

# TOWERS

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO LIBRARY

EARLY  
FALL  
2017

*“WHEN I LEAVE MOSCOW I FEEL  
HOMESICK FOR THE U OF I”*

*- UI Student Greg Eiselein, 1987*



Photo and quote from UI Library Special Collections and Archives

UI Library Main Reading Room, 1930

## FYE TEAM BEGINS SECOND YEAR CHAMPIONING STUDENT SUCCESS

The First Year Experience (FYE) Team is eagerly starting its second year as part of the student success puzzle at the university. The FYE Team is comprised of librarians who are passionate about making our new students feel comfortable and confident in using the library and aligns with the strategic direction of the university to increase student success and retention. Learning to find and access reputable information sources improves the quality of students' academic performance as well as their "information diet."

### CURRENT SUPPORT

This team has developed a First Year Experience library program focused on becoming an engaged partner on campus for student success. They welcome and orient new and prospective students, teach library and research skills to first year students, and reach out to campus student groups and Housing/Residence Life. The FYE team also partners with the Student Success Center, located in the UI Residence Halls, by offering academic research support to first year students in their living groups.

Each semester, our faculty teach library literacy skills to approximately 30 classes of English 102 (freshman composition course) students as part of the FYE program. Students learn strategies for searching for information, using scholarly databases and other library resources, and evaluating information. They seek to help students choose quality books and articles as well as thinking critically about information they encounter via social

media and general news. The FYE team also teaches ISEM101 (first year seminar) classes to help students find information for specific assignments. They facilitate "active learning" library tours (similar to scavenger hunts), which teach students about the library's resources while also raising their level of comfort level about asking for assistance when needed.

### FUTURE SUPPORT

This team is currently designing a pilot information literacy program that can fit into any first year class in any discipline. In our contemporary information environment, they found students are experiencing more challenges deciding if information is high quality and even if it is simply factual. In response to these challenges, the FYE team is developing a game-format lesson to pilot during the fall semester that presents a variety of common types of information from news and social media to engage students in a friendly but competitive evaluation challenge. Students will learn tips for fact-checking sources before "believing" or sharing them.



## DEAN'S CORNER TRANSFORMATIONS - THE PATHWAY TO SUCCESS

The suddenness with which we move from summer to a new school year always takes us by surprise, but the start of a new semester brings a unique kind of hope and excitement to the air. Our campus has spent the summer building new facilities and making sure our roadways are in top condition; we cannot wait to share these improvements with our new and returning students.



The library has been having its own transformations this summer. We are thrilled to be expanding The MILL (Making, Innovating, and Learning Laboratory) maker space to include The Studio. The Studio has technologies that will allow students to create audio and video projects for their classes and work toward their professional goals. We are expanding our services to students and faculty in other ways with the addition of our new science librarian, Jessica Martinez, and our new social sciences librarian, Jylisa Doney. These new hires will join our experienced librarians in partnering with teaching faculty to help our students develop the research skills they need to be successful in their college careers.

The Library will soon see the leaves of autumn in our foyer and our students will begin filling the computer labs and work tables, earnestly striving to start their year on the right foot. When we remember our first days on campus, we think about how new everything around us seemed and how unfamiliar the world of college felt. The library works hard to create an environment in which our new students feel welcomed, both by our people and our facilities. Our donors are part of the team that help us create this atmosphere. We thank you for your gifts to the library, which help us launch our students on the pathway to success.



*The Studio opened its doors this fall, offering personalized instruction for students and workshops for patrons.*

## THE STUDIO MAKES ITS DEBUT THIS FALL

"I have to make a podcast for class. Can you help? My teacher wants me to make a video essay. Where can I go to do this?" These questions are increasingly familiar at the Reference Desk, where students are being asked to expand their creative activities beyond written documents to include multimedia formats such as audio and video. Expanding on the success of the MILL (Making, Innovating, and Learning Laboratory) launched in fall 2016, the UI Library is proud to announce The Studio—a dedicated space for students, staff, and faculty to produce and edit audiovisual materials. Located on the second floor of the Library, it features a green screen, lights, microphones, and hardware and software to support production and editing. The Studio provides a centrally-located, interdisciplinary environment for Vandals to create podcasts, produce video essays, and record auditions.

In addition to reserving the space and its associated equipment, students are also able to check out Studio equipment such as video cameras, Go Pros, and digital recorders for recording multimedia content outside of the building. Affiliated with the MILL, The Studio will expand the library's ability to support multimedia knowledge creation and deeper engagement with digital and media literacy; students reserving the space will receive one-on-one instruction and staff are offering workshops to patrons wishing to learn new technologies. For more information about The Studio, visit <http://libguides.uidaho.edu/thestudio> or email Kristin Henrich, Head of User and Research Services, at [khenrich@uidaho.edu](mailto:khenrich@uidaho.edu).

## NEW FACES TO WELCOME



### **Jessica Martinez, Science Librarian.**

Jessica started on Aug. 14. She earned a B.A. in English Literature from the University of Colorado, Boulder in 2011. During her undergraduate years, she studied abroad at the University of Glasgow. In addition, she has a certificate of Business Management from Columbia College, Guantanamo Bay. In June 2017 she completed her MLIS degree at the University of Washington.



### **Jylisa Doney, Social Sciences Librarian.**

Jylisa began on Aug. 28. Jylisa received her MLS from Indiana University, Bloomington, and since July 2014 she worked as the social sciences librarian at North Dakota State University. Her B.S. degree in Sociology was awarded to her by Utah State University.

# CENTER FOR DIGITAL INQUIRY AND LEARNING SHINES AT SHOWCASE

The Center for Digital Inquiry and Learning (CDIL) celebrated the accomplishments of its Vandal Ideas Project (VIP) grant on Aug. 30 with a Digital Scholarship Showcase. The CDIL, located on the second floor of the library, is a collaborative project between UI's College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) and the University of Idaho Library. It opened its doors in fall 2016, and is the only university-affiliated digital humanities initiative of its kind in the state of Idaho. Its purpose is to advance UI digital scholarship opportunities.

The CDIL showcase drew about 50 attendees (including UI President Chuck Staben) and featured an open house and three speakers including: UI CDIL Director Devin Becker, UI CDIL Fellow Denise Bennett and keynote speaker Kim Christen, Washington State University Director of the Center for Digital Scholarship and Curation.



CDIL Showcase keynote speaker Kim Christen, a Washington State University Professor and Director of the Center for Digital Scholarship and Curation.

The CDIL's original grant of \$80,000 funded six digital scholarship fellowships, which included two full-semester fellowships and four summer symposium fellowships, and it provided the center with cutting-edge technology needed for the digital scholarship projects.

What does "Digital Scholarship" mean? In general, Digital Scholarship (or e-research) extends traditional methods of research by applying new technologies (such as GIS/mapping, data visualization and data-mining) to advance research and educational processes. It uses the new tools and techniques of the digital age in order to answer traditional questions. Digital scholarship is applicable to all academic disciplines, and it often involves interdisciplinary and global collaborations.

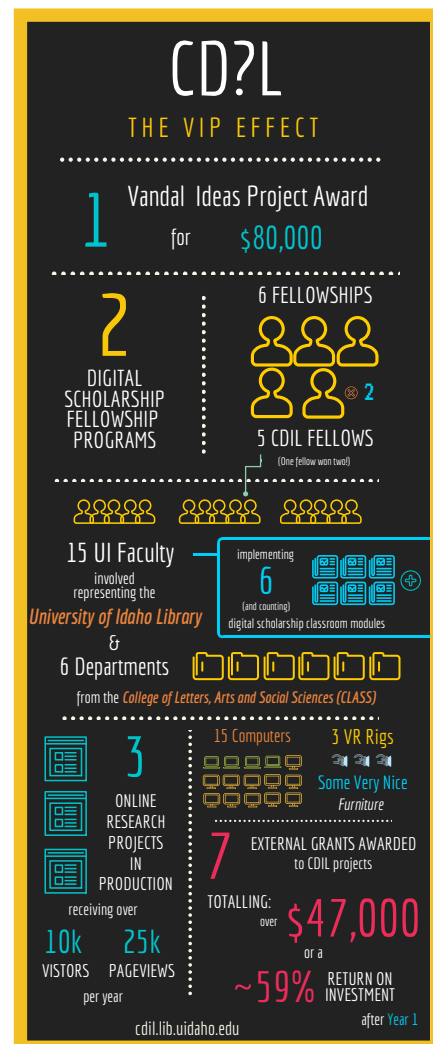
## HISTORY OF THE CDIL

The Center for Digital Inquiry and Learning (CDIL) began as a series of meetings convened by Andrew Kersten, Dean of the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS), in the spring and fall of 2015. These meetings brought together faculty from CLASS and the UI Library who were interested in advancing digital scholarship on campus and exploring collaborative research and teaching opportunities. In April 2016, CDIL was one of five campus projects selected from a pool of 43 applicants to be awarded a Vandal Ideas Project (VIP) grant, which CDIL used to outfit the physical center in the UI Library—Second Floor, Room 211—and to fund two different digital scholarship fellowship programs and two graduate research assistantships.

The university is starting to reap rewards from having the CDIL—one being additional research dollars. CDIL Fellow and UI Assistant Professor Denise Bennett in the School of Journalism and Mass Media (JAMM) recently was awarded a grant from the National Endowments for the Humanities (NEH). Her project focuses on chronicling the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in Idaho by collecting video oral histories. The CDIL and its staff will support and host the digital content.

Several CDIL online projects are also set for release in the 2017-2018 academic year, including:

- The Civilian Conservation Corps in Idaho Digital Collection - an online portal to over 2,000 primary historical items documenting the activities of the Civilian Conservation Corps in Idaho that have been collected from across Idaho by Patricia Hart (Associate Professor, JAMM) and Ivar Nelson.
- The Ghana Story Map Project - an online exhibit displaying ArcGIS StoryMaps from students from Barry Bilderback's (Associate Professor, Music) Summer 2017 Ghana study abroad trip.
- CTRL-Shift - an online presentation of recordings, visualizations, and analyses from a series of interviews CDIL Director Devin Becker conducted with prominent poets focused on how writing practices changed with the advent of the personal computer.
- For information about CDIL, its faculty and their scholarship projects, please visit the CDIL website at [cdil.lib.uidaho.edu](http://cdil.lib.uidaho.edu).



# DONOR SPOTLIGHT - Dawn and Dick Wittman

University of Idaho alumni Dawn Wittman '72 and her husband Dick Wittman '71 are giving back to the University by working to enhance the student experience at the state's largest library. "We are proud to support the University of Idaho Library because it is a center for scholarship and research," Dawn explained. "It benefits students, faculty, staff and visiting scholars."

Dawn and Dick are loyal donors and supporters of both the UI Library and the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences (CALs). Dawn serves as a member of the UI Library Advisory Board and, in 2015, the Wittmans were inducted into the University of Idaho Silver and Gold Society, which recognizes the generosity of UI donors whose lifetime giving contributions range between \$100,000 and \$999,999.

## WAYS TO GIVE Support UI Students

Library Giving options are many—and can be tailored around an individual donor's preference.

- Cash Gifts
- Planned Giving
- In-Kind Gifts  
(Materials and Personal Collections)
- Tax Benefits Appreciated Assets
- Memorial or Honorary Gifts

Please contact Jim Zuba at 208-885-4142 (work), 509-432-6422 (cell) or email him at [jzuba@uidaho.edu](mailto:jzuba@uidaho.edu) to donate and/or for more information.

"The Wittmans' gifts recognize the vital role the library plays in attracting and retaining students," said Dean Lynn Baird. "Offering students quality learning environments with access to the newest technology provides them with a competitive edge in the workplace. We are very grateful for the Wittmans' generosity."

Dawn has a long history with libraries, serving as the director of the Lewiston City Library until her retirement in 2012, the same year she was named Idaho Librarian of the Year by the Idaho Library Association. In addition to contributing to the University as donors, the Wittmans support the Vandal legacy as parents: two of their five children are UI graduates. For information about joining Dawn and Dick Wittman in giving to the University of Idaho Library, contact Jim Zuba at 208-885-4142 or [jzuba@uidaho.edu](mailto:jzuba@uidaho.edu).

## IN THE NEWS



**Ben Hunter**, associate dean, was named the 2017 Idaho Library Association (ILA) Librarian of the Year. The annual award recognizes an outstanding member of the library profession who has made significant contributions to their library and communities. "There are so many incredible, dedicated people working in Idaho's libraries, it was hard for me to believe that I could have been selected for this award," he said. "Now that it has sunk in a little, I can only say that it's an incredible honor to be recognized by my peers in this way."



**Rick Stoddart**, associate professor and education librarian, was elected president of the Pacific Northwest Library Association (PNLA) in August. He has been a PNLA member since 2006 and held various PNLA leadership roles prior to being elected president this year including Vice President Elect in 2016-2017. He will also serve a third year on the PNLA Board of Directors as past-president in 2018-2019. In addition, Rick had a book published in August by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) that he helped write and edit. The book title is "The Self as Subject: Autoethnographic Research into Identity, Culture, and Academic Librarianship".

## TOWERS REDESIGN

Welcome to the new Towers! We hope you like it. Although the publication has a sparkling new design and feel, it retains its same important purpose—to share with you, our donors, the activities and "good news" of the University of Idaho Library. We are grateful for your generous support which allows the library to pursue excellence—for our students, the university and the state of Idaho. Please let us know what you think of the new Towers by contacting UI Library Marketing and Communications Manager Lisa Ormond at [lisao@uidaho.edu](mailto:lisao@uidaho.edu) or 208-885-6355. Your feedback is most welcomed.

## In the Works Second Floor Upgrades

The cosmetic renovations that started on the first floor of the library are now moving up to the second floor for the fall semester. New carpet, fresh paint, updated furniture and electrical work are all on the docket. The upgrades will not include any structural renovations, so disruptions to patrons should be minimal.

**University of Idaho**  
Library