The new SMART Lab is a shining example of-a-kind SMART Lab and a significant expansion of the Library's wildly popular Learning Commons. As a result, we have another landmark facility to be proud of here at the University of South Florida, and USF is now ranked among the Top 50 research universities in the country, as named by the National Science Foundation. In the fall of 2012, USF welcomed its most academically accomplished freshman class ever. But we will not stop there.

Our goal is to see students through to graduation and the start of a successful career, and that’s why USF is relentlessly committed to student success. As a result, we have another landmark facility to be proud of here at the University of South Florida. This fall, the USF Libraries opened our new, one-of-a-kind SMART Lab and a significant expansion of the Library’s wildly popular Learning Commons.

The new SMART Lab is a shining example of that ongoing commitment. It provides our students with the latest high-tech tools for learning, with a particular focus on more effective ways of teaching mathematics and other STEM subjects. This is the sort of investment that enhances understanding of USF’s quality, excite students, and provide all of you the tools to be successful in reaching your goals.

The first floor Learning Commons student study area has long been the most in-demand space on campus. Now it has expanded onto the second floor, with more seating and electrical outlets—the two things students asked for most. The result is a centrally located, attractive, and comfortable space to meet, study, and collaborate.

I’d like to thank Provost Ralph Wilcox, Vice Provost for Student Success Paul Dosai, and USF Libraries Dean Bill Garrison for bringing this creative vision a reality, as well as Chief Technology Officer Michael Pearce and Vice President for Administrative Services Sandy Lovins and their teams for bringing this project to fruition.

But the most important people to thank are our students, for investing your technology fees in the SMART Lab and expanded Learning Commons.

Your success is our highest priority.

Thank you!

JUDY GENSHAFT
President, University of South Florida System

THE PAST SEVERAL DECADES HAVE SEEN UNPRECEDEDENT CHANGE IN LIBRARIES AND HIGHER EDUCATION, WITH EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES LEADING TO NEW WAYS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING. AND, ONCE AGAIN, USF IS AT THE FOREFRONT IN ADAPTING TO THESE CHANGES WITH A VARIETY OF SOLUTIONS.

To be successful in this new era, libraries will move beyond simply providing information more accessible to addressing learning outcomes important to student achievement; beyond number of volumes and circulation data to embracing new tools and technology. They will progress from merely a content view (books, subject knowledge) to focus on a competency view (what students can do with that knowledge). What is most important is how the libraries can provide solutions that measurably impact the quality of learning.

While the widespread use of the Internet and search engines such as Google and the adoption of cloud-based technologies present new challenges to the role of university-based libraries in a world where information is available anywhere, anytime, USF has placed renewed emphasis on its Libraries in order to develop innovative education paradigms and help students cultivate the digital media literacy essential to success in the global economy of the 21st century.

Within that highly competitive framework, it’s not enough to be able to locate pertinent data. One also must know how to select those that are most relevant, how to assess and evaluate them for bias and credibility, how to synthesize it effectively and present it accurately. These are but a few of the indispensable contributions that contemporary university libraries and library staff make to the academic mission of leading institutions such as USF, and certainly among the many reasons that research continues to demonstrate a positive relationship between grade point average and the number of times students make use of those resources.

Combining extensive collections in convenient formats with state-of-the-art technology—including the addition of a Science, Math, and Research Technology (SMART) Lab, expansion of the popular Learning Commons, and continuing growth of the Office for Undergraduate Research—the USF Libraries remain the epicenter of the university’s student success initiatives. Through its web site lib.usf.edu—recognized as one of the best in the nation—as well as online and face-to-face instructional workshops and classes, reference services delivered via chat, text, and e-mail, and programs such as Research Rescue that offer on-demand help on conducting research for a project or paper, the USF Libraries continue to ensure that the university’s 3,000-plus faculty members and nearly 48,000 students become successful and innovative leaders in their respective fields.

I congratulate Libraries Dean Bill Garrison and his team on the conclusion of another busy and successful year, and reaffirm my confidence that moving forward, the Libraries’ plans and activities will continue to advance USF’s strategic priorities of student success; integrated, interdisciplinary inquiry; research and innovation; community engagement; and global literacy and impact.

RALPH C. WILCOX
Provost & Executive Vice President, University of South Florida
Message from the Dean

What an incredible year of progress for the USF Libraries! Early in the spring semester, we began a programming partnership with the USF Career Center that has engaged nearly 2,000 students with in-person career counseling, informal conversations with the Bay area’s top corporate recruiters during ‘Careers & Coffee’ events, and lectures by seasoned professionals who wish to help students succeed. All of this has taken place right in the USF Tampa Library.

As the year progressed, the Career Center partnership gained a physical presence as a ‘Job Shop’ was built in the first floor lobby of the Library, in order to provide a space for Career Peer consultations with students, recruiting events, and dedicated computer terminals where USF students can search for jobs. A collection of career books and resources was also established in the lobby for student use.

In May, another innovation on the Library’s first floor streamlined our patron service offerings and increased the functional agility of a range of library staff and faculty. After a thorough assessment and planning process, circulation and reference services were physically integrated in a new Library Services Desk model. Circulation staff are now empowered to offer basic reference and research assistance and, when needed, in-depth reference consultations are available from a trained USF librarian at the same desk.

A complete transformation of the Library’s second floor took place over the summer. The space was gutted and rebuilt, greatly expanding the Learning Commons study space that is so popular on the first floor and creating a state-of-the-art SMART Lab for student learning, USF students have long asked us for additional seating, power outlets, and space for collaboration and group study. With the help of Provost Wilcox and Vice Provost for Student Success Paul Dosal, students have been given what they need in the second floor Learning Commons expansion. The SMART Lab is right next door. Designed to support proven new methods of teaching STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) courses, the Lab welcomed thousands of math students in its first semester of courses. Tutoring and open computer use are also offered in the facility.

In order to accommodate the new student facilities on our second floor, over 400,000 volumes of bound periodicals had to be relocated. To fit our current collections and allow for growth in the future, we installed compact shelving in the library’s basement. Compact shelving allows for the greatest amount of storage with the smallest footprint, with rows of shelves that can easily be rolled together and apart as access is needed. This is a great space saver for the USF Tampa Library.

2012 was a banner year for advancing library initiatives, with incredibly generous gifts from Haig Boyadjian, Jan Platt, and several other donors. The Boyadjian Family Endowment will support the USF Libraries Holocaust & Genocide Studies Center’s (HGSC) Armenian Studies program for generations to come. In addition to the expansion of the Armenian program, the African Great Lakes program has embarked on the creation of a Rwanda Digital Library in partnership with the government-sanctioned Ibuka organization headquartered there.

I can’t wait to see what 2013 has in store.

William A. Garrison
Dean, University of South Florida Libraries

The USF Tampa Library now offers free iPad checkout to students, thanks to a Student Technology Fee award.

Academic Services

NEW SMART LAB AND LEARNING COMMONS
Previously home to over 38,000 linear feet of bound journals and media collections, the 2nd floor of the USF Tampa Library has been transformed to house the new SMART Lab and extended Learning Commons. The SMART Lab is an innovative learning space representing new modes of teaching and learning. It contains over 320 workstations as well as tutoring areas to support a range of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) courses. The first floor Learning Commons open study space so prized by students has expanded, with 300 additional seats on the Library’s second floor and 13 high-tech collaborative workstations that let students study together with large display screens and shared audio. Print journals are now housed in 62,000 linear feet of new compact shelving in the library’s basement.

The USF Tampa Library now offers free iPad checkout to students, thanks to a Student Technology Fee award.

127 highly-ranked journals in science, technology, and medicine, enriching our research collections for STEM scholars. TAP, originally funded last year by the Student Tech Fee program to improve student access to affordable textbooks, has been funded again this year, allowing the Library to purchase e-textbooks. These e-textbooks may be accessed by students at no cost. Content will be integrated with each class’s website and available 24/7 from any location, without time limitations.

Research Rescue Supports Students
The Research Rescue program continues to improve, supporting students with online tutorials, classes, and face-to-face workshops that help students locate books and articles, learn how to cite and manage resources, and understand the perils of plagiarism. The most popular workshops include Research 101, Impact Factors & Journal Rankings, Scholarly Research & Publishing in the Sciences, and Conducting a Literature Review.

In September, the USF Tampa Library hosted librarian Christa Schulze in an international exchange scholarship program. Christa has worked for three years at the National Library of Germany in Leipzig and will pursue an advanced degree in library science upon her return to Germany this fall. Coming from an institution more national archive than academic library, Christa has been impressed by the USF Tampa Library’s devotion to student success and emphasis on online resources, which offer students the convenience of conducting their classwork from nearly anywhere. While here, Christa worked in many areas of the Library, including Special & Digital Collections. She was especially impressed by the digital exhibitions the department is producing and the extent of the Oral History Program as well as its high level of execution. She intends to refer students to both online resources once she is back in Germany.
Environmental Sustainability

In 2012, the USF Tampa Library continued a rapid expansion of its scientific research support services and open access publishing offerings.

The Library continues to make inroads with map visualization of scientific datasets. Geographic Information System (GIS) technology allows previously isolated data to be helpfully tethered to its relevant location on a map, such as in the C-IMAGE grant-funded Gulf ecosystem project, which is a partnership between the USF College of Marine Science and a consortium of 12 other universities. Connecting the information to a location on a map not only helps with comprehension by the non-scientist but allows for more meaningful interactions with data.

The USF Libraries are working with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Leeds University, and the Armenian government on the creation of an ebook addressing the intersection between volcanic hazards and nuclear power generation -- a contemporary concern in Armenia. The ebook will include significant GIS (interactive map) features and printed-on-demand copies will be available through a third party service.

Seven new journals have begun publication in 2012 on the USF Libraries-hosted Scholar Commons platform or are preparing to launch in early 2013: Journal of African Conflicts and Peace Studies; Peace and Conflict Management Review; ABO: Interactive Journal for Women in the Arts; Holocaus & Genocide Studies Center (HGSC) is advancing incredible programs and projects supporting its major areas of study.

In 2012, the HGSC was awarded a grant from the Jack Chester Foundation to support two years of Holocaust education programming. In November, University of Wisconsin Holocaust scholar Rachel Baum conducted a teacher workshop at the USF Tampa Library that focused on teaching the Holocaust and empathetic perspectives in the classroom, and gave a public talk on subsequent generations’ ways of remembering the Holocaust.

Now in its fifth year of operation, The USF Libraries Holocaust & Genocide Studies Center (HGSC) is advancing incredible programs and projects supporting its major areas of study.

The USF Libraries Holocaust & Genocide Studies Center has begun digitization for its Rwanda Digital Library in partnership with Ibuka, the umbrella organization for survivors’ associations of the 1994 genocide there. Musa Olaka, a USF assistant librarian who once worked as a librarian and lecturer in Rwanda, journeyed to the Ibuka archives this fall in order to digitize nearly 20,000 pages of young peoples’ testimonies, reports, and correspondence. The aim of the nascent East Africa Digital Library is to preserve and provide persistent access to primary source materials such as Ibuka’s in order to further research about the 1994 genocide in Rwanda and other conflicts in the region, and encourage teachers worldwide to incorporate these resources into research and teaching.

In 2012, a significant gift from Haig Boyadjian was given in order to establish the Boyadjian Family Endowment supporting Armenian studies and genocide in comparative perspective. The USF Libraries Holocaust and Genocide Studies Center is grateful for this generous funding that will support the Armenian studies initiative at the USF Libraries for future generations.

Help us change the future. Consider making a financial gift to the USF Libraries, and enabling these projects’ potential to create positive change. Contact Merrell Dickey at (813) 974-1654.

The Karst Information Portal has long featured a rich range of digitized cave publications; however many of those held were incomplete, having been digitized as issues became available. Now, most titles have been completed and offer full runs. Additionally, many resources in the Portal now feature an embedded interactive map so that users can visualize the data’s geographic pertinent. karstportal.org

Sunset over the Arctic Ocean. Photo taken by USF Associate Professor of Geology Bogdan Onac from the US Coast Guard ice breaker Healy while in an expedition in the Arctic Ocean to study ocean acidification.

Seven new journals have begun publication in 2012 on the USF Libraries-hosted Scholar Commons platform or are preparing to launch in early 2013: Journal of African Conflicts and Peace Studies; Peace and Conflict Management Review; ABO: Interactive Journal for Women in the Arts, a publication of the Aphra Behn Society; Revista Surco, a literary magazine featuring Latin American authors and published in Spanish and Portuguese, with abstracts in English; Alambique, highlighting Latin American science fiction and fantasy research and criticism; and Undergraduate Journal of Mathematical Modeling: One + Two. Two others, Statistics in Volcanology and Suburban Sustainability began publishing at the end of 2012. A business review publication with scholarly critiques of notable papers in the field is planned for 2013, and aims to broaden the base of research knowledge in the business community. In addition, 30 new digital collections have been added, ranging from the USF Historical Archive Gallery to Open Access Textbooks.

scholarcommons.usf.edu

C-IMAGE GIS map showing data gathered and used to investigate the impact of the 2010 BP oil spill on the ecosystem in the Northern Gulf of Mexico.

Holocaust scholar Rachel Baum leads educators in a workshop on teaching empathy in the classroom.

USF librarian Musa W. Olaka with Boniface Nkusi, who works with Ibuka’s documentation department in Rwanda.
Special & Digital Collections


USF students were closely engaged in the creation of online and physical exhibitions as well as in-depth collection processing. Special & Digital Collections’ partnership with the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) has resulted in significant research experiences for USF undergrads, on projects as far ranging as Children’s Mental Health Advocacy and undergrads, on projects as far ranging as Children’s Mental Health Advocacy and Senator Aaron M. Schock’s Internship with the Office of Undergraduate Research. has resulted in major research experiences for USF students.

A wide range of exhibitions has been published in the short span of a year, from a student-led work telling the story of USF’s birth and development, to works of broader historic import. Portraying Courage, which tells the personal stories of 13 Holocaust survivors living in the Bay Area, began life as an exhibition of portraits painted by local artist Nava Lundy along with personal recorded testimonials. These oral histories, portraits, and biographical sketches will now live on in a digital form accessible to all via the USF Libraries website.

In another exhibition that sheds light on a difficult period in recent history, 2012 USF graduate Simone Sanders collaborated with Special Collections Assistant Librarian Andy Huse on a massive exhibition on the History of Minstrelsy. The project traces the development of blackface and minstrelsy from a shameful form of exploitation and mischaracterization to a path for African American performing arts empowerment and entrepreneurship. 

Online exhibitions produced by Special & Digital Collections, often with student collaborators, have gained visibility and acclaim as a free and accessible learning tool and an introduction to collections.

The Hipple Collection of Young Adult Literature continued to grow this year, due largely to the efforts of USF Professor Joan Kaywell. Acclaimed young adult literature author K.L. Kelly (K.L. Going) visited USF to give a talk in conjunction with Tampa’s big screen premiere of the new film based on her novel “Fat Kid Rules the World.”

Just in time for the Republican National Convention downtown, SDC and the Tampa Museum of Art partnered in a well-attended exhibition showcasing the extensive Mahan collection of American Humor and Cartoon Art donated by Dr. Charlie Mahan to the USF Libraries. The exhibition opened with a panel discussion and reception at the Museum and lives on as an online exhibition.

Peter Boyadjian reflects on his brother’s motivations: “Haig’s overriding interest in life was to help as many people as he could. He struggled with life’s unfairness, unable to accept it as a given. This made him a very giving man.”

“We are extremely grateful for this gift, which will be transformational in terms of what Armenian Studies will be able to offer students and faculty,” said USF Libraries Dean Bill Garrison. Because the Boyadjian Family Endowment will exist in perpetuity, it will support Armenian Studies faculty and scholars for generations to come.

Library Numbers of Note

4,358,293 successful full-text electronic article downloads via ibib.usf.edu
2,068,908 patron visits to the USF Tampa Library;
98,325 USF student visits to study overnight
3,225,754 full-text downloads of 21,031 items published on USF Scholar Commons
1,466,400 visits to the USF Libraries Website in 2012
777,205 visits to Special Collections Digital Exhibitions online (May-December 2012)
29,747 laptop checkouts in 2012 and 15,215 iPad checkout (Aug-Dec)
19,274 visits to the Textbook Affordability Program (TAP) website in 2012
2,811 USF students reached with Research Rescue in person and online skill workshops
USF Tampa Library Staff

New Assistant Director for Instructional Services Maryellen Allen is originally from Clearwater, Florida, and first worked at the USF Tampa Library from 1999 to 2005. She worked at The University of Alabama as the distance education librarian and then as manager of instructional technology and academic services for their College of Continuing Studies before returning to the USF Tampa Library. Maryellen has a master’s of arts in library and information sciences from USF and a master of science in instructional systems design from Florida State University.

Adonis Amparo is a Tampa native who has worked for the USF Tampa Library for three years now, first as a graduate assistant, then a staff member, and presently as instructional technologist/ blended librarian. He graduated from the USF School of Information with a master’s degree in library and information sciences in 2011. His background with a private medical education company involved the creation of instructional materials and courses for doctors and medical students.

Melissa Brown joined the USF Tampa Libraries this August in the position of library assistant for circulation overnight. Melissa worked at New York University as a circulation assistant before relocating to Florida two years ago. She received her paralegal diploma from New York University and a BA in criminal justice from John Jay College.

Richard McKenzie was born and raised in Tampa. He earned a both BA in geography and a graduate certificate in geographic information systems from USF, preparing him ideally for his role as library operations coordinator specialized in GIS mapping projects. Richard worked on GIS projects as a volunteer in the USF Tampa Library for many months before coming aboard full time.

Victoria Rocanelli joined the USF Tampa Library full-time in August in the role of library specialist, supervising the overnight shift. Prior to this, Victoria worked in the USF Tampa Library as a student assistant for five years. She has a BA in gerontology from USF.

Beverly Marks has come to the USF Tampa Library in the role of development specialist. Originally from Alabama, Beverly has a BA in communication and has worked at USF for 12 years, first in University Advancement as a development specialist and later as a field program assistant for the School of Social Work.

Maryellen Allen

Melissa Brown

Richard McKenzie

Victoria Rocanelli

Beverly Marks

USF Tampa Library Staff

Selected Faculty & Staff Activities

Professorships

Carol Ann Borchert co-authored an article with Audi Maughan Perry, Timothy Delanyannis, Andrea Koncic, Rebecca Kestinon, and Sharon Dya-Genora titled “Literaries as Journal Publishers” in Serials Review.


Mark Wakhungu Olaka and Denise Adams published “Exploiting copyright knowledge in relation to experiences and education level among academic librarians in Kenya” in International Information and Library Review 44(1).

Audrey Powers and Barbara Lewis published “What the Heart Remembers: The Women and Children of Darfur” in Art Documentation 34(1).


LeEtta Schmidt published “When the Plane is Over: Picking the Program and Making it Stick. Purchase on Demand at the University of South Florida” in the Journal of Interlibrary Loan, Document Delivery & Electronic Reserve 22(1).


PUBLICATIONS

Susan Aron and Matt Torrence presented the virtual session “Student-Focused Learning Programs: Designing & Delivering” at Computers in Libraries in Washington D.C.


Mark I. Greenberg presented “Managing Special Collections: Servant, Security, Stewardship” with several Special Collections professionals at other institutions, as a Library Journal webinar.

Melissa Griffin, Barbara Lewis, and Mark Greenberg presented the paper “Data-Driven Decision Making: A Holistic Approach to Assessment in Special Collections Repositories” at the Library Assessment Conference in Charlottesville, Virginia. The paper was also published in the conference proceedings.

Matt Knight presented the paper “To Be Unrecognized By Such An Age As This, Is An Honour’: A Study of Dion Boucicault’s Comedy of Manners, Overstay” at the Midwest Popular Culture Association’s conference in Columbus, Ohio.


Monica Metz-Wiseman presented an online session “Five Years Past, Present, Future” as an eContent Resource @MyLibrary in Los Angeles.

Monica Metz-Wiseman gave the keynote address “eBook Implementation and Practices: Lessons Learned” at EBook Summit: Implementation and Best Practices in Atlanta, Georgia.

Monica Metz-Wiseman presented as a panelist for “Creating a Walled Garden: Digital Textbooks in Higher Education” at Library Journal’s Digital Shift online conference.

Musa Wakhunga Olaka presented the paper “First Week of School After the 1994 Rwandan genocides: The Case of Students in Public Secondary Schools in Kigali, Rwanda” at the 3rd Global Conference on Genocide in San Francisco, California.

LeEtta Schmidt, Kristine Strizinger, and Mary Radnor presented “Playing by the Same Rules: Consortia experiences and Best Practices for ILL Loan Period Standardization,” at the 2012 ILLiad International Conference in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Tomaro Taylor presented the paper “Learning Archival:Archival Practice within the Context of Pedagogical Settings” at the Southern Archivists Conference in Jackson, Mississippi.

Lily Todisnova presented “Information Literacy in a Global Context” during the 2012 Georgia International Information Literacy Conference in Savannah, Georgia.

Lily Todisnova and Audrey Powers organized a panel, “Discover EDS: Tales of Implementation and Use,” which was presented by Audrey Powers during the 2012 Charleston conference in South Carolina. Lily Todisnova co-wrote the conference proceedings.

AWARDS & APPOINTMENTS

Carol Ann Borchert was awarded $315,150 for a USF Student Technology Grant Proposal to purchase the Sage Journal Backfiles Online.

Melanie Griffin received a scholarship from the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries to attend the RBMS Preconference in San Diego, California.

Tomaro Taylor received the Society of Florida Archivists 2012 Award of Excellence.
To make an investment in the USF Libraries, please contact Director of Development Merrell T. Dickey at (813) 974-1654.

The USF Libraries would like to thank our Advancement Board members: Cynthia Bailey, Dore Beach, The Honorable Betty Castor, Ruth Coleman, Joan Kaywell, Charles Mahan, Paul Pizzo, The Honorable E.J. Salcines, W. Reece Smith, Jr., Walter Smith, and dearly remembered board member emeritus Ruth Coleman.

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