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Stone Temple Pilot Project Unites the Library and Geology Museum

This past fall, the Arthur Lakes Library and the Mines Geology Museum joined forces to explore ways to collaborate on promoting more access to the Museum's unique collections, through digitization then ingesting that data into the Library's Institutional Repository. A Task Force was formed, dubbed the Stone Temple Pilot Project, comprising of Laura Guy, Christine Baker and Nick Iwanicki from the Library and Ed Raines, Museum Collections Manager. The team was also tasked with creating a set of recommendations for the future.

The team decided to focus on a set of 20-25 Geology Museum mineral specimens from the Creede Mining District in Colorado. Ed Raines did the original photography of the specimens and provided information about each specimen to Christine Baker, Metadata Librarian, for inclusion in the Institutional Repository. The team also worked on "Best Practices" for the digital image masters and subsequent copies for the Repository.

In order to add another educational component to the project, Nick Iwanicki, Special Collections Librarian, searched for Creede-related materials in the Library's Mining History Archive. Project Manager Laura Guy guided the project's flow utilizing a combination of her technical expertise and organizational skills.

The project involved experimenting with different workflows, attending bi-weekly project meetings and maintaining open lines of communication with each other. As of January 2018, the Stone Temple Pilot Project team added 23 Geology Museum mineral specimens and their associated metadata to the Library's Institutional Repository.



Stone Temple Pilot Project Team: Ed Raines, Christine Baker, Nick Iwanicki, Laura Guy

One of the most enjoyable outcomes for the Stone Temple Pilot Project team was seeing firsthand how the Museum and Library use their different strengths to complement one another. The Museum brings knowledge and understanding of how to present mineral specimens to audiences in a sophisticated and educated way. The Library develops metadata and provides access to these unique collections

through the Institutional Repository. Project Manager Laura Guy stated, "The Museum/Library Joint Task Force is very pleased with the results of our inaugural project. The pilot project gave us insights into future directions and we are happy to report that further collaborative efforts are currently underway. Stay tuned!"

Mines Institutional Repository: Mines Geology Museum
» dspace.library.colostate.edu/handle/11124/171842

the open door

Notes from the University Librarian, Carol Smith

Modern academic libraries are far more than just physical buildings filled with books, computers, and quiet places to study. When fully realized, they are dynamic, collaborative, physical and virtual platforms whose broader mission is to facilitate knowledge creation in their communities. This is admittedly an ambitious and far-reaching mission, but a truly exciting and inspiring one that motivates the faculty and staff of the Arthur Lakes Library every day.

An academic library's effectiveness directly relates to its ability to forge close strategic alignment and functional integration with the rest of the campus and our broader regional and scholarly communities. To achieve this broad and large-scale vision, libraries must become boundary-spanning organizations. The Arthur Lakes Library is fully committed to initiating, developing, and embracing collaborative partnerships that advance scholarly learning and research at Mines. This precept is contained within the Library's Vision Statement, which states, "The Arthur Lakes Library is the collaborative partner and intellectual nexus that bridges disciplines and communities across the Mines campus".

Inside this issue, you will find multiple recent examples of how the Library is forging such partnerships with the many constituencies we serve, including but not limited to the Geology Museum, the Geology Department, regional industry



Carol Smith and Jürgen Brune, Mining Engineering on the "M" Climb

and scientific organizations, the greater Golden community and most importantly, with the students of Mines.

Students voted for their favorite technologies to kick off our new "Gadgets to Go" lending program. Our Arabic-speaking students demonstrated their understanding that the Library is their library by approaching us with a wonderful proposal we were delighted and proud to help them realize. As University Librarian, the new "Little Free Arabic Library" is a source of particular professional and personal satisfaction. It demonstrates that the conversation the Library has begun with our stakeholders is blossoming into a true, two-way productive dialogue. The

members of our community know that they can approach us with (almost!) any initiative that supports knowledge exchange and creation, and the library faculty and staff are going to say, "Yes, we can make that happen."

Do you have an idea for sharing and expanding knowledge that just needs a platform and a bit of support to bring about? Whether you are faculty, staff, students, or community members, I encourage you to try it out on us. We'd love to say "Yes" to you!

As always, my door is an open one.

Upgrade Your World with Gadgets to Go

Need a GoPro for an upcoming ski trip or bike ride? Sketch directly to your computer? Check the weatherproofing of your house with a thermal camera? The Library is making these items available and more through our new "Gadgets to Go" pilot program. Mines faculty, students and staff can make a reservation for any of these items on the Library's website then pick them up at the Library's Front Desk. What could be easier than that?

Last fall, the Library selected a set of possible items for the pilot program then surveyed Mines students and staff for their top four choices. The Library plans to add additional items if the pilot project is a success. From all indications, the program is very popular indeed! Access the scheduling web page at mines.libcal.com/reserve/gadgets. "Gadgets to Go" items check out for 3 days.



at the library

Campus and Community Partnerships



Arabic Free Library Now Open to Campus

Sarah Alhumaidan shares her story:

We crossed miles overseas because of our passion for education and language was the only cultural tool that we packed with us. What is better than reading to keep our heritage and culture within us? What is better than a book to save us from losing our language? I have been touched by the fact that grabbing an Arabic book off the nearest shelf has not been an option as it had always been. Therefore, I came up with the idea of the little 'Free Arabic Library'. With the Saudi Students Club's support, I have been able to provide Arabs a corner to borrow and exchange Arabic books that we brought all the way from home.

The Arthur Lakes Library was the perfect place for us to share our love for our culture and mother language. They adopted the idea and were very welcoming and generous for hosting our mini library. I would really love to see more mini libraries from other cultures and languages next to ours.

What do you do when a student asks if the library has shelf space to house some Arabic reading material? Undergrad Sarah Alhumaidan approached our librarians wanting to create a free Arabic library in support of the Saudi Students Club. The Library was excited to support such a great idea and created shelf space for students to exchange Arabic materials near the main entrance.

“Sellout” Author Talk a Standout at the Library

Acclaimed author and award-winning filmmaker Victoria Bruce discussed her latest book, “Sellout: How Washington Gave Away America’s Technological Soul and One Man’s Fight to Bring It Home” at the Library in early February. Ms. Bruce is the recipient of the Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia University award for excellence in broadcast journalism for the film, “The Kidnapping of Ingrid Betancourt”. Her previous books are “No Apparent Danger” and “Hostage Nation”. She also holds a master’s degree in geology from the University of California, Riverside.

“Sellout” is the story of one citizen’s fight to preserve a U.S. stake in clean nuclear energy and the materials needed for high tech industries and national defense. Jim Kennedy, a retired securities trader bought a bankrupt mining operation in 2001. The mine was rich in rare earth elements but he soon discovered that China has a monopoly on the entire global supply and manufacturing chain. “Sellout” documents Kennedy’s ten-year campaign to



restore the rare earth minerals industry in the U.S. through exhaustive and persistent lobbying of government agencies including Congress, the Pentagon and the White House Office of Science and Technology.

After discussing her research and experiences in writing the book, Ms. Bruce joined a panel of experts including Dr.

Rod Eggert, Mineral Economics Chair and Mines Alum William Good, to field questions from the audience then participated in a book signing. “Sellout” is available for check out at the Library.

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