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ReferencePoint

Central Michigan University Libraries' Newsletter Volume 10, Issue 2

Scanning the Soo

Historic Soo Locks images to find
permanent home on Clarke website

Inside: **New Library Master Plan** guides summer renovation project

Closing the book on a storied career

ReferencePoint

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For the first time in this column, news about the CMU Libraries intersects with news about me.

That's because, after having the privilege of serving as Dean of Libraries for what will be 28 years, I'll be retiring at the end of June.

As I anticipate taking this step, I'm very aware that I'll miss many highly appreciated rewards and satisfactions I've experienced continually over the years.

First among them is contributing my leadership to a library organization focused on supporting the learning and academic achievements of thousands of students and faculty.

The second is working with, and learning from, excellent faculty, staff, and administrative colleagues in the Libraries and university who share the common goal of success for Central Michigan University. I'm grateful for all I've gained from our work together.

Unlike most who leave their jobs, I'm fortunate to know that I can always return to Park Library, on site and online, and also remain part of the splendid CMU community.

With my departure, Provost Michael Gealt will be appointing Kathy Irwin, our current associate dean, as interim dean for at least a year. Kathy, who has been at CMU for three years, is an experienced library leader with an unfaltering commitment to academic library excellence.

As my exit draws near, much of my professional attention and excitement lie with several terrific initiatives intended to

ensure our library facility, collections, and services continue over time to align with CMU's academic needs.

Perhaps most easily noted here are the Park Library Master

Plan and the follow-up, second floor remodeling project, which is funded by donor dollars and being designed now for construction this summer. These are reported on in this Reference Point issue. While important on their own, they also represent a broader series of steps that, especially taken together, are updating and strengthening our opportunity for ongoing success.

Finally, I want to express and emphasize my great appreciation for all who've supported the Libraries with gifts over the years. Their generosity has been instrumental to the high quality of library services we've been able to achieve, both in the University Library and in its extraordinary companion, the Clarke Historical Library.

After years of editing and writing for Reference Point, I will soon become, like you, a reader of it. I'll look forward to the news about library activities and the highlights of accomplishments in each issue, as I hope you do now.



Tom Moore

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Moore". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Moore
Dean of Libraries

Planning Park Library's future

Master plan guides first project to be completed by fall 2016

By Dan Digmann, M.A. '15

Shifting needs of library users is prompting the first project proposal guided by the recently approved Park Library Master Plan. Shelving and printed reference collections on the second floor south will be relocated or eliminated to make room for movable furniture, collaborative study spaces and learning technology. It is anticipated the project will cost approximately \$500,000 and will be completed by the start of classes this fall.

In the rapidly changing world of learning, where technology and electronic resources are replacing print and physical materials, the new master plan provides the framework to ensure the Central Michigan University Park Library will continue to enhance quality academic support for teaching, learning and research.

For example, the Park Library renovation and expansion project completed in 2002 included installing 2,500 hard-wired computer connections and the equivalent of 33 miles of movable shelving to store more than a million volumes of books. In the 14 years since then, the entire campus now has wireless Internet access, and the library purchases digital versions of many books and most periodicals.

"For most subjects, students and faculty now prefer to use digital information sources," said Tom Moore, dean of libraries. "We're going to start phasing out some of the unneeded materials and shelving to free up floor space. The master plan will help us determine what will occupy those spaces."

The Park Library Master Plan assigns themes for each of the library's four floors and focuses on providing flexibility for ever-evolving learning space needs among students and faculty. Such assignments will help guide what elements, services and features fit into the library's overall academic support goals. The floor themes are:

- **First floor** – Entry Level, Extended Hours Access, Community Outreach
- **Second floor** – Resource and Service-Rich, Collaborative Environment
- **Third floor** – Student and Academic Support
- **Fourth floor** – Teaching Support and More

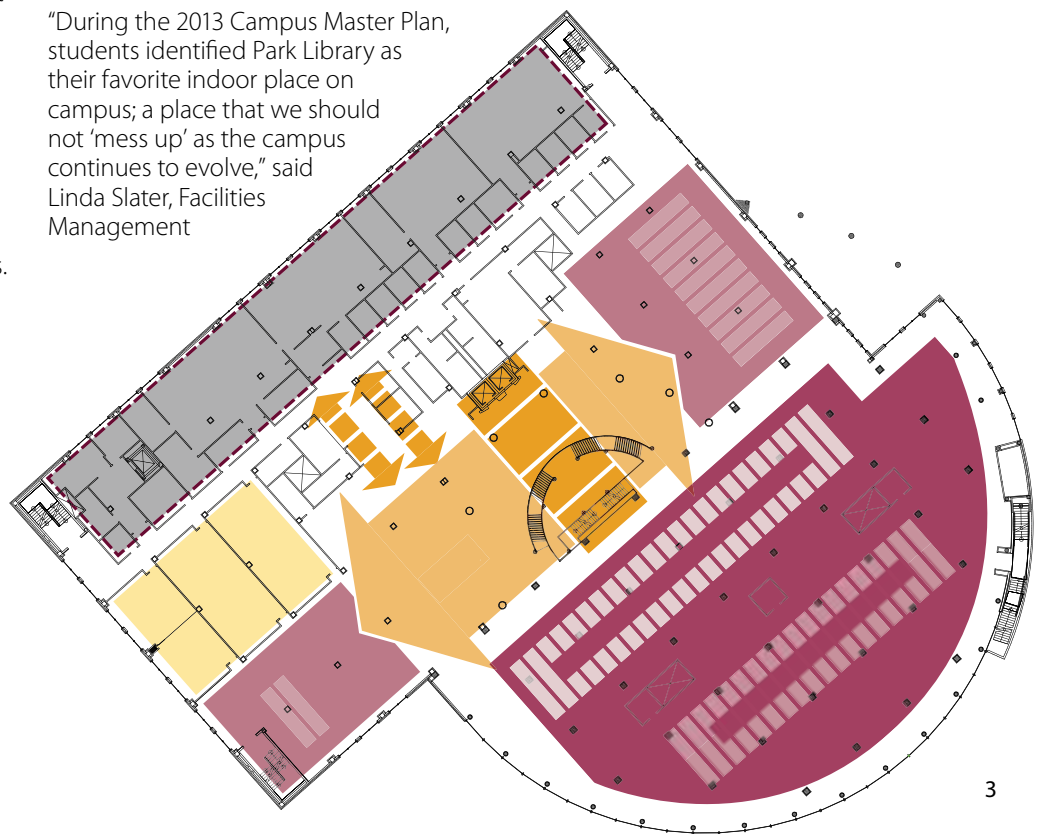
The plan, coordinated by CMU Facilities Management, was developed following a series of campus engagement processes such as interview sessions and collecting user comments.

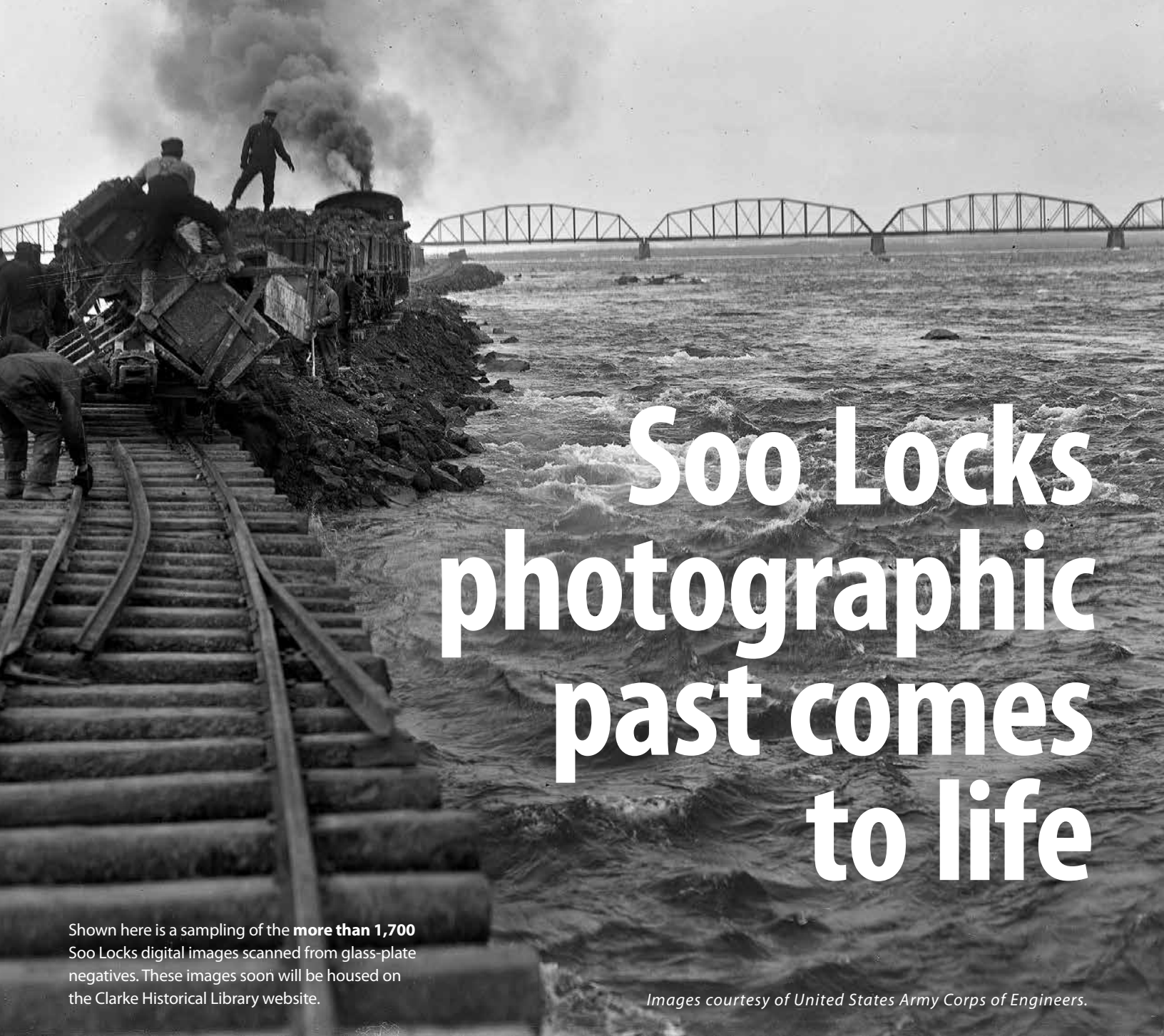
"During the 2013 Campus Master Plan, students identified Park Library as their favorite indoor place on campus; a place that we should not 'mess up' as the campus continues to evolve," said Linda Slater, Facilities Management

director of plant engineering and planning. "The Park Library Master Plan will allow us to move forward with confidence in evaluating and implementing changes to Park Library, ensuring that it remains a preferred space for learning and studying."

This plan doesn't call for widespread upgrades and changes throughout the facility. Instead it is available to guide changes as they're requested and needed, like the planned project on the second floor, Moore said.

"This master plan will assure faculty and staff that down the road Park Library will continue as a central location for library and academic support services," he said. "We know the library facility is a living asset for the university that will change with the times and with the needs of our CMU community."





Soo Locks photographic past comes to life

Shown here is a sampling of the **more than 1,700** Soo Locks digital images scanned from glass-plate negatives. These images soon will be housed on the Clarke Historical Library website.

Images courtesy of United States Army Corps of Engineers.





Clarke Historical Library will host exclusive collection online • *By Dan Digmann, M.A. '15*

Michigan tourism marketing materials boast that nearly 1 million people visit the Soo Locks each year.

Many visitors anxiously linger and wait to watch one of the estimated 7,000 vessels that annually pass through the four locks that enable ships to safely navigate the 21-foot drop between Lake Superior and Lake Huron.

The Soo Locks, positioned between Michigan's Upper Peninsula and the Canadian province of Ontario, is considered one of the world's largest waterway traffic systems. Completion of the locks in 1855 opened the gates to commercial shipping throughout the Great Lakes and the world.

Clarke Historical Library soon will electronically host more than 1,700 images – many of which were previously unseen – of the Soo Locks construction and development.

"The Soo Locks are fundamental to the history of the United States economy," said Frank Boles, director of Clarke Historical Library. "This collection is the best visual record of the building of the locks you will ever see."

Boles first saw the images nearly five years ago after he responded to a request for an archivist evaluation from a friend who managed the Soo Locks archives. Going through the files in a supply room at the Locks, which the United States Army Corps of Engineers owns and maintains, Boles

discovered the collection of glass-plate negatives chronicling the construction.

Hundreds of solid, yet simultaneously fragile, one-eighth-inch-thick glass plates measuring anywhere from 5-by-7 to 14-by-17 inches were simply stored in manila envelopes stacked in several filing cabinets. Each plate was a specifically labeled negative of a picture taken throughout the construction of the lock system in its current configuration.

Some dated as far back as 1885.

"I said, 'We need to better preserve these and make them available to the public,'" Boles said.

Project entails scanning over 1,700 glass-plate negatives

Following years of discussions and proposals to secure grant funding, a plan was worked out with the Army Corps of Engineers late last year to have Clarke Historical Library scan each negative and post the entire collection on its website for the public to view and use. Boles said that such a collection for public use would be more easily accessed and maintained if it were posted to an independent website.

Bryan Whitledge, reformatting and imaging manager for Clarke Historical Library, spent 11 days this winter in a Soo Locks office room scanning and electronically labeling each negative. It took about four minutes to scan each negative, and Whitledge was equipped

with three separate scanners. He said he did his best to keep one of them going at all times throughout the work day.

Occasionally his timing was thrown off when he had to scan glass negatives that were broken. One time, he had to piece together a negative that was broken into nearly 30 pieces.

The historic images will be available on the Clarke Historical Library website later this spring. The negatives, which now are stored at the Soo Locks, eventually will be transferred to the National Archives.

Having these images available to the public electronically will benefit students, professors and historians who are interested in researching the countless impacts the locks had and continue to have on the state, region, nation and world, Whitledge said.

Vessels going through the Soo Locks each year collectively haul 86 million tons of cargo, including iron ore and taconite for steel mills.

"The Soo Locks was a major engineering feat that made so much development possible," Whitledge said. "Many great American cities like Chicago and Cleveland were born on steel and, if it weren't for the Soo Locks, the ships that carried the iron ore from Minnesota and Michigan's Upper Peninsula never would have made it out of Lake Superior."



Alysha Anders, '09, '14

I have been in my position now for over half a year. I cannot begin to describe how much I have learned in such a short period of time, and, I can promise you, I'm still learning every day. My co-workers never cease to amaze me with their willingness to help me, other coworkers and, most importantly, our students succeed, wherever they might be on or off campus.

There are many things I look forward to in my position. One of my favorite things is meeting the Libraries' best friends, our donors. I truly have enjoyed and valued the time I have been able to spend with many of you; whether it has been at an event on campus, a visit at someone's home or a conversation on the telephone. The passion our Friends have for Park Library and Clarke Historical Library is evident in every conversation I have. Your enthusiasm in supporting the Libraries motivates me in the best way. I look forward to meeting more of you throughout the upcoming year.

One of my favorite things about the Libraries is the sheer number of individuals we impact. Approximately 750,000 people visit Park Library on an annual basis. We serve nearly 27,000 students on and off campus and assist in over 2 million article

Gifts and support help Libraries to change lives every day

downloads per year. I hope each of you understands how important your continued support is to the success of the Libraries and the individuals we serve.

Your support enables us to create an enriching academic environment full of valuable scholarly resources that, in most cases, can be accessed anywhere anytime. I am confident in saying the CMU Libraries change lives every day, and the gifts we receive add greatly to making that possible.

In closing, I would like to thank a special individual for all he has done for the Libraries over the past 28 years. In the short time I have known Tom Moore, he has been a wonderful boss, mentor and friend. He truly has accomplished some amazing things during his time with the CMU Libraries. He will be missed by many, but I am certain his legacy will live on.

Forever maroon and gold,

Alysha Anders

Alysha Anders, '09, '14
Director of Development
and Community Outreach

Libraries to host New York Times' journalist

Two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist to speak on May 21 • *By Halle Sobczak*

New York Times' journalist and author Gina Kolata will speak Saturday, May 21, at the 2016 Friends of the Libraries Speaker and Luncheon event. Kolata was a two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist for investigative reporting in 2000 and for explanatory journalism in 2010 for her work at The New York Times.

Kolata's journalism focus is on science and medicine. She has received awards from the Silurian Society for a series on cancer and from the Associated Press Sports Editors for her piece on the Caster Semenya controversy. She also has written several books, including "Rethinking Thin: The New Science of Weight Loss and the Myths and Realities of Dieting" that was a Quill book awards finalist in 1997.

The luncheon is an exclusive event for the Friends of the Libraries. To learn how you can become a member, contact Alysha Anders, 989-774-1826, ander2aj@cmich.edu or visit library.cmich.edu/support.





Kim Summers, '78, is passionate about supporting his alma mater and University Libraries.



In addition to financially contributing to CMU, **Ron Rhoades, '77**, stays connected to the university by taking his granddaughter to Grandparents U.

Far-reaching support

Donors give to Libraries as well as individual college programs

By Dan Digmann, M.A. '15, and J.D. Sterba

Supporting the College of Science and Engineering makes sense to 1978 alumnus Kim Summers.

This academic unit conducts the computer science program that offered Summers the education and foundation to flourish as an independent management consultant in Grand Rapids.

He has established two CMU scholarships – including one in honor of his parents, Leonard and Betty, for a student studying in the computer science program – and he has actively volunteered on the college's alumni advisory board.

Still, Summers knows there is another critical area at CMU he can provide for to advance student learning: University Libraries.

Summers is a Friend of the Libraries who has supported various library programs over the years, including the Honor with Books and Newspaper Digitizing programs.

"The library is one area I've learned can have an impact on a multitude of students regardless of their academic majors," he said. "Park Library and its services have transformed themselves over the years, and it's my privilege to be able to help wherever there is a need."

Many other university supporters, such as 1977 alumnus Ron Rhoades, realize the far-reaching benefits of specifically contributing to University Libraries.

Rhoades earned his graduate degree in management and regularly supports the College of Business Administration. He also gives to the Libraries and its online resources even though he never actually stepped into the library building when he was a student. This is because Rhoades lived in Virginia when he pursued his degree through what now is CMU Global Campus, and the library mailed books and articles to him on request.

Online resources weren't available when Rhoades earned his degree, but he knows how valuable they are for today's off-campus students.

"At that point the Internet hadn't been fully developed, and it was not an available resource for me," said Rhoades, who is retired from the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and now lives in Holland, Michigan. "I see it as a potential resource for students that could truly benefit, and I am happy to contribute to the library program."

To learn more about how you can support University Libraries and its related resources, contact Alysha Anders, director of development and community outreach, at 989-774-1826 or ander2aj@cmich.edu.

Peer-to-peer promotion

Ambassadors introduce fellow students to countless library resources • *By Halle Sobczak*

Lansing junior Celeste Hay remembers that as a freshman, she didn't fully understand how different a university library was compared to a high school library.

She began working as a library ambassador in fall 2014 and now has a better grasp of everything Park Library offers.

Still, she learns something new about the library and its resources every day.

Library ambassadors are on-campus students dedicated to expanding knowledge about the myriad resources and services available at the library, such as the Writing Center, Access Services and Documents on Demand. In addition to participating in marketing events, such as staffing information tables, ambassadors deliver campuswide presentations to groups such as registered student organizations, residence hall floors and Greek communities.

"At the end of every presentation, I have at least one senior who comes up to me and says, 'I have been here for four years, and I had no idea those resources were available,'" said Hay. "Our goal is to expose students to the library's vast amount of assets so that they are able to take the next step in utilizing them throughout their time as a student."

Each ambassador has had different experiences working with the library, enabling them to relate and attest to the usefulness of the resources and how using them has helped advance their educational endeavors.

"We have found that peer-to-peer marketing has been extremely successful," said Kathy Irwin, associate dean of libraries. "Oftentimes students are timid to approach a librarian, so having students available to answer their questions has been really helpful."

The idea for a group of student ambassadors began as an attempt to help students feel more comfortable when asking questions about the library's resources.

"The library ambassadors are helping to promote the message that wherever you are, the library is there too," said Eric Bellmore, manager of library web services. "Whether you are in your residence hall or across the country, the library is available to help enhance your educational experience."



Photos by Steve Jessmore, '81

Library ambassadors are on-campus students who host presentations to inform others about such resources and services. The CMU Writing Center is among the many resources available at Park Library.





The art of exchange

Photos by Steve Jessmore, '81

Clarke exhibit displays treaties between U.S. government and Native Americans • By Samantha Smallish

Clarke Historical Library's latest exhibit examines events from Michigan's history that have helped shaped the state for many years.

"Native Treaties – Shared Rights" explores Michigan treaties between the United States government and the native tribes that earlier inhabited North America. The exhibit showcases how the treaties looked, the guaranteed rights and privileges included for both parties – some valid for as long as the United States exists – and other effects of the signed documents.

"Clarke Historical Library has always had a strong collection of Native American materials, so we enjoy using them as an educational tool," said Frank Boles, Clarke Library director. "The goal of this exhibit is to encourage attention to the treaties, who was involved, what was exchanged and how it all worked in order to gain a better appreciation of the details of these treaties."

In partnership with the Ziibiwing Center, Clarke Library aims to educate visitors and cultivate awareness and understanding.

While open to the public, Boles hopes college and high school students will gain educational value from the exhibit.

"It is open to everyone, but we want to focus on college- and high school-aged students and plant a seed that will lead to a greater understanding and appreciation of the history of both cultures," he said.

The exhibit is partially funded by the Michigan Humanities Council, an organization dedicated to supporting and funding cultural programs. It includes two traveling components, which will be available for display by public libraries. The exhibit will run through August.



Clarke Historical Library student employees **Casey Gamble** (left), a senior majoring in English and gender studies, and **Drake Smarch** (right), a senior majoring in art history, assist in installing the "Native Treaties" exhibit.

Escaping *end-of-the-semester stress*



Libraries host **De-Stress Week** events to help students relieve finals week anxiety

By Halle Sobczak

Finals Week is May 1 to 5, but library staff members already are busy planning for their biannual De-Stress Week.

University Libraries launched this event in December 2014, placing coloring books, puzzles and games on tables throughout Park Library to give students a mental escape while studying for finals.

"When we walk around the library at this time of the year, everyone is so focused and tense," said Kathy Irwin, associate dean of libraries. "We wanted to give students a break."

De-Stress Week has grown in popularity each semester, and the types of activities offered also have changed. This includes hosting guided meditation and bringing in therapy dogs last December.

"I've never seen so many happy college students before in my life," said Eric Bellmore, manager of library web services. "The word spread so quickly through Snapchat and Twitter that, before we knew it, students not even studying at the library were coming in just to see the dogs."

Last December, buried deep within the Park Library second-floor bookshelves, freshman Kellie Hoeing was hovered over her biology textbook. With three finals, four biology lab reports and two essays all due before the end of fall semester, she felt the pressure so many other students were also feeling.

Needing a break before tackling the next item on her never-ending to-do list, she took a quick walk around the library. As the Macomb freshman rounded the corner, she spotted three therapy dogs lying by the staircase just waiting to interact with Central Michigan University students.

She spent the next hour sitting on the floor with the dogs. It was the study break Hoeing desperately needed. Her mind drifted from the worries of her studies and focused on the dogs instead.

"I was having a really rough day," the exercise science and kinesiology major said. "Seeing the dogs instantly made me smile and reminded me that very soon I'll be able to go home and see my own dogs. It's a feeling of comfort."



Photos by Steve Jessmore, '81

University Libraries *news briefs*

Photo by Emily Mesner



Area youth develop sketchbooks at the Kids and Culture event in Park Library.

Biennial conference will unite niche groups of librarians

Central Michigan University Libraries, through its Global Campus Library Services, will host its biennial national Distance Library Services Conference for distance librarians April 20 through 22, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The conference brings together nearly 300 librarians who work with online students and students physically removed from their university's campus to share ideas, methods and tips on working with students at a distance.

"Back when this conference first started, working with remote students wasn't as common as it is now, but it's more prevalent than ever," said Tim Peters, director of information services for University Libraries.

The 17th Distance Library Services Conference is organized around these tracks reflecting the interests of professionals working in distance librarianship:

- Administration & Management
- Assessment
- Emerging Technologies
- Marketing
- Teaching & Learning

CMU Libraries have organized the conference since its inception in 1982.

Libraries and University Art Gallery feature first Kids and Culture event

Park Library and Clarke Historical Library joined University Art Gallery in the middle of January for a local effort to introduce children and their families to arts and cultural opportunities.

Kids and Culture is a yearlong series sponsored by McDonald's and Art Reach of Mid Michigan to host one free event for children at a cultural venue in Mount Pleasant each month. McDonald's provides refreshments and Arch Cards to participants. Six local organizations will be highlighted for this program.

Events hosted at the Libraries on Jan. 16 included a storytelling session and children's art activity where the children made their own sketchbook or journal.

"The idea is to create opportunities for families to visit art and cultural venues they might not normally go to," said Janet Danek, coordinator of exhibits and projects for the CMU Libraries.

The Libraries and University Art Gallery will host the next campus event Saturday, Nov. 19.

CMU to host inaugural Michigan Academic Library Association Conference

The inaugural Michigan Academic Library Association Conference will bring more than 120 library professionals from across the state to Central Michigan University May 12 and 13. The conference will focus on the needs of academic librarians and libraries throughout the state.

"I am very excited to bring academic librarian peers to CMU for this conference," said Stephanie Mathson, CMU reference librarian and vice president/president elect of MI-ALA. "There will be great opportunities to network, present research and share best practices."

Mathson is enthusiastic about showing off the library – its resources, technology and other facets to conference attendees. We have a beautiful campus and facilities," she said. "and, of course, we have a wonderful Park Library we're always proud and happy to showcase for visitors."



CMU Libraries
exhibits & events calendar

cmich.edu/library/exhibits

Native Treaties – Shared Rights

Displaying the documents created between the United States and Native American tribes and their effects

- Through August
- Clarke Historical Library, Park Library

Fiber Arts Network of Michigan FAN Show

This group of artists explores fiber arts and its multitude of forms

- Through May 1
- Baber Room, Park Library

Confronting Violence: Improving Women's Lives

Exploring the stories of nurses and activists from the late 20th century who reformed the medical field

- April 11 through May 21
- Third Floor, Park Library

National Undergraduate Student Print Exchange and Exhibition

Featuring printmaking works by members of CMU's student organization, Print Club

- May 10 through June 3
- Extended Hours Study and Student Gallery, Park Library

Enrichments: Works of CMU Art Faculty from the University Art Collection

Featuring works by current and former faculty members from the Department of Art and Design

- May through June
- Baber Room, Park Library