OU Libraries

KNOWLEDGE UNBOUND

Winter 2013

Newsletter

LETTER FROM THE DEAN

It's been my honor to serve as the new dean of university libraries, and to continue building upon the strong foundation established by previous deans, Dr. Suzanne Frankie and Julie Voelck, and Interim Dean, Frank Lepkowski. Toward that end, we have completed an exciting, collaborative visioning and scenario-planning process, and begun to implement a very ambitious Strategic Plan for 2012-2014.

The Library's new vision statement and strategic directions express the passionate desires of our librarians and staff to provide OU students, faculty, and staff with the best that a 21st century academic library has to offer. Major goals relate to the provision of information resources that are highly relevant to OU's curricula and research endeavors, outstanding online and physical learning environments, exemplary information literacy instruction, and compelling cultural events and exhibits – all intended to foster the academic success of OU students, promote lifelong learning, and advance research

throughout the University community.

We hope that, even in this age of intense information competition, our OU constituents will turn to us first to find the personalized guidance and high-quality resources they need to make meaningful connections with each other and the world. This is why, among our many initiatives, we have begun to collaborate with other academic libraries throughout Michigan to manage and share our collections even more efficiently. We have started to transform the entire second floor of Kresge Library into a "Learning Commons," a concept that will improve our spaces by integrating research services and technological assistance, and expanding our computing resources for students. Our Library Website is undergoing a complete redesign to improve usability and will be released during the 2013-2014 academic year. And we continue to expand our instruction program by embedding library resources into OU's online programs, and offering a signature, for-credit course, "Library Research in the

Information Age." The popularity of this course has been so great that we have added a second section for the Winter 2013 semester.

Throughout this year and beyond, we want to make sure that we are serving as effective partners in OU's student success, teaching, research, and community engagement initiatives. We are committed to learning more about our users' library and information needs, so we asked students, faculty, and staff to participate in focus group sessions, usability studies, and our first comprehensive LibQUAL+™ survey (see article in this newsletter). We also appreciate the Libraries' generous friends and donors who help us transform lives through the discovery and creation of knowledge, learning, and research. There are many opportunities to support OU and its Libraries, and I invite you to contact us so that we can get to know you better and so that you can get to know the Library more as it evolves to meet the needs of 21st century scholars and students. Thank you for your support of the OU Libraries!

Dr. Adriene Lim
Dean, University Libraries

'AHA' MOMENT

Libraries are special places where knowledge discovery --- that "aha! moment" --- can occur for many people. But sometimes those "aha! moments" affect the heart and mind in surprising ways.

During Oakland University's President's Colloquium this year, Dr. Charles Lindemann, the featured faculty presenter, amused the audience when he mentioned that he had met his wife, Linda Lindemann, at OU's Kresge Library in 1974. "Linda worked in the reserves department then," he said. "I wanted to put some reading materials on reserve for my class at the time, and it turned out that I would soon put her on 'permanent reserve,' too, because we fell in love and married the next summer!" Mrs. Lindemann affirms: "Charlie asked me to have lunch with him in a café located in the OC's basement at the time. It was love at first sight."

A professor of biological sciences, Dr. Lindemann began his career in 1974, while Mrs. Lindemann was hired to work in the Kresge Library in 1973, initially as a student assistant and later as a library employee. Both Lindemanns remember their first meeting with fondness, and remark on the way the Library has changed since then. Mrs. Lindemann said: "I'm impressed with how the library is such a focal point of the student community now. With all the attractive, comfortable, and functional spaces for virtually any size and type of group imaginable, who wouldn't want to spend time in the library? The atmosphere is so conducive to study and the sharing of information."

By way of this story, we celebrate the fact that libraries are also places where people discover personal connections and love, as well as knowledge. Do you have a personal story to share about your time in Oakland University's Kresge Library? Please let us know by writing to: Kresge@oakland.edu.

OU LIBRARIES WEBSITE REDESIGN

By Mariela Hristova, *Coordinator of Web Services*

Whether we are comparing features of a car, or reading restaurant reviews, or doing research for an academic project, we all turn to online sources of information more and more often. The abundance of online sources for academic re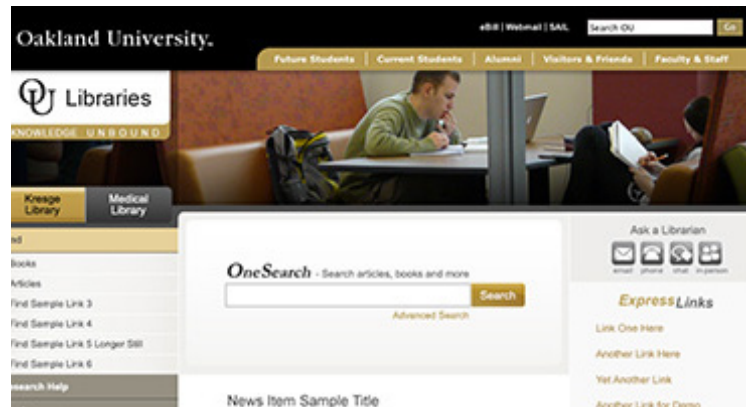search, such as article databases, has tranformed library websites into virtual portals to everything the library has to offer. Thus, it is more important than ever for our library website to be intuitive and efficient in leading scholars and students to the sources they need. To that end, OU Libraries have embarked on a website redesign project that is expected to be completed by the end Summer 2013. We plan on unveiling a new and even more user-friendly library website for the start of the Fall 2013 semester.

The main goals of the website redesign project are to:

*   Create a user-centered website that will offer an intuitive and task-oriented experience to the OU community;
*   Develop flexible information architecture that will allow users to reach the best sources for their research in multiple ways;
*   Create a process and structure for the development of new web content that will allow for continual updates of our online presence.

In the Fall 2012 semester, the Online User Interfaces Team has been continually working on the redesign. We have interviewed students and surveyed colleagues to better understand what improvements will be most valuable to all. Thanks to funding provided by the Dean Lim, we have also been working with a professional graphic designer to ensure that the new look for the library website will support our goals. Everyone is welcome to read more about our activities so far and to participate by commenting at http://oulibraries.wordpress.com.

In the Winter 2013 semester, the OU community will join the process as well by having a chance to test and comment directly on prototypes of the new

OU Libraries's website redesign prototype

library website. We believe that active participation by the wider OU community will help us make the library website even more user-centered and easy to navigate.
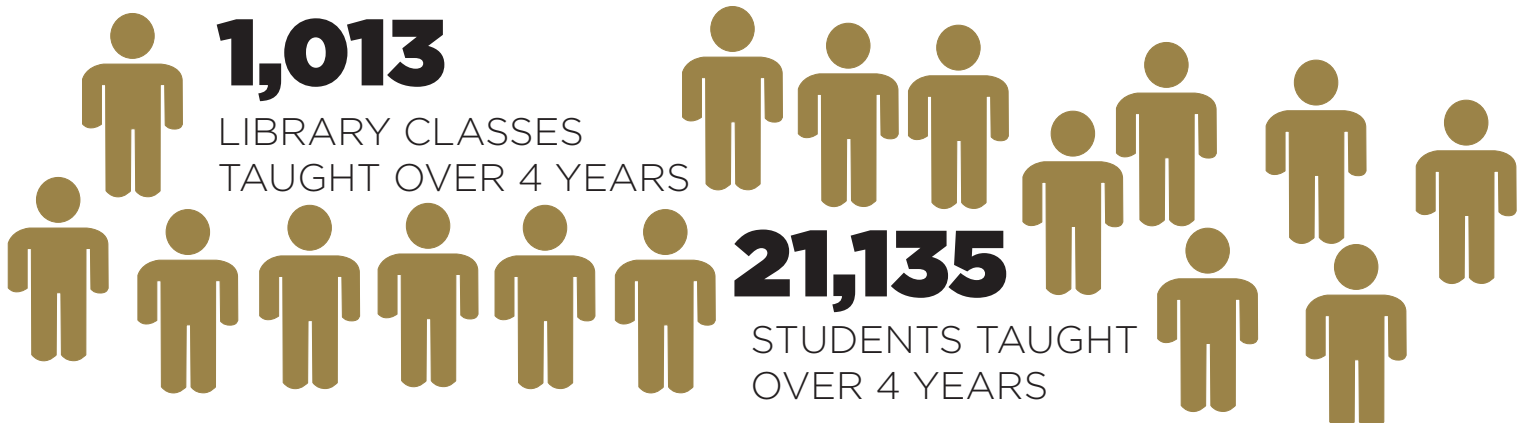
POETRY SLAM

Every April, Kresge Library hosts a Poetry Slam in celebration of National Poetry Month. A poetry slam is a contest where participants present original poems before an audience and a panel of judges. The poets are competing for a top prize of $100 and a runner-up prize of $50. The judges, who are chosen randomly from the audience, are instructed to give quick, gut-reaction scores using a 10-point scale. Audience reactions are all part of the fun (and will often sway the judging). There are two rounds of competition so participants should be ready with two original poems. There is a kinetic energy to a slam that is contagious. If you have poems you're ready to share, this is a great venue to do so. The slam is open to all. If you don't want to participate, come enjoy an exciting night of poetry! This year's Slam will be held April 4, 2013.

SURVEY CONDUCTED TO EVALUATE SERVICE QUALITY

During the Fall 2012 semester, the Libraries conducted a survey to help with the evaluation of library resources and service quality. All OU students, faculty, and staff were invited to participate in the study, which began on October 29 and was available through November 21. The survey, known as LibQUAL+™, assesses users' satisfaction with collections, services, access and space, and is being used at hundreds of participating universities and colleges throughout the world. Sponsored by the OU Libraries and administered by the Association of Research Libraries, the study is being led by Professor Kris Condic, Coordinator of Research Services and Education Librarian.
"We hope to make library improvements based on the results of the survey," said Dr. Lim, dean of the

University Libraries. "Although we have expanded our online resources, improved our spaces, added new technologies, and opened a café, we want to hear from our users and consider other ideas for enhancing the Libraries' offerings." She continued: "Student and faculty responses, in particular, will help us understand better how the OU community rates our services and will allow us to compare OU's results against other libraries to determine best practices."
The libraries offered several prizes to thank OU affiliates for participating. Winners were randomly selected from participants completing the survey. Among the prizes was an OU reserved parking spot for students for a limited time period.

1,013
LIBRARY CLASSES
TAUGHT OVER 4 YEARS

21,135
STUDENTS TAUGHT
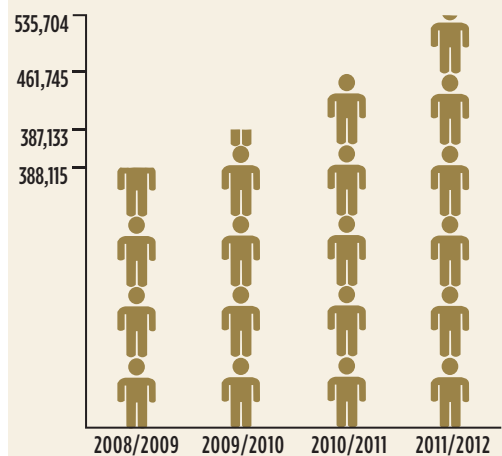OVER 4 YEARS

JOINT LIBRARY/OUAA LIT TO FILM BOOK CLUB

The Oakland University Alumni Association (OUAA) Lit to Film Book Club offers a twist on the typical book club. Members discuss the book then view and discuss the film adaptation. This book club was formed in 2005 and it has been growing exponentially ever since. The group meets in Kresge Library, room 225B, at 6 p.m on the first Tuesday of the month. The Lit to Film Book Club meetings are open to anyone. The group is facilitated by Assistant Professor, Anne Switzer, Information Services and Outreach Librarian at Kresge Library. The discussions are lively and stimulating. If you would like more information about the book club or would like to become part of the group, please contact Anne Switzer at (248) 370-2475 or email switzer2@oakland.edu.

The meeting dates and title selections are as follows:

2012-2013 BOOK/FILM SCHEDULE

- **September 4 - Tinker, Tailor, Solider, Spy** by John le Carre
- **October 2 - Never Let Me Go** by Kazuo Ishiguro
- **November 6 - Perfume** by Patrick Suskind
- **December 4 - Little Women** by Louisa May Alcott
- **January 8 - Atlas Shrugged** by Ayn Rand (only essential to read part one)
- **February 5 - Great Expectations** by Charles Dickens
- **March 5 - Winter's Bone** by Daniel Woodrell
- **April 2 - King's Speech** by Mark Logue & Peter Conradi
- **May 7 - Up in the Air** by Walter Kim
- **June 4 - Tess of the d'Urbervilles** by Thomas Hardy

NUMBER OF PATRON VISITS

535,704			
461,745			
387,133			
388,115			
2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012

2 YEARS OF 24 HOUR SERVICE

LIB250 NOW OFFERED

LIB250 (Library Research and Technology in the Information Age) is designed to provide students with the research skills that they need during their academic studies at OU and that they will continue to use after graduation. It builds on the basic library instruction delivered in WRT160 to offer more in-depth and discipline-specific knowledge of academic and non academic sources. It also helps students develop their ability to find and evaluate such sources and to use them effectively and ethically. After taking LIB250 students will be better prepared for courses in their majors, especially writing intensive and project-based courses. LIB250 satisfies the General Education Requirements in the Knowledge Applications area and the General Education Writing Intensive area.

SCHEDULE OF 2012-2013 EVENTS

September 4, 2012 Academic Open House 10:30 am till 5:00 pm

September 4, 2012 Oakland University Alumni Lit to Film Book Club 6:30pm - 10:00pm KL225B

October 2, 2012 Oakland University Alumni Lit to Film Book Club 6:30pm - 10:00pm KL225B

November 6, 2012 Oakland University Alumni Lit to Film Book Club 6:30pm - 10:00pm KL225B

December 4, 2012 Oakland University Alumni Lit to Film Book Club 6:30pm - 10:00pm KL225B

January 8, 2013 Oakland University Alumni Lit to Film Book Club 6:30pm - 10:00pm KL225B

 January 26, 2013 Homecoming Display in the Lobby: OU History in Photographs

January 31, 2013 African American Celebration Month Noon to 1:00pm, 4th Floor Kresge Library

February 5, 2013 Oakland University Alumni Lit to Film Book Club 6:30pm - 10:00pm KL225B

March 5, 2013 Oakland University Alumni Lit to Film Book Club 6:30pm - 10:00pm KL225B

March 20, 2013 – Authors at Oakland: A Celebration of the Journal Article 2:00pm – 4:00pm, 4th Floor of Kresge Library

April 2, 2013 Oakland University Alumni Lit to Film Book Club 6:30pm - 10:00pm

April 4, 2013 – Poetry Slam 7:00pm - 9:00pm 4th floor of Kresge Library.

May 7, 2013 Oakland University Alumni Lit to Film Book Club 6:30pm - 10:00pm

June 4, 2013 Oakland University Alumni Lit to Film Book Club 6:30pm - 10:00pm

RECENT LIBRARY FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Barclay, L.A. & Switzer, A. (2010). "Building critical discussion into human resource courses: The book club." *Published in: The Proceedings of the 31st Annual Meeting of the International Industrial Relations and Human Resources Conference, October 22-23*, Louisville, KY.

Daniel, D. (2012). "The Politics of Ethnic Heritage Preservation in Canada: The Case of the Multicultural History Society of Ontario." *Information & Culture: A Journal of History* 47(2): 206-232.

Daniel, D. (2012). "Teaching Students How to Research the Past: Historians and Librarians in the Digital Age." *The History Teacher* 45(2): 261-282.

Daniel, D., & Kraemer, E.W. (2012). "Integrating the credit-bearing information literacy course into the curriculum: Goals, benefits, and challenges." *In Proceedings of the 40th Annual LOEX Conference, 3-5 May, 2012, Columbus, Ohio* (Library Orientation Series, No. 45).

Greer, K., Swanberg, S., Gunn, M., Daniel, D., Switzer, A., Wynn-Perdue, S. (2012). "Beyond the web tutorial: Development and implementation of an online, self-directed academic integrity course at Oakland University." *The Journal of Academic Librarianship* 38(5): 251-258.

Gunn, M., & Miree, C. (2012). "Business information literacy teaching at different academic levels: An exploration of skills and implications for instructional design." *Journal of Information Literacy* 6(1): 18-34.

Gunn, M., & Kraemer, E. (2011). "The agile teaching library: Models for integrating information literacy in online learning experiences." In S. Kelsey & K. St.Amant (Eds.), *Computer-mediated communication: Issues and approaches in education* 191-206. Hershey PA: Information Science Reference.

Hristova, M (2013). "Library Widget for Moodle." *Code4Lib Journal* 19(01-15). Available from: http://journal.code4lib.org/articles/7922.

Hristova, M. (2012). "RefWorks usage patterns: Exploring the first four semesters of use by faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates." *Internet Reference Services Quarterly* 17(2): 45-64.

Lim, A. (2012) *Assigned leaders in unionized environments: Coping with the economic recession and its aftermath in academic libraries.* (Doctoral dissertation). Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Lim, A. (2010). "The readability of information literacy content on academic library Web sites." *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 36(4), 296-303.

Mi, M. Stefaniak J, Solomonson W. "Application of Web 2.0 Technologies in Enhancing Teaching and Learning in Medical Education." MedEdPORTAL; 2012. Available from: http://www.mededportal.org/publication/9290.

Mi M. (2012) "Evidence-based medicine in undergraduate medical education: A literature review." Evidence Based Library and Information Practice 7(3): 98-120.

Mi M, Moseley JL, & Green M. (2012) "An instrument to characterize the environment for residents' evidence-based medicine learning and practice." Family Medicine 44(2): 98-104.

Mi M. (2011) "Renewed Roles for librarians in problem-based learning in the medical curriculum." Medical Reference Services Quarterly 30(3): 269-282.

Rodriguez, J. (2011). "Social Media Use in Higher Education: Key Areas to Consider for Educators." *Journal of Online Learning and Teaching* 7(4): 539-550.

Rodriguez, J. (2010). "Social Software in Academic Libraries for Internal Communication and Knowledge Management: A Comparison of Two Reference Blog Implementations." *Internet Reference Services Quarterly* 15(2):107-124.

Switzer, A. & Wynn Perdue, S. (2011). "Dissertation 101: A research and writing intervention for Education graduate students." *Education Libraries* 34(1): 4-14.

Switzer, A. & Barclay, L. A. (2012). "Book clubs: Best practices in promoting critical thinking skills in Business classes." *Journal of Business & Finance Librarianship* 17(4): 328-345.
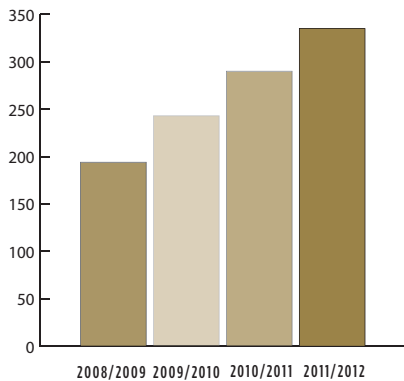
Congratulations to Anne Switzer, Assistant Professor and Social Sciences Librarian for Political Science and Women's Studies, on the acceptance of three poems for inclusion in the Summer/Fall issue of Fugue, a literary magazine published by the University of Idaho. The poems, "October," "Mornings" and "The Deep Part," are part of a series that Professor Switzer has titled "The Hugo Poems." In addition to her provocative, penetrating creative work, Professor Switzer coordinates and moderates the Kresge Library's Lit-to-Film Book Club, monthly poetry readings, and the annual Poetry Slam every April to celebrate National Poetry Month.

RESEARCH IN WRITING AWARD OFFERED BY THE LIBRARY

The Libraries have established an Undergraduate Research in Writing Award to celebrate excellence in library research. This annual prize will recognize up to two students who have most successfully applied information literacy skills in a paper or project. Information literacy has been defined as the ability to identify an information need, find sources that address it, evaluate and incorporate those sources, and use information ethically, according to the Association of College and Research Libraries. The award consists of a $500 scholarship prize for first place and $250 for second place. (Prizes will be applied directly to tuition.) Winners will be selected among faculty- or student-nominated student projects submitted from Oakland University's General Education Writing Intensive and Writing Intensive in the Major courses. The winning projects will be selected by a panel of university faculty members by the end of the Winter semester every academic year, and will be deposited in the university's repository, OUR@Oakland, and made available online. For more information about the award, please visit the Libraries' website or contact Dr. Dominique Daniel, Humanities Librarian for History and Modern Languages at Daniel@oakland.edu.

NUMBER OF RESEARCH CONSULTATIONS

1,011,674
FULL-TEXT ARTICLES OBTAINED

15,876
RESEARCH HELP DESK QUESTIONS ANSWERED

1,407,846
DATABASE SEARCHES

7875
AVERAGE CHECKOUTS PER MONTH