What’s New at the Library?

NEW LIBRARY RESOURCES

Check out the following new resources at Murray Library:

God and government : Martin Luther’s political thought / Jarrett A. Carty
BR333.5.P6 C37 2017x

Jesus in Asia / R.S. Sugirtharajah
BT304.94 .S84 2018

Protestants abroad : how missionaries tried to change the world but changed America / David A. Hollinger
BV2410 .H65 2017

On the road to freedom : a guided tour of the civil rights trail / Charles E. Cobb, Jr.
E185.61 .C63 2008

Spark of learning : energizing the college classroom with the science of emotion / Sarah Rose Cavanagh
LB2331 .C37 2016

Learning to collaborate for the global common good / Fernando M. Reimers
LC191 .L43 2018x

Start your farm : the authoritative guide to becoming a sustainable 21st-century farmer / Forrest Pritchard & Ellen Polishuk
S494.5.S86 P757 2018

LIBRARY DIRECTOR’S CORNER

Open Education Week: March 4-8, 2019

The Center for Academic Excellence at Millersville University is providing virtual sessions on different topics related to Open Education. Feel free to join one of these 30 minute sessions (many led by faculty), or view recordings from Open Education Week 2018. Click here for more information

“Student Recruitment and Murray Library?”

One of many thank you notes for the library research presentation given in January to students from the Infinity Charter School in Harrisburg: “You made me think of college in a whole new way.”

“The only thing that you absolutely have to know, is the location of the library.”

-Albert Einstein
Meet Lawrie Merz, Librarian and Public Services Coordinator

How long have you worked at Murray Library? “I’ve worked at Messiah for 22 years – I came in August 1997.”

Describe your role and talk about some of your professional goals. What are your main responsibilities? “My goal is that the library is as welcoming and hospitable as possible; that students, faculty and guests are well served and supported in their academic pursuits; and that, in addition to supporting the explicit research needs of our community, we deepen and enrich the educational experience through interesting displays and events surrounding everything from China’s Cultural Revolution to student art to the Civil Rights Tour. In my role at Messiah, I wear many hats. As a Library Educator, my role includes educating both in the classroom and at the Research Help desk. As Public Services Coordinator for the library, I supervise Circulation and the Research Help desk. And I am the liaison librarian to the arts departments (Art and Design, Music, Theatre and Dance), the Modern Languages department, and also to the International Programs and the Academic English Program. As liaison, I help with the selection of materials for those departments and I catalog all music scores and recordings.”

Do you participate on any campus committees? “I currently serve on the First Year Experience Committee; the Common Reading Committee; and the Steering Committee and Board of Friends of Murray Library. In addition, I serve as chair of the Copyright Working Group, the Library’s Displays and Events Committee, and the Artists’ Books selection Committee.”

What do you love most about being a librarian? “I love getting to know and interact with students, whether working with them on their research needs, exploring academic challenges and aspirations, or just “doing life”. Also, I appreciate that, at an academic institution such as Messiah, there are so many opportunities to learn and so much exposure to ideas (I always say that working at a college or university is “the best gig ever”). Oh, and I love recommending good books!”

What is your biggest challenge with your position? “The fact that librarians are here to help students and yet students are often hesitant to ask for the help. We try to make ourselves available and try to reinforce our availability at every opportunity we have.”

What is the last book you read? “The last book I read was Find Me Unafraid by Kennedy Odede and Jessica Posner. Kennedy Odede grew up essentially homeless in the largest slum in Kenya, yet, despite this severe disadvantage, he read the works of Martin Luther King Jr, saw what people in these impoverished communities needed, and was courageous enough to work toward meeting those needs. Jessica Posner, an American university student, came to Nairobi to work with Kennedy and ultimately found a way for Kennedy to go to college. While both were still college students themselves, they had a vision for building a school for girls (among the most vulnerable in the slums back in Nairobi) and then made that a reality – they got funding, hired an architect, built the school, hired qualified teachers, and interviewed each girl applying to the school to make sure they were the best of the best. An absolutely inspiring book!”

What else would you like others to know about your position? “This isn’t about my library position per se but I love being a ‘mom’ to International Friendship Family students. If I can help students far from home feel more welcomed and supported, I am truly glad!”

March Event

Murray Library proudly presents...our 3rd annual Mini Golf in the Stacks! Join us on Friday, March 29th for FREE mini golf throughout the library, with holes hosted by departments across campus. Enjoy playing and then vote for your favorite! Grab some friends and come anytime between 7 and 9:30pm – no reservation required. Enjoy snacks while you wait for your tee time.
Celebrate the handcrafted paper and book arts this month!

This month, the Library is featuring several displays and an event centered around paper and the book!

Handmade Artists’ Books:
“What is a Book?”
The Library loves it when we can showcase the abilities of our students and faculty! During the month of March, we are exhibiting a collection of books created by students in Prof. Christi Forsythe’s Paper Processes class. Students used their own handmade paper to creatively explore different book constructions and created books based on nursery rhymes, or used any materials and any book structure to communicate their answer to “What is a Book?”

Humpty Dumpty by Ines Yoon
Artist Book by Caroline Holmes

Hand-folded Books artist to speak
The Library and College Press are collaborating on a unique opportunity. On Wednesday, March 27, at 4:00pm on the Library’s main floor, book crafter Dannielle Vincent will be speaking about and demonstrating her work in creatively altering and repurposing books. Her hand-folded book art and patterns caught the attention of the Longwood Gardens staff, who commissioned her to be the first artist ever to make pieces for their Christmas exhibits. Through video and hands-on demonstration, Dannielle will demonstrate how she creates a pattern and then folds a book to create a work of art, and will also speak about the steps of starting an online business. A few of her creations are currently on display at Murray Library. For more of her work [https://www.etsy.com/shop/PreMadeReMade](https://www.etsy.com/shop/PreMadeReMade).

As a special added feature for her presentation here, she has made a pattern specially for Messiah and each attendee will be given a pattern and a book to try their hand!

Hand-folding Books artist to speak

Book Display
“The Magic and Craft of Paper and Books”: Did you know that the Library has a wide range of books on paper arts such as origami, quilling, papermaking, and more?! Some are featured in our foyer display, but ask a librarian to help you find many more!