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Friends of the Library Newsletter Autumn 2015

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Seattle Pacific University
LIBRARY
Discover, Create, Share

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY NEWSLETTER | AUTUMN 2015

Partnering for New Resources



Collaboration and digital technologies are two of the most important trends impacting libraries today. New and emerging technologies present many challenges and opportunities for libraries, but new collaborative partnerships enable libraries to improve as well as evolve collections and services. As one of 37 academic libraries in the [Orbis Cascade Alliance](#), which exists “to advance institutional missions through collaboration and innovation,” the SPU Library is part of a leading organization that is discovering new ways to create and share digital content and systems.

This last summer, with funds generated by the Friends of the Library Endowment, the Library was able to subscribe to a new and discounted Alliance Collection Package. This package, anchored by the cross-disciplinary research tool [ProQuest Central](#), provides members of the SPU

SPU Library Numbers

In academic year 2014–15:

267,818
people entered the library.

37,412
books were checked out.

210
information literacy sessions
were taught by librarians.

10,971
reference, research, and
technology consultations took
place.

Orbis Cascade Alliance Numbers

SPU is one of **37** universities and colleges in the Orbis Cascade Alliance.

Combined, there are over **30 million** items in Alliance libraries.

The Alliance provides access to about **140,000** e-books.

SPU patrons checked out **3,054** items from other Alliance libraries.

community with expanded access to 37 research databases in subjects such as business, psychology, and religion. The ProQuest platform and content, already familiar to many at SPU, is fully integrated with SPU's [discovery system](#) — a new search tool developed and shared by all Alliance libraries.

Our Library is fortunate to be part of such a strong and innovative library consortium, which enables us to leverage our financial resources for greater access to and use of library resources. The Library is also blessed to have a committed group of supportive friends, who believe in our [mission](#) and provide us with financial support to fulfill it.

Archives West



In addition to our shared and more comprehensive discovery system, the Alliance provides a service and a specialized search tool that exposes archival and manuscript collections held in libraries, archives, and other cultural institutions in the western United States. Previously called Northwest Digital Archives, the new [Archives West](#) website includes enhanced access to expanded content.

The SPU Library has been contributing information about its [archival materials](#) to this program for a number of years and adds to it regularly. Through Archives West, researchers can discover information about the [John Newton Letters](#) recently featured in [Response](#); the [personal papers of Pete Hammond](#), whose personal library established the core of the [Work and Faith Collection](#); and various record groups that are part of the [SPU Archives](#). An increasing amount of digitized content from these collections — especially content related to the early history of SPU — is available through the Library's [Digital Commons](#) repository.

The SPU Library delivered **3,070** items to other Alliance libraries.

For more information about the Library in 2014–15, see our [Annual Report](#).

Connect

Become a Friend of the Library by giving to an endowment that enhances both the quantity and quality of the resources available to students and scholars at SPU. If you are not already a member, or have not yet renewed your annual membership, please visit the Friends of the Library [giving site](#).

Attend the Library's speaker series [Creative Conversations](#), in which members of the SPU community share scholarly and creative works in progress. The series runs during the school year and is open to the public.

Follow the Library's [blog](#) and [Twitter account](#).

Explore the Library's website, and the resources and services available through it, by visiting spu.edu/library.

At the Intersection of Technology and Theology



This November, the Library is hosting a series of lectures titled “Digital Wisdom: Conversations at the Intersection of Technology, Theology, and Culture.” With funding from the Provost’s Academic Innovation Fund and SERVE, three theologians are visiting SPU to discuss issues related to living wisely in the digital age:

- **Tuesday, November 3:** Jana Bennett (University of Dayton), “In the Beginning, Who Created? A Discussion of Theology, Identity, and Social Media.” Dr. Bennett is author of *[Aquinas on the Web?: Doing Theology in an Internet Age](#)* (T&T Clark, 2012).
- **Thursday, November 12:** Brent Waters (Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary), “Mapping the Moral Terrain of the Emerging Technoculture: Living Faithfully Between Babylon and Jerusalem.” Dr. Waters is author of *[Christian Moral Theology in the Emerging Technoculture: From Postman Back to Human](#)* (Ashgate, 2014).
- **Monday, November 30:** Michael Burdett (Oxford University), “Forming the (Virtual) Self: Christian Practice and Internet Living.” Dr. Burdett is author of *[Eschatology and the Technological Future](#)* (Routledge, 2015).

All lectures will be at 7 p.m. in the Ames Library Seminar Room and are open to the public. More information is available from the related [project site](#), where we will share recordings of these lectures. We have been discussing the concept and practice of digital wisdom within the Library for some time now (see last [autumn's newsletter](#)), and we are excited to see this conversation continue through and beyond these lectures.



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