



Featured Article: Study Shines Light on Library Impact on First-Year Students

Contributed by Kathy Dabbour and Gina Flores

In a revealing study titled, “Impact of Library Use on First Year Retention and Success,” assessment librarian Laura Wimberley examined two research questions as part of the CSUN Data Champions* initiative:

Are first-year students who use library collections and services more likely to return for their second year?

Do first-year students who use more library collections and services earn more credits than comparable students who don’t use the library?

Analysis of the records of all 5,214 first-time freshmen who entered CSUN in Fall 2017 showed highly statistically significant relationships between these variables – in short, yes!

“Retention of students in their sophomore year is the most powerful means to meet our goal of timely graduation,” said Wimberley. “The more books and media a first year student checks out of the Oviatt Library, the more likely they are to return for their sophomore year.”

As for course credits, three measures of library use -- technology services, general books and media, and course reserves -- are highly significant, positive predictors of credits earned by first-year students. “A student who uses an item on course reserve just twice in their first year is predicted to earn one more unit of credit than a comparable student who doesn’t take advantage of course reserves. Three laptop checkouts predicts another unit of credit earned over a comparable student who doesn’t use library tech services,” Wimberley reported. Despite the digital revolution, print books are still relevant and influential. Another student survey conducted in November 2018 indicated that CSUN students across all colleges prefer at least some of their reading material in print, and the impact of print circulation on student success confirmed these preferences are consequential.



Librarian Laura Wimberley

Through the Library's Course Reserves service, faculty can put library-owned or personal copies of course reading materials on reserve for their students who otherwise wouldn't be able to easily locate or afford these resources. Faculty can also link to the library's extensive collections of electronic journal articles, books, and streaming media from their online course management site to provide access to course readings. For several years, the Library has received funding from the Campus Quality Fee (CQF) to purchase single copies of expensive print textbooks and put them on course reserve for classes with high enrollment. In addition, the library has received CQF funding to purchase laptops, tablets, media equipment, and mobile hotspots to loan out to students who otherwise do not have access to this equipment in support of course assignments. However, with a large student population like CSUN's, demand for print reserves and technology often outpaces supply, leading to waitlists. Therefore, this study indicates the need for increased funding for these critical resources, as an investment in the Oviatt Library is an investment in student success.

*Through collaboration with key faculty, the CSUN Data Champions Program facilitates data-informed decision-making about how the university can improve graduation rates and eliminate opportunity gaps. Designated Data Champions are empowered to identify potential predictors of and barriers to student success, to collaborate with colleagues to develop data-informed programs and initiatives in support of student success, and to train their colleagues to use the data tools.



What's New: Students Celebrate the Creative Media Studio

Contributed by Gina Flores

The Oviatt Library kicked off the fall semester with a festive celebration to honor the five-year anniversary of its Creative Media Studio. Past and present CSUN students were invited to submit a project they created in the studio for a showcase competition in five categories: Videography, Photography, Audio, Graphic Design, and 3D Printing. The winners were each awarded a \$75 Amazon gift card.

Congratulations to the Creative Media Showcase winners:

- Rakesh Naguri – Videography
- Anna Falzetta – Photography
- Jacob Calabrese – Graphic Design (Alumnus)
- Michael Apruzzese – Audio (Alumnus)
- Jimmy Guzmán, Jr. – 3D Printing



“The CMS is such a great resource for CSUN students because everything we offer is free of charge,” said Eva Cohen, Oviatt Library

Learning Commons Lead. “All services in the CMS are funded with the Campus Quality Fee, which comes from student tuition so each offering is exclusive to CSUN students. Since our main focus is on students, here at the CMS we make it our mission to listen to student feedback and add the equipment, software, and services based on their needs. When we first opened, we only had a few digital cameras and tripods and now we’ve expanded to offer a variety of multimedia equipment including DSLR cameras, audio equipment, lighting equipment, VR headsets, Arduino kits, and more. We’ve also expanded our 3D printing services to keep up with the demand for 3D prints. Since beginning our 3D printing services in the fall of 2016, we’ve gone from one 3D printer to six, and we’ve gotten over 3,000 print submissions since.”

Recently, the studio produced a testimonial video featuring interviews with student patrons who felt that their lives and education were greatly impacted by the CMS. As a student employee in the CMS, Rheana Laguardia thinks the Creative Media Studio is the best place in the library. She shared, “In the moment I came here when I was a freshman, everyone has welcomed me with open arms. Everyone's been so nice. So when you asked me how the CMS has impacted me, it's given me a second home.”

See what else students are saying about the Creative Media Studio in their [new video](#).

“I’ve seen so many students who come to the CMS regularly not only to use our services but to also make friends, create connections, and share the art they’ve made within a community that loves creativity. The CMS is like a second home for some students and we always welcome new patrons to come here to learn, try out new things, and share with their friends,” said Cohen.

As an evolving makerspace, the CMS sees a fair share of student visits with a total of 20,000 device checkouts in the last five years. Usage reports revealed:

- The most popular items for checkout each year are: Sennheiser Headphones, Canon Rebel T6i DSLR Camera, or the Canon Rebel T7i DSLR Camera.
- 2,900 3D print requests since the service became available in 2016. 1,400 3D print submissions were initiated in the last academic year.
- The recording studio has been booked 6,004 times with 697 unique users since it opened.

With a strong demand, the studio’s 3D printers continue to intrigue and spark interest. For this reason, the CMS created a tutorial video to encourage interested students to take advantage of this resource.

The future looks bright for the Creative Media Studio with plans to expand services. New tools in consideration are laser and vinyl cutters, carvers, sewing machines, design cutters, an electronics bench, and moveable furniture. Additional 3D printers would also be added with more staff, space, and expanded hours of operation.

Currently, the Creative Media Studio provides support to University 100 classes to inform students of the services and equipment available to them, and how to utilize the resources as part of their studies.



Oviatt Spotlight: Library Scholarships Continue to Foster Success

Contributed by Gina Flores

One of our very favorite events of the year is the annual awarding of scholarships to dedicated student employees on our team. It is a rewarding experience that we hold close to our hearts, and we look forward to this event each year. Through generous donor support, a \$1,000 scholarship is a valuable boost to offset the cost of higher education for students in need. At the student employee scholarship reception this past March, featured awardee Julio Zapien, Jr. gave a powerful testimonial on the impact of receiving financial support. He also shared an inspiring message about the influence of Oviatt Library on his life, and on the lives of all CSUN students.

“I think in today’s society, we all need to be surrounded by people who are just genuine, and people who just know how to express that love. And I feel like the library does that for us. Collectively, the impact that we put onto this university is, I think, something that ... sometimes we tend to overlook because when people are struggling for finals, where are they going to go to get their research paper done? The library. When people don’t know where to meet for a group project, where are they going to go? The library. When people just need a time to sit down and relax because they got a lot going on? They’re going to go to the library.”

In his last semester pursuing a Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, Julio’s scholarship was awarded through the Dr. Karin J. Duran Scholarship, funded by Rick Nupoll. Karin was a Librarian at the Oviatt Library for 37 years and director of the Teacher Curriculum Center. Karin cared deeply about students, especially students who were the first in their family to attend college. As a student teacher, Julio’s students are the most important thing to him, as he believes they need someone to look up to. Working in the Teacher Curriculum Center/Music & Media department, Julio goes above the call of duty with ambition, drive, and a selfless attitude. With this scholarship, he will have the opportunity to focus more on his students.

We are deeply grateful to our Library donors, who range from single donors and organizations to combined scholarships, such as the Library Employee Scholarship, which is donated by staff, faculty and administration of the Oviatt Library. While some donors are retired from the Library’s team and others are loyal friends, what they all recognize is that our student employees are essential to the Oviatt Library’s operation.

This year, generous funding awarded 25 scholarships to hardworking library student assistants to apply to their continuing studies at CSUN.

Here is a list of our talented Library Student Assistants awarded a scholarship this year.

Scholarship Name	Recipient(s)
Mary Flenniken Memorial Scholarship	Samantha Ceja
Dr. Karin J. Duran Scholarship (sponsored by Rick Nupoll)	Valentina Sanchez and Julio Zapien, Jr
Virginia Elwood Scholarship	Ruby Antosh
Friends of the Library Scholarship	Cyrus Paul Ghazizadeh
Mary and James Cleary International Scholarship (Sponsored by the University Women's Club)	Francesca Perticarini
Lois and Ralph Prator Scholarship (Sponsored by the University Women's Club)	Ashley Frazier, Spencer Jackson, and Sarah Termini
Marianne Afifi Scholarship	Francesca Perticarini
Gus and Erika Manders Scholarship	Marissa Duran, Debbie Salazar, and Devon Williams
Dr. Bonita J. Campbell WISE Scholarship	Michelle Castaneda
Library Employee Scholarship	Maryann Erilim, Antony Khalil, and Rheana Laguardia
Ann and David Perkins Scholarship	Ruby Antosh, Belinda Figueroa, Ashley Frazier, Sarah Termini, Andrea Vega, and Tabea Wurst
Ronald C. and Elizabeth-ann Purcell IGRA Scholarship	Brenton Contreras
Bernice & Leonard Haber Scholarship	Lauren Burdzinski

Are you feeling inspired to share the love by pledging a gift to support a student scholarship? Your donation, in any amount, makes a world of difference.

On the [Online Giving](#) site, go to “Area” to select the University Library, then choose the student scholarship fund.

Watch our [Scholarship slide show](#).



Thanks and Recognition: Richard Nupoll's Library Legacy of Love

Contributed by Gina Flores

It's a love story that began in the late 1960s when San Fernando Valley State College (now CSUN) library student assistants Richard and Karin met at a volleyball game organized by fellow coworkers. Richard was a junior, and Karin had transferred from Pierce College. During their college courtship, the couple remained driven to achieve their educational goals. Richard graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in History and a minor in Theatre Arts in 1970. Karin also graduated that year with a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish. Two years later, she received a Master of Library Science degree from the University of Southern California, followed by Doctorate in Library Information Management.



Dr. Karin J. Duran and Richard Nupoll

Wedding bells rang for Richard and Karin in September of 1971. That same year, Richard obtained his teaching credential in History. Theirs was a beautiful bond that lasted nearly 39 years, until Karin's unexpected passing in 2010. The legacy of love that Richard has created in Karin's honor has made history. The **Dr. Karin J. Duran and Richard Nupoll Education Librarian Endowment** is a milestone for the California State University system, CSUN, and the Oviatt Library, since there are currently no Endowed Librarians at any of the California State University campuses. While Karin served as a reference librarian and bibliographer throughout her career at the Oviatt Library, it was the Teacher Curriculum Center (TCC) which most clearly reflects her dedication to the educational needs of all CSUN students. The TCC was the place where she thrived and touched the lives of so many. "While we chose not to have children, the TCC was definitely her baby. She took really good care of it. She loved working there, loved the student assistants and the staff. The library, the TCC, being a librarian, the campus -- they were all her passion," said Richard at the establishment of the Dr. Karin J. Duran Teacher Curriculum Center Collection in 2016.

The **Dr. Karin J. Duran and Richard Nupoll Education Librarian Endowment** is an unprecedented bequest that will support an Endowed Librarian to oversee library collection development for the TCC, for multiple departments in the Michael D. Eisner College of Education, and for related disciplines in other colleges across the CSUN campus. The Endowed Librarian will deliver information literacy instruction, research consultation, and outreach to students and faculty in the field of education and related disciplines that use the resources of the TCC. The Dr. Karin J. Duran and Richard Nupoll Education Librarian will also be known as the TCC Librarian.



We Would Like you to Meet: Chris Salvano

Contributed by David Morck

In January 2019, the [Oviatt Library Map Collection](#) was relocated from Sierra Hall to the newly renovated and former site of the Teacher Curriculum Center, in room OV 26, on the Garden Level of the Oviatt Library. The Oviatt Library Map Collection holds a research-level collection of approximately 400,000 historical and government maps, aerial photographs, atlases, and geospatial data that support research on campus.

On November 13th, 2019 we will be celebrating the Grand Opening of the Map Collection (RSVP Today) in its new location and you are cordially invited. We invite you as well to check out ways you can [Support the Map Collection](#), through donations of materials or funds.



Map Library Curator Chris Salvano

Today we'd like you to meet the Oviatt Library Map Collection's Map Curator Chris Salvano. Learn more about how the Map Collection serves the campus in a variety of ways and helps to foster student success.

Could you start by talking a little about your job as the Map Curator in the Map Collection? What is your primary role?

As Map Curator my primary role is to support students, faculty, and other researchers who are interested in using our cartographic collections. I help students and other researchers with general or specific reference questions about how to find maps within our collections for a research project. We also have a service desk where people can walk in and request use of our maps and air photos and ask for technical support as well.

How does research in your field differ from other research in the Library?

In one sense, our research mission is similar to other departments in the Library: we work to connect researchers with library materials to support their research. One way it differs I guess is we operate within an environment where research questions are often spatial in nature. So we operate a research environment that supports spatial inquiry and we try to develop library tools (index maps and finding aids) that support spatial inquiry.

Now that you're housed in the Library instead of the Geography department, does this open up research to a more interdisciplinary approach? What are some examples of how students outside of Geography can use the Map Collection in their research and studies?

I think it does open research up to a more interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary approach. Our combination of interesting historical and geographical collections allows us to support research across numerous departments on campus. I'm always looking for faculty members on campus who are interested in incorporating maps, air photos, and GIS into their curricula. New partnerships include faculty in Chicana/o Studies, Social Work, and Anthropology. Moreover, now that we've introduced GIS capabilities into the library, the Oviatt now has the ability to support students and faculty on campus working with data, geospatial data, or GIS.

What do you think the most important functions of the Map Collection are in a university setting?

Primarily, what's important is that our specialized geographic/historical collections continue to support research, learning, and student success across all departments on campus. Maps and historical air photos are often primary resources, so I remind students that maps and air photos can be used to support primary research in many disciplines, similar to primary texts, photographs, or archival collections. I also want this department to continue to support spatial inquiry on campus.

Also, continuing to incorporate the Map Collection into high-impact learning opportunities like internships and service learning. During Spring 2019 we worked with Dr. Giraldo's Intro to GIS class to design a service learning curriculum for his students. Students worked within the Map Collection and learned about using specialized hardware and software within a cartographic and geospatial research environment. They digitized physical collections, georeferenced historical air photos, in turn helping to create new digital objects for both classroom and research support.

What is your favorite part of your job?

Hands down helping students find what they're looking for in the collection. I love when students have that "wow!" moment or when they find a map that really inspires them and helps their research. It's also fun to show people some of the hidden and uncataloged maps within our collection. Who doesn't love maps?

How can alumni and community members best support the Map Collection?

One of the ways our cartographic collections have grown through the years is through generous gifts and donations from alumni and members of the public. The Map Collection always gratefully welcomes gifts and donations to its map, atlas, and aerial photo collections.

Ways to Give to the Map Collection

- [Donate online](#): Select "University Library" under "Area" and choose the Map Collection fund.
- [E-mail the Map Collection staff](#) for an item donation.

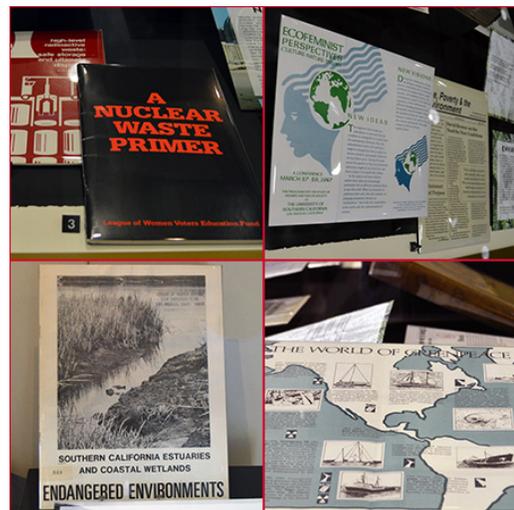


What's Up: Environmental Justice Exhibition

Contributed by Elizabeth Altman

The yearlong exhibition launched this past July, [Right of Way: Justice and Equity in the Growth of Los Angeles](#), demonstrates the crucial role the preservation of documents of private citizens, community groups, government projects and political campaigns plays in how we remember our history. The items selected for the exhibit depict environmental justice as a dimension of the history of the Los Angeles area from the early to late 20th century, both the deleterious conditions that demanded action and the efforts to rectify them.

The environmental justice movement, as stated in the introduction to *Right of Way*, sees “marginalized groups as being disproportionately burdened by the presence and effects of ecologically harmful infrastructures.” Due to inequities in our political systems, such harmful infrastructures can and do arise through the siting of housing, city zoning laws, permitting of heavy industry, designation of public space, parks and schools, and regulation of water and air.



The Library held a reception to celebrate the exhibit’s opening on October 16th, featuring a lecture by Los Angeles City Council candidate and CSUN faculty member Loraine Lundquist. Lundquist spoke about the potential for expanded public transportation and increased high-density housing to improve air quality problems in the San Fernando Valley.

Special Collections Head Ellen Jarosz, one of the exhibit’s curators, views the library’s exhibits as learning opportunities. “One of the things we’re always trying to do is help people reflect on currently relevant issues in an historical context. We show them how documents and ephemera can be relevant for the discussion of a topic, and let them draw their own conclusions. For this exhibition we are hoping visitors will leave pondering the distinctions between justice and equity, among other things.”

Jarosz admits that basing an exhibition on an issue like environmental justice in itself makes a political statement. Special Collections & Archives Coordinator Holli Teltoe, another curator, agrees: “We felt passionate about the subject. We wanted it to speak to the communities that have been marginalized and neglected by industry and society and political forces - people who have to fight for power and

agency. We wanted to draw students who were passionate about this because these issues will affect them in the future. Environmental justice is as much a human as an academic issue.”

The case cards in the exhibit distinguish environmental justice from environmentalism and conservation, the latter two of which focus on defending and preserving natural spaces and resources for their own sake, rather than for the health of human beings. The arrangement of the exhibit covers a wide range of topics: Housing, Noise and Air Quality, Parks, City Planning, Nuclear Waste, Hazardous Waste, Zoning, Conservation, Open Space, Public Spaces, Coast, Climate Change, Urban Infrastructure, and Water, using items drawn from the [Susan B. Nelson Collection](#), [Juana Beatriz Gutiérrez Mothers of East Los Angeles \(MELA\) Collection](#), [League of Women Voters of Los Angeles Collection](#), [Northridge Civic Association Papers](#) and the *Dorothy Boberg Collection*, among others.

Right of Way: Justice and Equity in the Growth of Los Angeles is viewable now through July 2020. [Please try our audio tour during your visit.](#)



Message from the Dean: Impacting Students for a Lifetime

We who work in university libraries often wonder how our resources and services affect students. What is the real impact on their studies and in their future careers? In other words, what difference does our work make in the lives of CSUN students?

Several articles in this issue of Oviatt Library eNews address this important question. One article discusses recent data analyses conducted by a CSUN librarian that finds a correlation between student success and library use. Another article is an interview with our Map Curator to learn how he interacts with students and how he helps them in their coursework and beyond. A third article examines the effects of student scholarships on the lives of library student employees, and still another article looks at Rick Nupoll, a CSUN library student assistant in the late 1960s who has just created a major endowment in the Oviatt Library.



Library Dean Mark Stover

One of the most interesting articles in this issue of the Oviatt Library eNews is a recounting of the Creative Media Studio's Five Year Anniversary celebration. A link to a CMS "testimonial" video is provided in the article, and it contains interviews with CSUN students (past and current) who have greatly benefited from creating, designing, and learning in the Library's Creative Media Studio. One student explains how the CMS was a very real community for him that taught him how to compose and record music, and prepared him for a future career as a musician and sound engineer. Another described the CMS as a "second home" that has brought her much joy along with knowledge. A third student discussed his experience with the CMS as transformative in his quest to become a filmmaker and film editor. I'll leave you with a final quote from another student, a graduate of CSUN who sums up her experience in the CMS thusly: "Without the CMS I wouldn't be in the career I have today. I wouldn't have the knowledge and skillset that I have now. I learned everything from being in there with people and learning from them and getting that time with myself and my projects." These testimonials are deeply inspiring and encouraging to those of us who labor in libraries and chose this career because we want to make a difference in the lives of students.

A wise person once said that "success is not measured in the amount of dollars you make, but the amount of lives you impact." The staff and faculty of the Oviatt Library tend to resonate with this philosophy. We know that the tens of thousands of students who walk through our doors every year will leave our campus changed for the better, transformed by our mentoring, resources, and services, and prepared for life and work in ways that they could never have imagined before they first entered

the Library. I am hopeful that we in the Oviatt Library will continue to prepare CSUN students for the future through the teaching of critical thinking skills, a passion for learning, and the ability to discover the information and tools that they need in an ever-changing world.

[Give a Gift to the Library.](#)