

and sharing ideas for supporting children with their writing.

The writing contest is a key part of the festival. We received over 150 entries from third, fourth, and fifth grade students representing 30 schools in the metro Detroit area on this year's theme: "Celebrating Friendship." All the children received "goodie bags" with writing supplies, stickers, crayons, etc. Everyone also received a booklet with the winning entries. The festival wrapped up with a book signing by Toni Buzzeo.

We received enthusiastic feedback from parents, teachers, children, and UM-Dearborn students. We heard one young boy telling his parents, "I thought this would be boring, but I had FUN!" One parent wrote to tell us, "My husband and I gleaned lots of useful information from the parent workshops and later from the information provided in the B&N goody bag. We so appreciate the role these kinds of activities play in encouraging the children's love of reading and writing." And our students learned a lot as well. One of them wrote, "Working with students on different learning levels helped me challenge some students and use more resources for some. I realized how important it is for students to share their writing."

### Legacy of WWI



This Fall, the Mardigian Library and the Office of Veterans Services collaborated in sponsoring a week of programming, *The Legacy of World War I*, to commemorate Veteran's Day and the centenary anniversary of the end of World War I. Thirteen UM-Dearborn faculty members contributed to the week's events, which included lectures, film screenings, and an open poetry reading

led by local author and two time Hopwood Award winner Travis Holland. Faculty, staff, students with family members, and guests from across Southeast Michigan filled the second floor and classrooms in the library to share in the remembrance of this dramatic global conflict.



Each day of *The Legacy of World War I* presented attendees with distinct themes relevant to different theaters of the war and its overall ramifications. Monday's theme focused on the poetry of WWI. Tuesday focused on sickness and economics during WWI. Wednesday focused on the Western Front. The Eastern Mediterranean was the Thursday topic and Friday's concluding events explored the Eastern Front. Over 20 UM-Dearborn faculty and staff contributed to the lectures, poetry readings, and movie discussion. Many members of the campus and southeast Michigan community also participated.



Of the week's events and activities, one of the most popular and most engaging was the wall of propaganda posters representing most of the nations involved in the war. Beginning in September, the UM-Dearborn community were able to view the wall of posters on the first floor of the library. Professors sent classes to view and reflect on the images. Visitors were invited to leave comments, which expressed a wide variety of opinions. One posted reaction encapsulated what many expressed: "This is the most disruptive beautiful project."

Gallery Exhibitions: The Berkowitz Gallery hosted six exhibitions in 2014-15.

- *2014 Open Competition*, June 13-July 24, 2014; curated by gallery
- *Impressed: Prints from Here, There and Everywhere*, Sept. 5-26, 2014; curated by faculty member Julie Lambert
- *Red Rock & Rust Belt: A Tale of Two Cities*, Oct. 27-Nov. 26, 2014; curated by Prof. Diana Ng
- *Cardiovista: Detroit Street Photography*, Jan. 16-March 13, 2015; curated by Prof. Nadja Rottner and students enrolled in the Art History Museum Studies Seminar
- *Crossing Borders- Blurring Borders: Through the Works of Ursula Hubner*, March 27-April 24, 2015; curated by Prof. Jacqueline Van Sant
- *2015 Open Competition*, June 5-July 30, 2015; curated by Laura Cotton; juror- Herb Babcock

Gallery Events: In addition to providing exhibition space, the Berkowitz Gallery is an important events space on campus. Some events held in the gallery this past year include:

- Sept. 10- Public Allies (Office of Metropolitan Impact)
- Oct. 30- Students for Islamic Awareness (student group)
- Oct. 24- Homecoming, 50th anniversary class dinner (Alumni Relations)
- Nov. 10- Chancellor's dinner for Executive Leaders Advocacy Group and Pres. Schlissel (Chancellor and Institutional Advancement)
- Nov. 20- Fireside Chat (Alumni Relations)
- Dec. 16- Lyceum event (student group)
- Feb. 11- Guest artist Matt Faulkner lecturing for Prof. Julie Lambert's studio art class
- April 9- Mentoring event (Alumni Relations)
- April 16- Lyceum event (student group)
- April 23- Stamelos gallery luncheon (Institutional Advancement)

## New Faces

### Bridget Burke



Bridget joined the Systems Team and is working on the redesign of the library's website. Bridget has been a Michigander for 10 years. Before moving to Dearborn, she lived in Illinois, London, and Wisconsin. She has a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology from Western Illinois University, a Bachelor's of Fine Art (Studio Art, summa cum laude) and a Master's of Fine Art (Studio Art) from Eastern Michigan University. Before coming to the University of Michigan - Dearborn, she was teaching art and photography at Eastern Michigan University and working as a freelance web designer and developer.

### Laura Cotton



Laura started her position as Art Curator and Gallery Manager for the University of Michigan- Dearborn in January 2015. Laura Cotton received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Art and Art Administration from Whitworth College, Spokane, WA in 1997 and her Master of Arts degree in Museology from the University of Washington, Seattle, WA in 2004. She has approximately fifteen years of experience in the museum field and held curatorial positions at the Corning Museum of Glass, the Adirondack Museum, Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art and the Powell County Museum and Arts Foundation before coming to Michigan.

## Staff

Adkins, Melissa Circulation Desk Assistant 1 year of service	Ammons, Tim Exhibit Display Coordinator 2 year of service	Anderson, Nadine Behavioral Sci. Librarian 1 year of service	
Armatis, Patrick System Administrator 18 years of Service	Bolek, Barbara Catalog Librarian 13 years of service	Brooks, Carla Head, Lib. Research Center 25 years of service	
Burke, Bridget Web Designer, Associate 4 months of service	Burt, Linda Head, Acquisitions 26 years of service	Cotton, Laura Art Curator/Gallery Manager 10 months of service	
Daniel Walkuski, Julia Head, Systems 6 years of Service	Flannery, Susan Administrative Specialist 11 years of Service	Fraser, Bob Associate Director 21 years of service	

Houston, Marissa Circulation Desk Assistant 1 year of service	Kriigel, Barbara Associate Director 26 years of service	Logan, Elaine Director 4 years of service	
Morgan, Karen Resource Librarian 25 years of service	Nevels, Cheryl Reserves Coordinator 32 years of service	Orblych, Teague Research Educational Coord. 14 years of service	
Rutkowski, Patty Head, Serials 34 years of service	Scherger, Jon Head, Circulation 7 years of service	Scheuher, Joel Business Librarian 1 year of service	
Seewald, Joel Science & Engineering Librarian 14 years of service	Smith, Lavada Tech Svs Librarian 15 years of service	Starosta, Judi Circulation Stacks Coordinator 20 years of service	
Taylor, Beth Head, Technical Services 23 years of service			

**Student Assistants**

Forty-one students were employed in all areas of the library during the fiscal year. They are critical to our success and we know that working in the library contributes to their commitment to UM-Dearborn and their academic success. We are proud to also begin offering internship opportunities within the gallery.

Student Assistant Scholarship

The Mardigian Library awarded two scholarships to library student assistants for 2015-2016. Student assistants are selected by the Scholarship Committee based on their dedication, hard work, and academic endeavors. This year the committee selected Angelina Camilleri and Andrea Painter because they best represent the commitment of our student employees.



Angelina (circulation, technical services) is currently pursuing degrees in both Anthropology and Art History. She recently returned from an amazing experience at a field school in Malta, and hopes to build on that experience by pursuing a career in academia. “Field school has shown me that I want to learn as much as I can by studying around the world. This scholarship will give me the opportunity to save more for graduate school.”

Andrea (research, circulation) is majoring in Human Resources Management as part of her Bachelor of Business Administration program through the College of Business. Through her

internship with Flextronics this summer, Andrea gained valuable experience working in Human Resources for the automotive industry. The library scholarship allows students like Andrea to focus more on their career goals, and less on how to pay for school. "I pay for my own tuition, which can be a heavy burden at times. I'm very grateful for the generosity of donors."

For every one of our student assistants, financial assistance can make a huge impact on what they can achieve. Please join us in raising scholarship funds for current and future student assistants who exemplify outstanding service and commitment to our student body. Donors to this fund will be honoring the incredible service provided by our student assistants, helping them fulfill their dreams of becoming successful UM-Dearborn alumni.

### Student Internship Experience by Julie-Ann Magdowski, UM- Dearborn, Class of 2015

As a newly graduated Art History major from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, I have had the privilege of interning at the Art Collections and Exhibitions department at the Alfred Berkowitz Gallery in the Mardigian Library. I always thought a curator's position consisted of seeking out up-and-coming artists, planning the next big exhibition, and hosting fabulous opening night receptions. While a curator's position does include all of the above, I now realize that is only a fraction of what a curator is actually responsible for.

After interning at the Berkowitz Gallery, I now have a strong understanding of curatorial work and the duties associated with the running of a gallery. In my mentorship I have worked under the university's Art Curator and Gallery Manager, Laura Cotton and Exhibition Coordinator and Registrar, Tim Ammons. Being able to work alongside both staff members has given me experience in both roles and helped me narrow down which career path I prefer for my future.



From the beginning, I have felt included in all aspects of my mentor's job. From being included on e-mail correspondence regarding upcoming exhibitions, accompanying her on visits to institutions, and sitting in on meetings and interacting with donors and artists, I now see the full picture of a curator's position. This has in turn given me a greater understanding and appreciation for all the hard work that is put into running a gallery efficiently and successfully managing the care and display of a collection of 3,500 artworks.

During my time with the department I was given hands-on experience installing exhibitions and working with the collection. I learned the correct procedures and practices for object-handling, cataloging, inventory and exhibition development. Learning these best practices is extremely beneficial to my future in museum or gallery work and is a valuable asset I would not possess without my internship.

I was also given responsibilities in public relations and media outreach. Each of my tasks gave me relevant exposure to the behind-the-scenes aspects of what goes into taking care of a collection and developing exhibitions. My favorite part of the internship was meeting artists, discussing their works, and working together on installations.

Not only have I been fortunate to work side by side with my mentor, but I have also been lucky to receive her knowledge and advice stemming from her years of experience in the field.

She has always been helpful in answering my questions, providing guidance, and opening my eyes to all the career possibilities and paths available to someone with my education and interests.

I am continuing my work for the Art Collections and Exhibitions department this summer and fall as a gallery assistant. In my first post-grad position, I continue to develop my curatorial skills and gain hands-on experience before heading into my first permanent career opportunity in the art field. I look forward to one day being in the position of having my own interns and using my experience at the Alfred Berkowitz Gallery as a foundation for how I teach and guide them towards finding their own dream jobs.

## Looking Ahead: Planned Initiatives for 2015-16

Assessment: Our highest priority project this year will be developing an assessment strategy to measure the impact of library collections and services on the campus. Every organization on campus is investigating how to measure the quality and impact of their work. Over the next 18 months, the library will be investigating **what** to assess, **how** to assess, **when** to assess, and **how** to compile and report assessment data in five areas:

- Collections: e & print, gallery, content alignment with curriculum, usage, gaps
- Instruction: all types of instruction from single class sessions, LIBS320, embedded, research consultations, and online/on demand.
- User Services: quality and satisfaction with services such as single service point, resource sharing, learning spaces, reserves
- Partnership/Outreach: liaison relationships with academic units, student success support groups, research, Metropolitan Impact and programming such as YAF and the WWI series
- Web Services: access, usage and usability, identity and location

The goal is to select the most important things with the most impact on student success and the quality of the UM-Dearborn experience. Everyone in the library will be working on this project in some way. All teams will be reviewing the literature for best practices, learning from peer institutions and consulting broadly within the library to develop their proposed strategy. This work will kick-off in October with a goal of polished strategy drafts from the first three teams in Winter Semester 2016. The last two teams will complete their work in Spring/Summer 2016. We want to begin collecting, analyzing and reporting using the new strategies in the 2016-17 academic year.

Library Conceptual Design Projects: Key concepts from the Mardigian Library Conceptual Design proposal will translate into some important changes in 2015-16. A project proposal has been approved to create a technology-rich innovative experimental classroom where faculty will test the latest instructional technologies and pedagogical trends. Additionally, we will be implementing some “learning commons” concepts on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor to improve the student learning environment and test student adoption of different furnishings and technology.

Information Literacy Course: In addition to the current one-credit online course titled, *Library Research Skills (LIBS 320)*, the library faculty will be developing a three-credit information literacy course for inclusion in the Dearborn Discovery Core. Working in collaboration with CASL, the librarians are developing an a course where students will learn about a variety of library research skills, including understanding an assigned topic, navigating library databases for journals articles and other e-resources, locating materials through the library catalog, and how to avoid plagiarism.

Michigan Shared Print Initiative: As part of the Michigan Shared Print Initiative (MI-SPI) the Mardigian Library will be receiving a comprehensive analysis of the usage of its print collections in comparison to a number of other Michigan public university libraries. A key component of this project is to ensure that at least one copy of key materials is available for borrowing within the group of participating libraries. In collaboration with these other university libraries and with input from the campus community, the Mardigian Library will be indemnifying materials that are no longer needed to support the curriculum or research initiatives of this campus.

Recruiting: The Library will be recruiting four key librarian positions this year. Two of these positions are completely new roles for the library. For the first time we will have a librarian specifically focused on supporting CECS as part of our embedded librarian strategy. We are also adding a User Experience/First Year Librarian to guide our efforts to engage all library users, with a special focus on students in their first year at UM-Dearborn. Later in the year we will be replacing our Business Librarian and hiring a librarian to support CEHHS.

Moving to Digital Branch: Based on information gathered through our work with Everyl Yankee to work with her on the revision and course creation of her publication Web Site Design With The Patron In Mind. We will be one of the featured case studies. We have a strong design plan for transforming our website into a “digital branch. We will be actively transitioning the site throughout the year.

**Gallery Exhibitions:**

- *A True Impact: Celebrating the Stamelos Legacy*, September 18, 2015-January 15, 2016; curated by Laura Cotton
- Glass exhibition displaying recent gift from Richard and Louise Abrahams (title to be determined), February 19-June 15, 2016; curated by Laura Cotton
- *2016 Open Competition*, July 1-August 25, 2016; curated by Laura Cotton