Randy Norton looks back on his life and credits Central Michigan University for his successes. To show his appreciation, the 1977 CMU graduate is combining his two passions – academics and football – and is donating $25 to the Libraries for every touchdown CMU scores this football season.

“Hey, if the team scores a lot this year, believe me, I’ll be happy writing a big check,” says Norton, a CPA and owner of Norton Accounting & Consulting P.C. in Saginaw, Frankenmuth and Vassar.

After years of disconnection from his alma mater, Norton was reintroduced to CMU at an alumni golf outing when former football coach Brian Kelly delivered an inspiring speech. Norton reached for his checkbook and purchased CMU football season tickets. Since then Norton and his wife, Myra, have had season tickets and have attended nearly every home game.

Norton’s CMU journey

Norton had a late start on his college career and began fulltime at CMU as a sophomore in January 1975 after attending a community college. He and his wife lived at CMU in married housing and soon became housing supervisors.

“While at CMU, my primary motivation was to graduate and get a job,” says Norton, who spent hours studying for his CPA exam at Park Library. “We were very busy working, studying and taking care of the apartments.”

Norton says he remembers not taking the time to fully appreciate the university while he was here. He was focusing his efforts on getting through school rather than taking in other college experiences.

“My motivation for donating to CMU was based on wanting to give back to the institution that made my level of success possible,” the Freeland native says. “The connections and introductions I made at CMU started the ball rolling for me.”

Megan Moreno, director of development and community outreach for CMU Libraries, says she appreciates Norton’s support of this fun campaign for the Libraries that ties the excitement of the football season with the priority of student success at CMU.

“We’re excited about providing students with the tools they need to be successful in their academic careers,” she says. “We want people to think of the Libraries when they think of everyday culture at CMU.”

To make your own pledge in support of the Libraries, visit library.cmich.edu/support.
On-the-go

Libraries strengthening mobile access to resources

Recently I took a few minutes to review the Libraries’ offerings of service-oriented videos that can be accessed on YouTube through our websites. I was pleased and impressed by what I saw: short videos produced and narrated by our talented staff. Each is brief to the point, and helpful in explaining to the viewer something useful to know about our library collections and services. The tone is upbeat, as well it should be, and the presentation interesting and often creative.

The videos are just one of the many ways we’re reaching out to CMU students and faculty in Mount Pleasant and throughout CMU’s Global Campus. To let them know that the remarkable scholarly information resources and the abundant expertise of our librarians and staff are arrayed to help them achieve success.

Since in the Libraries our professional gratification comes from assisting others with their academic pursuits, and often with their leisure curiosities and information-seeking adventures, we don’t want anyone to miss what we provide.

With that in mind, in coming months we’ll be turning programmatic attention to streamlining and strengthening mobile access to library services and collections. In the last year the number of smart phones and tablet computers on the Mount Pleasant campus has jumped 42 percent to 17,000, and a similar proliferation is occurring with our off-campus clientele as well.

Upgrading library mobile access is important because we want students and faculty ‘on the run’ to be able to connect to library resources as conveniently as they connect to their friends and families and pizza vendors. We’ll keep you apprised of developments.

In the Libraries we’re not only discussing our online projects and progress. Increasingly we’re also discussing how to ensure the needs of newer generations of students and faculty. Teaching and learning practices are changing, and so too are the expectations of students who were themselves ‘born digital.’

Our facility environment must evolve to meet needs not foreseen when the current library was planned.

While Park Library is only 12 years old, this year we hope to take the first steps toward conceiving how it might look and serve 12 years from now. This is an exciting undertaking, as I’m sure you can imagine. We want to make sure future library users are as well served as today’s.

I appreciate this opportunity to share some of my thoughts, and I hope you enjoy the opportunity to learn about other library developments in this issue of Reference Point. Your comments and questions are always welcome.

Tom Moore
Dean of Libraries

Medical resource

Libraries playing primary role in College of Medicine

Five medical students line the edges of a work table in the Central Michigan University College of Medicine Building’s Opperman Learning Commons, which serves as the medical library.

They’re insightfully sharing diagnostic ideas. Hypothesizes. Suggestions. Solutions. Each is part of the protocol in the evidence- and problem-based learning at the center of the new medical school curriculum.

Nasir Hussain swiftly walks past his fellow medical students on his way into Bradley Long’s office for a brief meeting. Long is the medical librarian who is readily available to assist students with their research and with locating credible resources.

“Regardless of what anyone says, you have to have a good library for a medical school,” says Hussain, who is one of the 64 students in the inaugural class of the CMU College of Medicine. “For my research and for my classes, what is offered here at CMU definitely exceeds my expectations.”

Long had worked with faculty members to develop the medical school’s library collection and course curriculum. Classes began in early August, and students now are immersed in a specially designed, rigorous curriculum of team-based learning and problem solving that includes early clinical experiences.

Third- and fourth-year students will be based in primary care practices, with many of them learning and serving in Saginaw at Covenant Healthcare or St. Mary’s of Michigan. Because of the distance and the students’ unpredictable schedules, Long is proud to say most of the collection of medical journals, books and research is available exclusively online.

“As the students are working through their case studies, they come to me asking where they can find the materials they need,” he says. “What’s going to make me feel good at the end of the semester is if all the students do well on their exams, and we can look back and see how we helped them.”

Hussain, who originally is from Toronto, says he was drawn to CMU because of the innovative curriculum of its new medical school. Throughout this semester he — along with Long — has collaborated with three other students on the College of Medicine Student Advisory Committee to work with faculty in developing the curriculum and resources for the second year of studies.

“This was a good fit for me,” Hussain says. “It’s all about teamwork and collaboration, which is more active learning than passive learning.”

The CMU College of Medicine, the nation’s 137th medical school, has a unique mission to educate physicians to care for the residents of Michigan’s medically underserved cities and towns. Michigan is expected to have a shortage of 4,000 to 6,000 physicians by 2020.

The CMU College of Medicine has affiliations with hospitals throughout the state to provide clinical training for students and, potentially, residency opportunities after graduation.
Students on their way to and from class hurriedly shuffle past Clarke Historical Library. Janet Danek is standing beyond the sliding glass doors in silence.

Surrounding the CMU Libraries’ coordinator of exhibits are blank walls and panels of photographs that soon will decorate them. Danek is installing Our Front Porch, the newest exhibit that celebrates the culture and music this storied CMU Public Radio program provided for three decades.

“Our Front Porch concert-goers and radio listeners of the past have been treated to bluegrass, folk, blues, acoustic, Celtic, Cajun and Zydeco music,” Danek explains. “Now visitors of the Clarke also can enjoy the unique sounds and sites of these genres.”

The Our Front Porch exhibit takes viewers from the humble beginnings of concerts broadcasted live from Moore Hall’s Townsend Kiva on the CMU campus to what developed into a nationally syndicated Public Radio series.

“The exhibit brings out the passion that was not only in the hearts of the performers, but also in the team that made the series happen,” Danek says.

It is evident through the exhibit that producer and host John Sheffler exudes that passion. Sheffler worked as an overnight jazz disc jockey at CMU Public Radio when he pitched the idea that became Our Front Porch. The series was born when he brought The Lost World String Band to campus to perform in 1979.

“We’ve traveled around the state with these concerts, taken performers to places they never would have seen, and exposed audiences to music they never would have heard,” says Sheffler, now director of CMU Public Radio.

Listen to this

Stepping back into the main gallery, Danek pauses to admire the panels displaying life-size photographs of performers such as John McCutchen, Rory Block and Dewy Balfa.

“Thankfully, CMU photographers Robert Barclay and Peggy Brisbane were able to capture all of the special moments through their lenses,” Danek says, adding that Barclay also hosts the long running CMU Public Radio blues show “The Juke Joint.”

Danek leads the way to the side gallery, which has been converted to an intimate listening room. Songs include many from Our Front Porch recordings that CMU Public Radio no longer has the rights to broadcast.

“Now, through the exhibit, people have the opportunity to listen to the music and either enjoy it again or enjoy it for the first time,” Sheffler says.

With the music and photographs, the Our Front Porch exhibit is a celebration of compelling history that will be displayed until January 2014.

lib.cmich.edu for more
Development Column

Make a lasting impact

Naming opportunities available at Park Library

The fall semester always is an exciting time on campus and in the Libraries. The dreddums of late summer give way almost instantly to the hustle and bustle of students moving through the central corridor of Park Library, climbing up and down the stairs, filling the auditorium, lining up at service counters, packing around tables in group study rooms, and using nearly every available seat (and there are a lot!). From the very first day of classes, the calm and quiet of the library blends with the hum and buzz of busy students and staff. You almost can feel the energy of all the minds at work.

As students use the spaces in the Park Library, they can’t help but notice recognition plaques honoring those who’ve made gifts in support of Libraries. These plaques display a commitment of support to CMU and a lasting impact on the academic experiences of students and faculty using our library services.

Many of these rooms, like the Baber and Strosacker rooms, were named through gifts made as part of the campaign for the renovation of Park Library completed in 2002. They’ve become widely known names because of their heavy use by individuals, classes and academic departments throughout the year. Still, at Park Library some of the university’s most highly utilized spaces remain unnamed and available for recognition of yet-to-be-committed financial support.

Naming a room is so much more than just putting your name on a plaque. By making a gift to the Libraries to name a public space in Park Library, you can impact countless students for whom the library provides academic resources and valuable services. Your gift will be noticed and appreciated, not only through a recognition plaque, but through strong and effective library services as well.

Naming a room through your generous gift also communicates especially to students, who are future alumni, that philanthropic support plays a role in bolstering the library collections and services they use so often. If you’d like more information about the spaces still available for name recognition at Park Library or would like a tour, please contact me at 989-774-1826 or via e-mail at meganr.moreno@cmich.edu.

Focus on recent endowments for CMU Libraries

Helen Holz Rooney Endowed Award

Donor: Robbi Rooney Kosinski, ’76

Given in memory of Helen Holz Rooney, ’49, to support an annual financial award for a student employed by the CMU Libraries.

Robert W. & Susan L. Clarke Clarke Historical Library Endowment

Donors: Robert W., ’71, and Susan L. Clarke, ’71

Given to support the preservation and fostering of access to documents relating to Michigan, in particular newspapers, through microfilming or digitization.

Ihor and Christa Kamenetsky Clarke Historical Library Endowment

Donor: Christa Kamenetsky, ’80, ’83, English professor emerita

Given in memory of Ihor Kamenetsky – CMU political science professor from 1963 to 1997 – to support the Children’s Literature collection of the Clarke Historical Library.

Earnest about Ernest

Best-selling author McLain engages Friends with stories

by Mark Fairbrother

All authors start somewhere. Paula McLain, ’91 M.A. ’93, just happened to start in Park Library.


Long before her rise to literary stardom, McLain was a fresh-faced Chippewa who stumbled into a creative writing course and authored “bad poetry.”

Her poetry didn’t improve until a fateful conversation in Park Library with her first writing instructor. McLain revealed her ambition to become a professional poet and confessed that she never pored over a poetry book.

“My professor looked at me wide-eyed and said, ‘You don’t read poetry?’” McLain says. The professor’s bewilderment kick-started her drive to do more than produce poetry. She dedicated herself to consciously consuming it. She gained writing and critiquing experience during her undergraduate career by frequenting a “fledgling” poetry salon which she helped form. The group of students met at The Bird in Mount Pleasant to evaluate and support each other’s work.

Once her bachelor’s degree was completed, McLain jumped feet-first into her master’s.

She enjoyed her long days as a graduate assistant instructing English composition courses and her late nights feasting on the inspiring supply of poetry resting on Park Library’s bookshelves.

“I realized I could make a living at my craft,” adds McLain.

A farewell to anonymity

After earning two English degrees from CMU, McLain committed herself to writing professionally; however, her first few published pieces — two poetry collections, a memoir and a novel — were commercially dim.

Unable to decide where to take her career next, McLain got her hands on a copy of Hemingway’s memoir “A Moveable Feast.” She found herself falling in love with the Jazz-age, Paris romance of larger-than-life Hemingway and his no-nonsense Midwestern wife.

She was eager to dig deeper.

Her intrigue morphed into her second novel, “The Paris Wife,” which flew off bookstore shelves as it spent more than 30 weeks atop the best-seller list.

The great success surrounding McLain’s latest effort led her back to Mount Pleasant earlier this summer. As the featured speaker at the annual Friends of the Libraries luncheon, she discussed the profound love and loss between Hemingway and Richardson and the mutual, undying respect that continued until their deaths.

Following the presentation and lunch, McLain inscribed copies of her book while sitting at a library table, steps away from the Michigan Hemingway Society archives in Clarke Historical Library.

She graciously smiled as she grasped the outstretched hands of attendees that filled her view.

She no longer sits in the library as a novice writer. McLain has made a living at her craft by adding vivid color to the legacy of a man to whom her life now is intricably linked.

Friends of the Libraries line up to meet Paula McLain during her visit to campus earlier this year.
Annual event recognizes CMU authors and editors
by Melissa Beauchamp

Weinstock recently published monograph “The Vampire Film: Undead Cinema,” published by Columbia University Press, offers an analysis of the enduring appeal of the cinematic vampire. It received the 2013 International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts Lord Ruthven Assembly Award for Best Nonfiction Title.


“My understanding is that my record of publication places me among the most productive researchers – if not the most productive – in CMU history,” he says.

Weinstock says he utilizes the Libraries’ resources with all of his research-intensive projects. He uses the Libraries’ books and periodicals, online databases like the Modern Language Association’s bibliographic database and JSTOR, and the Documents on Demand service.

Berk recently published book, “Mistle Child,” digs more deeply into the haunting world of ghosts, ancestors and delicious fare in the second series in The Undertaken Trilogy published by Simon and Schuster. The novel is what Publisher’s Weekly calls a “thought-provoking gothic fantasy” in which the main character must right an ancient wrong and deal with a home haunted by ghosts.

Berk also uses the Libraries’ resources to work on several current book projects, including “Lyche Way,” the final novel in The Undertaken Trilogy, as well as three illustrated children’s books, a new novel and a film screenplay.

Speaking of their books

Jeffrey Weinstock

“The volume I co-edited was the culmination of more than three years of collaboration with my co-editor and the contributors to the volume. It was a pleasure being recognized at the CMU event with other authors and editors throughout the university.”

Sarah Surface-Evans (top left)
Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work

“Writing to me is almost like a hobby. I recently found my work cited in another academic textbook. It’s really rewarding to have people recognize the work I do.”

Mark Minelli (top right)
Community Health

“It’s a real exciting moment to have my book included in this event. And the interesting thing is that I’m listed as co-author of the book – I’m the co-author with Aesop.”

Edward Clayton (bottom)
Political Science

Documents on Demand options

• On- and off-campus users can have PDFs emailed straight to their homes
• For on-campus users, materials can be picked up in Park Library
• Off-campus users can have items delivered right to their homes

Meeting the demands

Libraries introduce new delivery service by Abby Clark

The University Library website was the first place Alexandra Fonzi looked when she needed journal articles for an anthropology class assignment this fall.

The Bay City sophomore immediately learned how a new Documents on Demand service made it simple and convenient to gather her research materials.

Documents on Demand department launched its Scans on Demand service this academic year. Through this new service, any article or book chapter from CMU’s extensive collection can be scanned and sent as a PDF directly to the library user’s email.

“It was so easy to place an order for the articles I needed,” Fonzi says. “They were sent right to my laptop.”

With 33 miles of retractable shelving, Charles V. Park Library has access to hundreds of thousands of books and print and electronic journals. But when the document a student needs isn’t readily available, especially in a residence hall room or apartment when the item is in print form, the material can quickly be delivered to them through its Documents on Demand services.

Fonzi’s experience with Scans on Demand exemplifies the main goal of the new service convenience.

“Instead of the student taking the time to come to the library to photocopy or scan the item, we do it for them,” says Susan Powers, Documents on Demand coordinator. “We then can easily deliver the item electronically to their On Demand account.”

Most requests are fulfilled within 24-48 hours during business days. This service adds a new level of convenience for CMU students, faculty and staff.
**Condor Commander**

Dietrich puts repository to use

by Darryll Stinson

His earth science projects range from recording observations of 290 species of birds in Mackinac to a narrative describing the geological history of St. Lawrence County, New York.

Established in 2008, CONDOR began with one collection of less than 100 items that collectively received 688,262 hits and 28,464 visits. Since then the archive has grown to include seven collections with more than 15,000 items that have received 5,411,723 hits and 272,077 visits.

Academic, intellectual or service work by CMU faculty, staff and students is eligible for consideration to be posted to CONDOR.

Types of work vary from articles, books, theses and dissertations to PowerPoint presentations, posters, web-based exhibits and more.

**Five reasons you should use Condor**

CMU's Online Digital Object Repository: CONDOR:

1. Enables your service and scholarly work to be discovered by others worldwide because it is indexed by Google and other internet search engines.
2. Increases your possibilities to collaborate with other scholars worldwide.
3. Provides a permanent link to your deposited work.
4. Allows you to leverage the advantages of open access publishing.
5. Makes unpublished works visible and discoverable.

**Getting started at condor.cmich.edu**

Currently employed or emeritus Central Michigan University faculty and staff may submit potential content to CONDOR. Student contributions should be approved and submitted by a faculty member. All submissions must have appropriate copyright permission. Student submissions must also comply with all relevant FERPA guidelines.

Contributions for consideration can be made through the Submission Form link on the About CONDOR page condor.cmich.edu/cdm/about.

Follow instructions specified on the form, which also includes links to contact information if you have any questions.

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**New approaches to information**

**Libraries using more eye-pleasing displays**

by Abby Clark

Whether they are just passing through or entering the doors to hit the books, Central Michigan University students and visitors are seeing video display boards featuring helpful tips and upcoming events on the Park Library walls.

Alyson Beland, Integrative Public Relations major and Dundee junior, says the new display boards are a great way to grab the attention of busy students and visitors.

“I like how it was such a different approach to use television,” Beland says. “I didn’t even know our Libraries did half of these events.”

The display boards use video, sound, and still slides to promote upcoming sponsored events, speaker series, and special services offered. Everything from new exhibits to new databases are highlighted to inform patrons and get them involved.

“Things about the Libraries can get lost in the mix,” says Kari Chenka, the Libraries’ graphic designer. “We try to give the service-oriented items a unified look so they would attract more attention.”

The display boards also play “Library Minutes,” which are short video clips highlighting special services or extraordinary information about the Libraries.

The videos add another dimension to the displays to really help them come alive.

The Libraries’ media-based approach to promoting its services is working.

“The televisions caught my attention because they literally sounded like someone was talking to me,” Beland says. “It made me want to stay and watch more.”

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**CMU Libraries’ exhibits & events calendar**

lib.cmich.edu/exhibits

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**Our Front Porch**

Celebrating three decades of the legendary CMU Public Radio program

- Through January 2014
- Clarke Historical Library, Park Library

**Foundations Course Art Show**

Featuring mixed-media student artwork from foundation art classes

- Beginning January 2014
- Extended Hours Study Room and Student Gallery, Park Library

**In the Blink of an Eye: An Exhibition of East/West Cross Cultural Art**

Highlighting works from award-winning quilt artist Ann Kowaleski

- January through February 2014
- Baber Room, Park Library

**National Undergraduate Student Print Exchange & Exhibition**

Displaying portfolios of undergraduate student print work

- March 1 through March 30, 2014
- Extended Hours Study Room and Student Gallery, Park Library

**Department of Art & Design Spring Exhibition**

Featuring work from 2013-2014 B.A.A./B.A./B.S. graduates of the Art and Design program

- April 25 through May 10, 2014
- Extended Hours Study Room and Student Gallery, Park Library
Students in Professor Susan Stan’s International Literature for Children and Young Adults class had the opportunity to speak with a six-time winner of The New York Times Book Review Best Illustrated Book of the Year. Peter Sis, a 2012 winner of the Hans Christian Anderson Illustrator Award, depicted his experience as an internationally acclaimed illustrator, author and filmmaker. With more than 20 books to his name and just as many awards, Sis provided Stan’s class with a unique perspective into the world of children’s literature and illustration. His presentation came prior to speaking in the Clarke Historical Library Speaker Series and was made possible by the David M. and Eunice Sutherland Burgess Endowment.

The students were awestruck at having Peter Sis all to themselves.

Professor Susan Stan