August 2018

Oxy students, staff and faculty,

For over 12 years, I have had the privilege of working here at Oxy – first within the library, as the instructional services librarian, next as the inaugural director of the Center for Digital Liberal Arts, then as the AVP for Scholarship Technology. This past March, after four years in the office of the president, I was given the opportunity to step back into the Academic Commons as the Interim Assistant Dean of the LIBRARY/CDLA, under the leadership of Dean Sternberg. What a pleasure!

My colleagues across the Academic Commons are undeniably creative, intellectually engaging, and totally dedicated to the educational mission of the college. Being surrounded by our students, in spaces that are continually changing, is energizing and exciting. As the 2011 essay, Conceptualizing the Academic Commons* framed it, “One of the most paradoxical discoveries to come in the wake of the digital revolution is the realization of how deeply grounded, how contingent, our private intellectual endeavors are upon our communal, and even physical, co-presence with one another. To gather with, engage and encounter others; to see and be seen; to understand ourselves as living and thinking in relation to one another, both imaginatively and corporeally; this alone truly animates what we do and who we are.”

This summer the Academic Commons went through some additional transformations – exterior painting, conversion of Room 363 to a reading room, new furnishings on the main floor and more – come see!

Here in the LIBRARY/CDLA, we have completed a program review, and this fall, we will launch a search for a permanent LIBRARY/CDLA leader. As we begin the 2018-19 academic year, I hope you will find in this brief annual report from us, renewed insight into what we do and who we are.

All the best always,

Marsha Schnirring, MLIS
Interim Assistant Dean of the LIBRARY/CDLA & Secretary of the College

* This essay was authored by Professors Damian Stocking and Kristi Upson-Saia, collaboratively edited by Academic Commons Task Force Members, and presented to the campus community 03.25.2011.
**THE MISSION OF THE LIBRARY/CDLA**

The Library supports the mission of the College by providing members of the Occidental community with the physical, electronic and human resources they need to engage in scholarly activities and intellectual growth.

The CDLA advances the mission of the College by equipping Occidental students, faculty and staff with the critical literacies and technical skills they need to realize and sustain the enduring value of a liberal arts education in a rapidly changing world.

**Circulation Services** ensures that the Academic Commons building is open and staffed 24/5 plus weekend days and provides patrons access to the Library collections, reserve items and special equipment.

**Collections Services** acquires, catalogs and provides access to all library resources both print and electronic, manages resource sharing, and carries out collections development plans.

**Special Collections & College Archives** collects, curates and preserves rare and unique materials, conducts instructional sessions, performs cataloging and description, and supports and promotes primary source research.

**The Center for Digital Liberal Arts (CDLA)** designs library and research instruction workshops and research consultations, manages Moodle and the Global Crossroads, oversees the Critical Making Studio (CMS) and Peer Learning Program and provides faculty development in course design and digital scholarship toward College goals of information literacy across multiple modes of information.

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**LIBRARY STAFF**

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**Assistant College Archivist/ Metadata Specialist**  
**User Experience Specialist**  
**Evening/Weekend Supervisor**  
**Resource Sharing Specialist**  
**Resource Acquisition Specialist**  
**Special Collections Librarian/ College Archivist**  
**Digitization Specialist**  
**Special Collections Instruction + Research Librarian**  
**Head of Collections Services**  
**Evening/Weekend Supervisor**  
**Interim Assistant Dean of the Library/CDLA**  
**Senior Evening/Weekend Supervisor**  
**Catalog Data Specialist**  
**Third Shift Supervisor**  
**Serials Data & Materials**

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**CDLA STAFF**

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**Associate Director, Design + Development, CDLA**  
**Academic Technology Specialist**  
**Associate Director, Instruction + Research, CDLA**  
**Language Education Specialist**  
**Arts & Humanities Specialist**

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*Thanks to IR Ops - Gabriela Ortega and Terry Perez - for your support!*
2017/2018 Academic Year Highlights

**BOOKS IN OUR COLLECTION**
- Print: 200,000
- Electronic: 120,000

**JOURNALS IN OUR COLLECTION**
- Print: 3,400
- Electronic: 70,000

We belong to various resource-sharing networks that give us access to:
- 72,000 libraries
- 170 countries

**CDLA peer mentors** for library research, subjects and languages, digital publication and critical making programs.

**MOODLE**
- Digital production equipment checkouts from the CDLA's Critical Making Studio
- Supported by the CDLA, is the most-visited online resource at Occidental.

**EVENTS HELD:**
- ILiADS
- Books as Specimen
- Digital Editions Day
- Talking Books
- Collection-based research workshops
- Comps Jumpstarter

**1,920** students reached through CDLA library instruction workshops and research consultations.

**1,033** students reached through Special Collections and College Archives workshops and consultations.