Reeves Library Invited to Join the OCLC EXPRESS LIBRARY OUTSTANDING DIGITAL DELIVERY GROUP

During the height of the pandemic 2020-2021, while other institutions and libraries were completely closing down their operations, Reeves staff faced this challenge by moving our operations entirely remote.

While we had no choice but to suspend interlibrary book lending & borrowing for a while, we were able to continue providing outstanding digital services to students, faculty & outside borrowers with a fast and efficient process.

Because of this, Reeves Library was recognized as an outstanding supplier of resources by OCLC and invited to join the Express Library Outstanding Digital Delivery Group.

The Express digital delivery program, connects high-performing libraries to form a select group committed to delivering digital resources within 18 hours or less.

World Stories At The Bethlehem Public Library

Faculty in the Modern Languages and Literatures Department partnered with the Bethlehem Area Public Library Children’s librarian to present World Stories every third Saturday throughout the academic year. Reeves librarians were happy to serve as the facilitators and coordinators. Faculty read books in the language in which they were written for children ages 3-8 and in English.

Following the story, the children had fun with activities celebrating the culture. Edana Hoy, children’s librarian, purchased books about the countries represented and added a bookplate with the faculty member’s name.

Professor Joanne McKeown and student, Jenna Azar, read Babar in French and English. The children made kites to celebrate the International Kite Festival held in Berck-sur-Mer, France.

Professor Claudia Mesa read Cuentos Pintados / Painted Tales in Spanish and English. The children made paper flowers to celebrate the annual flower festival in Colombia.

Professors Axel Hildebrandt and Khristina Haddad read Ach, so schön ist Panama / The Trip to Panama in German and English. The children made heart necklaces that are worn during Oktoberfest in Germany.

Professor Nilsa Lasso-von Lang read the Spanish version of the Panamanian tale of LaRanita Estrella / The Star Frog and library director Janet Ohles read it in English. The children had fun making and decorating their own star frogs to take home.

Professor Yasmine Karam read Aladdin and the Magic Lamp in Arabic and English. The children made red Fez hats to take home.

Professor Silva Emiliani-Mowrey read Il Cane Ingordo / The Greedy Dog in Italian and in English. The children made dogs to take home.

International student, Ioannis Zeris ‘22, was invited by the department to read Aesop’s Fables in Greek and library director Janet Ohles read them in English. The children put together paper jigsaw puzzles of Aesop’s characters that they took home.

The faculty look forward to continuing with this community partnership next year.
Professor Robert LaRue invited us to participate in the Africana Footprints series with a talk given in September 2021. In their research Cory Dieterly and Janet Ohles came across some amazing librarians who have made significant contributions to our disciplines. Here are a few individuals with whom we became acquainted:

**Dorothy B. Porter**, 1905-1995. Mrs. Porter received her B.A. from Howard University and went on to become the first Black graduate of the Columbia University Master in Library Science program. She built the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center at Howard University, a leading center for black history and culture. In the 1930s the Dewey Classification System catalogued Black authors under slavery or colonialism. Mrs. Porter classified works by genre or author, changing the existing racial bias. Her language aptitude and multilingualism resulted in a collection of materials highlighting contributions of black individuals from around the world. More information is available from this Smithsonian article: [https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/remembering-howard-university-librarian-who-decolonized-way-books-were-catalogued-180970890/](https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/remembering-howard-university-librarian-who-decolonized-way-books-were-catalogued-180970890/)

**E.J. Josey**, 1924-2009. Dr. Josey was a very charismatic individual whose personable nature and love of all peoples rendered him a powerful force and activist leader in both the library field and the larger society. In 1964 he drafted a resolution at the American Library Association national conference that forced the association to disallow membership to state chapters who banned black librarians from their membership. The resolution was passed at that conference. He was also the co-founder of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association and mentor to many of today’s librarians. You can read more about this amazing man here, [https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/moravianlibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=6031771](https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/moravianlibrary-ebooks/detail.action?docID=6031771)

**Carla Hayden**, 1952–. Dr. Hayden is the first African American and the first female to hold the office of Librarian of Congress, the highest position attainable in the library profession. She began her career as a children’s librarian in Chicago, reading stories to children with autism. Dr. Hayden earned national recognition in 2015 when as director of the Baltimore Public Library system she kept the libraries open during the protests following the death of Freddie Gray. During her tenure overseeing the 22 library system, she increased the number of computers available to the public, expanded broadband access, expanded the e-Book collection, and included a robotics lab for teens in the renovation plan.

Reeves librarians are happy to partner with other departments in moving the university toward a diverse institution that respects all peoples from all races, religions, ethnicities, and cultural groups.
A Look Back at Programs and Exhibits Organized this Year by Reeves Library’s Archives and Special Collections

It was a busy year for the Archives and Special Collections of Reeves Library, with several programs and exhibits organized and hosted for the Moravian Community. During fall 2021, in partnership with In-Focus, a small exhibit and online guide were created highlighting the works and contributions of poet/author Audre Lorde, the 2021-2022 In-Focus author. Rayah compared the lives of author Gloria Naylor and local activist Esther Lee, and shared her insights from working with both archival collections. This presentation also addressed questions relating to archival appraisal and the need to preserve marginalized voices in our communities.

During Founder’s Week, archivist Cory Dieterly welcomed back Moravian Alums for a guided “Return and Learn” tour of the exhibit, “Moravian Seminary and College for Women: Three Centuries of History.” This exhibit was made possible with a generous gift from Mr. Jodi Miller, was designed by Heather Reinert in 2019, and is now on permanent display on the first floor of the Brethren’s House.

The recent addition of the “Eric Ruskoski Collection” to the Library includes rare and autographed books as well as early prints by the famous American poet Walt Whitman. An exhibit and research guide around the life and works of Walt Whitman are available from the library’s homepage. To help further publicize the exhibit and promote appreciation of Whitman’s work, Dr. Theresa Dougal co-lead a poetry reading and discussion with Cory that was well attended.

The archives partnered with public services librarian, Rayah Levy in March for a presentation sponsored by Friends of Reeves Library titled, “Community Archives: Two African American Women, Their Differences & the Thread That Binds.” Theodore Smith did a student internship in the archives during the spring semester, focusing on the 30th anniversary of author Kurt Vonnegut Jr.’s visit to Moravian in 1992. He was tasked with creating an exhibit about the author, drawing on materials from the University Archives and autographed books from the Library’s Rare Books Collection. Theodore also created an online research guide to aid others doing research on Vonnegut and organized a public film screening in Prosser Auditorium of the recently released documentary, “Kurt Vonnegut: Unstuck in Time.” Theodore’s exhibit on Vonnegut will be on display in the lower level of Reeves Library until December 2022. The new Vonnegut documentary can be checked out from our library.

Blind Date With A Book

The Literary Club held Blind Date with a Book on Valentine’s Day! Books were wrapped in decorative paper with a one sentence description. The author, cover design, and title were all a mystery — it was a great opportunity to give something different a chance! It was gratifying to see that many of these books were checked out.
Alum Derrick Achey joined us as a library science intern during his final semester working on a Master’s in Library Science from Syracuse University. Derrick participated in our information literacy efforts by constructing research guides, editing research tutorials, and covering both chat and in-person reference. His undergraduate coursework in public health was evident in the quality of the exhibit and online guide for the library’s spring InFocus display on Health and Justice. He curated a collection of books that highlight the eight dimensions of wellness: emotional, environmental, physical, spiritual, financial, social, occupational, and intellectual. This exhibit also provided materials that explored the intersectionalities of health, race, and culture.

Veterans Oral History Project Shared with the Library of Congress

Pam Johnson led an interdepartmental team on oral histories of Moravian alums who are veterans. The premier of the exhibit was held on the main floor of Reeves Library on Veterans Day, November 11, 2021. Although she retired at the end of 2021, Pam agreed to work on gathering the requisite paperwork to submit this collection to the Library of Congress (LOC) as part of their national veteran’s oral history project. Nine of our Moravian veterans’ stories were sent to LOC this spring. Each of these veteran alumni will have a biographical and history summary record.

INFORMATION LITERACY SESSIONS

During the past academic year the librarians led research and information literacy sessions for undergraduate and graduate students in the humanities, social sciences, and natural and health sciences. We empower students with life-long literacy through ongoing scaffolding in departments and programs -- incrementally addressing varied types of literacies: research skills, critical thinking, digital literacy, data literacy, social literacy, structures of power in information, and more. Please contact Kim Demyan to discuss research and information literacy sessions for your classes.
Reeves Library Staffing Updates

The Reeves Library team is happy to welcome two new members to our public services areas. Rayah Levy, Public Services Librarian, and Kris Beutler ’15, Circulation and Public Services Library Assistant, joined us prior to the start of the spring semester.

Their extensive professional experiences and positive personalities are ideally suited to these people-centered positions. In their short time with us, they have worked closely with their colleagues to help streamline the many moving pieces of circulation, interlibrary loan, and reserves, as well as coordinate the ever-changing schedules of our student employees. Additionally, Rayah quickly stepped into the areas of information literacy and reference.

They have connected with the library team, students, faculty and staff with their genuine and helpful natures, and are establishing a presence campus-wide. Please feel free to reach out or drop by to see them.

We bid a fond farewell to Elizabeth Young Miller who leaves us for an exciting position that will utilize her expertise and provide her with new opportunities. During her tenure with us, Elizabeth elevated the Moravian Theological Seminary to a national level with presentations at the American Theological Association annual conferences. She took leadership roles with the regional Southeastern Pennsylvania Theological Association and frequently hosted their meetings at our seminary.

Elizabeth also established a book discussion group with area and regional neighbors who have met several times a year via Zoom to discuss novels and nonfiction books. She is an expert at mapping information literacy to the curriculum, from which both the Seminary and College benefitted. Kim Demyan, demyank@moravian.edu can be contacted with any questions or invitations to continue curriculum mapping with our faculty colleagues.

NEW THIS PAST YEAR

GLASS STUDY ROOMS
Friends of Reeves Library very generously gave us money to build 4 more glass study rooms on the north end of the library’s main floor. We are hopeful that donations will allow us to continue to build these rooms that are so popular with our students. Checks may be made out to Moravian University, with Friends of Reeves Library in the memo line.

DIGITAL COLLECTIONS
Jeff Dickens is busy constructing digital collections for us with the Islandora Open Source platform. We are using the hosting offered by LYRASIS, a consortium through which we have other resources. Look for updates as we move materials to this site.

LIBRARY BLOG
The library began a blog this past year. You can find it on our homepage and read about what’s on the minds of your library colleagues.

BEST SELLERS
We receive generous donations of best sellers throughout the year. We hope that you will check out this section for your summer reading.