

FURMAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
ANNUAL REPORT 2014-15



A MESSAGE FROM JANIS BANDELIN, DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES



I am delighted to share this 2014–15 annual report of the Furman University Libraries which includes the past school year's highlights and accomplishments.

One development which is especially exciting is our involvement in the Open Access (OA) movement. Open Access is the free, immediate, online availability of research, along with the rights to use the research in a digital environment.



The Library became a participant in the Open Access movement by launching FUSE—the Furman University Scholar Exchange. FUSE provides a digital space where students, faculty, and staff can make their research and scholarship available to the world. Librarians have begun reaching out to the University community to heighten awareness and increase understanding about Open Access. We have also encouraged faculty to post their research in FUSE so that it is accessible worldwide.

The OA movement has grown due to the current unsustainable economic model of scholarly communication. Faculty teach, do research, and are paid by the University. When the research is published, the University must pay again, through Library subscriptions, for access to the very research produced by our faculty. Their research is only accessible to colleges and universities that can afford to pay the publisher's price, and some publishers have increased prices to the extent that faculty research has become unaffordable.

The long-term benefit of Open Access will be a reduction in the cost of Library resources and ultimately, a reduction in the cost of higher education. The positive impact on global education, health care, and commerce will be significant.

In 2015–16, we will join other university libraries in supporting Open Access through a variety of programs and projects. I look forward to sharing more information about these in next year's annual report.



2014–15 visitor
gate count **464,232**

Average weekly
gate count **12,164**
(when classes are in session)

FURMAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES STRATEGIC PLAN 2013–16

Progress

The Furman University Libraries strive to engage, enlighten, and empower our users by providing outstanding resources, services, personnel, and facilities that are essential to teaching, research, and scholarship.

Some selected highlights of our progress are described below. For the full list of updates go to:

tinyurl.com/sp-update-2015

Improve the discovery of Library resources, tools, and services.

- Removed over 1,800 out-of-date STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) books and over 28,000 government documents from the collection to improve the discovery of relevant up-to-date information.
- FUSE (Furman University Scholar Exchange), our open access repository, was launched.
scholarexchange.furman.edu



Reference questions
answered (in person and virtually) **3,280**

Classes and
workshops taught **283**
Number of persons attending **2,615**



13 Librarians

13 Staff

60 Student Assistants

Cultivate a community of passionate learners and scholars.

- Hosted two exhibitions: "Look Who We Found! Notable Autographs and Signatures in Special Collections," and in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of Furman University, "Stepping Stones: The Path to Furman's Integration."
- Three librarians taught May Experience courses
 - "Rites of Spring: Paris, the Ballets Russes & the Arts of Modernism" (co-taught)—Included travel to France.
 - "Virtual Identities"—What it means to create and experience an online identity.
 - "Storytelling"—An analysis of oral storytelling in various genres.



- Taught orientation sessions about Library resources, services, and facilities to OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) students and to Woodlands residents.

Pursue new partnerships and strengthen existing collaborations

- With the English Department, co-hosted a CLP program for National Poetry Month. South Carolina poet and musical performer Kurtis Lamkin recited poetry and played the kora.
- With the Communication Studies Department, supported the CLP program "Documentary as a Tool in Social Advocacy and Justice" featuring Byron White, award-winning filmmaker.
- Worked with Information Technology Services to implement a new guest login procedure which has saved time and increased security.



ETHEL CARLISLE SOUTHERN SCHOLARSHIP

The Ethel Carlisle Southern '27 Scholarship recipients for 2015 are:

- Emily Cutsinger '08, BA, Art
- Matt Johnson '06, BA, Political Science
- Chase Ollis '11, BA, Communication Studies & English
- Shelley Polatty '05, BA, English

The scholarship is given annually to a senior or Furman graduate who has been accepted into, or is enrolled in, an American Library Association accredited graduate program.

CHASE OLLIS, Class of 2011



"I enjoy having people ask me questions and helping them find answers. It's enriching, it's enjoyable, and it's lifelong learning. I believe in the mission of libraries and that my greatest opportunity to give back to the community is through librarianship."

Chase is attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

INAUGURAL HOMECOMING EVENT FOR FORMER STUDENT ASSISTANTS

In fall of 2014, we held our first homecoming event to welcome back our student assistants. We asked them to send us their response to this question:

What was your most memorable experience of working in the Library?



"My most memorable experience of working in the Library was meeting and working with awesome people—including my then future husband."

—Kathy McDonald Richardson '07

incredibly friendly, welcoming, and understanding everyone is. It's like being part of a great, fun, wacky, fantastic family. I felt that people cared about me there, and that's a wonderful feeling to have at a place where you work."

—Kevin Adams '12



"The times I remember best were when the student workers bonded with each other, had deep philosophical discussion, gave and received relationship advice, and generally made lifelong friends. It was rewarding to be part of a community as tight-knit as any fraternity or sorority, and our cool red 'Libraries are for Lovers' shirts made our club complete."

—Robby Hendry '04

EMILY CUTSINGER, Class of 2008



"My mission as a future school librarian will be to establish a school library where each student's knowledge base is deepened through access to information in multiple formats. I want to instill a passion for reading and foster conscientious, discerning, resourceful, and innovative global citizens."

Emily is attending the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.



Members of the LSAG (left to right): Chesley Dawson, Sam Kleine, Alex Pumphrey, Drew Kearns, Brooks Musangu, Tre Wheat, and Austin Pretsch

THE LIBRARY STUDENT ADVISORY GROUP

The LSAG meets four times a year with Library administrators and provides ideas and suggestions for improving Library services, facilities, and resources. Thanks to their suggestions, the Duke Library's hours were adjusted to better match our students' schedules, and "Quiet Zones" were established to reduce noise.

FITDESKS

To help students stay alert and focus on their class assignments, the Library purchased several FitDesks. Studies have shown that light exercise while studying can fight lethargy and deliver positive stimuli to the brain. We are providing a healthy alternative to an energy drink!

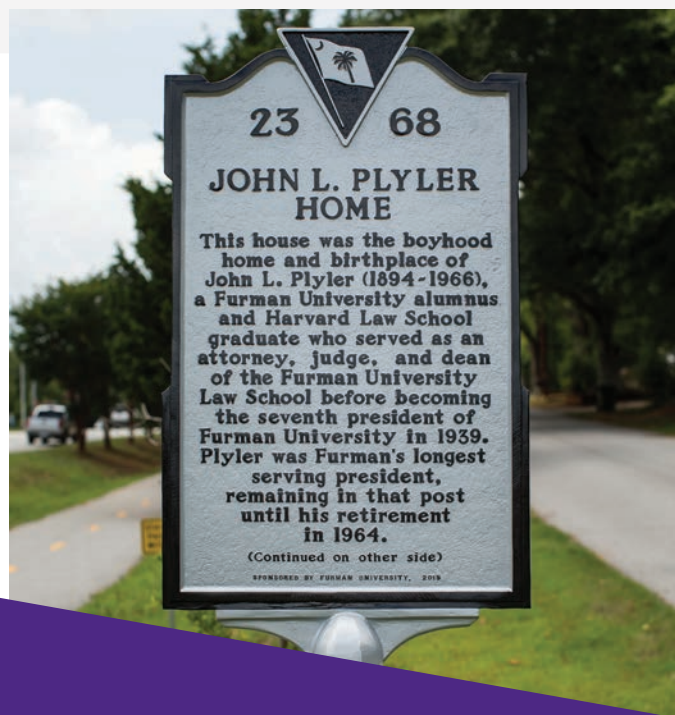


OF NOTE

HONORING DR. JOHN L. PLYLER

Dr. John L. Plyler Home S.C. Historic Marker (SP 2.1C)

In July, a dedication ceremony was held to celebrate the installation of a South Carolina historic marker designating the birthplace and boyhood home of Furman president Dr. John L. Plyler in Travelers Rest. Special Collections and Archives personnel played a significant role in this collaboration with the Travelers Rest Museum, the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, and the Greenville County Historic Preservation Commission.



MEMORIALIZING BETTY KELLY



Elizabeth (Betty) G. Kelly, former collection development librarian, died January 7, 2015. Betty was a 1967 graduate of Furman and worked in the Library as a student. She served as a Library faculty member and academic advisor for 27 years and retired in 2011. Betty will be remembered for her kindness, her gentle, caring spirit, and her dedication to the Library and to Furman.

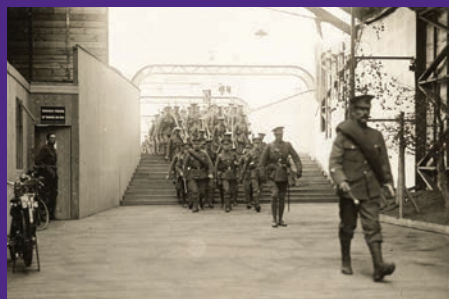
CHARLES H. TOWNES COLLECTION OF MATERIALS DONATED TO FURMAN

Townes Collection Donated to Furman



Before his death, Furman graduate and Nobel Laureate, Charles H. Townes, donated materials to Furman after closing his physics department office at the University of California, Berkeley, where he was professor emeritus of physics. Dr. Townes passed away in January 2015. The collection includes bound volumes of his publications, speeches, awards, over

500 books, and glass slides used in class. This collection will be evaluated and processed by Special Collections and Archives.



THANK YOU, CLASS OF 1997!

Class of 1997 Endowment

In 1997, graduating seniors selected the Library as the recipient of their senior gift and pledged to give annually to support the Library's electronic information resources. An endowed fund was created and thanks to their commitment and generosity, over the years that fund grew. As a result, we were able to purchase an electronic database titled The First World War. It includes personal narratives, newspapers, military and government files, and more. This resource has enriched our students' learning experiences!

STAYING CONNECTED

We stay connected to our students, faculty, and staff in order to provide inspiring, innovative, and indispensable services and resources.

FULCRUM—THE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

scholarexchange.furman.edu/records-newsletters/

Distributed two times a year, this e-newsletter includes interactive news and links to services. The name of the newsletter reflects the essential role the Library plays in the intellectual life of the University—a fulcrum for exploration, discovery, and scholarship. Email Library.Friends@furman.edu to subscribe.

WEBSITE library.furman.edu

Our website remains the main point of contact for our users. This past year, we had over 655,000 website views, almost 35,000 of those were from a mobile device or tablet.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Furman Libraries stay active on social media, operating 19 accounts across various platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, and Pinterest. Visit libguides.furman.edu/socialnetworking to connect with us through social media.

THE BONHOMIE YEARBOOKS ARE ONLINE!



Partnering with Special Collections and Archives, the Library's Digital Collections Center has digitized *Bonhomie* yearbooks from 1901 through 2014. They can be found at: tinyurl.com/bonhomie-yearbooks

COME LEARN WITH US!

The Friends of the Furman University Libraries

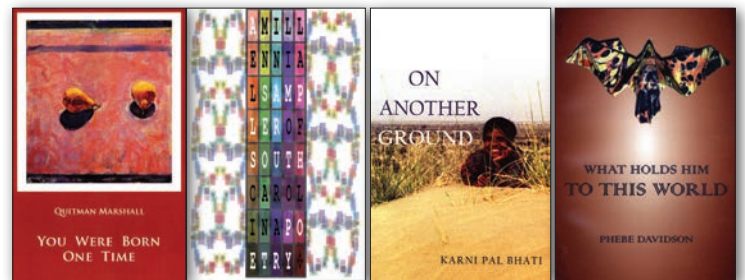
A unique feature of a Furman education is that students are required to attend 32 CLPs—Cultural Life Program events—in order to graduate. The intent of the Cultural Life Program (CLP) is “to compel students to attend a variety of high quality events that provide enriching, challenging cultural experiences.”

The Friends of the Furman University Libraries are offering similar kinds of experiences to both the university and the Greenville community. Engaging exhibitions, stimulating speakers, musical performances, author book talks, and more.

Come learn with us, and be engaged, enlightened, and empowered. We would love to have you join us. To be added to our mailing list, contact Kathy Hamlin at 864.294.2191 or kathleen.hamlin@furman.edu.

ACQUISITION OF THE NINETY-SIX PRESS

The Ninety-Six Press, established in 1991 by two former Furman professors, Gil Allen and Bill Rogers (now professors emeriti), officially became a part of Special Collections and Archives. The press has published twenty-one books by poets connected to South Carolina. The Ninety-Six Press book inventory will be sold by the Library. Current and future assets will be used to support South Carolina poetry and the Library's South Carolina Poetry Archives.



GIVE FOR THE FURMAN LIBRARIES JOIN US! BE A FRIEND!

The Friends of the Furman University Libraries foster appreciation for our Libraries and for their role in the intellectual life of the University, by providing support for special programs and collections. Members receive our newsletter, *Fulcrum* (published twice a year), and invitations to exhibitions and programs. To give, please visit furman.edu/support-the-libraries

