

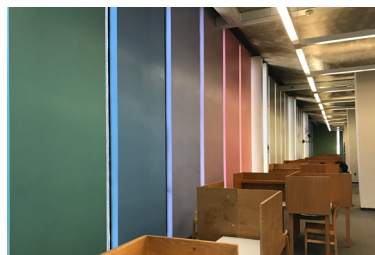
## Fall exhibits at the Libraries:

- 10/19–2/28 **Milton to Milton: The Legacy of J. Milton French**, Alexander Library
- 11/1–12/31 **The Big Read/Citizen: An American Lyric**, Robeson Library
- 11/3–1/29 **Opposition: 23rd Annual New Jersey Book Arts Symposium Exhibit**, Alexander Library

Cover photos, clockwise from upper left: James Dickson Carr Library\*, Douglass Library±, Alexander Library±, Robert Wood Johnson Library°, Paul Robeson Library\*, George F. Smith Library±, Dana Library°. Credits: \*Nick Romanenko, ±Ed Berger, °Mo Daud, ±Megan Lotts, °Jessica Pellien, ±Roy Groething.



# RUTGERS UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES



## Assessing Library Impact on Student Outcomes

A large, rigorous new study by the University of Minnesota—"The Impact of Academic Library Resources on Undergraduates' Degree Completion"—assessed whether first-year students who used the library at least once during their first year were more likely to graduate or continue to be enrolled after four years (indicating progress towards degree completion).

The survey followed 5,368 students from the entering class of 2011, controlling for factors related to differences in students, including first-generation, socioeconomic status, participation in support programs for underrepresented students, on-campus vs. off-campus housing, SAT scores, AP courses taken, and enrolled college.

Their records were analyzed to determine if they had used at least one of five major library services—borrowing books (including interlibrary loan and ebooks), using electronic resources, using a computer workstation, enrolling in library instruction, or asking a reference question—in their first academic year.

The results indicate that, overall, first-year students who used any of the library services at least once during their first year of enrollment were nearly **40%** more likely to be enrolled after four years or **44%** more likely to have graduated after four years than peers who did not use any library resources. Further analysis of the individual services showed that first-year students who used:

- electronic resources at least once in their first year were **45%** more likely to continue to be enrolled and nearly twice as likely to graduate;
- books at least once in their first year were **34%** more likely to graduate in four years; or,
- instruction, either by enrolling for a class or having library instruction embedded in classes, were **40%** more likely to continue to be enrolled after four years.

There was no significant relationship with the use of workstations, reinforcing the fact that workstations are simply a tool.

This survey is a tremendous accomplishment and is directly relevant to our work, in part because of the parallels between Rutgers and the University of Minnesota—itself a large public land-grant institution and fellow member of the Big Ten Academic Alliance. The findings are incredibly heartening for us at the Libraries and bode well for the thousands of students we serve each day.



Krisellen Maloney, vice president for information services and university librarian.

## Dana Library Celebrates 50th Anniversary

This year, Dana Library at Rutgers University–Newark celebrates its 50th anniversary. Named after John Cotton Dana, "Newark's First Citizen" and longtime director of Newark Public Library, the library continues in its namesake's commitment to providing innovative and user-centric services.



The **#RutgersDana50** celebration kicked off in September during Rutgers–Newark's Fall Fest with birthday cake and a live performance by jazz/hip-hop fusion band Nickel and Dime OPS.

The library's plans for the spring include an exhibit in partnership with the Newark Museum and Newark Public Library about John Cotton Dana and his social justice ideals; sessions offered with the Office of Community Outreach introducing deliberative dialogue as a means to promote democratic discussion; and a gallery retrospective of John Watts, Newark artist and former director of the Paul Robeson Gallery.

Support the Libraries! [libraries.rutgers.edu/giving](https://libraries.rutgers.edu/giving)

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### Small Bytes from around the Libraries

**A** In October, the Rutgers community gathered at Alexander and Dana Libraries for **open data editathons** to support Hurricane Maria relief efforts in Puerto Rico • **B** Director of the Rutgers Laboratory of Vision Research Thomas J. Papathomas led a public workshop on **optical illusions and the brain** at the Library of Science and Medicine • **C** Special collections librarian Bob Vietrogoski welcomed **Nobel Laureate William C. Campbell** to Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences for a presentation on ivermectin • **D** The Kilmer Area Library was officially renamed the **James Dickson Carr Library** in honor of Rutgers' first black graduate • Renowned feminist artist and Rutgers alumna **Mimi Smith** delivered a lecture on her works at Douglass Library in October • **E** Carr Library held its annual **pumpkin decorating** events before Halloween • **F** Banned Books Week activities included a t-shirt design contest that was won by printmaking student **Alex Lobo** • **G** Book artists Peter and Donna Thomas brought their **book artists' bookmobile** to Rutgers to teach about the book arts • **H** New paintings by eminent American artist and sculptor **George Segal** were installed at Paul Robeson Library • The Institute of Jazz Studies celebrated the centennial of Thelonious Monk with a monthlong series of events dubbed **Monktoberfest** • **I** Professor Thomas Fulton delivered a talk on J. Milton French, Milton scholar and former chair of the Rutgers English Department, to open the **Milton to Milton** exhibition in Special Collections and University Archives • **J** University archivist **Thomas Frusciano** received the 2017 Roger H. McDonough Award for excellence in service to the New Jersey history research community • Head of access and delivery services Janet Brennan Croft celebrated the 50th anniversary of the **Mythopoeic Society** as its vice chair at their July conference in Champaign, Illinois • The Libraries welcomed **John Haworth**, senior executive emeritus of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, for a presentation on Native American arts and cultural practice in America • Paul Robeson Library and Rutgers–Camden Writers House partnered to mount **By Ourselves: Rutgers Student Literary Magazines 1923–2017** in September.

### Supporting Faculty Research and Instruction

Ask librarians at a university as large and diverse as Rutgers what faculty support looks like to them, and you may be surprised at the variety of responses.

To **Krisellen Maloney**, vice president for information services and university librarian, supporting faculty means tackling the issue of name ambiguity. Maloney chairs a university working group that has begun a universitywide implementation of ORCID iDs, digital numeric identifiers that tie researchers to a record of their scholarly activities even through changes in name and institutional affiliation. Consider that there are two dozen faculty at the University of Michigan alone with the name “J. Lee,” and the need for such a system becomes apparent.

“ORCID iDs are an easy way to ensure that researchers receive proper attribution for their work,” said Maloney. “And they have the added benefit of streamlining important research processes like manuscript submission and grant application.”

For undergraduate experience librarian **Lily Todorinova**, faculty support comes in the form of leading the fight against soaring textbook costs. Todorinova coordinates the Libraries’ Open and Affordable Textbooks Program, which helps instructors redesign their classes to use low-cost, free, or library-licensed materials instead of traditional textbooks.

“At Rutgers, students spend an average of \$1,500 on course materials each year,” she

said. “Working with instructors to transition to open educational resources not only reduces this financial burden, but also helps faculty provide a more personalized learning experience for their students.”

Data librarian **Ryan Womack** lends his expertise in statistical software and data visualization with open workshops, discipline-specific presentations, and one-on-one consultations. He even uploads video tutorials to his YouTube channel where they can be accessed on demand by a worldwide audience. In addition, Womack manages the Secure Data Facility in Alexander Library, where scholars who have completed a rigorous review process can access restricted data to conduct specialized research.

“This data has formed the core of several students’ dissertation work,” he said. “And it has been rewarding to support budding researchers through the process.”

Physics and chemistry librarian and science data specialist **Laura Palumbo** teaches data management instruction sessions in courses such as graduate seminars. She shares best practices for data management and helps students understand how to comply with grants that require data management plans.

“Not only are the students appreciative,” she explained, “but sometimes we find that this is new information for the faculty as well!”

Digital humanities librarians **Francesca Giannetti** and **Krista White** support

faculty by providing consultations on highly specialized digital humanities initiatives ranging from data-intensive digital projects to the digitization and preservation of multimedia.

“Academic units don’t offer much by way of formal training in digital humanities tools and methodologies, and a 90-minute workshop can only give a taste of what is possible,” Giannetti said. “So researchers value being able to have a consultation where we can review resources relevant to their specific project.”

“Many faculty don’t know where to start when it comes to digitizing, or they get stuck at a certain point because they’re not used to managing digitization projects,” added White. “I help them develop a long-term preservation strategy so that their digital scholarship will be useable well into the future.”

### Our New Faculty and Staff

- Colin Bitter**, Head, Monographs Cataloging and Database Management, Central Technical Services
- Alicia Haggenmiller**, Library Technician, Smith Library
- Amy Kimura**, Web Services Librarian, Shared User Services
- Soo Jung Lee**, Library Associate, Carr Library
- Emily Mervis**, Library Associate, Library of Science and Medicine
- Elena Schneider**, Coordinator, Shipping and Receiving
- James Silverstein**, Library Assistant, Carr Library
- Lucy Vidal**, Library Supervisor, Collection Development and Management
- Kaila Ward**, Library Assistant, Douglass Library