Letter from the Dean

It’s wonderful to welcome everyone to another school year at the E.M. Oboler Library. The faculty and staff have had an extremely busy year installing our new Sierra integrated cataloging system. This went live in May — after a year of actual installation which had been preceded by several years of planning and evaluation. The various modules of the system — which include both the public catalog as well as the back of house activities for technical services — will allow for much better services for the users. There are probably at least a year of close-up and adjustments — typical of such installations — but we can already see positive changes in user experience. This often means revisions including a mobile app.

We have also hired several new people here in the library. Please take a look at the new Faculty and Staff section of the newsletter. The basic word that describes this library this year — as every year — is “busy.”

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We look forward to continuing our tradition of excellent service to the community. We plan to work closely with the new deans and other administrators throughout campus. We plan to work closely with the new deans and other administrators throughout campus. We will continue to advise us about library needs. In addition, we also have a number of continuing to see physical enhancements such as new lighting, and, to the extent possible, improving the user experience. This offers many enhancements including a mobile app.

On May 4, the Idaho Library Association Spring Regional Conference was held. The theme was Fact or Fiction? Determine the Difference! and was attended by 14 small group presentations covering topics such as news and the art of investigation. The conference featured distinguished ISU faculty Dr. Erin Rasmussen, Professor of History, and Dr. D. Jasun Carr from ISU’s Dept. of Mass Communication.

On August 28th, the Idaho Library Association Fall Regional Conference and 5th Anniversary Celebration was held. The event was a great opportunity to network with librarians throughout the state. The event was held at the Blackrock Commons area, the fourth floor of the Oboler Library. The conference featured over 30 presentations and workshops on a variety of topics related to library services and technology.

PBS Idaho has recently completed two documentaries — the first, “Taking the Reins,” which explores the life of Katherine Caroline Wilkins (“Kitty Wilkins”), the decade-long research project of Oboler Library’s own, Professor Philip Holman, who was interviewed as part of the documentary which aired in May.

PBS Idaho’s Smokey Bear in Special Collections this past winter conducting interviews and filming portions of the collection for a documentary on Greenwood. PBS Documentaries highlight Oboler Library’s work of 379 faculty. A total of 2,357 works were submitted to the conference for consideration that are undertaken in determining what news is published/broadcast. This year, ISU Libraries employee Gary Domitz and his wife Carla, Gary created our library tradition of donating supplies to a classroom when his wife Carla taught elementary school. We continue this tradition of giving every fall.

We Sagebrush Folks

The Superintendent of Documents, Laurie Depository Library Program Anniversary in Honor of Pam and Gary Domitz

This year, ISU Libraries employee raised enough funds to donate a substantial Amazon gift card, various school supplies, and some print copies.

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Since the last issue of Beyond the Library, the library has hosted several art exhibitions, which featured the media of printmaking, film and other paintings, metalwork, and photography. We had an excellent turnout for each show, which included local artists, visiting artists, and faculty from disciplines such as English, art history, and philosophy.

Joe Alkhateeb'séta is an impressive piece of metalwork that is on display in the Main Library. This artist has created a piece that is both beautiful and transformative, using metal as a medium to communicate his ideas and visions. The piece is on display until the end of the month and is sure to inspire visitors to the library.

The library has also hosted an exhibition of student metalwork from the art department. This exhibition featured the work of four students: Brandon Holst, Collin Solt, Jeff Howard, and Jeff Davies. Each student showcased their unique style and technique, and the exhibition was well-received by visitors.

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The library has also hosted a series of workshops and events, which included a range of activities such as workshops on printmaking, film, and other paintings. These events were well-attended and provided a platform for local artists to showcase their work and share their ideas with the community.

The library is looking forward to hosting more exhibitions and events in the future. We encourage all members of the community to attend these events and support our local artists. We believe that art is an important part of our culture and that it has the power to unite and inspire us all.