

Paul M. Adams Library Rocky Mountain College Annual Report 2011/12

Message from the Director

As expected the most significant changes in the Library this year involved technology. In August the statewide database contract went to Ebsco Services, after many years with Gale's InfoTrac. The Ebsco databases are more academic than InfoTrac, but we did retain some InfoTrac databases because of the subjects covered and because many of our users were used to searching InfoTrac and liked it. In addition to the databases provided by the state, we purchased an ebook package from Ebsco in the spring. This added about 3,500 ebook titles to our online book collection, which is searchable and accessible through our catalog, both on campus and remotely.

New staff computers were purchased for Alice O'Reilly, Library Assistant, and Bethany Dopp, Library Associate, as well as a new printer for Bethany. We acquired six notebook style computers for checkout and four new LCD projectors. The Nelson Writing Lab in the NW corner of the building was converted from a computer lab to a classroom at the end of spring semester.

The college's accreditation came up for review in April, so much of the year was spent writing the report and preparing for the accreditation team visit in April. Library and Information Resources received an overall positive evaluation with the Evaluation Committee's only concern being the Library's limited budget, which on the other hand garnered us a compliment for "providing exemplary access to information and research materials ... and improving service despite a relative paucity of resources." The Library administration and staff also received a compliment on our "diligence in keeping expansive, detailed usage data, including surveys of library patrons."

The Library endowments begin generating interest income again after three years of very little revenue or none at all.

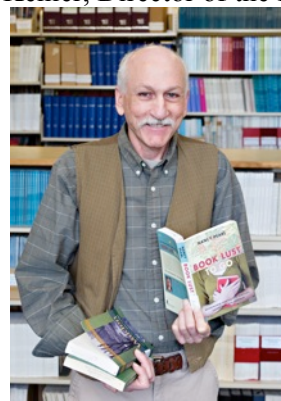
We were able to reinstate some lost database coverage and plan for some projects that have been on the back burner, such as digitizing the college yearbooks and making them openly accessible online.

The college has no formal evaluation procedure for work study students, so we in the Library created a form and instituted a policy for an annual review of students' work performance. Beth revamped the student training checklist, and we conducted small group reference training sessions for the student employees in the spring. We hope all this will improve their service and efficiency in completing library tasks.

Our library was one of the four libraries in Montana selected to display the Sheila Cates Memorial quilt from August through October. Every library that displays the quilt is obligated to add a patch to it, and ours was created by long time RMC Library supporter and Rocky alumnae Sandra Freeman and her sister Vicky Allen. (See photo on next page.)

The Library hosted three One Book Billings discussions in 2011-12. This year's books were *Tears in the Darkness: The Story of the Bataan Death March and Its Aftermath* by Michael & Elizabeth M. Norman, *Winter in the Blood* by James Welch, and *The Big Sky, By and By* by Ed Kemmick. Bernie Rose, retired RMC professor, coordinates the program for Parmly Billings Library and led the discussions at RMC.

- Bill Kehler, Director of the Library





Sheila Cates Memorial Quilt – RMC bears upper right

Library Staff

There has been no change in the Library Staff which is comprised of Bill Kehler, Director; Bobbi Otte, Assistant Director; Bethany Dopp, Library Associate; and Alice O'Reilly, part time Library Assistant.

The library employs 12 work study students, with a slight turnover from year to year as students graduate and move on. Our dedicated volunteers Donna Sweeney, Chris Chauvin, and Gayle Roth continue donating a couple hours a week sorting, identifying, and cataloging old photographs and papers in the College Archives.



Volunteers Donna, Gayle, & Chris

Staff professional development this year included Alice's attendance at the Montana Library Association annual conference in Big Sky and Bobbi's attendance at a State Library workshop on archival management in Helena. We all participated in various online classes and webinars on topics as varied as searching the new Ebsco databases to weeding collections. All staff also attended a half day workshop on campus titled "Strengthening Lines of Communication" taught by Rebecca Drake.

Bill and Bobbi continued their service on faculty and campus-wide committees and Beth was asked to serve on the Staff Senate. Bill and Beth remain active in the Green Group, and Bill served his second year on Parmly Billings' new public library design committee. The new library is expected to open in December 2013.



Bill, Beth, Bobbi, and Alice

Library Goals

The Library staff plans to continue to add electronic resources (ebooks, ejournals, and full text sources) to the collection and to continue monitoring statistics on usage for the print and media collections. Digitizing the college yearbooks is a primary goal for the next year, as well as shifting periodicals looking at some space reallocation issues.

Statistics

Circulation of print materials was up slightly over the previous year, while circulation of electronic media (primarily DVDs) was considerably down. This is likely due to many more students streaming movies on their laptops or other mobile devices or getting their DVDs through Netflix or Redbox. Periodical database usage remained high with EbscoHost offering the most complete coverage now. Electronic book usage is growing slowly as our collection of ebooks increases. Total interlibrary loan activity was also down slightly, and we still borrow more than we loan to other libraries.

The total number of students using the library remains steady, but the number of classes that came into the library for instruction dropped from last year. Drop-in tutoring provided by SAS three nights a week remained popular again this year, and the athletes attending “study hall” in the Library nearly filled all our seating at times.

Circulation

Books	3,080
Periodicals	1,703
Media	1,644
Equipment	<u>105</u>
Sub Total	6,532

In Library Use

Reserves	897
Reference books	<u>299</u>
Sub Total	1,196

Grand Total Use 7,728

Cataloging Activity

Titles Added	1,012
Titles Deleted	30
(mass weeding previous year)	

Interlibrary Loan Activity

Items Borrowed for RMC Users	
From MT Libraries	295
Outside Montana	<u>267</u>
Total	562
Items Loaned to Other Libraries	
In Montana	295

Outside Montana	<u>234</u>
Total	529

Patrons Served

Average patrons/week	653
Reference questions/wk	54
Total classes taught	15
Total students in classes	296
Total archives use	17

Electronic and Remote Use

Periodical database searches	
EbscoHost	84,892
InfoTrac	6,811
Reference database searches	
Britannica	321
Credo Ref	229
Country Watch	148
OED	101

Library Webpage Views 17,173

Library Collection

Books (titles)	
Print	42,139
Electronic	4,172
Periodicals (titles)	
Print	557
Online access	26,402
(via databases)	
Media-AV (incl. DVDs)	1,615
Total print volumes	102,531
(books and periodicals)	



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