Spring 2015

Library System News, Spring 2015

VCCS Library Services

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Library System News

From the Director

Here we are deep into spring 2015. Spring is always a time of change and this year is no exception. Along with the azaleas in full bloom, birds changing to their bright new colors, and lots of grass to cut (but no snow to shovel), there are lots of changes in our world.

Last week, the VIVA community celebrated the career of Kathy Perry as she retires as VIVA's Director. Kathy became VIVA's first Director in 1994, and over 20 extraordinary years of creative, passionate, and dedicated leadership, she developed VIVA into one of the strongest and most successful state-wide library consortium in the nation.

Under Kathy's leadership, VIVA saw significant growth, moving from the early 1990's struggle to understand the impact of new electronic resource developments on libraries to providing tremendous

cost savings on the ubiquitous databases, streaming media, and e-book collections in use today.

Through VIVA, students and faculty at all public and many private higher education institutions across the Commonwealth have access to the same high-quality core electronic library collection. As a result, VIVA's success has become a model for cooperative library ventures everywhere.

As Kathy moves on, she goes with our best wishes and ap-

preciation for all that she did for the Virginia academic library community.

With Kathy's departure, we are pleased to welcome Anne Osterman as the new VIVA Director. Anne brings a wealth of experience in a variety of academic libraries, including a public service position at Western Piedmont Community College in North Carolina. Please see page 8 for more on Anne's new role.

On a more local level, significant change has come to the VCCS

New River CC Comic-Con Draws Hundreds to First-ever Event

It's a bird…it's a plane…no, it's the New River Community College Comic-Con!

Inspired by a Publisher's Weekly article, Gary Bryant, circulation manager and comic book fan, saw the potential for an NRCC Library-sponsored comic convention.

Library staff members viewed it as a chance to promote reading, creativity and the fun of comic books within the college and public community. And, the fact that it was also the 75th anniversary of Batman and Marvel Comics made the idea even more appealing.

The entire campus joined in the effort with representatives from

All artwork by Gary Bryant and Rick Maitri

several college departments serving on the committee to plan, organize and promote the event. The collaboration by staff of New River's information technology, public relations, media services, student services and library contributed to the huge success of the convention.

The event was marketed via social media; by distributing informational cards and flyers to regional schools, universities, libraries, toy stores and comic shops; and through regional newspaper and radio announcements and online media.

Save the Date

VLA Professional Associates Forum, Richmond VA	May 17 - 18
ALA Annual Conference, San Francisco CA	Jun 25 - 30
VIVA ILL Community Forum, UMW-Stafford VA	July 17
Open Access Week	Oct 19 - 25
VLA Annual Conference, Richmond VA	Oct 21 - 23

NRCC Comic-Con, continued

Gary Bryant and Rick Maitri, NRCC graphic artist, designed the comic-con logo character that appeared on all marketing materials.

Over the months of preparing for the event, it grew from the idea of being hosted in one campus building to two buildings. The comic-con took over the college's largest industrial training room (nearly 10,000 square feet) for the vendor booths, guest artists and writers; three classrooms; the library; the student lounge; and a 3-D printing lab.

"Gary's knowledge of and long-time networking with writers, artists and vendors in this genre were absolutely the key for such a successful response by the vendors and guests on this our first-time experience with a comic-con," said Sandy Smith, NRCC coordinator of library

services. "We couldn't have done it without him!"

The schedule of events included panel discussions with guest artists and writers, a Tarzan movie marathon, NRCC 3-D printing demonstrations, CAD department animations, video game labs and vendor displays from local comic book dealers, artists and writers. A popular Thai food truck was also stationed strategically for serving meals to visi-

tors, vendors and guests throughout the six-hour event.

Guest artists included John Rose, current artist for the comic strip "Snuffy Smith", who led a "bodacious" demonstration. Panel discussions were led by writers Tiffany Trent, Stanley Galloway, K.R. Thompson and comic pro Gary Kwapisz, a former artist for Marvel Comics' "Conan the Barbarian."

The 501st Legion, an international organiza-

NRCC Comic-Con, continued

authentic storm-trooper and alien costumes.

This first-time, family-friendly comic convention proved to be a successful event for New River, the guests, vendors and attendees. Estimates for the total number of visitors exceed 300.

Bryant noted, "It takes a village to create a comic book convention; but, it takes talented guests, assorted dealers and people looking for fun to make it successful."

And, successful it was.

tion of Star Wars cosplayers, hosted a standing-room only panel discussion. Writers Tiffany Trent and Stan Galloway were also interviewed along with independent comic book creators.

Because the convention was held on November 1, the day after Halloween, children and adults were invited to wear their costumes. Cosplayers dressed as their favorite comic book, fantasy, sci-fi, horror or historical characters.

Visitors to the comic-con saw Ghostbusters,

Anime characters, Batman and his villains and many other comic book characters. One of the favorites for group photos was the 501st Legion who posed in their movie

Virginia Western's Lynn Hurt Recognized for Outreach

Lynn Hurt, Coordinator of Library Services for Brown Library at Virginia Western Community College, is a recipient of the Carnegie Corporation of New York/New York Times "I Love My Librarian Award" for 2014!
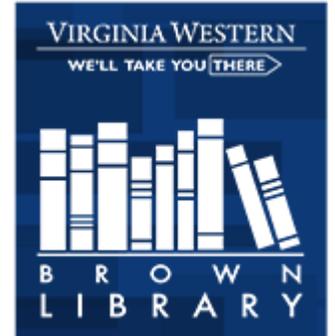
Ten librarians were honored for demonstrating the critical role librarians play in transforming lives and communities through education and lifelong learning.

Selected from a pool of more than 1,000 nominations, the 10 winning librarians join a distinguished group of award recipients. To date, only 70 librarians have received the award since its inception in 2008.

At VWCC, Lynn makes tremendous impact on her community by providing outreach to traditional and distance students who previously had little library interaction.

The awards were presented on December 2, 2014 at a ceremony and reception held in New York City, hosted by The New York Times. Congratulations, Lynn!

The Portable Z: We're Doing Five Blades

One of my favorite Onion articles is an expletive-laced "op-ed" by fictitious Gillette CEO and President James M. Kilts responding to his company's lack of innovation in the "multi-blade" razor game.

Softening up the language a bit so the VCCS will continue to allow me to blog, the modified headline reads: "Screw It. We're Doing Five Blades." I'm not going to link to it for obvious reasons, but you get the drift. Google the Onion + five blades if you want to read the whole, hilarious, testosterone-soaked article. Again: lots of cuss words.

Well, Virginia's Community Colleges are "doing five blades," too. Not in the multi-blade razor / moisturizing aloe strip space, of course. No, instead– building on the pioneering work of Tidewater Community College, the VCCS is taking OER to the next, audacious, metaphorical five-blade level by

Z x 23 Project

Dr. Richard Sebastian

Director of Teaching and Learning Technologies for Virginia's Community Colleges

Z x 23 Project, continued

scaling the zero-textbook-cost degree– or Z Degree to all 23 VCCS colleges.

The initiative, called the **Z x 23 Project,** is made possible by a generous grant from The William & Flora Hewlett Foundation, an organization with a deep interest in understanding how to successfully scale OER.
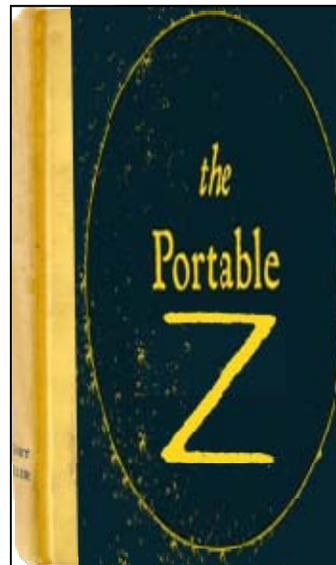
The one-year grant will allow the VCCS to kick-start the process of building out the Z Degree by providing funding, support, and training to fifteen (15) VCCS colleges to begin building pathways to their own Z Degrees.

An initial cohort of 6 colleges will begin work right away and work through the summer. A second cohort of 9 colleges will get underway in early fall 2015.

Each participating Z x 23 college will pilot the open courses they adopt for this project.

Lumen Learning, the VCCS's partner in this endeavor, will work closely with participating institutions to build these pathways, host the courses in Blackboard Learn, and evaluate the outcomes of the pilots.

Along the way, we also want to document how OER successfully scales and becomes mainstream, and answer the question, "How do we make Z degrees portable?"

Virginia's Community Colleges are known internationally for their innovative OER work and significant accomplishments in developing and using open materials. TCC's groundbreaking Z Degree, the first all-OER degree in the world, is partially responsible for putting Virginia on the OER map.

However, much of this attention also comes from Virginia's uncommon central structure, which enables the system to translate a commitment to scale OER into action. Sixteen VCCS colleges have developed and deployed OER courses.

Over 70 open courses have been developed using Chancellor's Innovation Funds (CIF), Chancellor's OER Adoption Grants, Professional Development Grants, or local college funds.

Collectively, the efforts of Virginia's Community Colleges have saved students millions of

Z x 23 Project, continued

dollars in textbook costs. With the addition of two new Z Degrees from NVCC, the VCCS now has three all-OER associate degrees. All of this has taken place in less than three years.!

This is a growing, global movement, and the next three years are going to bring even more dramatic results. This grant from the Hewlett Foundation is going to allow the VCCS to continue to lead the way forward.

Details about how your college can become a Z x 23 college will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. In the meantime, feel free to contact me directly to express your interest or get additional information.

Contact: rsebastian at vccs.edu

New Oxford Reference Online Titles for VCCS

Thanks to a recent purchase by Tidewater Community College Libraries, all VCCS libraries now have access to the following reference e-books:

- Fowler's Dictionary of Modern English Usage, 4e

- The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Theology

- The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Law

- The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Arts

- The Oxford Encyclopedia of the History of American Science, Medicine, and Technology

- The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Ethics

- The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Gender Studies

- The Oxford Dictionary of Humorous Quotations, 5e

- The Oxford Companion to Food, 3e

- Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable, 19e

- The Oxford Companion to Modern Poetry in English, 2e

Oxford Reference

Anne Osterman Appointed VIVA Director

The Virtual Library of Virginia (VIVA) is pleased to announce that Anne Osterman will serve as the next VIVA Director, effective May 25, 2015.

She comes to the consortium with an extensive background in academic libraries and consortial services, and brings an expert knowledge of both the challenges facing today's academic libraries and emerging innovative responses to those challenges.

Anne will be working with the members of the VIVA steering committee and with academic library leaders from various institutions across Virginia to continue and build upon VIVA's success. In the role of Director, Anne will further advance VIVA's mission, vision, and goals.

Her duties will encompass planning, implementation, and evaluation of VIVA's overall program, projects, and activities including developing funding proposals, negotiating licenses and managing vendor relations.

Her additional duties will include the promotion and representation of VIVA within the higher education com-

munity, and advocacy on behalf of VIVA within Virginia.

She will be responsible for the VIVA annual budget, manage the VIVA procurement process, and provide administrative support to the VIVA Steering Committee as well as other key VIVA standing committees and task forces.

"We are thrilled to be able to work with Anne in her new capacity as director of VIVA, and look forward to seeing her carry on the successful leadership of this dynamic organiza-

tion," said Carrie Cooper, chair of the VIVA Steering Committee and Dean of the Libraries at William and Mary.

Before joining VIVA as deputy director in 2012, Anne worked for nearly eight years in positions of increasing responsibility at American University Library in Washington, DC. She held the position of Director of the Information Service Delivery department when she left to join the VIVA office.

She also held public services positions at the University of North Carolina—Charlotte and at Western Piedmont Community College in North Carolina.

She earned her baccalaureate degree from Florida State University, a Master's degree in Library Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a Master's in statistics from American University.

Her primary research interests are related to electronic resources, from licensing to

New VIVA Director, continued

knowledge base management to product analysis. She recently co-authored a monograph, *Electronic Resource Management: Practical Perspectives in a New Technical Services Model* (Chandos Publishing, 2012).

Anne will succeed Kathy Perry, who has provided exemplary leadership for the VIVA program during the past 21 years, and who will be retiring in late May.

Winds of Change: VIVA Collections Update

The VIVA subscription to **ProQuest Dissertations & Theses** Full-text product has been upgraded to Global.

This upgrade includes dissertations and theses from around the world, spanning from 1743 to the present day. Full text is available for graduate works added since 1997, and selected full text for works written prior to 1997.

The current VIVA subscriptions to **Proquest EconLit, PAIS,** and **SocAbs** expire on August 1, 2015 and will not be renewed.

Colleges now have the option to purchase any product included in the recent VIVA Nursing and Social Sciences RFP (**ProQuest Sociology, Sociology Abstracts, WPSA, ProQuest Sociology Collection, ProQuest Political Science, WPSA + Political Science Bundle, PAIS, ProQuest Nursing & Allied Health**). To purchase any of these for your college at VIVA-negotiated discount rates, contact the vendor directly.

The current VIVA subscription to the **OVID LWW Total Access Journals** collection expires on August 31, 2015 and will not be renewed.

VIVA has contracted with Ebsco for access to the following e-resources, beginning August 1, 2015:

- **CINAHL Full Text**

- **EconLit Full Text**

- **Political Science Complete (includes Full Text)**

- **SocIndex with Full Text**

Ebsco discontinued the Spanish-language database **Economia y Negocios** on December 31, 2014.

For more information, visit

www.vivalib.org/

From the Director (continued from p. 1)

Moving out of the Monroe Building

System Office as it has completed the move to new offices. Pictured below is our brand new location at Arboretum III.

Finally, a comment on a project we started last year. As we hoped, the eBrary demand-driven acquisition (DDA) effort continues to show lots of use at a reasonable cost. So far this year, we have spent a total of $48,190 on purchases and DDA short-term loans. The average expenditure per

college has been about $2,095 (with a range from $17,617 to $32), and cost per use

is running about $10.50.

As of May 2015, our VCCS-wide DDA project makes 34,961 titles available at the point of need. When you consider the cost of putting that many titles on our shelves, in the hope that they will prove useful to our users, I think we can see the value of this project.

I hope you have a good and productive summer session.

-Gene Damon

Settling in at the Arboretum

OpenVa 2.1 Workshop Report

On Saturday, 2 May, the College of William and Mary's Swem Library hosted OpenVA 2.1, a workshop on open educational resources (OER).

The goals of this event were to "[foster] a rich and varied awareness of the many faces of OER... to critically discuss the current OER landscape and what constitutes OER, and to hear first-hand accounts of OER implementation from a variety of disciplines and contexts."(openva.org)

The first panel provided an introduction to OER. OER at VCCS primarily addresses student textbook cost barriers, but has larger impacts on transforming teaching and learning. Olivia Reinauer, Librarian (TCC) orient-ed the group by providing background and defining key terms.

OER are free educational materials that are either licensed for open use or in the public domain. Content that is freely available does not imply an open license. Creative Commons is a reliable way to identify OER with various license types that permit **the Five Rs:**

1. **Retain:** the right to make, own, and control copies of the content

2. **Reuse:** the right to use the content in a wide range of ways (e.g., in a class, in a study group, on a website, in a video)

3. **Revise:** the right to adapt, adjust, modify, or alter the content itself (e.g., translate the content into another language)

4. **Remix:** the right to combine the original or revised content with other open content to create something new (e.g., incorporate the content into a mashup)

5. **Redistribute:** the right to share copies of the original content, your revisions, or your remixes with others (e.g., give a copy of the content to a friend)

Marc Sher, Professor of Physics (W&M) gave a high-profile example of OER in use at William and Mary. He was invited to review chapters in an OpenStax Physics textbook that has been available online for free since 2011 and now accounts for 10% of the

Join the openva.org listserv to keep up with developments statewide:

https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/openva

OpenVa 2.1, continued

entire market.

Jane Rosecrans, Professor of English and Coordinator of Reynolds' OER Initiative (JSRCC) shared her experience creating a college-wide OER Program.

J.S. Reynolds C.C. offers a 1-year all OER General Education certificate that leads to 2-year transfer degree. The pilot program got underway in spring 2015 and initial survey findings show outstanding financial benefit to students in terms of personal finances and program progress.

The second panel provided examples of exemplary teaching practice. Jennifer Kidd, Senior Lecturer of Teaching and Learning (ODU) has 150 teacher prep students write their own e-textbook each term.

Starting from the premise that creativity flows from the learner, and that more learner control translates to more learning, her students are empowered

openstax

to be the expert, determine what is important, evaluate materials, and write for their peers. The resulting text is subject to extensive peer review and peer grading. The instructor, after all, is not the audience.

Andrea Livi Smith, Chair/Associate Professor of Historic Preservation (UMW) related that this field moves so quickly that textbooks hold little value, so her students use news articles and readings that are updated every term.

Rather than lock students into a CMS, Smith maintains an open Wordpress site with all course materials free to the world, which permits a much

more creative approach to teaching <andrealivismith.com>.

Tom Geary, Assistant Professor of English (TCC) gave the 'second wave adopter' perspective. Tidewater is the first institution to offer the Z degree, an associate's degree that relies entirely on OER.

Geary shared his success with OER in classroom, and how as an instructor, he finds it is now possible to locate relevant, quality OER material quickly.

Sue Fernsebner, Associate Professor of History (UMW) assigns her *'Record of the Taiping Civil War thru Primary Sources'* seminar students a digital project to design a continuing public Web resource based on primary and open sources.

Her students use open source tools to create annotated bibliographies, maps, and

OpenVa 2.1, continued

timelines; they report that the academic portion is 'the hard part' of the course, rather than the tech piece.

In closing, Beverly Covington, Policy Analyst (SCHEV) shared that cost savings via OER is a measurable element that the legislature pays attention to. SCHEV has convened the OpenVA Advisory Committee to move this forward.

Missed it?

A full recording of the OpenVa 2.1 panels, keynote, and discussion sessions is available at

openva.org/ 2015/05/02/openva-2-1-live-stream-link/

Open Access Week 2015

The 8th annual Open Access Week is Monday, October 19 through Sunday, October 25, 2015.

This is an opportunity for "the academic and research community to continue to learn about the potential benefits of Open Access, to share what they've learned with col-leagues, and to help inspire wider participation in helping to make Open Access a new norm in scholarship and research" <www.sparc.arl.org/ initiatives/ openaccessweek>.

If you are wondering how to support Open Access Week, or what you can do to promote Open Access at your college, visit the Open Access Week website for news, ideas, and downloads to kick-start your advocacy:

<openaccessweek.org>

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The Office of Professional Development (OPD) is pleased to announce that all VCCS employees now have access to faculty and staff development video seminars through Magna Commons.

Featuring leading educators and consultants, these programs deliver thought-provoking, content-rich presentation with "here's how" information.

To activate your staff account with Magna Commons, please visit:

http://www.vccs.edu/careers/office-of-professional-development/magna-commons/

Topics for Faculty and Administrators

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