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Happenings@Hannon, December 2015

William H. Hannon Library

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Retirements: Tobeylynn Birch

Please join us in celebrating with Associate Dean Tobeylynn Birch as she moves into retirement in January 2016.

For the past 8 years, Tobey has contributed to a number of ongoing initiatives at LMU Library, most notably through leading the library's strategic plan and guiding our ClimateQUAL assessment program. Speaking about Tobey's work on the strategic plan and Vision Statement, Dean Kris Brancolini said Tobey "helped us to lay solid groundwork for bringing about important shifts in the library: creating a culture of assessment and focusing on reflective practice as a path to personal growth and development."

Kris Brancolini also noted that she will personally miss Tobey's "unflagging commitment to excellence and her ability to work with staff at all levels of the organization to insure that we work together for the benefit of our users and the wider community. Tobey can leave knowing that we are committed to continuing the work she has begun."
Call for Moderators: Jewish Book Club

Do you enjoy reading Jewish literature and learning about Jewish culture? Would you like to share something you’ve read with others? Then please consider being a moderator for our 2016-2017 Jewish Book Group series!

The Jewish Book Group is one of the most successful programs at LMU Library and a unique opportunity to meet faculty, staff, students, and community members with similar intellectual interests. We hope you will consider being a moderator for the Fall 2016 - Spring 2017 series. For more information, contact Rhonda Rosen at rrosen@lmu.edu.

Learn more here.

Feel Good Finals: Dec. 8-17

Feel Good Final are back! Stop by the lobby on Level 1 any time between December 8 and December 17 to recharge and de-stress using our craft and maker space table.

There will be therapy dogs eagerly awaiting your attention on December 14 and 15 at noon. Additionally, on December 14th, we will once again have milk and cookies (prepared lovingly by library staff) for students in the lobby.

Finally, there will be additional slots available for massages between 4:30-8:30 on December 14 through December 16. Call 310-338-3049 to make an appointment.

Feel Good Finals is brought to you by the LMU FitWell Center and LMU Library.

Making History Accessible: Melanie Hubbard

When asked what she considers her most significant achievements at LMU, Tobey stated that she was most gratified by the difference she has made in the lives of individuals by contributing to an environment of care for others. We could not agree more.

After working for almost 40 years in libraries, Tobey is planning to devote more time to her other passions: the arts and crafting. In particular, she wants to pursue weaving and ceramics works. We are also happy to report that Tobeylynn will welcome her first grandchild in February! So while the news of her departure is bittersweet, we wish Tobey the best as she begins this next chapter of her life.

Featured Resource

First-Gen Voices

First-Gen Voices: Creative and Critical Narratives on the First-Generation College Experience is a peer-reviewed journal of creative writing, visual and recorded art, and scholarly work from the first-generation college community.
This Fall semester, Digital Scholarship Librarian Melanie Hubbard is working closely with Dr. Dermot Ryan’s (English) graduate Critical Methodology course, in which the class is conducting an Engaged Learning project with the Southern California Library. In recognition of the Watts uprising’s 50th anniversary, Dr. Ryan’s students are helping the library inventory unprocessed materials related to the pivotal historical event.

Melanie has been helping Dr. Ryan design course components centered on this undertaking as well as guiding the students through their work on the materials. So far the students have helped the SoCal Library identify numerous valuable documents and have written descriptions that will help researchers locate those materials in the future.

In part this project is about facilitating access to materials that provide a more substantive view of Watts events. It is also intended to teach students how to use archival materials for their own scholarship.

Melanie and Dr. Ryan intend to sustain this project beyond the Fall by continuing the inventorying process and, given time, designing and facilitating a digital scholarship project centered on Watts.

Read more about the project.

Food for Fines: Nov. 23 - Dec. 18

Do you want to reduce your library fines and simultaneously help out Los Angeles families in need this holiday season? For every non-perishable food item you bring to the library between now and December 18, we will reduce your fines by $2! All donations will go to the Los Angeles Food Bank Charities.

Of course, even if you don’t have library fines, you can still donate items. While you are there, be sure to stop by the exhibit case in the Level 1 lobby to learn about urban food deserts.

LMU Library Book Drive: A Success!
Thank you to everyone who donated to our Holiday Book Drive! In just two weeks, we collected 725 books for the Children's Institute, Inc., an organization dedicated to helping neglected and abused children in Los Angeles. These books will be given to children in need during the Children’s Institute’s annual holiday festival later this month.

Special thanks to the Playa Vista Elementary School for donating over 500 books, to Clara Hazlitt for bringing this to the attention of her fellow students and Girl Scouts, to all the library staff who donated books and helped to box them up, and to our campus partners: the Academic Resource Center, Facilities and Maintenance, and LMUCC. Finally, a huge thank you to Carol Raby who organized the book drive to such a degree of success that we're planning to do it again next year!