

OFF THE SHELF

FALL 2023

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF UWEC LIBRARIES

ISSUE 98

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University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire



I recently observed an introduction to the library class in which librarians asked groups of first year students to respond to the prompt, "What is a library?" At the top of every list was—you guessed it—books. I was simultaneously comforted and intrigued by the persistence of this perception. Following books, the students' responses diverged widely, including things like Makerspace, quiet, comfortable, helpful people, free, study rooms, whiteboards, computers, and Wi-Fi.

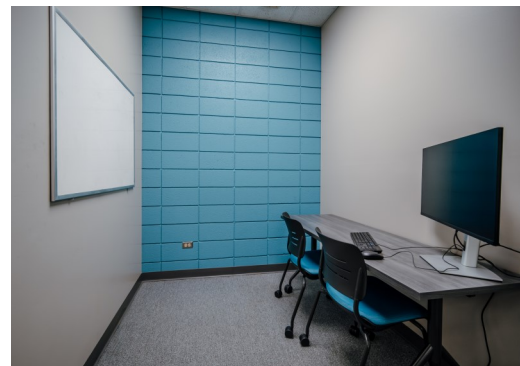
The UW-Eau Claire libraries are in the middle of a strategic planning process, reflecting on where we have been and where we are going. A review of the past year's library use statistics suggests that long-held perceptions of what libraries are may not accurately or fully reflect what libraries have become.

Consider:

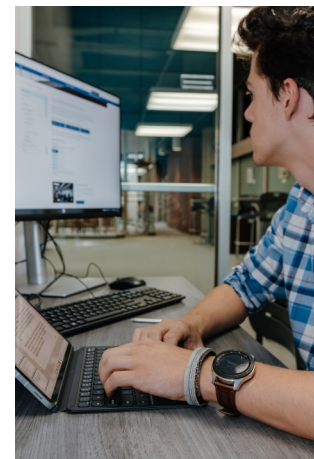
- Only **10%** of the libraries' material budget was spent on print books. The rest was allocated to online resources, including ebooks and audiobooks, streamed video, and databases that provide access to journals,

newspapers, etc.

- Our unique historical digital collections experienced a **76%** increase in views.
- The McIntyre Library's Blugold Makerspace saw a **43%** increase in use.
- The UWEC-Barron County library experienced a **12%** increase in library patrons in the two months following the opening of its makerspace in March 2023.
- The Digital Studio saw a **59%** increase in use last year, and a **150%** increase in the number of classes and tours conducted in the space.
- Students' seemingly insatiable appetite for study rooms saw a **23%** increase in use, limited only by availability of study rooms. McIntyre's 44 study rooms are frequently all in use.
- A **9%** decrease in use of the physical collection during the past year is in keeping with recent trends, but is accompanied by exponential growth in the use of online collections. For example, traffic to online access-point guide to ebooks and audiobooks increased **162%** last year. UW-Eau Claire's use of Overdrive, an ebook/audiobook platform shared by Universities of Wisconsin libraries, was second only to UW-Madison.



One of our upgraded study rooms with fresh paint, new furniture, and a docking station for laptops.



As we continue the strategic planning process, we will examine the stories that these numbers tell, and the ones they obscure. For example, even as we see an overall decline in use of print materials, we saw a **23%** increase in use of books in curated collections, such as the Popular Reading Collection, the new book exhibit, and themed book displays. In our last strategic planning process, we set a goal to improve communication efforts, to ensure that students, faculty, and staff, were aware of our resources. In addition to creating successful physical and digital displays, we launched targeted e-newsletters for student and faculty/staff audiences. Our social media reach, primarily through Facebook and Instagram, increased more than **80%** in the last year. With a continually revolving (i.e. graduating) audience, perpetual marketing, or ongoing engagement efforts, remains a necessary and constant goal.

In the weeks ahead we will continue soliciting ideas and input about what a library is and—more importantly—what it should be. What do you think? We invite you to [share your thoughts here](#). ■

Jill Markgraf,
Director of Libraries

Digital Collections Turn 10

By **Greg Kocken**, kockeng@uwec.edu

This Fall we are celebrating the tenth anniversary of McIntyre Library's Digital Collections! In 2013, we launched our first digital collections portal, using the open-source ResCarta application, providing free, online, and fully searchable access to two collections: our school's yearbook, *The Periscope*, from 1917-1995, and a selection of nearly 800 historic campus photographs. Since that time, our digital collections have grown and expanded in many exciting ways.



This moment from the 1980 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Tournament is among the photographs preserved in McIntyre Library's Digital Collections.

Today, we are proud to host over fifteen unique digital collections—resources which not only explore campus history but also explore fascinating aspects of local, state, and national history. Among the gems of our digital collections is a fully searchable set of our student newspapers, *The Spectator*, from approximately 1923-2012. As a side note, this year also marks the 100th anniversary of the UW-Eau Claire student newspaper, *The Spectator*. The Special Collections and Archives Department is celebrating and exploring that history through a small student curated exhibit on display in the reading room through the end of 2023.

In addition to the portal launched ten years ago, McIntyre Library now also hosts another digital collections platform, Omeka. Omeka is another open-source application which



The cartoon above was published in the first issue of The Spectator appearing in October 1923. Online access to The Spectator through digital collections was made possible thanks in part to financial support provided by the Student Senate which funded the project of digitizing the first 75 years of Spectator articles.

allows us, and partners across campus, to build digital exhibits. This platform allows us to use digital objects to curate stories that help viewers better understand these digital objects and collections. These digital humanities partnerships represent an area where we hope digital collections will continue to grow in the future.

Within the next year, through a partnership with the Music and Theater Arts Department, we expect to host a new collection exploring the history of bands at UW-Eau Claire. This, of course, is just one of many exciting new projects on the horizon. We look forward to sharing other exciting developments with our digital collections through the pages of *Off the Shelf* in the years ahead. ■

After Dark 2023

Our annual back-to-school party, Library After Dark, was a huge success! Nearly 1,000 students attended and enjoyed free pizza, games, live entertainment, and more. Thank you to all of our performers and volunteers! Photos and *Off the Shelf* cover photo by Kong Yang, circulation manager. [See the full album here.](#) ■



Students kept the karaoke machine busy.



Blu dropped by to meet fellow Blugolds.



Live music and dancing filled the plaza.



Summer 2023 Digital Studio Interns: Collin and Derek

By **Anna Zook**, zookam@uwec.edu

Walk into McIntyre Library on a summer's day and you might encounter a group of prospective students with their guardians on a campus tour, community members making their way to the fifth floor for a visit to Special Collections, a librarian engaged in research, or if you're lucky, you'll see a Digital Studio student intern plugging away at learning a new skill or finding ways to improve accessibility and engagement for our various Digital Studio spaces.

Now in its third year, the Digital Studio was fortunate to hire two student interns this past summer. Collin Petry, a senior music education and computer science software engineering double major returned for his second summer, and Derek Braend, a Guitar Performance major, spent hours completing various tasks and projects, some assigned and others of their own devices, culminating in a final project presented to library staff at the end of the summer session. I was fortunate to meet with Collin and Derek on a bi-weekly basis alongside Liliana LaValle, digital learning librarian, to hear about their projects and progress and asked each of them to share more about their experience.

When asked about what drew them to the position, I discovered that aside from Collin's majors making it an obvious fit, he also has an interest in photography and an absolute love of virtual reality. He further expressed that the skills he acquired in the Large Audio Studio would make him a better educator. Derek's entrance into a position with the Digital Studio happened quite serendipitously as he engaged with library staff while troubleshooting a guitar output conundrum. He needed a job, and we needed him!

As our interns progressed through the summer, staff encouraged them to think about how their experiences might impact their futures. They are armed with skills that will have a far-reaching impact on their ability to communicate about technology, and as Collin pointed out, the ability to transfer those skills across disciplines. As a future educator, Collin will be able to guide his students on music production and recording technology and techniques, while Derek's burgeoning camera and scriptwriting skills allow him to support his own creative pursuits through video and production. More importantly, they now have confidence that they can learn most of the skills that have excited and inspired them in their academic and vocational pursuits.

Walk into McIntyre Library this fall, and you might find Collin or Derek staffing the Digital Studio's help desk on the lower level. You will also see new signage throughout the spaces, streamlined instructions, and on the desktop in the Large Audio Studio, a link to the updated guide that includes information on the equipment as well as a link to a [new guide](#) Collin worked on over the summer on miking instruments. Stick around for closing time to hear Collin's latest music compilations, seasonally themed, and stay tuned for announcements about our upcoming spring film festival, inspired by Derek's unfinished video.

Want to know more about our Digital Studio spaces and how they can support your curriculum, increase student engagement and belonging, and have the potential to lead to some innovative assignments? Please contact us at library.digitalstudio@uwec.edu. We would love to collaborate with you! ■

Collin, above, demonstrating the best way to mic a saxophone in the Large Audio Studio; Derek, below, in the Photo / Video Studio.



Q: What skills have you developed/expanded during your internship? What is the best new skill you've learned?

Collin: There's a lot of fun skills I have developed and expanded upon while working in the Digital Studio, including skills in writing instruction manuals, troubleshooting technology issues, making advertisement posters, and navigating the U.S. music copyright system.

Derek: I learned a ton about DSLR cameras, photo editing in Adobe Lightroom, video editing in Adobe Premiere Pro, and even a bit about scriptwriting and project planning.

Q: What was your favorite moment working as an intern at McIntyre?

C: My favorite experience working as an intern has been being able to show people our various studios and help them understand how things work in the different studios. There are always a lot of lightbulb "Aha!" moments that people have, realizing how the rooms can be used or how something works.

D: One really cool moment was my presentation to the library. I made a video to demonstrate what type of product a student could make using the free library resources. It was unfinished but my bosses and coworkers said they really liked it.

Q: What one thing did you learn about McIntyre Library that you wish everyone on campus knew?

C: Digital Studio is more than just the first-floor recording studio! And you can just rent a room and play VR games! Got an hour between classes and you don't have anything to do? Go to the library and destress with some VR games! Want a good picture of something/someone, or have some fun fancy lighting? Use the Photo/Video studio!

D: The staff are great people! It always feels like my bosses are invested in who I am as a person. They came out to see my gigs and were always really supportive about the creative directions I took with my projects and congratulated me on my quality of work. ■



The library's Large Audio Studio features an array of electric instruments and microphones that students can use. A mixing board and computer lets them produce their own music.



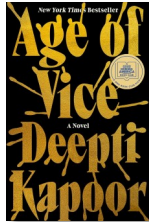
RECENT ACQUISITIONS

All titles can be found in the Popular Reading Collection on the second floor of McIntyre Library.

List curated by Carrie Butler Becker, beckercb@uwec.edu

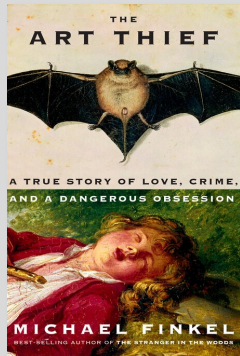
Age of Vice

Deepti Kapoor
PR9499.4.K3763 A72 2023



All the Sinners Bleed

S. A. Cosby
PS3603.O7988 A55 2023



The Art Thief: A True Story of Love, Crime, and a Dangerous Obsession

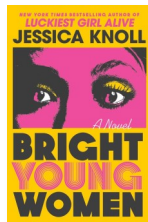
Michael Finkel
N8795.5.B74 F56 2023

"Finkel's play-by-play of each theft has the pacing and atmosphere of a good suspense tale."

—Kirkus Reviews

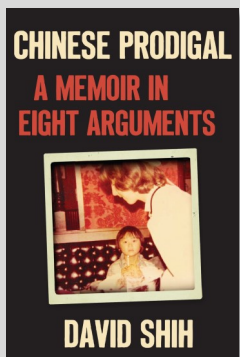
Bright Young Women

Jessica Knoll
PS3611.N64 B75 2023



Chain-gang All-stars

Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah
PS3601.D49 C48 2023



A UW-Eau Claire English professor's personal and thought-provoking reflections on the Asian-American experience.



Chinese Prodigal: A Memoir in Eight Arguments

David Shih
F589.E14 S55 2023

The Covenant of Water: A Novel

Abraham Verghese
PS3622.E744 C68 2023

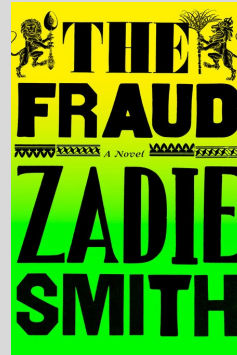
Drowning: The Rescue of Flight 1421: A Novel

T. J. Newman
PS3614.E664 D76 2023



Fourth Wing

Rebecca Yarros
PS3625.A7384 F68 2023



The Fraud

Zadie Smith
PR6069.M59 F73 2023

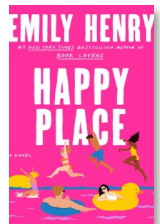
The bestselling author's latest work of fiction is based on historical events from Victorian England. A lower-class butcher claims he's the rightful heir to a sizable estate and title. But a key witness and Great Britain citizens watching the trial doubt the mysterious man's story.

Hang the Moon: A Novel

Jeannette Walls
PS3623.A3644 H36 2023

Happy Place

Emily Henry
PS3608.E5715 H36 2023

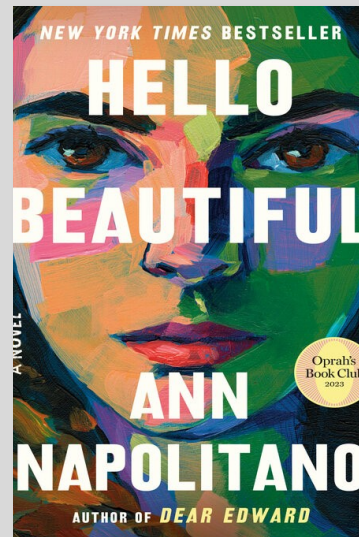


The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store

James McBride
PS3613.C28 H43 2023

Hell Bent

Leigh Bardugo
PS3602.A775325 H45 2023



NEW YORK
TIMES
BESTSELLER
& OPRAH'S
BOOK CLUB
PICK

Hello Beautiful: A Novel

Ann Napolitano
PS3614.A66 H45 2023

Holly: A Novel

Stephen King
PS3561.I483 H56 2023

**Homecoming: A Novel**

Kate Morton
PR9619.4.M74 H66 2023



Max Garland, former Poet Laureate of Wisconsin, released his latest collection of poems. He wrote most of these poems during the COVID-19 pandemic. He recalls anguish and isolation of that time, but also grace, resilience, creativity, and healing remembrance. Garland is a professor emeritus at UW-Eau Claire, having taught English here.

Into the Good World Again: Poems

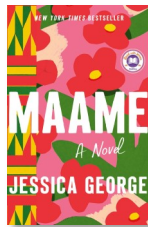
Max Garland
PS3557.A7162 I58 2023

Lady Tan's Circle of Women: A Novel

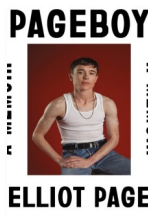
Lisa See
PS3569.E3334 L33 2023

Maame

Jessica George
PR6107.E586 M33 2023

**Pageboy: A Memoir**

Elliot Page
PN2308.P34 A3 2023

**Pineapple Street: A Novel**

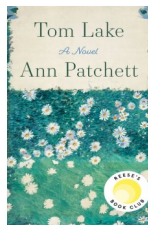
Jenny Jackson
PS3610.A3519 P56 2023

Symphony of Secrets

Brendan Slocumb
PS3619.L645 S96 2023

Tom Lake: A Novel

Ann Patchett
PS3566.A7756 T66 2023

**Too Late: A Novel**

Colleen Hoover
PS3608.O623 T66 2023

Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers

Jesse Q. Sutanto
PR9500.9.S88 V47 2023

The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny, and Murder

David Grann
G530.W25 G73 2023

The White Lady: A Novel

Jacqueline Winspear
PR6123.I575 W44 2023

Yellowface: A Novel

R. F. Kuang
PS3611.U17 Y45 2023

**Yours Truly**

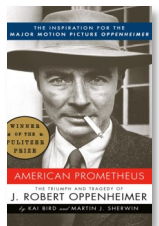
Abby Jimenez
PS3610.I47 Y68 2023

Ebooks and Audiobooks via Libby

Available to UWEC faculty, staff, and students.

American Prometheus (ebook & audiobook)

Kai Bird

**Astor: The Rise and Fall of an American Fortune** (audiobook)

Anderson Cooper

Blue Hour (ebook & audiobook)

Tiffany Clarke Harrison

Happiness Falls (ebook & audiobook)

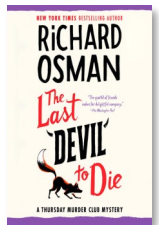
Angie Kim

**The Hero of This Book** (audiobook)

Elizabeth McCracken

The Last Devil to Die (audiobook)

Richard Osman

**The Power of Now: A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment** (ebook & audiobook)

Eckhart Tolle

The Running Grave (ebook)

Robert Galbraith

Thank You for Listening (ebook & audiobook)

Julia Whelan

**Vampires of El Norte** (ebook)

Isabel Cañas

Wildfire (ebook & audiobook)

Hannah Grace

The Women of NOW (ebook & audiobook)

Katherine Turk

Your Brain on Art: How the arts transform us (audiobook)

Susan Magsamen

Meet Libby

Access ebooks and audiobooks via the Libby app.

To get started, go to libguides.uwec.edu/overdrive

Updates from the Blugold Makerspace

By **Blugold Makerspace staff**, library.makerspace@uwec.edu

Join us for our NEW expanded open hours—now opening Monday through Friday at 10 AM. University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire students, staff, and faculty are welcome to join us for our fall and spring semester open hours and workshop with their Blugold ID.

McIntyre Valued Partners (MVP) are invited to reach out about special workshops available during our winterim and summer sessions. Topics include Recycled Paper Flowers, Intro to Soldering, Sewing 101, and more. Please email us for more information. ■



Fall 2023 Open Hours

Monday - Friday
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Sunday
12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER + DECEMBER WORKSHOPS



Paint a Pokémon

Stop into the Makerspace and pick one of our pre-made Pokémon to paint. Using the magic of lasers, we will prepare a series of 3-4-inch-tall pocket monsters out of recycled cardboard. Open to all UWEC students, faculty, and staff who gotta catch 'em all

Wed, Nov 1: 2:00–3:00 p.m.
Mon, Nov 6: 1:00–2:00 p.m.

Tues, Nov 14: 3:00–4:00 p.m.
Mon, Nov 20: 12:00–1:00 p.m.



Upcycle a Bookend

Join us for a fun project using former library bookends! Decorate your metal bookend using paint, paper collage, or whatever brings you joy. Limited to two bookends per participant; they are yours to keep after the workshop.

Tues, Nov 7: 2:00–3:00 p.m.

Thurs, Nov 16: 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.



Felt Pie Garland

Create a festive fall dessert-inspired décor banner with felt, a great no-sew project! Registration required; select a date and sign up below.

[Fri, Nov 3: 1:00–2:00 p.m.](#)

[Wed, Nov 15: 12:00–1:00 p.m.](#)



3D Paper Snowflakes

Come relax and make beautiful swirling paper snowflakes. Use scrap paper, recycled book pages, or maps to make these fun winter decorations.

Tues, Nov 28: 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Thurs, Nov 30: 3:00–4:00 p.m.



Crochet 101

Learn the basics of crochet and leave with the skills needed to make a washcloth or scarf. Registration required; select a date and sign up below.

[Thurs, Nov 30: 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.](#)

[Wed, Dec 6: 12:00–1:00 p.m.](#)



DIY Fabric Gift Bags

Create eco-friendly, reusable fabric drawstring bags that also make great gift wrapping in this beginner-friendly sewing project. Registration required; click the date below to reserve a spot.

[Fri, Dec 1: 1:00–2:00 p.m.](#)

[Mon, Dec 11: 12:00–1:00 p.m.](#)



Create Holiday Ornaments

Use paint, lasers, colored pencils, crayons, or anything else in the Makerspace to create a 4-inch wooden holiday ornament. This event is aimed at all UWEC students, faculty, and staff interested in some relaxing craft time.

Mon, Dec 4: 12:30–1:30 p.m.
Thurs, Dec 7: 3:00–4:00 p.m.

Tues, Dec 12: 2:30–3:30 p.m.
Wed, Dec 13: 12:00–1:00 p.m.



Katherine Crosby performs with castmates from *A Lion in Winter* at the Barron County Campus.

Our Life with Katherine Crosby

By **Jennifer Duvall**, duvallja@uwec.edu

Over the summer, the Barron County campus took on the complicated project of getting their theatre back up and running. The first task in this endeavor was to clean and organize areas of the Fine Arts building that hadn't been used in years.

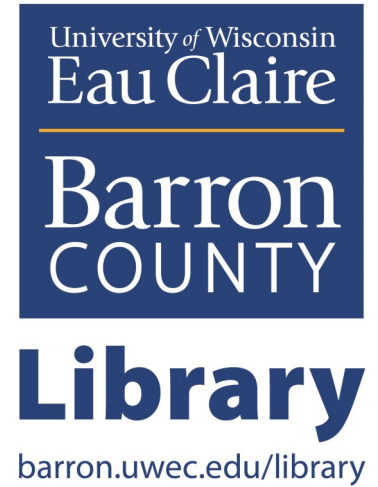
During this process a plethora of fantastic archival items were discovered. Many of them were gems from the booming theatre years here in the 1970s and 1980s. Amazing posters, photos, and programs created by our students and faculty were found as we made our way through the tech booth and the prop room.

However, one of the most odd-but-interesting finds was in the make-up room. As we were moving shelving to clean, we discovered boxes full of the same book. At first, we assumed that they were old theatre textbooks, but upon closer inspection, we discovered that they were filled with copies of a book called *My Life with Bing*.

This name will sound familiar to those of you that like Christmas music or old movie musicals, but for those who are unaware, Bing Crosby was an extremely famous singer and actor in the 1940s and 1950s. As it turns out, his second wife, Katherine Crosby, wrote this book after his death and then toured the U.S. making appearances and signing autographs.

Interestingly, one of her stops was at the Barron County Campus. Not only did she speak to students and the public about her book, but she also performed in a production of the play *A Lion in Winter* right here in our theatre.

It was quite an unexpected discovery! ■



Our first scannable Pop-Up Library of the year is up! These displays are placed in different areas of the campus once a month for a two-week time span. ■



We created a new computer loft in the library. Students are enjoying the view as they do their homework. ■

Welcome, Anna!

My name is Anna Zook (rhymes with Wanna Book) and in May of this year, I began working as the new assistant professor as arts librarian at McIntyre Library. This position is a bit of a homecoming for me, as my first library job was at McIntyre, first as an intern to fulfill my library science minor through UW-Eau Claire, then as a part-time LTE with the Research and Instruction department for nigh on six years (back when the Clocktower was still in the middle of the Quad!). I also put my theater degree from Lawrence University to use throughout this time by working as a professional actor for eight years. Although I spent that time getting to know all the facets of the local arts scene, singing in a folk band, and attending live concerts, I never quite found a way to put my years playing French horn to use.



After completing my master of library and information science (MLIS) through UW-Milwaukee where I concentrated on information organization and wrote a thesis that focused on nontraditional students and the academic library, I took a position at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina, where I combined my love of reference and working with students and my love of the arts, curating a "Terrier Dynasty" art show featuring works by the offspring of faculty and staff and launching an annual poetry event for homesick students. Not long after my appointment at Wofford, my growing family and I moved to Spooner, WI where I found a job at the greatest Independent Bookstore north of Highway 8. From there, we moved to Chippewa Falls, where I coordinated an in-school support program for students at the local middle school and began volunteering for the Family Support Center. One year later, I returned to library work as the Digital Services Librarian at the L. E. Phillips Memorial Public Library in Eau Claire, where I promoted and provided instruction on their digital services and helped coordinate the Dabble Box Makerspace.

As much as I loved each of those positions, I cannot express how delighted I am to not only return to my original library home at McIntyre, but also to be serving as the arts librarian, and getting the chance to work so closely with students and faculty in music, theatre, dance, and visual arts. In many ways, this is the library job I have always hoped I could find, in the library I always wanted to call "home." Don't get me wrong, you don't have to be a sculptor or play the [Ondes Martenot](#) to get the chance to collaborate with me. Though I'm already engaging extensively with the arts programs, I'll still have shifts at the front desk, be available for research assistance, or be willing to help you get settled into one of the many opportunities available in our Digital Studio and Blugold Makerspace. I've done a lot of things since I left McIntyre Library more than a decade ago, but I'm so happy to be back again and I'm excited to share our resources with you!

Please feel free to stop by my office (Library 1001D) or email me at zookam@uwec.edu. Or catch me for a quick chat at Haas on Thursday afternoons, or during intermission at a concert at the Pablo. ■

Welcome, Andrew!

My name is Andrew Dowd and I am excited to be McIntyre Library's new evening supervisor. I grew up in Verona, Wisconsin, before coming to the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire as an undergrad in 2000. In spring 2004, I got my BA in communication & journalism with a minor in political science. An important part of my time here was working at UWEC's campus newspaper, *The Spectator*. That led to a 19-year career as a newspaper reporter.



After a brief stint at the *Stevens Point Journal*, I returned to Eau Claire in 2005 to write for the *Leader-Telegram*. During that time I primarily reported on local government issues but also wrote feature stories, covered the business community, and many other subjects. I edited several magazines and special sections for the newspaper as well.

I had been looking for a change in career that would still use my communication skills but also allow me to grow in other ways. Working at the university gives me the chance to do both while also returning to my alma mater.

The new job started in August, giving me time to learn a lot about how a modern campus library works before the fall semester started. It's amazing how much has changed since I used the building as a student in the early 2000s.

As the library's evening supervisor, I strive to keep the service level high during the P.M. hours. My role includes overseeing student employees, helping patrons out, troubleshooting problems, pitching in with interlibrary loans, and managing course reserve materials.

In addition to regular duties, I'm also a part of the library's communications and strategic planning committees.

Outside of work, I enjoy exercise in the great outdoors and in the gym. I walk, run, hike, bike, and snowshoe. My other interests are watching movies (the classics, cheesy B-flicks, and everything in between), reading articles and books, cooking and baking, and spending time with friends.

My office is tucked behind the library's main desk, but I'm often at the desk during my shifts. Shoot me an email at dowdal@uwec.edu if you're curious about the library's evening happenings. ■

Library Staff and Student News: March - October 2023

Kate Hinnant, head of instruction, contributed the editors note to the seventh issue of Barstow & Grand.

McIntyre Library faculty members **Helena Sumbulla**, outreach librarian, and **Liliana LaValle**, digital learning librarian, and **Kate Hinnant**, head of instruction, presented the session "It Is All New(s) To Me: Engaging Young Adults With Lateral Reading" at the [Lake Superior Libraries Symposium](#) June 9 at the University of Minnesota Duluth.

Greg Kocken, head of special collections & archives, was honored for the book he co-authored with emeriti Robert Gough, [Rest in Nature: A Guide to Eau Claire's Forest Hill Cemetery](#), at the 2023 Celebration of Scholarship hosted by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs in October. Congratulations, Greg!

Hans Kishel, STEM librarian in McIntyre Library, co-authored the article "[Uncertainty as a Catalyst for Growth: Learning through Dialogue, Questioning, and Reflection](#)," which was published in the *International Journal of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education*, Vol. 3, No. 1, 2023, pages 176-185.

Robin Miller, head of collections and discovery, was invited to give a national webinar titled "Responding to User Interests with Government Information: One FDL's Approach" for the United States Government Publications Office in May. In this webinar, participants learned about one depository's approach to integrating Government information into routine library outreach and instruction.

Jill Markgraf, library director, joined [Eau Claire Women in Theater \(ECWIT\)](#), a regional troupe that performs dramatic readings of existing texts and original works, focusing on stories that explore the human condition, bring history to life, and nurture empowerment of all people through artistry.

Kati Morley, associate professor and education librarian, had her article "[Everybody Dies, So Why Don't We Talk About It: Helping a Grieving Library Colleague](#)" published online March 15 (ahead of print) in the *Journal of Access Services*. DOI link: <https://doi.org/10.1080/15367967.2023.2186791>.

Emily Le, main desk student assistant, will be the newest accounting intern at Wipfli in Eau Claire for the 2024 tax season. Congratulations, Emily!

Maggie O'Brien, main desk student assistant, was awarded a Viennese Ball Study Abroad scholarship for her spring 2024 study abroad trip to England. This fall, Maggie was also promoted to Currents Editor of *The Spectator*, and hired as an intern at the UW-Eau Claire Center for Writing Excellence. Congratulations on these big accomplishments, Maggie!

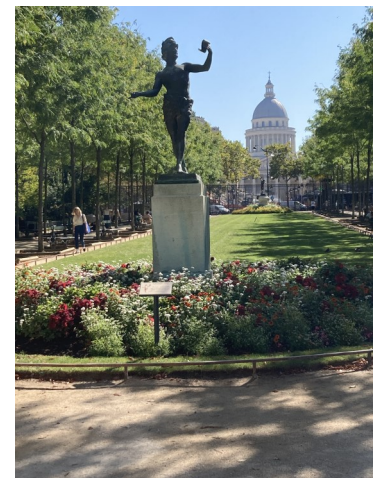
Liliana LaValle and **Helena Sumbulla** presented the session, "A Cacophony of Voices: Critical Information Pedagogy" at the [OPID 2023 Spring Conference on Teaching and Learning](#).

Carrie Butler Becker, acquisitions and content coordinator, and her husband, Brian, reached their goal of becoming debt-free this year. Congratulations, Carrie and Brian!

Members of the **User Services and Technical Services teams** combined forces to volunteer together at the Feed My People food pantry this August. They packaged 4,839 pounds of donated corn on the cob for distribution to numerous food pantries in western Wisconsin.



Kevin Dekan, periodicals and electronic resources, and his girlfriend, Joanne, enjoyed a beautiful trip to Paris, France, Ghent and Antwerp in Belgium, and Amsterdam, Netherlands, in September. Although there was record-breaking heat, they enjoyed revisiting some of their favorite cities and discovering new places as well.



Paris, France.

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