ENTRY FORM

Please type or print the following:

Penn State's University Libraries

Name of Nominated Library

Name of Institution: The Pennsylvania State University (Penn State)

Name of Library Director/Dean: Barbara I. Dewey, dean of University Libraries and Scholarly Communications

Mailing Address: 510 Paterno Library

City: University Park State: PA Zip Code: 16802-1812

Dean Office (____) 814 865-0401 Dean Home (____) Dean Cell (____)

Institution's Mission: The University Libraries at Penn State inspire intellectual discovery and learning, offer robust information resources and academic collaborations in teaching and research, and connect the Penn State community and residents of Pennsylvania to the world of knowledge and new ideas.

Type of Library (Please Check One):

- Doctorate-granting Universities and Master's College and Universities
- Baccalaureate Colleges
- Associate's Colleges

Submitted by (Full Name/Title): Catherine S. Grigor, manager of Public Relations and Marketing

Name of Institution: Penn State

Name of Library: Penn State's University Libraries

Office Phone (____) 814 863-4240 E-mail: cg3@psu.edu

If my institution is selected for the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award, I will organize and sponsor a ceremony on campus for the presentation of the award.

Signature of Library Director/Dean of Nominated Institution: Barbara I. Dewey

Date: December 3, 2014

(All entries must be received by December 5, 2014. They become the property of ACRL and will not be returned.)
Leadership ensuring

Equity of Access • Diversity and Inclusion • Ethics and Integrity

Sustainability • Empathy
MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

The University Libraries at Penn State:

- *inspire* intellectual discovery and learning,
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- *connect* the Penn State community and residents of Pennsylvania to the world of knowledge and new ideas.
This is Penn State

The Pennsylvania State University, founded in 1855, is the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s sole land-grant institution and its largest public university. Penn State’s land-grant mission embraces teaching, research, and public service in order to support the citizens of the Commonwealth, and it collaborates with industrial, educational, and agricultural partners to generate, disseminate, integrate, and apply knowledge that is valuable to society. The University generates approximately $8.5 billion in direct and indirect economic impact annually within Pennsylvania.

Penn State has 24 campuses across the Commonwealth—a campus within practical commuting distance of virtually every Pennsylvanian. Most offer the first two years of baccalaureate instruction as well as a limited number of four-year degree programs. More than half of the undergraduates who complete their studies at University Park start at another Penn State campus. The University includes Penn State Great Valley School of Graduate Professional Studies, Penn State College of Medicine at The Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, The Dickinson School of Law in Carlisle and at University Park, World Campus/Penn State Online, and the Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Penn State encompasses more than 22,000 acres and more than 1,784 buildings statewide, including 7,343 acres and 947 buildings at University Park.

Penn State has nearly 100,000 students and approximately 17,000 faculty and staff. It has a teaching hospital that provides care to more than a million patients a year; over one-half million active alumni; an online World Campus that empowers anyone to pursue an education—anytime, anywhere; and Thon, the largest student-run philanthropic organization on the planet.

Penn State teaches students that the real measure of success is what you do to improve the lives of others, and they learn to be hard-working leaders with a global perspective. Penn State conducts research to improve lives, adds millions to the economy through projects in Pennsylvania and beyond and helps communities by sharing faculty expertise and research.

Penn State students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends are dedicated to education and fostering a diverse and inclusive environment.
ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

The University Libraries, including 23 statewide locations, plus the World Campus, are Penn State's premiere resource and are ranked among the top-ten university research libraries in North America by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL). With more than 6.9 million volumes, among other resources, it is the largest research library in Pennsylvania and is one of the four state resource libraries that provide service and collections to all other libraries and citizens of the Commonwealth. Penn State's Libraries are the only academic research library of the four; the other three are the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, the State Library of Pennsylvania, and the Philadelphia Free Library.

See www.libraries.psu.edu.

VISION

Penn State's University Libraries are:

- world-class with a global reach;
- welcoming and inclusive promoting learning, collaboration, and knowledge creation;
- partners in research and education;
- leaders in delivery and preservation of library collections; and
- places that use technology and reward innovation.
Note from Dean Barbara I. Dewey

As dean of one of the top-ten university research libraries in North America, I have the good fortune to work with some of the brightest and most industrious librarians and staff imaginable. With 23 library locations throughout Pennsylvania, we are geographically dispersed; yet the wonders of the Internet and related technologies have given us the tools to be a cohesive and strong organization. Scholars and students, including World Campus/Penn State Online students, rely on our online collections as well as our traditional resources.

Individually and as an organization, we are committed to diversity and inclusion in our actions, services, and collections. Some of our recent acquisitions and programs offer powerful examples that reflect unique aspects of diversity and different ways of knowing. They include the Judy Chicago Art Education Collection and Dialogue Portal, the Sr. Joan D. Chittister Archive, and the ongoing ICIK series that explores indigenous knowledge.

Our librarians in partnership with teaching faculty prepare our students to be future leaders and problem solvers for the complex world. They create and oversee collections and services to offer a gateway into the world of information and knowledge for students as well as for faculty, staff, and community members.

The following pages highlight initiatives created and implemented by our librarians and staff for undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, staff, visiting scholars, and the general public. It is through their knowledge and ambition that we continue to expand the frontiers of services offered and collections represented.

The highly successful Knowledge Commons for the undergraduate, the Research Hub and Data Services Center for the upper-level researcher, ScholarSphere that offers a secure server for storing and sharing information for Penn State faculty and researchers, and countless other innovative services and partnerships are the result of the imagination and efforts of our librarians and staff. Our 36 Libraries offer valuable resources to the surrounding communities and virtually, 24/7, at www.libraries.psu.edu.

With membership in the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), the HathiTrust, the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), the Academic Preservation Trust (APTrust), the Digital Preservation Network (DPN), among others, we participate in a worldwide network of information providers, intent on solving the challenges before us.

Penn State just completed a 7-year initiative “For the Future: The Campaign for Penn State Students” that raised $2 billion. Our Libraries raised $45 million, and of this amount, the Libraries’ faculty and staff contributed $5 million because they believe in our mission.

As we launch a new 5-year strategic plan, and as this year draws to a close, a new administrative team comprising three new associate deans and our current associate dean for Collections, Information, and Access Services will join me to support the efforts of our librarians and staff as they expand services and facilities and participate in the innovation and the partnerships that set Penn State’s Libraries apart.

All the best,

Barbara I. Dewey
Dean of University Libraries and Scholarly Communications

A typically busy day in the Knowledge Commons
Advancing University Research

As researchers and partners in creating and sharing new knowledge worldwide, the Libraries provide strong academic research collections in all formats and invest in new collaborations to keep pace with changes in scholarly communications.

A Center for the Humanities and Information (CHI) has been formed in collaboration with the College of the Liberal Arts to support research on the role information plays in the production of social meaning and value across the human sciences, from the orality-literacy transition to the new digital media. It supports faculty and graduate students with postdoctoral, doctoral, and internal faculty fellowships and brings together interdisciplinary groups of scholars. CHI works extensively with the Arts and Humanities Library (and the proposed Humanities Lab) as well as with Publishing and Curation Services.

The Census Research Data Center, a partnership with the College of the Liberal Arts and the Social Science Research Center, opened to provide a secure connection to data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau and the National Center for Health Statistics. It is one of only 16 facilities in the country and the only one located within a major research library.

A partnership with Penn State’s Art Education Department has created a Dialogue Portal with an invitation from Judy Chicago (judychicago.arted.psu.edu/invitation-from-judy-chicago) and continues to add content to the Judy Chicago Art Education Collection (judychicago.arted.psu.edu/about/onsite-archive/)—one of the most important private collections of feminist art education.

A Digital Humanities Research Designer has been co-hired with the College of the Liberal Arts.

A Digital Humanities Seminar Series, in partnership with the College of the Liberal Arts and Information Technology Services and Solutions, now in its second year, introduces some of the key approaches and tools utilized across Digital Humanities scholarship. Participants are exposed to best practices in the field's methodology and discuss the scholarly implications of digital research methods. Each seminar focuses on a specific aspect of the Digital Humanities. The seminar series is particularly suited to humanities students and faculty looking to use computation in their research.

Indispensable to research in the Libraries, graduate assistants offer a variety of skill sets and unique interests and in return receive engaged learning opportunities and professional experience.

The People’s Contest website (peoplescontest.psu.edu), now in its fifth year, details Pennsylvania home-front news during the Civil War and explores digital datasets.

In the September 2014 issue, the Journal of American History—the flagship journal of scholars of American history—gave high praise to The People’s Contest website at Penn State.

“The People's Contest: A Civil War Era Digital Archive” is a collaborative project of Penn State’s University Libraries and the Richards Civil War Era Center. The project promotes research into the lived experience of Pennsylvanians between 1851 and 1874, and its website features a unique bibliographic database of hidden collections from historical societies throughout the state, digitized manuscripts, and contextual essays.

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For the upper-level researcher, the Research Hub (www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/researchhub/services.html) provides specialized data and geospatial services. An on-site statistical consultant offers assistance with research design, data collection, data manipulation and statistical analysis, and a spatial analyst consultant provides assistance with spatial software and spatial research methodology.


Promoting open access, ScholarSphere (scholarsphere.psu.edu) is Penn State’s repository service, dedicated to helping the Penn State community manage, share, and preserve their research materials for ongoing access. It offers individuals barrier-free open access, a persistent url, a way to brand themselves as researchers, tools to disseminate research, database management that is vital to success in obtaining NSF and NIH funding, a way to link to data sets in their published research, and an online depository for pre- or post-print publications.

Seven endowed chairs, two Distinguished Librarians, two Career Librarianships support special initiatives, such as the exploration of digital tools under development with application to the humanities, “Linked Open Data and Humanities Scholarship: a Report from the (Archeological) Field” (news.psu.edu/story/307601/2014/03/17/public-events/tombros-lecture-highlight-linked-open-data-humanities), led by Charles E. Jones, the Tombros Librarian for Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies.

- Louis and Virginia Benzak Business Librarian (Diane Zabel, librarian and head of the William and Joan Schreyer Business Library)
- Distinguished Librarians (Linda Musser, librarian and head of the Fletcher L. Byrom Earth and Mineral Sciences Library, and John Attig, monograph cataloging librarian)
- Dorothy Foehr Huck Chair for Special Collections (Timothy D. Pyatt, librarian and head of The Eberly Family Special Collections Library)
- Larry and Ellen Foster Communications Librarian Endowment (Jeffrey A. Knapp, associate librarian)
- Sally W. Kalin Early Career Librarianship for Learning Innovations (Emily Rimland, associate librarian and information literacy librarian)
- Sally W. Kalin Early Career Librarianship for Technological Innovations (Dawn Childress, associate librarian and humanities librarian)
- Paterno Family Librarian Endowment in Literature (William Brockman, librarian)
- Eric N. and Bonnie S. Prystowsky Early Career Science Libraries Professorship (to be appointed)
- Judith O. Sieg Chair for Preservation in the University Libraries (L. Suzanne Kellerman, librarian)
- Tombros Librarian for Classics and Ancient Mediterranean Studies (Charles E. Jones, librarian)

Since 2011, four annual Travel Grant Awards have been given to promote use and disseminate information about the collections in The Eberly Family Special Collections Library.

Right: Travel Grant Award winners Emily Van Dette, from SUNY Fredonia, and Giorgia Aquilar (inset), from University of Naples Federico II, Italy

Left, from top: Timothy D. Pyatt, Jeffrey A. Knapp, Emily Rimland, William Brockman, Charles E. Jones
Discovery, Access, and Preservation

The Libraries collect, organize, and ensure long-term, durable access to information in all forms.

- This year, Penn State’s Libraries joined the Academic Preservation Trust (APTrust), a growing consortium of 20 academic institutions developing shared best practices, policies and technical infrastructure to support the long-term stewardship of digital material. Committed to the creation and management of a preservation repository that will aggregate academic and research content from many institutions, the APTrust bases solutions on respected open source technologies that are scalable, sustainable, and provide audit functionality.

- Begun in 2006, a partnership between the Penn State Alumni Association and the Libraries formed the Alumni Library Online (alumni.libraries.psu.edu) to give access to Penn State Libraries’ Digitized Collections. Additionally, Penn State Alumni Association members are able to use a selection of online databases not available to the general public.

- The Libraries continue to build robust collections and expand digital collections through collaborative purchasing with the Committee on Institutional Collaboration (CIC), HathiTrust digitization efforts, and the digitization of locally held unique collections.

- With support of the Andrew Mellon Challenge Grant of $1.25 million, matched by $1 million from the King Family Foundation, the Libraries are well underway in developing a robust Conservation Unit within its Digitization and Preservation Department. The program contributes to the conservation profession in the areas of specialization through services to the community, research and presentations, and it serves as an educational resource for library staff, to the University, to other institutions and regional cultural heritage communities, and to the public.

  William Minter, with more than 35 years of experience in the field of conservation and fine bookbinding, began his appointment this year as the Libraries’ first senior book conservator. A conservation laboratory includes both wet and dry treatment areas. View a Flickr feed to see some of the unit’s activities: www.flickr.com/photos/128917293@N02/sets.

- The Libraries participated in the inaugural meeting of the Digital Preservation Network (DPN) (www.dpn.org), an organization formed to ensure that the complete scholarly record is preserved by the academy for future generations. The DPN provides an essential framework to preserve digital materials, to retool publication workflows for a digital world, and to efficiently build a national preservation cyberinfrastructure (e.g., network, computation, and transient storage needs). As a member, the Libraries will work to create paths to supplement and connect current best efforts into a complete preservation solution.

  The Digital Preservation Strategies Team charted an action plan necessary to ensure continued access to digital information.

- Penn State’s Libraries are members of Duraspace, an organization providing leadership and innovation for open technologies that promote durable, persistent access to digital data to help ensure that current and future generations have access to our collective digital heritage. As active members and leaders in the Hydra development community, the Libraries use open-source software and contribute to the overall effort.

- The Libraries continue to add to its Electronic Thesis and Dissertations Program. It began in 1998 with doctoral dissertations submissions, and now includes all Penn State thesis, dissertations, and undergraduate honors publications.
HathiTrust, a digital preservation repository and functional access platform, launched just over 6 years ago. Penn State’s Libraries were among universities that sent more than 12 million volumes for the Google-digitized Content initiative and continue as an active partner in initiatives seeking to ensure long-term preservation and access for public-domain and in-copyright content from a variety of sources, including Google, the Internet Archive, Microsoft, and in-house partner institution initiatives.

The Libraries digitize small to medium sized library collections as part of its In-House Digital Production in an annual call for digitized projects that began in 1992. The projects can be viewed on the Digital Collections Homepage at www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/digital.html.

Since 2010, the Libraries have been a member of the MetaArchive Cooperative, a cost-effective international repository system that provides long-term care of digital materials and shares with a network of members for archival storage.

New positions at Penn State University Park were created to meet the expanding opportunities and challenges surrounding digitization. They include: a metadata strategist; a geospatial services librarian; and a digital humanities research designer, web developer, social sciences data curation fellow, and research assistant in Publishing and Curation Services.

As the publishing arm of Penn State and a division of the University Libraries, the Penn State University Press is dedicated to serving the University community, the citizens of Pennsylvania, and scholars worldwide by publishing books and journals of the highest quality. The Press promotes scholarship by disseminating knowledge—new information, interpretations, methods of analysis—with an emphasis on core fields of the humanities and social sciences.

It is moving forward into the next generation of scholarly publishing utilizing new media technologies and new formulas for scholarly publishing that are being developed to offer access to valuable scholarly materials all with the simple use of a computer.

This past year, the Press co-published with Nanjing University Press, The Collection of Critical Biographies of Chinese Thinkers, under the general editorship of Professor Kuang Yaming, the late honorary president of Nanjing University. The publication is the most comprehensive collection of research materials on Chinese thinkers assembled since the beginning of the twentieth century.

The Pennsylvania Digital Newspaper Project, Phase III (PaDNP3) was completed this year and digitized from microfilm approximately 109,000 pages from historic newspaper titles published between 1836 and 1922 and uploaded the items to Chronicling America, a free online repository of digitized newspapers from across the country maintained by the Library of Congress.

Publishing and Curation Services (PCS) is a digital scholarship services department working collaboratively to advance and achieve the research, teaching, and learning goals of the Penn State community. Key service areas are data curation, publishing, and digital projects. Current projects include a complete online archive of back issues of Pennsylvania History; an online series in Romance language and literature; and Metalmark Books, a joint imprint of the Libraries and the Press.

In the spring, Penn State’s Research Data Center (RDC) opened as one of 16 U.S. Census Research Data Centers. It is the only center connected with a library, and its proximity to the Research Hub in Paterno Library at Penn State University Park is expected to energize both areas. The centers, mostly located in major cities and research hubs across the nation, provide approved researchers access to economic and census data that are currently restricted and difficult to obtain.

The facility provides a secure connection to data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau and the National Center for Health Statistics. It is a crucial resource for faculty members and graduate students in areas such as economics, demography, statistics, sociology and the health sciences. In particular, it will give graduate students unparalleled project experience, attract grant funding, and allow query beyond public data.
Diversity

Diversity and inclusion are among the foundational values that guide the Libraries in conduct, charting of priorities, and resource allocation. Embracing difference with acceptance and respect, the Libraries aim to:

- **create** an environment of respect and inclusion for faculty, staff, students, and residents of Pennsylvania;
- **provide** collections and programs that reflect the diversity of the community and raise cultural awareness;
- **ensure** equitable access to facilities, resources, and services; and
- **work** to improve its workforce by attracting and developing talented faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds.

Libraries’ **collections and programs** reflect unique aspects of diversity and different ways of knowing.

- The **Libraries’ Adaptive Technology and Service** (ATS) works with the University's Office of Disabilities Services and Information to provide individualized, flexible services and resources for persons with disabilities. Coordinator of ATS Susan Hayya works with town and gown partners, including volunteers, to serve this group and also to create awareness of disabilities among others with programs focusing on high-profile celebrities and speakers with disabilities such as actress Geri Jewell and author Michael Chorost.

- The **Judy Chicago interactive Dialogue Portal** ([judychicago.arted.psu.edu/dialogue/](http://judychicago.arted.psu.edu/dialogue/)) aims to spark a long-overdue dialogue about the state of studio art education and archive the conversation within the Judy Chicago Art Education Collection ([judychicago.arted.psu.edu/](http://judychicago.arted.psu.edu/)) in The Eberly Family Special Collections Library.

- A collaboration with Mercyhurst University in Erie and the Benedictine Sisters of Erie to archive materials of **Sister Joan D. Chittister**, OSB, has made accessible books, articles, reviews, presentations, speeches, homilies, interviews, and newspaper columns related to her life and work. Chittister, an internationally renowned writer and lecturer, is one of the most articulate social analysts and influential religious leaders of this age.

- Since 2010 a partnership between the **Interinstitutional Consortium for Indigenous Knowledge** (ICIK) and the Libraries has presented an ongoing series of lectures highlighting the importance of indigenous knowledge. The 2nd annual Margaret Grant Whiting Student Indigenous Knowledge Research Awards were also presented this past year.

Dean Barbara I. Dewey was recognized by Penn State with the Award for University Administration at the 2014 Way Pavers Award Luncheon, hosted by the **Council of College Multicultural Leadership (CCML)**. As the leader of Penn State’s Libraries, Dewey’s efforts to foster diversity influence the entire organization from the Dean’s Library Council, librarians and staff, to student workers, in meeting the information needs of patrons from every walk of life and country.

An ongoing **Diversity Committee** promotes a positive attitude toward diversity and inclusion and creates and maintains a welcoming and respectful environment for all library employees and patrons. Among many initiatives, the committee has developed a University Libraries Civility Statement and Guidelines, has created exhibitions for the Diversity Studies Room, and has hosted a wide variety of educational programs, including the film, “Girl Rising” and an ongoing colloquium series. Among the presentations this past year were “Asian American Academic Library Leadership,” “Daniel Murray: the first African American to hold a professional position in the Library of Congress,” and the “2014 University Libraries’ Climate and Diversity Survey.”

According to data compiled by the American Library Association in 2012, professional librarians are predominantly female and white, but librarians of color are underrepresented in the profession in any setting. As libraries serve everyone, regardless of background, it is vital that librarians should come from all backgrounds to help reach diverse constituencies. In fall 2013, Dewey began a **Diversity Librarian Residency Program**, with two librarians in a two-year program aimed at helping to prepare recent graduates for leadership positions in the field of librarianship. The program’s goal is to increase diversity among Penn State’s Libraries’ faculty, increase diversity in the profession, and enhance Penn State’s reputation as a leader in promoting and cultivating diversity in all areas.

Beyond the residency program the Libraries work hard to cultivate a climate that embraces difference. The **Dean’s Diversity Forum** this past year hosted Mark Puente, the director of diversity and leadership programs at the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), and Janice S. Welburn, dean of Libraries, Marquette University.

Penn State Outreach Archivist Doris Malkmus traveled to Penn State campuses to present “Queering Penn State History,” the story of Penn State’s first gay student organization, circa 1968–1974.
Leadership

In the national arena, Penn State librarians are influencing outcomes related to information literacy, services, and technology with high-profile appointments, prolific publications adding to the literature of librarianship, and a host of awards.

Thomson Reuters identified Penn State's Libraries among the top five U.S. institutions contributing the highest number of papers to the Web of Science field of Information Science and Library Science over the recent five-year period.

- This year Dean Barbara I. Dewey was appointed to the PubMed Central National Advisory Committee of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). As a committee member in this four-year appointment, Dewey will advise the NIH on the content and operation of the PubMed Central repository and help to establish criteria: to certify groups submitting materials to the system, to monitor the operation of the system, and to ensure that PMC evolves and remains responsive to the needs of researchers, publishers, librarians, and the general public. This archive gives free online access to approximately 3 million full-text articles from biomedical and life sciences journal literature.


- Ellysa Stern Cahoy, education and behavioral sciences librarian and assistant director for the Pennsylvania Center for the Book, and Loanne Snavely, librarian and head of Library Learning Services, received the ACRL Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award that recognizes an individual librarian who has made an especially significant contribution to the advancement of instruction in a college or research library environment.

- Barbara Coopey, librarian and assistant head of Access Services, received ALA’s Virginia Boucher-OCLC Distinguished ILL Librarian Award, in recognition of outstanding professional achievement, leadership, and contributions to interlibrary loan and document delivery.

- Lisa German, librarian and associate dean for Collections Information and Access Services, received the ALCTS Harrassowitz Award for Leadership in Library Acquisitions in recognition of her contributions and outstanding leadership to the field of acquisitions librarianship.

- Assistant Librarian Patricia Hswe, digital content strategist and head of ScholarSphere User Services at Penn State and co-director of the department of Publishing and Curation Services, was appointed to the Digital Library Federation Advisory Committee (DLF), within the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) in Washington, DC. The committee advises the DLF director on matters relating to program activities, initiatives, partnerships and strategies.

  CLIR is an independent, nonprofit organization that forges strategies to enhance research, teaching, and learning environments in collaboration with libraries, cultural institutions, and communities of higher learning. It aims to promote forward-looking collaborative solutions that transcend disciplinary, institutional, professional, and geographic boundaries in support of the public good. Hswe’s participation in the DLF committee will bring Penn State to the forefront in a program that aims to build and support a robust, engaged community whose members share an interest in advancing research, teaching, and learning through the application of digital library research, technology and services.

- Associate Librarian Alexia I. Hudson-Ward was selected by Penn State’s administration to be a 2014–15 CIC Academic Leadership Program (ALP) Fellow (www.cic.net/Home/Projects/Leadership/ALP/Introduction.aspx). She is among five faculty selected by Penn State to attend this program that addresses the challenges of academic administration at major research universities. One of the most successful Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) leadership initiatives, ALP was established in 1989 to develop the leadership and managerial skills of faculty who have demonstrated exceptional ability and academic promise. Many of the programs’ nearly 1,000 fellows have gone on to serve with distinction as college presidents, provosts, and deans.
A Penn State team, including Librarian Amy Paster, head of the Life Sciences Library, won the 2013 AgNIC Partner of the Year Award that recognizes outstanding contribution to the vision and goals of the Agriculture Network Information Collaborative (AgNIC). The team received accolades for developing research databases related to 4-H and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, also known as EFNEP and was selected to receive the 2013 Oberly Award for Bibliography in the Agricultural or Natural Sciences from the Association of College and Research Libraries’ Science and Technology Section.

Thomas Reinsfelder, assistant librarian at Penn State Mont Alto, was instrumental in creating the peer-reviewed, open access journal, “Pennsylvania Libraries: Research & Practice (PaLRaP),” sponsored by the College and Research Division of the Pennsylvania Library Association.

Librarian Courtney Young is the 2014–2015 president of the American Library Association (ALA). On a recent NPR broadcast on Marketplace Tech, Young, who is head librarian and associate professor of women’s studies at Penn State Greater Allegheny, commented on “How tech is changing reading at the libraries.” See www.marketplace.org/topics/tech/learningcurve/how-tech-changing-reading-libraries. As president of ALA, Young is at the forefront of decision-making and policy changes for the future of American libraries, including work with publishers to create viable models for e-book circulation, the reconfiguration of space for computers and internet access and the creation of educational programs on new electronic gadgets to keep library patrons up-to-date and informed.

The second cohort of the Penn State Library Leaders Program launched with three faculty who aspire to leadership positions and includes Russ Hall, reference librarian, Penn State Erie, The Behrend College; Patricia Hswe, digital contents strategist and head, ScholarSphere User Services, Penn State University Park; and Valerie Lynn, head librarian, Penn State Hazleton. The program, which began in 2011 by Dean Dewey, helps to bridge the gap and builds a pool of Penn State librarians who are prepared to fill leadership roles as they arise, both at Penn State and at other institutions across the nation.

With the success of the Library Leaders Program, current plans are underway to implement a mentoring program for fixed-term faculty.

From top: Paster, Reinsfelder, Young, Hall
Teaching and Learning

Penn State’s Libraries provide leadership in the promotion of critical thinking that supports curricular and lifelong learning and teach students, faculty, staff, and community members how to discover, evaluate, use, organize, and create information.

- Awards offer incentives, including an Award for Undergraduate Research in Sustainability and the Environment, Student Indigenous Knowledge Research Awards, Annual Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Awards; and Information Literacy Awards.

- A newly hired Libraries copyright specialist, in consultation with Information Technology Services (ITS) and the University’s General Counsel, is in place to support the growing complexities of copyright in the digital age, to advise the Libraries on national and international copyright matters, and to help craft policies to provide the fullest possible access to the Libraries’ collections. Serving as an expert in the University community for copyright, fair use, Teach Act, and other related issues, the position supports the University’s mission by developing an outreach, education, and consultation program that helps students and faculty understand how copyright and related concepts affect their work, as well as how they can make informed decisions in the use and creation of copyrighted works. The position serves as a resource for the Libraries’ growing programs of digitization, research data curation, and digital scholarship and coordinates with the Office of General Counsel, ITS, among others to help develop and apply polices for intellectual property in the University.

- GIS Day, a worldwide celebration—the annual salute to geospatial technology and its power to transform and better our lives, was held during Geography Awareness Week. The University Libraries and the Department of Geography cosponsored the event to raise awareness of geospatial information, the many possibilities and opportunities of geographic information systems (GIS), and activities related to GIS at Penn State University Park.

- The Tombros and McWhirter Knowledge Commons at Penn State University Park offers media production rooms for movie editing, a One-Button Studio for presentation practice, a service desk for help with software and hardware issues, laptop charging lockers, storage lockers, scanning equipment and printers, group study rooms, comfortable seating, and more.

The American Library Association’s (ALA) Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP) and the Library & Information Technology Association (LITA) named the One-Button Studio a 2014 Cutting Edge Service—an example of a creative use of technology that can and should be replicated by libraries across the country.

Any time night or day, the Knowledge Commons is the go-to place for undergraduates. The seamless blend of library and technology services is the result of a strong partnership with Information Technology Services (ITS), a unit charged with ensuring that Penn State students, faculty, and staff have the information technology tools and infrastructure necessary to carry out the University’s mission of teaching, research, and service.

An exploration of expansion of the Knowledge Commons at University Park is underway as well as replicating this facility and services at statewide campus library locations.

One patron noted, “Chat service is the best!”

Ask a Librarian online reference service launched to assist patrons from around the world.

2014 Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Award winners
As MOOCs (Massive Online Open Courses) continue to gain in popularity, the Libraries have taken a proactive stance to provide research guides that will assist the teachers helping and the many students enrolled in the wide variety of classes. These free MOOCs typically include students who are not registered Penn State students, and thus may not use the Libraries’ numerous licensed online databases or course reserve content restricted to Penn State credit classes.

To support all MOOC students who need resources, the Libraries launched a new research guide, MOOCs for Learners (www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/researchguides/mooc_learners.html). The approach and content of this guide is targeted to both experienced and novice students and to other learners navigating the world of MOOCs. This guide complements the MOOCs for Educators (www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/researchguides/MOOC.html), targeted to faculty who may be seeking resources to use in their MOOC as alternatives to content from our licensed databases or other copyrighted content for which they are not able to obtain permission to use.

An annual open house attracts more than 3,300 undergraduate students in a two-day period and familiarizes them with library resources and services.

An instructor in the Smeal College of Business Administration has provided first-year students with some extra incentive to fully utilize business resources available in the Libraries—a connection that will benefit them throughout their college careers and beyond. The project requires students to complete a two-page company and industry research analysis, using library databases like Hoover’s, Standard & Poor’s NetAdvantage, ABI/Inform, and Business Source Premier. Since the course touches every first-year Smeal student, in four years all business students will have been connected to the library. In a semester, the scale of the project connects library research consultants with more than 1,300 individual students. This partnership with the William and John Schreyer Business Library gives students research skills that they can apply to future coursework, case competition preparation, and research for internships and jobs.

Penn State READS is an annual University initiative that selects a book to be read and discussed by incoming freshmen. This year’s book was Americanah, a novel by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie that examines the human experience and identity. Multiple copies were available in the Leisure Reading Collection, and Ellysa Stern Cahoy, librarian in the Education and Behavioral Sciences Library and assistant director for the Pennsylvania Center for the Book, hosted a public interview with Adichie.

The Primary Research Group notes Penn State Libraries as one of 24 institutions worldwide cited by participants for excellence in tutorial development.

A team of librarians from Library Learning Services has customized a Research Project Calculator (RPC) at www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/toolswidgets/rpc_instruct.html for Penn State students that gives a simple and comprehensive step-by-step model for navigating the research process. It allows students to enter a due date for a research assignment and in return breaks the project into steps, providing sources for help and information along the way.

A Student Financial Education Center in Paterno Library offers a student-to-student resource for financial literacy. Complementing the center is a monthly Money Counts: a Financial Literacy Series, a collaborative effort of the Penn State Commission for Adult Learners and the Libraries. Past workshops include budgeting fundamentals, student loans, mortgages, financial challenges for the military, financial literacy for women, identity theft, financial literacy, debt management, credit cards, among others.

Library services are being delivered to the growing World Campus/Penn State Online providing thousands of e-books, e-journals, e-newspapers, as well as items not online that can be requested through The CAT, the online catalog, or ILLiad, an Interlibrary Loan account.
Selected 2014 Publications

University Libraries, Penn State

- Nancy Adams, assistant librarian, Penn State Hershey Library, “A Comparison of Evidence-Based Practice and the ACRL Information Literacy Standards: Implications for Information Literacy Practice,” College and Research Libraries.


- Paige Andrew, librarian, Cataloging and Metadata Services, RDA and Cartographic Materials.


- Chris Avery, associate librarian, Administration, and Diane Zabel, librarian, Business Library (editors). Bob Alan, associate librarian, Acquisition Services; Anne Behler, associate librarian, Library Learning Services; Sue Kellerman, librarian, Digitization and Preservation; Linda Musser, librarian, Earth and Mineral Sciences Library; Christopher Walker, associate librarian, Cataloging and Metadata Services (contributors), Rethinking Collection Development and Management.


- Lisa German, librarian, associate dean for Collections Information and Access Services, SPEC Kit #339.


- Jessica (Penny) Huffman, assistant librarian, Business Library, “Citation Managers as Gateways to Academic Integrity,” Journal of Business & Finance Librarianship.


- Chuck Jones, librarian, Arts and Humanities Library, The Ancient World Online (blog).

- Jeff Knapp, associate librarian, Business Library, “Retaining students by embedding librarians into undergraduate research experiences,” Reference Services Review.


Glenn Masuchika, assistant librarian, Library Learning Services, "Problems of Scholar-Created, Synonymous Subject Terms in Buddhism," Library Review.


Sylvia Owiny, associate librarian, Social Science Library, "The Use of Social Media Technologies to Create, Preserve, and Disseminate Indigenous Knowledge and Skills to Communities in East Africa," International Journal of Communication.

Sarah Pickle, assistant librarian, Publishing and Curation Services, Sustaining the Digital Humanities: Host Institution Support beyond the Start-Up Phase.

Tom Reinsfelder, assistant librarian, Penn State Mont Alto Library, "WorldCat, the other ETD Database: An Exploratory Study," The Reference Librarian.


Helen Smith, associate librarian, Life Sciences Library, and Diane Zabel, librarian, Business Library (featured in acknowledgements), Principles of Agribusiness Management by James Beierlein.

Courtney Young, librarian, Penn State Greater Allegheny Library, “We Are Global: Individually and collectively, we make a difference,” American Libraries.
December 5, 2014

Association of College and Research Libraries
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Awards Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I support the application for the Penn State Libraries to receive the 2015 ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. Ranked among the nation’s top research libraries, our libraries are at the heart of the academic and intellectual life of our university.

In 1893 Penn State President George Atherton said, “A library is the soul of a great institution.” Those words speak volumes about the Penn State Libraries and their role in supporting teaching, research, and service. As a gateway to the still advancing information resources of our times and the timeless value of traditional collections, the role of the library in the university community is more vital than ever.

What’s more, advancements in information technology have brought transformative changes to our research libraries, and have opened up new ways to collaborate, share information, conduct research and publish findings. For example, the Penn State Census Bureau Research Data Center, located in the library, offers datasets that are not anonymized and therefore offer new opportunities for innovative, in-depth statistical analysis by scholars in many fields including economics, sociology, health services, and demography.

In addition, our libraries have taken a leadership role in creating technology-rich, student-centered learning environments, and are advancing our collective knowledge with involvement in the Google Book Project, electronic databases, and the Knowledge Commons.

It’s also notable that while technology has led to extraordinary changes in our libraries, each year more than 400,000 books are checked out; there are 70,000 reference transactions and 43,000 interlibrary loans; and there are about 4 million regular searches of the electronic databases.

Penn State is very fortunate that Penn State Libraries have the leadership of Barbara Dewey as they continue to serve Penn State and the surrounding communities. I highly recommend Penn State Libraries to receive your prestigious award, and I urge you to give this application your most thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Eric J. Barron
December 3, 2014

Association of College and Research Libraries
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Awards Committee:

I am writing in enthusiastic support of the application from Penn State University Libraries for the 2015 ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. Our Libraries, led by Dean Barbara Dewey, are an essential partner in achieving the University’s mission, and their initiatives are models of innovation and best practices.

The Libraries directly support the University’s strategic priorities, including academic excellence, engaged scholarship, and information literacy. They provide leadership to the entire University on issues of records management and digital preservation.

The Libraries have been leaders in diversity – recruiting and developing faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds, building collections that reflect multiple cultures, and offering diversity programs and exhibits in partnership with other University units. Penn State’s earliest efforts to make print materials accessible for persons with visual impairments originated in the Libraries, and this effort continues today with the Libraries’ Office of Adaptive Technology and Services that works to meet the needs of students, staff, and faculty with disabilities.

Surmounting the challenges of multiple locations and facilities, increasing expectations from faculty and students, and fiscal constraints, Penn State Libraries continue to provide exceptional service, strong academic collections, as well as safe, welcoming, and truly innovative learning environments.

Sincerely,

Nicholas P. Jones