Why are Students Spending So Much Time in IUP Libraries?

IUP Students are spending more and more time in our libraries. In fact, last year there were nearly 600,000 individual visits! Why do they come? They offer a variety of reasons.

Allison Wagner senior, nursing major, described how the library saved her before a test. She wrote: "I live in an apartment with four other girls. We all have different workloads for our majors. On a Thursday night when my roommates decided to throw a party at our apartment, I was particularly grateful for IUP Libraries. I had a big exam the next day at 8 a.m. I was very upset because I knew I still had a lot of studying ahead of me and would not be able to concentrate with loud music and friends distracting me."

"At that time, I did not realize the library was open 24/5. So when I brought up that I needed to study, they told me that I could study at the library all night. I never had such efficient studying in my life before that. I even saw other students in my class studying and we could all discuss topics we did not understand. It was very quiet with no distractions. Ever since that night, the Stapleton library has been a place I spend a great deal of my college time!" Many students agree. They feel the library is a place relatively free of distractions where they can really get work done.

Frankie Houser, also a nursing major, says the library helps her particularly before finals. She has a job and has to juggle studying with work. She writes, "The longer library hours have given me the opportunity to study at a time that is convenient for me. During finals last year, I was able to seclude myself from most others by staying in the back stacks the majority of the time. It allowed me to review with other nursing students, as well as keep to myself to read my text. The back stacks have been home to me during many finals weeks. The beautiful plants also give me a way to keep calm, unstressed, and positive while studying."

A number of student associations agree that time spent in the library is useful to students and can support their success. Some have mandatory study hours for their members.

Some students mention that they enjoy the economic advantages offered by access to reading materials made available through the Reserve Desk and our regular collections. They also welcome the ability to borrow materials the library does not own through PALCI and ILLIAD inter-library loan services.

Students who need help finding the most reliable, relevant resources for projects can find all the help they need at IUP Libraries. Librarians at the Reference Desk are accessible to students who drop by the library most daytime and evening hours the Libraries are open. Students can also call in, email, or text questions to get help online. So for studying, accessing free resources, or getting reference help, thousands of smart students are finding much to assist them at IUP Libraries.
Banned Book Read-Out

By: Sydney Kinney, Library Intern

Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Catcher in the Rye, The Great Gatsby, and The Hunger Games, what do all of these books have in common, other than being fantastic reads? Believe it or not, these modern classics were all challenged at one time by people or organizations that wished to have them removed from library shelves, or to have access to them restricted. When librarians receive requests to remove books from their shelves, they cite their dedication to supporting their users’ Freedom to Read. Banned Books Week is an annual celebration of this freedom. One of the ways it is celebrated is through public readings from banned books. For the last few years, Dr. Tanya Heflin of the English Department has worked with the English Graduate Organization, IUP Libraries, and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences to host a Banned Books Read-Out. At this event students, faculty, and administrators gather to read and listen to some favorite banned book passages. Among this year’s readers were IUP President Dr. Michael Driscoll, IUP Provost Dr. Timothy Moerland, HSS Dean Yaw Asamoah, and faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students including library interns, Sydney Kinney and Emily Shook. Although The Great Gatsby wasn’t on the list to be read out this year, it was still a crowd favorite. Students Anne Michaels and Mickayla Selemba as well as President Driscoll posed with their favorites.

Constitution Day

By Michelle Lengel, International Studies and History Major

Institutions receiving federal funds are required to raise awareness about the Constitution and its history by implementing educational programming on September 17th each year. In recent years, IUP professors from the Political Science and History Departments, led by Dr. Gwen Torges, have satisfied this obligation through educational programs that are relevant and interesting to the students. Our library has often been the location for such educational programs.

This year's events included a people’s reading of the Constitution on the main libraries' portico. The people’s reading began with Dr. Driscoll acknowledging the importance of our nation’s Constitution and urging students to honor this important document. Students, faculty, and administrators waited their turns to read through the different articles, clauses, and amendments of the Constitution. The atmosphere was charged as participants reflected upon the history and significance of this important document. Student readers such as Ms. Elaine Harvey, a 55 year-old nontraditional IUP student, were eager to lend their voices to the people’s reading. While the focus was on the reading of the Constitution, the document’s framers were also there, quite literally. Drs. Chambers (George Washington), Jackson (Alexander Hamilton), Fiddner (George Pinckney), and Mannard (James Madison) of the Political Science and History Departments (pictured below) dressed as the Framers and spoke with those in attendance, and even posed for “Foundies,” Founding Father Selfies. As always, those in attendance were inspired anew by the reading of the document that provides a framework for the freedoms granted to individual citizens.

(L to R): Dr. Gracey, Assistant Dean, professors
Dr. Jackson (Alexander Hamilton), Dr. Chambers (George Washington), Dr. Mannard (James Madison) and Dean Asamoah

Students and professors form a line around the library to read

Elaine Harvey
Indiana County Deeds Donated to IUP Libraries

By: Harrison Wick, Special Collections Librarian and Archivist

IUP Libraries benefited from the gift of Timothy Rupert and family this fall. Mr. Rupert donated Indiana County land grant deeds dating from 1775 to 1851 to the IUP Special Collections & University Archives Department. The oldest deed is a vellum Pennsylvania Land Grant dated September 8, 1775, which granted property to Thomas and Samuel Fisher in Westmoreland County. This deed pre-dates Indiana County, which was created from Westmoreland and Clearfield Counties on March 30, 1803. Other deeds donated by Mr. Rupert are dated 1824 and 1851 and are for farmland in Indiana County. Mr. Rupet is a graduate of IUP and a board member of the Foundation for IUP. The deeds are now part of Manuscript Group 218 and are on permanent display in the IUP Special Collections & University Archives reading room in Stapleton Library Room 302.

Library Book Collection Grows through Gifts

By: Joann Janosko, Collection Development Librarian

Faculty and administrators who have benefited from the use of library collections, and those who wish to honor them, often pay it forward by donating books after they have retired.

This fall, the members of Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority, Mu Chapter, donated funds to IUP Libraries to add books on the literature of the American South to enhance library collections and honor Dr. Phyllis Roumm. Dr. Roumm is a Professor Emeritus of the English Department of IUP and Charter Member and Golden Sister of Alpha Delta Kappa.

Dr. Roumm attended IUP when it was Indiana State Teacher’s College and started teaching in 1945. Later she earned her Master’s Degree from IUP and then earned her PhD in American Literature at Kent State University. She taught at IUP in the English Department until 1985 and was listed in the Dictionary of the International Biography for her achievements in education. She is pictured here presenting the books to IUP Libraries Dean Luis Gonzalez.

Dr. Innocent (Inno) Onwueme (Associate Provost for Academic Programs and Planning at Indiana University of Pennsylvania between the years of 2009 and 2012) wrote Like a Lily among Thorns: Colonial African Village Child Transitions to Post-colonial Modernity, and America and Questions Not Being Asked. Copies of these books were donated to IUP Libraries in his honor by Irene Swanlek Ray during the 2015-16 year.

If you are interested in honoring a member of your family, friend, or colleague on a special occasion, consider using our “Honor with Books Program.” It provides a means to mark special occasions and special people with lasting recognition. With a donation of $50 or more, the library will place a bookplate in a newly purchased book. The bookplate will recognize both the donor and the person honored. It is a permanent addition to the library’s collection—appropriate for graduations, memorial tributes, retirements, weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, and personal or professional achievements. For information on participating in Honor with Books, contact Joann Janosko, Collection Development librarian, at 724-357-6106 or Janosko@iup.edu.
Remembering Irwin Marcus

A discussion of library donors would not be complete without some mention of Dr. Irwin Marcus, retired Professor of History, who passed away in March of 2016. Dr. Marcus contributed to IUP Libraries in many ways. He donated hundreds of books to our collections and was instrumental in the acquisition of some of our rarest and most historically valuable manuscript collections. He offered lectures for our Friends of the Library Program and donated his time by always being willing to work with researchers at any level, including local high school students and international researchers. In an effort to record all he did for the Libraries and IUP, we are gathering the recollections of those who knew him for inclusion in a Irwin Marcus Memory Book to be added to the IUP Special Collections and Archives Manuscript Collection. Students and colleagues who remember Dr. Marcus and would like to have their thoughts added to the book, are invited to send stories, images, or other related documents to Dr. Theresa McDevitt, 110 Stapleton Library, IUP, Indiana, PA 15705. They can also email her at mcdevitt@iup.edu with subject line, Irwin Marcus Memory Book.

Cyber Security Awareness Month

By: Sara Parme, Scholarly Communications Librarian

Libraries have a longstanding commitment in helping our users locate the information they want, but also to protect their privacy. In our current highly connected world, this may take the form of facilitating increased awareness of practices that help users’ most efficiently find information while not putting their personal information at risk. This October, National Cyber Security Awareness Month, IUP Libraries joined with the IUP Institute for Cyber Security, IUP IT Support Center, and IUP Center for Teaching Excellence to promote cyber security awareness through a contest and an educational panel. The contest offered weekly educational videos that offered online safety and security tips followed by a quiz which entered the participant in a drawing for gift cards. Over 700 quizzes were completed by IUP employees, faculty, and students during the month. The videos and quizzes were even included as class related activities for some credit bearing courses. Links to videos and quizzes remain available at: http://libraryguides.lib.iup.edu/c.php?g=570717

On November 3rd, 2016, the annual Cyber Security Information Assurance Day, there was also a panel on “What Every College Student Should Know about Online Image, Privacy, and Security Issues.” At the session, panelists offered information on how IUP professors and administrators inform students about the dangers related to the use of free online services that collect data as they deliver it, how this can make users the target of spammers, hackers, and identity thieves, and simple ways that students can protect themselves while still taking advantage of new technology.
Breast Cancer Awareness Month

By Ms. Carol A. Asamoah

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and again this year, Punxsutawney Regional Campus library employees participated in a month long fundraiser. Each day, library student employees and Ms. Carol Asamoah, Library Technician, offered a fresh pot of coffee, hot water for teas, hot chocolate, and apple cider for those interested in making purchases and/or donations towards this fundraiser. Donuts were provided each work day by former librarian, now entrepreneur, Portia Diaz of Portia’s Bistro, in Indiana, PA. Ms. Asamoah donated drinks and brought up a fresh batch of donuts every day. On Freedom Friday, October 14, donuts were donated by Lily’s Bakery of Punxsutawney. On October 31st, many of the faculty and staff at the regional campus baked and/or donated baked goods to be sold. A raffle was held for a $25 "money tree" which was provided by Ms. Gina Bryant and Ms. Colleen Casaday of the Punxsutawney Administrative Office. A total of $145 was raised. At the end of the month, Ms. Asamoah provided a check for $200 to Ms. Heather C. Reed, Executive Director, Indiana Health Care Foundation for “Birdie’s Closet.” Library employees are eager to begin planning for next year's event. Special thanks to Portia Diaz for her generous daily donation of donuts without which the fundraiser would have been far less successful.

Orendorff Music Library has Ten Years of Music Department Concerts and Recitals

By Dr. Carl Rahkonen, Music Librarian

Since the Music Department moved into their newly renovated and expanded building in 2006, it has had their concerts and recitals recorded on compact disc by Alan Teare Recording of Wexford, PA. The Orendorff Music Library has received copies of these CDs which contain performances by IUP ensembles and music faculty recorded in Gorell Recital Hall, DiCicco Hall, and Fisher Auditorium. The recordings take in all major ensembles of the Music Department such as the IUP Wind Ensemble, Symphony Band, HoodleBug Brass, Faculty Woodwind Quintet, Symphony Orchestra, Litton String Quartet, Intensity Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band and Jazz Ensemble, the IUP Chorus, Chorale, Chamber Singers and more recently Hawkapella. It includes every faculty recital. There are even some recordings of world premieres. To date, the collection has nearly 600 discs and represents a history of the Music Department from the time of their new building. They may be found in the IUP Library Catalog under the call number RCD (recital compact discs) and are arranged chronologically and cataloged by names of the performers. They are available for listening and circulation to the entire IUP community.
IUP Libraries Internship Experience
By: Sydney Kinney, Library Intern

As not only a student worker, but now as an intern, I really think this semester has taught me a lot. I've worked in the library since my Freshman year (I'm currently a senior) and it's been one of the most positive experiences I've had in college.

This semester more so than others, I've really had the chance to expand and build upon my skills. After I graduate, I plan on going into event planning and public relations, so doing an internship where I get to work on some of the skills necessary for my career has been awesome.

I've had the chance to tweet and take pictures for the library, help plan and set up events, and put together this newsletter. I'm extremely grateful for this opportunity to not only better myself but the library as well!

Library Instruction Available Online
By: Maria Barefoot

With more students taking classes online, we are making more information literacy instruction available in the D2L environment. There are currently two modules available for download. The first is geared primarily toward English composition II classes and covers topics such as developing a research question, searching for articles, using PALCI and ILL, evaluating sources, and reading research articles. A second module was developed for Nursing Research courses this semester which consisted of tutorials on each of the nursing databases, using Illiad, and managing citations. Follow instructions at http://www.iup.edu/library/instruction to download modules and import them directly into an existing D2L course. While there are not currently modules available for every course, faculty can request a customized module for their course by contacting Maria Barefoot at barefoot@iup.edu. We hope to expand and polish these modules as faculty across campus use them and provide feedback for improvements.

Library POD Computers Help Students Complete Media Projects
By: Jillian Fields, Criminology Major

In the fall semester of 2015, I was given the task from a class to create a media project that portrayed some area of crime. I chose to create a domestic violence PSA video that provided information and statistics on domestic violence and explained the cycle of violence. The library not only provided me with many books and articles and web pages that contained statistics and general information on domestic violence, but it also provided a very good computer and expert assistance that helped piece the entire film together. Seventeen hours later, the video was completed and a huge success, and I could have never done it without the library.

Jillian Fields at a POD computer

Working in Library Circulation Department Builds Skills that Help in College
By: Victoria Sterling, Nursing Major

I have been an employee of the IUP library for two years now. I work at the circulation desk, and one of my responsibilities is to know what resources the library has to offer so that I can direct students or others if need be. This knowledge has helped me not just for my job, but for a few of my classes as well. I have utilized the reserve books for every class that I could, and I know that it has saved me and many other students lots of money! Another resource here that has saved some of my fellow classmates a lot of money is our interlibrary loan service. Instead of buying their books, they simply ordered them through another library. Lastly, I know that I have gone to the reference desk numerous times to get help searching the databases for research projects. I am definitely thankful for the librarians. Databases can be hard to navigate on your own if you're uneducated on how to use them and how to tell which articles are relevant for your research.

Stephanie Wagner and Victoria Sterling at work at IUP Libraries Main Circulation Desk
Library Personnel Changes

Collection Development/Acquisitions, Circulation, and Interlibrary Loan

IUP Library researchers depend upon extensive collections of books and periodicals and borrowing systems that make it possible to obtain what we do not own. Access to research materials is facilitated by friendly employees in the Circulation, Interlibrary Loan, and Collection Development/Acquisitions Departments. This summer and fall, the Libraries have welcomed new employees, said good-bye to others, and seen others move to new roles.

Someone New in Collection Development/Acquisitions

This fall, IUP Libraries welcomed Penny Dean to a library assistant position in the Collection Development/Acquisitions Department. She replaced Meghan Evanko who moved to Circulation. In her new position, Ms. Dean will work with gift books, the acquisition of children’s books, maintain database records, and oversee the Hawk’s Cellar Used Book Room.

Though new to the library, Penny is not new to IUP. She was an Honor’s student in IUP’s Psychology Department, and as a student she worked in the Department of Adult and Community Education where she arranged and inventoried their departmental book collection. As a student, she also used the library almost daily in her studies.

New to Circulation

Those visiting the library and checking out books this fall have seen a new face, that of Meghan Evanko. She is the new evening library assistant in the Circulation Department. She is from Blairsville, PA. She graduated from IUP with a major in Art Studio and a minor in Art History just over a year ago. She reports, “as I was pursuing my degree, I was fortunate enough to work in the Circulation Department as a student worker. The skills I gained from working here as a student will stay with me for the rest of my life as well as help me with my new position. It is exciting for me to go from being a student worker to being a supervisor. I look forward to working with all of you again now as part of the staff as well as once again being part of this great community which is IUP.” Ms. Evanko replaced Bobbie Zapor in the position. Ms. Zapor, who had been the evening Circulation supervisor since 2012, moved to the Interlibrary Loan Department this fall to oversee PALCI operations.
Sara Parme

Joining the IUP Libraries this fall is Sara Parme who will serve as the Scholarly Communication/Digital Initiatives Librarian. Sara received her Master’s in Library and Information Science from the University of Pittsburgh. She spent a few years in Hershey, PA as a librarian at the Antique Automobile Club of America Library & Research Center. She most recently comes from the State University of New York at Fredonia where she was the Digital Services Librarian for over three years, acting as webmaster and social media manager for the library as well as working on marketing and outreach. Sara is originally from the Pittsburgh area. Her older sister attended IUP, and Sara has memories rollerblading in the Oak Grove as a little girl.

At IUP, Sara will be overseeing the continued development and growth of the Knowledge Repository @IUP (http://knowledge.library.iup.edu/). The repository aims to preserve and disseminate the research done by the IUP community, as well as provide a place for faculty to create profiles and measure the impact of their work through SelectedWorks. Other related issues she will be active in on campus are author rights, open access, and copyright. She also has an interest in cyber security, especially as it pertains to mobile devices and social media.

Interlibrary Loan Staff Changes

Have you ever really needed a journal article that IUP Libraries didn’t have and ordered it through interlibrary loan? If you did, until August of last year, you had Michele Corcoran to thank. She joined IUP Libraries in 2002 after working at St. Francis University Library as a Technical Services Manager. Michele Corcoran has an undergraduate degree in Anthropology from the University of Pittsburgh and recently completed her Master’s degree in Library and Information Sciences.

Ms. Corcoran left IUP Libraries at the beginning of September to accept a promotion to a library technician position at the libraries of the Clearfield Branch of Lock Haven Libraries. IUP Library users, Library faculty, and staff will miss her but look forward to seeing her at PASSHE professional development meetings.

If you are a frequent (or just occasional) user of Interlibrary Loan services, you may miss her helpful demeanor, but you will still be in good hands with those who will be replacing her in the department. Beth Farabaugh, who has overseen PALCI operations since 2005, is now overseeing ILLIAD operations. Bobbie Zapor has replaced Ms. Farabaugh in her work with the PALCI system.

Special thanks to Library intern and student employee Sydney Kinney for her work in supporting library outreach events this fall and particularly for her work in writing articles for this newsletter and doing the lion’s share of formatting and editing. It is through the efforts of student interns and our hundreds of student employees that IUP Libraries is able to offer the level of services that it does to our users.