

Spring 2016

## Portland State Library Update: News for Supporters and Friends; Spring 2016

Portland State University Library

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# PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY UPDATE

NEWS FOR SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS

Spring 2016

## From the Dean's Desk

Dean Marilyn K. Moody on  
elevating student success

## PDXScholar

A remarkable milestone:  
one million downloads

## Kids to Campus Day

Coloring, reading, and learning  
at the Library

## Spring Exhibit

Selections from Gretchen  
Kafoury's Papers

## Winter Exhibit

Celebrating the 40th anniversary  
of Women's Studies at PSU



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# FROM THE DEAN'S DESK



Dean Marilyn K. Moody

*Elevate Student Success.* That's how PSU's recent strategic plan describes our goal. At the Library, the focus on student success takes on multiple forms. For example, PSU Library faculty and staff constantly teach library instructional classes and workshops and help students one-on-one in using library services and collections to help them succeed. One article in this newsletter highlights the ways University Archivist and Head of Special Collections Cris Paschild supported Honors student Corinne Rupp in developing a unique senior thesis project.

Another newsletter article describes how our PDXScholar service provides ways for students to make the results of their student research available to others worldwide. This may mean publishing the results of their research as a journal article in the PSU *McNair Scholar's Journal*, as a thesis or dissertation, or as a paper or poster session included in the PSU Student Symposium conference proceedings. PDXScholar provides a powerful way for students' work to impact others and enhance the learning experience for PSU students.

A few additional examples of how the Library has helped our students succeed over the last academic year:

- Held periodic "listening sessions" with our students to find out what we can do to better help them
- Added access to over 1200 additional online journals
- Borrowed needed books we didn't already own from other libraries
- Provided access to desktop and laptop computers for our students
- Made additional copies of textbooks available to students on Library reserves
- Opened the Library 24 hours per day during finals and the end-of-term periods
- Created online tutorials and guides for student use in their classes
- Supported our students who are parents (see the great photos on the next page!)

Congratulations from the Library to our successful PSU graduating students!

Sincerely,



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# BRING YOUR KIDS TO CAMPUS DAY

On Friday, April 8, more than 280 kids came to campus with their parents, who are students, staff, and faculty at PSU. The Library hosted an afternoon event featuring healthy snacks, coloring, button-making, books from the Library's collection of award-winning children's literature, and, the biggest hit, drawing on whiteboards!

About 35 kids and their parents stopped by the Library. This annual event coincides with Portland Public Schools' teacher work day and is hosted by the PSU Resource Center for Students with Children.



Some of our visitors shared their delightful artwork with us.



The whiteboards in the library classroom were very popular, especially with our littlest visitors.



Kids and their parents enjoyed new boxes of crayons and the coloring pages we made just for this event.



We had a wide range of books available for families to read, including Star Wars comics from the Library's Dark Horse Comics Collection.



Librarian Joan Petit's son Solomon was thrilled to discover Star Wars graphic novels.

# SPRING EXHIBIT

## The Personal Is Political

Curated by PSU Honors College student Corinne Rupp, the Special Collections spring exhibit features Portland politician and activist Gretchen Kafoury (1942-2015). The exhibit, which draws on materials from Kafoury's papers, connects the passion she brought to the causes she fought for to each role she played in Oregon politics, whether organizing local actions or holding elected office.



Highlights include Kafoury's activism in the women's rights movement in Portland and in state government; her efforts locally as County and City Commissioner to establish and support social programs for those in need, particularly women and the homeless; and the part she played in legislating equal rights in Oregon. The exhibit offers an inside look into the workings of both official and unofficial politics through Kafoury's unflinching dedication, principles, and humor.

*The Personal is Political: Civic Life, Legislation, and Commitment to Social Justice* will be on view in the Library's first floor elevator lobby through July.

### Thanks Corinne!



Portland State senior Corinne Rupp has been interning in University Archives and Special Collections as part of her Honors College thesis, supervised by University Archivist Cris Paschild. Her project included processing part of the Gretchen Kafoury Papers and installing our current exhibit.

Corinne said, "It has truly been an amazing experience; I feel like I have an intimate knowledge of Gretchen now from working with her documents for so long. She had such an amazing joy for life that really comes out in the things she saved and the writings we have."

We've been delighted to have Corinne working with us at the Library. And we're delighted to share that her other internship, at the Museum of the Oregon Territory in Oregon City, has led to a post-graduation job as Director of Programs. Congratulations, Corinne!



# WINTER EXHIBIT IN REVIEW

## 40th Anniversary of Women's Studies at PSU

Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) at Portland State University originated in the late 1960s with the work of students, faculty, and community volunteers. Classes began in the early 1970s, with a formal certificate program in Women's Studies approved in 1976. After surviving budget cuts in the 1980s, the program grew in the 1990s, when the undergraduate major and minor were approved. In 2010, Women's Studies at PSU became Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and was also approved to become an academic department.

Using materials from University Archives, PSU Library Special Collections staff and WGSS alumna Rhiannon Cates curated the Library's winter exhibit. *Ever Forward: Forty Years of Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Portland State University* highlighted the passion and energy of the students and faculty dedicated to the foundation, survival, and growth of feminist and queer scholarship at Portland State.



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