Notes from the Stacks, May 2015

Friends of the Brooks Library
Brooks Library Cards for the Community

Did you know that you don’t have to be a student or employee of Central Washington University to check out materials from the Brooks Library? Any member of the community may purchase a Brooks Library Community Card, allowing you to take home books, DVDs, and more.

Purchasing a Brooks Library Community Card allows you to utilize the walk-up computers in the library, use our online catalog, OneSearch, request items from our Interlibrary Loan Program, as well as work with our Reference Department to locate the materials you’re interested in. Over 20 community members have enjoyed the benefits of obtaining a Brooks Library Community Card over the past year, allowing them to check out books for six weeks at a time, and even take home DVDs for six days.

Brooks Library Community Cards are available for purchase at the Cashier’s Office in Barge Hall on the CWU campus. You may either purchase a 6-month card for $25.00 or a 12-month card for $50.00. In order to complete the application for a card, you must bring your receipt from the Cashier’s Office, along with a photo ID, to the Circulation Department at the Brooks Library. Once processed, your new Brooks Library Community Card will be sent to you via mail, and you can start checking out materials immediately.

The Brooks Library Community Card offers a wide variety of benefits to community members, and we are proud to offer our services to all members of the community.
Brooks Library held its second annual Gala celebration on Saturday, April 11, 2015, and once again, it was a rousing success! The building’s transformation from an academic library into a venue for the evening’s festivities was superb. Bright, enlivening decorations dressed each of the floors, providing an enjoyable setting for the partygoers.

The silent auction was a big hit as well. The many contributions, generously donated by the local business community, the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce, as well as local community members, included creative and practical hand-made crafts, lovely pieces of artwork, and luxurious services.

Music was performed by student music groups, including a String Quartet, as well as The Ryan Donnell Jazz Quartet, who won this year’s “Best Band” award at the prestigious Next Generation Jazz Festival held in Monterey, California. Local saxophonist Lenny Price entertained the audience with his light-hearted and upbeat music in the auction room, and on the fourth floor the Ellensburg Big Band and CWU Swing Cats brought guests to the dance floor.

The dancers ‘cut-a-rug’ while the spirited band played hit songs of the 1940s, giving the audience the feeling of those more innocent, carefree days.

Guests enjoyed a walk through the art gallery on the third floor, offering a collection of paintings and photography by Central student artists.

The first floor offered poetry readings by English Professor Xavier Cavazos and three of his students. Professor Cavazos read excerpts from his work, and the students offered renditions of poems they had written, based on relationships and past experiences.

The refreshments served included sumptuous hors d’oeuvres such as cream puffs, fresh fruit tarts, a delightful Greek platter, and much more. Wine was provided by local vintner, Ellensburg WineWorks.

Approximately 100 guests attended the event, enjoying the music, art gallery, poetry readings, dancing, and food and drink.

Proceeds from the event will fund the acquisition of materials in support of the research needs of our students and faculty.

WineWorks donated $1 of every glass of wine sold at the event to the Library. The Brooks Library greatly appreciates the support and generosity shown by the community for this wonderful event.
Greetings from the James E. Brooks Library:

As the days grow warmer, we recognize the signs of another academic year coming to an end. The students and faculty are preparing for finals and what lies ahead, while the James E. Brooks Library is busier than ever and bustling with year-end activity. We have shared in the past some of the wonderful things happening like Waffle Night, an evening for our staff to enjoy serving up waffles for our tired and stressed-out students the Tuesday evening of each finals week (over 1600 served winter quarter!) and the Archives department’s partnership with the CWU Retirement Association in recording and digitizing oral histories of their members (see on the Library’s website under Archives and Special Collections). Highlights from spring quarter include:

The James E. Brooks Library held its annual "Evening at the Brooks" fundraiser on April 11. The event continues to grow, developing strong partnerships with the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce and local businesses with this year’s event generating $4360 in profit, an increase of $1100 from last year. All proceeds will be earmarked for the purchase of materials and resources in support of our students’ and faculty’s academic and scholarly endeavors.

In April the James E. Brooks Library cleared the last hurdle and was successful in gaining approval from the Faculty Senate to launch the final component in a new academic program and certificate in Library Information Sciences – the LIS endorsed minor for Education majors. This program is the only LIS minor in the Pacific Northwest. Available completely online, the minor and certificate programs will be marketed to a broad constituency from public, school, and special libraries, as well as CWU undergraduate students from all disciplines.

This has been an exciting time for the James E. Brooks Library, as we welcome some spectacular new faculty to our ranks: Zeb Evelhoch, Electronic Resources Librarian; Julia Stringfellow, University Archivist/Faculty Chair; Aimée Quinn, Government Publications Librarian; and Maureen Rust, Student Engagement and Community Outreach Librarian. Already their interest and enthusiasm has positively impacted our services to the communities we serve.

In closing, we gratefully acknowledge the Library’s namesake, Dr. James E. Brooks, and his lovely wife, Lillian, for their generous donation of $1440, matching the Friends of the Library book sale profits for 2014. This contribution was announced at the Library gala in April in recognition of the hard work and dedication that Dr. Beverly Heckart gave while leading the Library’s Friends of the Library group. Dr. Heckart stepped down in December, serving a long tenure of chairing the organization but not before providing wonderful leadership for the annual book sale. The 2014 FOL book sale was the most successful in recent years. Many thanks to the Brookses and Dr. Heckart for their time and dedication to the James E. Brooks Library.

Brooks Library’s Multimedia Collections

The Brooks Library has a specialized collection of multimedia material which many patrons may not be aware of. By utilizing our database, ScholarWorks, one can find a vast array of materials such as audio recordings of local radio programs, personal interviews with community members, as well as videos of educational lectures given by CWU professors in their fields. Many of the following collections have been donated to the library and were organized by Central’s faculty and staff. (Cont. Page 4)
CWU Yearbooks from 1906 to 1988
Each yearbook contains photographs of campus, clubs and organizations, sports, and theatrical performances, as well as photographs of faculty and students.

CWU Library Lectures
This collection includes speeches, presentations, panel discussions, forums, lectures, and other significant events recorded between 1951 and 1989.

KCWU Television Collection
The KCWU Television (KCWU TV) collection is comprised of television footage created at CWU. The videos include coverage of graduations, campus ceremonies, sporting events, musical performances, and political discussions, as well as interviews with faculty, students, and local residents.

Ellensburg Rodeo
This collection includes footage of the Kittitas County Fair and Ellensburg Rodeo, including film of the very first rodeo in 1923, along with film of more recent rodeo courts and parades.

CWU Retirement Association Interviews
This collection features interviews with former CWU students, faculty, and Board of Trustees members.

Illuminated Manuscripts
In July of 2006, a collection of fifteen leaves from medieval illuminated manuscripts and early printed books was discovered in Special Collections at the Brooks Library. Very little information exists as to how the library obtained these leaves, though most are believed to have been purchased in the 1950s.

Edward Nolan Photographs
This collection contains photographs of rural and urban landscapes, portraits, and railroad scenes throughout Washington State and the western United States from the 1870s to the 1920s.

Roslyn African American History Photographs
This collection features photographs of African Americans who settled in Roslyn, Washington, originally as strike-breakers, following an 1888 strike at the local coal mines.

Ellensburg History Photographs
This collection features photographs of street scenes, people, buildings, and businesses in Ellensburg during the 19th and 20th centuries.

Suncadia Legacy Collection
Frederick E. Krueger worked on behalf of Trend West Resort to collect and preserve the cultural and mining histories of Kittitas County. He and Suncadia Resort (descendent of Trend West) collected Mr. Krueger's invaluable primary resource material that includes interviews with local coal miners, as well as family members and persons who shared their personal life stories and experiences. In creating the Suncadia Legacy Project, Brooks Library and Suncadia Resort partnered to preserve nearly 500 hours of video and audio oral history interviews, numerous photographs, and supporting materials documenting northern Kittitas County (Ronald, Roslyn, Cle Elum, and surrounding areas) from 1892 to 2004. As a result, over 100 years of local history has been preserved and made accessible through collective digitization efforts.

For more on ScholarWorks, search our online collections: http://digitalcommons.cwu.edu/

CWU is an AA/EEO/Title IX Institution. For accommodation e-mail: CDS@cwu.edu