Librarians as change agents through open access policymaking: striking the balance. Many institutions have voted to pass open access policies. It has often been stated that a "faculty champion" needs to be identified in order for any policy to move successfully through various university stakeholder groups. Librarians must strike a balance between making open access a "library issue" and leveraging long-held experience in repository development, valuable liaison relationships with departmental faculty, and an often deep knowledge of scholarly communication and publishing trends. Academic librarians having different backgrounds (but possessing complementary expertise and skill sets) can take on open access leadership roles in the wider institution, to become true change agents in the transformation of institutional scholarly communication practices.

Register at: http://tinyurl.com/wpwvcacrlfall2016

Cancellations accepted until 10 am on November 29; NO refunds after November 29 deadline.

To become a member: http://www.wpwcacrl.org/join-the-chapter.html
It’s the Little Things! How We’re Making the JKM Library Circulation Desk More Inviting

Amy Lee Heinlen
Access Services Librarian
JKM Library
Chatham University

To help ensure everyone feels welcome at our busy Circulation Desk we have added a few convenient, eye-catching items to soften the space, elevate student worker engagement, and encourage positive interactions with our patrons. When we launched our online room scheduling system this fall we empowered our patrons to make their own room reservations. To encourage them to learn the new system and for their convenience, we have a laptop on the Circulation Desk counter set to the room reservations page. If a patron has a question, a library staff member, (usually a student worker) is right there to answer it. It has also helped with the training of our own staff. For Halloween, our student workers constructed a book-drop monster complete with sharp teeth, a boa, and a backstory. This inexpensive, fun project visually liven up the book-drop area and sparks some fun conversations. As an added bonus, it gave the student workers a creative outlet and rewarding group project. We’re brainstorming more of these whimsical book-drop creations now.

Our small library plant collection reflects our school’s focus on sustainability and nature while softening a rather industrial-looking space. Not far from the plants, our puppet owl, Hedwig, perches atop a coat rack and attracts many admirers. At the end of October, we received a slick new charging station with Chatham University branding. But before that, we set up our own “charging station” with different chargers we had on hand and advertised it with a simple printed sign. It sat on the end of our Circulation Desk and got a lot of use while encouraging patrons to chat with library staff. There’s a fine balance between encouraging patrons to visit and inviting them to camp out, but these additions to our Circulation Desk have made overall positive improvements for those on both sides of the desk.
Teaching and Learning Commons Established at Potomac State College

Charles A. Julian, PhD
Library Director and Associate University Librarian
Mary F. Shipper Library
Potomac State College of West Virginia University

The Mary F. Shipper Library, at the commencement of the 2016-17 academic year, became a Keyser affiliate to West Virginia University’s Morgantown-based Teaching and Learning Commons (T&LC). The Commons’ goal is to support, promote, and enhance teaching effectiveness at the University through instructional strategies and faculty development related to design and technology. The Commons provides the infrastructure to support faculty in teaching and learning efforts specifically related to instructional design and technology integration.

The Keyser T&LC is located in and staffed by the Shipper Library staff. Multimedia Specialist, David Miller, coordinates team efforts at promoting campus-wide instructional development and innovation. Library Director, Dr. Charles A. Julian, noted, “The Library has stepped up on our campus to promote, foster, and enable instructional excellence in a leadership role that is consistent with our role and mission. We are delighted to affiliate with Tracey Beckley and her talented team of innovators and to become teaching and learning leaders at Potomac State College.”

Initial efforts included the creation of a Technology Sandbox, assisting individual faculty with technology integration in their courses, and promotion of innovative technologies (3D printing, computer software modeling, green screen video production, and lightboard technology).

A formal dedication of the Keyser affiliate was held on October 12th.

Duquesne University’s Gumberg Library Welcomes New Librarians!

Erin Anthony has been hired as the Online Learning Librarian with a STEM Focus. Erin joins Gumberg after working as a visiting librarian working on digital collection development projects for the Wisconsin Collaboratory of Enhanced Learning at University of Wisconsin’s Wendt Engineering Library.

Christie Kliewer has joined as the Outreach and Communications Librarian. Christie worked as a Business Reference Librarian at the Downtown & Business Carnegie Library branch in Pittsburgh, PA before accepting her position at Duquesne.

Rebekah Miller has been appointed as STEM Librarian. Rebekah worked as a customer implementation intern at Credo Reference in Pittsburgh, PA prior to being hired by Gumberg.

Kirsten Ostergaard has been hired as the Acquisitions Librarian. Kirsten served as the Electronic Resources & Discovery Services Librarian at Montana State University in Bozeman, MT before joining Gumberg.
PSC Shipper Library Receives Grant for Immersive Reporting Technology

Charles A. Julian, PhD
Library Director and Associate University Librarian
Mary F. Shipper Library
Potomac State College of West Virginia University

Potomac State College Staff Librarian Virginia Kline and Visiting Journalism Instructor Amber Butcher collaborated on a Teaching Integration Grant (TIG) designed to acquire advanced technology for immersive reporting of campus news. Journalism students will gain hands-on opportunities by learning real-life applications through the print and on-line version of the Pasquino, the student-produced College newspaper, as well as other social media platforms.

This grant, awarded by West Virginia University’s Teaching and Learning Commons, enabled the Journalism Department to purchase three 360fly™ Panoramic 360° Action Cameras. The 360fly™ 360° action camera is a compact, economical and durable solution for capturing high-definition 360° video in a range of environments. The Library will manage the circulation of the equipment to journalism students and assist with the training of camera users.

“Immersive journalism is the future of reporting and 360° cameras are the new frontier in virtual reality storytelling,” said Butcher. “We believe in giving our students every chance to be on the forefront of journalism and these cameras will empower them with the experience of telling engaging news stories from unique points of view.”

Journalism students will be provided hands-on opportunities by learning real-life applications through the print and on-line version of the Pasquino, the student-produced College newspaper, as well as other social media platforms.

Other library staff involved with this project included Library Technical Assistant Nicholas Gardner and Associate University Librarian Charles Julian who collaborated with Butcher and Kline in writing the grant. Multimedia Specialist David Miller provided technical feedback and support.

Checking out the new equipment with Visiting Journalism Instructor Amber Butcher, center, are Megan Ellifritz, left, a sophomore from Keyser, W.Va., and Rebecca Ack, a sophomore from Berkeley Springs, W.Va. Individuals watching a video can pan around inside the image.
Research and Instruction librarians at Marshall University have spearheaded a Library Instruction Round Table group for the West Virginia Library Association. It has been a long time coming as most of the academic librarians have collaborated in the state for years. Eryn Roles, a 2010 graduate of the MSLS program at the University of Kentucky, was inspired by the incredible LIRT group that the Kentucky Library Association has. After attending a KLA LIRT retreat with Sabrina Thomas, another Marshall University Librarian, the inspiration turned into a mission. At the WVLA annual conference at Canaan Valley, WV in 2015, the by-laws were passed and WVLIRT became an established WVLA Roundtable. Then the real work began. Lead by Eryn Roles as Chair and Kat Phillips as chair-elect, the group has worked to bring academic librarians throughout the state together. More importantly the group has worked to make all state librarians realize their teaching potential and to help guide them to resources and best practices that will help them serve patrons better. At the 2016 annual conference at Glade Springs, we presented on some of the best open access resources so we could cater to all our librarians and all levels of access. This coming Spring Fling we plan to present on information literacy and the ACRL framework, as it fits into all of our teaching environments. A WVLIRT LibGuide was created and WVLA hosts a WVLIRT list-serve to facilitate year-round discussion and sharing of ideas. The group also plans on hosting a one day gathering of LIRT members during the summer of 2017; all interested parties will be invited to participate.

Questions, comments, compliments, and/or concerns are much appreciated and can be sent to Kat Phillips (phillipsk@marshall.edu), Eryn Roles (roles1@marshall.edu), and Sabrina Thomas.