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Authors' Reception 2019 - Janet Morgan Riggs

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Abstract

One of the things that we celebrate here tonight at this reception is the strong relationship between faculty and students. The mentoring of student research and creative activity is so important here at Gettysburg—and it's especially gratifying for faculty and students alike when that collaboration results in co-authored publications. But whether or not publication is an outcome, the opportunity for students to work closely with faculty is something that we offer in a way that not many colleges and universities do. So I thank you all for that—for enriching our students' education in that way.

I also want to take a moment to thank the staff of Musselman Library for hosting this reception once again this year. And even more importantly, I want to thank them for all they do to support the academic enterprise here at Gettysburg. They do that in so many ways on a daily basis. [*excerpt*]

Keywords

Musselman Library, Gettysburg College, College Author Reception

Disciplines

Library and Information Science | Scholarly Communication | Scholarly Publishing

Comments

These remarks were given at Musselman Library's 2018 College Authors Reception held on March 22, 2019 by President Janet Morgan Riggs.

Authors' Reception 2019
Janet Morgan Riggs

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One thing that I know the staff here is especially proud of is their work on our institutional repository, the Cupola, which is the home of much of the scholarly work that is done here at Gettysburg. The Cupola is nearing 1 million downloads since it was established 7 years ago, which is remarkable. That's because so many of you are sharing your research and the research being done by our students. And none of this would be possible without the efforts of our librarians who have worked diligently to educate all of us on author rights, issues of copyright, and how to obtain the appropriate permissions.

Our library staff is also leading the way on the topic of textbook affordability. With their encouragement and guidance, I know some of you are on the path to using open, cost-free textbooks for your courses—something that many of our students appreciate.

Let me give you a great example of this. Chuck Kann's computer science textbooks are in The Cupola, and they are also freely available through the Open Textbook Library. They are used by students in his classes here, of course, but also by students at other colleges and universities. His textbooks have been downloaded over 55,000 times from 187 countries. He has made a tremendous contribution by sharing his work—and we are all grateful to him for doing that, as are many others who are benefitting from the accessibility of his work. So thank you, Chuck.

Let me wrap up by congratulating all of you once again on your scholarly efforts.

Here's to all of you, and please continue to enjoy this time together this evening.