

#### LETTER FROM THE DEAN



This *Page Turner's* issue is mainly about the Libraries' people and the amazing lengths that they often try to go to help Kent State University's students, faculty and staff, and community to succeed.

You win with people. If I have said this once, I know that I must have said this a thousand times. People

are Kent State's greatest resource. More than being about great collections and great places to study, Kent State's Libraries is really about people -- the students, faculty and staff, and the northeast Ohio community that use the libraries.

And the Libraries' people -- faculty, staff, and student employees -- make this all happen. Admittedly, we often get help to make the Libraries more welcoming from great friends like Kathy Adamle and the Dogs on Campus Pet Therapy Program. And we are similarly enormously grateful for the support of our many generous donors, such as the late Al Flogge whom we will greatly miss. But it also takes a lot of elbow grease on the part of the Libraries' faculty, staff, and student employees. And as you will read in the feature describing our multi-phase professional development training program offered by the University's Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, we are always working very hard to improve – to make the already very friendly Libraries, in fact, into the friendliest library in the world. The Libraries' faculty, staff, and student employees – as a community -- is actively committed to trying to learn all it can in order to try to better serve its users.

With the start of Fall semester 2015 (and my 6th year as Dean of Libraries, my 15th year as a library administrator, and my 42nd year in higher education), I can honestly say that I have never been more proud of any organization with which I have been associated. The Kent State Libraries' people are doing amazing things to help the University's students, faculty and staff, and community to succeed. They are some of the hardest working and most dedicated professionals that I have had the pleasure to know.

To see for yourselves, please come to visit the Libraries soon.

Best wishes,

Jim Bracken, Dean of University Libraries

Jim Back \_\_

## **DOGGIE S.O.S.**

## LITTLE PAWS MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF STUDENTS

Finals week brings out high emotions in Kent State students, with anxiety and stress typically topping the list.

Fortunately, University Libraries is one step ahead, bringing in special "therapists" for a few hours every Monday and Tuesday of finals week to help students take a deep breath, relax and refocus.

And the therapists? With four legs, furry coats and serious doggie breath, they aren't your typical listeners. But these special pooches are able to turn stress to smiles within a matter of seconds and give a bit of relief to the students during their dog-tired days.

The friendly canines are all part of a unique program developed by Kent State professor emeritus Kathy Adamle, PhD. The program, called Dogs on Campus<sup>™</sup> Pet Therapy Program, Inc<sup>©</sup>, is a lifesaver to some and a welcome break for all.

Adamle, an owner of search and rescue dogs, started the Dogs On Campus program in 2005 because of a trend she noticed every time she walked her dogs on the Kent State campus.

"I was walking my golden retrievers on campus, and I couldn't walk 50 feet without someone stopping me to pet the dogs," explained Adamle. " About the fifteenth time, I thought, what is this phenomena I'm not seeing here? These students miss their pets from home and they really want to pet their dogs!"

Similar to pet therapy dogs that visit sick patients in hospitals, the Dogs On Campus canines visit students who may be physically healthy, but also may be experiencing stress or anxiety.

"The use of pet therapy originated as a way to bring pets to a high-anxiety group," said Adamle. "But I thought, 'why not bring pet therapy to a university setting where people are fairly healthy, but still have waxing and waning anxiety levels? Stress can have a yo-yo effect on students. Well kids need a break too."

The therapy dogs are more than happy to give students a break. Sporting yellow bandannas and lying in the library lobby with their handlers, the dogs give unconditional love and a momentary break from the stress of studies to everyone who wants to spend a few minutes with them.

"If a student isn't worried about their test for ten minutes, that's what matters," said Adamle. "Students feel like they aren't being judged by what they're wearing, what they say or what they get on their finals. It's non-judgmental, it's stress-free."

The dogs are so popular with students that Karen Hillman, Director of Marketing, Communications and Public Relations for University Libraries, has invited the Dogs on Campus Pet Therapy team to the main campus library lobby on Parents and Families Day on Saturday, September 12 from 10 a.m. to noon. All students and families are welcome to meet the dogs and make a few furry friends during that time.

"The library wants to show parents we are not only helping students with their research and studying needs, but we also help by making the library a comfortable, safe and enjoyable place to be," said Hillman. "It becomes a second home to many."







Adamle's Dogs on Campus Pet Therapy Program is a 501c3, not-for-profit entity comprised of 24 dogs and 22 handlers, all of whom volunteer their time. They visit Kent State regional campuses (Stark, Trumbull and Ashtabula), the Kent Student Center, University Libraries and residence halls.

"We will bring the dogs to whoever asks us to come, as long as it's on campus," said Adamle.

Because sometimes the best listening ears are covered with fur.

#### Support Dogs on Campus

Because the volunteers and dogs walk to their campus locations, they are apt to travel through the kind of wet, rainy and sometimes snowy weather northeast Ohio is known for. Adamle is currently accepting donations to the Dogs On Campus program so she can purchase gear for the volunteers. She estimates each outerwear will cost between \$75 to \$100. To donate to the program, contact her at kadamle@kent.edu or make a donation to the Dogs On Campus Pet Therapy Program at Hometown National Bank in Kent, Ohio. All donations are tax deductible.

#### **KENNETH BURHANNA**

In his own words, Ken Burhanna is pretty amped up about going to work these days. And for good reason.

Burhanna, an Associate Professor and Assistant Dean for Engagement and Outreach for University Libraries, was recently appointed to join the Office of the Provost to serve as the 2015-2016 Provost's Fellow, a distinguished honor bestowed upon one faculty member per year.

Burhanna was selected out of a group of applicants to work alongside Todd A. Diacon, Ph.D., Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost for Kent State University's ten colleges and schools and eight campuses in northeast Ohio.

As the Provost's Fellow, Burhanna is tasked with working with senior administrators on a range of new and ongoing initiatives and will also address issues and concerns confronting the University as they arise.

"I applied for the Provost's fellowship because I'm excited about the role Kent State is playing in our families and future," he explained. "I also believe working for the provost for a year will also help me develop the big picture of how a university operates."

Since 2009, both tenure-track and full-time non-tenure track faculty members from the Kent and regional campuses have served as the Provost's Fellow. The fellowship was created to provide faculty members who are interested in academic administration a view of what that looks like through the lens of a provost. For Burhanna, this is a perfect fit.

"I would like to be a Dean of Libraries somewhere in the world someday," he said. "I believe deeply in the supporting role our libraries play on our campuses and communities. I'm always looking for opportunities for the library to align with other areas of Kent State. We have a capacity



to help you succeed - that's what University Libraries is all about."

As a member of the provost's administrative team, Burhanna is looking forward to participating in cabinet, leadership and academic affairs meetings with the provost, as well as accreditation visits and being assigned special projects. It is an undertaking he does not view lightly.

"I am honored to be given this opportunity," said Burhanna. "At the same time, I do feel a weight, a responsibility. This is an important role I'll be playing. I'm eager to get my hands on this work and begin working with people. I think it will be pretty exciting."

## **CARA GILGENBACH**

#### University Libraries faculty member to serve on Kent State Alumni Association National Board of Directors

University Libraries faculty member and Kent State alumna Cara Gilgenbach has been appointed to the Kent State University Alumni Association National Board of Directors, effective July 1. She will serve a three-year term on the board as faculty representative.

An Associate Professor and Head of Special Collections and Archives at University Libraries, Gilgenbach oversees all departmental functions including collection development, donor relations, research and reference services, instructional services, collection processing, and programming. The Kent State Alumni Association is a 21-member leadership board that supports and advocates for Kent State University, particularly in its connection to its alumni. Board members help to strengthen the relationship between alumni and Kent State University.

"It is an honor to be appointed to the Alumni Association Board," said Gilgenbach.
"I'm looking forward to advancing the mission and

advancing the mission and objectives of the Alumni Association and contributing to the work of the Board in any way I can."





## PERFORMING ARTS LIBRARY A HIDDEN GEM ON KENT STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

#### MAKING THE LIBRARY KNOWN TO STUDENTS ACROSS CAMPUS

One of Kent State University's biggest assets is a little gem on the north side of campus.

The Performing Arts Library, or PAL, is one of four specialized branch libraries on the university's campus. Housed in the Kent Center for the Performing Arts, the library is home to a robust collection of musical scores, books, videos, research journals, theatre play scripts and electronic resources.

Students and faculty are invited take advantage of the library's resources, which include a computer lab, multiple scanners and printers, individual and group study spaces, a wireless charging station and two state-of-the-art group rooms.

Because the library is able to assist visitors in a variety of ways, Performing Arts Librarian and Assistant Professor Amanda Evans said the PAL is open to all students and faculty, not just those in performing arts.

"We have information to offer everyone," said Evans. "We offer our resources in a quiet and cozy environment, since we are smaller than the main library. Students on the this side of campus can come here to study, or they can have materials from another library requested and delivered to this branch. They can charge their mobile devices here, or use our space when they are in between classes."

Referring to the library as a 'hidden gem' on campus, Evans said she is looking forward to spreading the word about the library to freshmen students during the first few weeks of the semester.

"We have to be active in reaching out to the new students that arrive every year," Evans explained. "In this building there are four courses that are part of the undergraduate curriculum, so we get a lot of students who don't major in music or dance, but are in this building and near our library. We want them to know we are here and they can use our resources. We hope to be known by all students by mid-semester."

The Performing Arts Library utilizes other activities to engage students and faculty during the year, including Open Mic Lunches, Director Speaks, Jazz Café, Colloquium Series, Student Appreciation Day and more. Events sponsored by the library are open to everyone. For more information about any of these events or the library, contact Joe Clark, Head of the Performing Arts Library and



Associate Professor, at jclark88@kent.edu or Amanda Evans, Performing Arts Librarian and Assistant Professor at aevans8@kent.edu.



## ALBERT "AL" FLOGGE

University Libraries honors the memory of its longtime friend, Mr. Albert J. Flogge. Al, a 1956 graduate of Kent State, donated his collection of more than 2,000 photographs, many signed and inscribed, mementos and keepsakes from many world famous celebrities to Kent State University. The "Albert J. Flogge Performing Arts Collection" also includes reference books, biographies, and reviews.

Al Flogge passed away on May 19, 2015. He remained engaged with his collecting activities up until the end of his life and made many significant donations to the collection in 2014 and 2015.

For more information, please visit: http://www.library.kent.edu/special-collections-and-archives/albert-j-flogge-performing-arts-collection.



#### UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES: THE FRIENDLIEST LIBRARY IN THE WORLD

Jim Bracken, Dean of University Libraries, has a goal. He wants Kent State University's library to be known as the "most friendly library" in the world. Lofty? Yes.

Achievable? Absolutely. Particularly because of the commitment the Dean's office and University Libraries faculty and staff have made to making that goal a reality in the years to come.

The commitment started in February 2015 when administration, faculty and staff members of University Libraries began a multi-phase professional development training offered by Kent State's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion's Education and Training lab.

Phase I of the training, of which 98% of University Libraries staff participated in, consisted of three separate workshops focusing on a kindness-based leadership mindset, understanding cultural differences and recognizing unconscious bias toward select groups of people.

By improving upon, and eventually excelling in each of those three areas, University Libraries staff is empowered to provide the best service and highest level of understanding to better meet the needs and expectations of Kent State's ever-changing student and community populations.

"The world is changing," explained Bracken. "As a library, we need to meet that change. When we understand how to best interact with library visitors and each other, the administration, faculty and staff are able to create a positive and welcoming environment to visitors of every age, culture and gender."

Since completing Phase I of the training, Bracken and his staff are looking at diversifying the library workforce in the coming years, as well as finding ways to accommodate students who need library assistance during non-traditional hours.

"We have some students who don't want to come into the library during business hours," said Bracken. "They want to come in after 5 p.m., when our librarians are gone for the day. We need to meet people where they are at, even though it might make us uncomfortable."

Assistant University Libraries Dean Mark Pike agrees. Pike has been instrumental in arranging the training for the library staff during Phase I and has also been an active participant in the training.

"One of the goals of these workshops is to foster and develop personal growth as far as understanding diversity and creating a warm and welcoming environment," said Pike. "We want to meet the needs of our patrons, regardless of their ethnic and cultural backgrounds in the best way possible."

The groundwork to becoming the friendliest library in the world is still far from being over. Although Phase I of the training concluded in August, the entire process will take about 2-3 years, according to Dean Bracken.

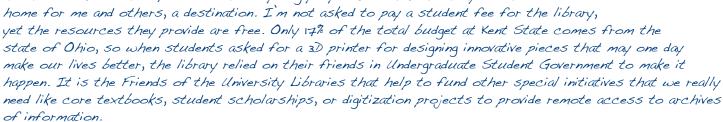
"It's worth it, every minute," he said. "University Libraries is investing in our people and we are doing what we can to make them better equipped to serve our students today and tomorrow."



#### **MY NAME IS DANIELLE**

I'm a senior undergraduate student at Kent State and the 2015-2016 president of SFL (Student Friends of the Libraries.) I helped start SFL to advocate for the library to all students. When they ask, "Why do we need a library?" I tell them, "An internet browser can help find hundreds of sources of information, but it doesn't verify the accuracy of that information. Nor, does it provide computers, 3D printers, tutors, live research assistance, quiet study or group study spaces. More importantly, the internet can't empathize or explain things to me in a way that I understand."

I write to you because you have previously contributed to the University Libraries and I want you to know how much it means to me. Our libraries are alive with innovation, intellect and inspiring people. It's a home-away-from-



You, too, may check out books, call a librarian for assistance, or sit at a library computer to use databases such as Ancestry.com. If you haven't been to one of the libraries on the Kent Campus in a long time, then please visit soon. Yes, it has changed, but many tell me that it is better than ever! Yet, the mission remains the same: serve, provide resources, and access to information to every library user.

Thank you for your past support. I hope that you will continue to help us by supporting the library. Be an advocate and become a proud member of the Friends of the University Libraries.

Sincerely,

Danielle Poloskey President, SFL 2014-2016



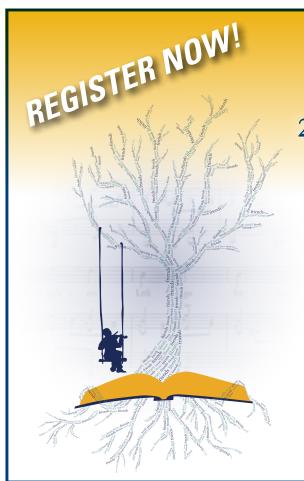
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#### 2015 LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

Kent State students enrolled in Jazz Studies, Piano Studies, Musical Theatre, and Theatre & Dance, will perform while you enjoy a very special selection of hors d'oeuvres, a delicious served dinner of beef, chicken or vegan, and an endless display of desserts. Cash bar.

Thursday, October 1 6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

KENT STATE STUDENT CENTER BALLROOM STUDENT CENTER 2ND FLOOR KENT, OHIO 44242

Seating is limited. Reservations and Donations: www.library.kent.edu/2015-legacy-scholarship-dinner, or by calling 330-672-1886.

