

ONWARD



UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA®

PATH TO EXCELLENCE

2015-2016 PROGRESS REPORT



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The New Horizon for OU Libraries



Through bold thinking, imaginative execution, collaborative engagement and strategic adoption of new resources, we are leading the nation in setting the standard for library excellence.

From the establishment of our world-class digitization lab, enabling us to open

our materials to new audiences and facilitate opportunities never before imagined, to creating a master plan to improve transparency and discourse for how we can better serve our community, OU Libraries is emerging as the intellectual hub of campus.

The establishment of the Peggy V. Helmerich Collaborative Learning Center not only set a precedent for reimagining the use of space on campus, but serves globally as a model for libraries across the world. The New Media Consortium, a community of hundreds of leading universities, colleges, museums, and research centers, selected our HCLC as one of five—and the only American institution—as an example of excellence in rethinking library spaces. Additionally, the HCLC received the Great Inspirations Award for advancing Oklahoma’s creative economy at the 2015 Creativity World Forum.

The renovation of the 5th floor of the Bizzell Memorial Library and the creation of dedicated exhibit space, along with the launch of the *Galileo’s World* exhibition further extends our path toward excellence, not only uniting the OU campus and providing an unparalleled opportunity for our students, but enabling us to build relationships and collaborate with organizations across the globe, strengthening OU’s connections with Italy and positioning OU Libraries as a premier institution worldwide.

Most recently, OU Libraries was named one of two “Education Futurists” and received Campus Technology’s 2016 Innovators Award for the NavApp.

We seek to continue this trend toward excellence with the renovation of Bizzell’s bottom floor, extending the model of the HCLC to create a collaborative and focused space for our OU faculty and graduate students and open access to the Canyon Garden.

Please read on to help us celebrate our successes of the past year and preview our next steps as we continue toward a new horizon for OU Libraries.

Rick Luce
Dean, University Libraries and
Professor and Peggy V. Helmerich Chair
Associate Vice President for Research





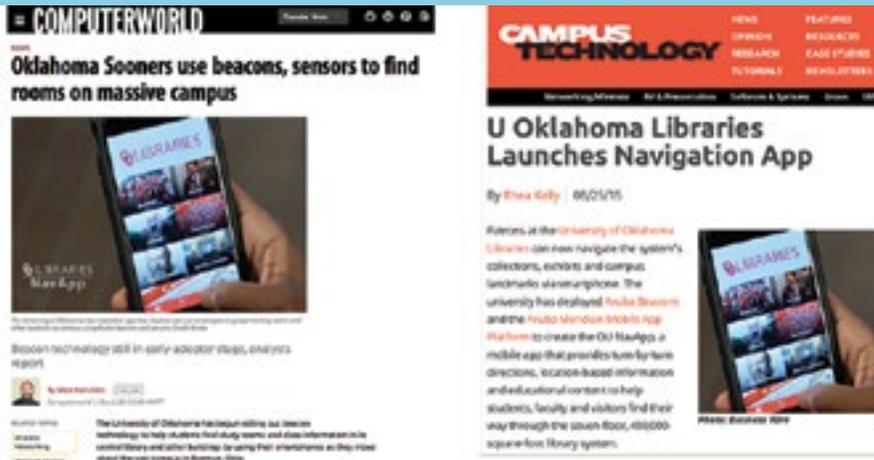
TOP LEFT: OU Libraries Associate Dean Rhonda Cannon accepting the Great Inspirations Award for the HCLC at the March 31, 2015 Creativity World Forum.
TOP RIGHT: Emerging Technology Librarian Cody Taylor in Innovation @ the EDGE. BOTTOM RIGHT: OU Libraries received the 2016 Innovators award for the NavApp.

Creating Excellence in the Library Experience

As we build on our past successes in reimagining what a modern research library can be, we continue to work towards providing a library experience that engages students and faculty through exemplary resources, services and facilities to impact knowledge creation. By offering a comfortable and engaging environment for stimulating research, study and interaction, coupled with our investment in technologies and digital resources to enhance students' access to information, we seek to create a library experience that exceeds expectation. Read on for a look at just some of the areas in which we've made excellent progress.

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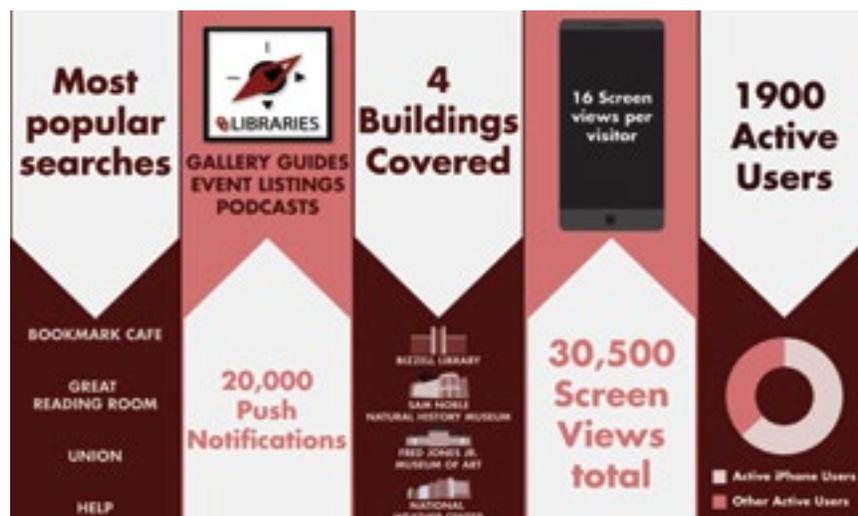
OU Libraries Nav App



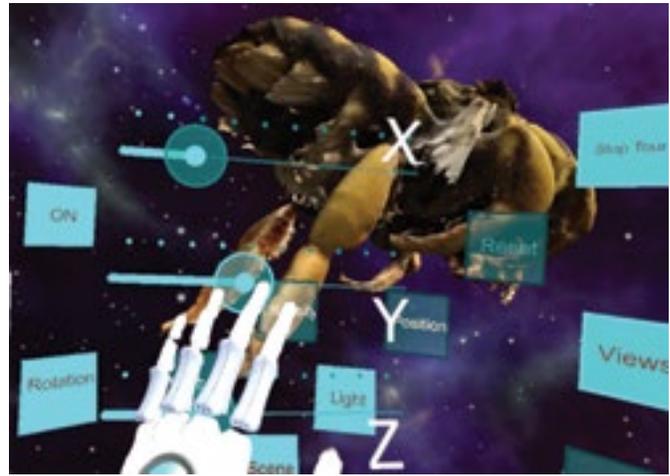
OU Libraries Named Education Futurist, Receives Campus Technology's 2016 Innovators Award

OU was selected as one of only two universities as an “[education futurist](#)” for the development of the OU Libraries NavApp, and is one of only 11 institutions to be recognized by Campus Technology as a leading organization in innovation. The [OU Libraries NavApp](#) helps alleviate the feeling of intimidation when first arriving on campus. Indeed, finding the library in the midst of a sprawling campus has never been easier. Once a student might have walked through the entrance to Bizzell and immediately felt lost within the maze-like structure of the seven story behemoth, with its dead-end stacks and in-between floors, but the NavApp ensures that visitors are empowered to explore the library knowing help is at their fingertips.

In addition to guiding users through Bizzzell, the NavApp launched a special feature for *Galileo's World*. Visitors walking through the 5th floor exhibits are able to receive prompts directing users to the website for supplementary videos and content to enhance their experience with the exhibition. Patrons may also use the NavApp to explore the exhibits across locations, with directions from one building to the next, to further their exploration. The OU Libraries NavApp has become a showcase of campus technology, featured in several technology journals and news sites. In fact, the application has become so popular the NavApp will be integrated into the larger OU mobile application to expand service campuswide beginning Fall 2016.



Innovation @ the EDGE



Leading the Way in Innovation

With the opening of the Innovation Hub, OU's multidisciplinary makerspace for creative exploration, we have set the bar for what is possible in a technology-enabled makerspace. [Innovation @ the EDGE](#), located on the main floor of the Bizzell Memorial Library, provides a space for users to interact with their research in new ways.

The EDGE offers workshops on 3D printing, microcontrollers and virtual reality, and is available for walk-in use for independent exploration. In its inaugural semester, over 200 visitors brought their academic pursuits to life through these technologies. The vast array of projects created in such a short period of operation is astounding, but just a few examples capture the breadth of opportunity this space enables.

3D printed experiments range from prototyping aeronautical nose cones to printing customized chess sets, but one of the most exciting examples comes from the team behind the Oklahoma Mesonet, a system designed to monitor the environment. They used the EDGE to capture rainfall data in both virtual reality and 3D printed models. By using these technologies, they were able to visualize and physically manipulate conditions.

Imagine the possibilities of taking statistical analysis and visually reconstructing environmental conditions to advance our knowledge. This is no longer a hypothetical idea, but an actual possibility for all departments across campus when using the resources available in the EDGE.

Other examples include users who have combined technologies to create their own smart home systems, programmable robotic hands and customized, personal virtual reality headsets for mobile devices.

The popularity and success of Innovation @ the EDGE is such that users of the space have become ambassadors, teaching peer workshops on new subjects and helping maintain the technology so that users in the space don't need to fear failure, but instead are encouraged to fail, learn from the experience and continue to experiment. Innovation @ the EDGE is yet another proof of concept for how modern research libraries can provide access to academic resources of all kinds, from the traditional to the exploratory, for the advancement of knowledge.

The Peggy V. Helmerich Collaborative Learning Center



Setting the Standard

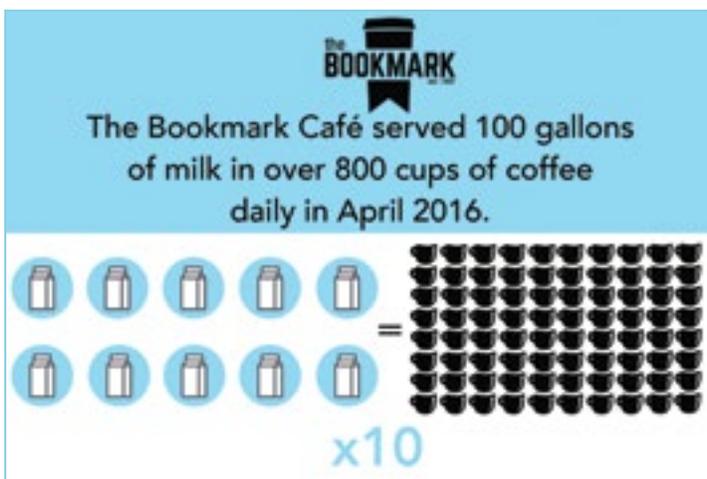
The Peggy V. Helmerich Collaborative Learning Center is an internationally renowned example for rethinking library spaces. Within its first year, the HCLC served an average of 1,500 visitors per day.

It has since become a showcase for recruiting new faculty and students and has inspired similar centers across campus.

We continue to see a surge in use of the space with increases ranging between 20% and 40% daily.

Similarly, the Bookmark Café has seen a dramatic spike in orders thanks to new features like Tapingo, where patrons can skip the line by ordering through the mobile application, helping them get back to studying or to class more quickly.

The HCLC has set the standard for creating spaces to facilitate collaboration, interaction and engagement. We look to extend this model in the faculty and graduate commons and continue to create an environment that inspires excellence.



Library Service Center



Enhancing the User Experience

This fall, OU Libraries will open a Library Service Center as the new base of operations for staff in cataloging and metadata, acquisitions, data licensing, and web services. Modeled after the first high-density library facility, the Harvard Depository, the LSC will allow us to consolidate storage of low-use materials in a secure, long-term archive, protecting valuable library holdings and preserving materials for future generations.

Materials housed in the LSC will continue to be discoverable online and accessible through Sooner Xpress, a longstanding libraries' service providing on-request delivery access directly to the patron via digital service, physical delivery, or mailing to the location of the patrons choosing.

The LSC will enable us to enhance the user experience by creatively managing our facilities and will allow us to realize our commitment to the preservation of one-of-a-kind materials and data for years to come.





Faculty and Graduate Commons

On the Horizon

The next phase on our path to excellence continues in 2017 with the renovation of nearly 21,000 square feet of the Neustadt Wing in Lower Level 2 of Bizzell Memorial Library.

The renovation will feature flexible spaces that support interdisciplinary research, teaching, consultation and collaborative work for OU faculty and graduate students, as well as improve access to the Canyon Garden.

Supporting OU Campus Research and Data Stewardship

OU Libraries is charting a new role for scholarly communication at OU by supporting campus research. Our collaborative partnerships across campus and with international academic organizations provide new ideas and facilitate resource sharing, enabling OU Libraries to remain at the forefront of knowledge creation, resource access and preservation.





Citizen Science: What Should You Do When Your Laboratory Spans 3.8 Million Square Miles?

If you, or someone you know, has ever taken a statin, a pill used to control cholesterol levels, or one of dozens of other life-saving medicines, then chances are good that you may have a fungus to thank.

Fungi are remarkable microorganisms, living in, on, and under virtually every surface and object that can sustain life. Without legs to actively evade predators, fungi are susceptible to becoming a nutritious meal for herbivorous marauders. As a result, fungi have become some of the most talented chemists on our planet, capable of making many types of specialized compounds known as natural products, which contain chemical features that trick, deter, and in some instances, kill other organisms. The processes that lead to the creation of these defensive natural products also make these compounds ideally suited for parallel uses for human medicine.

Recognizing their immense potential, the Natural Products Discovery Group at the University of Oklahoma began collecting fungi in late 2005 in an

OU Libraries created a first-of-its-kind resource for engaging the public in open access data sharing with researchers and citizen scientists.

effort to mine this natural resource for new drug leads. However, finding new drugs takes a team, a lot of hard work, and luck. It is estimated that for every drug that makes it into humans, thousands, perhaps millions, of less useful compounds were tested and discarded. To overcome these odds, our team of 30 students, postdoctoral fellows and research staff began by collecting soil samples and examining the fungi from them. However, we soon realized that to make meaningful progress in our endeavors to develop drugs from fungi, we could not operate alone.

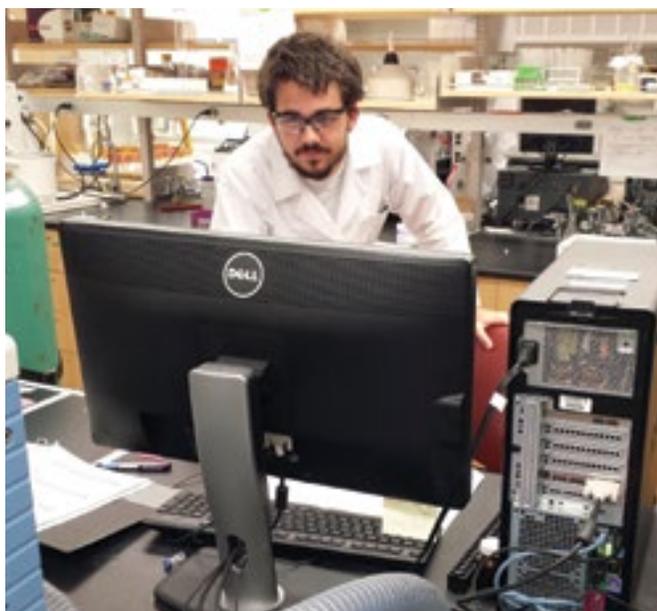
In response to this challenge, in 2010 we launched the Citizen Science Soil Collection Program, which is a crowdsourcing effort aimed at encouraging the public to join our team in the drug discovery process. Given the widely collaborative nature of this project, we required a new method for sharing and archiving data. Under the direction of OU Libraries' dean Rick Luce, a team led by David Corbly, with help from Mark Laufersweiler, Lina Ortega, Carolyn Mead-Harvey, Zhongda Zhang and Tao Zhao, OU Libraries created a first-of-its-kind resource for engaging the public in open access data sharing with researchers and citizen scientists. This [SHAREOK research database](#) will serve as a minable permanent record of the discoveries made by thousands of citizen scientists and researchers.

With thousands of new fungi and their natural products being tested, the Natural Products Discovery Group is working with scientists and researchers in a wide range of fields toward discovering compounds for several diseases including breast and pediatric cancers, tuberculosis, malaria and antibiotic-resistant infections. But no group is truly a team unless it can effectively share information with all its team members.

As the research teams press forward testing fungal natural products, the group continues to explore new ways to improve the odds of finding new and useful drugs. Sharing data will continue to be a key element in waging an effective fight against life-threatening diseases. Engaging the public in the scientific process is also an important goal for the program, and being able to share research results directly through a system like SHAREOK is an incredible opportunity for inspiring future scientists. Citizen science is having a profound influence on the research process by turning the challenging improbabilities of developing a new drug into something possible, which in this case is sampling the 3.8 million square miles of United States' lands for new fungi and their vital natural products.

*By Robert Cichewicz
Regents' Professor and Citizen Science
Soil Collection Program Director*

*Candace Coker
Citizen Science Soil Collection
Program Project Manager*





Supporting Students: The OU Libraries Undergraduate Research Award

OU Libraries' Undergraduate Research Award is a new program launched this year to recognize students who have demonstrated creative use of libraries' resources and collections in exemplary research or innovative scholarship. Submissions were made through OU's new Centralized Academic Scholarship Hub (CASH).

Sixteen students from a variety of disciplines including business, engineering, history, history of science and meteorology, submitted their works in the inaugural program. Winning submissions can be viewed in the [SHAREOK open access repository](#).

1st



[Jordan Larsen](#) won the grand prize, a \$1,500 award for "Arabella Buckley's Epic: Uniting Evolutionary Epic & Spiritualism to Account for the Evolution of Morals from Mutualism."

2nd

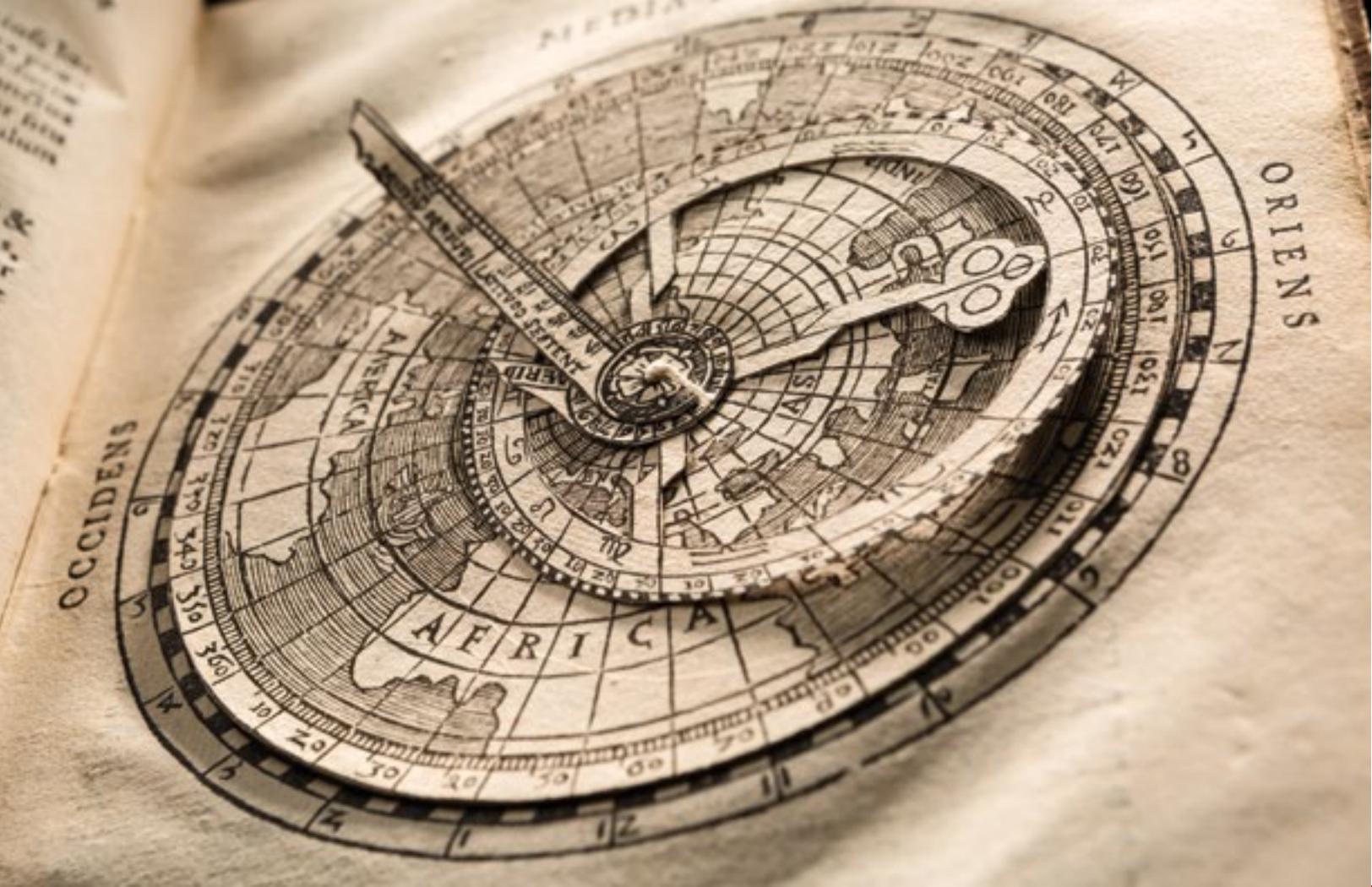


[Sarah Miles](#) received second place, a \$1,000 award for "Decolonizing the Uncolonized: France, French Canadian Identity, and the Quebecois Nationalist Movement, 1945-1967."

3rd



[Benjamin Trabing](#) earned third, a \$750 prize with "Analysis of Hurricanes Using Long-Range Lightning Detection Networks."



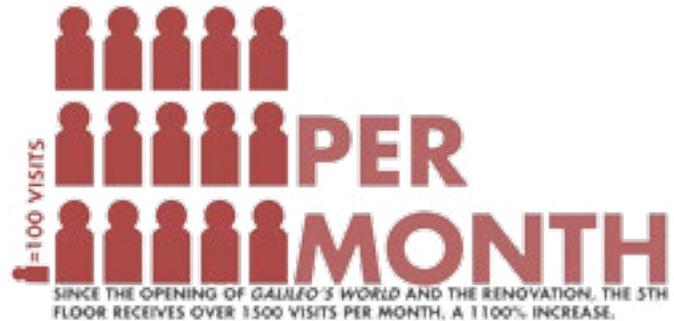
Building on Excellence in Special Collections

OU Libraries' Special Collections provide students, faculty, researchers and visiting scholars with world-class primary and secondary resources. In many instances, these resources are one-of-a-kind and found only at the University of Oklahoma. Featuring rare books, manuscripts, maps, photographs, sound recordings, artifacts and exhibits, our collections represent the possibilities of understanding the past to improve the future.

5th Floor Renovation

The renovation of the 5th floor of the Neustadt wing of Bizzell Memorial Library has led to exponential growth in visitors' interaction with our special collections. This newly renovated space houses the History of Science Collections, the John and Mary

Nichols Rare Books and Special Collections, the Bass Business History Collection, and the Bizzell Bible Collection, and features a dedicated exhibition space for users to experience the special collections in new ways.



Galileo's World: A Special Exhibition in a Special Year

Open August 2015, *Galileo's World* is a yearlong endeavor of 20 exhibits across 7 locations on all 3 OU campuses, with events and programming across disciplines. Uniting the university for its 125th anniversary, *Galileo's World* paired items from the libraries' History of Science Collections alongside contributions from departments across campus, all to represent the connections between arts and sciences and the cross-disciplinary nature of innovative research at a modern university.

Among the highlights, the College of Engineering constructed a $\frac{1}{10}$ scale replica of the Leaning Tower of Pisa, complete with a ball drop mechanism, replicating an experiment attributed to Galileo. The OU School of Music participated with programming on the contributions of Galileo's father, concluding with a breathtaking performance of Monteverdi's *Ofero*.

Several lecture series, including one with speakers from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and a daylong symposium with internationally esteemed

experts from the Vatican, Microsoft Research and the Museo Galileo, connected the concepts of the exhibits to diverse disciplines, and brought to life the works on display. Other complements to the exhibition include four Presidential Dream Courses, a podcast series and a variety of events hosted by exhibition partners, the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, the Sam Noble Museum, the National Weather Center, Headington Hall, the Robert M. Bird Library on the health sciences campus, and the Schusterman Library at OU Tulsa.

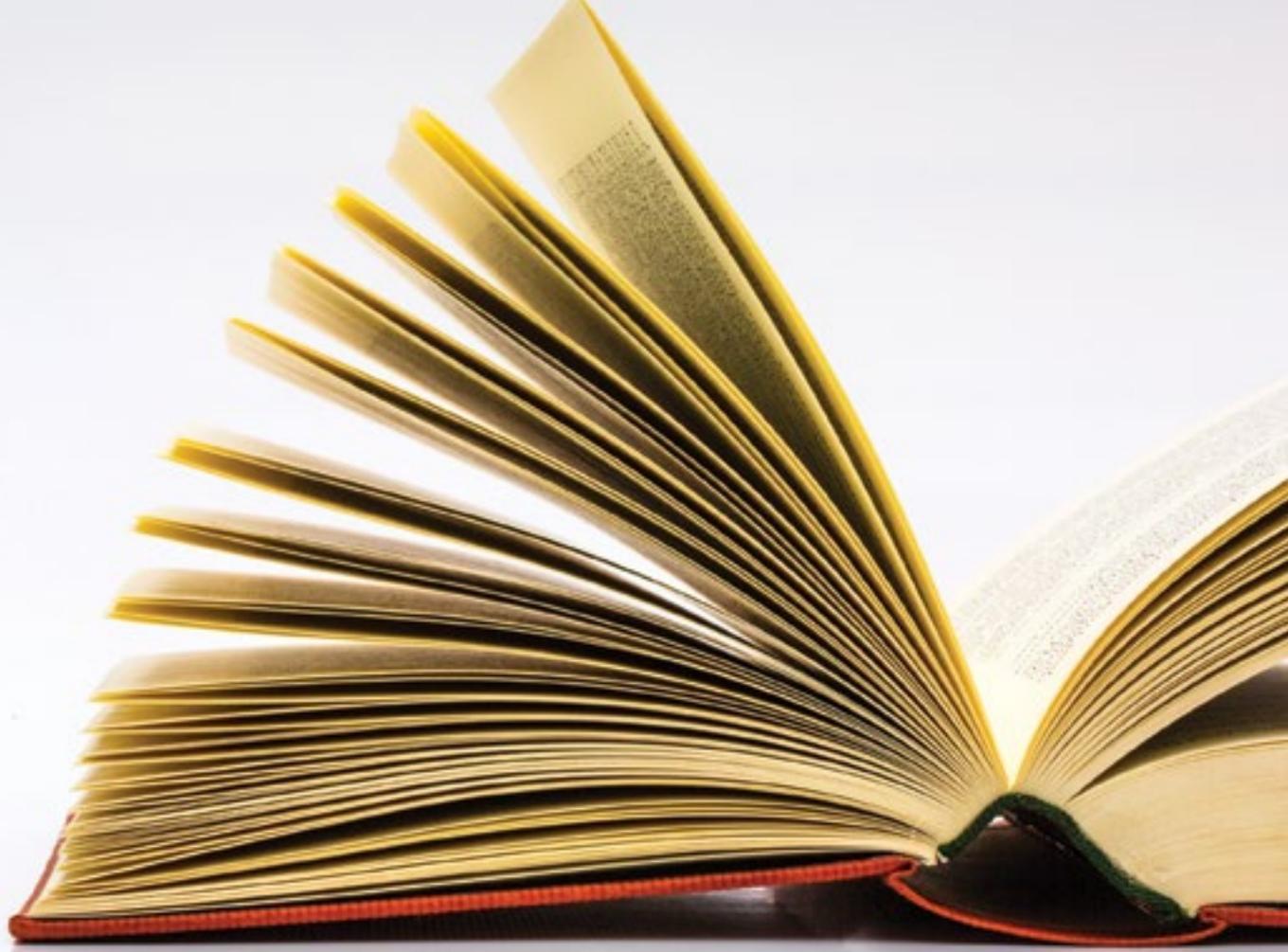
Although the campuswide initiative closes August 2016, *Galileo's World* will remain on display in Bizzell Memorial Library through 2017, and the robust, [interactive website](#) is a permanent resource. All of the over 300 works on display were digitized and are accessible through the website, along with educational activities, video recordings of many of the lectures and links to supplementary materials. Like the works of Galileo, this exhibition marks a point in time of academic accomplishment and hopefully provides inspiration to the next generation of innovators.

Western History Collections: Making History

This past year, OU Libraries helped Professors Keith Gaddie and David Wrobel make their Presidential Dream Course, *Making Modern America: Discovering the Great Depression and New Deal*, a success. With libraries' staff holding workshops, office hours and helping build a course website for the finished results,

this collaboration exemplifies how OU Libraries can support creative ideas and bolster new opportunities for faculty and students. Projects from the course can be found at newdeal.oucreate.com which features 973 photographs and documents and 12 maps in 11 digital exhibits.





Charting a New Role for Scholarly Communication

Our partnerships with OU faculty are helping to keep OU affordable. Through the creation and promotion of open educational resources, digital tools and research help, we seek to digitally preserve and open access to OU's collective intellectual content.

Saving Students Money and Empowering Faculty

Open Access Journals

Our support of open access journals enables faculty and students to retain the copyright to their intellectual property and make their scholarly work more easily found, read and cited. Like traditional journals, OA journals use peer review to maintain quality standards, but unlike traditional journals, they do not require a paid subscription to be accessed.

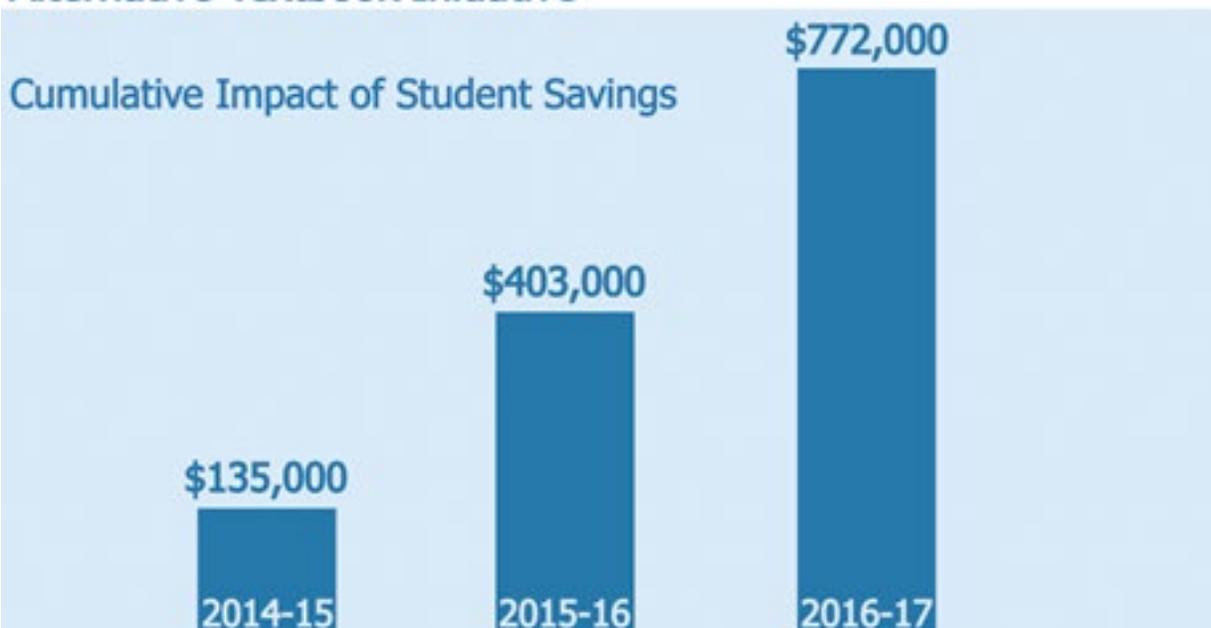
Our publishing collaborations with the Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education and OU's Department of Political Science have paved the way for the creation and publishing of future OA journals, removing barriers to sharing and accessing quality research.

Alternative Textbook Initiative

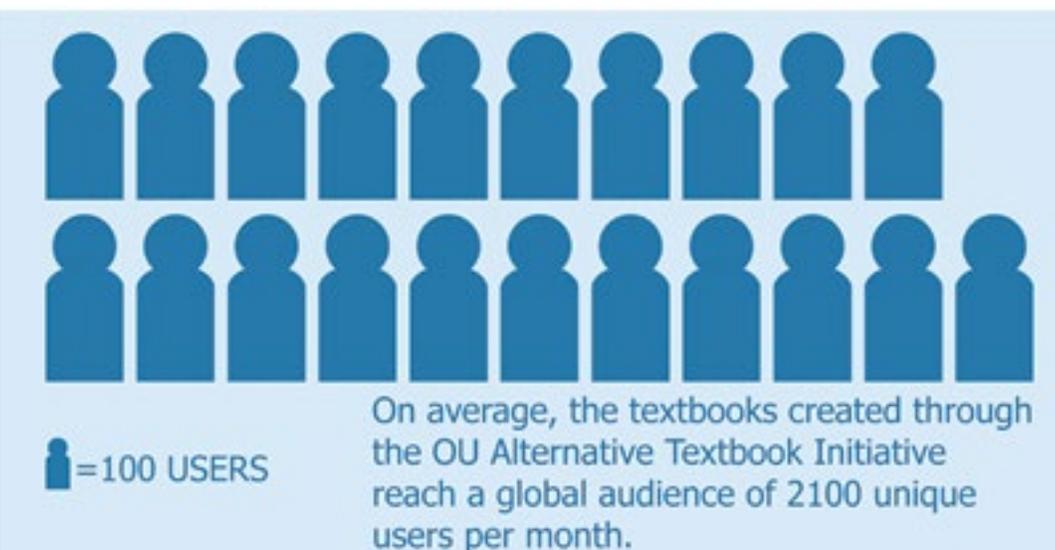
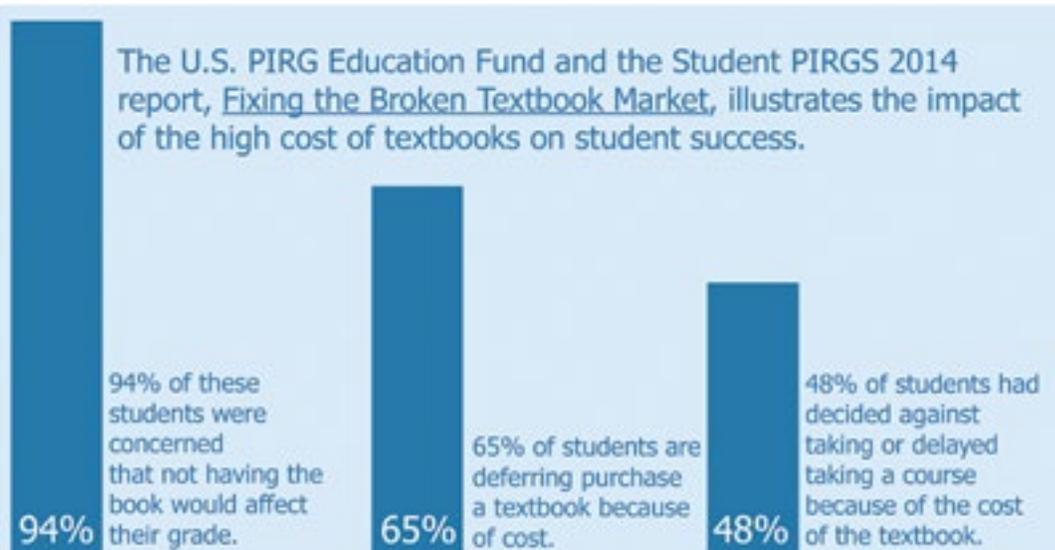
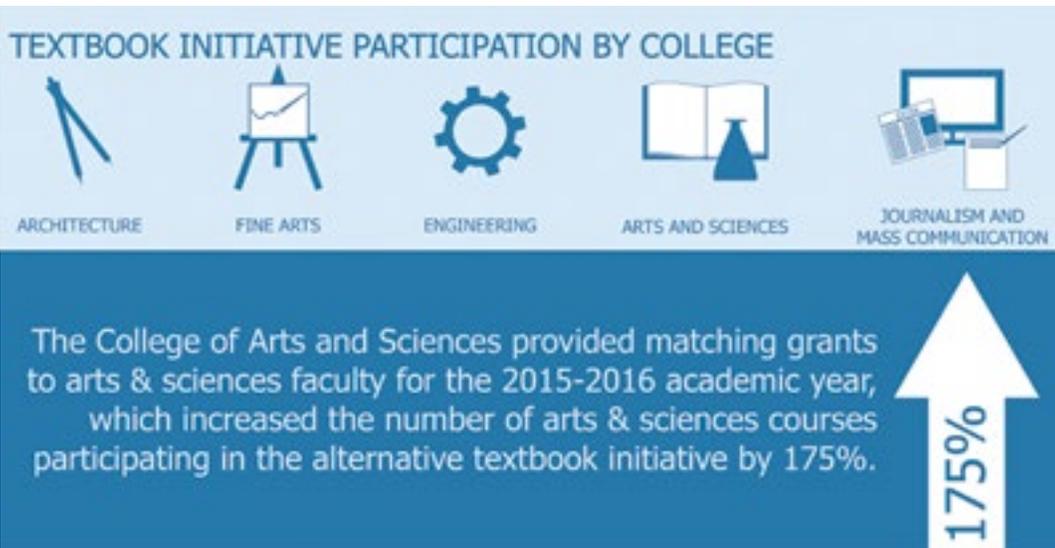
Our Alternative Textbook Initiative has saved OU students over \$772,000 to date and has eliminated the cost of textbooks for students in 25 classes.

This success has prompted the College of Arts and Sciences to match grants for their faculty in 2015 and 2016, and the Price College of Business to match funds for their faculty in 2016.

University Libraries' Alternative Textbook Initiative



About the Alternative Textbook Initiative



Strengthening Skills and Capabilities

We believe the strength of our organization is measured by our personnel. Through investing in our employees by rewarding excellence, attracting new talent and supporting professional development, we ensure that our core values of collaboration, diversity, engagement, integrity and organizational agility are internalized and represented in all areas. Just as we seek library excellence in our facilities, collections and resources, our employees strive to be excellent ambassadors, experts and community members.

OU Libraries Personnel Award Winners



THOMAS & CATHERINE LUCCOCK LIBRARY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE:
Twila Camp

The highest honor conferred by the libraries, this peer-nominated award recognizes outstanding performance, the embodiment of our organizational values and excellence in contribution to the strategic vision of the OU Libraries. This year's recipient, Twila Camp, has elevated OU Libraries digital presence and proved an invaluable asset to the libraries' team. Among her many accomplishments over the year, she balanced the creation and maintenance of six unique websites, adopted a leadership role in the institution and strives for excellence for herself, her projects and the larger organization.



BRIDGE BUILDER AWARD: Tara Carlisle



OUTSTANDING GRADUATE ASSISTANT AWARD:
Brent Purkale

OU Libraries Personnel Award Winners

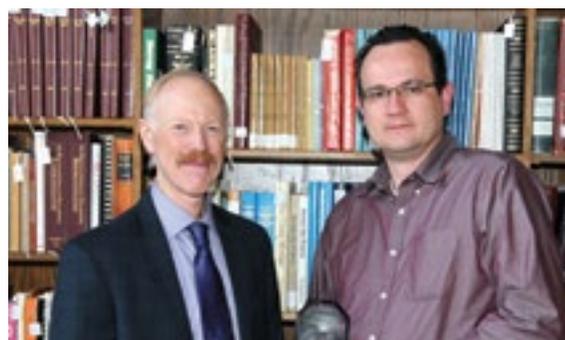
Learn more about the Personnel Awards and recipients at masterplan.libraries.ou.edu.



COLLABORATIVE SPIRIT AWARD: *Galileo's World* Implementation Team: Twila Camp, Brent Purkaple, James Adams, David Davis, (with Rick Luce), JoAnn Palmeri, Sarah Robbins, Kerry Magruder, and Chelsea Julian



OUTSTANDING STUDENT EMPLOYEE AWARD: Kabita Adhikari, Olivia Lane and Kyle Aleman



CUSTOMER COMMITMENT AWARD: Eric Zemke



INNOVATION AWARD: Jason Sherman



ABOVE (Left to right) Rick Luce, Janell Helmerich, Rik Helmerich, Molly Shi Boren, President David L. Boren, Peggy Helmerich, Jenny Helmerich, Jono Helmerich, and OU student Corie Thomas. Members of the Helmerich family at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Peggy V. Helmerich Collaborative Learning Center on lower level one in Bizzell Memorial Library.

Bizzell Library Society: Support and Give to Advance and Create

We are deeply grateful for the support and investment in OU Libraries provided by current and past members of our Bizzell Library Society. Our members' generous contributions over the years to University Libraries have strengthened the libraries' essential role in knowledge creation and preservation for the University of Oklahoma.

OU's outstanding students, faculty, and staff are involved in innovative and creative projects that have a tremendous impact on academics and our community. Our investment in open access journals and textbooks is helping keep OU affordable and bolstering our collective knowledge. Our continued improvements to our facilities, and investment in resources to advance our skills and capabilities to better meet the needs of our patrons is dependent on your continued support.

Please consider making a gift today through the Bizzell Library Society Annual Fund Campaign. Your donation will help ensure that University Libraries remains the intellectual crossroads of our great university. We have included a response form and postage paid return envelope for your convenience. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Rick Luce
Dean, University Libraries and
Professor and Peggy V. Helmerich Chair
Associate Vice President for Research



TOP Barbara and Bill Paul at the dedication honoring their gift to name the Barbara Brite Paul Grand Foyer on the 5th floor of Bizzell Memorial Library. BOTTOM Judge Ralph G. Thompson, Barbara Thompson, Carolyn Zachritz, and Don Zachritz (Left to right). Grandchildren of OU's 5th president William Bennett Bizzell, Ralph and Carolyn, along with their families, generously supported the creation of the Gaylord Room, housing the Bizzell Bible Collection, in the renovated 5th floor special collections section of the Bizzell Memorial Library.



For additional information, please contact:



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