



Newsletter

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Dean's Message



It is hard to believe the fall semester is at an end. This year FSU has the highest student enrollment ever and we are definitely seeing this increase in students in the Libraries!

We are incredibly proud of FSU's distinction as a top 20 public university! During the past academic year, the FSU Libraries enhanced academic learning and research through

expert consultations, cutting-edge technology, collaborative learning spaces, access to online and physical research materials, and experiential learning opportunities. Library faculty and staff experts collaborated with faculty in the disciplines to use our journals, catalogs, and databases for groundbreaking research, award-winning books, and innovative digital projects. More than 1.8 million people visited the FSU Libraries last year — more visitors than to many Smithsonian museums!

We have had an exciting semester, offering workshops, instruction sessions, and a host of events and we are currently undertaking some renovations in Strozier Library to increase student seating. The first of these is a renovation of the area next to the Starbucks. We have painted, changed flooring, and replaced the older furniture in that space. Renovations will be completed over the winter break and we are working with the Art Department to plan for an art exhibit in this space next summer. We are also planning to install additional seating on the second and third floors next summer. We hope you will stop by and see these inviting new spaces. Thank you for your support of FSU and the Libraries!

Gale S. Etzschmaier

Fall Highlights



(Top Left) Fred Flowers gives remarks at "1619 and Beyond," an event that paid tribute to enslaved African Americans and their contributions to the country one hundred years prior to 1619. The event was hosted by the FAMU Carrie Meek – James N. Eaton, Sr., Southeastern Regional Black Archives Research Center and Museum and the FSU Civil Rights Institute in late October.

(Bottom Left) Doby Flowers at the Civil Rights Institute's "Harriet" movie premiere in Tallahassee on November 1. A signed print of FSU alumnus Michael Rosato's mural, titled Take My Hand, was auctioned at the event.

(Top Right) Creators, researchers, and scholars attend the First Book Forum late November to gather information on how to publish their work.

(Bottom Right) Students with Tallahassee Memorial Hospital Therapy Dogs for the "De-Stress with Doggos" event to help relieve stress before finals week.

Donor Spotlight



Universities, particularly research universities, are totally dependent upon their libraries to survive. Faculty members and graduate students cannot conduct their research, and undergraduates cannot learn effective research skills without a library that either has on hand or can quickly obtain the materials that they need.

FSU is now a top-20 public university, but has a library that is ranked in the top 40s, because it lacks sufficient financial support. I see two pressing needs for FSU Libraries. The first is a solid recurring budget to cover the annual cost of research journals and books that faculty members and their students need. The second is more space. The FSU Libraries contain about half the amount of space that is needed for an institution of our size. Although funds have been made available to cover the rehabilitation of some spaces to make them more useful to students, the only way to have sufficient space is to build another building, which is a very expensive proposition. To be competitive with our peer and aspirational institutions, we need significantly more funding for the libraries than has been available in recent years.

We have top-notch librarians and staff members who work very hard on our behalf, but without sufficient funds for materials and sufficient workspace for patrons, it cannot be a top-20 library. I give to the FSU Libraries to help support its mission, and I would encourage every library patron to do the same, no matter the size of the gift.

-Dr. Kris Harper, Professor of History

Kris Harper joined the FSU faculty in 2008, is a member of the Board of Trustees, and conducts historical research where the history of science, history of technology, and environmental history intersect.

Special Collections & Archives



Snow at Florida State University, three male and two female students walk through the snow in front of Strozier Library in 1958.



Paul Dirac, in party hat, with Manci and others at the Captain's table on the SS America, which sailed from New York on April 2, 1963.

To browse collections, [visit our website.](#)

Upcoming Events

- **MLK Celebration Week: Beneath a Ruthless Sun Book Talk, Wednesday, January 15**

Join FSU Libraries for a book discussion to explore and discuss the novel's topics surrounding racial violence and corruption in Florida's history.

[Visit this link for more info on the discussion](#)

- **February Book Discussion, Wednesday, February 19**

The Wiman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote by Elaine Weiss, discussion led by Teri Cleland, President of the Tallahassee League of Women Voters

[View the 2019-20 book discussion schedule](#)

- **Critical Thinking Symposium: Digital Citizenship & Society, February 24-26**

With a focus on the intersection of technology and humanity, digital citizenship and society continuously develops norms of responsible, ethical, and positive digital experiences as content creators and content consumers. The symposium will enable the FSU community to participate in technology for the common good as thoughtful and empathetic digital citizens.

- **FSU's Great Give, March 24-25**

Save the date! The FSU Libraries will have featured projects to highlight some of the greatest needs of the libraries. The Great Give runs from Tuesday, March 24 at 9am through Wednesday, March 25 at 5pm.

- **Florida Book Awards, Coming in April!**

The annual Florida Book Awards dinner will be held early April in Tallahassee, Florida, save the date!

To browse more events, [visit our website](#).

Giving Opportunities

This holiday season, gifts to the Library Development Fund and Special Collections are greatly appreciated. Your support enables us to continue to expand our world-class offerings, purchase additional books and journals, and make more technological resources available to everyone in the FSU community.



Library Development Fund



Special Collections

CONNECT WITH US!



Our mailing address is:

Florida State University Libraries
116 Honors Way
Tallahassee, FL 32306