

Oviatt Library Fall 2018 eNewsletter



Feature Article: People are Talking about "What She Said"

Contributed by Library Web Services Coordinator Elizabeth Altman

September 20, 2018 saw the lively opening of the Oviatt Library Special Collections & Archives exhibit, [What She Said: 100 Years of Women's Civic and Community Engagement](#). The exhibition, which

documents the rise of women's engagement in civic, social and business life beginning in the late 19th century, was celebrated by almost 150 attendees including two Los Angeles City Councilwomen. Nury Martinez, representing the 6th district, is a CSUN graduate and the first Latina elected to the Los Angeles City Council representing the San Fernando Valley. She told a rapt audience of the trials she faced trying to break into her career with inspiring words for the future female activists in the audience: "It is up to us to be our own heroes, and to stand up and get elected. It's about time that we not only cast our vote, but also take our seat at the table." The second speaker was Monica Rodriguez, representing the 7th district. While serving on the Board of Public Works, she created The Small Business Academy to help women compete for city contracts. Having run for City Council in 2008 and lost, she was determined to create more opportunities for women, so she got involved with and later became president of Latinas Lead California. She realized, "there's a role for each of us to play in this work...to help elect more women, to help create an environment that inspires other women to be the best that they want to be."



Photograph, Two former Angel City Chapter Presidents presenting scholarship check for "Dollars for Scholars," circa 1967-1968

After the speaker program, visitors adjourned to the Library Exhibit Gallery to experience the exhibition, enjoy gourmet snacks (generously furnished by the Friends of the Library), and socialize. The exhibition is curated in three parts: Votes for Women, Women Together, and Issue Spotlights, which presents women's active influence in significant political reforms such as the environment, wage equity, and childcare. "As we approach the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment, it was important to present the story of how voting rights were achieved," says Ellen Jarosz, Head of Special

Collections & Archives and one of the curators of the exhibit. The 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which granted women the right to vote, passed House and Senate in 1919, but 36 states had to ratify it before it became law in August 1920. “Fortunately, the exhibit also coincides with a midterm election season in which unprecedented numbers of women are running for public office, and many women’s issues are at the forefront of our politics. We always try to lend historical context to current social, cultural and political phenomena in our exhibits, and give some idea of how significant debates have moved and changed over time. Paramount, of course, is connecting students and faculty to resources they can use to explore those shifts for their own academic work.”



19th-Century Dress with Reproduction Suffrage Sash and Rosette

Nancy, a CSUN student, came to get extra credit in her Women and Religion class. “Just hearing the councilwomen talk about their struggles made me realize that it hasn’t been that long since we got the vote, and that we’re still fighting for women’s rights. It’s been more than 100 years, honestly, and we’re still in the background, in some ways. Hearing that Nury Martinez was the first woman of color from the valley to be elected to the LA City Council makes me realize what other things we haven’t had, like a female president. You know, we see a lot of women in the workforce now, but when it comes to higher up, managers or CEOs, majority of the positions are filled by men. So we’re still trying to fight for the right to be equal.”

Both the Women Together and the Issue Spotlights segments feature papers of women's clubs and associations active in Greater Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley. The curators drew heavily on materials from the Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA), League of Women Voters, The Links Inc., and included materials from many other groups such as Comisión Femenil and Mothers of East Los Angeles (MELA).

“Women’s groups are important to the story because they brought individual women together and empowered them to work as a team to tackle issues facing their communities, like childcare, healthcare, and other issues in everyday life,” says Mallory Furnier, an Archivist in Special Collections & Archives, and a member of the curation team for this exhibit. “The YWCA in particular was a very inclusive local organization, providing support and community to women of all backgrounds, cultures, and classes. The organization provided housing for single women coming to Los Angeles for work, as part of combating the previously negative public perception of unmarried women living solo in an urban environment.”

One of the most challenging aspects of putting together the exhibit, Mallory observed, was the effort to give effective coverage to so many broad issues. Unfortunately, some stories were left out. Ariana Edmonds, however, was impressed by the inclusiveness of the suffrage history. “It describes the power of the suffragist movement, and how important it was, but it also talks about how some of the leaders actively excluded women of color and women who were uneducated. I love when exhibitions and galleries try to tell the whole story, because it’s easy to exclude the things that that make people uncomfortable. Even by saying that there was exclusion, they have included us in the story and didn’t eliminate our existence.” Edmonds herself had come to consult with Oviatt Library archivists about a family archival project, the preservation of the papers of her great grandfather, Jefferson Lewis Edmonds, founder of the first black newspaper in the Los Angeles area, *The Liberator*.

The stories begun in *Votes for Women and Women Together* gain contemporary perspective in Issue Spotlights. “The story of suffrage and women’s associations provide a foundation for the essential topics we wanted to examine in the third part of the exhibition,” explains Holli Teltoe, Special Collections & Archives Coordinator, another member of the curation team. “What we consider to be key issues -- like reproductive rights -- started with health issues like workplace safety, healthcare for the poor. We are hoping that displays on topics like the ERA show how historical successes of and challenges to women’s movements are still relevant to contemporary political concerns.”

Come visit [What She Said: 100 Years of Women's Civic and Community Engagement](#) now through July 1, 2019. Use our [audio tour](#), featuring voices of CSUN students and Oviatt Library personnel, to navigate the gallery.



Bulletin, "Employed Mothers and Child Care," 1953



What's New at the Oviatt Library: Summer Moves and Renovations

Contributed by Web Programmer David Morck

Photography and video editing for scholarship video by Library Student Assistant Tim Bochen

It may have seemed like a quiet summer here on campus, but there was plenty of activity at the Oviatt Library. Big moves and renovations took place including the [Teacher Curriculum Center](#) and [Music & Media](#) merging into one space, an expansion and renovation of the Library Technology Services area, and preparations for our campus Map Library to migrate into a new space.

One of the largest projects this summer was the merging of two of our departments, The Teacher Curriculum Center and Music & Media. While some services were disrupted during the move, the new space offers a dynamic environment where users of music and film recordings, musical scores and books work alongside users of K-12 curriculum materials and children's literature. In the reconfigured space, there are comfortable study spaces, and a wide variety of resources both print and non-print, games, kits, and a dedicated space with paper cutters and bindery materials for the creation of instructional materials. Students can take full advantage of the combined space with help from the knowledgeable staff, who have expertise in the combined collections, and are eager to help.

As demand for services focused on digital aspects of scholarship increase, the Library continues to expand services. The interior and exterior of the Library Technology Services area were renovated recently. A new service desk will allow students to engage in walk up service and get support, much like how the Campus IT desk works. The offices and storage area have been reconfigured to allow for more storage of Laptops and Tablets and other technology the service desk checks out. Isis Leininger, Learning Commons Supervisor says the renovation "aims to improve the quality of technology services the Library offers." She believes "students will have easier access to library computer support and equipment checkout... these improvements to the department will not only allow for better student technology support help, but also will impact student success by providing them with the



Floor plans and materials for the new combined Teacher Curriculum Center and Music & Media departments

tools for a successful college career.” With the expansion of the Library Technology Services desk and future plans of an expanded makerspace within the Library, the Oviatt Library is shaping up to be a truly dynamic space where student’s needs, whether digital or analog, can be met.

The Teacher Curriculum Center has left the Garden Level of the Library, but it has made room for an exciting addition to our collections. The [Map Library](#), which is currently housed in Sierra Hall, will be moving into the Garden Level of the Library and with it, it brings “400,000 historical and government maps, aerial photographs, atlases, and geospatial data that support research on campus & The Map Library is a comprehensive service point whose staff provides subject expertise in cartographic resources, general and complex reference services, GIS research & technical support, and map cataloging.” We are pleased to welcome the Map collection to the Library and the expert staff into our Library family.



The newly rebranded Library Technology Services area in the Oviatt Library Learning Commons will soon serve students with a greater range and quantity of technology to help student success.

The Library hopes to continue to expand and to adapt to the needs of our students, staff, faculty and community far into the future. Look for more updates about some of our future projects, such as an expanded makerspace and other renovation on our [Transforming Library](#) page. As we continue to expand the types and scope of services we provide, we hope the Library is where you can come and [Make Your Space](#).



Oviatt Spotlight: Your Vote Counts: a Message from the Oviatt eNews Editorial Team

Our lead story this issue, “People Are Talking about What She Said” commemorates the opening event of the Special Collections & Archives exhibition on women's civic and community engagement. Attending the event, we were very moved by the struggle our foremothers faced in gaining the right to vote, a struggle that people all over the world, including in some parts of this country, still must contend with in order to get to the ballot box. Your vote is precious, and so we'd like to take this opportunity to call attention to what we're doing at the Library to engage voters as the midterm elections approach:

Vote by Mail Drop-off Ballot Box. From Tuesday, October 9th to Tuesday, November 6th for the November 6, 2018 General Elections, the Oviatt Library will host a Vote by Mail Drop-off ballot box, which will be available at the Guest Services Desk during regular library hours. [Find out more about the Ballot Box.](#)

California Voter Forum: Get to Know the Ballot. The library is teaming up with students in the Departments of Journalism and Communication Studies to raise awareness about the issues at stake and deconstruct the campaign messaging that bombards us before an election. This event takes place in two sessions:

October 30, 11:00am to 1:30pm

October 31, 9:30am to 12:00pm

News Salon. In celebration of National Media Literacy Week... Get News Literate! Hang out with students in Jour365 - News Literacy to discuss and exchange ideas about politics, culture, and the arts in the Oviatt Library Learning Commons. November 08 - 11:00am to 2:00pm

The deadline to [register to vote in California](#) in the upcoming midterm is October 22. Don't miss your opportunity to make your voice heard!

Elizabeth Altman

David Morck

Gina Flores



We Would Like you to Meet: Scholarship Recipients and Donors

Contributed by Library Student Assistant Sam Thacker

For the past six years, the Oviatt Library is proud to have awarded some of its hard-working student employees with generous scholarships, funded by Library donors and employees. Just this past year, twenty-six scholarships were awarded at the 3rd Annual Scholarship Awards Reception in March.



2018 Oviatt Library Scholarship Recipients

We would like to take time to appreciate our Library donors, who range from single donors and organizations to combined scholarships, such as the Library Employee Scholarship, which is donated by Library staff, faculty and administration. Some donors are retired from the Library, some are current employees, some are just good friends to the Library; what they all recognize is that our student employees are the life-blood of the Library, who enable all who work and study in the Library to use the space and resources effectively. Student employees participate in a range of complex jobs in order to support the wide spectrum of services that are offered at the Oviatt Library.

The scholarships help to eliminate some of the financial burden of higher education, and also provide recognition for the efforts of Student Assistants and their dedication to the Library. Debbie Salazar, one of the recipients of the Gus and Erika Manders Scholarship, said that “Being awarded a scholarship was such a blessing and humbling experience; I am eternally grateful.”

Library student employees are spread across several different departments and sections, all focusing on various administrative and archival aspects to help keep the library running smoothly – these include Special Collections and Archives; Research, Instruction, and Outreach Services; Teacher Curriculum Center/Music and Media; Reserves, Periodicals and Microform; Library Administration;

and Library Systems. Joyclyn Dunham, both a Scholarship Reception Committee member and a Library Employees Scholarship donor this year, said that “[She] knows how much good it can do, especially not knowing the home life of students. A lot of times there is very little income, perhaps just enough to get by... My small contribution, along with others, helps to make a big difference by contributing a little bit”.

Over the years we have covered many of our generous donors and all of the other wonderful people who donate their time, talent or money to make amazing things happen at the Oviatt Library. Everything from enabling our talented student assistants to pursue their goals, to exciting new services, programs and events that enhance not just the Library, but the community and beyond. You can see many of them featured in our [Thanks & Recognition](#) articles throughout the years.

This year the fund awarded scholarships to 26 hardworking library student assistants to apply to their continuing studies at CSUN. If you treasured your college years, pay it forward! In the [Online Giving Form](#), select Oviatt Library Scholarship Fund under “Designation.”

Here is a list of our talented Student Assistants that won Scholarships this year:

- Ardis Flenniken Scholarship: Maryann Erilim
- Dr. Karin J. Duran Scholarship (Sponsored by Rick Nupoll): Samantha Ceja and Eduardo Chavez
- Virginia Elwood Scholarship: Joyce Brummet
- Friends of the Library Scholarship: Belinda Figueroa and Inderdeep Kaur
- 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): Abelardo Lopez, Danielle Medina and Leonard Moreno
- Marianne Afifi Scholarship: Pilar de Haro
- Gus and Erika Manders Scholarship: Diana Polanco, David Priore and Debbie Salazar
- Dr. Bonita J. Campbell WISE Scholarship: Ruby Antosh and Lucila Broughton
- Library Employee Scholarship: Sam Thacker, Kamilia Torres, Dennis Villa
- Ann and David Perkins Scholarship: Valerie Abboud, Michelle Castaneda, Marissa Duran, Melissa Duran, Andrew Gomez-Ramirez and Valentina Sanchez Gonzalez
- Mary and James Cleary Endowment Scholarship: Ninsina Yadkar



Thanks and Recognition: Milt and Debbie Valera

Contributed by Gina Flores

The Oviatt Library extends heartfelt gratitude to Milt and Debbie Valera. As active volunteers and donors in the CSUN community, the couple established the Milt and Debbie Valera First Amendment Rights Endowment providing the Oviatt Library funding for materials and media for the truthful communication to University students and faculty of the meaning and significance of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and how the amendment allows Americans the opportunity to enjoy their right to the freedom of speech.

The Valeras are well-known, respected supporters in the CSUN community. They serve on the CSUN President's Associates Executive Council, the Heritage Society, and were 2018 Gold Sponsors of the CSUN Distinguished Alumni Awards. Milt is a 1968 graduate of CSUN (San Fernando Valley State College), where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism. Debbie received Bachelor of Arts Degrees in English and Journalism from Syracuse University in 1972. Milt is a member of the CSUN Foundation, the David Nazarian College of Business and



Milt Valera, CSUN President Dr. Dianne F. Harrison and Debbie Valera

Economics Advisory Board, was president of the Journalism Alumni Association, and was the founding chair of the President's Associates and the Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication Dean's Circle Advisory Board. He has also served on the Alumni Association Board and the Valley Performing Arts (now The Soraya) Steering Committee. As one of CSUN's most loyal and supportive volunteer leaders, Milt received the University's prestigious Dorothea "Granny" Heitz Award for Outstanding Volunteer Leadership in 2011. Debbie, who has served on several boards, has been involved on numerous committees at CSUN, including the Outstanding Graduating Senior Selection Committee.

Milt Valera has led the National Notary Association (NNA) since 1982 when he became President and CEO of what is today the largest and most respected organization serving notaries in the United States with 230,000 members. In his more than four decades at the NNA, Valera has overseen all of the Association's major programs that now define the arena of notary education and support services. The Association has become an internationally recognized organization serving America's 4.4 million notaries, and continues to be an important resource to government, business, legal,

educational and international communities. Among his greatest achievements is the creation of two influential landmark sets of standards for notaries: The Model Notary Act of 1984, 2002 and 2010, and their predecessor, The Uniform Notary Act of 1973, and The Notary Public Code of Professional Responsibility. Valera was also the founding Editor and Publisher of the Association's two flagship member publications – The National Notary magazine and the Notary Bulletin newsletter. In his current role as Chairman, Valera focuses on long-term strategies and governance issues for the Association and all of its service entities. He also serves as President of the NNA's philanthropic arm, the National Notary Foundation. Before his career with the NNA, Valera worked as a newspaper editor, as well as in marketing and public relations.

The acquired materials and media through the Milt and Debbie Valera First Amendment Rights Endowment are available for educational events coordinated by the Oviatt Library, for University faculty to incorporate in course curriculum, and for student use.

We at the Oviatt Library are tremendously thankful to receive this distinctive endowment to support educational resources on the fundamental right to freedom of speech through this generous contribution from Milt and Debbie Valera.

Photo by Lee K. Choo. From left: Milt Valera, CSUN President Dianne Harrison, and Debbie Valera



Message from the Dean: Women Making a Difference

One of the most rewarding aspects of library work is to provide diverse educational and cultural programming and resources that recognize individual accomplishments and document transformative social movements. In this issue of the Oviatt Library eNews, the editorial staff wanted to highlight women's achievements. The CSU boasts a strong contingent of women leaders (52.2 percent of CSU campus presidents are women – nearly double the national average for U.S. colleges and universities). At CSUN, the past 26 years have been led by a woman president. In fall 2017, there were 21,982 female students enrolled at CSUN, 55.2% of the student body. Women dominated the graduate student population at 65.3%, compared to 34.7% men. The current president and vice-president of the CSUN Associated Students are both women. Several key top-level administrators at CSUN are also women, along with the president of the CSUN Faculty Senate.



Oviatt Library Dean Mark Stover

In anticipation of the centennial of the 19th amendment to the US Constitution, the Oviatt Library Special Collections & Archives has launched an exhibition titled "What She Said: 100 Years of Women's Civic and Community Engagement." You'll find the story behind the exhibit and reactions to its opening event in our Oviatt Spotlight section. The Library also provides students and faculty with a variety of print and electronic resources that focus on research in women and gender studies. One example is the database *GenderWatch*, which contains articles from scholarly journals, magazines, and newspapers providing authoritative perspectives on how gender roles have evolved over time. Another is the *Archives of Sexuality & Gender* database, providing students with primary source documents focusing on the LGBTQ community.

Finally, I should note that the Oviatt Library is the steward of the Bonita Campbell Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) Endowment, which encourages women to enter the STEM fields and thrive in their careers through scholarships, paid internships, research fellowships, mentoring activities, and

special lectures featuring prominent and successful female scientists and engineers. Through her generosity, Dr. Campbell (the first female tenured engineering faculty member at CSUN) is impacting women – and society at large – for generations to come. The WISE Endowment is representative in many ways of the commitment that the Oviatt Library has made to inspiring women to greater heights, documenting their achievements, and providing access to their stories for those who seek to follow in their footsteps. The motto of WISE easily fits into the strategic mission of the Oviatt Library: “Inspire the future, nurture the present, and celebrate the past.”