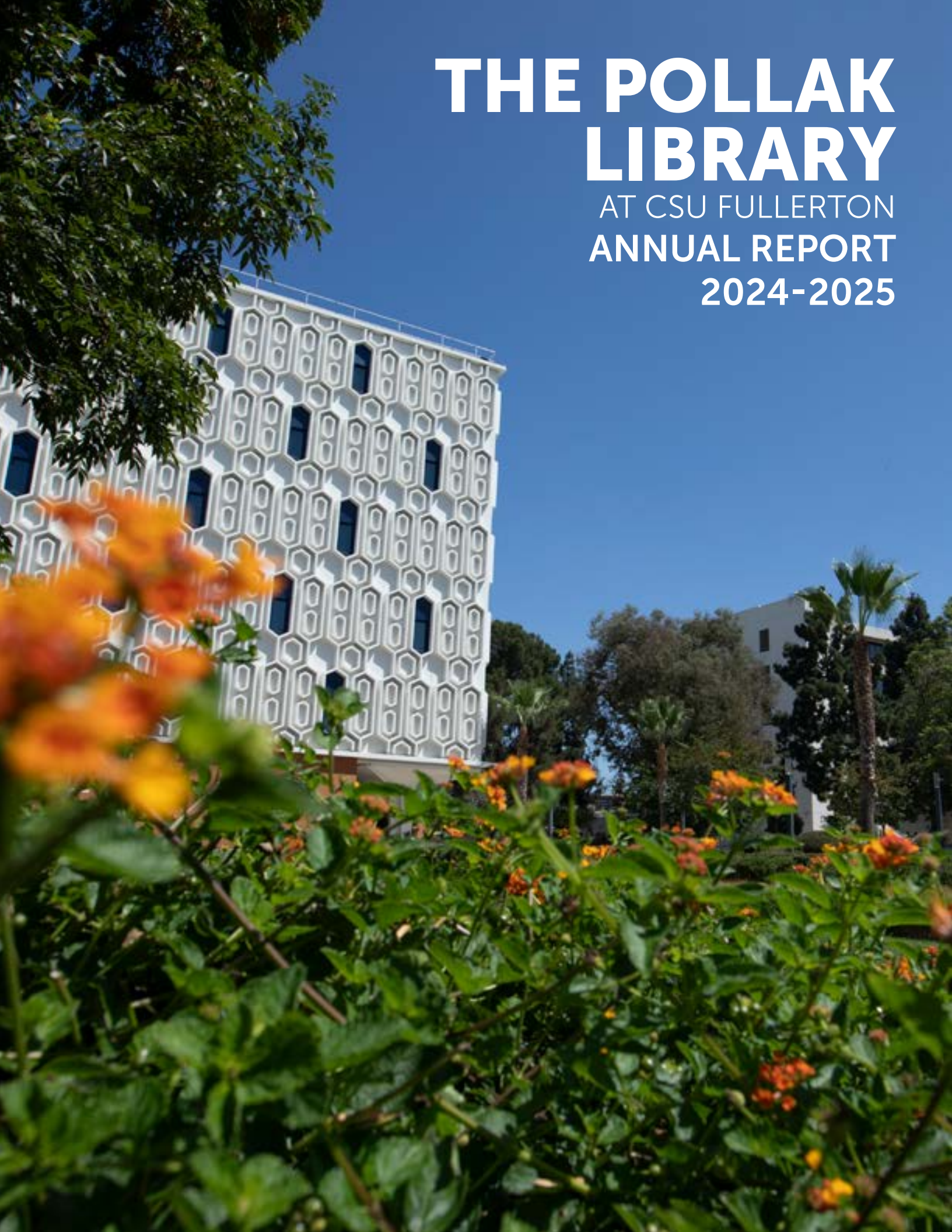


# THE POLLAK LIBRARY

AT CSU FULLERTON  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2024-2025



# Annual Report

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## LETTER FROM THE DEAN

Dear Titans,

As the Pollak Library at Cal State Fullerton looks to the future and its many challenges, I hope that you find this inaugural annual report interesting and informative. The report aims to provide a clearer picture of how the library serves our students and the University as a whole. The information shared will provide a better understanding of all the library does across campus and how it may better serve your needs.

The Faculty and Staff of the Pollak library work tirelessly to ensure students have access to the information necessary to conduct research in their field of interest, a welcoming space to study and socialize, instruction and guidance on navigating an ever-changing information environment, and immediate research assistance either in person or online. The scholarly achievements of our team are highlighted in the coming pages. Through our work and by example, the Library works to inspire lifelong learners who understand the value of uncensored, freely available information to the democratic process and our freedom in the United States.

As you explore the following pages, you will learn more about how our archives and special collections contribute to

a well-rounded education, the work underway to save students money using Open Educational Resources (OER), how the Makerspace contributes to hands-on learning, and about all of the tools and resources created by librarians to complement their information competency instruction. The report will also highlight the behind-the-scenes work of our cataloging and acquisitions team, as well as the student facing help provided at the Circulation and Research Help Desks. You will also learn about work in Digital Humanities and get to know our faculty, staff, and student workers.

Finally, the report will serve to thank the generous philanthropic giving of our community. Without your participation, we could not provide some of the additional services that make the Pollak Library special. I hope that with a better understanding of the library's work, we might attract new friends to the library and additional resources to protect the valuable treasures and resources housed here. All of this work contributes to the Library's mission to provide students with the information literacy skills necessary to participate and succeed in society and the workforce upon graduation.



SINCERELY,  
**ERIC HANSON**

# LIBRARY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS 2024-2025

## AUGUST

- » Tabling/Info Desk
- » Instagram Giveaway



## SEPTEMBER

- » Public Library Expo
- » Survival Skills Workshops
- » Noon Time Talks Begin
- » Makerspace Podcast Workshop
- » Banned Books Week



## OCTOBER

- » Crowdfunding All Month Long!
- » Special Collections Talk Tour Lunch
- » Survival Skills Workshop
- » Drag Queen Loteria
- » Celebrate Library Day
- » Doggy Therapy



## NOVEMBER

- » Survival Skills Workshop
- » Adelante Magazine Exhibit



## DECEMBER

- » Doggy Therapy
- » Finals Week 24/7
- » Snacks for Finals Week

## JANUARY

- » Spring Orientation Resource Fair
- » Instagram Giveaway



## FEBRUARY

- » Black History Month Events
- » Valentine's Day Spirit Week
- » Toy Puppet Theatre



## MARCH

- » Titan's Day of Giving
- » Puppy Therapy
- » Survival Skills Workshops Grad Students at GSC

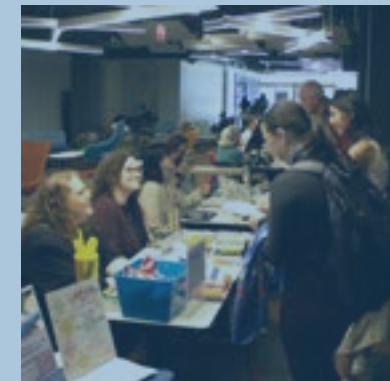


- » Annual Peeps Diorama Contest
- » Survival Skills Workshops Grad Students at GSC



## APRIL

- » National Library Week
- » Experience CSUF
- » Origins & Inspirations: Celebrating 2025 National Poetry Month



## MAY

- » The Patrons & Emeriti End of Semester Book Sale
- » Finals Week 24/7
- » Doggy Therapy
- » Snacks for Finals Week



# POLLAK LIBRARY

## STATS 2024-2025

TOTAL MEDIA  
ACCESSED  
**19,560**

**169,249**  
ACTIVE WEBSITE USERS

COLLECTION SIZE:  
**829,178**

TOTAL E-BOOKS:  
**2,219,107**

**27,793**  
STUDY ROOM  
RESERVATIONS

**746,204**  
WEBSITE  
VIEWS

**783** INSTRUCTION  
SESSIONS  
**66** TOURS

**1,259,249**  
VISITORS

TOTAL INTERLIBRARY LOAN  
**26,585 / 13,989**  
TOTAL BORROWED / LOANED

**22** EXHIBITS  
**7** EVENTS

**3,466**  
SEATS

### INSTRUCTION STATS

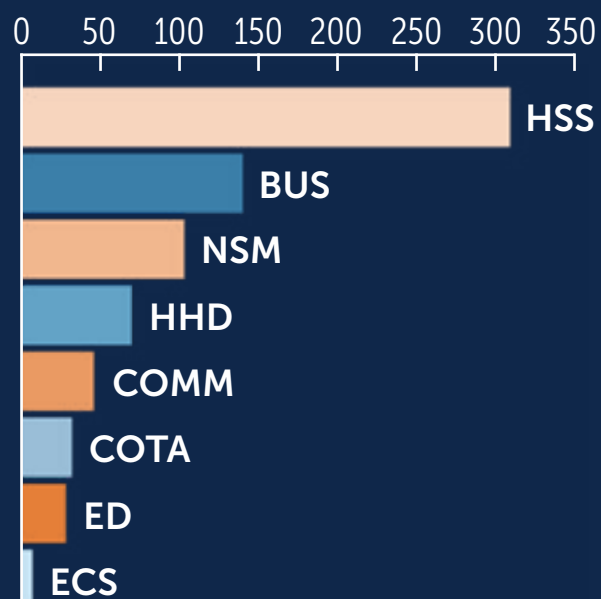
TOTAL RESEARCH  
TRANSACTIONS  
**16,785**

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP RESEARCH  
CONSULTATIONS  
**391**

CIRC QUEUE  
TRANSACTIONS **6,228**  
ELECTRONIC RESOURCES  
QUEUE TRANSACTIONS **672**

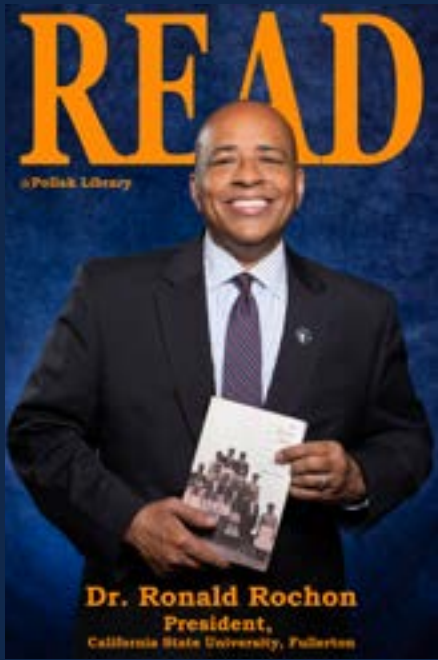
ONLINE SYNCHORNOUS **51**  
ONLINE ASYNCHORNOUS **111**  
ONLINE RESEARCH GUIDES **147**

### INSTRUCTION SESSIONS BY COLLEGE



# SERVICES TO STUDENTS





# NEW READ POSTERS

**Dr. Rochon** joined the CSUF campus as the 10th University President in 2024.

*Photo by Matt Gush*



**Kenya Perezgil** is the Inter-Tribal Student Council President for the 2024-2025 academic year. This Council fosters community among Native American & Indigenous students and supports their higher education goals. Kenya hopes to combine her love of horses and her degree to become a therapist specializing in equine therapy for children. The book is on loan from Dr. Dallas Stout.

*Photo by Stephen Moehle.*

**The Veteran's Resource Center** is dedicated to supporting and building a community for veterans from all U.S. military branches attending CSUF. Featured here are Veterans of the United States Army, Navy, and Marine Corps along with a military-connected student.

*Photo taken in the Veteran's Resource Center lounge in GH 244 by Stephen Moehle.*

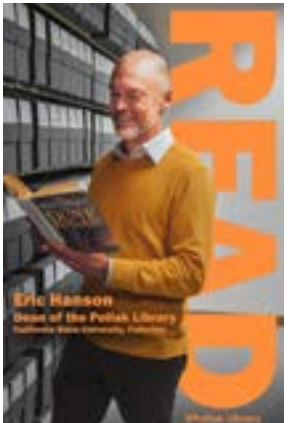


**Estrella Bonilla** is the recipient of the 2024 CSU Trustee's Award for Outstanding Achievement (Edison International Scholar). She is also a member of Project RAISE, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and the Titan Rover Team.

*Photo by Stephen Moehle.*

**Eric Hanson** joined the Pollak Library as Dean in 2024. This photo was taken in the University Archives & Special Collections, which houses an extensive collection of rare and unique items.

*Photo by Stephen Moehle.*



## READ POSTERS THROUGH THE YEARS



# EXHIBITS

By Trish Campbell, Exhibit Committee Chair & Program Coordinator

Fall 2024

## Adelante Magazine Exhibit | 11/01/2024

Eddy Francisco Alvarez Jr., PhD.,  
Leilani Acosta Salgado, Eric Morales

Print media has always been an important tool for the Latinx community. Anarchist newspapers during the Mexican revolution, student activist newspapers during the Chicana/o movement, zines as outlets for dissent among Chicana punks, and protest posters used during the immigrant's rights marches in the early 2000s, have all provided a voice, created community, and shaped culture. Through print media, Queer, Trans, Latinx communities have also utilized this medium.

## Stories of Self Portraiture | 08/01/2024

Valentina Aproda Maurer

The "Stories of Self-Portraiture" exhibition invites you to dive deep into a multimedia experience that encourages the sharing of personal stories and experiences through the frame of environmental culture.

## Youth Under Dictators | 12/01/2024 Regimes Museum

The Regimes Museum of Orange County presented an exhibit on the indoctrination of youth in two of the twentieth century's most notorious dictatorships: the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany.



We have a robust exhibition program in Pollak Library that has been active for over 40 years. The program engages in high impact practices to support curricular and co-curricular activities. At its inception, students primarily from art, art history, and exhibition design helped to design materials and exhibition spaces. As the disciplines have evolved to include more Humanities and Social Sciences (anthropology, geography, history, public history, political science, and psychology), the exhibits program has incorporated them into the design process as well. **Since 2012, the library has hosted 146 exhibitions with six currently in development.** Roughly one third of these have been curated by students wishing to enhance their educational goals. Through the exhibition program, the library has hosted approximately **44 book displays**, not including exhibitions containing reading areas for visitors to peruse

and/or check out related materials. We often collaborate with on-campus partners, such as the Veteran's Resource Center, International Students, Health and Wellness programs, Project Rebound, and the Diversity Initiatives and Resource Centers.

Spring 2025

## The Wonderful World of Insects | 02/28/2025

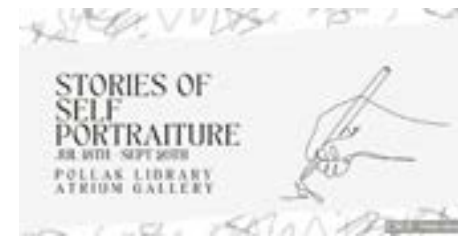
Mikaela Medina

"The Wonderful World of Insects" exhibit was curated by Mikaela Medina to showcase beautiful specimens and to educate viewers about entomology!

## Mindful Rigor Activities To Enhance Life | 03/30/2025

Lisa Long

This interactive exhibit begins by tracing the evolution of mindfulness practices from the ancient Vedic texts through modern applications, followed by Professor Lisa Long's research detailing the significant effects of implementing four explicit mindfulness practices in her courses from 2019-2023.



Summer 2025

## Dreaming In Metal: Pulp Sci-Fi through the Eyes of AI | 8/20/2025

Jennifer Mitchell, Kestral AI

Dreaming in Metal: Pulp Sci-Fi through the Eyes of AI is a unique exhibition where past visions of the future meet the analytical gaze of artificial intelligence. This collection showcases classic robot-themed sci-fi pulp magazines covers, with commentary generated by an AI curator reflecting on its own imagined origins in the human imagination. Dreaming in Metal represents a



fascinating convergence where human creativity and artificial intelligence meet to reflect on our shared past and possible futures.

## Art Academy | 5/27/2025

Jennifer King, Thé Nguyen

The Art Academy exhibit features work created by faculty in Visual Arts at CSUF. Their work relates to how our current way of teaching foundational art has been shaped by early European art academies.

## Women's Work: Self Expression through Fiber Arts | 08/24/2025

Co-Curated by Trish Campbell, Kellie Lanham-Friedman and Caleb Medina

Modern fiber arts is no longer strictly a feminist endeavor despite its history. The medium has expanded to include the many approaches artists take to distinguish themselves. There are two yarnbombing opportunities at the 2nd and 4th floors north. Yarn, crochets hooks and knitting needles are provided.



**MEET YOUR LIBRARIAN**

Students met with the librarians, asked questions, and learned about the resources the library has to offer.



**BEYOND THE STACKS**

Staff and students were invited to attend a variety of lectures about AI, GPTs, Jupyter hub and Copyright.



**CELEBRATING PUBLISHED FACULTY**

In April, the Faculty Development Center partnered with the library to celebrate faculty who recently authored, edited, translated, or illustrated books.



**MAKERSPACE DAY**

Students created a library community quilt that would later be displayed in the "Women's Work: Self-Expression Through Fiber Art" Exhibit.

**OUTSTANDING STUDENT WORKERS**



**ELISE OSBORN  
Outstanding Student Employee Award**

She is always willing to offer a big smile and her best customer service to visitors at Library Administration. She very quickly learned the front desk position, and is always on top of her duties, ensuring tasks are done for the day. She is a joy to work with, and brings her positive attitude to everything she does.



**NICOLE ANITA  
Katherine Highland Spirit Award**

Nicole's leadership in creating video content for Pollak Library's social media has significantly and positively increased engagement with and outreach to CSUF students, across platforms. However, what truly sets Nicole apart is her spirit. Her zeal for her teammates, COMM Squad projects, and promoting the library always shines brightly.



**ALYSSA BARRIOS  
Initiative Award**

In the Makerspace, Alyssia leads by example—taking initiative, solving problems, and making thoughtful improvements without being asked. When our sewing area needed attention, she not only saw the issue but took action—reorganizing the space and designing a helpful, user-friendly sign. She consistently keeps things running smoothly by monitoring supplies and anticipating needs.



**PRIYA INTWALA  
Customer Service Award**

As a student assistant in library administration, Priya is dependable, dedicated, and always willing to go out of her way to assist anyone needing help. Whether it's answering questions, troubleshooting tech issues, or learning new tasks outside her front desk role, Priya consistently shows initiative, flexibility, and a genuine commitment to providing excellent customer service.



**VRUND THAKKAR  
Rising Star Award**

His enthusiasm for learning and commitment to supporting library administration is truly commendable. Whether assisting with event logistics, collaborating on special projects, or stepping up as a leader in the absence of a supervisor, Vrund consistently demonstrates reliability, diligence, and professionalism.



NEW LIBRARY ARRIVAL:  
**STUDY PODS** IN PLS 4 & 5  
THANKS TO FUNDING FROM SSI & ASI



# LIBRARIANS



**SAMUEL BARBER**  
Cataloging and Metadata Librarian



**MICHAELA BETTEZ**  
Open Educational Resources Librarian



**ILDA CARDENAS**  
Electronic Resources Librarian



**JONATHAN CORNFORTH**  
Student Success Librarian



**COTTON COSLETT**  
Online Learning Librarian



**ANTHONY DAVIS**  
Copyright & Policy Librarian



**MEGAN GRAEWINGHOLT**  
Social Sciences & Government Documents Librarian



**COLLEEN GREENE**  
Digital Scholarship Librarian



**JOHN HICKOK**  
Communications & International Outreach Librarian



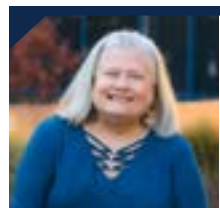
**ERIC KARKHOFF**  
Research & Instruction Librarian



**JOY LAMBERT**  
Reference & Instruction Librarian



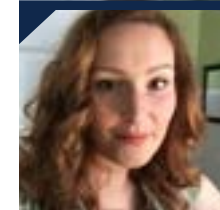
**KELLIE LANHAM-FRIEDMAN**  
Art & Makerspace Librarian



**BARBARA MILLER**  
Research & Instruction Librarian, Chicana & Chicano Resource Center Collection Librarian



**LISA MIX**  
Director, UA&SC



**KERI PRELITZ**  
Collection Development Librarian



**PATRISIA PRESTINARY**  
Archivist & Special Collections Librarian



**ADOLFO PRIETO**  
Reference & Instruction Librarian



**ANNE RIMMER**  
Reference Librarian



**JOY SAGE**  
Reference & Instruction Librarian



**ROBERT SAGE**  
Business Librarian, Reference & Instruction Librarian



**JIE TAN**  
Reference & Instruction Librarian



**ROBERT TOMASZEWSKI**  
STEM Librarian



**JASON URIBE**  
Reference Librarian



**VIET VU**  
Reference Librarian

## MEET OUR NEW LIBRARIANS



**RACHEL RITER**  
EDUCATION LIBRARIAN

I graduated from San José State University in 2017 with a Master of Library and Information Science. One fun fact about me is that I used to live in Hawaii, where I swam with Galapagos sharks. I'm excited to serve as the liaison to the College of Education and to be part of a vibrant community that enjoys beautiful, almost-perfect weather all year round.



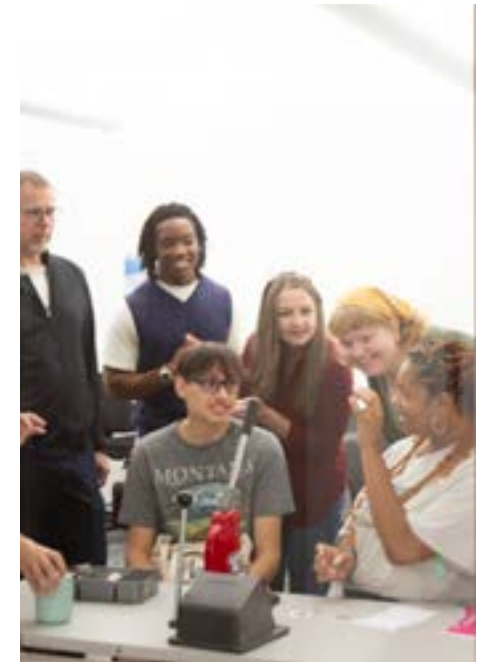
**DOROTHY ALVARADO**  
REFERENCE LIBRARIAN

Hello, I'm Dorothy, a Reference Librarian at CSUF's Pollak Library. I earned my MLIS from UCLA. I'm excited to be part of such a great library team. I love helping students with their research and introducing them to library services. Fun fact: I enjoy drawing and painting in my spare time.

# OUR STAFF



- Adriana Bernal
- Mandy Bruns
- Trish Campbell
- Stacy Caron
- Elizabeth Craig
- Ivette Delgado
- Rosemary Farr
- Garrett Fritz
- Jolene Judziewicz
- Guillermina King
- VJ Kuan-Roberts
- Long Lammy
- Lorraine Madrigal
- Jennifer Mitchell
- Tu-An Nguyen
- David Palmquist
- Doris Park
- Brenda Patino
- Daniel Phillips
- Kevin Phillips
- Donna Rader
- Kofi Sefa-Boakye
- Yari Smith-Tetrick
- Justin Stewart
- Jeremy Vall
- Eileen Walraven
- Gregory Witmer



## MEET OUR ASSOCIATE DEANS



**MICHAEL DEMARS**  
ASSOCIATE DEAN,  
PUBLIC SERVICES



**WENDY VERMEER**  
ASSOCIATE DEAN, COLLECTIONS &  
SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS

# UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

*University Archives & Special Collections holds a variety of rare and unique resources that support the education and scholarship of Titans and researchers worldwide.*

*By Lisa Mix, Director, University Archives and Special Collections*

Our collection totals more than 14,000 linear feet and includes archives, manuscript collections, rare books, photographs, maps, ephemera, and other objects. We also have more than 6 terabytes of digital collections. The major collecting areas include: University Archives, Orange County and Southern California History, the Freedom Center (polemical literature from a wide ideological spectrum), Alfredo Zúñiga Research Collection, the Archives of Popular Culture, the Boswell Collection for the History of Cartography, and the Willis E. McNelly Science Fiction Collection (includes a growing collection of Latinx Science fiction.)

A generous gift from the Patrons of the Library funded the purchase of a dedicated case for UA&SC exhibits. Rotating exhibits began in January 2024 and have increased visibility and awareness of UA&SC. Our student assistants continue to gain valuable experience in planning and installing these exhibits. Featured topics and items have included: Titan history; Frank Herbert's manuscript of Dune; local history on the Haven Seed Co. (created

by the student who processed that collection); Titan alum and astronaut Tracy C. Dyson; Juneteenth; LGBTQ pride; an exhibition featuring the Zúñiga collection and honoring Alfredo Zúñiga; and most recently, "Lost Landmarks of Orange County".

In addition, faculty from across disciplines have curated exhibitions using materials from UA&SC. A recent example is: "Adelante Magazine: Documenting Queer Latinx Stories since 1998," curated by Eddy Alvarez, Chair of Chicana and Chicano Studies, assisted by two graduate students, using Adelante magazine from the Zúñiga Research Collection.

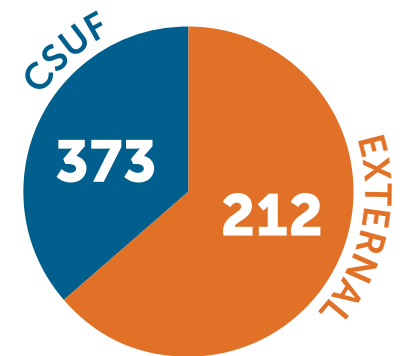
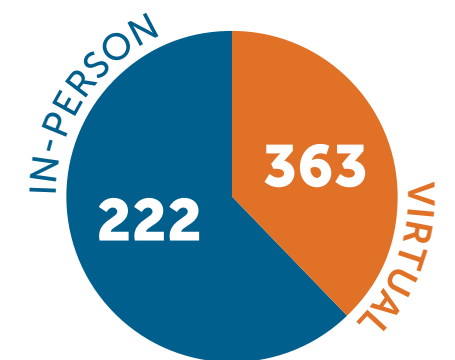


## UA&SC STATISTICS 2024-25

These statistics include individual researchers as well as class projects that resulted in exhibits, publications, and conference presentations. UA&SC librarians conduct instruction sessions for various departments including History, American Studies, English, and more. Additionally, UA&SC materials are used by liaison librarians for their instruction sessions.



TOTAL TRANSACTIONS  
**585**



TOURS/  
PRESENTATIONS:  
**27**

## RENOVATION PLANS ✂

An urgent priority for future planning and fundraising in the Library is the renovation of the University Archives and Special Collections' physical space. Many of our irreplaceable treasures are in danger of deterioration because the current space does not meet the climate-control specifications required to preserve them. A dedicated HVAC system is needed to curb the fluctuations in temperature and humidity that deteriorate paper

documents, ephemera, leather book bindings, film, magnetic tape, and other fragile formats. Through donations and focused fundraising efforts, the Library has hopes to raise the funds needed for a complete renovation but we need help to arrive at the large sum required for the entire project. An architect has been engaged to prepare a concept plan while fundraising efforts continue.

# REFERENCE & RESEARCH SERVICES

By The Research Team



Providing Reference & Research Services is a foundational part of the Pollak library's mission, with librarians offering expert research guidance through in-person support at the Research Center Desk, responsive assistance via online chat, and in-depth consultations tailored to individuals and small groups. These services reflect the dedication and adaptability of Pollak Library faculty in meeting the evolving needs of our academic community.

At the heart of the library's support for information literacy, Reference & Research Services exemplifies the commitment of librarians to guiding users through their research journeys.

From July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025, the Library delivered an impressive 9,300 reference transactions, including in-person queries, online chat, and user-submitted questions. Librarians also provided 389 in-depth research consultations. These numbers are significant, reflecting librarian assistance to thousands of students, faculty, and visitors, directly contributing to their learning. These exceptional service numbers also position it among the top-performing reference operations across the CSU system, often outpacing peer institutions in both volume and impact.

REFERENCE  
TRANSACTIONS  
**9,300**

RESEARCH  
CONSULTATIONS  
**389**

## STUDENT FEEDBACK

100% of respondents on the Research Consultation survey stated they were more aware of resources, and more confident in their research, as a result of librarian consultation.

"[The Librarian] was an amazing help and I feel so much more confident in my research process after talking to her! She provided me with valuable resources and helped me with my thought process regarding my research project."

"[The Librarian] was the best resource to help me get started and to send me in the right direction. I can't sing her praises enough."

"[The Librarian] went above and beyond to help me navigate research resources for my mindfulness topic; his patience and expertise made a huge difference and I am very grateful for his support!"

## FACULTY FEEDBACK

"I have had great experiences with our librarians helping students access and learn about library materials."

"Library faculty do an amazing job! You all don't get enough credit."

"I have found the Chat feature great. The librarians on chat have always been very helpful."

The voices of our students and faculty make one thing clear: the library's Reference & Research Services are a trusted, vital part of CSUF academic life. Behind every successful research experience is a team of dedicated librarians whose knowledge, understanding, and commitment empower Titans across campus. The library takes great pride in the outstanding work Reference & Research librarians contribute each day to advancing information literacy across campus. Their dedication, expertise, and genuine care have made Reference & Research Services a cornerstone of academic success.

# INSTRUCTION

By Jonathan Cornforth, Student Success Librarian

*"The session was very engaging! [The librarian] did a great job explaining terms in a way that the students could understand. The standing activity, Kahoot! and sweets were a big motivator for the students."*

*"[The librarian] did an amazing job once again."*

*"[The librarian] did an excellent job honing the instruction session to the needs of the class. The session was excellent."*



These are just a few examples of the dozens of overwhelmingly positive comments from instructors on the impact librarians have on their students. Pollak Library's faculty instruction unit provides transformative learning opportunities on an array of information literacy and research topics: finding and evaluating sources, using databases appropriately, engaging with the scholarly conversation, forming literature reviews, understanding research methodologies, and more. The list is endless and touches on all levels of learning, from first-year composition classes to doctoral programs. Of the four classrooms currently dedicated to library instruction, two were recently renovated to better support active-learning and group work. Whiteboard tables shaped in pods replaced traditional rows of

tables with computers to encourage conversation and collaboration. Students have taken full advantage of the ability to research terms, create concept maps, and share ideas. The Instruction Librarian enjoys exchanging research strategies and keyword development with learners using this environment, particularly for first-year writing composition courses. "It sounds simple, but note taking is an essential skill for all students and researchers to get better at. I can jot my thoughts down for individual learners which helps them see visually what I am saying which in turn improves retention."

The majority of the nearly 800 instruction sessions librarians taught throughout the academic year were tied to the curriculum and assignments developed by faculty across 51 departments. However, the library also provided workshops that any student could attend to improve their understanding of the library, the research process, and general services. A dedicated group of librarians taught these "drop-in" workshops for a variety of student populations. In the fall semester, the team partnered with the Diversity Initiatives and Resource Centers. Along with food and drinks, librarians shared essential information with groups of 15 – 20 students. Attendees asked questions and had the opportunity to meet with a variety of subject specialists in a friendly, open space. In spring, librarians decided to collaborate with a brand-new partner in the building, the Graduate Studies Center. Four separate presentations were given. Two were delivered by



**800**  
INSTRUCTION SESSIONS  
TAUGHT

Science Librarian, on STEM databases and citation management. Others taught on essential skills every graduate student would benefit from. These open workshops enjoyed high attendance as well. The goal will be to continue providing them every semester.

Working in collaboration with faculty across campus, librarians strive to support student success and high-quality research at every opportunity.

# MAKERSPACE



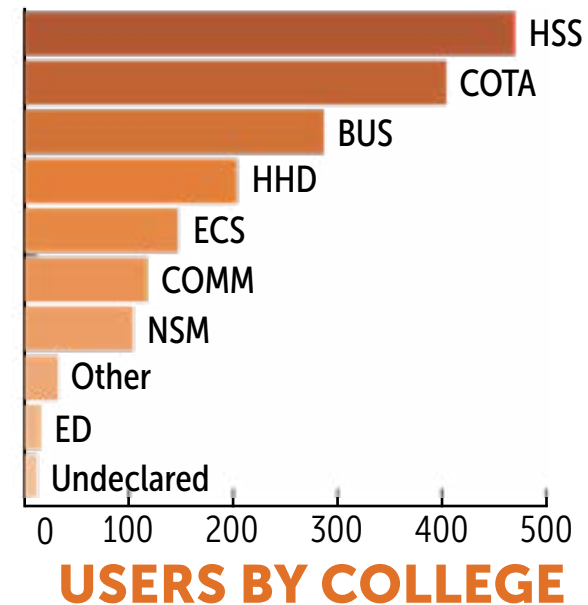
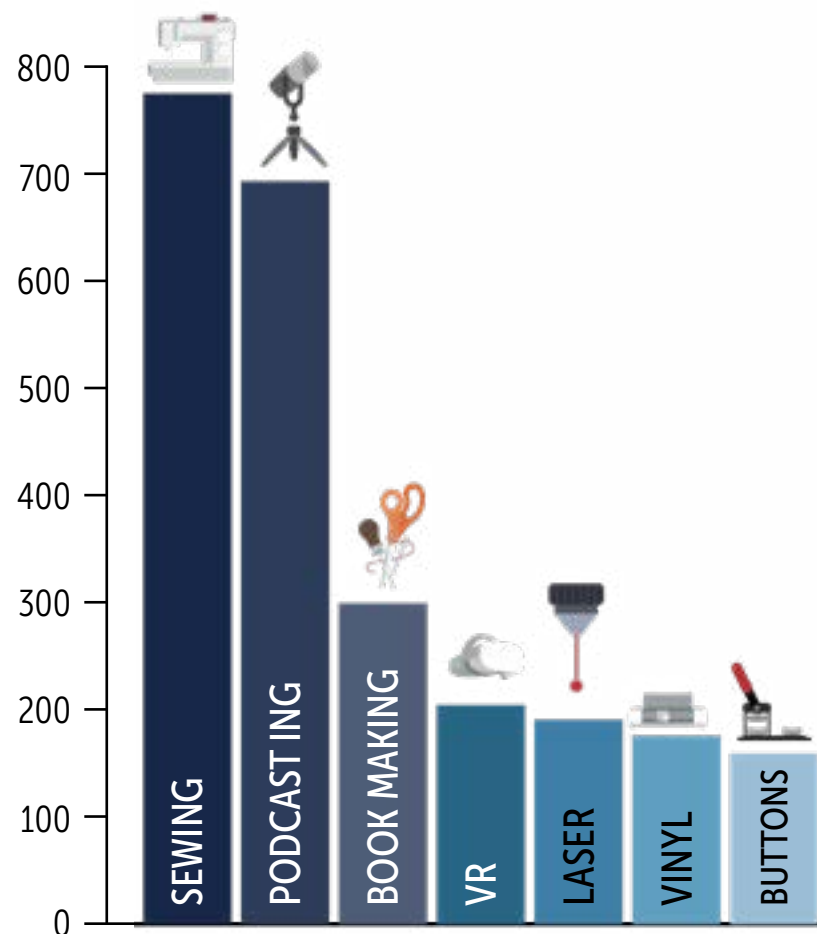
By Kellie Lanham-Friedman, Art & Makerspace Librarian

The Pollak Library Makerspace is a place where students, faculty, and staff can make, create, collaborate, and innovate. We are proud to offer a variety of tools and materials including a laser cutter, vinyl cutter, sewing machines, podcast studio, virtual reality headsets, bookmaking supplies, and more. Continuing the library's mission to advance success through creating exciting learning opportunities, the Makerspace provides new possibilities for developing intellectual curiosity. It serves as a dynamic environment that fosters creativity, hands-on learning, and cross-disciplinary exploration.

The Makerspace also offers hands-on workshops and course-integrated instruction designed to help users build confidence with creative technologies. Past events hosted by the space have included VR labs that allow students to experience historical events and explore immersive environments in fields such as architecture and tourism; sewing workshops that teach both foundational and advanced textile skills for personal and academic projects; and bookmaking lessons that encourage students to engage with storytelling, writing, and presentation through handmade formats. In collaboration with faculty, instruction sessions are tailored to align with specific course objectives— such as creating podcasts in place of traditional papers or exploring how virtual reality is used in industries like engineering, science, and business. These learning opportunities encourage experimentation, support academic success, and promote skill-building across disciplines.



## EQUIPMENT USAGE



TOTAL RESERVATIONS  
**2,162**



# Digital Humanities

By Colleen Robledo Greene, Digital Scholarship Librarian

The Digital Scholarship Librarian partners with instructional faculty to integrate digital tools and methods into their curriculum. Through consultations with faculty, determinations are made on what platform or software will meet the needs of the class. Classroom instruction is delivered synchronously, asynchronously, or through a mix of modalities. Students, faculty, and staff using digital humanities tools and methods for their research and scholarship projects are provided with team or individual consultations.

The newly created Digital Humanities & Scholarship guide (<https://libraryguides.fullerton.edu/digital-humanities>), will help the campus community more easily identify specific tools that can be used for different types of digital projects.

Digital storytelling projects represent the majority of digital humanities instruction and consultation requests. Instruction is currently offered for three cloud-based, digital storytelling platforms: ArcGIS StoryMaps, CollectionBuilder, and TimelineJS. The library provides accompanying instruction guides for ArcGIS StoryMaps and TimelineJS. All three platforms work well for individual digital projects and for collaborative class or team projects. In the first year of instruction, over 200 Criminal Justice students were introduced to the ArcGIS StoryMaps platform. Dr. Charles Cunha from the Department of Criminal Justice worked with the Digital Scholarship Librarian on a social justice and criminal justice themed digital exhibit, as the basis for one of the library's Faculty Noon Time Talks in the spring.

Digital humanities projects require more than just learning how to use a tool. Instruction and consultations regularly focus on related themes to help digital scholars grow their digital fluency. This past academic year, digital humanities workshops included:

- Metadata essentials for finding and analyzing digital media to use in digital projects, and for describing that digital media in a project.
- Copyright essentials to determine the rights and terms of use for digital works created by others, finding public domain and Creative Commons content, and how to critically think through applying fair use.
- Methods for organizing and safeguarding digital humanities project data.
- Methods for creating sustainable and preservable versions of digital projects.

## Collaborations

The library continued to play a major role in building digital humanities infrastructure and community at Cal State Fullerton through its involvement with CSUF DEFCon (the Digital Ethnic Futures Consortium), a three-year Mellon Foundation-funded digital humanities and ethnic studies grant project that wrapped up its grant cycle this June.

- The Digital Scholarship Librarian served on the CSUF DEFCon leadership team, as a workshop instructor and facilitator, and as a mentor to faculty, staff, and student fellows working on their digital projects.
- The Archivist & Special Collections Librarian served as a mentor to community fellows and partners.
- The Library Systems Programmer and Art & Makerspace Librarian were awarded Fellowships to develop digital projects.
- The Open Education Resources Librarian served as the Zoom host for the hybrid CSUF Digital Humanities Fall Showcase in September 2024.
- The Archivist & Special Collections Librarian, University Archives & Special Collections Director, Open Education Resources Librarian, and Exhibits Coordinator presented in a workshop certificate series.
- The Library Systems Programmer taught a full day Python workshop for humanities research.



## Digital Projects Preservation Team

In spring 2025, a new library Digital Projects Preservation Team (DPPT) was formed to assist the campus community with best practices for preserving digital projects.

The DPPT was convened at the initial request of CSUF DEFCon for the library to:

1. Develop a set of recommended workflows and best practices for DEFCon Fellows to save their work in CSU ScholarWorks, the institutional repository for the California State University system.
2. Develop suggested methods to preserve these projects in whatever manner possible.
3. Publish these in a new LibGuide on the library website. The DPPT launched a new Digital Projects Toolkit (<https://libraryguides.fullerton.edu/digital-projects-toolkit>) over summer 2025. Version one of the guide focuses on recommended workflows and best practices for CSUF DEFCon projects.

# THE ZÚÑIGA RESEARCH COLLECTION (ZRC)

*Bridges the Past and the Future  
Increasing visibility of Chicano Collections*

*By Barbara Miller, Research & Instruction Librarian, Chicana & Chicano Resource Center Collection Librarian*



Established in 1972 as the Mexico & Southwest Collection, the Chicana/o Resource Center originated as a grassroots initiative by Chicano students, faculty and staff at CSUF and the University Library. Alfred H. Zúñiga led the project, collecting materials related to Mexican Americans. The collection encompasses an array of resources such as books, journals, newspapers, documents, posters, pamphlets, fliers, and other ephemera documenting the Mexican American community in Orange County and Southern California.

Zúñiga accumulated **over 500 audiovisual recordings featuring oral histories, lectures, speeches, music, and other events.** The oral histories, spanning the late 1960s through the early 1980s, document the lives of Mexican Americans and other Latinx community members in Orange County and Southern California. Other audiovisuals showcase prominent figures of the Civil Rights Movement, who visited Cal State Fullerton: Angela Davis, Cesar Chavez, Denis Banks, Sal Castro, Bert Corona, Corky Gonzalez, and David Sanchez among others.

In 2023, the Collection was renamed to honor the founder, Alfred H. Zúñiga. He brought together expertise in the subject field as one of the first graduates of the Chicano Studies Department. He also understood how to bring library services to Mexican American Communities having earned his masters degree in library science from Cal State Fullerton Library Division's Graduate Institute for Mexican American Librarianship.

For the past several years the ZRC Librarian, her student assistants, and her interns have been processing this collection with the help of the University Archivist, Archives Specialist, and UA&SC student assistants. Audiovisual transcription and translation work is ongoing as they experiment with AI to see if it offers viable help in this area.

Since 2021, the ZRC has added new oral histories to the collection that emphasize Cal State Fullerton Alumni. Our first project sought to document the careers of the graduates of Cal State Fullerton's Library Division's Graduate Institute for Mexican American Library Science, 1972-1975. This year saw new oral history interviews with prominent Southern California Chicano Artist, Rosemary Vasquez Tuthill, and Cal State Fullerton Alum Jose Lozano.

The ZRC is actively seeking to add to the collection. Recent donations include Amin David, Adelante Magazine, and Emerita Art Professor, Ruth Capelle's El Salvador collection. Graduate students Ashley Yniguez and Carlos Escobedo deposited their Chicana-based master's projects with the ZRC as well.



To browse processed items or learn more about this collection, scan this QR code.





# ZERO-COST COURSE MATERIALS & AFFORDABLE LEARNING SOLUTIONS

By Michaela Bettez, OER Librarian

During the last academic year, the Pollak Library saw significant advances in the growth of its Affordable Learning Solutions (ALS). As a participant in the CSU-wide ALS initiative, our campus is committed to increasing student success by helping faculty find, evaluate, and implement zero-cost materials to replace expensive textbooks. Initiatives are vital for demonstrating the important role of the Pollak Library in creating more equitable educational environment.

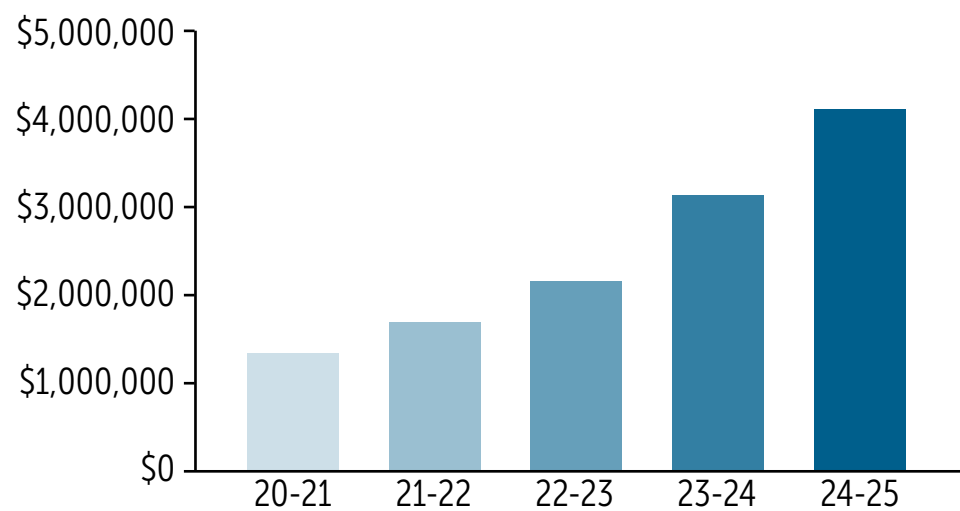
Throughout the year, individual faculty, department chairs, university administration, and the bookstore served as partners in identifying high-cost and high-enrollment courses that would benefit most from utilizing zero-cost materials. Funding for this work is provided by an ALS grant of \$15,000 awarded by the CSU Chancellor's Office. These funds are used to organize workshops, conduct outreach, and provide one-on-one faculty support.

*With this small investment of funds and a significant investment of labor, our program is one of the most successful in the CSU system, showing continuous growth every year.*

In particular, library resources like ebooks, articles, and streaming videos play a central role in the zero-cost initiative. Faculty often supplement OER selections with additional resources from the library to create a robust set of learning resources that are free for students to access. Using the Leganto Reading List as the main access

point for sharing materials in Canvas, we are also able to track the impact that library resources have in individual courses and the university as a whole. During the last year, materials included in Leganto reading lists accounted for over **\$700,000 in savings for ten thousand of our students.**

## COURSE MATERIALS SAVINGS



This growth helped our campus ALS initiative to achieve its most significant milestone yet- **exceeding our five-year savings goal of \$12,000,000** set by the 2020-2025 Governor's Compact. This goal was the highest of any campus in the CSU system, and surpassing this goal demonstrates our commitment to advancing equitable learning on our campus.

The library saved an estimate

**\$716,035**

Total Savings

**\$4,117,000**

Total Students Benefitting

**40,985**

## OPEN ACCESS (OA) PUBLISHING & SCHOLARWORKS

ScholarWorks, another CSU-wide initiative, is home to the scholarly and creative outputs of faculty, staff, and students in our academic community. This year, the repository also saw an **85% growth in the number of works added** to the repository, including both student and faculty work from all colleges in the university. This increase is the result of continuous collaboration with other library and campus stakeholders.

ScholarWorks continues to serve as the home for all culminating student works like electronic theses and dissertations (ETD) and final projects. With the help of a federal work-study student assistant, Said Yopez, the institutional repository expanded its holdings significantly by uploading a backlog of projects from previous years. Keeping these project collections updated is critical for academic departments to demonstrate the work of their students and faculty, which can appeal to future students or new faculty hires.

The repository also saw a **20% increase in faculty publications**. This results from targeted outreach to individual faculty who participated in campus events like the Faculty Recognition Event for Scholarly and Creative Activities. We also frequently collaborated with the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects to promote our library-negotiated open-access agreements with major publishers like Elsevier, Cambridge and Oxford University Presses, and the CSUF Open Access Publishing Fund to the campus community. Through these funds, faculty could publish their articles openly without paying costly fees, making them eligible for upload to ScholarWorks.

A continued commitment to supporting open access publishing helps to create a more just and equitable publishing environment, while also promoting our campus. The increased interest in OA publishing on our campus has the potential to grow our reputation as a hub of openly accessible scholarship. With the items in ScholarWorks receiving over 133,000 downloads, it demonstrates the growing influence of CSUF students and faculty in the scholarly community.

# CREATING INCLUSIVE DESCRIPTIONS

## *Improving Access and Discovery through Critical Cataloging*

*By Jennifer Mitchell, Cataloging Specialist*

Accurately describing materials in the library catalog is essential for equitable access, student success, and relevant scholarship. The subject terms used to describe materials directly impact how easily students discover relevant resources and meaningfully participate in academic work.

The Pollak library has taken active steps in collaboration with other CSU libraries to address outdated subject headings. These steps include choosing more accurate, inclusive terms and modifying how subject terms are displayed in the search results to better reflect current scholarship and terminology. The following are three strategies that have been implemented to enhance equitable discovery and reflect the diverse communities and perspectives represented in the Pollak library collection.

These changes support student scholarship, affirm students' lived experiences and identities, and contribute to an inclusive, equitable, and respectful academic experience.

### **1. UPDATING OBSOLETE IMMIGRATION TERMS (2020-2021)**

We've changed outdated and stigmatizing subject headings used to describe immigrants and related materials in our library catalog. Terms such as "Illegal aliens" have been replaced with more accurate alternatives such as "Undocumented immigrants". While both the original and updated terms remain searchable, only the updated terms appear as subject filters, improving clarity and accuracy in search results. These changes also improve the discoverability of materials related to immigration including topics such as borders, government policy, refugee and asylum systems, and the experiences of displaced persons and communities. This enhances the library's ability to support critical research while aligning with the cultural knowledge of many students at CSUF and across the CSU system.

### **2. REMOVING HARMFUL LANGUAGE FROM SEARCH FILTERS (ONGOING)**

We have used a CSU-maintained list of outdated, inaccurate, and stigmatizing subject terms, to remove them as subject filters in our catalog. Many of the excluded terms such as "Mentally retarded persons" and other inappropriate or outdated terminology are no longer highlighted as access points in the search results display but may remain visible within the original bibliographic records. Removing them as subject filters reduces the emphasis of stigmatizing terms while supporting an inclusive and forward-looking academic environment for our students, more than half of whom (57.1%, "CSUF Facts: Fall 2024") identify as members of historically underrepresented communities.

### **3. ENHANCING LGBTQ+ ACCESS (2024- CURRENT)**

To address gaps in standard subject headings, we are incorporating terms from the Homosaurus, a specialized vocabulary designed to more accurately and respectfully describe LGBTQ+ topics. Applying these terms where appropriate improves



discovery and access to materials not only within gender and sexuality studies but in related fields such as history, health, education, religion, and law as they pertain to LGBTQ+ communities and experiences.

### **WHY THIS MATTERS**

Using accurate and relevant terms to describe library materials helps students find materials that reflect current academic knowledge and community-informed understanding. This builds trust that our collections are relevant, up-to-date, and reflect contemporary scholarship and cultural knowledge while also preserving access to historical materials. By updating how these terms are displayed and supplementing them with relevant and inclusive language, we correct biased or incomplete records and improve resource discovery.



# ONLINE LEARNING TUTORIALS

By Cotton Coslett, Online Learning Librarian

The Library's commitment to student success extends far beyond our physical space. In 2024–2025, our suite of online learning objects—including research guides, video tutorials, and interactive modules—continued to support learners at every stage of their academic journey. These resources are developed with accessibility in mind, including closed captions and screen-reader compatibility.

**229,000**  
PAGE  
VIEWS

Our library guides, which combine research support for specific subjects with general information about library services, received over **229,000 page views**. These guides are frequently used during library instruction sessions and can serve as lasting resources for students and faculty who wish to revisit content later.

Library videos were **viewed more than 16,600 times this year**, providing on-demand support for everything from citation help and research strategies to navigating specific databases. These videos are designed to assist students with using library resources and often address assignments within disciplines.

**16,600**  
VIDEO  
VIEWS

**1,800**  
TUTORIALS  
COMPLETED

Meanwhile, our interactive tutorials were completed by **more than 1,800 students from both our campus and other institutions around the world**. These asynchronous tutorials support independent learning, course-integrated instruction, and orientation sessions, that are often used alongside live instruction or as a refresher.

Among our most widely used tutorials are our APA citation guide -adopted as coursework not only at CSUF but also at three other colleges-our Library Homepage, One Search overview, and database-specific tutorials like those focused on Academic Search Premier and CINAHL Complete.

This year we also launched a new research guide on artificial intelligence as well as a new tutorial on quantitative research methods, with a companion tutorial on qualitative research methods planned for release next year.

**The Pollak Library strives to meet students where they are—online or in person, on their schedule. We continue to expand access to research support and foster academic success across disciplines.**

# CELEBRATING FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS IN SCHOLARSHIP: A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR

By Megan Graewingholt, Social Sciences & Government Documents Librarian

*Pollak Library faculty continue to push boundaries in scholarly achievement by publishing cutting-edge research, securing competitive grants, and showcasing their expertise through prestigious exhibitions and presentations at professional venues. The scholarly and creative footprint of library faculty underscores their meaningful contributions to various academic and professional communities and enrich the scholarly reputation of Cal State Fullerton. Here are just a few highlights:*

Electronic Resources Librarian **Ilda Cardenas**, Online Learning Librarian **Cotton Coslett**, and Student Success Librarian **Jonathan Cornforth** were all granted tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Librarian. Additionally, Copyright Librarian **Anthony Davis** was granted full promotion to the rank of Librarian.

Open Educational Resources Librarian **Michaela Bettez** presented at the Charleston Conference in November 2024, alongside **Ilda Cardenas**, on digital scholarship topics. **Michaela** also presented at the Library 2.0's AI and Libraries: Literacy, Ethics, and Responsible Use Conference in March 2025.

**Anthony Davis's** grant project related to the Male Success Initiative (MSI) Collection was honored during a ribbon-cutting ceremony on November 8, 2024. This grant supported a library collection in collaboration with the Director of MSI, Dr. Felipe Martinez.

# FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Art & Makerspace Librarian **Kellie Lanham-Friedman** received a \$15,000 CSUF Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activity grant for her Bolivian music database project, collaborating with Music Professor Vivianne Asturizaga. This grant project will help to preserve and make accessible the work of Bolivian musicians online.

Digital Scholarship Librarian **Colleen Robledo Greene** taught a two-part virtual workshop for the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy in April 2025 on using Google Earth Pro to reconstruct historical Mexican-American urban neighborhoods. She also presented at the National Genealogical Society's Conference in Louisville, Kentucky in May 2025 on "Taking a Deep Dive into Mexico - U.S. Border Crossing Records."

Communications & International Outreach Librarian **John Hickok** presented an invited paper at the Philippine Library Association's national conference in November 2024. His topic was international comparative Best Practices among libraries. Following the conference, he was invited by the U.S. Embassy in Vietnam to conduct ESL workshops for students interested in studying in the U.S.

University Archives & Special Collections Director **Lisa Mix** led a panel on "Digital Collections, Archives, and Exhibits" at CSUF's Digital Ethnic Futures Consortium (DEFCon) 2024 Workshop. Additionally, **Lisa** co-presented another DEFCon session with University Archivist **Patrisia Prestinary** and **Michaela Bettez** on archiving ethnic futurisms in developing the library's Latinx Science Fiction Collection. A panel organized by **Lisa Mix** on balancing academic obligations with job responsibilities presented at the May 2025 meeting of Librarians, Archivists, & Museum Professionals in the History of Health Sciences.

Collection Development & Management Librarian **Keri Prelitz** and Social Sciences & Government Documents Librarian **Megan Graewingholt** presented at the Library Orientation Exchange (LOEX) Conference on driving the use of evidence-based acquisitions models in library instruction in May 2025. Keri also presented at the Acquisitions Institute in May 2025 on retooling library workflows during times of change with **Justin Stewart**, the acquisitions coordinator.

Reference & Instruction Librarian **Jie Tian** presented an interactive eco-art exhibit as part of the VISIBLE Social Practice Exhibitions (sponsored by the Lily Endowment) at Newsong Church in Santa Ana in September 2024, and a poster, "Sustainability: A Vision for Living & Artmaking" at CSUF Energy and Sustainability Summit in October 2024. She gave a haiku reading and presentation at California Botanic Garden's annual Garden of Verses in Claremont, CA in April 2025. Her essay, "Origins and Ra(t)velations" will be published in the book, *Food Flowers Medicine: And Other Gifts from the Garden* by Wild Librarian Press in June 2025.

STEM Librarian **Robert Tomaszewski** presented the poster Citations to ChatGPT: Mapping the Academic Landscape Across Disciplines at the ALA Annual Conference in Philadelphia in June 2025, supported by a \$1000 ORSP Faculty Travel Grant. He authored a Faculty Focus piece, "Enhancing Critical Thinking with the CAT Test: Check, Ask, Think" in December 2024, which focuses on his contributions to critical thinking instruction. He also presented The Deductive Duo Exhibit: STEMulating Minds with Sherlock Holmes and Dr. AI at the STEM Librarians Collaborative Conference in November 2024. His article on bibliometric methods, "Time-tracking Substances: Harnessing the Power of Article Counts Over Time with SciFinder," was published in Scientometrics in August 2024.

*From global conference stages to peer-reviewed journals and funded research, the achievements of Pollak Library faculty reflect both depth and breadth. The hard-earned success of library faculty speaks volumes, and the Chair is honored to recognize them as a source of pride for us all. Their hard work and dedication continue to elevate the department and inspire our Titan community.*

# COMM SQUAD

Brenda Patino manages a student team to make students at CSUF aware of the events and resources our library has to offer.

## NEW STICKERS & BUTTON DESIGNS



**COLLECT THEM ALL!**

Designed by **Alexa Mejia, Amara Beghtol & Shekinah Calindas**

## CSUF VS SJSU

In competition with San Jose State University's King Library we competed to be the first library to hit 5,000 followers. Within the first day of the competition the Pollak Library was able to reach the follower goal before SJSU!



## HIGHEST VIEWED REEL



Featuring the new education librarian **Rachel Riter** and **Nicole Anita**, this reel was the Libraries most successful, with 33.7K views and 1,048 interactions. <https://www.instagram.com/pollaklibrary/reels>



## CROWDFUNDING: EQUIP THE COMM SQUAD

**DONATE HERE!**



<https://give.fullerton.edu/97600>

This annual report was lovingly put together by the Pollak Library Communications (Comm Squad) team. We're the behind-the-scenes group that manages social media, outreach, posters, signage, photos, and videos, all to make sure Titans know about the free resources, services, and events the library has to offer. We believe the library is more than just books, it's a place of discovery, creativity, and support. This October, support our crowdfunding campaign to help the Comm Squad get the tools we need to keep Titans informed and connected. Thank you for helping us tell the Pollak Library story. Follow us on social media **@pollaklibrary** to learn more and stay connected!

## DOGGY THERAPY

Doggy Therapy is our most attended event, giving students a much-needed chance to pause, relax, and recharge during busy study days. Spending time with therapy dogs helps ease stress and boost mood, making it easier to stay focused and motivated. The Comm. team plays a key role in organizing and promoting these popular outreach events, helping students find moments of calm amid their academic routines.





## CROWDFUNDING

### UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Pollak Library's University Archives & Special Collections is the guardian of campus memories and the steward of rare and unique materials that support education and scholarly research – for Titans and for researchers worldwide.

Plans are under development to renovate and expand UA&SC's home in the Pollak Library to create a spacious, welcoming new space, with state-of-the-art climate controls to protect the university's treasures and a hospitable reading room to welcome the Titan community and visitors.



## TITAN'S DAY OF GIVING

### FUNDING FOR EXHIBITS & ART

The Exhibit Program is a vehicle of discovery and inspiration. From showcasing diverse collections to exploring global issues, exhibits create meaningful opportunities for students, staff, faculty, and the broader community. These exhibits connect with ideas that challenge perspectives and ignite

creativity. For 60 years, our exhibition program has brought dynamic, high-quality displays to life. Our plans is to continue curating impactful exhibits, upgrade aging display cases and gallery lighting, and support educational programs that inspire learning and exploration.



# A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DONORS



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**Mr. John J. Brennan & Ms. Lucina L. Moses**



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## PATRONS STATEMENT FOR ANNUAL REPORT

The Patrons of the Library is the University's longest standing support group. The Patrons promote the Library's educational mission to the University and the community, with a special interest in the University's Special Collections, including the Archives of Popular Culture, the Boswell Maps, the Freedom Center, and the McNelly Science Fiction Collection. They enrich the Library's holdings and attract gifts to the Library of books, money, and time.

This year the Patron's supported the Library's fundraising initiatives in the Fall and Spring with gifts, they purchased key items for our growing U.S. Latinx Science Fiction Collection, they brought writer Kim Stanley Robinson, an international speaker on the environment, to campus to speak and interact with students, and they supported research projects in our archives, among other things. They had a record sales year at the Book Sale Center, located in the southeast corner of the Library. The Patrons are actively accepting donations of books and time at the center and of money via membership in the Patrons. You are invited to browse the Book Sale Center, especially if you haven't before!

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