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Notes from the Stacks, February 2016

Friends of the Brooks Library

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NOTES FROM THE STACKS

Dean's Corner

Patrícia Cutright

Greetings from the James E. Brooks Library,

Wake up and smell the coffee! And indulge yourself in a delicious latte, Americano, or another beverage of your choice created by one of our expert baristas. Yes, it's true! The library's newly opened coffee shop, Jimmy B's, is brewing up a storm.

Do coffee and books really mix?

In the early 1990s, big box bookstores set the stage for a quantifiable shift in how we perceive the marketing of reading, books, and research. By providing a coffee shop in every store, these companies established a culture that embraced the belief that a cup of coffee and a good book are a natural fit.

As this trend grew, the Brooks Library was no different than others that found themselves grappling with the conundrum of meeting the new expectations of their patrons who see the library as just as much of a social gathering place as they do a place for research and study. Our students are the product of this library/coffee shop phenomenon, and those at the Brooks Library set

about more than five years ago to address the numerous requests received from students and faculty to install a coffee shop.

In researching the viability of opening a coffee shop in the library, we found studies that demonstrated that students not only want this service within the library, but they have frequently requested it of their library. A class project conducted by students in a CWU English class in 2012 illustrated the marketability and feasibility of establishing a coffee shop in the Brooks Library. The students did such an outstanding job developing this work, we utilized much of this business plan to launch the shop. Included in our prospectus was a user survey conducted in 2013, where over 70% of the students and faculty polled favored a coffee shop in the library.

The vision statement of the Brooks Library illustrates the commitment we have to providing for our patrons a sense of place in our library: "the Central Washington University libraries will be the hub and academic town square of the University by being an essential component of the academic and creative life of the institution." The coffee shop assists students who spend long hours in the library by

giving them a place to take a break and the opportunity to obtain food and/or drink without having to leave the safety of the library, especially during the evening hours. It offers an opportunity to meet with other students for collaborative and group study, to meet with their instructors in a non-threatening setting, and increases socialization between students – which research shows contributes to increased retention of our students.

After many years of planning, listening to our patrons, and our commitment to providing them the best service possible, Jimmy B's is now a reality. Please come in and have a cuppa' with us.



Jimmy B's

The faculty and staff at the Brooks Library wish you the best for the new year ahead!

JAMES E. BROOKS LIBRARY

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Archives

The Central Washington University Archives and Special Collections had a busy and productive fall quarter. The Archives was thrilled to host its first annual Archives and Museums Crawl in October, visiting 5 local archives and museums around Ellensburg with a group of 11 interested attendees. It was a successful way to collaborate with other area repositories and to show guests what each location has to offer. The Archives staff is looking forward to doing the tour again in 2016.

Other great outreach initiatives included presentations in residence halls across campus: "History of the Hall." We really enjoyed gathering research and putting together presentations to share some of the history of the residence halls with students who live there currently. We covered Kamola, Barto, Davies, and Sue Lombard throughout October and November. These presentations were done in collaboration with Residence Life and included a "Cereal with Killers" presentation on some of Ellensburg's more well-known crimes. Winter quarter will feature presentations on the Bassettis Halls in honor of their 50th anniversary.



Another focus this quarter has been our social media outreach efforts, particularly focusing on our Facebook page. The Central Washington University Archives and Special Collections Facebook page has been such an effective tool in connecting the community with resources in the Archives and to show off local history in a new way. Recently, we shared a photo of an aerial view of campus, circa 1930, and it reached over 16,000 people within Washington State.

There have also been many new additions to our institutional repository, ScholarWorks, under the University Archives and Special Collections Collection. The Athletics Collection continues to be the most popular, but the CWU Retirement Association Interviews Collection has continued to grow this quarter. Interviews are conducted monthly in the Archives with retired faculty and staff, offering a fantastic new way to learn about local and CWU history.

Located on the 4th floor of the Brooks Library, the Archives is open to the public 10am-2pm Monday through Friday and by appointment.

Music

The Music Library has been focusing their efforts on identifying and filling gaps within the existing Jazz and Classical music collections.

Jazz acquisitions have focused on completing the catalogs of the premier Jazz labels from the Golden Age of Jazz, including the catalogs of Blue Note Records, Verve Records, and Prestige Records. The long-term goal of collection development for Jazz at the Brooks Library is to complete these collections and provide a rich assortment of recorded music focused on supporting the students and faculty of the Jazz Specialization within the CWU Music Department.

Recent collection development of classical recordings has focused on supplementing our strong Classical collection through acquisition of compositions by major historical composers, as well as modern, contemporary composers.

In addition to supplementing existing Classical and Jazz collections, the Music Library has been identifying underrepresented genres and styles within the

recorded music collection with the intention of expanding the diversity of the music collection at the Brooks Library. Recent acquisitions have focused on the music of Africa, early regional American folk and roots music styles, contemporary Jewish composers, and the musical styles of the Caribbean.

The Brooks Music Library recently remodeled its Viewing Room, moving the audio visual equipment from the previous viewing area into a larger space in order to accommodate more students. The Viewing Room is a popular place for students to participate in group review of films and recordings related to their coursework. Music students are able to utilize the area in order to discuss particular performances or scrutinize ensemble approaches to compositions. The Viewing Room is available to all CWU students and faculty, and has proven to be a critical asset for the Brooks Library in providing a study area that is conducive to group discussion and the analysis of recorded media.

Centers

Des Moines and Lynnwood Center Libraries are currently involved in planning and implementing outreach initiatives and projects for winter and spring quarters. The Centers Libraries and several Brooks Library staff, including our Student Engagement and Community Outreach Librarian, recently met at Des Moines with representatives from Westside Student Life to discuss ideas for planning future events and building partnerships.

The Centers Libraries and the Westside Learning Support Center are exploring facilitating a new “Academic Survival Skills” Student Services workshop to be held during new student orientations at Des Moines and Lynnwood. The Student Services workshop, modeled

after a workshop delivered on Central’s main campus, is designed to provide students with a brief introduction to the various student services available at the Westside Centers and an opportunity to learn more about their campus and how to participate in upcoming events.

A newly developed library workshop “Employer Research” will be held during winter and spring quarters at the Lynnwood Center Library. The workshop, developed for students enrolled in Career Management courses, will also be open to all students and staff. Workshop participants will learn how to use the library’s business databases to research potential employers, identify their top competitors, and to build a list of local companies for comparison.

REI:

■ Research, Engagement & Instruction

In addition to the normal hustle and bustle that comes with the start of a new quarter, the Research, Engagement, and Instruction (REI) department experienced a 348% increase in library instruction this past fall from last year. Although the library has participated in and provided instruction for University 101 courses over the years, the increase in student population and the course commitment to include a library component brought more students into the library for instruction than ever before. UNIV 101 is an orientation course for all students entering the university and serves to help students “make informed academic decisions and discover opportunities for personal growth” (CWU Course Catalog). During the fall quarter, we saw 1,063 students in the classroom. Topics in these instruction sessions included: how to distinguish popular and scholarly materials, navigating library resources, resource evaluation techniques, and others.

Upcoming Events

February 1: Book Club Kickoff

February 1-12: Blind Date with a Book

February 3: Latino Culture Display and Poetry

February 3: Jimmy B’s Coffee Shop Grand Opening

February 10: Game Night

February 11: Manastash Live!

February 29: Book Club Discussion

March 3: Latino Jazz: Crazy for the Clave

March 5: Art + Feminism Edit-a-thon

March 13-14: Paws and Relax

March 15: Waffle Night

Library Lights Out Event

Who wouldn’t want to stay in the library all night? Well this fall, a group of lucky students did! A select group of students who had been nominated for a leadership retreat through Residence Life participated in a library lock-in. The Residence Hall Association Executive Board conceived and organized the event, which included two sessions of

rotating workshops, team-building exercises, games and activities, a little bit of sleep, and a whole lot of pizza. This event was but one of the wonderful programs to come out of our successful RA orientation held during the first week of school. Other collaborations with the Residence Life program included several “History of the Hall” presentations in a number of residence halls.

The Friends of the Brooks Library

The Board welcomed three new members at their December 2015 meeting. Please join us in welcoming James Brooks, Diane Huckabay, and Scott Templin to the Board of Directors for the Friends of the Brooks Library. James Brooks has a long history with CWU and the Brooks Library. He helped to design the library while president of CWU, played a key role in the revitalization of the Friends of the Library in the mid-1990s, and has maintained an active role in the library's campus and community engagement. Diane is a long-time Ellensburg resident with extensive civic involvement. Diane sits on the Board of Directors for the Ellensburg Public Library and serves as president of the Kittitas County Genealogical Society. Scott Templin is a commercial fisherman and history enthusiast residing in Roslyn, now serving as the director of the Roslyn Historical Museum. Welcome and thank you to these new members for their willingness to give their time and energy for our cause! They join existing board members Bob Jones, Corwin King, Boris Kovalerchuk, and Eleanor Trujillo.

In December, the Friends of the Library Board approved funding for four library collection projects: the popular Baker & Taylor book lease program, materials to support the new CWU Jazz minor, additional Graphic Novels and Illustrated Nonfiction, and materials for the new Library and Information Science program.

The 2015 Annual Friends Book Sale was another great success. This year featured expanded hours and a \$5 per bag blitz during the final two hours of the sale. Book sales, supplemented by a generous match from the Brooks family, brought the total profit to over \$1800. Off to a great start for the New Year, we are planning a Friends of the Library Board retreat focused on strategic planning. Among items to be discussed are increasing membership, programming, and how to spread the word about the Friends of the Brooks Library.