What is Open Access?

When a source is designated Open Access (OA), it means the reader – student, researcher or member of the public – given an internet connection, can access content free of charge. OA articles may be published in a completely OA journal. Traditional publishers may offer OA options for their journals, which are frequently called “hybrid journals.”

Why Consider Open Access?

OA is beneficial to the public, expediting the research process by facilitating communication of research results more broadly. OA levels the playing field for researchers, both faculty and students, at institutions with libraries of limited collections budgets, in developing countries or those without access to interlibrary loan services. In addition to research articles, there are now OA books. Of advantage to students are OA textbooks and other educational materials, which help those who struggle to meet the costs of higher education (see https://oasis.geneseo.edu).

Myths Surrounding Open Access

**MYTH 1: Only predatory publishers produce OA materials.**
Some OA journals are indeed created by what are known as “predatory publishers.” These publishers charge article processing charges (APCs), but never publish articles. Some lack peer review or have boards that lack subject expertise. Authors may receive persistent spam email with invitations to publish in their journals. Authors are advised to contact their subject librarians (https://library.kent.edu/subject-librarians) who can research the publisher. Important factors to consider are the sponsoring organization or society, the presence and prominence of scholars on editorial boards and the quality of research articles or books.

**MYTH 2: OA journals are low-quality, have terrible impact factors and don’t have ISSN numbers.**
The quality of an OA journal depends upon the authors, editorial board, referees for peer review or sponsoring institution or organization. OA expert Peter Suber of Harvard University’s Berkman Klein Center says, “As early as 2004, Thomson Scientific found that in every field of the sciences there was at least one open access title that ranked at or near the top of its field” in citation impact. The number of high-quality and high-impact open access journals has only grown since then. The quality of a scholarly journal is a function of its authors, editors and referees, not its business model or access policy (www.TheGuardian.com). OA journals are assigned ISSN numbers as are traditional journals.

**MYTH 3: Faculty who publish OA materials jeopardize their chances of tenure and promotion.**
Academic departments may have lists of journals considered to be high-impact and high-quality and faculty may be required to publish in them for reappointment or promotion consideration. Departments should periodically review these lists and keep them current with high-impact journals in their fields, which now include selected OA journals. Efforts to write and publish OA books, including OA textbooks, should be rewarded because of the benefits to the research process and society at large.

**MYTH 4: The only appropriate type of OA article to publish would be in a traditional journal that offers an OA option (Gold OA).**
With the advent of the OA movement, traditional and commercial publishers have experimented with different methods of publication in response. Certainly, authors are encouraged to submit their articles to appropriate journals so that their research reaches the widest audience possible.

cont’d on page 2

On March 1, Kent State University Libraries hosted the second annual Affordable Course Materials Summit to share strategic practices and tools to help faculty members locate, utilize and produce low-cost academic materials to provide our students with a more affordable education.
Welcome to the spring 2019 issue of the Essential Library. I am honored to have been selected as the seventh leader in the history of Kent State University Libraries. I look forward to continuing to lead and build a world-class research library in support of the great work of our students, staff and faculty.

One responsibility of a research library is to help our community understand and navigate challenges related to the dissemination of and access to scholarly information. You may have read about the University of California (UC) system’s recent cancellation of subscribed content provided by the publisher Elsevier. UC made this decision after months of negotiations in an effort to create an Open Access pathway to their publicly funded research, while also trying to reduce Elsevier’s skyrocketing costs. We face similar challenges here in Ohio. We are fortunate to be part of the OhioLINK consortium, which has helped us to mitigate large cost increases. Nonetheless, our University Libraries experience inflation on recurring subscriptions that runs at three times the rate of overall inflation.

The feature article for this issue, “What is Open Access,” written by Associate Professor Cindy Kristof, presents a primer on Open Access and helps to dispel some common myths on the subject. This is just a first step toward helping our users understand some of the challenges facing us in the scholarly communication ecosystem. The solutions may not be easy or obvious, but we believe education is the first place to start. If you have questions or wish to learn more, please reach out to me, Associate Professor Kristof or your subject librarian.

As always, we are grateful for your support and hope to see you in our libraries soon.

Kenneth J. Burhanna
Dean
Kent State University Libraries

What is Open Access?

cont’d from page 1

OA APCs are supported in a variety of ways, including by Kent State University Libraries. Authors are also encouraged to investigate OA journals in their respective fields. One place to start is the Directory of Open Access Journals (https://doaj.org).

MYTH 5: It’s so easy for plagiarists to steal your content if you publish in an OA format because OA materials are not copyrighted.

Because we live in a “copy-and-paste” world, it is very easy to duplicate content, whether it is published in a traditional electronic journal or elsewhere. The copyright to articles in OA journals is retained by the authors. The difference is that a Creative Commons License is applied to copyrighted work. This license says to the reader, “You may use my work without asking me first, under these conditions.” There are a variety of Creative Commons Licenses (see https://creativecommons.org). They range from CC-BY, which means the reader must simply credit the author, to CC BY-NC-ND 4.0, which means the reader must not only credit the author, but also must abide by the author’s wishes for others not to create any derivative works or use the work for commercial purposes. Some journals may require Creative Commons Licenses, while others may leave the choice of license to the authors.

How Open is Open Access?

There are several different levels of OA. The degree of openness affects who can access the material and when, what rights authors and publishers retain, how other researchers can use it and how the material is indexed. Creative Commons Licenses are used to specify the rights the author reserves, as well as the rights the author gives to the reader. These rights can be mixed in various combinations.

Some types of OA are described using color. Gold OA means that APCs are paid by the author or the funding agency. APCs vary widely in cost, from under $100 to the thousands. Articles are typically available immediately to readers. This is but one business model used to fund OA. Kent State researchers can apply for money to help with APCs at http://tinyurl.com/KSUopenaccess. Green OA means that authors publish their article in a traditional journal, but have the rights to self-archive a version of that article in an institutional repository, such as Kent State’s Digital Commons (https://digitalcommons.kent.edu) or in a subject repository. Some Green OA permits the self-archiving of pre-prints (the article submitted before peer review) or post-prints (the final article submitted after peer review), but frequently the author may not self-archive the publisher’s final PDF version of the article. Authors are advised to read Copyright Transfer Agreements carefully before signing them, ask questions if need be and keep CTAs on file indefinitely.

For More Information

Visit www.library.kent.edu/acm or contact Cindy Kristof, head of Copyright and Scholarly Communication, at ckristof@kent.edu.
University Libraries has a lot to celebrate!

The fifth annual Legacy Student Scholarship Celebration brought together students, faculty, staff and community members who were joined by one purpose – to support student success at Kent State University. The March event honored the five 2018-19 Legacy Scholarship recipients, congratulated the 2018 Champion of the Library and rededicated the Marovitz Special Collections and Archives Gallery, while also raising donations for the Libraries’ Legacy Scholarship Fund.

For the first time since the scholarship program began in 2014, University Libraries granted two memorial scholarships as a tribute to beloved Library employees. Jade Jarrett received the Adam Steele Memorial Legacy Scholarship. She is pictured with Jon Steele, Adam’s father. The other memorial scholarship is named for Erica Lilly. Each year, two students will be chosen to carry this honor.

Each of the five 2018-19 scholarship recipients were featured on posters that included a personal quote on being chosen for the $1,000 award. Lauryn-Ashley Solomon, a fashion merchandising major, proudly poses next to her poster at the Legacy Celebration event.

The event’s theme, Students Showcasing Our Libraries, was demonstrated by selected University Libraries’ student employees who gave presentations on their significant contributions that positively impact library users, both on campus and in the community. Pictured is Taylor Savage discussing LaunchNET’s entrepreneurial ventures.

Among the honored guests at the Legacy event were Sandy and Nora Marovitz. Through their generosity, the Marovitz Special Collections and Archives Gallery brings prominent visibility to some of the unique items housed in University Library. The first-floor location of the recently installed gallery was rededicated during the event.

Professor Emeritus of Geology Rodney Feldmann was selected as the 2018 Champion of the Library for his strong support and vocal advocacy of University Libraries. Dean Ken Burhanna presented Dr. Feldmann with an award to recognize this special achievement. The Champion of the Library Award is annually given to Kent State faculty, staff, students or community members whose efforts to support University Libraries clearly deserve special notice.
Visit University Libraries’ Marovitz Special Collections and Archives Gallery

University Libraries is proud to announce the installation of the Marovitz Special Collections and Archives Gallery.

Made possible through the gallery’s namesake, Sandy and Nora Marovitz, the open and accessible space is located on the first floor of University Library, near the elevators.

To the large numbers of people that frequent the Library, the Marovitz Gallery offers a sample of the distinctive items that are housed in the Special Collections and Archives Department on the building’s 12th floor.

The gallery’s upcoming exhibit, “1969: Selections from Special Collections and Archives,” will be on display beginning in April. Look 50 years in the past to experience a variety of archival and historical materials – from both the local and national levels – that relate to the year 1969.

Musicians, photographers and others who were involved in Kent’s rock and roll history returned to town in support of author Jason Prufer’s book. In attendance were collaborators from several groups, including Devo and the Numbers Band, as well as guitarist/songwriter Chris Butler.

Rock and Roll fans come out for Small Town, Big Music book launch

Jason Prufer, senior library associate for Kent State University Libraries, celebrated more than just his birthday on February 8. On that evening, his first publication, Small Town, Big Music: The Outsized Influence of Kent, Ohio, on the History of Rock and Roll, was officially introduced to more than 150 attendees of a launch party, hosted by University Libraries and the book’s publisher, Kent State University Press.

University Libraries Dean Ken Burhanna told the story of how Prufer first met Joe Walsh, a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee and former Kent State student. Walsh visited Kent to do research on a project about May 4. Burhanna introduced the Eagles frontman to Prufer, who eagerly showed off his manuscript. The two connected over their passion for music and Kent. By the end of their meeting, Walsh agreed to write the foreword for Small Town, Big Music.

Prufer spoke to an entranced audience about his inspirations for the book, interesting facts he discovered during his research and anecdotes about Kent students’ uncanny ability to identify talented bands before they became mainstream. His presentation was a highlight reel for the book, but also included multimedia aspects, such as Devo’s “Jocko Homo” music video, which was filmed in the Student Center’s governance chambers.

As the night went on, Prufer paid homage to the Daily Kent Stater journalists who covered the rock scene at its height, as well as photographers, like Ritch Underwood, who gave permission for photos to be included throughout the book. When the presentation ended, the attendees sang “Happy Birthday” and eagerly lined up to purchase books, ask for an autograph or question Prufer about artists or bands featured in the book. It was an enjoyable evening full of memories and proof that Kent, Ohio, made an indelible impact on the history of American music.

Order your copy of Small Town, Big Music: The Outsized Influence of Kent, Ohio, on the History of Rock and Roll at KentStateUniversityPress.com.
Known: Kelly Shook

**What is your title and department?**
Director, Circulation Services, Kent State University Libraries

**When did you begin your employment at Kent State?**
August 1, 1995

**What is your home town?**
I have called Northeast Ohio my home for most of my life. I grew up in Richfield, Ohio. In my youth, I enjoyed attending many basketball and hockey games, as well as concerts at the former Richfield Coliseum, prior to the venue being replaced by the Quicken Loans Arena.

**Where did you earn your degree(s)?** I graduated from Revere High School in Bath, Ohio. I went on to pursue my Bachelor of Liberal Arts Degree, with areas of concentration in library science, English and communication, history and French, from Bowling Green State University.

---

New: Kat Saunders

**What is your title and department?**
Assistant Editor, The Kent State University Press

**When did you begin your employment at Kent State?**
I started working at Kent State in May 2018.

**What is your home town?**
Wadsworth, Ohio

**Where did you earn your degree(s)?** Ohio University: BA and MA  
West Virginia University: MFA

**How does your position contribute to University Libraries’ mission to deliver unparalleled opportunities for success in learning, research and discovery to our users wherever they are in the world?**
The Kent State University Press publishes quality, accessible scholarship in a variety of areas, regionally focused titles and “trade” books with greater mass appeal. We publish around 30 books annually in diverse realms – sports history, poetry, true crime, literary studies and more. The works we publish aid teachers, students and those who simply wish to be more engaged with the world around them. Thus, the Press truly is an extension of the libraries’ core mission of facilitating intellectual curiosity and knowledge.

**Please share a personal goal that you would like to accomplish (does not have to be work-related).**
I am looking forward to celebrating the publication of an upcoming title from our spring catalog, *Speak a Powerful Magic: Ten Years of the Traveling Stanzas Poetry Project*, which is a collection of illustrated poetry celebrating the collaboration between Kent’s Wick Poetry Center and visual communication design students. This moving collection highlights a truly unique community arts initiative, and I was proud to be involved in bringing it out into the world.

Personally, I hope to continue writing and publishing my own creative work in nonfiction and fiction.
Cataloging = Discovery

Kent State University Libraries’ Special Collections and Archives Department has engaged in a number of projects to help make book collections in cataloging backlogs easier to discover. One such project involved the contributions of our colleagues in the Metadata and Cataloging unit, part of our Technical Services division.

Nan Garrison, a volunteer cataloging assistant working under the direction of Special Collections Cataloger Kathleen Siebert Medicus, helped search through a very old backlog (affectionately referred to as the “ancient arrearage”). After searching for matching records, Garrison placed a brief record for items in University Libraries’ local catalog and the WorldCat systems.

The power of engaging in this search project became apparent as Special Collections and Archives received a request from a writer for a national news publication. The writer took notice of a recently searched item and discovered that Kent State’s library was one of only two libraries in North America that held any issues of a rare 18th-century German periodical.

“The arrearage searching project has yielded some great finds and directly impacted public services in an immediate way,” says Head of Special Collections Cara Gilgenbach, who fielded the writer’s inquiry, noting that the importance of cataloging to public services is all about discovery. “I’m always amazed by how quickly people discover these materials so shortly after brief records are put into our systems and WorldCat.”

Make your own Special Collections and Archives discovery at www.library.kent.edu/specialcollections.

Spark Innovation Studio Moves to Front Campus

Formerly located in the Schwartz Center, the Spark Innovation Studio has relocated to 104 South Lincoln Street, between Starbucks and Campus Book & Supply. The Spark is one of the nodes of Kent State’s Design Innovation Ecosystem and provides access to a variety of prototyping equipment, including 3D printers, a laser cutter, and a direct-to-garment printer.

The move places Spark closer to the Kent community and adjacent to two creative powerhouses on campus—the Fashion School and the College of Architecture and Environmental Design. Since the move in January, the Spark has experienced a significant increase in new users. “We look forward to increased interdisciplinary collaboration and class projects,” said Library Makerspace Manager Hilary Kennedy. Spark is available to students, faculty and staff, as well as the community.

Visit the Spark Innovation Studio at its new location. For hours of operation, available equipment and other information, visit www.kent.edu/spark.

Hilary Kennedy, manager of library makerspaces (on right), consults with Spark student employee Ray Yang on designs for the laser cutter machine.
Performing Arts Library goes above and beyond with Studio 5B

The Performing Arts Library recently introduced Studio 5B, a musical makerspace providing access to new technology and personal creativity.

Joe Clark, head librarian of the Performing Arts Library, originated the concept for Studio 5B to fulfill a service need. “There wasn’t a place for students to work on audition materials or digital portfolios in our library,” he said.

Professor Clark wants the studio to be different from any other makerspace on campus. The focal point of the room is a 27-inch iMac connected to an M-Audio Oxygen 49 piano keyboard and Ableton Push. Students are encouraged to use the professional-grade Miktek DH80 open-back studio headphones. The room also has a white board for jotting down ideas and offers a distraction-free environment within the library, which is located in the Center for the Performing Arts’ lower level, room D-004.

The library’s versatile software is specifically designed for performing arts students. Kent State requires dance students to use Final Cut Pro, which is helpful when editing audition tapes.

Using audio editing and mixing programs, such as Sibelius, Ableton Live, Apple Logic Pro and ProTools, students can compose their own works in the studio, providing an affordable and accessible alternative to purchasing the software for their devices. “Having this unique software allows students to become skilled at using it, giving them a competitive edge that will benefit their professional careers,” said Professor Clark.

Studio 5B gives performing arts students the opportunity to go above and beyond the expected with programs that positively impact their academic experience and expand their creativity.

Professor Clark is hopeful that students will be as passionate about the Performing Arts Library’s new addition as he is. “Becoming proficient with the programs offered in Studio 5B will help students land jobs in their chosen fields.”

Speak a Powerful Magic

Ten Years of the Traveling Stanzas Poetry Project

Speak a Powerful Magic features poems by schoolchildren, immigrants and refugees, patients and caregivers, and veterans, alongside the work of well-known contemporary American poets—demonstrating that poetry is truly of the people.

“Bless the makers of this book. Bless the illustrators and poets whose voices and souls illuminate every page. This is a collection to be savored, not only for its beauty but for its deep humanity. We are reminded again and again of our common bonds. Bless the wonder that is poetry, embodied in the words of Mrs. Price’s high school students, ‘Poems live in the vibrations of the world, stretching out to everyone and everything.’”

—Ellen Bass, author of Like a Beggar

Save 25% through 4/30/2019 with promo code MAGIC at www.KentStateUniversityPress.com or call 800-247-6553
Calling all Makers!

APPLY TO BE AN EXHIBITOR BY FRIDAY, APRIL 5.

Kent State Mini Maker Faire®
kentstate.makerfaire.com

Friday, April 12, 2019
Noon – 4 p.m.
Kent State University Library, First Floor

Join us for a show and tell showcase of fascinating, inventive people who love sharing what they can do. From engineers to artists to scientists to crafters, the Kent State Mini Maker Faire is a venue for exhibitors to show off their hobbies, experiments and projects.

FOR THE LATEST UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES EVENT UPDATES, VISIT: WWW.LIBRARY.KENT.EDU