Like you in 2020, the faculty and staff of the Arthur Lakes Library have experienced a challenging year including closing the library quickly in mid-March and then working together to reopen it safely in mid-June. Because academic libraries have long been engaged in digital resources and services, we were well-positioned to rapidly transition to a remote learning environment. In this issue of *Inside Arthur Lakes Library*, you’ll see how our roster of research, scholarly communications, instruction and engagement services have continued without disruption – virtually!

2020 has also been a year for much-needed dialogue and action centered on the critical societal issues of diversity, inclusion and access. Inside this issue, you’ll learn about the Library’s ongoing efforts to foster a community platform for essential conversations at Mines and to transform those conversations into meaningful and substantive progress.

The library looks and feels far different today than it did at the beginning of the year but our mission to facilitate the curricular and research aspirations of our amazing Mines community endures. I am so proud of the entire library team for rising to the times. You, our valued supporters, will be too after reading this issue!

**Carol E. Smith**  
*University Librarian*
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COVER IMAGE

Black Lives Matters Display by Juniper Books at Arthur Lakes Library

COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES
1500 Illinois Street
Golden, CO 80401
303-273-3000 or 800-446-9488

LIBRARY.MINES.EDU

FALL 2020
A newsletter for friends & supporters of the Colorado School of Mines Arthur Lakes Library

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Arthur Lakes Library Newsletter  3
Library leads the way in DI&A

It has been the Arthur Lakes Library’s honor to serve at the forefront of the Mines Diversity, Inclusion & Access (DI&A) initiative since its inception in 2017. Mines President Paul C. Johnson announced the formation of the DI&A Council and asked for nominations and volunteers to serve. Library staff members Karen Pfiffner and Wendy Shortridge were nominated and participated in the creation and development of the Mines DI&A Strategic Plan. Over 150 DI&A Council members researched best practices and delivered tangible goals and measurable recommendations for the Strategic Plan unveiled in February 2019.

The Council model was chosen to underscore that DI&A initiatives are fundamental priorities for the entire Mines Community and would not be managed through a centralized office. Heeding that call, University Librarian Carol Smith founded a department DI&A Working Group whose members, with input from staff and stakeholders, developed the 3-5 year Library and Museum DI&A Implementation Plan in June 2019.

The library has instituted many enhancements to its services and physical spaces to fulfill the goals in its DI&A Implementation Plan. A new research guide serves as an information hub about campus, online and library resources related to DI&A topics. The Capsule Collection houses materials on current events including the women’s, LGBTQ+ and persons of color movements. The library installed a new, fully accessible west-side entrance, designated a gender-neutral bathroom and created an ADA accessible service point at the Front Desk. Website fonts and color contrast now comply with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG).

Library staff are participating in DI&A leadership roles in Mines Community Alliance (MCA) groups on campus. Preservationist Sherry Muniz is Secretary of the LatinX MCA and Outreach and Engagement Librarian Gyasi Evans is Chair of the Black MCA. Many staff members attended Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST). ASIST teaches how to provide a skilled intervention and develop a collaborative safety plan. Staff also participated in voluntary departmental DI&A self-assessment survey and Implicit Bias training session.

Libraries, as community platforms that belong to all, have a responsibility to proactively craft a welcoming environment that respects all, promotes equity for all and is open and accessible to all. This is not just a general aspiration. It is fundamental to achieving the broader Arthur Lakes Library mission and is fully reflected in our Diversity, Inclusion, & Access statement. The library is committed to cultivating an inclusive culture that proactively welcomes, respects and supports all community members, provides equitable access and promotes an open exchange of diverse ideas.
Innovative accessibility technologies expert visits Arthur Lakes

At a library conference held at Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan in June 2019, library faculty attended a presentation by Mehmet Üneş, an expert on innovative accessibility technologies for the visually impaired from Kastamonu University in Turkey. Inspired by Mehmet’s talk, we extended an invitation for him to visit Mines to consult with us on our accessibility best practices.

Mehmet led multiple campus activities during his intensive week-long visit to Arthur Lakes Library in October 2019, including presentations and consultations for the library and museum, a campus lecture and meetings with campus units engaged in accessibility initiatives.

The library also arranged for Mehmet to share his expertise with regional academic libraries. He spent two days lecturing and consulting at CU-Anschutz Strauss Health Sciences Library and the University of Denver’s Anderson Academic Commons.

On Oct. 31, Mehmet guest-lectured graduate students in the University of Denver’s library science program.

The library and museum are currently pursuing funding opportunities to bring the above proposals to fruition, with Mr. Üneş as a project consultant. We are grateful to him for all we learned from his visit and look forward to our future collaboration.

Accessibility outcomes

As a result of Mehmet’s visit, we have identified three significant opportunities to advance library and museum accessibility:

1. Installation of an innovative indoor navigation system for the blind in the library and the museum
2. Creation of a dedicated space in the library for assistive technologies
3. Improving the accessibility of the library’s digital presence
WHAT'S NEW

Library surmounts COVID-19 challenges

The worldwide COVID-19 shutdown stunned the globe in early March, but our intrepid and resilient staff rose to the challenge. The Systems Team, consisting of Lisa Nickum and Patrick Farrell, ensured that Library staff could provide the research resources needed during the initial COVID-19 shut down period and beyond to the Mines community. The team worked on the library’s webpage, the library catalog, various calendars, platforms used by the library staff to complete their work, and software/hardware with many individual library staff members so they could work remotely from home. Due to these efforts, the library successfully transitioned from an in-person operation to fully functional virtual library service.

In early June, the staff prepared to reopen the library to current Mines students, faculty and staff on June 22. The library staff strategically reviewed all public interactions to comply with campus and statewide COVID-19 safety protocols. Social distancing and masks became the new normal. All study tables were set up for social distancing with appropriate signage. Prior to COVID-19, the library had 650 available seats. Now, seating occupancy is reduced by 75 percent.

Extensive sanitizing protocols have been implemented including hand sanitizer dispensers on all floors, as well as a supply for students to fill individual bottles. Custodians clean bathrooms twice a day and disinfect stair rails and door handles daily. A mobile mister is used to spray tables, chairs and all touch spaces daily.

At Circulation and User Services, plexiglass screens were added to the front desk and new quarantine protocols for physical materials handling were implemented. Due to COVID-19's longevity on paper and other surfaces, closing essential services such as Course Reserves and Gadgets-To-Go checkouts became necessary. The Prospector system, comprised of over 50 academic, public and special libraries in Colorado and Wyoming, reopened services in August 2020. It is a fantastic service to locate research items and leisure reading for our users.

Students have adjusted to the new seating instructions and safety protocols. One ingenious group arranged four smaller tables into a square with each person six feet from the others, to create a collaborative meeting area. Library staff has set up another four tables in a square and is looking at other rooms for similar arrangements.

The library is committed to keeping our users and staff safe by wearing masks, following sanitizing protocols and maintaining social distances until this crisis is over.
**WHAT’S NEW & NEW EMPLOYEE**

**Digital thesis project advances**

The Arthur Lakes Library has always been committed to preserving and housing all physical graduate student theses and dissertations as the research legacy of the Colorado School of Mines. The Library has long sought to digitize this large collection to facilitate global discovery of Mines’ scholarly output. Interim Provost Tom Boyd provided crucial funding to undertake outsourced digitization in 2017.

Almost everyone in the library participated in the massive project from lobbying, planning and inventory to packaging, loading onto pallets and storing in a warehouse on campus. Head of Reference and Special Collections Lisa Dunn had lobbied to have the theses digitized years ago. Carol Smith, University Librarian, lobbied and prioritized the project. Head of Collection Management Services Anna Seiffert skillfully negotiated the contract, Systems Discovery Librarian Lisa Nickum provided an inventory list and Assessment and User Experience Librarian Patricia Andersen managed graduate students to pack the resources into boxes. Digital Initiatives Specialist Beth Zecca coordinated the removal of the unbound thesis collection a year later. Campus Facilities also assisted in the project.

Digitization by the vendor halted in March 2020 due to COVID restrictions but resumed again in July. All dissertations and theses have now been digitized and are available via the Library’s ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global subscription database. The project is now in final quality control review stages by Special Formats Metadata Librarian Christine Baker, Research Librarian Joseph Kraus, Beth, and Patricia.

With the first major phase of this major multiyear project nearing completion, the library will soon turn to the second major phase of making all Mines theses and dissertations openly available via our institutional repository.

**Welcome, Emily!**

New Scholarly Communications Librarian Emily Bongiovanni searched for a university that was medium sized with significant research activity and a library where she could wear many hats. She found all of the above at Mines. Now she is supporting research dissemination, evaluating research impact and leading the campus Open Science and Open Educational Resources (OER) programs and initiatives. Emily also manages the university’s Institutional Repository and research data management services. In addition, she serves as a campus consultant on copyright, academic publishing and best practices in the research cycle.

Emily enjoys working closely with graduate students and getting to know them through the weekly Modern Researcher 501 workshop series. She spends her free time hiking, skiing, playing tennis, golfing, exploring new breweries and traveling to see her family. She also teaches workout classes at the Mines Recreation Center.

**Emily Bongiovanni**
Scholarly Communications Librarian
Jason Brucker: reflections on library & beyond

What attracted you to working at the Library and attending Mines?

I moved to Colorado in high school and was already interested in pursuing engineering.

Knowing there was a world-class engineering public university in-state put Mines at the top of my list. My first visit to the campus followed by an early acceptance to Mines cinched the deal! When I arrived freshman year, I needed a work study job and heard the library had openings. The flexible working hours and the staff were an immediate draw. I worked in the library for 3 of my 4 years on campus.

What are your favorite memories or takeaways from working at the Library?

Working with the full-time front desk team Hannah Bucholz, Roz Parker and Tim Ramstetter. Great supervisors who took an interest in all of the student staff and brought their own personalities and experience to the job. One of my favorites was the rare books collection with its unique items, including a journal from the 50s and 60s focused on ski lift engineering. No story about the library would be complete without the stories about the “haunted” steam tunnels. Every permanent staff member seemed to have at least one story back then!

What is your major, degree and year of graduation?

BSc Chemical Engineering, Minor Public Affairs (McBride Honors), 2000.

Please describe your work experience and life after graduation.

I had several internships in Chemical Engineering prior to graduation, but chose a different route. The massive growth of e-commerce led to an opportunity in management and technology consulting at Andersen Consulting (Accenture), then worked at Qwest Communications as a project manager for technology implementations. In 2005, I returned to consulting at Protiviti where I am a Managing Director responsible for our Technology Consulting services in the Denver market and leading the global Transformation Program Execution practice. I married my wife Julia in 2007 and we have two children: Mari (9) and Liam (4). We relocated from California to Littleton CO in 2016.
Tony Tien: a golden employee

Mines teaches how to find gold and student assistant Tony Tien proved to be a bonanza strike for the library. A chemical engineering junior on the biological engineering track, Tony brings his conscientious and helpful energy to his tasks in Interlibrary Loan. Per Tony, “I enjoy providing resources that are hard to trace or supply for Mines users.”

Tony is a Mines undergraduate research ambassador and researcher in Dr. Kevin Cash’s Lab in the Chem-E Department. He won 3rd place Best-in-Show when he presented the biofilms project at the Mines Undergraduate Research Symposium in spring semester 2020.

In honor of his Vietnamese heritage, Tony works hard for those he loves and for a better future. “As I grew up, I gained a passion for helping people in need and striving for improvement where it is most needed.” Tony serves as a Food Bank of the Rockies volunteer and Meals on Wheels delivery driver since 2017. “I enjoy keeping myself busy in both positions to make sure people can get the food they need throughout the pandemic.” Tony divides his spare time between music and all things tech.

Are you a past student library worker and want to share your story?

Reach out to library@mines.edu.
The Digital Lab received a new large-format scanner, funded by a generous gift of $25,000 from Stan Dempsey, a major supporter of the Russell L. & Lyn Wood Mining History Archive. This scanner facilitates creating digital copies of maps, diagrams and other oversize formats from Special Collections. Features include the ability to scan fragile items without causing damage. The digital copies expand access for the Mines community and the public while preserving the original version. The new scanner will play a key role in building the Digital Archives collections.

The Colorado Mining Association (CMA) formally presented their archive of photographs to the Mining History Archive at a special reception in late Fall 2019. These photographs, documenting mining in Colorado from the 1920s to the 1980s, are a unique record of the State’s rich mining industry heritage. Many of the photos originally appeared in the Association’s Mining Year Book which began publication in 1933. The CMA Collection is now available in Mountain Scholar. Users can access photographs from the library home page by selecting Institutional Repository, then typing Colorado Mining Association Photographs in the search box.

“A Century of Women at Mines: A Retrospective Collection of the Challenges, Victories and Achievements of Colorado School of Mines Alumnae” (1999) is now available online in Mountain Scholar via the Mines History Archive, thanks to the generous permission of WISEM (Women in Science, Engineering and Mathematics Program), Colorado School of Mines.
Map & GIS Librarian, Christopher J.J. Thiry, updated his online aerial photography tutorial with 6 categories of fun quizzes. He increased access to the Map Collection through updates to the online Topographic Map Index and construction of an online index to geologic maps. Additionally, Chris is doing research on historical race-based real estate developments in Jefferson County, Colorado. For more information: https://libguides.mines.edu/maps

The library is pleased to present two new book collections. The Diversity Collection consists of over 120 books in print and electronic format that help the Mines Community cultivate an inclusive culture that proactively welcomes, respects, and supports all its members. The Mines Author Collection features the print works of over 100 Mines affiliates. The array and depth of knowledge are impressive. Both collections are located on the main floor of the library.

Scholarly Communications Librarian Emily Bongiovanni led two projects funded by the Colorado Department of Higher Education to grow Open Educational Resources at Mines, with the goals of reducing educational costs for our students and contributing to open education in STEM. The 2018-2020 project impacts 12 courses, saving students an estimated $63,000 dollars per year (total is for required course materials only). The 2019-2021 project impacts 14 courses, saving students up to $279,000 per year (total savings is for required course materials only).

The Information Literacy program continued to thrive in 2019-20 serving 4,585 students in 133 lessons and workshops. In response to COVID-19, the team adapted highly interactive lessons for online and hybrid courses by meeting student teams on Zoom, creating Canvas micro-lessons and helping students to crowdsource project materials via Google Docs. The highly popular Modern Researcher 501 series expanded to include online workshops in spring and is fully online for fall semester.

Mindful Mondays is a weekly drop-in meditation group open to all students, faculty and staff at 3:00 pm on Monday afternoons. The Library and Counseling Center teamed with student group, Meditators at Mines, to create the ongoing mindfulness program now available virtually in Zoom. With support from Lauren Jensen, Counseling Center and the newest Mindful Mondays team member, Roel Snieder, the three evening options expanded to Thursdays, Fridays & Sundays @ 8:00 pm.

Despite COVID-19, the library’s longest running outreach program, “Concerts in the Library” successfully transitioned to a virtual format this fall. Outreach and Engagement Librarian Gyasi Evans and Concerts Coordinator Wendy Shortridge partnered to create the first virtual concert presented in Zoom. Fan favorite and Mining Engineering PhD student Joe Bourgeois played an “Unplugged” concert featuring original and cover alternative tunes to an audience across the nation. More virtual concerts to follow!

As part of the 2020 virtual Homecoming celebration, the library hosted its second Mines History Roadshow in partnership with the Alumni Office. This was our first virtual Special Collections event and we had 46 registrants! Alumni were invited to bring their Mines memorabilia and stories to “appraiser” Lisa Dunn for evaluation. A variety of photos and other pieces of history from the Mines History Archive were also displayed. See some of our finds at the Roadshow webpage and consider donating to share and preserve the Mines Story for others.
Community Conversations series launches with City of Golden

The library has taken the lead in creating a series of relevant and socially conscious forums in partnership with the Golden Anti-Racism Collective. The first event, “Community Conversations: The Story of Henrietta Lacks” was held virtually on October 22 with 37 campus and community attendees. The Community Conversations series is an open conversation facilitated by Mines and Golden Community members about race, ethics, intersectionality and equity.

The Golden Anti-Racism Collective (GAC) works to end racial inequity and injustice by building a strong and enduring anti-racist community in Golden, Colorado. The GAC identified three areas to focus their efforts:

- **Outreach**: Curating educational events, resources and information in support of being an anti-racist community.
- **Policy & Policing**: Advocating for effective change to review and enact policies at the local level that addresses systemic racism and injustice within our community.
- **Education**: Promoting anti-racist curriculum, student-led discussion and anti-racist school policies.

Outreach and Engagement Librarian Gyasi Evans describes the origin and development of the Community Conversations series. “The idea of the Community Conversations series was created during a conversation about another event. I led in the creation and execution of this inaugural event. I had helping hands from two graduate students, the Golden Anti-Racism Collective and everyone that attended the event.”

Gyasi states that the goal of these events is to spark conversation and provide structured and educational venues that allows people to communicate with others in the community. Participants responded enthusiastically stating, “Thanks for an awesome event” and “I'm sorry I couldn't stay beyond the hour, but the topic, discussion and opportunity to connect with the Golden community were all wonderful.” Gyasi continues to work on future events that will allow the library to collaborate with other Mines departments and the Golden community.
Mines artists displayed

A library is a shared platform that belongs to the entire community. This inclusive spirit is succinctly captured in the library’s vision to be “the collaborative partner and intellectual nexus that bridges disciplines and communities across the Mines campus” and can be found throughout this newsletter.

The library’s commitment to collaboration is never more evident than when the results of those partnerships are visible for all to see and enjoy. Coordinated by library Preservationist Sherry Muniz (pictured 1, 4) and thanks to many participating individuals, groups and units, the library’s walls have transformed into a rotating art gallery showcasing the latest creative output of the Mines campus and community. We look forward to reopening to the public and hope you will be inspired to contact us about sharing your own creative works at the library!

1. **Student Art Installation**
   by an anonymous alum who graduated in 2019

2. **Student Art Installation**
   by Piper McKee, class of ’23, majoring in Biochemistry

3. **Student Photography Exhibit**
   by the Mines Photography Club
   minesphotographyclub@gmail.com

4. **High Grade**
   The Colorado School of Mines journal of the arts for original fiction, poetry, music, and visual arts since 1976.
   highgrade.mines.edu
The Arthur Lakes Library faculty and staff are committed to disseminating and expanding their professional expertise through presenting professional papers at conferences and publishing in peer-reviewed journals and books all year long. Here is a list of their accomplishments:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Topic or Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carol E. Smith</td>
<td>Elected Position</td>
<td>2020-2021 Chair, Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries Member Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carol E. Smith</td>
<td>Elected Position</td>
<td>2020-2021 Board Member, Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries Board of Directors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Bongiovanni</td>
<td>Elected Position</td>
<td>2020-2021 Chair, Colorado Department of Higher Education’s OER Council</td>
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<td>Lisa G. Dunn</td>
<td>Appointed Position</td>
<td>2019-2020, Geological Society of America Publications Board</td>
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<td>Anna Seiffert</td>
<td>Appointed Position</td>
<td>2020-2022 Association of College and Research Libraries/Science and Technology Section: Science Resources: Discovery &amp; Access Committee Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Bongiovanni; Brianna Buljung; Anna Seiffert; Carol E. Smith</td>
<td>Funded Grant</td>
<td>Institutional level grant from CDHE to build an OER incentive program</td>
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<td>Brianna Buljung; Leslie Light</td>
<td>Conference Paper</td>
<td>Using a Second Intervention to Continue Improving Information Literacy Outcomes in a First Year Design Class</td>
<td>ASEE Annual Conference &amp; Exposition. Canada, June 21-24, 2020</td>
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<td>Christopher J.J. Thiry</td>
<td>Conference Paper</td>
<td>Time Machine Available--building an online tutorial for historic air photos</td>
<td>American Association of Geographers (AAG), Denver, CO, April 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brianna Buljung; Emily Bongiovanni</td>
<td>Conference Paper</td>
<td>Utilizing Information Literacy Micro-lessons to Enhance STEM Student Research</td>
<td>ACM/IEEE Joint Conference on Digital Libraries, China, Aug 1-5, 2020</td>
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<td>Christopher Thiry</td>
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<td>mines.libwizard.com/f/airphotos</td>
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<td>Three Ways 2020 Opened Education for Open Education</td>
<td>OER &amp; Beyond (official blog for International Journal of Open Education Resources)</td>
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<td>Lisa G. Dunn</td>
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<td>The School of Mines &amp; Golden</td>
<td>Golden: Where the West Lives, University of Denver, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Sept 2020</td>
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<td>Lisa Nickum</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>One Year in the Field, TRAIL Cataloging of Harvested Content by the Colorado Schhol of Mines</td>
<td>TRAIL (Technical Report Archive &amp; Information Library) Annual Meeting, May 2020</td>
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<td>Lisa G. Dunn; Christine Baker; Beth Zecca; Sherry Muniz</td>
<td>Digital Collection</td>
<td>Gilman Mining District Photos</td>
<td>Mountain Scholar</td>
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<td>Brianna Buljung</td>
<td>Book Chapter</td>
<td>Designing a First Year Foundation Program around the Framework</td>
<td>The Information Literacy Framework: Case Studies of Successful Implementation, Julien, H., Gross, M. and Latham, D./ eds. Rowman and Littlefield, 111-121</td>
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SUPPORT THE ARTHUR LAKES LIBRARY

The Arthur Lakes Library is the academic community’s intellectual and scholarly commons. It is the place where students, faculty, staff, alums and the citizenry of Colorado pursue knowledge, whether virtually or in person. It is arguably true that there is no other place within a university where the donor’s dollar adds so much value to the pursuit of knowledge.

Your gift will help us fulfill our mission of facilitating student success, faculty scholarship and patron research by providing access to information and knowledge, and in doing so, strengthen the quality of the University.

To learn more about supporting the Arthur Lakes Library, contact the Mines Foundation.

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