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**CSUN**

UNIVERSITY  
LIBRARY



# A Message from the Dean



University Library Dean Mark Stover, Ph.D.

The 21st century academic library is no longer just a storehouse of books, and not even just a place for study and information discovery. Instead, it has become a center of knowledge creation – a space to hone the skills of our students who are preparing for a new world of what I call the 6 “Cs”: creativity, critical thinking, computer skills, collaboration, compassion and cultural competence. These are the skills necessary in the work ecosystem of 2022, and these qualities are currently being modeled and taught in the California State University, Northridge University Library.

Librarians and library staff were traditionally gatekeepers of information. That is still a part of our job – selection of the best resources for students and faculty – but today library employees do much more than that. They are facilitators of information discovery and knowledge creation, problem-solvers, guides and leaders in information technology. One important example of this stands out at the CSUN University Library: The Creative Media Studio (CMS).

The CMS is a space where students learn how to be innovative and begin to engage in prototyping activity. 3D printers, laser cutters, virtual reality tools, a recording studio, digital editing tools, and much more allow students to begin the knowledge creation process, to collaborate with other students, and to see the tangible results of their creative energy. Students gravitate to the CMS because many of them instinctively understand that it is an encouraging space to try out new ideas, to create objects in both the digital and the physical world, to work with others in a collaborative way, and to have the freedom to learn through doing.

Along with the new mission of the Library, which now includes innovation, the CSUN University Library continues to take great pride in our traditional resources, especially the jewel in our crown: Special Collections & Archives. Special Collections & Archives contain the collections that make the CSUN University Library unique, since they cannot be found in any other library in the world. Three of our most important and exciting collections are the Tom & Ethel Bradley Center Archives, the Vern and Bonnie Bullough Collection on Sex and Gender, and the International Guitar Research Archives (IGRA). The Bradley Center contains over 1 million images that reflect the diversity of life in Southern California, primarily from African American photographers. The Bullough Collection contains one of the largest archival holdings on sex and gender in the United States, drawing researchers from around the world to study its primary sources. The IGRA collection is one of the premier archives in the world on the study of guitar performance, including thousands of pages of classical guitar sheet music.

These collections are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to our vast archival holdings. We are justly proud of all these valuable spaces in the CSUN University Library and encourage our students to utilize them as often as they can.

Mark Stover, Ph.D.  
Dean  
University Library

# Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

## September 2021

**Nicole Shibata** published a review of an art project from Dia Art Foundation’s Artist Web Projects series in *ARLIS/NA Multimedia & Technology Reviews*.

## August 2021

**Christina Hennessey** presented at the International Group of Ex Libris Users on “User data – How do you protect yours?”

**Nicole Shibata** published an article in the 13th issue of the Los Angeles Archivists Collective *Acid Free* magazine, entitled “Taking the Long View of LA’s Housing Crisis” where she reflected on the history of some of the neighborhoods documented in the Poor Housing Conditions collection found in CSUN’s Special Collections & Archives.

## July 2021

**Andrew Weiss, Ahmed Alwan, Eric Garcia and Antranik Kirakosian** (from the Department of Psychology) recently published the article “Toward a Comprehensive Model of Fake News: A New Approach to Examine the Creation and Sharing of False Information” in the open access journal *Societies*.

**Jamie Johnson, Liz Cheney and Nicole Shibata** presented and led a roundtable discussion at the 2021 LILI Conference on how to support instructors who teach with primary sources, which was based on their research findings from a larger project supported by Ithaka S+R.

## February 2021

**Kimberly Embleton** accepted the position of subject editor of *General Language and Literature* for the Choice/ Association of College and Research Libraries peer reviewed publication *Resources for College Libraries*.

**Christina Hennessey** published an article in the 50th issue of the peer-reviewed *Code4Lib Journal* titled “Customizing Alma and Primo for Home and Locker Delivery,” covering how Alma and Primo libraries can edit their own library’s system configurations to support these important library services during a pandemic.

## November 2020

**April Feldman** co-authored an article titled “Collecting COVID at the California State University: Shared Approaches, Divergent Implementations,” with Sean Visintainer, Pamela Kruger and Christopher Livingston, colleagues from three other CSU campuses. It will appear next year in *Collections: A Journal for Museum and Archives Professionals*.

## October 2020

**Christina Hennessey** presented at the Ex Libris Northeast Users Group conference in New York on the topic of “Customizing Alma and Primo for Home Delivery.”

**Chris Salvano** presented at the Western Association of Map Libraries 2020 Virtual Conference, taking part in a Careers in Map and GIS Librarianship panel with four other early career map librarians and curators.

## September 2020

**Christina Hennessey** presented at the International Group of Ex Libris Users’s annual conference. Her presentation was called “Can we fix it? Yes, we can! Fixing user record notes in Alma.”

## August 2020

**Crystal Johnson** and her resident archivist colleagues at University of Southern California and CSU Dominguez Hills had a poster accepted for the Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting, “Digitization, Post-Custodialism, and the Future of Community Archives,” reflecting on the L.A. as Subject Digital Residency Program

## JUNE 2020

**Andrew Weiss** published a new book published by Rowman & Littlefield entitled “The Dark Side of Our Digital World (And What You Can Do about It).” This book deals with systemic problems of the information society, including surveillance, trolling, phishing and fraud, online hate groups and real-world violence, information overload, conspiracy theories, fake news, and more.

# Students Across Campus Thrive in University Library's Creative Media Studio



As it continues to expand with exciting new tools for student creativity, the University Library's Creative Media Studio is a place where students from across campus can create, collaborate and turn ideas into prototypes.

The space fosters artistry and ingenuity, empowering students to be architects of their imaginations by providing access to everything from virtual reality tools, laser cutters, expanded recording studios and other cutting-edge technology – all the tools to bring concepts to life.

"We have a lot of students who come in, and they're inspired by the creativity in the studio," University Library Dean Mark Stover said. "They come in for something that might seem kind of fun and not really related to academic studies, but they come out with skills and with aspirations and inspiration to do things for their classes and to create businesses after they graduate."

CSUN is committed to inspiring students to be bold thinkers and innovators, but creativity doesn't always happen in a traditional classroom. The CSUN Creative Media Studio encourages expanded free exchanges of ideas and hands-on learning.



Since its inception eight years ago, the Library annually has sought and received funding not only to maintain the space but also expand it. Open 16 hours a day and on weekends, it features multiple 3D printers, a recording studio, imaging tools, high-end video equipment, a full suite of design programs and more. The space allows students to use this expensive equipment and software at no cost. The most recent addition was the laser cutter, which creates products based on student designs.

Jimmy Guzmán Jr. first visited the studio to save money, using the 3D printer to create miniatures for the game Dungeons & Dragons. As the staff introduced him to more tools, Guzmán began to marry his playtime with more serious work.

Soon, he was creating lab utilities such as beaker lids and protein brush holders. Now, he's combining what he learned about 3D modeling with DNA research. For example, Guzmán has used a 3D DNA model to demonstrate how a hypothetical drug would bind to it.

"I am so glad the studio introduced me to it, because the range of possibility with 3D printing is unlimited," Guzmán said.



# Special Collections & Archives: CSUN's Unique Resources

While many books, journals, and databases may be found at most libraries, our Special Collections & Archives are unique to CSUN and cannot be found elsewhere in the world. That's why the Library attracts students and scholars from around the globe: They conduct primary research using the materials found only here.

"I think of us as stewards of the history of Los Angeles, specifically of the history of the San Fernando Valley," said Mark Stover, dean of the University Library. "We've got hundreds and hundreds of archival collections that reflect that. Collections that are, of course, unique, and they reflect the diversity and the passion of the early pioneers of the San Fernando Valley and leaders of the City of Los Angeles, 150 years ago to the present."

The Special Collections & Archives section of the University Library is comprised of six areas that collect archival and manuscript materials.



1. Special Collections houses the Library's manuscripts, rare books, periodicals, maps, prints and art. Its purpose is to build collections that support the curriculum at CSUN and further the research interests of students, faculty, community members, and other researchers. Topics include American literature, California and the Western United States, children's literature, the history of printing and publishing, human sexuality, music, 19th and 20th century Europe, and United States history.
2. International Guitar Research Archives (IGRA) holds one of the world's largest collections documenting the guitarists and composers associated with the guitar and related professional associations. IGRA also houses one of the world's largest repositories of guitar sheet music. IGRA was founded in 1980 by Ronald C. Purcell, a former CSUN professor of guitar performance.
3. Old China Hands Archives preserve the heritage of the many people from other countries and cultures who have resided and worked in China during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Established by geography and environmental studies professor emeritus Robert Gohstand, this collection documents the experiences of government employees, business persons, missionaries, maritime and military service persons, refugees from Nazi-controlled Europe and the Soviet Union, and journalists.
4. University Archives & Campus History is the repository for the historical papers of CSUN's administration, Faculty Senate, schools and departments, and student activities on campus. The University Archives includes documentation of student movements and campus unrest in the late 1960s, and campus visits by politicians such as Robert F. Kennedy, Eugene McCarthy, Hubert Humphrey, and Bill Clinton.
5. Urban Archives collects historically significant records of the organizations and citizens who have contributed to the growth of Los Angeles County as a major metropolitan area. The holdings primarily consist of 20th century records documenting such themes as urban development, education, journalism, labor and guild history, ethnic and area studies, and politics in Los Angeles.
6. Tom & Ethel Bradley Center Collections was established in 1981 by journalism professor emeritus Kent Kirkton to disseminate the visual history of Southern California with an emphasis on ethnic minority communities and photographers.

# International Guitar Research Archives is One of World's Largest

The International Guitar Research Archives (IGRA) at the University Library holds one of the world's largest collections of resources documenting the lives and music and careers of guitarists, composers associated with the guitar, and professional associations.

The IGRA also houses one of the world's largest repositories of guitar sheet music, and it has made more than 1,000 scores available for download.

IGRA holdings include correspondence, manuscripts, periodicals, photographs, audio recordings in numerous formats, sheet music, printed books and other materials, some of it rare and unique. It houses resources documenting the lives and careers of notable guitar performers and composers, including Andrés Segovia, a virtuoso Spanish classical guitarist and prolific teacher; Laurindo Almeida, a classical, jazz and Latin music guitarist and pioneer of bossa nova music; and Vicente Gómez, a classical guitarist and composer; as well as the records of guitar composers and professional associations, correspondence, photographs and audio recordings.

"These are some of the most pre-eminent guitarists and composers of the 20th century," said Ellen Jarosz, head of Special Collections & Archives. "Students in CSUN's guitar program and researchers from around the world take advantage of this rich resource."

The IGRA was founded in 1980 by Ronald C. Purcell — a former CSUN professor of guitar performance — upon the donation of the Vahdah Olcott-Bickford Collection to CSUN.

Vahdah Olcott-Bickford, née Ethel Lucretia Olcott, was a professional teacher of the guitar, known best for her influential guitar method, Op. 25, and the advanced course, Op. 116. She also wrote numerous articles about the guitar and corresponded with other musicians and enthusiasts about the instrument throughout her long career.

The Vahdah Olcott-Bickford Collection documents Olcott-Bickford's professional life as a classical guitarist, an avid member of various organizations in the United States, her work with guitarists around the world and her personal life. The collection includes scores, letters, photographs, newspaper clippings, receipts, articles, lecture notes and guest books, and dates from 1874-1980.

With generous support from the Ronald C. and Elizabeth Ann Purcell IGRA Endowment, established in Purcell's memory, and other donors, the IGRA offers:

- A one-year student fellowship that provides \$1,000 and a position as a student assistant in the IGRA.
- Cash prizes for outstanding student work at Riffs and Research student symposium, held at the end of each semester.

The IGRA continues to grow. A separate fund supports new acquisitions, as well as sustaining the cost of maintaining the vast collection.



# Tom & Ethel Bradley Center Collections Tell Stories of Diverse Communities

The Tom & Ethel Bradley Center has long served CSUN and the region as the visual storyteller of ethnic and minority communities as seen through the lenses of Los Angeles-based photographers. Its impact continued to grow in 2021.

The Center houses more than a million images that document the social, cultural and political lives of the communities of Los Angeles and Southern California from 1910 to present. The archives contain one of the largest collections of African American photographers west of the Mississippi and the most extensive collection in Southern California.

The Center also features a Border Studies Collection examining issues surrounding the border between the United States and Mexico. Through photographic collections, oral histories, manuscripts, videos, newspaper archives and guest lectures, issues such as immigration, human rights, globalization and economic violence are examined.

"All of the images in the Bradley Center are historically significant because they document people who knew their stories were important," said Keith Rice, the Center's historian.

And the impactful imagery continues to grow through several initiatives.

- The Center received a \$350,000, three-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities in May for a new digitization project spotlighting the farmworker movement. The grant will enable the Center to create a publicly available digital archive of 6,600 images and a multimedia website that uses the newly created images,

oral histories of farmworker participants and other digital resources to tell the stories of those who made the movement initially successful, paying particular attention to the role of women.

- The Bradley Center completed a three-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, digitizing over 17,000 images from photographers Charles Williams, Harry Adams and Guy Crowder.
- The Center recently digitized and created bilingual metadata for the collection of 11,722 photographs by Richard Cross.
- The African American oral history project completed in August made 140 hours of the more than 60 oral history interviews with entertainers, politicians, sports figures, civil rights and Black power activists digitally accessible and ADA compliant for research and as an instructional aid for curricula that examines the African American experience in Los Angeles during the 20th century.
- Archival researcher Marta Valier last February started producing and hosting a bi-weekly podcast titled "Emancipated: Voices and Images from the Archives."

CSUN students also play key roles at the Bradley Center. Over the years, many have served as interns performing research and archival work to process, preserve and archive digital images, oral histories and other related material housed at the Center.

In 2015, the Bradley Center developed an ongoing relationship with the Tom & Ethel Bradley Foundation, and was renamed the Tom & Ethel Bradley Center.

# Vern and Bonnie Bullough Collection on Sex and Gender Documents Attitudes Over Time

Social attitudes on sex and gender continue to evolve. With one of the largest such collections on human sexuality and gender, CSUN represents a focal point for individuals exploring those subjects.

The University Library is home to the Vern and Bonnie Bullough Collection on Sex and Gender, which features more than 20 archival collections and more than 9,200 cataloged publications. The collection documents social attitudes and studies of sex and gender from ancient times to the present, in support of CSUN curricula and research.

The materials receive widespread use across various departments and majors on campus, including classes that require research from the collection, said Ellen Jarosz, head of Special Collections & Archives.

"Of all of our collections, this collection is most heavily accessed by students, especially undergraduates," Jarosz said.

The collection is maintained for research and educational purposes and is comprised of books, periodicals, manuscripts and archival materials covering everything from cross-dressing to gender roles in various time periods to the homosexual community in Los Angeles. It also features material on prostitution, the transgendered community, children and gender, nudism, gender and medicine, fetishism and pornography.

The archive includes colorful art books such as "The Clouds and the Rain: Art of Love in China," which features gorgeous Chinese erotic paintings, and the papers of Virginia Prince, an early transgender researcher and activist. The Bullough Collection also contains early issues of gay and lesbian periodicals like ONE and The Ladder, both dating from the 1950s.

"It has a lot of underground publications, many of which were produced by and for communities outside the heteronormative mainstream," Jarosz said.

The Bullough Collection was established by former CSUN faculty member Vern Bullough. The founding director of CSUN's now-defunct Center for Sex Research, he donated his personal research library starting in 1973 and continued making donations through the 1990s.

Vern Bullough's papers are considered the centerpiece of the Bullough Collection, seeing regular use as resources for CSUN's Gender and Women's Studies and Queer Studies capstone projects that culminate in the annual Sex in the Library student research event. Vern Bullough established the Vern and Bonnie Bullough Endowment for Human Sexuality and Gender Studies to support such events, scholarships, and programs, like the Queer Studies Student Research Symposium and the Gender and Women's Studies Student Conference. Students have the opportunity to present their research to their peers and compete for Bullough scholarships.



# In Recognition for Their Generous Support to the University Library, July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021

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\*We humbly apologize for any errors or omissions in spite of our best efforts to prepare this list accurately. Do not hesitate to contact Tarry Kang at [tarry.kang@csun.edu](mailto:tarry.kang@csun.edu) or (818) 677-5146 if you find an error.

## LIBRARY STATISTICS

2019 - 2020

Library Visits Per Year*	864,926
No. of Virtual Visits	1.86 million
Uses of E-Books and Serials	2.6 million
No. of Items Circulated	36,954
No. of Students Attending Instructional Sessions	20,559
Physical Resources	863,134
Digital Resources	1.2 million
No. of Student Employees	61

\*Period: September 2019 - February 2020





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CSUN University Library  
18111 Nordhoff Street  
Northridge, CA 91330-8326

For more information about how you may help the University Library continue to engage, connect, and transform, please contact the Director of Development, Library & Centers, Tarry Kang at [tarry.kang@csun.edu](mailto:tarry.kang@csun.edu) or (818) 677-5146.