April 2019

Regular Hours:
Mon.-Thurs., 7:30am-Midnight
Fri., 7:30am-6:00pm
Sat., 10:00am-8:00pm
Sun., 2:00pm-Midnight

What’s New at the Library?

Murray Library

Director’s Corner

A Stellar Team!

After 9 months in my new position as Director of Murray Library, I am grateful to God for the staff I am privileged to work with. They each bring unique talents and contributions to Murray Library. I picked just one of many adjectives I could use to describe each of them:

Loni – conscientious
Sharon – inventive
Amanda – detailed
Brian – consistent
Keith – dependable
Liz – positive
Joanna – sincere
Lawrie – relational
Sarah – innovative
Jamie – creative
Michael – insightful
Deb – practical
Tracy – helpful
Kimberly – organized
Beth – perceptive

And if you want to know their last name and see a picture of them, click on this link for the Murray Library Staff Directory

Trivia Night!

On Friday, March 8 over 90 students, COE, and their families participated in the library’s first trivia night. There were 18 teams who enjoyed snacks, fellowship, and competed in the night’s events. Quizmaster Michael Rice asked questions on a variety of subjects including literature, animated movies, music, Messiah College history, and random trivia. Sarah Myers acted as DJ, while Liz Kielley and Jamie Rice were the incredibly savvy scorekeepers. The competition was fierce. Out of a possible, 80 points over four rounds, the winning teams were: Give us the Diploma (53 pts), Muddy Sneakers (52 pts), Dan’s Darlings (49 pts).

Mini Golf in the Stacks!

Murray Library’s 3rd annual Mini Golf in the Stacks event was a big hit! 12 departments across campus created mini golf holes for students to play through on 2 courses. It was a fun and informative night!

AA Corner:
We as a library staff are blessed to have Linda Poston as our Director. Imaginative is an adjective to describe Linda. She is very creative and has wonderful ideas!
Dr. Melinda Burchard and librarian Sarah Myers presented at Lancaster Learns in February. Their session titled, “Formative Assessment: Identifying and Supporting Student Success in Information Literacy Processes” detailed the revision of instruction and an assignment in EDSP 307. Participants at the session learned about using formative assessment through the help of student-submitted screencasts. Students used a free webtool, Screencast-o-matic, to think-aloud and record their computer screen actions while finding an article about an evidence-based teaching practice and citing it accurately in APA. This video recording allowed instructors to review students’ understanding after instruction and provided opportunities for intervention, when necessary. The screencast recordings also allowed for refinement of future upper-level, discipline specific information literacy instruction sessions. Session participants at Lancaster Learns brainstormed applications to their own teaching of information literacy skills.
Meet Brian Frank, Catalog Technician

What are your primary duties as the Catalog Technician? “It is my job to create, verify, and edit records in the library catalog and make them easily searchable. Catalogers are also responsible with maintaining the accuracy of the catalog in terms of what is in the library collection and where items are located.”

How long have you worked in this role at the library? “I have been a cataloger at Murray Library since 2001, although my association with the Library originally began in 1992, when I was a Circulation Desk work-study student at Messiah. That experience as a student led me to pursue a career in academic libraries.”

What types of library resources do you catalog? “In the course of 18 years of cataloging, I’ve had the opportunity to catalog a variety of items, ranging from maps to educational kits (including an especially memorable one that contained replica skulls), as well as the occasional electronic resource, just to list a few examples. However, I primarily catalog new print items that are shelved in the Main Stacks and/or the Main Stacks and Main Stacks shelves.”

Are there certain library standards or guidelines you follow when creating catalog records? “When I began cataloging in 2001, the guidelines in place at the time were AACR2 (Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, 2nd ed.). Since then, in an effort to update the cataloging rules to better accommodate both print and non-print materials, RDA (Resource Description and Access) cataloging standards were adopted in 2010.”

How does the library catalog benefit patrons? “With over one million items available to Murray Library users, a well-maintained catalog should ideally allow students and faculty to easily search and/or identify potential resources in their research and where to locate those resources within the library.”

What is your favorite part of the job? “Growing up, I loved books, and I loved school, and thought I wanted to be a teacher. Ultimately, as someone who is detail-oriented, values accuracy, and prefers to work behind the scenes, I discovered that cataloging and working in the library was a better fit for my personality and skills, as I contribute to the educational mission of Messiah College.”

Anything else you would like others to know about being a cataloger? “I like to describe cataloging as both an “art” and a “science”. Creating a cataloging record is highly technical, with intricate coding almost akin to computer programming. Everything needs to be coded properly in the cataloging module or it does not display properly (or at all) in the public catalog. At the same time, there is an “art” to the process, as we seek to describe the given item, in terms of its content and subject material.”

What is your favorite book, author or genre? “Having graduated with a degree in History from Messiah, I prefer non-fiction books, primarily centered on American history, as well as biographies. When I do read fiction, I enjoy the historical fiction novels by Jeff Shaara. One of my favorite books, written by his father, Michael Shaara, is the Pulitzer Prize winning novel, Killer Angels (based on the Battle of Gettysburg).”

Class of 2019 - Leave a legacy when you graduate!

Murray Library wants to honor you with a free bookplate in one of our books! Select a book that has to do with your major… or that expresses an area of your interest… or one that you think others will enjoy.

Choose a book title starting April 8th. Fill out the form online at www.Messiah.edu/Seniorbook or pick up one at the Circulation Desk. Turn it in at the library before May 15th.
Come experience the Human Library!

On Wednesday, April 17th, The Office of Diversity Affairs and Murray Library will be hosting a Human Library Event. The Human Library (humanlibrary.org), started in 2000 in Copenhagen but has become a worldwide movement to challenge our pre-conceived biases through dialogue. A human “book” will share their story with readers in a small, intimate setting designed to foster understanding, build positive relationships and shatter stereotypes.

Bernardo Michael, who participated as a book and as a reader last year, has this to say about the event, “Today was one of my busiest days in an already overloaded week. The highlight of the day was the Human Library event. Sharing stories and listening to the journeys of others actually energized me and gave me much to marvel about the beauty of life all around me … This is a wonderful way to build a culture of trust on campus.”

Last year’s event had 18 books and almost 200 readers. This year we have 22 books willing to share their stories with you. Every book needs a reader – won’t you check one out?

Murray Library : April 17th noon-4 PM

Use this link to see the summaries of the books and sign-up to be a reader:
http://libguides.messiah.edu/humanlibrary

April Exhibits

Trophy Case Display:

In honor of Earth Day… The Oakes Museum of Natural History possesses over 40,000 specimens and artifacts, but much of it is tucked away in storage areas. This exhibit showcases items that are not usually on display. Come see insects, birds, bird eggs, minerals, and more!

Part of working toward the common good is educating ourselves on difficult topics so that we can understand and avoid past traumas and so that we can support those whose lives have been affected. Two exhibits this month work toward that end:

2 Foyer Displays:

April has been designated Genocide Awareness Month since several genocides began in April or have their anniversaries during this month. The exhibit, which will look at 20th and 21st century genocides, aims to raise awareness about genocide and its impact, featuring photographs, books, movies, poems, short stories, and quotes from different genocides across the globe. This display is part of a series of events organized by the Multicultural Council for Genocide Awareness Month. For more information on upcoming events, contact multiculturalcouncil@messiah.edu

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month; a time to reflect on how trauma and intimate injustices are present in our communities, even within the Spring-time hope of warmth and rejuvenation. Stop by the display of books and resources in our library atrium to consider these experiences often hidden among our own neighbors, friends, and family. Please respect your own experiences and needs in viewing the books and information on display.

CHECK OUT ALL THE RESOURCES THE LIBRARY HAS TO OFFER. VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.MESSIAH.EDU/MURRAYLIBRARY