UC-San Diego acquires African Americana collection

The University of California (UC)-San Diego Library recently announced the addition of its first African Americana collection—the Turner Collection—to its Special Collections & Archives. Donated by Steve Turner, a UC-San Diego alumnus and an avid collector, the collection is comprised of more than 300 items, including rare photographs, pamphlets, photocards, posters, and pinback buttons, many from the 19th century and all of which shed new light on the African American experience, particularly in the American West.

Turner’s focus was on a less well-known migration of African Americans to the West that preceded the great migration from the South between 1916 and 1970. His collection brings to light the story of pioneer immigrants who moved west after the Civil War and before World War II. Library staff are currently working to digitize many of the materials in the Turner Collection in order to make them readily available to the community via the Library’s Digital Collections website.

Virginia Tech Publishing partners with international association to publish engineering open textbook

Virginia Tech Publishing and the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers have published Introduction to Biosystems Engineering, an open textbook for university-level introductory courses in biosystems engineering. Written by an international team of authors, this is the first open textbook published as part of the Virginia Tech University Libraries’ membership in the Open Education Network Publishing Cooperative. It also marks the first time that Virginia Tech Publishing has partnered with an international professional association to publish an open textbook.

Introduction to Biosystems Engineering is released under a Creative Commons Attribution license (CC BY) and is available both in print and online.

The online version is freely downloadable, either as a complete work or as standalone chapters. In addition, a parallel resource in development, The Biosystems Engineering Digital Library, will provide more teaching and learning resources instructors can use in the classroom. Learn more at https://vtechworks.lib.vt.edu/handle/10919/93254.

Research database centralizes information about Penn State faculty scholarship

A new database established by a collaborative team, including the Penn State University Libraries, aims to provide centralized, consistent access to scholarly research metadata for Penn State faculty research, while eliminating much of the administrative work involved with research-activity reporting software used by higher education faculty.
ACRL announces the publication of *Academic Library Job Descriptions*, compiled and authored by Kathleen Baril and Jennifer Donley, book number 46 in ACRL’s CLIPP series. This book focuses exclusively on how small-to-midsized academic libraries are staffed and how positions are being revamped or added to meet the needs of students and faculty and emerging trends in librarianship.

The College Library Information on Policy and Practice (CLIPP) publishing program, under the auspices of ACRL’s College Libraries Section, provides college and small university libraries analysis and examples of library practices and procedures. *Academic Library Job Descriptions* contains a thorough literature review and bibliography, analysis and discussion of survey results, and sample job descriptions for a variety of positions, including assistant director of library services, research and instruction librarian, outreach and engagement librarian, and more.

Small-to-midsized academic libraries, like the institutions they are part of, focus mainly on teaching undergraduate students and how best to support their learning. Without large master’s and doctoral research programs, these libraries provide extensive guidance and services for undergraduate student success.

CLIPP #46 seeks to explore how these libraries are staffed in order to meet their needs and the needs of their students and faculty, and how they are embracing new and emerging trends in librarianship to create new positions or reinvent existing ones. It examines how changes in the overall higher education environment are affecting the types and numbers of positions that these libraries currently have and looks at the trends and importance of soft skills in small-and-midsized academic libraries.

*Academic Library Job Descriptions* is available for purchase in print and as an ebook through the ALA Online Store, in print through Amazon.com, and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the United States or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.

The Researcher Metadata Database (RMD) aggregates content from multiple scholarly research databases, including Digital Measures, Pure, the Penn State Electronic Theses and Dissertations database, National Science Foundation (NSF), Open Access Button, and Clarivate (formerly Web of Science). RMD’s function not only helps to create a single access programming interface for faculty profiles and department web pages, but also facilitates implementation of Penn State’s Open Access Policy and the ability to generate reports on common data requests.

A unique feature of the RMD is the ability to push information to the Open Researcher and Contributor ID system, whose identifiers are increasingly used by funding organizations such as NSF and the National Institutes of Health as a source of information on research activity, including biographical sketches of researchers. For more information, visit https://metadata.libraries.psu.edu.

**More journals migrating to Project MUSE**

Project MUSE is pleased to announce seven additional journal titles now available on our platform. These titles are not included in MUSE Journal Collections, but are available to institu-
ACRL Consulting Services launches Regenerating the Academic Library

ACRL can help your library plan strategically and enhance its organizational effectiveness through our consulting and facilitation services. Delivered by a knowledgeable, experienced team of consultants, ACRL Consulting Services works with libraries to design and assist with library reviews and planning activities, organizational change and development initiatives, staff retreats, and campus collaborations.

A newly launched service, Regenerating the Academic Library, focuses on the impact of the massive changes in higher education and academic libraries over the past year.

The landscape of higher education and academic libraries continues to change in ways unimaginable before the COVID-19 pandemic. Library employees have experienced the pandemic differently, depending on their roles and circumstances.

ACRL Consulting Services now works with libraries to help them through the process of regeneration—emerging from crisis, navigating a dramatically altered landscape, and rebuilding for the future. ACRL consultants will collaborate with you to design and facilitate a multistage, remotely delivered organizational development process that is tailored to your library’s needs and campus setting.

Through all stages, ACRL consultants will guide you through asking the right questions, holding authentic conversations, exploring perspectives, and making intentional choices based on your values and goals. The process will begin with an assessment that will allow consultants to understand your unique situation and design the remaining three stages based on your needs.

More information about the full suite of ACRL Consulting Services, including descriptions of services, sample projects, and consultant information is available on the ACRL website at www.ala.org/acrl/proftools/consulting.
Tech Bits . . .

Brought to you by the ACRL ULS Technology in University Libraries Committee

Are you looking for a cost-effective way to create new, engaging instructional opportunities for students while you’re still virtual? Try creating a nonlinear activity or story using Twine, an open-source tool for digital storytelling. Through the use of conditional logic, your students can learn as they go by selecting their own paths. Twine can be used online or downloaded to your local desktop from the website. It is compatible with Windows, Mac, and Linux. No knowledge of coding is necessary, but HTML, CSS, and JavaScript can be used to further enhance your stories. You can create virtual training sessions for student workers, ranging from conducting a reference interview to shelving materials. You can also create patron-centered games for how to select a library resource.

—Meghan Kwast
California Lutheran University

...Twine
https://twinery.org/

The forthcoming call, Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives: Amplifying Unheard Voices, will invite proposals to digitize materials that deepen public understanding of the histories of people of color and other communities and populations whose work, experiences, and perspectives have been insufficiently recognized or unattended.

By funding a cohort of academic, independent, and community-based organizations to digitize now-unavailable or underused collections, CLIR will cultivate broad recognition of the value of creating access to resources that document historically marginalized people to the advancement of social justice.

Learn more at www.clir.org/hiddencollections/.

Mellon Foundation funds CLIR’s Digitizing Hidden Collections and Archives: Amplifying Unheard Voices

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) $4,415,000 to support the Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives regranting program. This renewal continues the program’s work with a new thematic focus and includes support for an external assessment.

Since its establishment in 2015, the program has distributed more than $24 million to digitize collections of rare and unique content in cultural memory institutions.


EBSCO launches Dynamic Health CDS + Skills

EBSCO Information Services (EBSCO) has announced the release of Dynamic Health CDS + Skills, a resource designed to help nurses and allied health professionals master critical skills; obtain fast, accurate answers to clinical questions; and foster a culture of evidence-based practice.

Dynamic Health CDS + Skills builds on EBSCO’s current resource, Dynamic Health Skills, adding clinical decision support content that is based on a strict, evidence-based methodology, leading to improved patient outcomes.

Dynamic Health CDS + Skills features include skills and competency checklists, continuing education, seamless integration into the electronic health record and learning management systems, policy implementation, and on-the-go access via a mobile app. Both products will be available to meet the unique needs of health care organizations.

Learn more at www.ebsco.com/health-care/products/dynamic-health.

The forthcoming call, Digitizing Hidden Special Collections and Archives: Amplifying Unheard Voices, will invite proposals to digitize materials that deepen public understanding of the histories of people of color and other communities and populations whose work, experiences, and perspectives have been insufficiently recognized or unattended.

By funding a cohort of academic, independent, and community-based organizations to digitize now-unavailable or underused collections, CLIR will cultivate broad recognition of the value of creating access to resources that document historically marginalized people to the advancement of social justice.

Learn more at www.clir.org/hiddencollections/.