

A student-centric organization

# BETWEEN THE PAGES

## Student advisors inform Library activities, services, planning for future

A group of 11 graduate and 14 undergraduate students plays a very important advisory role in decisions about Library services, spaces, resources, events and policies.

The volunteer Library Student Advisory Board meets regularly with Library faculty and staff to share feedback, ideas, frustrations and more.

“These students help us to build a better understanding of the student perspective, which is incredibly valuable in learning what we do well, where we can improve and how we should move forward,” said Librarian Kimberly Vardeman, who leads the User Experience (UX) team within the Library and works closely with the advisory board.

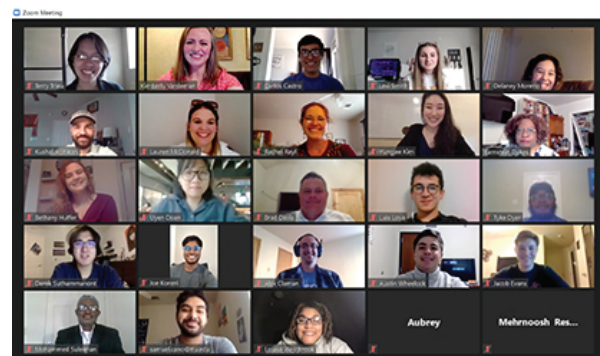
The advisors have broad ranging Library experiences and are committed to increasing awareness among their peers.

“Library services such as loaning books from other campuses, having a quiet place to study and meet with groups, and checking out camera equipment for group projects made my time as a student so much easier - and cheaper,” said Yungjee Kim, advisory board chair and a graduate student. “I want to help raise awareness of the variety of resources offered by the Library and be a part of the process to create and improve new and current services.”



*The Library Student Advisory Board hosted a Winter Raider Welcome event for students Jan. 16, 2020, in the Library's Croslin Room with hot chocolate, games and more.*

Jacob Evans, undergraduate advisory board member, wants to help shape the Libraries for the future. “I want to use my experiences to provide insight that I believe will make them even more student-friendly,” he said. “All Texas Tech students pay a Library fee, so I want to use my presence on the board to make sure we are



educating the student body on all the great services they are paying for!”

Library Dean Earnstein Dukes agrees. “It’s vitally important to be strategic about how we allocate Library resources and plan for future needs,” she said. “Who better to inform us on what students need to achieve their academic goals than the students themselves?”

In addition to working with the student advisors, the UX team reaches out to all students regularly for feedback. Some of their research methods include surveys, observation and moderated usability testing of services such as the Library’s website. Around Valentine’s Day, the team sets up in the Croslin Room and asks students to write either a “love letter” or a “breakup letter” to the Library.

“This is one of the more creative and fun ways to collect comments about the Library,” Vardeman said. “It’s so important to keep that open dialogue going with our students in as many ways as possible.

“When we tell students ‘your opinion matters to us,’ we absolutely mean it,” Vardeman said. -Julie Barnett

## Libraries welcome new dean



Earnstein Dukes, who has served in various roles within the Texas Tech University Libraries over the past 18 years, began her new position as dean of University Libraries on Aug. 1.

Dukes accepted the position of systems librarian at Texas Tech University in 2002 and in September of that year was appointed associate dean in charge of user experience,

resources management and library systems. Dukes previously served as interim dean for a six-month period in 2014 and 2015.

“I look forward to working collaboratively across campus to fulfill the educational and research missions of our university, as well as enhancing access to the physical and digital resources that our students need,” she said.

Dukes earned her bachelor’s degree from Northwestern State University in Louisiana and her master’s degree in library science from Clark Atlanta University in Georgia, with additional coursework in public administration. Her professional career began at the University of Memphis, and she subsequently held leadership positions at the University of Texas at Dallas, the Fort Worth Public Library and the College Center for Library Automation in Tallahassee, Florida.

Dukes is a member of the American Library Association, serving in various leadership roles in the organization. In addition, she is an active member of the Texas Library Association (TLA). She served as secretary/treasurer of the TLA Digital Libraries Interest Group in 2004-05, was a member of the TLA Awards Committee in 2012-13 and was a member of the TLA Diversity Committee from 2013-16. She was selected by TLA as librarian of the month in 2013.

“Ms. Dukes brings a broad understanding of the needs of research libraries to the dean’s position,” said Texas Tech Provost Michael Galyean. “As a result of her experience at Texas Tech and various roles at other institutions, Ms. Dukes is well-informed and well-positioned to lead the Texas Tech University Libraries as we meet the challenges of the rapidly changing landscape in library and information sciences. I am confident that she is the right person at the right time to lead the University Libraries into Texas Tech’s next century of service to our students and to the citizens of the state of Texas.”

## Here for you



I am a proud alumnus of Texas Tech University and I am thrilled to be working on behalf of our students. When I was a student, I had trouble concentrating on studying, and the Library was the

reason I was able to focus and graduate. The Libraries are of great benefit for so many and I am honored to be working for this great university.

My role is helping individuals, like YOU with gift planning to Texas Tech University. I want to help you connect with Texas Tech in ways that are meaningful to you! Did you know that there are ways to maximize your giving to make a tremendous impact on students? Sometimes, you may think you do not have the resources to make a philanthropic impact, but with proper planning, YOU can make a difference!

The Texas Tech University Libraries, a student-centric organization that serves all students (on or off campus), is comprised of the University Library, Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library and the Architecture Library. We are purely focused on students’ success and would like for you to partner with us in this endeavor.

If you want to have a conversation on ways to have a significant effect on our students, please contact me. I would love to hear from you.

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# Texas Tech Friends of the Libraries



Wow! What a year—and through it all, Texas Tech University continues to thrive. The University Libraries provide information, databases, e-resources and so much more. In a digital world, access to these resources and collections is imperative.

Membership:	Gift Range:
Friend	\$50-\$249
Patron	\$250-\$499
Benefactor	\$500-\$999
Fellow	\$1,000-\$4,999
Dean's Circle	\$5,000 +

Visit: [bit.ly/SupportTTULibraries](http://bit.ly/SupportTTULibraries) to join.

I am the president of the Texas Tech Friends of the Libraries and I invite you to partner with us and help

expand Texas Tech's tradition of excellence, to cover the gaps in state funding and to help our students find every opportunity to succeed. Please say you'll be our friend! -Martha York

## Board Members:

Martha York, President  
Karen Savage, 1st VP  
Alan Adams, 2nd VP  
Marie Brunjes, Past President  
Gretchen Scott, Past President  
Jack Becker  
Nancy Cammack

Natalie Kendrick  
Kristina Kohl  
Kim Klotzman  
Gwen Nichols  
Tom Rohrig  
Jack Stagner  
Idris Traylor, Ph.D.



## Fuel for Finals

Final exam week can be one of the most stressful times of the year for college students. The Texas Tech University Library is always seeking ways to help alleviate some of this tension. The Texas Tech Friends of the Libraries has provided snacks and drinks during this very stressful time so the students don't have to leave the library to recharge.



## Black History Month

In celebration of Black History Month, the University Library hosted "Buffalo Soldiers – Men, Mission and Material Culture" Presented by Henry B. Crawford on Feb. 26 in the University Library Croslin Room. The event was co-hosted by Texas Tech Friends of the Libraries. The program included an introduction to Buffalo Soldiers and their place within the history of the American frontier army during the Indian campaign era – the three decades following the Civil War. Crawford is the retired Curator of History at the Museum of



Texas Tech where he served for more than 25 years. He has advised and appeared in many television and video productions for the History Channel, Discovery Channel, PBS, the National Park Service and the Texas Historical Commission.



## An Evening with Roe Patterson



The Texas Tech Friends of the Libraries hosted An Evening with T.M. “Roe” Patterson on Nov. 14, 2019, at the Texas Tech International Cultural Hall of Nations. Patterson, then-president and CEO of Basic Energy Services, is author of “Crude Blessings: The



Amazing Life Story of Glenn Patterson, American Oilman,” a book about his father’s life and career as founder of Patterson Drilling Company. All attendees received an autographed copy of his book and all proceeds went to the Texas Tech Friends of the Libraries.



## Makerspace expands, joins COVID-19 Relief Consortium

The University Libraries Makerspace has introduced new technology and services to further their mission of assisting patrons’ creative endeavors and bringing their ideas to life.



The Makerspace now offers laser cutting and engraving with the GlowForge Plus, the Cricut Maker fabric and material cutter, textile tools, expanded hardware tools and advanced 3D printing with rigid or flexible plastic with the Ultimaker 3.

The Library Makerspace also joined forces with faculty from Texas Tech University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center to create the West Texas 3D COVID-19 Relief Consortium to create 3D-printed face shields and face masks for health care workers to help combat the spread of the coronavirus. The consortium also includes the University of Texas-Permian Basin, Odessa College, local businesses, concerned citizens and aviators. Together, the consortium helped supply 1,815 face shield brims and 343 ear savers that totaled 2,900 printing hours and over 70kg of printing filament.



-Ryan Burns

## Library focuses on safety, remote assistance during COVID-19

After the Texas Tech campus’s spring closure due to COVID-19, the University Library reopened July 7 with a focus on patron safety and an emphasis on services to help students who are learning remotely.

The Library’s spaces are set up to ensure social distancing, masks are required and safety stations with hand sanitizer and wipes are available in public areas. Additional cleaning efforts are in place, and flip cards marking areas as “clean” or “temporarily closed for cleaning” are located at all study spaces and computer stations to ensure public areas are

sanitized after use.

The Library also offers curbside pickup through Document Delivery for items patrons need from the TTU collection. Makerspace 3D printing requests also can be submitted electronically and picked up curbside when complete.

Online resources including databases, e-books, librarian chat and more have remained available throughout the campus being closed and continue to be available.



## Abbott reappoints Monroe as Texas State Historian

Gov. Greg Abbott has reappointed Monte Monroe, Ph.D., to serve as Texas State Historian until Sept. 30, 2022. Monroe, an archivist at the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library and a Texas Tech faculty member, was first sworn in as the Texas State Historian Sept. 26, 2018. He is responsible for increasing public knowledge about the rich and diverse history of the state, encouraging the teaching of Texas history in public schools, consulting with state leaders to promote Texas history, and making presentations on Texas history topics.

As a Fellow of the West Texas Historical Association and formerly editor of its scholarly journal, he has presented, taught and published widely on Texas history. He served on the Texas Historical Records Advisory Board, the boards of the West and East Texas Historical Associations, is chair of the Texas State Historical Association Archives Committee, is on the Executive Advisory Committee of the Handbook of Texas Women Online, is a member of the Philosophical Society of Texas, and is a former board member for the Texas Map Society.

He was a founding board member of the Humanities Center at Texas Tech, president of the Rotary Club of Lubbock, president of The Meriwether Society, Inc. and is currently president of the Rotary Club of Lubbock Foundation.



## Texas Tech joins state coalition of libraries seeking lower costs, greater access to research

Texas Tech has joined 40 other universities across Texas to form the Texas Library Coalition for United Action (TLCUA) to think creatively about access to faculty publications and the sustainability of journal subscriptions. TLCUA has organized to identify the best way to change current models and the relationships between academic institutions and publishers. The goals of the Coalition are ambitious – improved access to scholarship, greater control over faculty content, and pricing models that are sustainable for strained library budgets in higher education.

The sustainability of providing scholarly research at ever-increasing costs is putting these academic libraries in difficult positions as they work to offer access to scholars on their campuses.

Technology has provided greater opportunities for wider availability of resources, and the Coalition wants those opportunities to be reflected in agreements that will benefit all academic libraries whether public or private, urban or rural.

The Coalition has begun its mission by entering into dialog with academic publisher Elsevier. They hope that through positive engagement and mutual understanding, an improved and sustainable model for dissemination of scholarship can be achieved.

Elsevier is the world's largest publisher of scholarly work, with 70 offices in 24 countries. It publishes 2,500 journals, including The Lancet and Cell, covering topics in medicine, biology, psychology, business and more.

## SWC/SCL digitizes 300K newspapers



The Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library has surpassed the major milestone of digitizing more than 300,000 newspapers, which roughly translates to 3 million news pages. West Texas newspapers from as far north as Stratford in the Panhandle to as far south as Sonora and El Dorado are now on the digital website. Visit [newspapers.swco.ttu.edu](http://newspapers.swco.ttu.edu) to browse the collection.

# STUDENT ASKED. WE DELIVERED.



Lights in the stacks are on whenever the building is open.

*Recent changes based on student feedback!*



Improved the study room reservation system.



Relocated group study tables to the Basement and individual desks to Stacks 5.



Made student assistant employment applications easier to find.



Purchased new collection resources for the Talkington College of Visual & Performing Arts.



Created a more seamless event & exhibit spaces reservation process.



Simplified the library parking webpage to make it easier to understand.



Created more user-friendly WEPA printing instructions.



Improved instructions for the Library Proxy Bookmarklet browser tool.