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## Welcome back issue of the WPWVC-ACRL Newsletter!

The WPWVC-ACRL Newsletter took a bit of a hiatus from the Spring of 2018 to now, but it is back in action! The editors would like to thank all of the contributors to this issue who have provided such wonderful pieces for your reading pleasure. This publication is packed with content spanning Conference Announcements to the Mothman, and we're happy you're along for the ride.

*Eryn Roles, Marshall University & Kat Phillips, Penn State University - WPWVC-ACRL Newsletter Co-Editors*

## Get your Professional Development ON!

### 24th Annual Children's Literature Conference

University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg Annual Children's Literature Conference is approaching its 24th Year.

The 24th Annual Children's Literature Conference will be held at the Pitt-Greensburg campus on **May 1, 2020**. This year's scheduled featured speakers are: A.S. King, a Printz Honor Award Winner, and Sharon Flake, a Coretta Scott King Award Winner. Informative breakout sessions, lunch, and a book signing complete the day-long conference.

Created in 1997, this conference serves the academic community of western Pennsylvania and is attended by educators and librarians who wish to know more about the various aspects of children's literature. Over the years, attendees of this conference have learned about new and unique Storytime techniques, the science of reading, how eBooks impact learning, emerging local authors and illustrators, how to ignite a passion for reading in their students, and most recently about the importance of diversity and representation in children's books. *(continues on page 2)*

## Get your Professional Development ON! (*cont.*)

(*continued*) Past speakers have included: Louis Sachar, Lois Lowry, Jerry Spinelli, Steven Kellogg, Laurie Halse Anderson, Jack Gantos, Jacqueline Woodson, and Siobhan Vivian.

In 2019, we were honored to host two wonderful featured speakers: Ellen Oh and Jonathan Gottschall.



Ellen Oh is a young adult and middle-grade author, who also co-founded the We Need Diverse Books Organization. Her talk about the need for diversity was deeply personal and emphasized that reading a book about someone like yourself can improve, and potentially save lives.

Jonathan Gottschall is a professor at Washington and Jefferson College. His book, *The Storytelling Animal*, explains that everything is a story and those stories are what creates us. He explained the science behind storytelling and why it is such an important part of our lives.



For more information about the conference, visit <https://www.greensburg.pitt.edu/millstein/clc> or contact coordinator Renee Kiner at [reneekiner@pitt.edu](mailto:reneekiner@pitt.edu). Registration will open in early 2020.

*Renee Kiner, Public Services Librarian, University of Pittsburgh-Greensburg*

## Get your Professional Development ON! (*cont.*)

### Distance Library Services Conference 2020 to be hosted by Penn State



#### **2020 DISTANCE LIBRARY SERVICES CONFERENCE**

The annual Distance Library Services Conference has been hosted by Central Michigan University since 1982, but sadly this past year CMU had to make the tough decision to pass the torch. As the saying goes, “when one door closes, another opens,” and Penn State University Libraries have agreed to host the 19th Annual DLS Conference in July of 2020. The mission of the Distance Library Services Conference to provide “a forum to discuss, demonstrate, and champion the techniques, trends, and theories of providing library services at a distance and in the online environment,” will continue with three days of presentations, posters, and speakers. Dr. Marcela Borge, assistant professor in the Learning, Design, and Technology program in the College of Education at the Pennsylvania State University, will deliver the Keynote on Wednesday, July 8, 2020. Conference, proposal, presenter & student travel award, registration, and hotel information are all live on the conference website: <https://commons.erau.edu/dls-conference/2020/>, and questions, comments, or general inquiries can be sent to Kat Phillips and Torrie Raish, the conference co-planners (kec5013@psu.edu, vrc112@psu.edu). Both Call for Proposals and Registration are open. **CFPs close on December 20, 2019.**

*Kat Phillips, Nursing & Allied Health Liaison Librarian, Penn State University*

### **The Mothman legend serves as the basis for author's fourth novel**

Stephen Hupp, Library Director at West Virginia University Parkersburg, has published his fourth novel, Wings in the Night, a sequel to Daughter of the Valley. Kat Tiffin and Erin Wells appear in this book set in Mid-Ohio Valley, now investigating the legend of Mothman. Over half a century after appearing in Point Pleasant, Mothman comes to the Collinsburg, Two Rivers area. Kat and Erin are joined by their new friend Jenny Jordan in the effort to learn who Mothman is. The work is available as an eBook or paperback through [Amazon](#).

Hupp has also published Daughter of the Valley, Of Gods and Spirits, and Born to the Breed, all available through Amazon. In Daughter of the Valley, the ghost of Virginia Llewellyn haunts the Ohio Valley town of Collinsburg. She is at the center of an infamous folk tale that frames her as a vile person. Virginia approaches Dr. Kat Tiffin, history professor at Collinsburg College, to convince her that the story is untrue. Kat decides to investigate the tale, and enlists the assistance of two students in the project. However, Kat is unaware that Virginia has ulterior motives. (*continues on page 4*)

## The Mothman legend serves as the basis for author's fourth novel (*cont.*)

*(continued)* A descendant, the powerful head of a notorious mining company, will visit Collinsburg, and Virginia has plans for him. In [Of Gods and Spirits](#), Toby Eckard, Danny Fox and Lucy Wilson follow distinctive spiritual practices. The warlock, Lakota Sioux holy man, and voodoo priestess come from families that have practiced their traditions for generations. However, they are unique in one aspect. While their kinfolk believe in magic, these three people can perform it. On multiple occasions, they have used their powers to get people out of trouble. It also earns the trio the envy of their families. They remain unaware of the others existence until holy objects are stolen from their homes on the same evening. They join forces to make a hazardous cross-country journey to recover the objects. In [Born to the Breed](#), Marty Dodd belongs to the fourth generation of a successful racing family. Possessing all the talent of the living legend Grandfather Karl, Marty looks forward to a successful career in NASCAR. However, parents Doug and Andrea have other plans. They want to see their daughter pursue a life outside racing.

*Stephen Hupp, Library Director, West Virginia University Parkersburg*

## WVU Libraries Celebrates First Year of the Research Repository

This October marked one year since the launch of the West Virginia University Libraries' new institutional repository, the [Research Repository @ WVU](#). The Research Repository, a service of the WVU Libraries and the WVU Office of Research, provides an online, open access home for the scholarship, creative work, and research of University faculty, researchers, and students. Since its launch in October 2018, the repository has grown to house over 15,000 items which have generated over 150,000 downloads from around the world.

The repository's collections include materials produced by researchers across a wide range of departments and levels, from undergraduate students to senior faculty. These collections include [Electronic Theses and Dissertations \(ETDs\)](#), [faculty-authored research papers](#), the [West Virginia Law Review](#), [West Virginia Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station Bulletins](#), images from the [WVU Herbarium](#), and [Undergraduate Research collections](#).

The Research Repository is a central service of the WVU Libraries' growing Scholarly Communications & Publishing program (SC&P), the aim of which is to help WVU researchers maximize the impact, reach, and dissemination of their work. The program's offerings include workshops and consultations on authors' rights and copyright, open access publishing, research data management, understanding scholarly impact, and evaluating publication opportunities.

In addition to these services, the WVU Libraries house the [Digital Publishing Institute \(DPI\)](#), a collaborative initiative designed to support the publishing needs of the WVU and West Virginia scholarly communities. The DPI's services include consultations, open access and non-profit publishing, hosting publishing platforms and services, workshops on scholarly communications, and internships for WVU professional writing students. (*continues on page 5*)

## WVU Libraries Celebrates First Year of the Research Repository (*cont.*)

*(continued)* The world of scholarly communications is undergoing rapid changes as more research is published under Open Access models. Indeed, Open Access is entering the mainstream as illustrated by a Chronicle of Higher Education’s 2019 Trends article, “A Turning Point for Scholarly Publishing,” and recent moves by the University of California and others who have walked away from traditional subscription agreements with Elsevier. During this time of rapid change, the WVU Libraries are committed to staying at the forefront, and the Research Repository, and our Scholarly Communications & Publishing program will help ensure that WVU Research continues to reach readers worldwide.

*Ian Harmon, Scholarly Communications Librarian, WVU Libraries*

## Chatham University Archives & Special Collections Celebrates 150th Anniversary of Founding

Marking the 150th anniversary of the founding of the university, Chatham University Archives & Special Collection launched a campaign to highlight archival collections and to showcase the history of the university. Taking form in the digital sphere and the physical, the campaign—titled #150Throwbacks—includes two new social media channels and public exhibitions in the university’s Jennie King Mellon Library. The campaign offers new opportunities for researchers, students, faculty, alums, and staff to engage with photographs, artifacts, and stories documenting the growth of the university and its community.



Serving as the foundation of the **#150Throwbacks** campaign, two new social media channels on Facebook and Instagram (@ChathamArchives) present a visual timeline beginning in earliest days of the college. Materials highlighted include some of the oldest materials in collection including the original charter of incorporation given to the Pennsylvania Female College, the first name for Chatham University. Handwritten minutes of the first Board of Trustees meeting, a program from 1871 closing exercises, and a copy of the 1875 valedictory speech are presented alongside captions that provide context for the founding of the school. Student newspaper collections, literary magazines, and the Collection on Rachel

Carson—Chatham’s most famous alumna—have been presented as week-long “deep dives” to raise awareness of the depth and variety of materials in the collections. (*continues on page 6*)



## Chatham University Archives & Special Collections Celebrates 150th Anniversary of Founding *(cont.)*

*(continued)* Attracting over 750 followers in the first ten months, these two channels have resulted in increased engaged members of the public and alumni communities. Moreover, the @ChathamArchives Instagram feed has been integrated into the classroom, with some first-year students being given a text analysis assignment using documents from the social media channel. While the Instagram channel has attracted followers from different demographics than the Facebook channel, the level of engagement on both channels has far exceeded the expectations of the staff of the Archives & Special Collections.



Building upon the success of the @ChathamArchives social media channels, two physical exhibits have been developed to present #150Throwbacks material to patrons in-person. Serving as a method to promote engagement on social media, these two physical exhibits simultaneously engage with patrons who don't use social media by presenting photographs, artifacts, and contextual information within the library setting. One physical exhibit consists of a presentation of images and captions from the #150Throwbacks campaign that rotates monthly to ensure fresh content for repeat visitors.

The second, larger exhibit extends over three vitrines placed in the entrance lobby of the Jennie King Mellon Library. Here, materials presented on social media as part of #150Throwbacks are exhibited and accompanied by bonus materials that provide additional context. Combined with the rotating monthly display, the vitrine exhibit serves to further engage social media followers as well as patrons previously unfamiliar with the University Archives & Special Collections.

The University Archives & Special Collections plans to build upon the success of the #150Throwbacks campaign following the close of the 150th anniversary year. Plans are underway to continue patron engagement on @ChathamArchives Instagram and Facebook channels through continued posts, caption contests, and collection highlights.

*Molly Tighe, Archivist & Public Services Librarian, Chatham University*

## University of Pittsburgh's "Hidden Treasures"

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Archives & Special Collections at the University of Pittsburgh holds a true treasure trove!! Dr. Kornelia Tancheva, Director of the University Library System, has made cataloging distinctive collections a priority. These collections are being made accessible in a variety of ways.

Some collections, such as pop-up books from around the world, are being cataloged as part of the ULS Catalog Management Unit routine.

Curtis Theater Collection playscripts are being sent out for cataloging to Backstage Library Works, a vendor located in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Other collections, including the Bernard S. Horne Collection of Anglers, the Western University of Pennsylvania Collection, and the Hervey Allen Collection, are being cataloged through collaboration between the ULS Catalog Management Unit, ULS Archives & Special Collections, and the University of Pittsburgh School of Computing and Information.

Margaret McGill, a Library Specialist affiliated with ULS Archives & Special Collections, has completed cataloging of the Bernard S. Horne Collection of Anglers, and is currently cataloging the Western University of Pennsylvania Collection, the original book collection of the predecessor of the University of Pittsburgh. Jeanann Haas, Head of Special Collections, and Bill Daw, the Curator of the Curtis Theater Collection, have also worked closely with the Catalog Management Unit in addressing the unique aspects of these special collections. Zach Brodt, University Archivist, has provided valuable input regarding manuscript material found in some of the rare volumes.

Alexandra Beddall, a graduate student "Pitt Partner" from the University of Pittsburgh School of Computing and Information, will be spending three terms cataloging the Hervey Allen Collection and gaining professional skills and experience in the process.

Brenda Salem and Nan Yang of the ULS Catalog Management Unit and T.N. Chang of ULS Serials and End Processing have also made valuable contributions to the cataloging projects.

Hervey Allen, a University of Pittsburgh Alumnus, was most famous for authoring the book *Anthony Adverse*. In 1936, this popular book was adapted into a movie starring Frederic March and Olivia de Havilland. Hervey Allen's wonderful, historic, and somewhat eccentric personal library is quite unique! For example, a mysterious blonde lock of hair was discovered in a copy of Thomas Bailey Aldrich's *The Ballad of Babie Bell* (1858) inscribed "To my dear wife – In memory of little Edith – Springtime 1859 - Pittsburgh, PA." There is also abundant American history and culture living within the Hervey Allen Collection, such as a facsimile of Gen. George Washington's accounting ledger from 1776, and an abolitionist alphabet book for children. *(continues on page 8)*

## University of Pittsburgh's "Hidden Treasures" (*cont.*)

*(continued)* Allen was a big admirer of Edgar Allan Poe. The sheer number of Poe works within the collection suggests Hervey was not just a scholar of Poe, but a true fan. Tucked inside of an unpublished manuscript of *The Disinherited* were two letters of rejection from publishing companies declining to accept what would become Allen's first published work, *Ballads of the Border* (1916). An inspiring lesson to us all that not even the wildly successful are immune to the heartbreak of rejection!

*Alexandra Beddall, Margaret McGill and Faye Leibowitz, University Library System, University of Pittsburgh*

## West Virginia University Libraries brought aboard a new Associate Dean and two librarians this fall



**Dennis Smith** joined WVU Libraries on Sept. 1 as the new Associate Dean. He previously served as Head of Access Services at the University of Miami and Manager, Access and Commons at Brandeis University. He joins the management team during an exciting time as we continue to develop our learning organization and find new ways to meet the needs of the WVU and West Virginia communities.

**Jenn Monnin** joined the Health Sciences Library on Aug. 19 as the Scholarly Engagement Librarian. She will work with the new Physician Assistant program at Health Sciences, as well as a few departments in the School of Medicine including Physical Therapy/Occupational Therapy. She previously served as the Teen/Adult Services Coordinator and a Reference Librarian for the Perry County District Library in New Lexington, Ohio.



**Miriam Cady** joined the West Virginia & Regional History Center on Oct. 28 as the Instruction and Public Service Coordinator. Previously, she served as the Reference Archivist at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Prior to that, she held positions at the University of Pennsylvania libraries, the Historic Ford Estates, and even the Betsy Ross House. Beyond her MLIS, she has a PhD in Art History from the University of Leicester, a MA in Material Culture Studies from the University of Sheffield, and a BA in Art History from Smith College.



## Marshall University Special Collections Moves All Finding Aids Online

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In a joint project between Marshall University's Special Collections, Scholarly Communications, and Cataloging & Metadata departments, the finding aids for Marshall's manuscript collections are now available in Marshall Digital Scholar (MDS), the institutional repository for the University.

Prior to this project, the finding aids within the Special Collections department were located in a variety of places electronically and in print. Upon retirement of long tenured faculty and the hiring of new librarians and staff, the department could no longer rely on institutional memory to facilitate answering patron requests. Patron wait times and employee search times increased when finding aids could not be located confidently and swiftly. Lori Thompson, Head of Special Collections, was determined to improve access to the finding aids already created and develop a central repository where new finding aids could be added. With awareness of zero funding and limited staff time, the solution required evaluating software already available at the university. Marshall Digital Scholar was chosen for its availability, robust searchability, statistic tracking capability, and the availability to researchers on and off campus.

Elizabeth James, Archivist and Digital Preservation Librarian, coordinated the project in conjunction with Lindsey Harper, Staff Librarian & Scholarly Communication Specialist and Gretchen Beach, Catalog & Digital Services Librarian. James and Harper worked to locate, convert, upload, and add metadata to 565 finding aids into MDS, making these materials full-text searchable for the first time. Previously, a portion of the PDF finding aids had been stored on a web server and then added as a link in the department's PastPerfect implementation, which housed publicly accessible digitized images from manuscript collections. However, PastPerfect's search functionality did not allow for full-text searching within the linked PDF, limiting the software's capabilities as a repository for discovery and access of finding aids. As a result, the choice to use an institutional repository that emphasized search engine optimization techniques versus other platforms that have limited public web crawling options has allowed Special Collections to prioritize the search habits of many academics who are using Google and other search tools over going directly to an institution's web site. Beach worked with bepress, the software firm administrating MDS, to create a finding aid workflow which included custom metadata fields unique to archives, such as accession number, a link to digitized collections in Past Perfect, and an access and use statement.

During this time, our Finding Aids have received 3,678 readers from 14 countries, 10 commercial organizations, and eight academic institutions, where 81% of those accessing our materials were from higher education institutions. This data spans between July 7, 2019 and November 7, 2019. It is important to note that finding aids were added continuously throughout this period. In July we saw 208 readers whereas in October we saw 1,775 readers. This increase in readership access is likely due to the increased volume of finding aids added within those three months. A future interdepartmental project includes the digitization of the University Catalogs, beginning in 1871 to the present. This project directly benefits researchers, the Registrar Office, Alumni Office, and Admissions Office on Marshall's campus and beyond.

*Elizabeth James, Archivist & Digital Preservation Librarian, Marshall University*