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College Author Reception Opening Remarks

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College Author Reception Opening Remarks

Abstract

Welcome to Musselman Library! We are excited to host this celebration of scholarly work with our colleagues in the Provost's Office.

Thank you to Upscale for kicking this off. Nothing says "party" like acapella. We're glad you're here today.

Thank you also to the team of people who made this event possible – to the Library Exhibits and Events Committee, which is chaired beautifully by Kate Martin and also includes Jim Ramos, Lisa McNamee, Donna Skekel, Carolyn Sautter, Susan Pinckey, and Becky Strevig. Becky had a baby a month ago, and Sarah Appedu has been filling in for her and taking care of a multitude of large and small things. Also thanks to Suzanne Gockowski for coordinating with the Provost's Office and Ryan Nadeau for corralling all these publications that surround us. (*excerpt*)

Keywords

Musselman Library, scholarly publishing, scholarly communications

Disciplines

Scholarly Communication | Scholarly Publishing

Comments

These remarks were given at Musselman Library's 2017 College Authors Reception held on March 23, 2018.

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I know how busy our days can be and maybe some of you haven't been in this building for a while. I love having you all in at once for this event. While you're here, I want to promote the new exhibit in the Special Collections Reading Room on the 4th floor. It's called *Beyond Futility: Expectation and Impact of the First World War* and it features World War I-related artifacts, documents, and photographs from our own Special Collections, the Adams County Historical Society, Mason-Dixon Militaria, and several private collections. Archivist Amy Lucadamo created this exhibit to mark the centenary of the end of the Great War, and it has been endorsed by the U.S. World War I Centennial Commission (which is kind of a big deal). Dr. Ian Isherwood will give a lecture about the war's legacy on April 4 at 4 pm. That would be an excellent time to return here to see the exhibit. (And you should also check out his 2017 book *Remembering the Great War*, which is being honored today ...)

You may have noticed the games in the exhibit cases as you walked back here. Near the Browsing Room is an exhibit called "A New Look at Old Games" which showcases antique games on loan from Professor Dan DeNicola and Larry and Lynda Taylor. It's really fun.

Lest you think it's all history all the time around here, the ground floor has a photo display curated by Kendall Wright '18 called "Under the Microscope." She worked with Professor Emeritus Ralph Cavaliere to create a display of images taken with the College's electron microscope, along with a book display about microbes.

And of course, we are surrounded by the work of Professor Emerita Jan Powers who took these photos in Myanmar.

Please enjoy these exhibits while you're here – and don't hesitate to incorporate them into your classes.

But now, back to the main event... Today we are celebrating the scholarly work published in 2017 by our faculty and students. The work displayed around this space represents 80 faculty and staff authors who published 110 works, including 61 articles, 21 books, 21 book chapters, and a few other goodies. Of those works, we are able to **openly** share 44% of them in The Cupola. (And if you combine the faculty and student publications displayed today, the percentage of open rises to 56%!) As we continue conversations about how to communicate the value of what we do here, openly sharing the results of our work is more important than ever. We want prospective students, employees, and funders to encounter our work easily, and sharing it openly on a platform that is optimized for search engine discovery is a pretty great way to do that. Open works are cited more frequently than closed ones, so they have more impact. We started The Cupola in 2012, and we have about three-quarters of a million downloads from around the globe so far. If you're not yet in that 44% and want to talk about strategies to publish or share peer-reviewed scholarship without a paywall, please talk with me, my colleague Chris Barnes, or your librarian liaison. We've got ideas and we're here to support the transition to a more open publishing ecosystem.

It has become our tradition to invite a faculty member to make some remarks at this event, and this year we are so pleased that Associate Professor of Spanish, Radost Rangelova, agreed to do us all the honor. I want to brag a little and note that ALL of Radi's publications since she came to Gettysburg are openly available in The Cupola. Even her monograph about gendered geographies in Puerto Rican culture published last year has the first chapter freely available online, which we believe entices people to find or buy the entire book. I'll never really know who buys her book, but I can tell you that the first chapter has been downloaded by readers in North America, Central America, the Caribbean, South America, Europe, and Asia. I could rattle off a bunch of buzzwords like "impact," "innovation," "global reach," and more, but trendy or not, I think we can all agree that this is just great.

Let's hear from Radi.

(Acting Dean of the Library Janelle Wertzberger 3-23-18)