



Escape room organizers react in horror to what they've created.

Escape Eli's Enigma

Idaho State University Libraries were pleased to take part in the 2019 Week of Welcome by hosting Escape Eli's Enigma, an escape room event designed by library staff. While enveloped in darkness with only a flashlight, a total of 84 people took the opportunity to test their puzzle solving skills against the clock in order to escape Professor Moreau's office before becoming a permanent part of his collection. A hidden room, suspended keys, a cypher, and locked cabinets stood between

participants and their escape. University Libraries delights in the opportunity to provide students with an immersive experience that brings them into the building and welcomes them into the campus community. Local business sponsors donated prizes for participating teams: The Barre Pocatello, Gin Sen, Elmer's, Mama Inez, 13 Locks, Firehouse Subs, and Ketchum Burrito. Escape room partners at Advantage Plus Federal Credit Union provided T-shirts for all participants.

Evolving Spaces

A new library space opened on the ISU-Meridian campus in August 2020. At 1,300 square feet, the space boasts two study rooms with HDMI flatscreen displays and whiteboards, a reference desk with projector, two quiet study pods, and a living room area with couches and footstools. Meridian's print collection includes a reserve section where professors can make their textbooks available to students. The library also offers laptops and phone chargers for checkout. The library is staffed by one full-time librarian, and student assistants are also available to help patrons at the reference desk. Come check us out on the second floor of the Meridian building in room 844.

In 2019 the University Place library in Idaho Falls began a facelift which included changing out shelving and computer desks to improve usability and visual appeal. This space is used by both ISU and U of I students.



Meridian



Idaho Falls



University Libraries Give Back to Students

- Can Your Fines: An annual campaign where fines are reduced \$1.00 per can/box. All food items are donated to the Benny's Pantry.
- Opportuni-Tea: The University Libraries sponsors a table supporting the University Honors Program.

History Students Assist with Processing the Japanese American Citizens League Collection

Special Collections and Archives acquired the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) Collection in 2019 from the League's Pocatello and Bannock chapters. During the spring 2020 semester, students enrolled in HIST 6623 assisted with processing the collection. This included organizing the collection, placing the collection into archival folders and boxes, identifying individuals in photograph, transcribing oral histories, and creating a finding aid. Students worked in Special Collections as well as remotely.

Recent Acquisitions in Special Collections

Special Collections and Archives has acquired the following collections:

- Japanese American Citizens League Collection – The collection consists of scrapbooks, photographs, newsletters, and correspondence created by the JACL as well as its members.
- Daniel W. Alkofer Collection – A collection of biographical research pertaining to costume designer Edward Stevenson, including family photographs from the Stevenson family. Daniel W. Alkofer is a former Idaho State University faculty who taught in the Speech and Theatre Department, from 1969 – 1981.

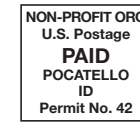


Idaho State University

University Libraries

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Between the Lines

University Libraries | Fall 2020

Southeast Idaho Railroad Exhibit

Kelsey Baguley and Crystal Larsen, Career Path Interns in Special Collections and Archives, curated the exhibit, Exploring an Industrial State: Railroads in Southeast Idaho, 1879-1963, which opened in August, 2019 and was on display through May, 2020. The exhibit focused on railroad workers, unions, and operations, highlighting two prominent railroads in Southeast Idaho, the Union Pacific and the Oregon Shortline. Materials on display came from various collections in the department, and featured maps, photographs, railroad publications, and postcards. Kelsey and Crystal chose the items for display, conducted research, wrote the captions, installed the exhibit, created the poster and postcards, wrote the press release, and organized the opening reception.

"Union Pacific Railroad steam locomotives being reduced to scrap"
Pocatello, Idaho, April 6, 1954
Photograph taken by Prof. R. A. Lymon
Historic Photographs Collection, Special Collections and Archives, Idaho State University



Special Collections Receives Grant to Digitize Oral Histories

Special Collections and Archives received a grant from the Idaho State historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) that distributes funds provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

The grant award of \$3,246 paid for the digitization of 59 recorded oral histories and archival supplies to re-house in proper archival storage boxes, the Idaho State University Oral History Project Collection. The project also included the transcription of oral

histories by Archives staff and Career Path Interns Kelsey Baguley and Crystal Larsen.

The oral histories had been conducted by students enrolled in ISU's department of History, from 1971 through early 2000. They cover topics such as local history, mining, ranching, farming, fishing, education, social customs, religion, the Great Depression, and transportation during the latter nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in rural Idaho.

Donations for Greenacres Elementary

Every fall employees of University Libraries help to fulfill the school supply needs of Greenacres Elementary students and their classrooms. Given in memory of a former colleague and his wife who taught at Greenacres these donations are delivered to the school. If you would like to contribute money or school supplies, please contact Pam (208)282-2441.

Allison Badger

Cataloging Librarian

B.A. – History from Rocky Mountain College

M.A. – History from Univ. of Montana

M.L.S. – University of North Texas

WHERE WERE YOU MOST RECENTLY BEFORE ISU?

I was a federal contractor cataloging with the Bureau of Land Management in Denver.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell. It came out 20 years ago, is set in the Napoleonic era and is a fantasy with magicians. It's long, but I like it.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WORKING FOR AN ACADEMIC LIBRARY?

My first month was more or less normal. I was able to go to work, and my second month was like "We're working from home now." I like how helpful and welcoming everyone has been. People were really concerned, because I was new in town, and I was going to be all alone. I like how dedicated we all are to trying to make the library the best we can with the resources we have and helping the students.



Sandra Shropshire

Dean, University Libraries

B.A. – University of Idaho

M.L.S. – University of Arizona

M.A. – English Idaho State University

WHERE WERE YOU MOST RECENTLY BEFORE ISU?

I was at the library at the west campus of Pima Community College in Tucson, Arizona. The campus was at the edge of town in the foothills of the Tucson Mountains and was lovely. But that was a long time ago, as I've been at ISU for 33 years. Pocatello and its mountains are equally lovely, yet are set in a desert of an entirely different sort.

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

I'm part way into Taylor Branch's Pillar of Fire, the second of his three-volume treatment of the Civil Rights era. It's my second time through the series, but reading it again is no less sobering and instructive for me.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT WORKING FOR AN ACADEMIC LIBRARY?

I can't imagine myself working in any other type of library.





Message from the Dean

The Library welcomes students back to campus in the fall and remains ready to serve. We have safe spaces for study and for taking online classes, and are ready to assist online and in person. Staff have returned to the buildings in stages this summer and have spent time refining services and re-visioning spaces to allow for physical distancing and other means of safe occupancy.

This past year, prior to university staff being sent home in late March, we held a number of events to supplement the provision of academic support that is central to the Library's mission. These events are intended to engage our users in ways that broaden their academic lives. We present highlights of the year's events here and I hope you'll find the reports to be as entertaining as the events themselves were.

Although most staff were sent home at spring break, the Library continued to provide full services during that time. The Library monitored its online help 55 hours/week, checked out books needed by our users and mailed them, serviced all subscriptions, and provided interlibrary lending and borrowing. We extended all due dates to the end of the semester and forgave all late fines for that period. Additionally, using its two 3D printers, the Library participated in the campus-wide initiative to create safety supplies including masks.

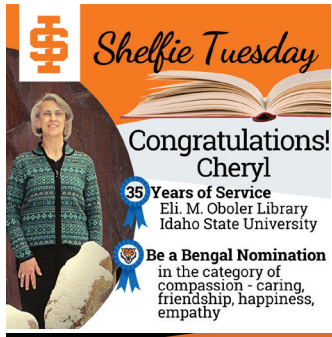
We've learned that the accommodations that we made were quite similar to those made by other academic libraries in the country whose campuses remained open, as ISU's was. In our interlibrary borrowing, we also experienced the effects of complete closures of colleges and universities, as many of our usual borrowing partners were unable to access their collections at all, which limited the number of libraries who could fill ours and others' borrowing requests.

I am pleased to note that Library staff adapted well to the abrupt, mid-semester change that all of ISU experienced this spring. Some staff's tasks were such that they could continue with their fully online tasks, others found that their tasks were modifiable to fit into an online only environment. In many cases, too, tasks were not modifiable and were decidedly "building bound," so staff limited their in-building work and quickly learned new tasks in order to work on online projects outside their areas. Many staff participated in online, job related opportunities, as well. This mix of adaptation types reflects the complexity of library work and serves as a testament to library staff that they each responded to the situation as needed and continued to deliver library services.

I hope each of you is well.

Library Employees Nominated for 'Be a Bengal' Awards

Cheryl Sebold, reference
Laura Gleason, reference
Beth Downing, associate professor
Spencer Jardine, associate professor
Philip Homan, professor



Art Exhibits at Oboler Library

This year we were honored to display four exhibits from local artists and one exhibit from a graduating student in the gallery on the first floor of Oboler Library. Each art exhibit featured a reception with the artist. We appreciate this year's artists for presenting their original works at Idaho State University. For more information about art exhibits in the Oboler Library, contact Sandra Shropshire at shrosand@isu.edu or (208) 282-2671.

"Swinging Hammers and Gleaming Metals" Metalwork and Jewelry by ISU Students

Students of the Art Department's metalsmithing and jewelry making courses and Visiting Lecturer Kristina Glick displayed their works in the library gallery from October 1 - November 15, 2019. Victoria Fischer, an art student at ISU, was the curator of this art exhibit, which included all levels of metalsmithing and jewelry.

Pendant by Jeff Davies



"The Marks We Make" a Senior Art exhibit by Victoria Fischer

Graduating senior and library reference student employee, Victoria Fischer, completed her Bachelor of Arts in Art with a minor in English. Visiting artist Kristina Glick served as her mentor. Fischer created her metalsmith exhibit pieces during her time as a student in the Art Department at ISU. "The Marks We Make" consisted of several distinct collections: bowls, necklaces, rings, earrings, and brace-

lets. Fischer works primarily in metals but also enjoys painting, drawing, and knitting.

Pendant by Tessa Fielding



Linda Aman's "Passion for Painting" Exhibition

Linda Aman, an award-winning artist and art instructor who teaches throughout Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, exhibited paintings that included glowing, colorful watercolor florals and abstract landforms filled with texture and earthy hues. Some of the paintings in this exhibit related directly to Ms. Aman's time as Artist in Residence for Yellowstone National Park in 2018.

"Reaching Colors" by Linda Aman



"I Can't Believe It's Colored Pencil!" Exhibition

Nine members of the Idaho Falls Chapter of the Colored Pencil Society of America (CPSA) exhibited artwork at the library. Members of the organization stated that they are "passionate about colored pencil because it is translucent, versatile, combines well with other media and produces beautiful effects. Colored pencils are

portable, non-toxic and fun to draw and paint with."

"The Year's Last Smile" by Colleen Bohan



Christine Fortner's "Patterns of Change" Exhibition

Local artist, Christine Fortner, completed an artist residency in Juneau sponsored by the Alaska State Parks. Her exhibit highlighted the experience of living in Alaska and Idaho, featuring acrylic patterned paintings documenting the change in scenery and types of birds and animals she encountered. "Ironically moving to Idaho exposed me to more variety of birds and animals, which I did not expect," states Fortner.

"Murder at Dusk" by Christine Fortner



The Library is a Native place!



Displays at Oboler

Oboler Library staff carefully select library resources to highlight a wide variety of topics such as fields of study, social justice, culture, and library services. Displays rotate throughout the year in exhibit cases on the 1st floor and wall displays on the 2nd and 3rd floors. Some of this year's exhibits celebrated World War I: Lessons and Legacies, 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing, 500 years since the passing of Leonardo Da Vinci, 50th anniversary of Earth Day, 75th Liberation Anniversary of Auschwitz and Birkenau Concentration Camps, and the life of Toni Morrison.

Other displays honored the cultural diversity of ISU with colorful arrangements such as a world map that points to all the home countries of ISU's international students. Students commented that they enjoyed the festivities of Kung Hei Fat Choy (Happy Lunar New Year) with red lanterns, lucky gold coins and Chinese astrology wheel. Through the common language of science, examples from

around the world of the "International Year of the Periodic Table" were showcased. Other cultural exhibits included: Martin Luther King, Jr., Black History Month, Native American History Month, and Indigenous Peoples Day in coordination with the ISU Anthropology Dept.

A variety of other exhibits were created during 2019/2020 that highlighted healthy living through nutrition, mental health and concussion awareness. Our glass tower exhibit case highlighted our library's 3D printing and scanning services that attracted viewers with 3D prints that included the Death Star, Yoda, a large skull, and more.

- 1 ISU's international students home countries display
- 2 Participants in ISU's Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration
- 3 Flying Machine model based on notebook sketches by Leonardo DaVinci, constructed by students as part of the DaVinci display

Upcoming Events and Activities

- July – September Exhibition "Librarians as Artists", featuring the artwork of librarians who work at the ISU Oboler Library
- August 17 – 21 Scavenger Hunt "Maltese Bengal an Oboler Noir Mystery"
- September – October Open Workshop series for citation and reference management tools such as Zotero. Check isu.libguides.com/OpenWorkshops for more information and to register for a workshop
- October – December Exhibition featuring the work of mathematician and painter Nand Sharma

Social Media Events from 2019/2020

- August: Escape Room
- September: Raise the ROAR
- September: Banned Books Week
- September: Homecoming
- October: Halloween Scavenger Hunt
- November: Thankfulness Tree
- December: Can Your Fines
- December: Children's Book Drive
- December: Snowflake Making Competition
- February: Blind Date with a Book
- February: Blind Date with a Database
- March: Clover Scavenger Hunt

Follow us online for updates on other activities and events happening at the University Libraries.

The University Libraries have created two Instagram accounts to further inform the ISU community about events and services.

Instagram: @idahostateuniversitylibraries
@idahostateuniversitylibraries

Facebook: @ISULibrary
@ISULibraryMeridian

Twitter: @obolerlibrary