

**University of Arkansas at Monticello  
The Fred J. Taylor Library**



**Annual Report for 2015-16**

I am pleased to present this annual report of the Taylor Library, setting out our accomplishments and activities, services, and some of our plans for the future. As the University aims for greater student success, the staff of the Taylor Library is redefining our purpose and our work in order to better align with the University's vision.

In 2015-16, under new leadership, the Library embarked on a number of enterprises. Some involved minimal expense but reaped surprisingly large rewards, such as our efforts to welcome students during final exams. Others will require long and sustained effort, like the weeding and relocation of the print collection on the main floor. And, of course, there are always the standard activities of checking out books, answering reference questions, and providing resources for study and research.

In more than three decades of work in academic libraries, I have never worked with a more dedicated, enthusiastic, and hard-working staff. It is thanks to their efforts that the Library is establishing itself on campus as a central place for students to find the help they need for whatever question or project they have. We intend to build on that foundation in order to better help UAM students succeed.

The following is a short summary of our activities over the past year.

## Personnel



The Taylor Library staff, May 2016

Front row: Dan Boice, Kathy Anderson, Erica McMickle, Lynn Valetutti, and Brianna Cole.

Back row: Linda Forrest, Annette Vincent, Brandi Mize, and Mary Heady.

There were significant changes on the Library's staff roster during the year:

- After forty years of dedicated service, Ms Helen Guenter retired in September. Helen had served the Library in a number of capacities, most recently as Serials Librarian and as the Associate Librarian. She had also participated in UAM's governance in numerous ways and on many committees. As a valued member of the university community, Helen will be missed, although her many activities in the community continue.
- Ms Lynn Valetutti took over as the Library's Electronic Resources Librarian in May of 2016. Ms Valetutti is enrolled in the PhD program of the University of North Texas.

- Two new paraprofessionals began work during the year:
- Ms Brandi Mize returned to the Library in August, 2015. She works with our Serials, and increasingly handles Library Marketing and our Social Networking activities.
- Ms Brianna Cole, a former student employee, began in March of 2016, doing processing of our printed books, including the growing project of weeding our collection.
- Dr Ranelle Eubanks served as Interim Director through July of 2015.
- Mr Daniel Boice took over as Library Director in August of 2015.

### **Library Activities:**

Library resources are increasingly online, and these resources help support the changing ways in which students learn. Under the capable leadership of Lynn Valetutti, we have eliminated significant duplication between databases and print titles, which has allowed us to purchase additional access to databases of great interest and use.

The Library received a grant from the Foundation to repurpose the former Music Room into a classroom equipped with AV resources. The IT Department offered advice and help in selecting and installing equipment. In September, we will formally dedicate the Sandra Dupree Campbell Classroom in honor of the longtime and much loved director.

The Taylor Library became the primary library for eVersity. To this point, we have had minimal use by eVersity students, but we expect this to change, and new challenges to follow.

During Finals Week of both semesters, the Library offered coloring books with markers, crayons, and pencils as a way to give students (and faculty, too!) a way to relax during their studies. Occasionally there were treats, such as cupcakes provided by the Chancellor's Office, which made for larger (at least numerically) attendance and happily surprised students. If student exam scores improved last year, the Library is willing to humbly take the full credit for it.

The first Celebration of Faculty Scholarship and Creation showcased published books and articles, exhibited art, and recorded music by UAM

teaching faculty. A nicely-attended fête and steady foot traffic helped honor our faculty's research and artistic work.

Kathy Anderson, who had earlier taken on responsibilities for ordering monographs and for supervising the processing of print resources, agreed to take on additional work focusing on Student Success. She attended conferences on aspects of this, and with her own lived experience Kathy will be a fine leader in this critically important work.

Mary Heady in our Special Collections helped three researchers from Japan who were gathering materials for their study of the World War II Japanese Relocation Centers in Rohwer and Jerome. Other notable researchers included an Italian film producer, as well as UAM scholars.

Lynn Valetutti, upon the retirement of Ms Guenter, took on the additional role of Serials Librarian. Since most of our online budget is spent for electronic subscriptions, this has worked well. Lynn was also asked to teach several sections of Development 101.

A number of the staff have worked to learn the duties of other members. We believe this cross-training can only serve us well in our holistic approach to our mission.

The Library again had a variety of displays in the entryway cases. Brianna Cole helped mount outstanding displays on both African American History and Award-Winning Children's Books. Both displays drew positive comments and, we hope, additional visitors.

Thanks to the creative work of Brandi Mize, the Library began to increase its marketing activity. Bookplates designed by Ms Mize now grace gift books, not only recognizing our generous donors but also reminding our readers of the support of many in the UAM community.

This year's **Library Committee** was especially active in discussing concerns and providing ideas and support to meet changing needs. Highlights include:

- Allowing food and drink in the Library
- Approved cancellation of several databases in order to obtain new parts of JSTOR which had been requested by faculty.
- Worked with faculty to provide more Course Reserve textbooks for students.
- Advised in the cancellation and additions of journal subscriptions.

Working with faculty to help our students attain information literacy is a primary goal of our efforts. Our smaller staff provided the same number of

lectures to classes around the university as in the previous year, but to even more students. Since the research is conclusive that students who spend time in the Library have higher retention and graduation rates than those who do not, we are redoubling our efforts to attract students to our facility, and to make them feel welcome while they are here.

### **Plans:**

In July and August, the Library staff has engaged in strategic planning sessions, and the resulting three-year strategic plan is very much a product of the unified work of everyone. All goals aim at student success, sometimes indirectly, but always in concert with the new UAM Mission and Vision Statements, which gave us our orientation. We look forward to completing or modifying these plans as circumstances evolve.

### **Statistics:**

Most of the Library's standard activities continued as before. Circulation of books was down, owing we think to glitches as we switched our online catalogue. Use of online resources were up significantly, a trend we expect to continue as we hone our collection to match the research and teaching needs of our faculty and the learning needs of our students.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>Change</b>
Library Visitors:	70,915	70,782	0
Circulation:	10,264	8,625	-16%
Online Searches:	113,542	138,545	+22%
Online Downloads	34,561	76,717	+121%
Classes taught by Librarians:	45	45	0
Attendance:	1,039	1,126	+9%
Interlibrary Loans:			
Received	241	225	-7%
Sent	338	393	+16%
Total	579	618	+7%

## **Library Faculty Activities and Publications**

### **Kathy Anderson**

#### **Scholarship:**

Presenter: Arkansas Archaeology Association Black History

Presenter: Monticello PanAfrican Day

#### **Service:**

#### **University:**

Serials Librarian Search Committee

Academic Advisors Search Committee

Student Affairs Committee

Student Services Retention Committee

UAM Judicial Board

#### **Community:**

Preservation of African American Cemeteries Board

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society Board

#### **Profession:**

Council of University of Arkansas Research Libraries K-12 Education

Portal Committee

Winthrop Rockefeller Distinguished Lecture Series Committee

### **Mary Heady**

#### **Scholarship:**

Co-editor of the *Drew County Historical Journal*.

#### **Service:**

#### **University:**

Assembly Nominating Committee

Assembly Committee on Committees

#### **Community:**

Secretary of the Drew County Historical Society

#### **Profession**

As our Government Documents person, Mary is involved with the State Library in establishing collecting policies for the state's depository libraries.

## **Lynn Valetutti**

### **Scholarship**

Arkansas Library Association (ArLA) 2015 Conference, panelist

### **Service:**

#### **University:**

Honors Program Committee

Council on Assessing Academic Achievement.

Taught three sections of Development 101

#### **UA System:**

System Serials Committee

Council of University of Arkansas Research Libraries Resource Sharing and Collection Development Committee

eVersity Library Coordinator

#### **Community:**

Chair, Monticello Economic Development Council's Technology Committee

Monticello Rotary Board Member

#### **Profession:**

Arkansas Network Advisory Committee, representing state universities

Arkansas Library Association Webpage Administration Committee

Arkansas Library Association, Conference Planning Committee

## **Daniel Boice**

### **Scholarship**

Book reviews published in the *Catholic Library World*:  
September 2015

Steve Ray. *Abraham: Father of Faith and Works*. (DVD) p 32.

Oliver Larry Yarbrough. *Passion: Contemporary Writers on the Story of Calvary*. P. 42

Angela Hanley. *Whose à la carte Menu? Exploring Catholic Themes in Context*. P. 48.

Gregory K. Popcak. *Broken Gods: Hope, Healing, and the Seven Longings of the Human Heart*. P. 49.

Colin Duriez. *Bedeviled: Lewis, Tolkien, and the Shadow of Evil*. P. 59.

Angela Alaimo O'Donnell. *Flannery O'Connor: Fiction Fired by Faith*. P. 59.

Ken Jackson. *Shakespeare and Abraham*. P. 61.

Sarah Vabulas. *The Catholic Drinkie's Guide to Homebrewed Evangelism*. P. 64.

## December 2015

- Joseph Blenkinsopp. *Abraham: the story of a life*. P. 108.  
 Ruth B. Edwards. *Discovering John: Content, interpretation, reception*. P. 110.  
 Stanley Hauerwas. *The work of theology*. P. 120.  
 Christian Holden, dir. *Lead kindly light: the life and message of John Henry Newman*. DVD. P. 131.  
 Marcel Hébert. *Religious experience in the work of Richard Wagner*. P. 134.  
 Angus Sibley. *Catholic economics: alternatives to the jungle*. P. 139.  
 Thomas J. Bushlack. *Politics for a pilgrim church: Thomistic theory of civic virtue*. P. 140.

## March 2016

- Brenda K. Buckwell, *The Advent of God's Word: Listening for the power of the Divine Whisper*. SkyLight Paths, 2015, p 185.  
 Brendan Byrne, SJ. *The hospitality of God: a reading of Luke's gospel*. P. 187.  
 Ivan Nicoletto. *Journey of Faith, Journey of the Universe: the Lectionary and the New Cosmology*. P. 190.  
 Wil Hernandez. *Mere Spirituality: the spiritual life according to Henri Nouwen*. P. 191.  
 Julia M. O'Brien. *Micah*. Pp 191-192.  
 George E. Demacopoulos. *Gregory the Great: Ascetic, Pastor, and First Man of Rome*. P. 208.  
 Robert Royal. *A Deeper Vision: the Catholic Intellectual tradition in the twentieth century*. P. 210.  
 Terry Lindvall. *God mocks: a history of religious satire from the Hebrew prophets to Stephen Colbert*. P. 211.  
 John P. Safranek. *The myth of liberalism*. P. 211.  
 Trudi E. Jacobson, ed. *Metaliteracy in practice*. Pp 214-215.  
 Lawrence J. McAndrews. *Refuge in the Lord: Catholics, presidents, and the politics of immigration, 1981-2013*. P. 217.

## June 2016

- George William Rutler. *He spoke to us: discerning God in people and events*. P. 263.  
 Mary Ann Beavis. *Hebrews: Wisdom Commentary*. P. 264.  
 Dianne Bergant, CSA. *A new Heaven, a new Earth: the Bible and Catholicity*. P. 268.  
 Christoph Cardinal Schönborn. *Jesus' school of life: incentives to discipleship*. P. 275.  
 Paula Huston. *One ordinary Sunday: a meditation on the mystery of the Mass*. Pp 275-276.  
 Thomas P. Scheck. *Erasmus's life of Origen: a new annotated translation of the Prefaces to Erasmus of Rotterdam's edition of Origen's writings (1536)*. Pp 28-281.  
 Garrido, Ann M. *Redeeming conflict: 12 habits for Christian leaders*. P. 287.



**Service:****University:**

Academic Council, ex officio

Library Committee, ex officio

Academic Liaison Officer for the Higher Learning Commission

**System:**

Council of University of Arkansas College and Research Libraries, ex officio

CUACRL Education Portal Committee, chair

**Profession:**

Arkansas Academic Libraries Directors, ex officio

Catholic Library Association Editorial Committee

**University of Arkansas at Monticello  
Taylor Library**

**Strategic Plan, 2016-2019**

**Goal One:** The Library will have a renovated Main Floor that will better serve our community and enhance prospects for student success.

1.A. The Library will offer services to meet student needs, possibly including:

1.A.1. More small-group study rooms

1.A.2. More comfortable study carrels and tables

1.A.3. Better access to good coffee

1.A.4. More efficient printing/copying services, including a color printer

1.A.5. A Leisure Reading area with comfortable seating and shelving for books of current interest

1.A.6. Technical assistance

1.A.7. Better public computers, with a replacement schedule

1.A.8. Updated signage

Responsibility: Director

Measure: Main Floor redesigned, renovated

Target: December 2017

Cost: Unknown

**Goal Two:** The Library will strengthen its marketing in order to allow the community to better utilize our resources and services. Research demonstrates that students who visit the library have better retention and graduation rates than those who do not.  
Strategies:

**2.A.** Increase Social Network presence.

**Tactic 2.A.1.** Increase number of Facebook friends.  
Responsibility: Social Network coordinator  
Measures: Number of friends increases by 100% by 2017, 200% by 2019.  
Costs: \$150/year

**Tactic 2.A.2** Explore possibilities of Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter  
Responsibility: Social Network Coordinator  
Measure: Set up Snapchat presence by 2017, Instagram by 2018  
Costs: \$150/year

**2.B Strengthen Marketing Presence**

**Tactic 2.B.1** Obtain and train with better hardware and software for visual presentation.  
Responsibility: Director  
Measure: Have new computer, software  
Target: August 2018  
Cost: \$2,000 for computer  
\$300 annually for programs

**Tactic 2.B.2** The Library will enhance the visibility of Special Collections.  
Responsibility: Special Collections Librarian  
Measure: Special Collections webpage and online exhibits  
Target Date: July 2017  
Cost: None.

**2.C.** The Library will strengthen its collaboration within the university community.

**Tactic 2.C.1.** The Library will work with Student Affairs in its public announcements.  
Responsibility: Director  
Measure: public announcements made in conjunction with Student Affairs.  
Cost: None

- Tactic 2.C.2.** The Library will work with Student Affairs in establishing a presence in dormitories.  
 Responsibility: Student Success Librarian  
 Measure: Little Libraries or other presence in dorms  
 Target date: July 2019  
 Cost: None
- Tactic 2.C.3.** Instructional Technology to develop a Library Tab in the Blackboard shell.  
 Responsibility: Student Success Librarian  
 Measure: Tab developed and included in the shell.  
 Target date: July 2017  
 Cost: None
- Tactic 2.C.4.** The Library will work with Upward Bound to identify and employ students in the Library.  
 Responsibility: Desk Supervisor  
 Measure: Students employed  
 Target Date: January 2017  
 Cost: No additional cost.
- Tactic 2.C.5.** The Library will work with the Athletic Department to publicize our services and encourage use of the Library by Student Athletes  
 Responsibility: Student Success Librarian  
 Measure: More library usage by student athletes  
 Cost: No additional cost

**Goal Three:** The Library will strengthen its services to better meet student needs.

Strategies:

- 3.A.** We will continually monitor and revise our hours of operation to meet student needs.  
 Responsibility: Director and Library Supervisor  
 Measure: Calendar revised annually  
 Target: Immediate  
 Cost: None
- 3.B.** We will increase our service and presence on the Main Floor:  
**Tactic 3.B.1** We will greet all who enter the Library  
 Responsibility: Director  
 Measure: All those entering the library are greeted within 30

seconds.

Target: Immediate

Cost: None

**Tactic 3.B.2** Librarians will walk about the building offering help.

Responsibility: Director

Measure: Librarians will be on the floor, away from the desk, for fifteen minutes of each hour.

Target: Immediate

Cost: None

**3.C.** The Library will update the print collection.

Responsibility: Collection Development Librarian, Serials Librarian, Special Collections Librarian

Measure: The following areas will be weeded and updates:

Main Floor: by December 2016

E-F: By July 2017

G-N By July 2018

P-Z: By July 2019

Special Collections: By July 2019

Bound Periodicals: By December 2016

Cost: Included in the budget

**Goal Four:** The Library will increase its partnerships with local agencies.

Strategies:

**4.A.** The Library will patronize local businesses in marketing efforts by purchasing gift certificates as appropriate.

Responsibility: Library Director

Measure: Gift certificates purchased

Target: Immediate

Cost: None additional -- \$250/year (2.A.1 and 2.A.2)

**4.B.** The Library will collaborate with local and regional libraries to integrate information literacy into schools and other programs.

**Tactic 4.B.1:** The Library will work to instruct area teachers of available resources at UAM Library

Responsibility: Student Success Librarian

Measure: Workshops and presentations made to groups

Target: October 2016

Cost: None

**Tactic 4.B.2:** The Library will coordinate consortial activities with regional public and academic libraries, to help promote lifelong learning and

quality of life.

Responsibility: Director

Measure: Quarterly meetings of regional librarians

Target: June 2017

Cost: \$250/year

**4.C.** The Library will reconsider fees for outside use by the Library in order to increase our visibility and help promote the quality of life in Monticello.

Responsibility: Director

Measure: Policy studied by Library Committee

Target: March 2017

Cost: None

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Boice, Director

August 31, 2016