



Library Update

Presentation to Faculty Assembly

March 24, 2025

Sarah Weisman, Library Director

Library Personnel Updates

- New employees:
 - Haley Davie - Office Assistant 1 (Evenings & Weekends)
 - Allison (Allie) Madar – Research, Instruction & Outreach Librarian, tenure-track faculty member. New on 3/13/25!
 - TBA - Second Office Assistant 1 (Evenings & Weekends)
- Searching soon:
 - Classified - Library Assistant 1
 - Classified - Admin Assistant 1

Transforming Lives, Igniting Possibilities: Strategic Plan 2025-2030

Grow, Connect, and Thrive

Penfield Library Values

1. Learning
2. Access
3. Equity
4. Sustainability
5. Collaboration

Library mission, vision, and values

Grow

Library Values: Learning and
Equity

Grow

- Equitable access to quality information resources (materials, equipment, expert assistance) for all students, faculty, and staff.
- Emphasis on affordability.
- Intentionality in providing learning experience in student employment and internship opportunities.

Liaison Librarians

- Librarians assigned to department/subject areas to help with:
 - Research assistance
 - Information literacy support for upper-level classes
 - Requests to add resources to the collection
 - Keeping you and your department colleagues updated about what's happening at the library
- Some librarian assignment changes coming this summer

Individual Research Assistance

- Research help desk assistance from a librarian
- Peer reference assistance
- Research consultations
- Research parties

Library Instruction - Information Literacy

- [Library instruction](#) - it's not too late for faculty to request a librarian visit to a class
- [Resources for departmental information literacy infusion and assessment plans](#)
- [Generative AI at SUNY Oswego](#)
- For students – [How-To Guides](#) - asynchronous materials faculty can assign or students can use on their own.

Outreach

- Pop Up Penfield events
- Themed book displays
- Welcome Table - information booth on first days of class
- Welcome Fest
- Oz Reads Banned Books
- Success Fairs
- Maker Madness
- Research parties
- Admissions events
- Yarn crafting (part of Laker Thrive)

Services for Distance and Online Students

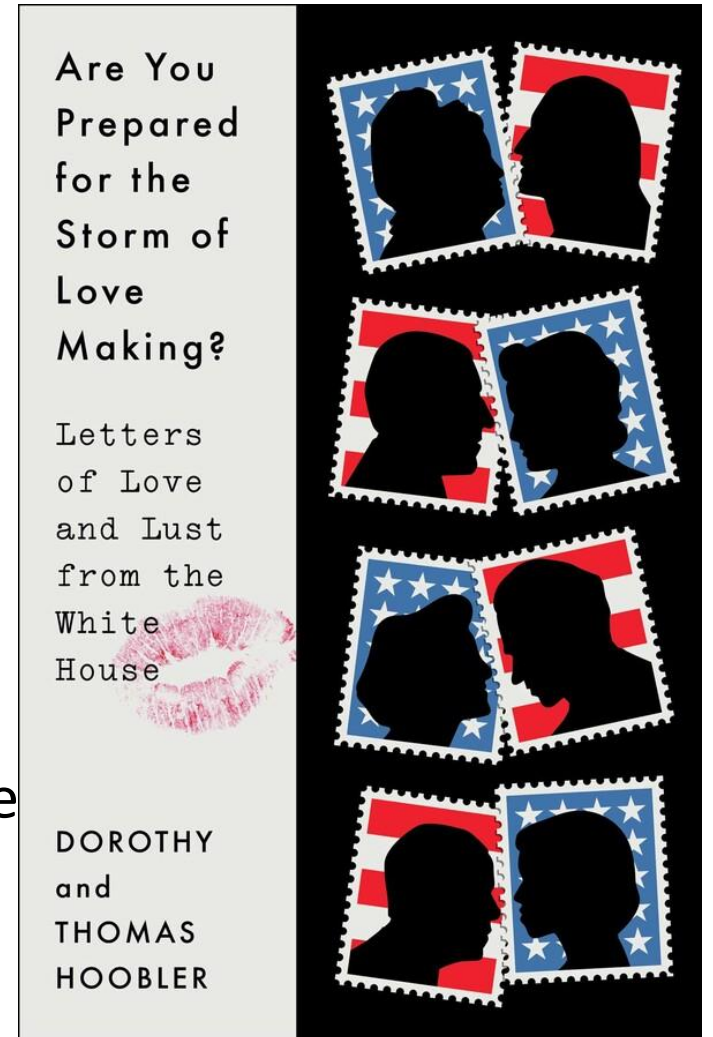
- A web page outlines the [available services for distance and online students](#), including Syracuse students
- Physical books from our collection can be delivered to the Syracuse campus via Extended Learning courier service
- SUNY Oswego librarian research help is available during scheduled hours or by appointment to meet by phone, e-mail, chat, and Zoom/Google Meet.
- Librarians are happy to visit your class at the Syracuse campus for a library instruction session

Display to Archives

- Display to Archives is Penfield Library's ongoing effort to collect, recognize, exhibit, and promote access to the creative and scholarly work of SUNY Oswego's faculty and professional staff.
- The Display to Archives celebration and recognition of the year's contributors will take place on Quest Day, April 23, 2025.
- We accept submissions year-round.

Archives & Special Collections

- Holdings that are unique to SUNY Oswego
 - Researchers used our collection for [NYTimes reviewed book, *ARE YOU PREPARED FOR THE STORM OF LOVE MAKING? Letters of Love and Lust From the White House*](#), By Dorothy and [Thomas Hoobler \(1942-2025\)](#)
 - [Millard Fillmore papers](#) – digitized and described, [available online](#)
- Physical and digital exhibits
- OswegoDL institutional repository replaced by SUNY-wide solutions – SOAR and SDR (SUNY Digital Repository); display platform being researched
- Student research interns funded by Impact Grant



Government Documents

- Research guide on [Government Documents and Information](#)
 - Significantly enhanced and expanded
 - [Alternative sources for government datasets](#) (aka disappearing docs)
- Oswego Today article coming soon – learn more!

Connect

Library Values: Access and
Collaboration

Connect

- Connect students, faculty, and staff with information resources to support their education and academic success.
- Connect people to each other and foster relationship building (faculty research sharing, yarn crafting)
- Connect students with support services (success fair)
- Connect broader / external community with access to library resources (community borrower cards and access to programming, e.g. Maker Madness)

Course Reserves

- Available at the Check-Out and Reserves Desk for three-hour in-library use loan. Students can check out textbooks or supplemental texts to complete their reading or other assignments, instead of purchasing these items.
- Textbooks and other materials in Course Reserves were the most checked out items in Penfield Library for 2024!
- Not all textbooks are available. We have many textbooks available thanks to faculty who lend or donate copies of the items to the library.
- Please bring items for Course Reserve before the start of the semester so that items can be ready for students to borrow on day one.

Extended laptop loans

- 1-week and semester-length loan periods
- Partnership with CTS and Dean of Students
- Started in Fall 2024
- Fall 2024 usage – includes both 1-week and semester-length loans:
 - 62 Macbook checkouts (7 available)
 - 214 Chromebook checkouts (10 available – week-long loans)
 - 145 Dell Laptop checkouts (10 available)
 - High demand for semester-length loans resulted in a waitlist
- Spring 2025:
 - Added 5 Dell laptops for semester-length loans
 - Added 4 Macs (11 available)
 - No waitlist

Student testimonial

One-week laptop loans

"Good morning! ...I'm emailing you today to thank you for the creation of the week long laptop loans provided by the library.

I am a commuter student who does a majority of my school work on my computer at home, but as of late I have had assignments and group projects that were meant to be worked on in class that I could not access from my phone alone, like I usually do. My older computer at home is not portable whatsoever, so I was a bit stressed about this! I had then discovered the week long laptop loans and was able to do my group project alongside my group as well as taking an online exam in class on a much more accessible platform and device, all within the time frame of the week long borrowing period.

I just wanted to extend my sincerest gratitude for the library and its services, as I found this to be incredibly useful to me and it eliminated a large amount of unnecessary stress on my behalf. Thank you and have a lovely day!"

Resource Sharing (Interlibrary Loan)

- Borrowing and lending materials with other libraries, across SUNY, New York, and the country, to extend our collection with resources from other institutions.
- Most items are available to students, faculty, and staff at no cost to you.
- 2023/2024 Usage:
 - Borrowing items (from other institutions) – 1945
 - Lending items (to other institutions) – 2916
 - Document delivery items – 42

Faculty Research Exchange

- Coming up this Wed. 3/26/25, 3-4:30pm in Penfield 215:
 - Natalia Lewandowska (Physics and Astronomy Department) and Gonzalo Aguiar Malosetti (Modern Languages and Literatures Department)
- Previous faculty highlighted:
 - Arsalan Mirjafari (Chemistry) and Linea Cutter (Politics)
 - Khairul Islam (Public Relations) and Murat Yasar (History)
 - Erik Wade (English & Creative Writing) and Daniel Baldassarre (Biological Sciences)
 - Yonggang Wang (Atmospheric & Geological Sciences) and Marthinus Koen (Criminal Justice)
 - Roberta Hurtado (English & Creative Writing) and Rasika Churchill (Mathematics)
 - Shashi Kanbur (Physics) and Rebecca Burch (Human Development)

University Impact Collections Grant

- Faculty and Staff eligible to apply
- Up to \$500 worth of materials to add to the Library collection to support:
 - Professional development
 - Scholarly activity
 - Program/course curriculum needs
 - Student success
- Funded in part by New York State Coordinated Collection Development Aid
- Award winners have been notified

Campus Collaborations

- Student artwork in the building
 - Partnership with Art Department for student art
 - SHOP original artwork – Benjamin Entner’s students highlighting food insecurity and SHOP’s location in the building
- Banned Books event – ongoing collaboration with Creative Writing and Politics Department
- EOP & OLS – share space and collaborate on events – Penfield Loves You Day, Research Parties, EOP Socials

Community Connections & Collaborations

- Maker Madness – partnership with Zonta Club of Oswego
 - Celebration of International Womens' Day
 - 2025 - 12 makers and 200 attendees
- Oswego Public Library
- Rice Creek winter fest
- Book ordering through Rivers End Bookstore – supporting a local retailer
- Visitor Policy streamlined, free community borrower cards

Thrive

Library Values: Sustainability
and Equity

Environmental Sustainability

- Library Sustainability Committee
- Working toward certification with the Sustainable Libraries Initiative
- Continued partnerships with campus Office of Sustainability
- Recycling softcover books and hardcover books
- Continued reduction in printing from library systems

Economic Sustainability

- Textbook affordability initiatives
 - Course Reserves
 - Open Educational Resources – guidance for faculty selection and adoption; connection to SUNY OER initiatives
- Equipment loans – now handling EOP calculator loans
- Shared resources for all of campus
 - Podcasting Room
 - Multimedia Production Room
 - Large format scanner
- Interlibrary loan
- Fewer trash/recycling cans throughout the building – related to custodial workload

Social Sustainability – Belonging and Wellness

- Events that promote connection and belonging
 - Library Welcome Fest
 - Penfield Loves You Day – annually on Valentine’s Day
 - Student Success Fair – Fall and Spring
- Wellness initiatives
 - Leisure reading
 - Personal privacy pod
 - Mental health and wellness titles
 - Yarn crafting – separate offerings once per month for faculty/staff and students
 - Harmony room

Equity

- Library Diversity Committee
- Library Accessibility Committee
- Library Book Displays
 - Hispanic Heritage Month
 - Women's Suffrage/Right to Vote
 - Banned Books
 - Graphic Novels
 - Fiber Arts
 - Black History Month
 - Poetry
 - Music
 - National Inventors Month
 - Student book recommendations
- Pop-Up Penfield



Multi-Year Collection Review Project - Progress

- Project started in December 2022 and will continue through 2027
- Will result in a significant reduction in the print collection that will make our collection more current, relevant, and inclusive; make our books more accessible by wheelchair; and in preparation for future library renovations
- See the [research guide](#) for a full description of the project and process

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events

- Faculty Research Exchange – 3/26/25 and 5/1/25
- Penfield Library Student Success Fair – 3/27/25
- Display to Archives Reception – 4/23/25
- Research Party – 4/30/25
- Yarn crafting
 - Fac/Staff – second Tuesday each month, 12pm (4/8/25)
 - Student – fourth Tuesday each month, 4pm (3/25/25, 4/22/25)
- Faculty Focus Group on Student Use of Library Resources – 5/2/25, 10-11:30

Follow us on social media!



Questions?

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