TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES A YEAR OF RENEWAL | 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

A NNUAL REPORT



"Much more than a set of buildings, the Libraries are leaders in academic success, collaborators in research, stewards of history and culture, and advocates for experiential learning."

Dr. Alan Sams

A MESSAGE FROM THE PROVOST

Great universities have great libraries. Texas A&M University Libraries are among the best in the nation and are central to the university's mission to provide high-quality undergraduate and graduate education, and to discover, develop, communicate and apply knowledge to a wide range of academic and professional disciplines. Much more than a set of buildings, the Libraries are leaders in academic success, collaborators in research, stewards of history and culture, and advocates for experiential learning. By supporting students and faculty success through a portfolio of collections, facilities and services, the Libraries empower and elevate our university.

Texas A&M has earned a reputation of excellence through its expert faculty, rigorous and innovative academic programming, impactful research efforts and the high demand for our exceptional graduates as evidenced by several recent accolades.

- The 2024 "Wall Street Journal Best Colleges in the U.S." ranked Texas A&M No. 1 among Texas universities, No. 6 among public universities and No. 38 overall among nearly 800 colleges in Texas.
- U.S. News and World Report ranked Texas A&M No. 20 in its 2024 Best College Rankings and several of our degree programs are nationally ranked.
- Research conducted at Texas A&M generated more than \$1.153 billion annual expenditures in fiscal year 2022.
- Texas A&M ranked 16th in the most recent National Science Foundation's Higher Education Research and Development Survey with more than \$1.148 billion annual expenditures in fiscal year 2021.

With the study and research needs of students, faculty and staff as the core driver, the Libraries offer quiet areas for individual study, innovative collaboration spaces, state-of-the-art video and audio studios and access to a variety of equipment and technology. Services such as Get It For Me, course reserves, library instruction, research assistance, printing and more support Texas A&M's transformational education and translational research efforts.

As an integral partner in helping to make attending college more affordable, the Libraries are aiming to reduce the cost of higher education materials with the launch of OpenEd, a new program that combines the expertise of librarians, faculty and other academic support units. The Office of the Provost is supporting the development of the program by allocating funds to hire expert librarians and technical staff to focus on identifying low to no-cost Open Educational Resource (OERs) course materials, supporting faculty through the process of adopting, adapting and creating OERs while increasing their awareness of funding opportunities and establishing methods to assess impact on student success.

A recent review of the Barnes and Noble textbooks adoption portal determined the Libraries has licensed 144 items on the textbook list. An additional 336 class resources were subsequently ordered or licensed. Instructors were emailed a permanent link to the resource in the library catalog so it could be placed in an instructor's Canvas course shell. Through the use of library-licensed materials, it was estimated that 16,045 students saved nearly \$1 million in the fall 2023 semester alone. As the program grows, the Libraries expect those savings to students to expand dramatically.

I encourage you to learn more about the Libraries' collections, facilities and services as you read through this annual report. The Libraries are one of the many

aspects of our university community that make Texas A&M one of the world's premier universities.

Dr. Alan Sams Provost Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Chief Academic Officer Texas A&M University

A MESSAGE FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

Texas A&M University Libraries are redefining operational excellence! We are stronger and more determined than ever to provide the best services to our students, faculty and staff — whom we are honored to serve.

The past year has marked a renewed focus on our students' needs, which has been strengthened by the recent \$3.3 million reinvested in our library system. We are thankful to the university for this support and the confidence shown in our ability to lead several important new initiatives.

With backing from the Office of the Provost, the Libraries are addressing the rising costs of higher education by launching OpenEd, a program focused on course material affordability. Through OpenEd, faculty can work with our experts to find free or low-cost course materials. Our fall 2023 efforts have focused on providing library-licensed materials that saved over 16,000 students nearly \$1 million!

Also related to course material savings is the enhancement of our technology lending program, rebranded as the Tech Bar. We have increased the availability of technology and equipment for a semester-long checkout and worked with instructors to buy course-related equipment for

> students. Enhanced equipment options have been so popular that all laptops were checked out by the third day of class!

> > A renewed energy exists in the Libraries, as we expand access to our special collections and archives, establish relationships with campus research units, and provide tailored instruction and learning opportunities.

> > > New financial resources from the university will help students develop informational literacy and research skills through

an enhanced instructional services program. Additional growth will include data management and research support.

During "25 Years of Collecting" — our landmark exhibition at the Cushing Memorial Library & Archives — the depth, breadth and vitality of our special collections are highlighted. The exhibit, on display through March 8, 2024, commemorates Cushing's 1998 rededication as the university's home of Special Collections and University Archives. Cushing's exhibitions have drawn a great deal of attention and interest, showcasing the importance of our collections.

Over the past year, we deepened our relationships with campus academic partners — including the Academic Success Center, the Math Learning Center and the Department of Disability Resources — to share how our services and co-locations can further benefit students. As library uses and service needs change, it is vital that our spaces evolve. We are pursuing a vision where students know to come to any physical or digital library location for help.

In December, we excitedly welcomed University Press back to the Libraries. Realigning the university's book publishing arm under the Libraries' umbrella presents many exciting opportunities.

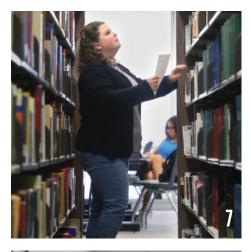
As I look into our next year of planning, I am excited about the possibilities. With the reinvestment funds from the university, the Libraries have increased wages and will hire new staff so we can expand our services even further.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us — students, faculty, staff, administrators, donors and peers. We have especially felt the love and admiration the last couple of years. The Libraries are stronger than ever due to the dedication and talent of our librarians and library professionals.

2023 was a year of transition. 2024 will be a year of transformation.

All the best,

Julie Mosbo Ballestro University Librarian Assistant Provost of University Libraries Texas A&M University











C O N T E N T S

Why I Library4
Rev It Up at the Library6
Helping Students and Faculty
A Legacy of Aggie Knowledge
Longtime Texas A&M University 10 Professor's Artwork Inspires Aggie Students, Especially His Granddaughter
WWII Maps Preserved by 16 Texas A&M University Libraries
25 Years of Collecting:
Something to Yell About
Libraries Provide an Oasis
A Great Place to Study20
Library System Leads Course 22 Affordability Effort
Libraries' Donors Create 24 Opportunities for Aggie Students
The Libraries = Success26
Loud Fans
2023 Honors and Recognitions
Celebrating the 2023 Solar Eclipse 32 in Style

CREDITS

Produced by Texas A&M University Libraries' marketing and communications team.

Editors: Matthew Kennedy, Diane L. Oswald

Writers: Ivy Mestrovic, Richard Nira

Photographer: Richard Nira

Designer: Brenda McShan

WANT MORE?

View the online version of the 2023 Annual Report with full articles: tx.ag/LibrariesAR23

Follow us at @tamulibraries on: O X in



MHA I



DAVID WANG '26 Engineering



APARNA SATHYA '27 Biology

"I USUALLY COME HERE TO DO WORK."

"I live in a dorm, and I have roommates. Sometimes, I just don't like working there, so I come here to work and relax. It's a space that compels me to get stuff done. I study engineering. Most times, I come to study by myself. Evans is my main go-to spot. Long-term, I look forward to getting a good job. Short-term, it's having fun with my friends, meeting new people and hanging out."

"EACH FLOOR HAS **ITS OWN UNIQUENESS."**

"If you want a more spacious, 'get quiet' environment, there are floors for that. If you want study groups, or a little bit of talking, there are floors for that. I just like the diversity in the Libraries' spaces."



ANNMARIE GRAHAM '26 Public health

"PERSONALLY, I'M A HUGE FAN OF THE INDIVIDUAL STUDY ROOMS."

"I love booking a study room and having my own space. The Medical Sciences Library is my favorite library. It is low-key compared to the other libraries ... my long-term goal is to go to medical school, so right now is all about putting in those hours and making myself into a well-rounded applicant."



BRAYDEN JAECKLE '25

"I LIKE EVERYTHING ABOUT THE **BUSINESS LIBRARY** AND COLLABORATION COMMONS."

"It is fun to be able to work in groups here. I like the quiet area. It doesn't have any downsides. The study rooms are great."



REV IT UP at the Library!

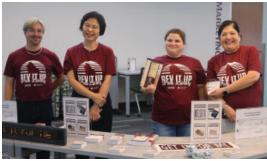


he 2023-24 school year kicked off with Rev It Up, Texas A&M University Libraries' open house event. It brought more than 2,000 students to Sterling C. Evans Library and the Annex!

Aggies enjoyed games, free T-shirts, information about the Libraries' services, coveted stickers and so much more.

For the first time, the Libraries' academic partners joined in on the fun. Thank you to the following partners for helping make the event a rousing success: the Academic Success Center, Undergraduate Ombuds, MaroonBase, the Office for Student Success, the University Writing Center, the Disability Resource Center, the Math Learning Center and Aggieland Pets with a Purpose.





Thank you so much i reany appreciate all that you do? Your have work does not go unrecognized ! we are so thankful for you!

Thank you for all of your hard work! I hope you feel appreciated ::



'GET IT FOR ME' HELPS STUDENTS AND FACULTY OVER 4 MILLION TIMES

SI

10

Students, faculty and staff saved over \$2.5 million during the 2023 fiscal year by borrowing print and electronic books through the Get It For Me interlibrary loan program. The year also brought the fulfillment of 4 million loan requests through the platform.

Get It For Me supports all 125 distance degrees and certificates offered by the <u>Texas A&M University System</u>.

> LEARN MORE tx.ag/4Million



A LEGACY OF AGGIE KNOWLEDGE

Texas A&M University Libraries comprise five unique libraries that seek to advance student success, be a partner in innovative research, and provide a physical and digital home to all students, faculty, researchers and staff.

Today, the Libraries are still centered on a foundation established nearly 145 years ago.



A library was established in the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas' (now Texas A&M University) Main Building after the college opened in 1876.

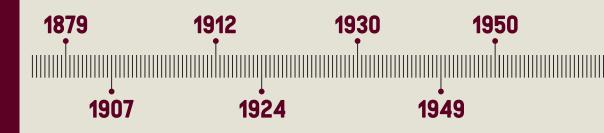


A fire destroyed the campus' Main Building and the library collection it housed. Following the fire, as new materials were donated and purchased, library collections were distributed to other classroom buildings, including the Academic Building.

Cushing Library opened, becoming the first freestanding library on campus.



The University Archives was established.





Thank you for all that you do for everyone. Please Keep sharing the stories

The Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas Library was designated as one of 43 federal depository libraries.



Edward B. Cushing '80, a major figure in Texas A&M's early history, died. Following his death, Cushing's private library was given to the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas.



A veterinary medicine library opened as a branch library. The facility eventually became known as the Medical Sciences Library.





The library's 1 millionth volume was acquired — **Prose and Poetry** of the Live Stock Industry of the United States with Outlines and the **Origin and Ancient** History of our Live Stock Animals.



The West Campus Library opened, and the Cushing Library closed for renovation.



The Policy **Sciences and Economics** Library opened. That same year, **Cushing Library** was rededicated and opened as **Cushing Memorial** Library & Archives, the new home of Universitv Archives and Special Collections.



The 3 millionth volume was acquired — Leaves of Grass.



The 5

millionth

volume was

acquired — a

of The Hobbit.

first edition

The 6 millionth volume was acquired — Extracts from the Votes and Proceedings of the American Continental Congress.



A major addition to the main library was completed, and its name changed to the University Library. That same year, a special collections unit was created, and the Texas **Engineers Library** merged with the University Library.

The University Library's second major addition was completed and its name changed to Sterling C. Evans Library. The name honors Evans '21, a renowned university regent and philanthropist.



Construction began on what is now called the Sterling C. Evans Library Annex.





The 4 millionth volume was acquired — Don Quixote de la Mancha, parts I and II.



The West Campus Library was renamed the **Business Library** and Collaboration Commons.



The Libraries expanded its website to provide access to more than 20,000 electronic journals, books, databases and other internet information sources.

Longtime Texas A&M University Professor's Artwork Inspires Aggie Students,

Especially his

GRANDDAUGHTER



he third-floor study rooms in Sterling C. Evans Library at Texas A&M University are a favorite study spot for Grace Krinhop '25. But she's also drawn to something else.

DR. ROBERT SCHIFFHAUER Texas A&M emeritus professor of architecture



"Growing up, there was art everywhere." samantha krinhop '96, schiffhauer's daughter

"As an adult, it's a lot more meaningful and amazing to see." GRACE KRINHOP '25, SCHIFFHAUER'S GRANDDAUGHTER

Above:

Marjorie Holiday, left, Schiffhauer's caregiver, and Samantha Krinhop '96, Schiffhauer's daughter.

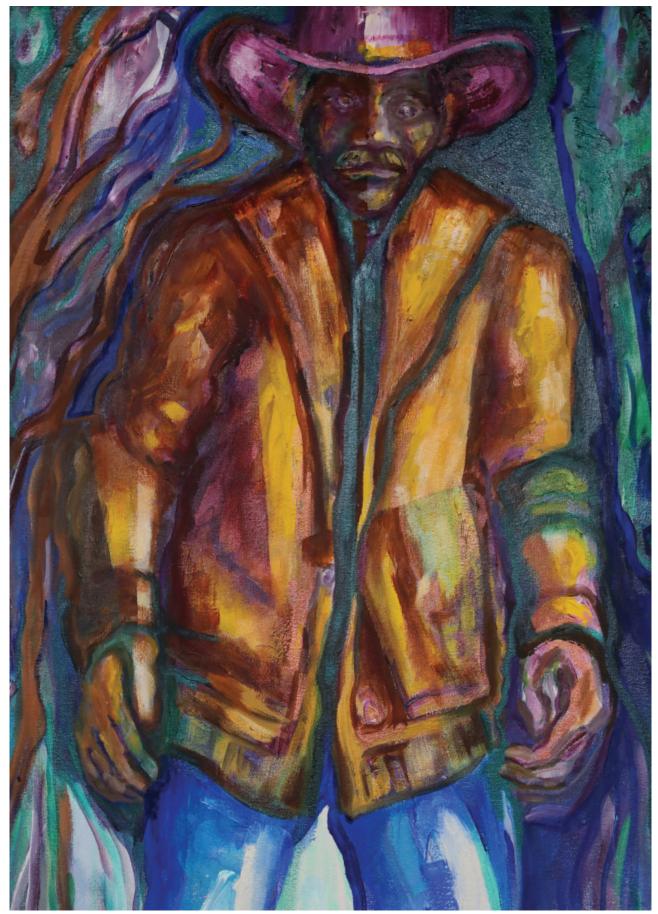
Right: Schiffhauer and his granddaughter Grace Krinhop '25.



Hanging in a third-floor Evans corridor is a series of portraits painted by her grandfather, Dr. Robert Schiffhauer, a Texas A&M emeritus professor of architecture who taught at the university for 46 years. Krinhop is proud of Schiffhauer and his art. Every chance she gets, she takes her friends to see his work commemorating notable civil rights activists, politicians, intellectuals and entertainers.

"It's a nice reminder of a little bit of home," said Krinhop, who grew up with her grandfather's artwork in her house. "As a kid, you appreciate it, but don't really understand it. As an adult, it's a lot more meaningful and amazing to see."

In a recent visit to Evans, Krinhop had the chance to see the artwork with her grandfather for the first time. She was surrounded by family and friends at a reception honoring Schiffhauer.



Schiffhauer's portrait of Charles Gordone, a Pulitzer Prize-winning English and speech communications professor at Texas A&M. He joined the Aggie faculty in 1987 and died in 1995.

The portraits, created from 2004-12, include drawings and paintings of household names like Thurgood Marshall, Harriet Tubman and Martin Luther King Jr., as well as other names like U.S. Army 2nd Lt. Henry Ossian Flipper and Katherine Dunham, who many will learn about for the first time when viewing Schiffhauer's art.

"This body of work is relevant to our time," said Schiffhauer. "I think students should be reminded of it because they're fighting the same battles as (civil rights leader and the late U.S. Congressman) John Lewis and all the others who came after him fought."

"They were fighting for freedom and justice. They wanted it to count for something," said Schiffhauer. "I want it to count with present-day people and with students."

Schiffhauer's connection to Texas A&M is deep; one that is rooted in his art.

He came to Texas A&M after several Aggies saw one of his art exhibits in Houston and mentioned it to administrators in the College of Architecture. Schiffhauer was on the verge of returning to New York in 1969 when the department head for the A then-new environmental design program offered him a job.



A 1969 exhibit of Schiffhauer's work led to a position on the Texas A&M faculty.

"It changed my whole life," said Schiffhauer. "I really appreciate it. I spent almost 50 years teaching here. I've been in Texas for a long time."

During his long career and after, Schiffhauer kept creating art. In the process, he established an Aggie family legacy that is several generations strong.

"Growing up, there was art everywhere," said Samantha Krinhop '96, Schiffhauer's daughter. "Seeing this now is great. I'm just so proud of him."

SCHIFFHAUER'S CONNECTION TO TEXAS A&M IS DEEP; ONE THAT IS ROOTED IN HIS ART.



Schiffhauer's portrait of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



WWII MAPS PRESERVED BY TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

World War II relics help tell the stories of veterans and the sacrifices they made for their country. The Libraries are preserving these stories by digitizing a set of American service unit maps from WWII. The maps don't just chart land. They contain personal, real-time observations of troops as they fought across Europe.

The collection at Cushing Memorial Library & Archives holds 121 WWII maps, a war that claimed the lives of 953 Aggies.







HETZERDOTH

BING QUART

 \bigcirc



25 YEARS OF COLLECTING: Cushing Memorial Library & Archives



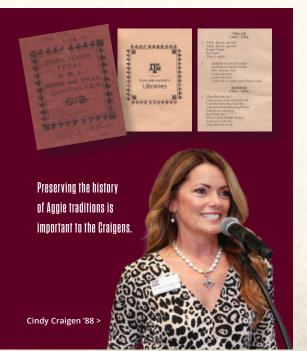
A n October 1998, the newly renovated Cushing Memorial Library & Archives, Texas A&M University's first stand-alone library, was rededicated as the new home of Special Collections and University Archives. To commemorate this anniversary, Cushing opened an exhibition in October to celebrate 25 years of collecting and related program development.

The exhibition's wide range of historical manuscripts, rare books, significant maps and ephemera spans centuries, continents and cultures. They exemplify the breadth and synergy of Texas A&M University Libraries' holdings.

A debt of gratitude is owed to Cushing's past and present supporters, who are dedicated to its mission to preserve cultural and intellectual heritage in pursuit of knowledge and excellence. With their ongoing support, Cushing will continue to expand its collections and embrace new initiatives.

LEARN MORE tx.ag/25Cushing





The "Something to Yell About: Yell Book Digitization Project" and the resulting keepsake booklets include yells and songs reflecting cadets' unique experiences from 1904-1932.

The project was generously funded in honor of 2022-23 Friends of the Texas A&M University Libraries President Cindy Craigen '88 by her husband Taylor Craigen '92.

Throughout her tenure on the Friends of the Libraries Board of Directors, Cindy has been an advocate and avid supporter of students and the Libraries' staff and has recognized their impact on academic success. This gift supported the work of Libraries' student technician Aileen Gonzalez '24, who completed the digitization and preservation of this historic collection.

The Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas Yell Book Collection is housed in the Cushing Memorial Library & Archives.

LEARN MORE tx.ag/YellBooks



17

Terms



11a





TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES PROVIDE AN OASIS FOR AGGIE VETERANS



exas A&M University Libraries and the Don and Ellie Knauss Veteran Resource and Support Center (VRSC) have partnered to create the Student Veteran Study Room in Sterling C. Evans Library Annex 252C, a space available to all Aggie student veterans.

For maximum convenience, the study room is located at the heart of campus with hours that match Evans Annex. The Student Veteran Study Room is exclusively accessible to veterans by swipe card and requires no reservations.

The Libraries and VRSC partner frequently to co-sponsor events, share expertise and support student veterans like Sean Kelly '23.

"I USE THIS ROOM ALL THE TIME," KELLY SAID. "This is my primary study location. There's always space for me to sit."

Designed with input from student veterans, the room is a space for study, collaboration and community building. It features comfortable seating, computers, a whiteboard wall, a wireless presentation monitor and natural lighting.

Generously funded by The Hamill Foundation, the Student Veteran Study Room is a flexible space that facilitates several modes of study.

LEARN MORE tx.ag/Oasis







I just wanted to take the time and say thank you for creating such a quict & caim environment for us students to work in I do to Evans at least twice d week. Thank you for everything and your work & dedication never goes un noticed ! - Sammi

A GREAT PLACE TO STUDY ... AND TALK ... AND DRINK COFFEE!

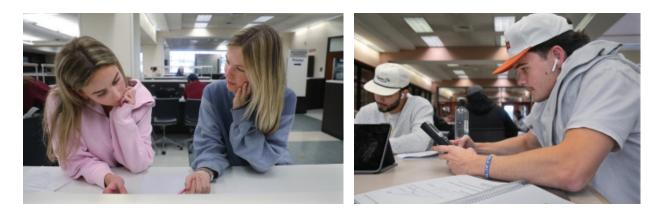
At Texas A&M University Libraries, students find spaces to study that fit their needs. Each library features an array of user-friendly study and collaboration spaces.

TALKING P RESERVED QUIET AREAS FLOORS

> PLACES TO STUDY WHILE DRINKING COFFEE AND EATING PASTRIES EVEN PLACES TO STUDY WHILE Riding an exercise bike! & ELWYI

Texas A&M University Library System to Lead Course Affordability Effort After **Reinvesting \$3.3 Million**





Texas A&M University Libraries will soon launch OpenEd, an innovative program that saves students money on the increasing cost of textbooks and course materials, with a new \$3.3 million reinvestment from the university.

OpenEd will be developed over the next three years to hire more librarians and staff, who are charged with removing price barriers so all students can own or have access to required course materials.

The program is an expansion of the Libraries"s existing Open Educational Resources (OER) program, which saved students just under \$1 million in the fall 2023 semester through the use of librarylicensed materials alone.

"OpenEd will help keep course materials affordable for current and future Aggies," said Dr. Alan Sams, provost and executive vice president. "That is our objective, and that is a top priority for our libraries."

The OpenEd unit, housed in the Libraries, will identify low- to no-cost course materials, support faculty who adopt, adapt and create OERs, and more. "Course material affordability has been a priority service offered by the Libraries and Texas A&M for years," said Julie Mosbo Ballestro, university librarian and assistant provost. "OpenEd will expand those efforts and create an even greater impact."

The university's efforts to reduce educational expenses mean a lot to students, said Ben Fisher '24, senior class president.

"With the ever-increasing costs of housing, transportation and food on top of tuition, it's no secret that budgeting for four years of college is difficult," said Ben Fisher '24, senior class president. "The university's efforts to reduce our educational expenses mean a lot to us, and can help ease the competing pressures between focusing on our studies or striving to make ends meet to pay bills."



LEARN MORE tx.ag/OpenEd



exas A&M University Libraries depend on the generosity of donors to support initiatives that accelerate student, faculty and staff success.

"People assume we're 100% funded by the state, and we're not," said Adelle Hedleston '88, development manager of the Libraries. "We're about 30% funded by the state. So, when we need extra support for a rare acquisition for our special collections, or for a program or project, we rely on donor gifts to make this happen."

A 2020 survey revealed that 65% of university students don't purchase at least one textbook per semester due to the high cost.

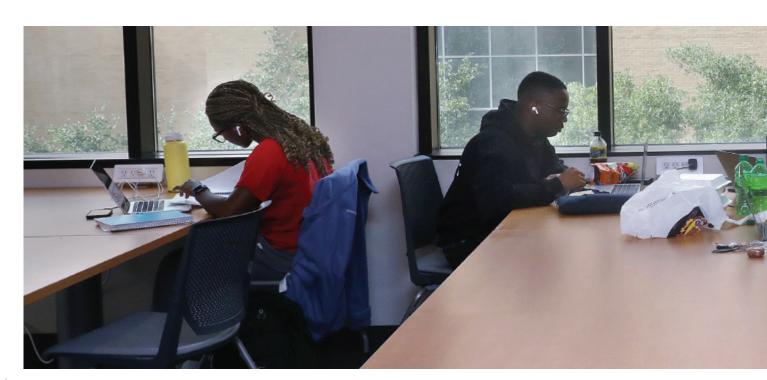
To help students with these costs, the Libraries established OpenEd, an innovative initiative that will reduce student spending on course materials. A foundational piece of OpenEd is the Open Educational Resources (OER) program. OERs are free online books and course materials that professors can adopt, adapt or create for their classes.

In one biology course, a vendor shipped the wrong textbook a week after classes started. The professor turned to the Libraries for help.

"The librarians did their magic, presented the professor with open-access textbook options, and one of them was adopted," said Hedleston. "Just one semester of using an open-access textbook in this class saved students a total of \$600,000. It's the amazing generosity of our donors that has allowed us to continue these cost savings."

LEARN MORE

tx.ag/SupportTheLibraries



Texas A&M University Libraries' Donors Create Opportunities for Aggie Students

"PEOPLE ASSUME WE'RE 100% FUNDED BY THE STATE, AND WE'RE NOT," SAID ADELLE HEDLESTON '88, DEVELOPMENT MANAGER OF THE LIBRARIES.









Texas A&M University Libraries rely on financial contributions to serve Aggie students, faculty and staff.

Help the Libraries empower and elevate Texas A&M University today: **give.am/SupportLibraries**

The Libraries = Success



Get It For Me has saved patrons \$2,562,311, which is equivalent to the yearly tuition of 222 students.

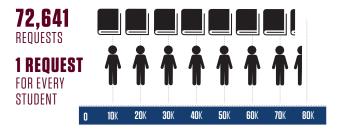


In FY2022, the **Libraries received** 2,527,289 visits. That is enough to fill Kyle Field 24.6 times.





In FY2023, **Get It For Me processed 72,641** requests — nearly one request for every student enrolled at Texas A&M University.

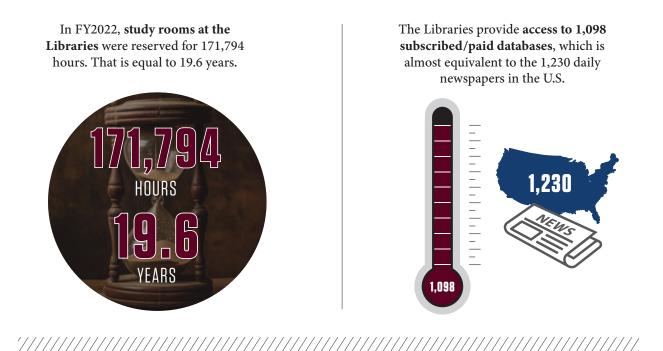


In FY2022, the Libraries' website search box was used 3,673,926 times. That is 10,066 clicks a day!





The most popular day of the week for visiting the Libraries is Wednesday.

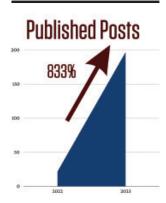


The Libraries' users accessed **6,070,639 electronic articles** last year, which is more than the combined populations of Austin, Dallas, Houston and San Antonio.

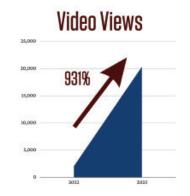
6,070,639 ELECTRONIC ARTICLES 6,049,778 POPULATION OF AUSTIN + DALLAS + HOUSTON + SAN ANTONIO

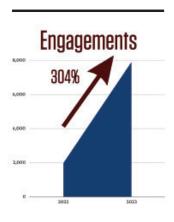


Instagram Growth @tamulibraries / June 15-December 1 / 2022 vs 2023

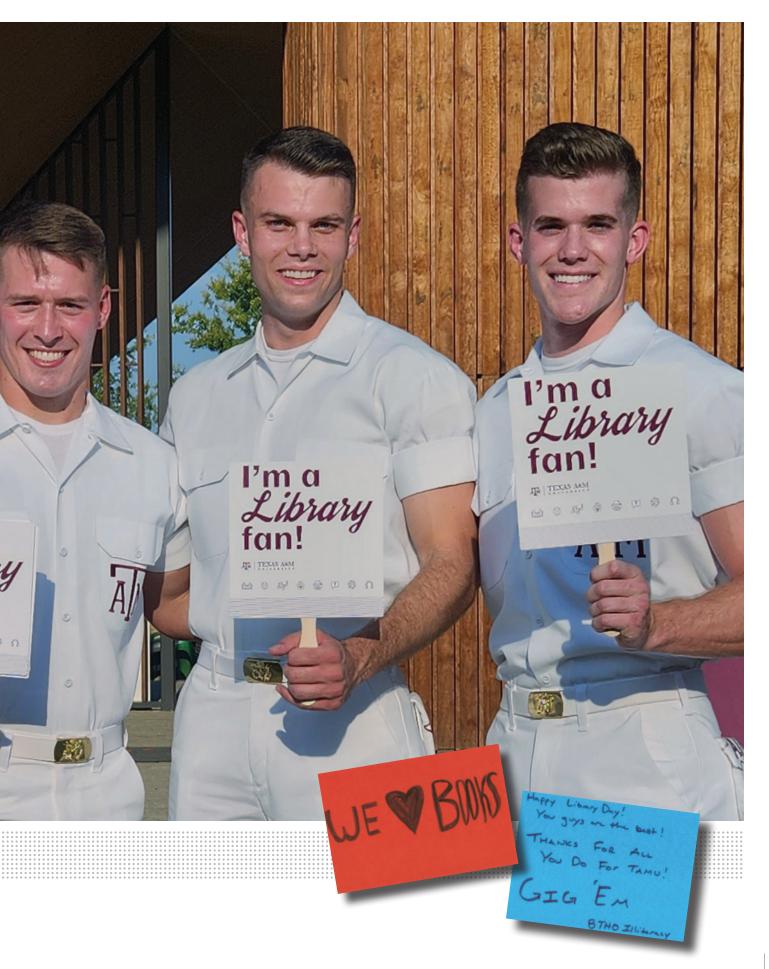


О







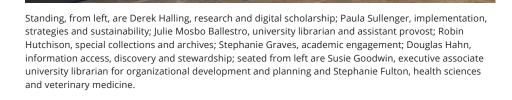


30

2023 ANNUAL REPORT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

PEOPLE POWER THE LIBRARIES 2023 HONORS AND RECOGNITION

What a year! Texas A&M University Libraries welcomed new faces, honored long-standing friends and embraced the future in 2023.



ASSOCIATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIANS

Texas A&M University Libraries administrators guided the Libraries in 2023. Those photographed served in a leadership role in 2023. Through their leadership, the Libraries are poised to continue to heighten discovery, learning and creativity at Texas A&M University in 2024 and beyond.

NEW FACES IN TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Texas A&M University Libraries welcomed an outstanding group of new hires to the family between Jan. 1-Sept. 1. This list includes employees who report to the Libraries; Texas A&M University's centralized positions are also a valued part of the Libraries team. Heather Freas Adair Associate Librarian

Emily Amos Assistant Librarian

Eryn Bartlick Assistant Librarian

James Creel Librarian Director

Margaret Foster Full Librarian

Pam Hill Associate Librarian **Jeremy Huff** Associate Librarian

Ricky Lee Assistant Librarian

Emme Lopez Assistant University Librarian

Marcella McGowan Assistant Librarian

Pauline Melgoza Associate Librarian

Simona Tabacaru Associate Librarian

SERVICE AND DEDICATION HONOREES

Texas A&M University Libraries deeply appreciate the dedicated service of all their employees. At a Libraries recognition & staff appreciation event on May 25, staff who reached years-of-service milestones were honored for their many years of dedication to the Libraries and Texas A&M University. These honorees also include staff who were with the Libraries for a portion of 2023.

Libraries Longevity Award Recipients

10 YEARS





Huff

Julie Mosbo Ballestro



Schremp

Janina Besa Siebert

Not Pictured Keith Henderson

Stephanie Graves

15 YEARS





Kim Wolfe

20 YEARS



30 YEARS



25 YEARS



Doug

Hahn

Not Pictured

Hankins



35 YEARS





Lisa Furubotten

Robin Hutchison





45 YEARS

University Years of Service Recipients





lan Muise



Cheng



Carolyn Eaton



Not Pictured Zao Liu Tatyana Chubaryan

Doug Hahn

CELEBRATING THE 2023 **Solar Eclipse** In Style

· JOIN THE LIBRAR



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

pproximately 1,500 people viewed a solar eclipse at a watch party hosted by Texas A&M University Libraries on Oct. 14. Aggie students, faculty, staff and families were invited to join in the fun on Texas A&M University's East Quad lawn.

Event organizers believe it may have been the most well-attended event ever hosted by the Libraries. Students used viewing glasses from the Libraries or telescopes from the Department of Physics and Astronomy to safely enjoy one of nature's great spectacles in a fun, relaxed environment that included help from student organizations, an emcee and music.

Excitement surrounding the event extended to the Libraries' social media accounts, where the messaging reached over 80,000 accounts, bolstered by several reposts from Texas A&M's social media. Additionally, Texas A&M Today and local media added to the buzz.

Prior to the event, the Libraries distributed 3,000 free eclipse viewing glasses at multiple Libraries' locations for use at the watch party or wherever students happened to be.



2023 Solar Eclipse Social Media Stats @tamulibraries







"We are stronger and more determined to provide the best services to the students, faculty and staff whom we are honored to serve."



library.tamu.edu $\mid \bigcirc X$ in @tamulibraries