

# ReferencePoint

University Libraries' Newsletter

Volume 9, Issue 2

## Riches *of the* Clarke

Exhibit is a collection of the unique

By Morgan MacDermaid



Janet Danek, exhibit coordinator, unrolls materials to display in the current Clarke Historical Library exhibit.

What does an original copy of Princess Beatrice's "Alice in Wonderland," a speaking picture book and a bird's-eye city map from the 1800s have in common?

They all are featured in Clarke Historical Library's new exhibit, "We Used This Because: Riches of the Clarke."

"The beauty of this exhibit is that everything comes with a story," says Janet Danek, exhibit coordinator. "We're giving people who use the Clarke an opportunity to share what they find unique about the piece they selected."

On display until the end of August, the exhibit presents Clarke Library items selected by deans, students, faculty/staff and community members.

Each participant chose one thing he or she has used at Clarke Historical Library. The result is an exhibit full of an eclectic mix of objects. One of those items is a relic from the 1880s: a speaking picture book that uses strings and gears to make noises that accompany the children's story.

"If you were a small child growing up in 1885, this would have made your Christmas," says Frank Boles, director of Clarke Historical Library. "It's almost like the 1800s version of a Kindle and really speaks to the application of technology to literature."

Other items include an antique copy of "Alice in Wonderland" that belonged to Queen Victoria's daughter Beatrice, as well as versions of well-known fairy tales.

"An English professor who often brings her classes here to see the origins of fairy tales picked this one out," Danek says. "We have many translated versions, and it's a great illustration of how literature can cross many paths."

The exhibit has more than books, however. Among the 35 items featured is a scrapbook belonging to Ernest Hemingway's sister; a CMU photo collection; and the interviews, photographs and journals of Joan Memering, who worked with Cambodian refugees in the area.

"It's a great way to showcase many special items available for people to use," Boles says. "We highly encourage students, faculty, staff and the public to stop by and check it out."

# Successful teamwork

## ReferencePoint

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Sat: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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Tom Moore

Report has designated CMU's online bachelor's degree program No. 1 in the country.

This top ranking reflects the impressive efforts of many university faculty and staff who've worked diligently to design and offer the quality online course work and complementary services that allow students of any age to pursue a college degree without the traditional constraints of time and place.

Included among them, especially, are our librarians in Information Services – comprised of Reference Services and Global Campus Library Services – and our staff in two other units, Documents on Demand and Course Reserves and Copyright. They are active and proficient in guiding students and faculty to relevant scholarly resources and in enabling convenient and speedy access to books, journal articles, and media items without regard to the user's physical location.

Underlying these services is the central premise to which we subscribe: frequent, effective use of library resources makes better teaching and better learning. Therefore, it leads as well to stronger academic programs, whether they're offered face-to-face in classrooms in Mount Pleasant, at CMU's dozens of locations around the U.S. and Canada, or online.

A recent mark of distinction for Central Michigan University is also, indirectly, a mark of distinction for the CMU Libraries. In its current rankings of higher education institutions and programs, U.S. News & World

The Libraries have a longstanding heritage of offering comprehensive library services to CMU clientele wherever they happen to be. In close collaboration with Global Campus faculty and staff, our GCLS librarians, at Park Library and in CMU offices in Troy, Mich., and Atlanta, Ga., have been leading the way in assisting students and faculty at a distance for about 40 years, long before the advent of online courses and programs.

In fact, I'm proud to note that GCLS has a well-established and well-earned reputation for outstanding library services tailored to academic patrons at a distance. In recent years, with expertise added by Reference Services librarians and greater overall integration of organizational efforts, providing excellent library services to virtual teachers and learners has only been the next, logical step. And, I think, an essential contribution toward the more extensive programmatic achievement represented by the recent recognition Central Michigan University received for the online degree.

I hope you enjoy reading about other terrific library activities and initiatives described in this issue of Reference Point. A couple articles convey a glimpse of the wide range of people we serve, such as students who are military veterans. In the academic library business we know that the books and bytes are only important because of what people can do with them.

Please be in touch with your questions or let us know if you'd like more information.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Moore".

Tom Moore  
Dean of Libraries

# What's your preference?

People use the library  
for professional and  
personal reasons

By Jordanne Jaskiw

Park Library has 33 miles of moveable bookshelves, more than one million volumes of printed material, and a vast collection of digital information sources. For some, the library building is a quiet escape for relaxation and studying. For others, it serves as a source of entertainment or as a resource rich research center.



## Kamaria Taylor '12

*Three Rivers graduate student*

Taylor utilizes Documents on Demand regularly.

"I love the convenience the service offers," Taylor says. "It allows me to access documents, such as a chapter from a book from other institutions, 24 hours a day."



## Joe Frankenfield

*Mount Pleasant resident*

Frankenfield has been writing and posting online weekly essays for the past seven years. Throughout the years, he has used the library to research information needed for his essays.

"I like using the religion/theology stacks and periodical literature," Frankenfield says. "They are easy to access and provide me with valuable information to use in my writing."



## Jennifer Howell

*Broadcast and Cinematic Arts freshman*

Howell says she uses the library as a getaway from the occasional commotion in her residence hall. She also takes advantage of the group study rooms to collaborate with other students for group projects.

"My dorm gets really loud at times, which makes it hard for me to concentrate on my studies," Howell says. "The library is a perfect place for me to escape so I can focus and get stuff done."



## Roger Allman Jr.

*Broadcast and Cinematic Arts faculty*

Allman is working on a doctorate in broadcast and cinematic arts. He says most of his colleagues use the online resources for their research, but he prefers "old-fashioned" books.

"I like that there are still places with actual books that don't require any electric power to search for information," he says. "Sometimes you'll find interesting information in books that you probably wouldn't find if you were searching online."





Kathy Irwin



# Resource central

Library offers numerous tools for success

By Rachel Talaska

Park Library's resources are vital tools for the academic and professional success of CMU students, faculty, staff and the community.

Associate Dean of Libraries Kathy Irwin explains how the library strives to provide flexible spaces and services for students' research and study needs.

"We want to put students front and center in all the services we offer," Irwin says. "Our staff constantly look for ways to meet students' increasing need for information and educational equipment."

The library has a vast amount of services and resources. In addition to study rooms available by reservations, library users can checkout electronic equipment such as VCR/DVD players, laptops, phone chargers, calculators and headphones.

Patrick Frasier is vice president of the Society of Advancement of Management student organization. Frasier says that he uses the study rooms and electronic equipment for his executive board meetings.

"I enjoy using my iPad, but it's not very reliable when I'm doing homework or holding a meeting," says Frasier, a senior from Northville. "Checking out library laptops diminishes technical issues and makes running my meetings a lot easier."

The Libraries' Documents on Demand also enables users to get information quickly to answer research questions.

Traverse City Global Campus student Lisa Dohm immediately took advantage of Documents on Demand when doing research for her dissertation.

"The dedicated staff at Documents on Demand made searching for books and articles much easier," Dohm says. "Not only did I hear back immediately regarding the availability of resources, if something wasn't available at CMU, the library staff contacted other institutions to locate information and send it to me."

## At your service

Given the busy schedules of CMU students, faculty and staff, it can be difficult to recall all of the resources the Libraries has to offer. Highlighted here and throughout this issue are some of the services available.

**Documents on Demand.** Enables students to access material from other libraries and institutions.

**Information Services.** Library faculty and staff help students learn how to conduct research through one-on-one coaching in person, by chat, email or telephone.

**Access Services.** Set of services that enables students to check out books, course readings, study rooms, and equipment.

**The Writing Center.** The Department of English manages this center that provides assistance with writing, at any level, from any discipline.

**The Mathematics Assistance Center.** Math tutors from the Department of Mathematics help students learn problem-solving skills that will bring clarity to any level of mathematics.

**Online Test Proctoring.** Operated by CMU Global Campus, providing administration for online exams to CMU students.

# Silent research tools

Databases key to unlocking academic journals

By Dan Digmann

Some patrons don't regularly go looking specifically for one of the most-used resources available through University Libraries.

They usually stumble upon the 130 databases that the Libraries subscribe to while they're searching for information using the Libraries' "SmartSearch" tool. While sometimes they may be overlooked initially in the research process, these databases are the first things savvy people would notice if they suddenly were unavailable.

These Library databases are electronic collections that index and provide full-text access to academic journal article content in individual subject areas, according to Timothy Peters, director of information services for Global Campus Library Services.

Peters explains these are electronic collections of information that in the 1990s were stored on compact discs housed on the library bookshelves. Prior to that, something similar was available through print indexes.

"The databases are nice because they collect article content electronically and make it available in one spot," he says. "They're not as expensive as purchasing the journals individually, they take up less space, and they're available to students 24/7."

## Current thinking

The Libraries' SmartSearch is an interdisciplinary discovery tool that simultaneously searches most library materials, including journal articles, newspapers, books, videos and more, according to Peters. Students can narrow and refine their searches by focusing only on the Libraries' databases or searching by date, material type, subject area and journal title.

Reference librarians often help students determine which individual databases they should search to find the best information for their research. Some faculty members, such as Joseph Michael Sommers, strongly recommend their students start by searching specific databases.

Sommers is an English faculty member who specializes in young adult literature, pop culture and comics. He says he recommends three databases – Modern Language Association International Bibliography (MLAIB), Project Muse and JSTOR – to search for information.

"When I teach I always stress the quality of research. I want them to look for the best current thinking and information," says Sommers, who indicates he identifies such databases on each course syllabus.

Having all this information readily and easily available is one example of how Sommers says the Libraries are moving forward with serving students of today.

"The library, in my mind, is being very proactive in asking the question of 'How do students use the library?'" he says. "It has a dean who is very concerned with how students, as well as faculty, can be best served, and that speaks to the credit and exceptional quality of Park."

# A Friend of the Libraries is a friend of CMU



Megan Moreno, '06

There are many reasons to take pride in Central Michigan University. Rich in history and tradition, the university has evolved and progressed as a leader in many fields. It takes multiple elements to allow an institution to excel: vision and leadership, excellent faculty, motivated students, and a first-class library.

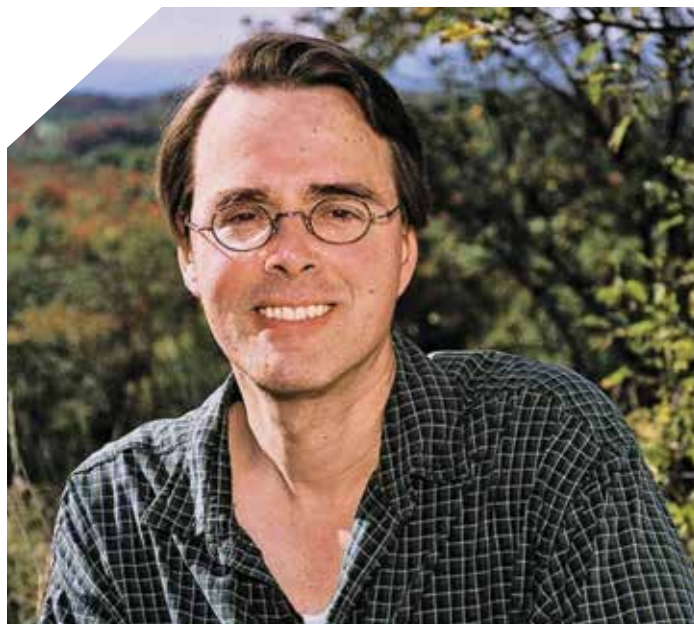
How do you launch a new medical college without providing access to the latest medical research? How do you earn a No. 1 ranking by U.S. News in online undergraduate programs with the highest score possible in student satisfaction without a library team dedicated to serving students studying online, and a library that provides access to current digital resources any time of day from almost any location? How do you become renowned as a resource on Michigan history without the special collections of Clarke Historical Library?

A broader question might be: What better way is there to support the quality of the whole university than by supporting the Libraries?

In the CMU Libraries we're honored to play a central role in the many successes that happen daily at CMU. Alumni and friends can greatly benefit the entire university community by proudly supporting the collections, services, facilities, and programs of the Libraries. Individuals who recognize the Libraries' key academic role and give generously are not only Friends of the Libraries, but friends of CMU as well. To Friends old and new, we thank you.

For more information on how your gift to the Libraries can support students and faculty, visit [lib.cmich.edu](http://lib.cmich.edu) or contact me directly at **989-774-1826** or via email at **[megan.r.moreno@cmich.edu](mailto:megan.r.moreno@cmich.edu)**.

Megan Moreno, '06  
Director of Development and  
Community Outreach



## Friends to host award-winning author

Mann to share  
insights into Americas

Charles C. Mann, an award-winning author who explores the connections between science, technology and history, will speak May 17 at the 2014 CMU Friends of the Libraries Luncheon.

Mann is a diverse writer whose work has been featured in numerous newspapers and magazines in the U.S. and abroad, including including Paris-Match, Washington Post, The New York Times and Geo. He also has written for HBO and the television show "Law and Order."

His best-selling book, "1491: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus," was named book of the year by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. He also has received many recognitions, including awards from the American Institute of Physics, the American Bar Association and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation for his writing.

To learn more about this annual speaker and luncheon event or how you can become a Friend of the Library, contact Megan Moreno at **989-774-1826** or via email at **[megan.r.moreno@cmich.edu](mailto:megan.r.moreno@cmich.edu)**.





# Digitizing Michigan documents

New Clarke endowment creates excitement statewide

By Darryll Stinson, '13

Nearly four decades ago the Central Michigan University student body consisted of just 10,000 students – many wearing bell-bottom pants and platform shoes. It was 1971, the year before CMU Athletics entered the Mid-American Conference and two longtime university supporters, Robert and Susan Clarke, said their wedding vows.

Throughout their marriage, Robert and Susan have supported various CMU areas. But Susan says they are particularly interested in contributing to the Libraries.

"There are a lot of worthy avenues to consider when making a contribution," says Susan, an active member of the Clarke Historical Library Board of Governors. "We're interested in the library because it affects all students, regardless of their major."

The Clarkes, who both graduated from CMU in 1971, recently contributed a gift to establish an endowment, the annual earnings of which support the process of microfilming and digitizing historical documents or newspapers relating to Michigan.

Their endowment has enabled the library's newspaper and microfilming department to establish a yearly \$2,500 grant for which more than 600 public libraries throughout Michigan are eligible.

"We have always been committed to CMU and helping others, so when the library approached us with a need we were happy to support it," the couple says almost in unison. "We believe if you give now, as opposed to later, you'll be fortunate enough to see the impact and the difference you're making."

That impact is exactly what has happened, according to Kim Hagerty, the Clarke Library microform service specialist.

"Their endowment has sparked so much excitement throughout the libraries and the Michigan historical community," she says. "It has allowed us to market our Clarke Library services across the state and created an opportunity for smaller communities that have a hard time raising funds to preserve their historical documents."

The Clarkes reside in Harbor Springs, Mich., where they also have established a scholarship for Harbor Springs students interested in attending CMU.

# Serving the veterans

Library services make an easier life for student veterans

By Terri Finch Hamilton, '83

Steve Rellinger, director of the CMU Veterans' Resource Center, shares one of his favorite quotes: "A veteran, whether active duty, discharged, retired, Guard or Reserve is someone who, at one point in his or her life, wrote a blank check made payable to The United States of America, for an amount of up to and including his or her life."

He says this quote serves as a daily reminder of how important it is for CMU to do all it can to meet the needs of these veterans.

There are approximately 700 veterans, current military personnel and their respective family members taking classes through CMU's Global Campus. In addition, there are more than 300 military veterans and their family members on campus using Veterans Administration education benefits.

Recently, Rellinger met with library staff members to update them on serving the needs of student veterans. Some library staff already travel to military bases throughout the country to show students how they can best use its many services.

"We have to reach out to students where they are," says Samantha Minnis, library coordinator of reference operations. "It's so important for us to get out of our buildings instead of always waiting for students to come to us."

That's especially important to students who are serving on active duty, says Rebecca Hill Renirie, one of five Global Campus librarians who works with the students.

"Since most of our Global Campus student veterans are housed on military bases, they're thrilled when we come all the way from CMU to visit them," Renirie says.

## Veterans *on duty*

### Anita Gordon

*Library senior specialist clerk, resource sharing*

- Served in Women's Army Corp., 1975-1978
- Field medic, stationed in Fort Bragg, N.C.

Gordon was 18 when she enlisted shortly after graduating from high school in Leslie, Mich. She went straight from the service to CMU, where her education was free, thanks to the GI Bill. She earned a bachelor's degree in 1986 and a master's degree in 1988.

"I went from a graduating class of 99 to becoming part of a massive machine," she jokes. "I've learned to live with different types of people from all over the world."

### Mike Green

*Library student employee, access services monitor*

- Served in U.S. Marines, 2006-2010
- Ammunition explosives technician

Green headed for the Marines after graduation from high school in St. Ignace, Mich.

After boot camp in San Diego he headed to Alabama and North Carolina before deploying for two nine-month tours in Iraq.

"My mindset wasn't ready for college, and I wanted to commit myself to a cause that was greater than myself," says Green, a sport management major. "I've learned how to communicate and pay great attention to detail. The Marines has made me a much better leader."



Mike Green, center



# CMU Libraries' exhibits & events calendar

[cmich.edu/library/exhibits](http://cmich.edu/library/exhibits)

"Some are actively deployed and completing their studies. If they have that level of dedication, we need to be that dedicated too."

Librarians are available through live online chats, email or phone. Veterans can request material from other libraries and staff members will scan and email it within 24 hours of receiving it from other libraries.

"That service is great for veteran commuters who can't visit campus often," Minnis says. "There's a lot you can do from home. You can have an entire library experience wherever you are."

One of the most important benefits is the Post-9/11 GI Bill, which provides financial support for education and housing to those who were discharged with a service-connected disability, have served for at least 90 days, or enlisted after Sept. 11, 2001.

Other benefits include education and training opportunities to eligible dependents and educational assistance to members of the Reserve who are called to serve in response to a war or a national emergency.

## Christopher Morris

*Library student employee, library systems department*

- Served in U.S. Army, 2005-2012
- Information technology specialist

Morris enlisted a year after high school graduation from his hometown of Springhill, La. He completed basic training in Augusta, Ga., went on active duty in South Korea, Germany, and Afghanistan and with the Michigan National Guard.

Morris currently studies computer science at CMU.

"In the military, circumstances are never ideal, and nothing is given to you. You have to figure out how to adapt and overcome adverse situations. I apply that to my college studies here at CMU."



### **The Riches of the Clarke**

*Featuring unique collections chosen by Clarke Library users*

- Through August 30
- Clarke Historical Library, Park Library

### **Department of Art and Design Spring BAA/BA/BA Exhibition**

*Featuring work from spring 2014 BAA/BA/BS graduates of the Art and Design program*

- April 25 through May 10
- Extended Hours Study Room and Student Gallery, Park Library

### **Journey: Life From The Inside Out**

*Featuring a series of inspiring paintings by Shelley Stevens*

- Through May 11
- Baber Room, Park Library

### **Friends of the Libraries Luncheon Speaker**

*Keynote by journalist and award-winning author Charles C. Mann*

- May 17
- Auditorium, Park Library

### **New Acquisitions**

*Displaying fine art additions to CMU's art collection*

- July through August
- Baber Room, Park Library

### **From DNA to Beer: Harnessing Nature in Medicine and Industry**

*National Library of Medicine traveling exhibit*

- Aug. 4 through Sept. 13
- Third Floor Exhibit Area, Park Library

### **Hallowed Grounds**

*Featuring dynamic fiber art materials by Michelle Wilson*

- September through October
- Baber Room, Park Library



# Up-

## Patricia Lay-Dorsey documents life with a disability

By Dan Digmann

Midway through her sentence Patricia Lay-Dorsey interrupts herself.

"I need to get a picture of this," Lay-Dorsey says as she grabs the camera strategically situated in the basket on the front of her black and silver Amigo scooter. The seasoned photographer and retired social worker explains she doesn't have many pictures of people viewing her self-portraits.

But tonight there are several visitors perusing her exhibit, "Falling Into Place: Self-Portraits," as it formally opens in Park Library's Third Floor Exhibit Area. The opening precedes her evening presentation that is part of Clarke Historical Library's speaker series this semester.

People use words like "powerful" and "empowering" to describe the 22 displayed prints documenting her experiences as a disabled person living with Multiple Sclerosis. Such words work better for her than descriptions such as "heroic" and "brave," which have troubled her ever since she began using a motorized scooter for mobility.

"I am living my life the best I can with what I've been given," she says. "To me, that's not being brave, that's just making the best of it, whatever 'it' is."

"It" for Lay-Dorsey is MS.

MS is a chronic, progressive disease of the central nervous system that affects more than 400,000 Americans, including over 19,000 people in Michigan.

# -close and personal

Lay-Dorsey, who lives in Detroit, was diagnosed with progressive MS in 1988. Since her diagnosis, she has used art and poetry to process her feelings about her condition.

Janet Danek, CMU Libraries' coordinator of exhibits, says she hoped people would connect with Lay-Dorsey through common life experiences.

"Through her art, she quite courageously reveals the challenges caused by MS that she faces each day, just to live," Danek says. "But MS is only one aspect of her very rich life. Her enthusiasm for life, learning and people is infectious and inspiring."

For the past five-and-a-half years Lay-Dorsey worked on an intensive self-portrait project documenting her life to show the life of a disabled person from an "insider" perspective. Fifty of those images were compiled into her book, "Falling into Place."

Lay-Dorsey hopes this book and the exhibited self-portraits will educate viewers about the reality of life with a disability, as well as inspire those living with their own challenges.

Her photos were displayed in Park Library through the end of March, which was National MS Awareness Month.

▶ [lib.cmich.edu](http://lib.cmich.edu) for more

“ I know Patricia says that she’s obsessive with taking the right photo and will try until she gets it perfect. It’s just very impressive that she’s come out with all these great photos with so many trials and errors that she has to go through. ”

- Danielle Duval • Journalism • Fenton, Mich.

“ I didn’t know anything about MS before the presentation ... I definitely want to learn more about different disabilities now and see how people live with their disabilities. ”

- Monique Belser • Photojournalism • Detroit, Mich.

“ The biggest thing I took away is that you don’t have to let this disease ruin your life. Patricia still is able to live out her passion, and she has found a way to adapt and make it work. ”

- Erin King • Physical Therapy • Middleville, Mich.



Patricia Lay-Dorsey answers questions that physical therapy student Erin King has about her photos.



# Digital demands

Students accessing library resources on electronic devices

Melissa Beauchamp, '13

Academic research isn't so much a pen, paper and hard-covered book type of discipline for the modern-day student.

According to eCampus News, by 2016 nearly 90 percent of all students will utilize a nontraditional resource to study such as a tablet computer or smartphone.

"Students want their educational resources in their pockets or in their backpacks within a click or swipe away," says Matthew Ismail, director of collection development for the Libraries.

Although publishers are slow to migrate to digital content and transform materials to be accessible to smartphones or tablets, CMU and eight other Michigan libraries are piloting a project that uses an e-journal browsing app for a tablet, Ismail says.

The new project, testing a product called "BrowZine," delivers thousands of academic journals to an iPad or Android tablet.



It works by organizing articles found in open access and subscription databases and arranging them on a common virtual electronic newsstand.

"It operates like any file and can be saved, zoomed or added to a customized bookshelf," Ismail says.

The new program is an easy way to browse and monitor scholarly journals across all disciplines. It's as easy as downloading the app, he says.

Pamela Grudzien, head of technical services for the Libraries, says it's important for the Libraries to keep up with trends and innovations so students and faculty can be fully-equipped.

"The simpler it is to gain access to the resources (students and faculty) need to support their learning and research, the better that education and research outcome will be," Grudzien says.