Change, Constancy and the Student Experience at the Marriott Library

The only constant is change. How often have we heard that tired phrase? In the world of research libraries, we hear it several times a day — because in libraries it’s our job to come to terms with constant and fundamental change. We embrace change in order to help our students thrive.

The worlds of scholarly communication and educational technology are in a state of constant ferment, and we’re right there in the middle of it, bringing order out of the chaos of changing publishing models, emerging technologies, newly-developed standards, shifting curricula and an ever-growing student body.

We’re not your mom’s library. When visitors tour the library, they react with stunned enthusiasm. Gone are the days of the “shushing” librarians and the strict food ban. Students now study with refreshments in the library café, gather in glass-walled study rooms where they solve equations on the walls and nap in “womb” chairs between classes. The library, home to the Writing Center, Academic Advising and an ever-growing student body.

“Were not your mom’s library.”

The engine that drives us is our passion for service, our constant desire to find new ways to empower students, assist the faculty and move the University of Utah forward.

The engine that drives us

The Marriott Library’s mission is to “inspire the creation, discovery, and use of knowledge for Utah and the world.” The new and emerging technologies help us fulfill that mission, but they are only tools. The engine that drives us is our passion for service, our constant desire to find new ways to empower students, assist the faculty and move the University of Utah forward.

Every day we look for ways to carry it out, using tools both old and new, experimenting with new policies and creating customized services that support student success.

Inspirations

J. Willard Marriott Library
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

LECTURES
For more information, call 801-585-9921 or go to www.lib.utah.edu. All lectures will be held in the Gould Auditorium on level 1.

Sept 5, 12:00 - 1:00 pm
Miriah Meyer, assistant professor in the Scientific Computing and Imaging Institute at the U, will speak at the William R. & Eryln J. Gould Lecture on Technology and the Quality of Life. Meyer was selected as one of seven Microsoft Research Faculty Fellows for 2012.

Sept 6, 7:00 pm
Judy Blunt, author, associate professor and former rancher, will read from her latest essay “Cooking from Scratch.” Book signing to follow.

Sept 12, 12:15 - 1:15 pm
The September Project this year features Thomas Mann & Norman Ornstein, authors of It’s Even Worse Than It Looks: How the American Constitutional System Collided With the New Politics of Extremism.

Oct 11, 7:00 pm
Sillito will present “A Conversation on Utah Radicalism: Startling, Socio- and Decidedly Revolutionary.”

SPECIAL EVENT
Nov 1, 6:00 pm, Little America Hotel
Ski Affair, benefit for the Ski Archives. Call 801-581-8863 for tickets. 801-585-3421, judy.jarrow@utah.edu

BOOK ARTS PROGRAM
Sept 27, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Animate the Page: Pop-Ups & Movable Structures

Oct 11-13
The Guild of Book Workers Seminar on Standards of Excellence in Hand Bookmaking Accompanying exhibition Horizon will be held in the Utah Museum of Fine Arts

Nov 1, 7:00 pm
Clifton Meador lecture
Marriott Library, Gould Auditorium, Level 1

Nov 2-3, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Digital Fountain: Repurposing Digital Printing

Oct 24 - Nov 28, Wednesdays, 5:00 - 8:00 pm
Non-credit Bookmaking
www.bookartsprogram.org, 801-585-9191

Call 801-585-9521

Follow us on Twitter for details on events

TODAY’S MARRIOTT LIBRARY
• Electronic journals and databases — ubiquitous access
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• Study rooms and nooks for group and individual use
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• Technical support

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Our new president, David Pershing, has asked us to transform the student experience, and we in the Marriott Library are energized by that charge. Every day we look for ways to carry it out, using tools both old and new, experimenting with new policies and creating customized services that support student success.

Running With the Utes

Come see this retrospective exhibition featuring photographs, media guides, Ute Yearbooks, letters, manuscripts, films and other ephemera documenting the history of the U’s football tradition. Additional artifacts include a 1930s leather football helmet, loaned by the Athletics Department.
A Dear Friend

For well over four decades, Special Collections has benefited profoundly from a dear and loyal friend, Floyd O’Neil, Ph.D., director emeritus of the American West Center (1986-1996) at the U and associate adjunct professor of history, is a longtime donor, member of the “Friends” board, and liaison to the broader academic community.

A steadfast advocate, Dr. O’Neil has significantly shaped Special Collections through his tireless outreach, philanthropy, research and vision. He was a leader in the U’s portion of the Doris Duke Indian Oral History Project, a national initiative that captured the language, ceremonies, customs, social conditions and philosophies of Native American tribes throughout the U.S. Dr. O’Neil’s work resulted in one of the largest Native American archives in the west, which is held in Special Collections. To honor Dr. O’Neil’s contributions, the library named the Native American archives in his honor. Additionally, Dr. O’Neil initiated oral history projects for several ethnic groups residing in Utah.

The author of numerous articles and editor of numerous books, Dr. O’Neil currently serves on the board of the William R. and Erlyn J. Gould Lectureship on Technology and the Quality of Life, sponsored annually by the Marriott Library. Dr. O’Neil and his wife Shauna are also generous donors to the American West Center at the U. The Floyd A. O’Neil Scholarship provides graduate scholarships for research on western issues.

“Floyd has bestowed us with countless contributions – both financial and material gifts. But it is his gift of intellect, and his generosity in sharing his knowledge and passion that has most profoundly enriched our library.”

— GREGORY THOMPSON, Ph.D., associate dean for Special Collections

Montana Author to Lecture at Library

Writer, professor and former rancher Judy Blunt will read from her essay “Cooking from Scratch” as part of the At Work Lecture Series. Blunt crafted “Cooking from Scratch” for Red Butte Press’s 2012 publication Wø/Men at Work, a letterpress printed, hand-bound imprint of the Book Arts Program. Author of the bestselling memoir Breaking Clean (2002), Blunt was raised on a cattle ranch in remote Montana in the 1950s and learned early in life the art and science of survival. Thirty-something and married with three children, she left the ranch she and her husband ran to attend the University of Montana, where she is currently associate professor and director of creative writing.

This lecture is sponsored by The American West Center along with the Marriott Library, the Creative Writing Program, the Western Humanities Review, the Vice President for Research, the Tanner Humanities Center and BYU’s Redd Center for Western Studies.

GOOD NEWS

SNOWSPORTS BUILDER

Greg Thompson, Ph.D., associate dean for special collections at the Marriott Library, has received the Snowsports Builder Award for 2012 from the Far West Ski Association. The award recognizes Greg’s tireless efforts in developing the Utah Ski Archives, one of the largest ski and winter sports collections in the United States.

BEST OF STATE

The Special Collections Department has received the Best of State Award in the category of Educational Institution or Service. Special Collections is one of the state’s most important assets and a highly respected program that attracts researchers and collections from far and wide.

RARE BOOK FEATURED IN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Contained in the Rare Books Division, Karl Bodmer’s hand-tinted aquatint Forest Scene on the Alleghany Mountains (1839), has been selected for The National Portrait Gallery’s exhibition 1812 – A Nation Emerges that will run through January 27, 2013, at the Smithsonian. The exhibition, which will run through January 27, 2013, can be viewed at http://tinyurl.com/PorGall.

GOVERNMENT DOCS / MAPS DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZED

The Marriott Library has been recognized by the U.S. Government Printing Office for its active role in the Federal Depository Library Program. While many libraries across the U.S. have discontinued serving as federal depositories, the Marriott Library continues to house these materials and retain experts in the area of government documents.

READING / BOOK SIGNING

Thurs, Sept. 6, 7:00 pm
Marriott Library Gould Auditorium, level 1

Free and open to the public
Call 801-585-9521 for more information

website: www.lib.utah.edu | 801-585-9521
Thomas Couple Brings Talents to Board

The library benefits greatly from the enthusiasm, time and talents of Janet and Don Thomas.

Janet, born in Salt Lake City, attended Salt Lake City public schools and the University of Utah, where she majored in art. Janet is the mother of three children, David, Stephen and Judy. Upon her children’s departure into the world, Janet entered the real estate industry where, as Janet Coleman, she enjoyed an amazing 30-year career with Coldwell Banker and other agencies. Over the course of her career, Janet achieved several professional awards, served on administrative boards and enjoyed the great opportunity of travelling five continents. Her greatest interests now are enjoying her grandchildren, appreciating the arts and travelling with her husband, M. Donald Thomas.

The U & You Project – By Students, For Students

The library’s new U & You project provides a painless way for today’s exceptionally busy students to record their academic experiences.

Tony Sams, the Marriott Library’s digital scholarship consultant and project manager, created this digital storytelling venture with students in mind. Students are first interviewed when they begin at the U and then return once a semester for their entire college career. Once filmed and edited, these interviews are available for community viewing through the U’s USpace page.

While this longitudinal storytelling is fun and engaging for the student, it offers significant benefits to a wider audience. Campus administration will have the opportunity to address problems that are identified by students and can make policy changes accordingly. Additionally, students (and their parents) will be able to search these videos to learn about others’ experiences at the U.

Tony explains that the inspiration for the U & You project came from working in the library. He classifies the U & You interviews as a collection of materials that make up a human library. “It’s all about stories,” he says. “The videos are chapters and the person is the book.”

For more information on the U & You project, contact Tony Sams at 801-585-9780 or you@utah.edu.

Intern Makes U & You Shine

Adding another dimension to the student experience, a series of student interns have been hired to conduct, film and edit the interviews done for the U & You project. Working with the MUSE (My University Student Experience) office, these interns have the opportunity to learn valuable skills that they will be able to transfer to their professional careers.

Amy Jensen has a B.S. in Anthropology with a minor in Religious Studies and Writing. She is applying to the U’s Ph.D. program in Education, Culture and Society.

30 Women to Watch

Joyce Ogburn, dean of the J. Willard Marriott Library and university librarian, was included in Utah Business magazine’s annual listing (May issue) of progressive female leaders. “I’m honored to be included in this list alongside other female leaders who are determined to make a difference in their professions and in their communities,” comments Joyce.

Mickey Ibarra Papers Now Open to the Public

A native of Salt Lake City, Mickey Ibarra has donated photos and documents that chronicle his rich career in public service, public policy and his contributions to the Latino community. Mr. Ibarra served as assistant to the president and director of intergovernmental affairs for The White House during the Clinton administration (1997 – 2001). During this time Mr. Ibarra served as the President’s liaison to the nation’s mayors and governors. In 1998, Mr. Ibarra was appointed vice chair of the White House Task Force for the Salt Lake Winter Olympics and co-chaired the White House Task Force on Drug Use in Sports and the President’s Interagency Group on Insular Areas. He was also named honorary mayor for the Para-Olympic Games.

After his tenure in The White House, Ibarra established the Ibarra Strategy Group, a government and public affairs firm based in Washington, D.C. that represents a range of clients including Fortune 200 corporations, associations and non-profit organizations.

“The University of Utah, through its many academic programs and through the Hinckley Institute of Politics, is playing an active role in encouraging young people from all backgrounds to participate more fully in the political process,” notes Ibarra. “I can think of no more appropriate place for my White House papers than this great university.”

Thank you to event sponsors Wells Fargo, Zions Bank and Rico’s Mexican Market.
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Study Room Named for Board Members

Members of the Library Advisory Board have donated the funds to name a group study room at the entrance of the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Grand Reading Room on level three. Left to right: Brent Baker, Nancy Browning, Mike Korologos, Janet Thomas and Don Thomas. Other board members listed above.

Edward Abbey Collection Is Major Donation to Special Collections

_Eric Hvolboll, an attorney who grew up on a ranch in California, fell in love with Edward Abbey’s writing when he was in graduate school. He began to collect signed copies from first editions of all of Abbey’s works and ended up with a stellar collection in pristine condition. It includes a rare signed copy of Abbey’s first novel, an unpublished manuscript, an unproduced film script, unpublished letters, publisher’s contracts, galley proofs and print and multimedia ephemera. Hvolboll’s move to a small New York City apartment begged the question: what to do with the collection.

He donated it to the Marriott Library. In March, Luise Poulton, rare books manager, curated an exhibition of the collection. The exhibition opened with a Friends of the Library lecture about Abbey by local bookseller owner Ken Sanders and a reception. Nearly one hundred and fifty people filled the Gould auditorium and the Special Collections Gallery for the event.

American novelist and author Edward Abbey (1927-1989) became an icon for grassroots activism. “Eric’s generosity in donating his collection to us cannot be underestimated. It reinforces Special Collections’ reputation as a strong and active preserver of voices of the American West – from early pioneers to internationally-recognized scientific, musical and literary figures. The future student of American W est – from early pioneers to internationally-recognized scientific, musical and literary figures. The future student of the personal from the prophetic in just about anything and back again in a single paragraph. In the end, I was hard-pressed to tease the poetic from the profane from it was impossible to resist putting a few Abbey zingers from each of the pieces I used with this in mind. Still, I focused on what he was best at: putting personality, I focused on what he was best at: putting enlightening and evocative,” says Poulton.

The exhibition highlighted Abbey’s love for the outdoors. “While Abbey is known for his cantankerous personality, I focused on what he was best at: putting words to landscape,” Poulton explains. “I chose a quote from each of the pieces I used with this in mind. Still, it was impossible to resist putting a few Abbey zingers in the mix – he could move from poetry to profligacy and back again in a single paragraph. In the end, I was hard-pressed to tease the poetic from the profane from the personal from the prophetic in just about anything he wrote.”

Eric Hvolboll, donor; Luise Poulton, rare books manager; Ken Sanders, owner of Ken Sanders Rare Books


— EDWARD ABBEY, The Brave Cowboy, 1956

M arriott International, Inc. announced its 85th anniversary this year and realized another important milestone. J.W. Marriott, Jr., after 60 years of service to the business, named his successor, Arne Sorenson, president and chief executive officer. Mr. Sorenson, formerly president and chief operating officer, will be the third CEO in the company’s history, preceded by company founder J.W. Marriott, Sr. and son J.W. Marriott, Jr.

“I have been so fortunate to have worked with some of the most talented people in the world over the past six decades. It’s amazing to me what we have accomplished over the years together, from a small root beer stand in Washington, D.C. to a global lodging powerhouse with operations in more than 70 countries,” comments Mr. Marriott.

Marriott has been elected to serve as executive chairman and chairman of the board and will remain an active member. The J. Willard Marriott Library extends a sincere note of congratulations to Mr. Marriott.

Congratualtions to Marriott International!
January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011

Thank you to our friends who have made gifts during the 2011 calendar year.

J. Willard Marriott Library Donor Report

We deeply appreciate the extraordinary support of the Marriott family over the years.

We have made every effort to ensure this list is an accurate account of gifts received during calendar year 2011. We regret any mistakes or misspellings that may have occurred in assembling this list. Please contact Erin Winsor at erin.winsor@saltal.edu or by phone (385) 585-9299.

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In the past few months, I've had the opportunity to serve as acting dean during Joyce Ogburn's leadership leave. This role has allowed me new experiences, such as meeting individually with deans, to learn how the library can best support their research and teaching. I've also been involved with the Marriott Library Advisory Board and have met several wonderful donors. I have thoroughly enjoyed these activities. However, it is the connection to our students and scholarship that makes working in the Marriott Library one of the greatest career pleasures I've had.

I love the constant, contagious buzz of excitement at the U. The scholarship undertaken here is world-class, and you can sense it in the air. I feel my batteries recharging every time I walk onto campus, and that feeling intensifies when I walk into the library and see it filled with students hard at work.

For me, that's the real joy of working in the Marriott Library. Every year a greater number of students comes through our doors. They come for the beautiful study spaces, the group collaboration areas, the friendly and knowledgeable librarians, the cutting-edge technical equipment and software, the rare and unique research materials in Special Collections, and even sometimes to check out books. But mainly they come to be inspired. And we, in turn, are inspired by them.

That feeling of inspiration is what drives us constantly, every day, to look at what students need and then change our services accordingly. This is what makes working here invigorating and fulfilling.