Library and Archives News for the Sul Ross Community

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EDITOR’S NOTE
Cover to Cover is evolving to keep the SRSU community current on library and archives news. Keep up by visiting library.sulross.edu and following us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter @srsulibrary.

Letter from the Director
With fewer classes in session, summer is a time for us in the Library and Archives to recharge our collective battery. And yet, again this year, the Library and Archives staff accomplished much during what is often considered our slow season. From work on our website navigation and content to decluttering and repurposing spaces in Alpine (and a new space in Eagle Pass!) to working with grants folks and OIT to transition the Library Classroom into a faculty-focused space, there was rarely a quiet day in our worlds between long semesters.

And of course, in the middle of all of it, Mike Fernandez rented a U-Haul and moved to Eagle Pass. Thank you to everyone who helped get him, the contents of his office, and furnishings for the Library space from here to there. It wasn’t just our internal staff! From the Physical Plant to the President’s Office, many people had a hand in this momentous transition. Thank you, also, to everyone at RGC for welcoming Mike and the expansion of library services to Del Rio, Uvalde, and Eagle Pass. Your feedback has been and will continue to be very informative. We are all looking forward to growing in the direction of improving and evolving library service to students, faculty, and staff based in Del Rio, Uvalde, and Eagle Pass.

This first day of Fall classes we’ll have hot donuts at both the Alpine and Eagle Pass campuses. Here’s to a great Fall semester. We look forward to seeing you back in the building and hearing about your summer adventures. Come see us! The Fall 2023 issue of Cover to Cover will include an annual report for FY23 including a twenty-year retrospective looking back at an unearthed report featuring public services statistics from August 19, 2002 - August 13, 2003. For now, catch up on what we did this summer.
We’re *all* Technical Services Staff Here - Technically

With a longstanding vacancy in our Technical Services Librarian position and the creation of two new Library Assistant positions as part of our reorganization to increase, improve, and evolve services in Eagle Pass, Del Rio, and Uvalde, all current staff have stepped up in a variety of ways to keep things moving along in Technical Services Department, the “behind the scenes” of the Library and Archives. We’re not in a position to be undertaking major projects in the stacks just yet, but we are happy to report that we are chipping away at regular Technical Services duties on top of streamlining serials and acquisitions processes and procedures in an effort to more seamlessly welcome Tech Services staff in the future. Following many meetings and conversations, this summer we made major progress on our Collection Development Policy, heretofore reframed as a Collection Development and Maintenance Strategy. This living document includes historical information, development and maintenance objectives guided by best practices in the LIS literature, and a working annual calendar to better communicate and collaborate with faculty and staff about our holdings, past, present, and future.

Silent Book Club in Alpine

Head of Archives Victoria Contreras has teamed up with local Alpine venue the Alcove Social to host Alpine’s chapter of Silent Book Club. Think of it as an introvert happy hour with books! The Fall meet-up will be on November 8.

Just show up or learn more at: silentbook.club/blogs/events/alpine-texas

Fernandez Promoted to Lead SRSU Library Services in Eagle Pass

via news.sulross.edu

Mike Fernandez has been promoted to Head of RGC Library Services.

Beginning this fall, Sul Ross State has committed to promoting, enhancing, and evolving library services to the students, faculty, staff, and communities at our instructional sites in the Middle Rio Grande region with a new library location based in Eagle Pass.

As the Head of RGC Library Services, Fernandez will work to promote existing services and resources, enhance and improve library services, and evolve library services and resources for students, faculty, staff, and the communities of Del Rio, Uvalde and Eagle Pass.

Fernandez joined the Library and Archives in January 2020 as the Systems Librarian. In the short time he has been at SRSU, he has increased access to and use of library and archives resources. Fernandez holds a Master of Science in Library Science from the University of North Texas and a Bachelor of Arts in History from Texas Tech University.

Highlighted expanded services include increased InterLibrary Loan service, including direct-mail access to physical items held by Alpine’s Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library, and customized instruction and course support for locally specific academic disciplines.

More information about available services can be found at library.sulross.edu/rgc
Slocumb Promoted to Senior Library Operations Supervisor

As we look toward the future with more service offerings in Eagle Pass, we have also been considering the future of staffing the Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library in Alpine to complement those updates and emphasize considerations for the special and regionally important physical collections we house.

With such considerations in mind, we are happy to announce the promotion of Cindy Slocumb to Senior Library Operations Supervisor. An alumnus of Sul Ross, Slocumb has worked in various roles at the Library for over sixteen years. Her commitment to the Library and Archives and vast institutional knowledge are invaluable. Her continued passion for hiring, training, and growing the best Student Workers at the University keeps her motivated and inspired. We are lucky to have her and lucky to benefit from her hard work in recruiting and retaining the best student employees, among all of the other things she does to make the Library and Archives what it is.

Eagle Pass Space Update
-via Mike Fernandez, Head of RGC Library Services-

The end of summer at the SRSU Library is always a beehive of activity, but this year it buzzed with extra excitement as we geared up to introduce our library’s expansion to the SRSU campus in Eagle Pass. This milestone is a testament to the collective effort of many individuals across all four SRSU campuses. A special note of appreciation goes to the SRSU Library staff, especially Cindy Slocumb and Al Gomez, for their work in the lead-up to this project’s completion.

On Saturday, August 5, I bid my farewell to Alpine, my home of nearly three years, and made the journey to Eagle Pass. Not long after, a truckload of supplies and furniture arrived to outfit our new location, signaling the start of a new chapter for our library services. By the time the fall semester was on the horizon, RGC Library Services was fully operational and ready to serve the RGC community. RGC Library Services is in Building D-129 on the Eagle Pass campus, representing our commitment to continually improving and expanding library services for our students, faculty, staff, and the communities of Del Rio, Uvalde, and Eagle Pass. I encourage you to drop by and visit!😊

Resource Spotlight: The Chronicle of Higher Education

Did you know the SRSU Library and Archives maintains a site license subscription to The Chronicle of Higher Education online? Anyone with a sulross.edu email address can access Chronicle content, and make an account to receive customized newsletters and content. Ask a Librarian for more details!