Note from the University Librarian, Carol Smith

The watchword of this issue is NEW. The Arthur Lakes Library is brimming with new information resources, new technologies, new digital initiatives, new engagement efforts, new outreach initiatives and new roles. We have such an abundance of new happenings that they can’t all enjoy their own dedicated article. I’m therefore sharing a few more new developments with you:

• The library is launching two new web-based services this semester: online chat and an online FAQ. Now you can connect with a research librarian at a time and location of your convenience. As we encounter common questions, we’ll add them to the FAQ. You, our community of users, will help us build a collective repository of answers! You can find links to both of these new services on the Library homepage and embedded throughout our online research guides.

• The Library is also developing a robust collection of new web tutorials to guide library users through common research activities. Concise and effective, these web tutorials are being embedded throughout the Library website at likely points of need. Check them out here: http://libguides.mines.edu/tutorials.

• Sometimes Library advancements are seamless and behind-the-scenes. Students, faculty and staff will find it far easier now to log in to electronic resources when off-campus, thanks to a new service called EZProxy. Faculty and students no longer need to download VPN software onto each device when accessing Library databases off-campus. Library systems will now prompt you to log in with your Mines ID when you seek access to a secured resource. This single login will remain active for the remainder of your session for all Library subscriptions.

• The Library’s Russell L. and Lyn Wood Mining History Archive is now providing staffed open hours. We’re already seeing an increase of interested and enthusiastic visitors to the archives and special collections as a result. Explore our distinctive archival holdings and consult with Nick Iwanicki, our resident Archives Librarian, anytime between 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday.

The many new services noted in this column and throughout this newsletter are not just a happy coincidence. They are the early and predictable results of a simple recipe for crafting dynamic, responsive academic libraries: Aim your strategic compass and then set your people free to make great things happen in support of that direction and vision. The faculty and staff of the Arthur Lakes Library will continue to bring you more new services that fully integrate the Library with the scholarly life of the campus.
New Digital Scanner

Be sure to check out our exciting new cutting-edge and free KIC scanner across from the Computing Lab during your next visit to the Library.

What can the KIC scanner do?

- Scans up to 24x17 inch bound or unbound material at twice the speed of a high-speed copier
- Create full color electronic images
- Reviews electronic images at nearly full-size before saving
- Creates searchable PDF, JPEG, PNG and editable text files
- Go “green” and promote minimal use of paper and ink (There is no attached printer)

How does the KIC store information?

- USB drive (thumb drives are available for purchase at the Front Desk)
- Email (type in your email address to send the files directly to your inbox)
- WiFi-enabled phone, tablet or laptop via the SmartDock

New Digital Lab

The Digital Lab, as part of the Special Collections Department, is a new fast-forward addition to the Arthur Lakes Library in 2017. With technology growing at such a rapid pace, the Digital Lab will increase our digital presence worldwide. The Digital Lab Team includes Special Collections Manager Lisa Dunn, Resident Archive Librarian Nick Iwanicki, Preservation Specialist Sherry Muniz and Digital Initiatives Specialist Beth Zecca. The team analyzes material for digitization then preserves and maintains the material in our Special Collections.

Our first major project focuses on the Mine Report Collection from the Russell L. & Lyn Wood Mining History Archive. Over 2,100 pieces are contained in this collection and more than two-thirds will be digitized and placed in our Digital Repository at https://dspace.library.colostate.edu/. The new equipment for the Digital Lab includes a WideTek25 flatbed scanner, a Kodak automatic document scanner for loose pages and a KIC touch screen software system.

New Online Resources

The Library is proud to announce the addition of a series of new academic journals, technical writing collections and databases for use by Mines students, faculty and staff. Among the featured collections are:

The SciTech Premium Collection. “Is your research cutting edge?” This collection offers an array of reports, working papers, conference papers, proceedings and trade publications to help uncover research so new that it has not yet passed into the peer review process.

The Gale Primary Sources Collection offers six distinct databases on primary historical sources. Includes millions of newspaper articles, letters, personal writings, historical accounts and more. This collection offers deep insight into the rich history of the Americas.

The Chronicle of Higher Education is the number one source of news, information, and jobs for university faculty members and administrators.

The Advanced Technologies and Aerospace Database is the first stop resource for all astronomical and aerospace research, including the world renowned Aerospace Database.

The ProQuest Congressional Hearings Digital Collection Full-text for all Congressional hearings from 1824 to the present. A comprehensive source for general research in many academic disciplines, in addition to research related to specific legislative proposals and laws.
Expanding Outreach & Engagement Opportunities for the Mines Community

Gyasi Evans, Outreach and Engagement Librarian, is currently reaching out to promote the Library’s research services and commitment to student success. Through Gyasi’s efforts in connecting with academic departments, athletics, student life and research groups, he has already begun creating diverse programming and inclusive engagement opportunities for the Mines community.

To help alleviate student stress, the Library partnered with the Mines Wellness Center, as well as a student meditation group to create Mindful Mondays held in the Library. Mindful Mondays is a weekly drop-in meditation group open to all students, faculty and staff. Student and staff facilitators assist participants in discovering the healthy benefits of a meditative practice in daily life.

Gyasi’s goal is to bring Mines students, faculty and staff together in meaningful yet enjoyable ways. Future events include author talks, program collaboration with the Golden Public Library and gaming nights for students.

Farewell to Craig Robbins

The Library’s biggest baseball fan and tuba maestro, Craig Robbins retired in June after 22 years of dedicated service. Throughout his career as a copy cataloger plus juggling stacks maintenance tasks in Collections Management, Craig’s inextinguishable enthusiasm for the Library was highly valued and is sorely missed. Utilizing his many years as an educator, Craig believed in mentoring student assistants in the disciplines of a “real job”. His leadership created a high retention rate and rewarding connections with student assistants long after graduation. In 2017, he and his dedicated student assistants completed an enormous task; weeding 20,109 books from the collection. Craig’s devotion to student success at Mines was the most rewarding aspect of his career.

Raised in Burlington, Iowa, Craig moved to Kansas and completed an B.A. in Education at Wichita State University. He taught 5th and 6th grade for 11 years while dodging tornadoes in small Kansas towns. Craig changed careers and started work at the Wichita State Circulation Desk. When his wife Larue’s company moved to Denver, he found his new career home at the Arthur Lakes Library.

Musically inclined, Craig is a member of Tuba Christmas and Jefferson Community Band and sings in concert choirs. The greatest experience of his life was performing in world-renowned conductor Robert Shaw’s combined choirs Mass in Wichita. In 2011, he started Tae Kwon Do, earning a red belt in Moo Duk Kwan style and is working toward a black belt. He recently completed a cross-country baseball tour and will continue exploring Colorado and beyond.
Mark your calendars for #idigmines Giving Day

We are excited to announce that Arthur Lakes Library will again be participating in #idigmines Giving Day, a 24-hour fundraising drive that supports 23 academic, athletic and programmatic causes for Mines students. We are so thankful to the 84 donors who donated $2,300 to our cause last February.

These generous gifts helped fund the purchase of a high-end KIC scanner, available to students, staff and the public at no cost. We also purchased 7 cozy beanbag chairs that have provided comfort to many a weary student.

This year we would love to use the generous gifts from #idigmines Giving Day to grow the library’s technology offerings through our Technology for Checkout Pilot Project. This fall, we surveyed 392 students to find out which tech gadgets would be most useful for them if the Library offered them through a checkout program. The response to this initial survey has been overwhelming. With your support of Arthur Lakes Library on #idigmines this February, you will help us purchase sought-after items such as GoPro HERO4, a pocket projector and INTUO Draw tablet.

Donors are recognized at the following levels:

- Member $1,000
- Supporting Member $2,500
- Sustaining Member $5,000
- Investing Member $10,000
- Guggenheim Member $25,000

All gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.

MATCHING GIFTS: Your gift can be doubled or tripled if you (or your spouse) work for a matching gift company. Please visit our website at matchinggifts.com/mines to determine if your company has a matching gifts program. All matching gifts count toward membership in President’s Council societies.