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We are delighted to roll out our library publication, The Source, which shares with our broad-based community stories about exciting events and people who are making a difference for the NMSU Library.

• In this issue, we will be highlighting Frances Williams, a generous library supporter. Williams has influenced not only New Mexico politics but has fought for fair treatment and equal opportunity for women at White Sands Missile Range for over forty years. Her story begins on page 3.

• The NMSU Library has been continually engaged with the assessment of its programs and services. This is the third time the library has been recognized for its assessment activities. We are very proud that the library has been a model for others to emulate. The most recent award focused on a team effort. Read more on page 5.

• Digitization of a unique research collection allows us to share our precious resources on a global scale. Currently we are in the process of digitizing the Clyde W. Tombaugh Papers. This digitization project gives a window into the life and research of the discoverer of the planet Pluto and an extraordinary member of the NMSU faculty. Read more on page 6.

• We also celebrate our unique special collections housed in Branson Library such as our growing cookbook collection. Cookbooks can show how people cook over the years, but also about the environments they inhabit such as markets, nutritional ideologies, and regional and cultural differences. In the story on page 7, you can learn about NMSU’s new addition to its historical cookbook collection which has an emphasis on chile recipes from throughout the world; we also are collecting local community cookbooks which span a variety of local groups in New Mexico.

• It is the library’s mission to be student-centric and be a caring community. We have taken several initiatives over the past several months, including creating the most accessible nursing parent room on campus. Centrally located, we are open seven days a week and Zuhl Library is open until 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday evenings. For more information, read about it on page 9.

Last but not least, I am privileged to announce that the NMSU Library has become a U.S. Patent & Trademark Resource Center, now one of only 86 in the United States and the only one in New Mexico. We are excited to share with you the wonderful stories about our library and invite you to explore the NMSU Library… Your Destination for Discovery.

Dr. Elizabeth Titus
Dean of the NMSU Library
Donor Spotlight: Frances Williams

A typed set of notecards for a speech are tucked away in the Frances Williams Papers in the NMSU Library Archives and Special Collections Department. The speech explains how women have a hand in most everything their husbands or fathers did. Much like them, Williams has had her hands in projects her entire life which have focused on improving the status of women in not only Las Cruces, but throughout New Mexico.

Williams, a whirlwind of a woman, has stories to tell of not only her past, but of the immediate plans she has to fix, encourage, and milk life for all its worth. Williams attributed her life to a type of destiny. Williams’ mother was a young Polish immigrant and her father was out of the picture. Spending part of her youth in the Israel Orphan Asylum, Williams dealt with abuse, but, managed to find the skills that would carry her through life.

“In eighth grade there was a girl with un-ironed clothes whom the teacher would harass. I told my teacher maybe you shouldn’t be talking about her like that,” said Williams. “I’m the person that stands up.”

Williams married her “sailor sweetheart,” Ausvel Williams, at an early age. Her husband’s job led them to New Mexico. Williams started at White Sands Missile Range in 1952 as an accounting clerk. While serving in administrative jobs, she worked as an equal employment opportunity counselor and Federal Women’s Program manager.

“I’ve been called names; I’ve been insulted,” said Williams. “But when it comes down to it, I serve the public, that’s my job.”

“There were a lot of barriers to get through,” said Williams, who remembers females with PhDs forced to take a typing test at WSMR to get their foot in the door.
Williams heard the call to Vietnam in the 1960s where she served eight months as a logistician at Long Binh. She also administered to wounded servicemen, one man leaving an indelible mark on her life. Williams recalled being brought to the bedside of a fellow New Mexican. He had been blinded and unwilling to speak.

“I spoke to him about the colors of the sunsets, of chiles, of home,” said Williams. Slowly, he allowed her to write letters home to his brother. That man is New Mexico’s own, Native American artist Michael Naranjo.

Back stateside, Williams advanced at WSMR. From 1976 to 1987, she was the Equal Employment Manager, during the time the program received an outstanding rating from the U.S. Army. In 1974 she was appointed by the governor to the New Mexico Commission for the Status of Women and in 1976 was appointed to the Task Force on Affirmative Action.

The 1970s also saw Williams working for the Equal Rights Amendment in New Mexico, which ultimately struck down 40 gender discriminatory laws in the state, such as women being able to will their property after death, and men’s ability to receive custody of their children.

Williams’ papers are nestled between other state and local luminaries, such as Holm Bursum, Senator and framer of the New Mexico constitution, and David Townsend, New Mexico educator and delegate from Otero County. All, like Williams, were movers and shakers for causes great and small. Those who desire to research a role model for female determination will now find it in the legacy of the Frances Williams Papers at the NMSU Library.

“When the Mayflower touched this shore, it had aboard it women who suffered the same perilous journey as their fathers and husbands. When the west was won, it was women along with men, who braved the perils of an unknown wilderness, who fought side by side with each other to reach their common goal. Indian women were subjected to the same massacres as Indian men, and the Adelitas of Mexico went into battle alongside their men for the independence of their country. When Hitler sent people to the gas chambers of Europe, he did not say men only – he included women. Our destinies are tied to each other. This country is what it is because we have encouraged people from all cultures and ethnic walks of life to contribute the very best that is within their culture or the way of life and we have all shared and thrived as a nation of people.”

-Frances Williams
The assessment was led by John Sandstrom, Associate Professor and Acquisitions Librarian and Samantha Rich, Assessment Librarian.

NMSU Library Receives Assessment Award

The NMSU Library is the recipient of the NMSU Office of Assessment’s 2014-2015 Excellence in Assessment Award. It recognizes an outstanding assessment report that documents the life-cycle of an assessment project.

“The report reflects a robust assessment process not only in its planning and data collection phases, but also in the effective use of findings for the purpose of improvement,” said David E. Smith, NMSU’s Director of Assessment.

The NMSU Library was awarded for its assessment of the library’s Patron-Driven Acquisitions Program in Spring 2015. The Library has received this award three times since the award was established and is the only multiple recipient.

Patron-Driven Acquisitions is an e-book purchasing program designed to base new e-book purchases by the requests of books and materials requested through the NMSU Library catalog by patrons.

Working with the e-book vendor, a subject-specialist librarian establishes an approval profile based on different types of needs: subject, educational level, publication date, cost, along with other criteria. E-book titles matching that profile are then shared with the library’s community of users through the online catalog. The system then informs the librarians which books might be the most valuable in order to develop a collection of works.

“It is an honor to have our work in assessment recognized. Assessment is a critical function of any program, new or old,” said Sandstrom.

“The data that is discovered through assessment allows us as an organization to focus limited resources in areas that provide the greatest level of service to the university community and beyond,” said Sandstrom. “It is also a pleasure to work with Samantha who brings a wealth of knowledge and ability to library assessment efforts.”
Connections Beyond the Stars

The Clyde W. Tombaugh Papers housed in the University Archives at the NMSU Library is currently in the first of three phases of digitization. Nathan Brown, Assistant Professor and Digital Projects Librarian, is laboriously going through each item, scanning, and notating necessary information.

The digitization project began 2015; the personal and professional papers are now being worked through and currently are housed in 73 boxes. The second phase will be scanning of the photographs, phase three will be oversize materials, such as star charts and maps.

The digital scans are housed in an online access portal organized as we would find a box on the shelf, by folder and then by item. Since February 2016, 3300 items have been made available online.

Brown notes that it’s the transcription of the handwritten material that is the slowest part in processing.

“We hope to crowdsourced the transcription at some point,” said Brown, referring to the popular method of have readers from around the world review items online.

What will be fun for readers is that they’ll never be sure what they will stumble across – a letter from the Carter administration, written letters between astronomers working to discover Kuiper’s Belt, even a card from a suffragist.

“She looks wise and thoughtful as befits the daughter of an astronomer, but I do not doubt she has her lighter moments,” wrote May Gorslin Preston Slossen, the first woman to obtain a doctoral degree in philosophy in the United States, who congratulated Tombaugh on his new daughter in a card from 1941.

“It’s Tombaugh’s connection with other scientists that shows the different side of his life that I wish people could discover,” said Brown.
Donor Spotlight: The Worthingtons

NMSU Library donors Richard and Patricia Worthington made their hobby of collecting historical treasures sound like a swashbuckling adventure.

“More I was lucky,” said Richard. “The two pickers I usually compete with at those estates sales – one was out of town, and one was sick.”

The pickers, those who deal in buying and selling historical artifacts, led the Worthingtons to scout the nooks and crannies of sales to restore history to the rightful owners, or to those institutions which can best preserve the materials.

This semester, the Worthingtons donated to the NMSU Library some of their boxes of different local cookbooks, such as junior league recipe books and outdoor groups camping cookbooks. Some of those cookbooks as the Worthingtons haven’t yet stopped scouting, might still need to find their true homes.

In the particular instance where the pickers were late to the game, Richard asked the estate seller if there were any documents being sold at the sale. In a back bathroom, the seller led Richard to a chest of papers, that ultimately told the tale of the land rights for the Tigua, the tribe of the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo.

“My hands trembled,” said Richard about holding the documents. That was only half of the process, the second half being the most fun for the Worthingtons – restoring the access to tribe.

“I got to speak to the tribal governor and return the documents,” said Richard.

Richard spoke about how he and Pat were adamant about finding the right homes for tidbits of history that they found. They feel that the rightful owners are the ones best able help the right audience access the material, so that those who hold the inheritance of that history will be able to glean lessons from it.
Pat and Richard met at UT Austin in a class called, which foreshadowed their hobby, the History of Texas. They both moved to El Paso in 1969 when Richard became faculty at the UTEP Biological Sciences Department.

At first, collecting cookbooks wasn’t so much of a driving interest for the Worthingtons, until they realized the amount they had amassed filled their shelves. Over a multi-year hunt, digging through estate sales, yard sales, rummage sales and church sales, the Worthingtons collected over 600 different cookbooks for which they are now finding the right homes.

“It was Pat who slowly convinced me of their historical importance,” said Richard. “I recognized the connection between food and culture, the evolution you can see to things that were once considered Mexican are now all American.”

The evolution of cooking through chiles has been a staple of the NMSU Library’s Special Collections, with an already vast array of cookbooks focusing on chile from donors like Dave DeWitt.

“Through the recipes we can preserve the knowledge of ‘Wild West Food’, continued Richard. “When people came out on wagons food was bland and simple, but with fluid borders, you get the addition of chiles and corn, and see how exactly cooking evolved.”

Some of the cookbook titles from the Worthington’s gifts:

- Harvey Girls’ Recipes, Santa Fe Magazine, 1944
- Eighth Annual International Pecan and Food Fantasy Prize Winning Recipes, Pecan Growers Association, 1974
- Kissin’ Wears Out…Cookin’ Don’t Guadalupe Christian Women’s Group, 1978
- Home Cooking Secrets of Las Cruces, Order of Eastern Star Las Cruces Chapter 20, no date
- Las Cruces Bowler’s Cookbook, Las Cruces Women’s Bowlers Association, 1974
- Bats for Breakfast, Carlsbad Caverns Activities Association, 1993
New Nursing Parents Room

Across NMSU, students are in varying stages of their lives. Those lives at any stage can include children, even newborns. What does a parent do with a hungry baby if they’ve see a professor or check out a book? Where does a Mom go if she needs to pump breast milk but she has all day classes? To address this need on campus, the NMSU Library has now established its own dedicated Nursing Parents Room.

Located on the first floor of the Zuhl Library, the room can be checked out much like a book on a first come, first served basis by requesting the key at the service desk.

“It’s a safe and quiet place to feed a child or pump breast milk. For those pumping, it has access to a chair, a sink with running water, paper towels, electricity and a wide countertop that can also serve as a changing table.

“Sometimes our littlest patrons are the ones we can serve by giving their parents access to services which eases their minds about living their lives while still getting their education,” said Beck.

New at NMSU Library: U.S. Patent and Trademark Resource Center

The NMSU Library has officially been designated as a Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC). This new facet of the Library will enable innovators in the region to gain insights into U.S. Patents by having patent and trademark information readily available with new databases alongside trained assistance.

Once established, the NMSU Library staff will be able to direct patrons to the patent application process and the fees associated for their patents. NMSU librarians will demonstrate how to use search tools to conduct a patent or trademark search, and offer assistance on how to do historical research on patents and trademarks.

In establishing itself as a PTRC, the NMSU Library reached out to the NMSU Arrowhead Technology Incubator.

“The NMSU Arrowhead Center plays a vital role in economic development: commercializing discoveries and innovations, encouraging entrepreneurship, launching and developing new businesses, and creating lasting partnerships with stakeholders on and off-campus,” said Paula Johnson, Engineering and Mathematical Science Librarian who led the effort to create the PTRC and will be the first NMSU librarian to be trained by the U.S. Patent Office.

However, it’s not all business incubation that the PTRC will facilitate, but also a chance to get a glimpse into the past.

“The inventiveness of our ancestors is amazing,” said Laurence S. Creider, Head of the Archives and Special Collections Department. “I found patents for a number of farm machines by my great-grandfather, and I am sure that most of the rest of us can do the same.”
The Social Activity Committee (SAC) sounds like a relic of an earlier time. The present-day SAC committee at the NMSU Library aims to bond together the faculty, staff, and student employees with fun and meaningful activities, through food, and by donations to local charities.

Matt Friedberg, current chair of SAC, is committed to making sure it’s not a group that advocates “mandatory fun” but a way for people to interact outside their departments, which may be secluded behind staff access only areas.

What SAC strives to provide is a human touch to life at the Library by celebrating births and sharing the grief of deaths among staff members’ families. Life event acknowledgments can be done from SAC whether or not someone in the library is a SAC member.

Those staff members who choose to have their birthday celebrated, SAC gives them a small gift card. Each quarter SAC asks those birthdays in that quarter to select a $40 donation is made to a local non-profit. Safe Haven Animal Shelter is a frequent choice.

The annual end-of-the-year holiday gathering also includes a clothing and food drive for either Casa de Peregrinos or the Aggie Cupboard. Other holiday events, like the popular ice cream social in the summer, lets people share their baking or cooking skills. The invitations to the student employees is that they only “bring their appetites” as a way for staff to show their appreciation.

SAC dues at $15 a year and the committee is comprised of volunteers from all departments. “I like what SAC does because it is morale boosting,” said Friedberg.
The Dastardly Caper of the Dime Novels

Before there was television, an easy way to consume entertainment was in the form of dime novels. Cheap, small, and not a dense form of literature, these novels spoke to the themes of time: the lure the Wild West, adventures with Buffalo Bill, or heroic acts in the military.

Dime novels came about in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century in the United States. Erastus Beadle in 1860 published the first dime novel and its popularity created a large market of competitors. Dime novels were, in general, shorter works of fiction and their audience was mostly men and boys. The dime novels were not meant to withstand the test of time, with newsprint paper that made them light and easily tossed out. While published on low quality paper, a key attribute of the dime novels were the extremely colorful and bold covers which reflected aggression and violence.

Arriving at the NMSU Library as a purchased collection, the Special Collections unit has been processing and working with the Cataloging unit to make the thousands of dime novels accessible.

“It’s about four thousand total, but there are still the duplicates they need to sort. What counts as a duplicate for cataloging, may not count as a duplicate for Special Collections,” said Laurence Creider, Department Head of Archives and Special Collections. “We keep different editions, states, issues, printings. One may have two different covers, one with a 1910 outfit which changes to a 1920 flapper outfit.”

The dime novels at the NMSU Library awaited project status until an inquiry from Ohio made it a higher priority.
“What really convinced me about getting going on this was a gentleman who came from Bowling Green University, which has a great popular history program,” said Creider. “He was interested in an author called Old Sleuth and he asked what we had. What we found doubled what he had found at Bowling Green.”

Sarah Allison, Special Collections Librarian, explained the fragile state of the novels and how keeping more than one state of a book will also help define the different advertising that is within the books. The condition of the books, with paper flaking off from just holding a novel, has made cataloging the books a bit of a challenge reported Elizabeth Miller, Head of Cataloging.

“We’ve had to do extra special training on how to handle them. Sometimes you can’t really open them easily because the paper is so brittle,” said Miller.

Publishers tended to issue dime novels in series, to focus on continued exploits of one character. Quickly written, often time by multiple authors or pseudonyms, these pieces of fiction capture are important for researchers interested in social themes that can be gathered from the plot, and also from the advertisements.

“It’s like chewing gum for the mind, something to take to the bunkhouse and read by your kerosene lantern,” said Creider.

“It’s not the caliber of works like Louisa May Alcott or Mark Twain, but they are very important because this is what people were thinking about,” said Creider. “The portrayal of Native Americans and cowboys, immigrants and their stereotypes, and the military who used dime novels for recruitment of young men, all this had an impact on people’s ideas and culture.”
“I have appreciated libraries ever since I began to read, and I’ve been an active user of libraries everywhere that I’ve gone,” said Dr. Richard Davies, an NMSU Library donor.

“When it comes to a university setting, the library is the heart of the university,” said Dr. Davies.

Dr. Davies’ academic career got its start in mathematics at NMSU, and continued on to Master of Divinity, a Master’s in Religious Broadcasting, and a PhD from Indiana University in Educational Studies which focused on instructional technology and graphic communication. He also demonstrated his love of libraries by picking up a doctoral minor in Library Science.

“Depending on your major, you may not get to the library very often,” said Dr. Davies. “However, when you need information, the library is the place to go get it.”

Even with 40 years in Indiana, Dr. Davies still holds a fondness for NMSU.

“The style of thinking that I learned at New Mexico State certainly informs how I got at questions that arise from any field,” said Dr. Davies.

Dr. Davies’ commitment to NMSU is to help the NMSU Library stay world class.

“A world class library is a library that people will want to go to because they will have access to resources they can’t find anywhere else,” said Dr. Davies.

“NMSU is home because I come back to find how impressed I am – it is simply a very, very good school,” said Dr. Davies.
Pistol Pete Reads at the NMSU Library!

The NMSU Library is excited to introduce the Pistol Pete Reads! campaign. During the year, we will be releasing photos of all the unique ways Pistol Pete uses the library. Be on the lookout to see him reading in the stacks, interacting with our staff, and discovering library resources which will encourage students to visit and explore for themselves.

Expect him to pop up in different places on our Facebook page, our Twitter account, and even in posters around the library. Beloved and iconic, the Pistol Pete Reads! teaser video had an organic reach of over 2 thousand views.
THE NEW NMSU LIBRARY NOTE CARDS

Chiles: Red or Green?

13 blank note cards highlighting the NMSU Library Archives and Special Collections

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