“7 Wonders of the Library” Welcome Week 2012

The Library welcomed incoming freshmen, returning students, faculty and staff to the campus with Open House activities during Welcome Week 2012 (September 24 – 28) and a warm-up celebration during BroncoFusion on September 19th.

The weeklong celebration began with the Cal Poly Broncettes performing a dance routine in front of the Library and Passports being handed out to eager contest participants.

In addition to the Passport drawing, students, faculty and staff participated in a variety of events held in the Library including:

- “Make Your Own Salad Dressing” food demonstration by student chefs Katy Johnson and Spencer Horowitz from the Collins College of Hospitality Management.
- “Iberian and Indigenous Contributions to Latin American Culture,” a lecture by Dr. Isabel Bustamante-Lopez of the Department of English and Foreign Languages.
- Student and alumni actors from the Theatre Arts Department performed a preview of Shakespeare’s The Tempest.
- The Library Used Book shop sold over two hundred items at a one day sale outside in the front patio area of the Library next to Starbucks.
- Mascot Billy Bronco was on RESERVE duty demonstrating how to access Reserve materials at the Circulation Desk.
- A raffle contest for students completing the EZ Research Tutorial as they embarked on their journey to research.

Various prizes were awarded throughout the week including six backpacks to lucky BroncoFusion Walkway raffle winners.
Dear Friends, I hope you enjoy this latest issue of our newsletter Check it Out. It provides a glimpse of the many noteworthy and exciting happenings at Cal Poly Pomona’s Library. Five events covering the Presidential Election were the highlight so far this academic year hosting over 250 attendees. In addition to an ‘election night watch,’ we had faculty moderated discussion parties for each of the presidential and vice presidential debates.

A year ago on November 9th we had the ribbon cutting/dedication ceremony and reception to celebrate the completion of the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Library. In February 2012 the WKKAHL opened to the public and has become a vital part of the Cal Poly Pomona community. Nearly 7000 people have walked through our doors since then. Some are just curious and want to look around; others are serious researchers. The WKKAHL also has an active web presence and has garnered 174 “Likes” on Facebook.

Sometime in December we plan to “break ground” on the Don Huntley Art Gallery. The gallery will be located on the 4th floor, next to Special Collections, and will house a rotating exhibit of works from Mr. Huntley’s art collection. Our Spring issue will cover Mr. Huntley, the gallery and its collection in detail.

As this is the Thanksgiving season, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our Friends for their continuing support, as well as thank our dedicated staff for their hard work which enables the Library to maintain a high level of service. We are also thankful that the citizens of California passed Proposition 30. Without it, our campus would now be coping with a $12 million budget cut, and the Library would have had a significant cut to collections and services as a result. Happy Holidays to you all.

Ray Wang
Dean, University Library
Library to Fete Campus 75th Anniversary Events

The University Library is making plans to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of Cal Poly Pomona with festivities beginning in the Fall 2013. Historical photographs and videos from the early days of the Kellogg Ranch and family will be featured on the Library’s lobby screen. Campus images will consist of memorabilia from the Rose Float Collection, including artifacts and animated footage from the University Archives. Professor ‘Jolly’ Batcheller (1946-78), founding faculty member of the Ornamental Horticulture program, oversaw the first Rose Float project – a joint endeavor with our sister campus Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

The Library will also launch an art exhibit in the Kellogg Gallery which will showcase treasures from Special Collections, including paintings from the Robert Lawrence Balzer Collection. Recognized for having had an enormous impact on the California wine industry, Balzer is given credit for the worldwide acceptance of California wines. Along with the Collins College of Hospitality Management, the Library will host an invitation wine and cheese reception to be held in conjunction with the exhibit. Special guests will include former presidents and alumni of Cal Poly Pomona. Many other exciting events are being planned. Watch our website for more information about the upcoming 75th Anniversary celebrations – www.csupomona.edu/library.

Library Wins La Bounty Grant

The Library submitted the winning proposal for the 2012-2013 Hugh O. La Bounty Endowed Chair of Interdisciplinary Applied Knowledge. Established in 1996, the Hugh La Bounty Grant honors Cal Poly Pomona’s third President for his 38 years of service. The $1 million endowed chair provides for visiting scholars to lecture on the arts and sciences, business, industry and the government, exposing students, faculty, staff and visitors to the University with a variety of viewpoints and experiences.

Speakers scheduled for the 2012-2013 series include: Frank Flores, Vice President of Northrop Grumman; Salman “Sal” Khan, founder of the Khan Academy; Clay Johnson, who managed President Barack Obama’s online campaign in 2008; and Tiffany Shlain, documentary filmmaker and founder of the Webby Awards. For more information please contact Julie Shen: (909) 869-4330, jshen@csupomona.edu.
Balzer Collection Brings Antiquity & Travel to the Library

This article is the first in a series highlighting various ‘special collections’ housed in the Library’s Special Collections and Archives department located on the 4th floor of the Library. Danette Cook Adamson has served as our Special Collections Librarian since 1980 and has chosen to highlight the Robert Lawrence Balzer Collection in this issue.

Beginning in 2008 the Cal Poly Pomona Library was honored to begin receiving the personal collections of renowned wine journalist and wine educator, Robert Lawrence Balzer. He began championing quality California wines in the 1930s, decades before the rest of the world realized their stature.

Balzer is recognized for having had an enormous impact on the California wine industry and on the acceptance of California wines worldwide. In 1973 he organized a blind tasting with the New York Food and Wine Society, where California Chardonnays received the top four scores. That contributed momentum toward the famous 1976 "Judgment of Paris" blind tasting where again California wines received top scores over French wines (portrayed in the 2008 film Bottle Shock).

Balzer’s generosity did not end with California wine memorabilia, but extends to photographs, portraits, and other unique artifacts dating from the 11th century BC to the modern day. Items in the collection include assorted 19th century European wine tasters, Austrian crystal wine goblets, Irish crystal dessert wine glasses, an oil portrait painted by Balzer of his friend Harrison Burton Lethbridge, a bust of Balzer by Italian sculptor Achille Guzzardella and a terracotta horse sculpture (right).

Beautiful and iridescent, the ultra-lightweight glass on the right is estimated to be from the 11th – 9th centuries BC) was used as a cup for heating and drinking. The sides are decorated with the mythical Taotie monster, offering protection to its own clan and terror to others. Two protuberances on the top were probably used when lifting it out of the heat.

The wine vessel on the left (a replica of a style used during the 11th – 9th centuries BC) was used as a cup for heating and drinking. The sides are decorated with the mythical Taotie monster, offering protection to its own clan and terror to others. Two protuberances on the top were probably used when lifting it out of the heat.

Chinese bronze Jue (of style used during the 11th – 9th century BC).

Terracotta Tang Dynasty Horse (618-907 AD) inspired by a Wei Dynasty (386-535 AD) tomb horse.

Roman glass—1st Century AD
Balzer Collection Brings Antiquity & Travel to the Library

On the left, 18th-century Irish crystal wine goblets show the beauty and evolution of glass for consuming wine. The large one uses the “cotton twist” stem design; the smaller one, used for dessert wines, has the “air twist” stem pattern. Irish Waterford crystal has been world renowned and valued for its high quality and beauty since its beginnings in 1783.

This highly ornamented combination silver rice bowl and wine cup (stacked one on top of the other) was a gift presented to Mr. Balzer by the King of Cambodia, Norodom Sihanouk.

Below you see the Austrian crystal wine goblets from the 20th Century whose bowls display rich ornamentation with thick gold designs, standing on sturdy bases of green glass.

The collection also contains six green and gold and six amber and gold wine goblets with gold grape leaves and grape cluster designs on bases and bowls, with beveled stems. Balzer purchased these in Vienna in 1951.

Robert Lawrence Balzer also has a spiritual side. Since the early 1950s, he has studied and taught Buddhism – at one time at a temple in Cambodia where he was ordained as a teaching monk.

Indeed, teaching may be his greatest passion. Over the years, winemakers have made regular pilgrimages to speak to Balzer’s classes, which developed an almost cult-like following among his students.

A sculpture of an eagle clutching clusters of grapes (below) was a trophy presented to Robert Lawrence Balzer by the Sebastiani family for his role in the advancement of California wines. “We are indebted to you for raising the level of wine knowledge in America and inspiring California winemakers to produce the world’s finest wines. With our appreciation – November 3, 1984” reads the inscription.

The acquisition of the Robert Lawrence Balzer Collection builds on an already significant Wine Industry Collection at Cal Poly Pomona Library and further strengthens the library as a research venue for the wine industry.

For a detailed description and images of the various artifacts in the complete collection go to www.csupomona.edu/~library/specialcollections/balzer

“The California wine industry owes Robert Lawrence Balzer more than you can imagine. Without his writings California wines would not be where they are today. His work legitimized our industry to the world.”

—Ernest Gallo
In June, the Library celebrated the retirements of two long-time librarians – Gina Roth and Ann Morgan.

Gina Roth actually retired in October 2006 and since then has been working half time in the Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP). Gina’s career spanned a very interesting period in our profession – the move from paper- and card-based systems to the web-based access we enjoy today. Gina came to the Cal Poly Pomona Library in 1977. She was a Catalog Librarian for a number of years and in that role was responsible for the Library’s first shared computer system (OCLC). In 1994 Gina became the Library’s first Systems Librarian. In that position she was responsible for all Library automation, networking, and Internet access, including implementation of our first online catalog. Since her retirement Gina has maintained a hectic and adventurous travel schedule that has included Peru, Botswana, Bali, Thailand, and a river raft trip through the Grand Canyon. Gina’s friends can find her on Facebook.

Ann Morgan’s library career also extends back to the late 1970s. She worked for a number of years as a special librarian in several engineering companies including the former General Dynamics plant in Pomona. In 1990 she joined Cal Poly Pomona’s Reference and Instruction department as Engineering Librarian. In 2005, she took on the additional responsibility of Collection Management Coordinator.

At Cal Poly Pomona’s recent Service Awards ceremony our own Nancy Anna Daugherty was recognized for forty years of service to the University. Nancy was first employed in the Library in 1969 as a student assistant in the Catalog Department. Her forty years of service dates to November 1971 when she took a full time position. Nancy is also a Cal Poly Pomona graduate, earning a B.S. in English Literature in 1971. She also earned a Master’s degree in Library Science from the University of Southern California in 1976.

During her four decades at the Library, Nancy has worked under four Directors and Deans and one Interim Dean. She has worked in nearly every department of the Library including Acquisitions, Serials, Cataloging, and Reference and Instruction where she spent the bulk of her career. Nancy is still enthusiastic about her work and loves teaching basic library instruction classes as well as providing reference assistance at the Research Help Desk. Her commitment to our students and faculty, the Library, and the University is as strong as ever. Congratulations to Nancy on this milestone achievement!
Meet the New Digital Initiatives Librarian

In August, Suzanna Conrad joined the Cal Poly Pomona Library faculty after a nationwide search to fill our newly created position of Digital Initiatives Librarian. Suzanna received her MLIS from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, in 2011, and also possesses an MBA in International Management from University of East London and a BA in History from Cornell University. Prior to receiving her MLIS, Suzanna had a diverse career in content management, systems design and implementation, and new media business development.

Most recently, Suzanna participated in the design and implementation of an online tutorial for Purdue University Libraries Data Curation Profiles (DCP) Toolkit. Other recent systems and website projects included the implementation of a city documents database for the City of Sierra Madre, multiple local history digitization projects with Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library, and a taxonomy and search function overhaul for Guitar Center affiliated websites. Prior to shifting to a library career, Suzanna worked in product management and business development for telecommunications and new media companies in the U.S. and abroad including RTL interactive, GlobalStep, and Mobile-XL among others. Suzanna is the current chair of the Information Technology Interest Group for the California Library Association.

What are digital initiatives? Digital initiatives, especially within the context of the University Library, can refer to any number of tasks, which may strike you as incredibly abstract. As the Digital Initiatives Librarian, Suzanna works on planning, implementing, and supporting digital collections and services for the University Library. Because any digital collection requires a system, a big part of digital initiatives is the determination of the systems and web representations for these collections as well as the assessment of a system’s usability, sustainability, and any challenges for implementation or maintenance. Suzanna is also managing the Library’s Systems Department which is responsible for the Library website as well as our computers, networks, and related technology.

We welcome Suzanna and look forward to her contributions for Cal Poly’s new digital Library experience.

Election-Themed Events Draw Big Crowds

The University Library serves many purposes in the campus community – a collection of materials supporting instruction and research, a computer lab for research and the creation of knowledge, and a comfortable place to study. The University Library is also a cultural center offering a range of events and programs linked to our academic departments.

Some of our most successful programs to date were the October and November programs focused on the recent Presidential election. A viewing party was held for each of the Presidential and Vice Presidential debates and an “Election Watch” party was held the evening of November 6th. These events attracted over 250 students with 90 students attending the election night program.

The viewing events were coupled with discussions moderated by Cal Poly Pomona professors Dr. David Speak and Dr. Mario Guerrero from the Political Science department and Dr. Jeffrey Mio from the Psychology department. Students were able to share their views as well as listen to the opinions and concerns of others in an excellent display of discourse in action with the Library as the backdrop.

The Library invites Friends and the campus community to participate in future programs by being a presenter or a member of the audience. Check the “Library Calendar” and “Spotlight” on the Library homepage. Library events are also announced in Poly Updates. For more information, contact Emma Gibson at ecgibson@csupomona.edu or 909-869-4351.
eLearning Student Assistants Keep Faculty Online

The eLearning staff joined the Library last year and with them came a talented group of student assistants. eLearning’s student assistants play a crucial role in supporting instruction at Cal Poly Pomona.

Four students are employed as Instructional Technology Assistants (ITAs) in Studio 6, the high-tech hub established to support hybrid and online instruction. These students provide in person, phone, and email support to faculty who are developing and teaching the hybrid and online courses. They also work on projects with eLearning’s Instructional Designers.

Student and Jr. Multimedia Designer, Hanh (Kim) Vo, works with eLearning’s Erick Zelaya on multimedia projects. Kim maintains the eLearning website and provides graphic design support for other eLearning projects. She also works on course content projects for faculty such as interactive simulations, animations, and web pages.

This quarter eLearning is offering a pilot project – the Proctoring Center for Online and Hybrid Courses. This facility offers a secure, quiet, and monitored testing environment as a substitute for in-class and online exams. Graduate students Elizabeth (Ashley) West and Fatemah Mousavi Fard oversee the Center. They are responsible for verifying the identity of students taking the exams, ensuring that professors’ instructions are followed, and ensuring the integrity of the testing process. Prior to the establishment of the Proctoring Center, a professor teaching a hybrid or online course would have to reserve a classroom for an entire quarter in order to administer in-class exams. We salute these hard working students for their expert and fun approach to blending technology and instruction.