Meet ILL technician, Kimberly Steiner

The Interlibrary Loan department is tasked with obtaining materials and electronic resources from other institutions for the use of our patrons, as well as sending our materials to be borrowed by libraries across the country.

Kimberly Steiner, ILL technician, took a few minutes to talk about her job and how ILL benefits library patrons.

How long have you worked in the ILL Department? “This is my 4th year in ILL.”

What are your primary duties with ILL? “Most of what I do includes requesting, receiving and processing materials for our patrons, as well as sending Messiah’s materials out to libraries across the country.”

Who uses ILL services? “Students and faculty are the main users, but other employees use it as well.”

What are most ILL resources used for? “Faculty members use materials for class content or research for their writing. Students use it for research for their papers and projects.”

How much time does it take to receive an ILL resource? “If it is an electronic article, it can come as quickly as hours of requesting it, but the majority come within a couple of days. For loans, it can take from several days up to 2 weeks, depending on where it is coming from.”

How many requests do you typically receive in a year? “We borrow around 3,000 items each year and we loan closer to 4,000.”

How far away have resources come from and gone via your office? “We send and receive items from all over the country, including Alaska and Hawaii. We have received some articles from Europe and Asia as well.”

How does ILL benefit library patrons? “ILL gives our students and faculty FREE access to items that they would normally have to pay for, since we don’t have them available at Murray. Faculty members don’t need to visit other libraries when doing research, since they can have materials from anywhere come right to them!”

What is your biggest challenge of working in ILL? “The biggest challenge is tracking down items that are very old or rare or came from an obscure citation. It’s like solving a mystery, which I love to do!”

What is your favorite part of working in ILL? “Being able to help students and staff get exactly what they need to help them be successful.”

What else would you like patrons to know concerning ILL? “While I do my best to get things as quickly as possible, I am not a magician. If you place a request at 11pm, it definitely won’t be available to you at 8am. Request your materials well before something is due to ensure that it arrives in time.”

What is Open Access?

Peter Suber, the Director of Harvard Office for Scholarly Communication and author of Knowledge Unbound (MIT 2016), states that “Open access literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions.”

Click on this link for a more detailed description of Open Access including the difference between “gold” and “green” open access: https://legacy.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm
Library Display
Through the end of February

“What Looking Back, Moving Forward: The Civil Rights Tour and the Common Good”
For the past 7 years, members of the Messiah community have had the privilege of participating in “Returning to the Roots of Civil Rights,” a 10-day tour organized by Dr. Todd Allen. Tour members meet veterans of the Freedom Rides, sing with one of the original Freedom Singers, and visit key sites in the struggle for civil rights in America, including Birmingham, Montgomery, and Selma. The Library invites you to experience some of what tour members saw and felt by viewing the exhibit of their compelling photos and other memorabilia along with moving and challenging reflections drawn from their blogposts.

Learn more about the Civil Rights Tour and the continued work of recognizing the beauty and dignity of all humans for the common good.

What We’re Reading...

Rose Under Fire (Schneider Family Book Award, 2014) by Elizabeth Wein
Call Number: Fiction 422.5 Ro 2013
Recommended by Amanda Flagle, Acquisitions Technician

Rose is an American teen working in England for the Air Transport Auxiliary, a British civilian organization that helped to support the Royal Air Force during WWII. The ATA ferried and repaired Allied aircraft, including fighter planes; some of its pilots were women, and in 1943 they received equal pay to their male co-workers. One day while Rose is flying a fighter plane from Paris to England, she is captured by the Nazis and sent to Ravensbruk, the notorious women’s concentration camp. Rose makes friends and learns hard lessons, including how to survive the horrible conditions.

This is a companion book to Code Name Verity which is a Michael L. Printz Award Honor book and is located on the shelf next to Rose Under Fire. They are stand-alone books that involve a few of the same characters. The Pearl Thief is a prequel to Code Name Verity, but it isn’t in our library.

While this book is located in the Juvenile section, it is definitely a Young Adult book, with adult language and very difficult situations, especially within the concentration camp. Elizabeth Wein spent her teenage years in the Harrisburg area, and there are some items from South Central PA mentioned in this book.

"Wein masterfully sets up a stark contrast between the innocent American teen's view of an untarnished world and the realities of the Holocaust. Although the story's action follows Code Name Verity's, it has its own, equally incandescent integrity. Rich in detail, from the small kindnesses of fellow prisoners to harrowing scenes of escape and the Nazi Doctors' Trial in Nuremberg, at the core of this novel is the resilience of human nature and the power of friendship and hope." - Kirkus, starred review

Professional News

Librarian Sarah Myers and Melinda Burchard, Associate Professor of Special Education, collaborated together beginning fall 2017 to examine relationships between students’ perceptions and experience with information literacy, their information literacy behaviors, and self-efficacy about finding evidence-based practices. Using pre and post surveys and student self-recorded screencasts of their research experience as part of the research assignment helped identify search behaviors, creating opportunities for immediate instructor or librarian supplemental intervention, as needed. The screencast recordings also provided student feedback to improve future upper-level, discipline specific information literacy instruction sessions. The full study will be published in the Journal of College Reading and Learning in 2019.

CHECK OUT ALL THE RESOURCES THE LIBRARY HAS TO OFFER. VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.MESSIAH.EDU/MURRAYLIBRARY.

Regular Hours:
Mon. – Thurs., 7:30AM – Midnight  Sat., 10:00AM – 8:00PM
Fri., 7:30AM – 6:00PM  Sun., 2:00PM - Midnight