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A Letter from the Director

Dear friends, supporters, and fellow UM-Dearborn Wolverines,

It is my pleasure to share with you the 2015-2016 Mardigian Library Annual Report. As I look back on this year, I’m amazed at how much we’ve accomplished. This report provides a glimpse into the many ways that the library is contributing to UM-Dearborn’s mission. Everyone in the library is dedicated to actively partnering with faculty and students to achieve their scholarly goals. We are also transforming library spaces and services. We proudly sponsor events to engage the campus and greater southeast Michigan community. Great libraries make great universities, and we will continually strive to make the Mardigian Library an essential part of the University of Michigan-Dearborn experience.

Sincerely,

Elaine M. Logan
Director, Mardigian Library
Student success is a top priority for the University of Michigan-Dearborn and the Mardigian Library. In 2015-16 key initiatives in support of student success included:

Digital Branch

This year was spent creating a new library website that concentrated on our most important users—our students. Our new digital resources associate has led the library website into the 21st century in both design and functionality. The library’s website is now based on responsive design. Using graphics and text, sections are more clearly defined. The website also incorporates campus-wide web guidelines for look and feel. For easier access, we have implemented new headers such as “Students” and “Faculty” which lead users directly to the library areas or services they need the most. We created areas that focus on loanable technology such as Kindle e-Readers and HP Chromebooks, as well as circulating physical resources such as books and videos. We introduced rotating “Featured” and “New Arrivals” sections to create more excitement and provide information around library resources and campus events. We also introduced a new “Librarian Partnerships” section which includes librarian profiles. This new design provides a highly dynamic, responsive, and flexible site for our users.
Embedded Librarianship

We are in year three of the subject specialist/embedded librarian model. With three new staff members, the model is gaining momentum. Joan Martin, our Business Librarian, is creating connections to the COB (College of Business) faculty. Having previously worked with this model in corporate libraries, she was able to “dive right in”, already embedding in some classes since her arrival in May. Elaine Meyer, CECS (College of Engineering & Computer Science) and Mathematics Librarian, is strategically meeting with individual disciplines and focusing on what she can do with each. Her continued work on the Deep Blue Data service and the Data Management Project is also helping her engage with the CECS faculty. Raya Samet began her position in August 2016 and will work on building relationships with the CEHHS (College of Education, Health & Human Services) faculty this year.

Nadine Anderson (Behavioral Sciences/ Women’s & Gender Studies librarian) continues to work well with faculty and students in the office-space-in-department model. As an example of the type of impact embedded librarians can have on student success, Nadine partnered with Prof. Georgina Hickey, in Winter 2016, on an Academic Service Learning project.

Professor Hickey wrote, “My students in HIST/WGST 3651 researched and wrote biographies for a project on African American suffragists. Nadine helped me by talking through the whole project with me and then developing a lib guide and a number of tools to get students to track their research and collect bibliographic data. This was a challenge since my students were working in groups of 5 and so they needed to be recording information in a way that was logical and accessible for the group... I just wanted you to know that having her to help me think through the steps and teach them to the students was invaluable! In the email I am forwarding, you can see how pleased and impressed the editor for “Women and Social Movements in the United States” (our ‘community’ partner) was with the results.”

New Expanded Borrowing Agreement with Ann Arbor and Flint

The partnership with MLibrary in Ann Arbor to provide interlibrary loan services for our campus became fully operational this year and is working smoothly. In the spring, we had the opportunity to expand the partnership by initiating a “Get This” service such that UM-Dearborn students, faculty, and staff can borrow print materials from MLibrary in Ann Arbor and have them delivered directly to our campus. This service had been in discussion for a number of years, but became a reality after a UM-Dearborn student contacted President Schlissel. Student eagerness to access library materials made it possible for the Mardigian Library to work with a team at the Hatcher Graduate library to develop a system for delivering books from the University Libraries to UM-Dearborn. Mardigian Library staff developed implementation procedures. The service is expected to be very popular with students, particularly those working on capstone projects or enrolled in graduate programs.
Teaching and Learning

The library actively partners with instructional faculty in their teaching efforts and the assessment of student learning outcomes, especially in the development of library research and information literacy skills. Several key contributions to teaching and learning in 2015-16 included:

LibGuides 2.0 Transition and Design

LibGuides is an important learning support tool available to students 24/7 via the library website. Librarians work closely with instructional faculty to create guides for specific courses. There are also guides for how to accomplish certain research tasks and how to use research tools. This year, the library’s Systems Department, and the subject specialist librarians, worked closely on a project to transition to LibGuides 2.0. This upgrade provided the opportunity to re-evaluate our uses of LibGuides and to create a new design template that more closely reflects our website’s design theme. As part of this project, we also refined naming conventions and classification of guides. Our goal was to create a more consistent, predictable experience for students as they encounter LibGuides for classes across disciplines.
Instructional Design

In support of the new strategy to increase the number of credentialed instructional designers on campus, Joel Seewald completed a certificate in Instructional Design. He will be working closely with the HUB (Hub for Teaching & Learning Resources) and Digital Education as part of the campus Instructional Design Community of Practice. Additional librarians will pursue this certification over the next few years to enhance their ability to partner with instructional faculty on assignment or course redesign and to improve library information literacy instruction.

An example of the power of librarian partnership in assignment redesign is illustrated by work that Nadine Anderson did this past year with four Behavioral Sciences faculty to help students better learn transferable information literacy skills. In order to incorporate blended instruction and active learning of information literacy skills, they redesigned final paper assignments, breaking them down into graded, scaffolded assignments that built towards the final papers. They piloted this assignment redesign project in twelve courses across Behavioral Sciences disciplines, with assessments to measure the overall effectiveness of the scaffolded assignments.

Feedback from students and faculty, as well as assessment data, was encouraging and indicated numerous benefits of scaffolded assignments for students, specifically improved motivation, information literacy skills, and performance on their final research papers and projects. Said one student, “In the beginning I was really annoyed that I had to do the assignment, but it turned out to be really valuable, and made the final paper easier and quicker to put together,” while another student showed the long term benefits of this project, “Due to this experience, I believe in the future, I will feel more comfortable with independent research-based projects.”

“While the extra assignments are indeed more work, I benefit by having better papers/projects at the end. Ultimately, my frustration level is lowered, even if my work level might increase a bit. Pedagogically, it’s also a much better way to teach, than to simply expect them to “figure it out” (aka old school method).”

Patrick Beauchesne
(assistant professor of Anthropology)

“If we did this more consistently across the board, we’d have some much better prepared students by junior and senior years.”

Paul Draus (professor of Sociology)

“Having this assignment has helped with the students who struggle moving the bottom grades up so that I didn’t see any Ds this time around.”

Pam McAuslan
(associate professor of Psychology)

“The scaffolded assignments [ed up]” the grades and quality of my “average” students – their literature reviews were far better than usual.”

Arlo Clark-Foos
(associate professor of Psychology)
Library Research Skills (LIBS 320)

The online Library Research Skills class (LIBS 320) is now in its third semester. Two subject specialist librarians team-teach this one credit course. In Winter 2016, LIBS 320 was taught by Joel Seewald and Teague Orblotch who equally shared the workload during the term. Video lectures were posted to Canvas for students to review and use in the completion of their assignments. There was no textbook so the students had to rely heavily on the lectures and directions from the assignment sheets. Student activities included quizzes and assignments (summative assessment activities) and discussion posts. Seventeen students were enrolled in the class. The average grade for those completing the class was 85% of 100. The highest grade was a 98% of 100. Based on the results of Winter 2016, LIBS 320 will be revised to provide more frequent interactive assessments.

Assessment

Library staff began a project to review and revise assessment strategies for evaluating how well our services support our students and the mission and goals of both the library and the university. This project ties in with the campus-wide initiative to review learning outcomes and identify the best methods to assess student success. Assessment is more than just numbers. It must be meaningful and relatable in addition to being measurable. It should also be sustainable and manageable so we can compare data over time in order to see trends and make informed decisions about services and collection management.

Teams focused on three areas:
• Instruction and Learning Services (instruction in the classroom)
• Collection (electronic and physical)
• User Services (in-person and virtual reference help, circulation of materials, building usage)

Each team researched methods to assess the impact of their area on student success, and suggested several assessment strategies to pilot test. An implementation team was formed to manage the project. During the spring and summer, the team met with several campus assessment and statistical analysis experts who helped refine and implement the pilot tests. Initial test results identified areas where we need to change our processes for collecting statistics and other data. For example, we will implement a new authentication process so data can be collected about on-campus database usage.
Everything has changed since the Mardigian Library was designed in the 1970s--the campus, students, teaching and learning, information technology, librarians and librarianship. 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. We are advancing some of the key concepts from the Quinn Evans and BrightSpot conceptual design plan:

Active Learning Classroom

A key next step in pursuing new service initiatives outlined in the library’s conceptual plan was the complete renovation of ML1212, the former library instruction room. The project to create an Active Learning Classroom within the library was a collaborative effort between the HUB for Teaching and Learning, ITS, the Mardigian Library, and Steelcase, Inc. The room requirements and design were developed by UM-Dearborn Facilities Planning who worked with a team of instructional faculty. The new ML1212 combines state-of-the-art furniture and technology to create a collaborative environment for students and faculty. This room is a place where faculty from all disciplines can come to experiment with active learning pedagogy techniques and new learning technologies to increase student success and build creative skills.
2nd Floor Learning Commons Project

A Learning Commons on the second floor of the library is a foundational part of the library’s conceptual design. During the past year, the library partnered with ITS and Facilities Planning to create a pilot learning commons area. This project was designed to meet several objectives: 1) create an open lab concept so the first floor computer lab space can be re-purposed, 2) expand student access to electricity, 3) create a variety of more functional group study seating areas, 4) test a variety of seating and furniture options in preparation for a major library renovation and, 5) test the functionality of a sound suppression system. As part of this project, all of the public access computers in the library were upgraded and Macintosh computers were made available to students.

Gallery Renovation Project

The Art Collections and Exhibitions Department made substantial progress in its long-term goal to renovate the gallery and move it to the first floor near the main entrance of the library, making it easily accessible by the campus and greater community. This was all made possible by the generosity of William Stamelos. His anchor gift allowed us to engage Quinn Evan Architects to create drawings and develop a project budget. A fundraising plan was created and a large number of gallery luncheons, receptions, lectures, and individual donor meetings were coordinated for fundraising. Last, but not least, the renovation project was formally approved by the University of Michigan Board of Regents.

The new Stamelos Galleries Center will be comprised of two galleries, the Berkowitz and a “yet to be named” gallery, which will be divided by a moveable wall. These new galleries will have the ability to house either two unique smaller shows or be opened to accommodate a single, more complex exhibition. Utilizing the latest concepts in gallery design and lighting, both galleries will be extremely flexible in their ability to feature many different art forms of varying sizes and complexities. Every aspect of this project is intended to facilitate access and provide more opportunities for educational programming, including lectures, workshops, and cultural events. The new Stamelos Galleries Center will be a key element in the university’s goal to augment the role of arts and museum studies in both the curriculum and student experience. It will serve as the gathering place where the campus and local community celebrate the arts, and will attract and inspire well-regarded artists who will greatly enhance and enrich university offerings both on campus and beyond.
Collections

During the past year, the largest area of collections growth was in electronic resources which comprised 76.5% of the library’s materials budget. Over 74,000 new e-books and over 10,000 new e-journals were added to the collection. Here are highlights of new acquisitions made during 2015-16.

Electronic Databases:

- **IHS Automotive** - A global survey allowing suppliers to rate carmakers on a variety of matters, ranging from technology sourcing to profit-impacting factors as well as quality management and intellectual property protection matters. The SuRe index is based on global automotive suppliers’ ratings of 29 criteria, allocated in five categories.
- **Kanopy Streaming Service** - Kanopy is a streaming video service that makes it easy to watch, share, and discuss films across our campus and at your own convenience. View over 26,000 films from around the world, including documentaries, training films, and theatrical releases.
- **Human Rights Studies Online** - This collection is a research and learning database providing comparative documentation, analysis, and interpretation of major human rights violations and atrocity crimes worldwide from 1900 to 2010.
- **Data USA** - This is the most comprehensive website and visualization engine of public U.S. government data.
- **Ethnologue: Languages of the World** - A comprehensive reference work cataloging all of the world’s known living languages. The information in the Ethnologue will be valuable to anyone with an interest in cross-cultural communication, bilingualism, literacy rates, language planning and language policy, language development, language relationships, endangered languages, writing systems, and to everyone with a general curiosity about languages.
E-books

- “3D Technology in Fine Art and Craft,” by Bridgette Mongeon (Focal Press, ©2016)
- “Manage Your Job Search,” by Johanna Rothman (Pragmatic Bookshelf, ©2015)
- “Martin Heidegger: Challenge to Education,” by Steven Hodge (Springer, ©2015)

Print Collection:

- “Integrating information into the engineering design process,” edited by Michael Foslmire and David Radcliffe
- “The color factor: the economics of African-American well-being in the nineteenth-century South,” by Howard Bodenhounn
- “The Boom: how fracking ignited the American energy revolution and changed the world,” by Russell Gold
- “Tablets in K-12 education: intergrated experiences and implications,” by Heejung An, Sandra Alon, David Fuentes, eds
- “Modern ink: the art of Qi Baishi,” by Britta Erickson, Craig L. Yee, Jun Ying Tsao, et al.
- “Shakespeare’s folktale sources,” by Cahrlotte Artese
- “When we are no more: how digital memory is shaping our future,” by Abby Smith Rumsy

Michigan Shared Print Initiative

The Michigan Shared Print Initiative (MI-SPI) 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 across institutions. Decisions about what titles will be retained in each library were made collaboratively to ensure state-wide access. During 2015-2016, the Mardigian Library spent time planning for round two of this important project. Parameters were set, guidelines established, and data was extracted from our library automation system and sent for analysis. Our circulating holdings were sent to GreenGlass for analysis. We received our “must keep” list in spring 2016.
Gallery Collection

Arthur Secunda, born in New Jersey in 1927, is internationally renowned as a painter, sculptor, teacher, curator, critic, and printmaker. His education included spans of time studying art in New York, Paris, Rome and Mexico. While working at Mexico’s Esmeralda Escuela de Pintura y Escultura, he learned and honed tremendous skills in woodcarving and woodcut printing.

The artist has exhibited widely all across the United States and Europe and his artwork is part of numerous renowned collections including the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Library of Congress in Washington D.C., the Chicago Art Institute, the Honolulu Academy of Fine Arts, and the Detroit Institute of Art. Throughout his career, Secunda has been particularly noted for his innovative printmaking techniques, brilliant collages and striking graphics. Through a generous donation by Christopher and Arlene Wall this year, UM-Dearborn was proud to add five more remarkable Arthur Secunda prints to our collection:

- Concentration 6/75- 2015.1.1
- Concentration 7/75- 2015.1.2
- Etude 4/75- 2015.1.3
- Etude 5/75- 2015.1.4
- Jubilation- 2015.1.5

Outdoor Sculpture Collection

Within the last year, the Art Collections and Exhibitions Department has completed a complete review of the outdoor sculpture rental program with a goal to phase out rental payments. All artists were contacted and given the option to either donate their sculpture to the university, place it on unpaid, long-term loan status, or have it returned.

Eight outdoor sculptures were offered as gifts to the university, five changed to unpaid, long-term loan status, two returned and five more marked for return. A professional sculpture conservator has been scheduled to examine each of the eight works that have been offered for donation, and to complete a professional conservation and maintenance report. Upon completion of the report, a committee that includes appropriate university representatives will convene to discuss and vote on the eight offered works. New loan contracts are being completed for long-term loans and arrangements are being made for the five sculptures still needing to be returned.
Juvenile Historic Collection

We had an incredible opportunity this year to acquire historic juvenile materials from an estate sale of an antiquarian bookseller. Maggie Page, the owner of Page Books, always carried the most amazing, beautiful, and pristine children’s titles. Unfortunately, many of these books were out of our price range. For example, Page Books had a first edition, first printing of “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz” from 1900, but it was selling for $5,000. The book was not affordable or appropriate for our collection of juvenile titles that is meant to be used by our students studying children’s literature.

Thanks to William Gosling, donor, volunteer, and University of Michigan Librarian Emeritus, and Gary Overman, proprietor of the Book of Ages antiquarian bookstore, we were able to have first pick of many of the titles in the estate sale— and for a fraction of the asking price. We purchased about 120 beautiful children’s books, published from the mid-1800s to the mid-1900s, which is the target acquisition range for our Juvenile Historic Collection.

Among the materials acquired are two very rare titles. The first is “The Christmas Bookhouse,” a unique 1930 holiday version of a series published in the 1920s. The set includes a wooden house, painted red and green for the holidays, with nine books. The colorfully decorated spines look like windows, doors, and other features when the books are shelved in the wooden house. The holiday version was only published once and is very rare, so we were excited to be able to obtain a copy at a price we could afford.

The other unusual and rare item we acquired was a first edition, first printing of “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.” This beloved children’s poem was written by Robert L. May in 1939 for Montgomery Ward, a Chicago-based department store. The store used the poem as an advertising piece, giving away many copies of the booklet in its first year of publication. We purchased two 1939 copies; one copy has an illustration of a tri-motor plane, indicating that it is a first printing, since later printings featured a four-motor plane. Various editions and printings of a title, in our collection, allow our students to examine and understand how a specific title can change throughout its printing history.

This purchase is an excellent example of how unique collaborations can benefit our students and faculty. Our librarians worked with William Gosling and Gary Overman to maximize a unique opportunity, resulting in the acquisition of materials that will benefit our campus for generations to come.
Great Michigan READ Author Event

On May 11, 2016, the UM-Dearborn Mardigian Library, in partnership with Henry Ford College and the Dearborn Public Library, hosted an author event for the Michigan Humanities Council’s Great Michigan Read program. Station XI, a novel by Emily St. John Mandel, “is the story of the Traveling Symphony, a troupe of Shakespearean actors and orchestral musicians traveling the shores of the Great Lakes in a post-apocalyptic Michigan. Striving to maintain their humanity in the altered landscape of a world where 99% of the population has been wiped out by a flu pandemic, the Traveling Symphony operates under one credo: “Survival is insufficient.” Station Eleven is set in a world turned upside down, but is ultimately an exploration of people surviving and remaking their lives by preserving the qualities that make us human: culture, art, and the humanities.”

Highlights of the event included an author interview conducted by Professor Caitlin Finlayson, UM-Dearborn professor of English and a performance by the Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Company.
Young Authors’ Festival

Approximately 80 adults and an equal number of children attended the 2015 Young Authors’ Festival. Michigan author and Newbery Honor recipient, Gary Schmidt, was the guest speaker. This annual event is a collaborative effort between Mardigian Library and the College of Education, Health & Human Services. Librarians and staff work with Prof. Danielle DeFauw and two classes of CEHHS students who are preparing to be teachers. The festival includes a writing contest for children in grades 3-5 and a half-day campus event. Each year, a Michigan children’s author is invited as a guest speaker and programming includes breakout sessions for the children to develop literacy skills. The children’s sessions are designed and led by the CEHHS students. A separate session for adults provides tips and techniques for supporting their children’s literacy development.

The Young Authors’ Festival is an excellent example of the campus engaging the metropolitan community and being a collaborative partner in the education of elementary school children in our region.
Gallery Exhibitions

The Berkowitz Gallery hosted three exhibitions in 2015-16:

• “A True Impact: Celebrating the Stamelos Legacy”, September 18, 2015-January 15, 2016; curated by Laura Cotton. This exhibition honored the significant contributions to the university by William and Electra Stamelos over the last thirty-five years. Electra Stamelos (1927-2008) was a beloved UM-Dearborn art professor from 1980 to 1994 and an accomplished artist.

• “A Collector’s Living Room”, February 19-June 15, 2016; curated by Laura Cotton. This exhibition highlighted only a portion of the remarkable studio glass collection that was a gift to the university by Richard and Louise Abrahams. The exhibit honored their significant contribution and provided the viewer with a rare glimpse into the living room of a private collector.

• “2016 Open Competition”, July 1-August 25, 2016; curated by Laura Cotton. This is an annual juried exhibition that showcases and celebrates Michigan artists and promotes the resources of UM-Dearborn to diverse audiences. The competition is open to all media and artistic styles.
New Faces

Joan Martin

Joan joined the Mardigian Library in May 2016 as our Business Librarian. Previously, she worked as a librarian for the National Bank of Detroit where one of her roles was to create and deliver classes for lending officers on using the internet for business and industry research. Joan was also a Research Manager for a competitive intelligence firm conducting research for a wide variety of clients in industries such as pharmaceutical, legal, chemical, and automotive. Some of her time was spent as the embedded librarian at Ford Motor Company, supporting the strategy and finance departments. In addition to her M.S. in Library Science (Wayne State University), Joan has an M.A. in French (Wayne State University) and a B.A. in French (Oakland University).

Elaine Meyer

Elaine joined the Mardigian Library in January 2016 as our Engineering and Computer Science, and the Mathematics Librarian. Previously, she worked for MCLS (Midwest Collaborative for Library Services) as a user experience librarian and at ProQuest as a user experience specialist. Elaine also brings extensive experience in website design and information architecture. In addition to her M.S.I. (University of Michigan), she has a B.S. in Electrical Engineering (Michigan Technological University).
New Faces

Raya joined the library in August 2016 as Education, Health and Human Services Librarian. She received her M.S.I. from the University of Michigan, and spent five years as a teacher-librarian for middle and high school students at schools in Ohio and Michigan. Raya’s B.S. in Modern and Middle Eastern studies is also from the University of Michigan. Her studies included assisting the Building Islam in Detroit Project, which has now toured the globe. She also spent a year studying at Tel Aviv University as part of their Overseas Students Program.

Holly joined the Mardigian Library in October 2015 as our User Services and First Year Experience Librarian. She has worked for both the Mardigian Library and University Libraries in Ann Arbor since 2012. She received her M.S.I. from the University of Michigan in 2011. In addition to her library science degree, Holly has an M.A. from Wayne State University in English Literature and Creative Writing as well as a B.B.A. in Marketing from the University of Michigan. Prior to her work in libraries, Holly worked as a copywriter for Campbell-Ewald Advertising in Warren, MI.
## Years of Service

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## Student Assistants

Twenty-six students were employed in many 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 offer a Student Assistant Scholarship, as well as many training and leadership development opportunities.
Presentations, Publications, Appointments and Awards

Carla Brooks

- Contributor MDMLG Newsletter (Metropolitan Detroit Medical Library Group)

Nadine Anderson

- “How to Get an Embedded Librarian Job,” SLA Embedded Librarians Caucus webinar panelist, December 2015
- “Scaffolding Course Research Assignments to Incorporate Information Literacy Skill Development: An Interdisciplinary Pilot Project,” WILU (Workshop for Instruction in Library Use), May 2016
- SLA Embedded Librarian Caucus webinar, co-organizer and webinar presenter

Elaine Meyer

- “User Experience in Academic Libraries: What does it mean and why should we care?” QuasiCon Conference, University of Michigan School of Information, February 2015
- UMSI (University of Michigan School of Information) Careers panelist—presented interview preparation and general job-seeking tips, Winter 2016
- Peer reviewer for Weave: Journal of Library User Experience
- Vice-Chair of UX (User Experience) MI-ALA—organized an UX Interest Group with Chair Brian Holden
- UMSI—Formal and informal mentor for UMSI students

Teague Orblych

- Adjunct faculty at Wayne State University’s School of Library and Information Science teaching graduate level classes in reference and instructional methods
- LOEX Fall Focus – co-organizer of inaugural Fall conference in Ann Arbor, November 2015
- LOEX Quarterly Assistant Editor for Interviews (2015-16)

Patricia Rutkowski

- Chancellor’s Exceptional Long Term Achievement Award

Jonathan Scherger

- Southeastern Michigan League of Libraries (SEMLOL) chairperson

Joel Seewald

- Chair, UM-Dearborn Student Media Committee
- UM-Dearborn Academic Climate Survey member
- LOEX Fall Focus – room monitor, November 2015
Mardigian Library by the Numbers

Resources
- 31,500 books circulated
- 534,373 e-books
- 80,978 e-journals
- 5,173 Interlibrary loan requests

People
- 28 staff with 336.5 combined years of service
- 26 student assistants
- 1,867 students receiving information literacy instruction

Spaces
- 428,273 building visits
- 53 hours group study rooms booked per week
- 93 student computers available
Looking Ahead: Planned Initiatives for 2016-17

Active Learning Classroom

On September 28, 2016, the new Active Learning Classroom officially opened. This dynamic technology rich classroom was created through a partnership between the HUB for Teaching and Learning, ITS, the Mardigian Library, and Steelcase, Inc. This year we will be assessing how the room is being used and its impact on teaching and learning.

Graduate Workshop Series

Working with the Graduate Office, the Mardigian Library will pilot a new series of workshops specifically focused on graduate students. We will gather input from graduate program directors, graduate faculty, and graduate students about what types of workshops are already offered and what types may be of interest. In addition, we will solicit feedback on the desired location, day, time, and format for the workshops. Based on the results of the pilot workshop series and the needs assessment, a proposal will be developed to guide the future of the workshop series. The input gathered will be used to possibly develop a graduate student community that will leverage the same technology infrastructure as the Talent Gateway.

Staff Website

The Systems Department will be working with all departments in the library to implement a new staff website. The goal of this project is to create a consistent, reliable, dynamic, well organized, easily accessible workspace where library departments can document policies and procedures, and share updates and news.
Assessment

Now that several of the first pilot assessments are completed, we are changing how we collect some of our data. For example, we need to change how students and faculty authenticate when accessing databases from on campus. New authentication procedures were implemented in mid-September, allowing us to better analyze what resources are used, and by which of our four colleges. Having this data will enable us to offer resources that better meet the needs of our campus community.

More pilot assessments are taking place during the fall and winter terms:
- Learning Commons: We are also collecting statistics about which library areas and technology are being used. The newly renovated Learning Commons on the second floor is being tracked so we can determine which group study areas and furniture options are preferred by students. This data will be helpful as we plan a major renovation of the library building.
- Faculty Survey: Another pilot strategy is to survey faculty about their awareness of library services so we can design marketing plans.

Michigan Shared Print Initiative

As part of the Michigan Shared Print Initiative (MI-SPI), the Mardigian Library received 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 identify and discard materials that are no longer needed to support the curriculum or research initiatives of this campus.
Gallery Exhibitions

- “Forbidden Art: Illegal Works by Concentration Camp Prisoners”, Sept. 18-Dec. 23, 2016; curated by the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum
- “Art in an Age of Transition: Northern European Prints from the Collection of the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts”, Jan. 27-April 7, 2017; curated by Professor Stanley Weed and the UM-Dearborn 2016 Museum Studies Seminar class
- Glass exhibition displaying the works of Christina Bothwell and Robert Bender, May 5-July 15, 2017; curated by Laura Cotton
- “2017 Open Competition”, August 11-October 6, 2017; curated by Laura Cotton

Young Authors Festival

Newbery Medal winner Christopher Paul Curtis will be our guest author and speaker at the 2016 Young Authors’ Festival on Saturday, Nov. 12. Mr. Curtis won both the Newbery Medal and the Coretta Scott King Book Award in 2000 for his book “Bud, Not Buddy.” In 2008, “Elijah of Buxton” won the Coretta Scott King Book Award and was named a Newbery Honor book. Mr. Curtis’s first book, “The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963,” won numerous awards, was made into a movie, and in 2013 was added to the New York Public Library’s list of “100 Great Children’s Books” in the last 100 years. Born and raised in Flint, MI, Mr. Curtis is a graduate of the University of Michigan-Flint. You can read more about him at his website: www.nobodybutcurtis.com.

Several grants and donations support the 2016 festival:

- A $1,000 grant from the Metro Detroit Book & Author Society
- Tamara Salloum, a UM-Dearborn graduate, and her family, pledged an annual $450 to fund the children’s writing contest awards in honor of their parents, Abdallah and Leila Salloum
- The UM-Dearborn bookstore is providing the $100 writing contest award for the contest’s grand prize winner.