Fall 2016 was a busy time in the Library! We hosted the TBR academic audit team, renovated the Burchfiel Library, hired another full-time Librarian, increased our Instagram followers, conceptualized the new Library Ambassador program, hosted 7 student events, and boosted student participation through interactive displays in the Lobby.

A three-member TBR Auditor team conducted an on-site visit to the Library as a conclusion to our self-study report of our program. The Auditor team raved about the Library’s services and staff, calling us a “high-performing team” with a “can-do spirit.” Our self-study report is already being used in other academic Libraries as a good example to follow. We are excited about the results of our report!

I would like to thank the Library employees for doing a fantastic job in 2016. We were short-staffed during the busiest time of year, and all of the staff went above and beyond to continue to meet all of the student and faculty needs. Most of our Bibliographic Instruction sessions were taught by Audrey Shoemaker, who taught 73 classes before our new hire arrived to help.

Wishing you a happy 2017,

Dean of Library Services

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

INSTAGRAM UPDATE

Since we started promoting our new Instagram in August, our numbers have grown exponentially. In just a few months, we’ve not only had students following us, but also interacting with us on Instagram. It has become a valuable tool for communicating our resources, activities, and services. These photos are some of our favorites from last semester!

Let the Library set you up on a blind date this February! Check out a random wrapped book or use the keywords on the tag to help you choose. These books will be on display in the lobby during the month of February, but if you don’t have time to stop by, you can still participate! Simply email Tiffany Delias, and she’ll send you a book in the mail. This fun reading initiative is for everyone on campus, so encourage your students to participate as well! And remember: don’t judge a book by its cover!
NEW PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS

The Library is excited to announce that we are beginning a Library Ambassador program for students. This program will directly involve students in the creation and promotion of Love, Your Library events. The Love, Your Library initiative was created in Fall 2015 to offer events and activities that promote a sense of community at the Library, and by extension, the campus as a whole. To effectively promote these events to students, we focused on growing our social media presence. Now that we have a strong student following on our Instagram, we would like to offer select students the chance to help promote our events. Having designated students who will promote the Library in a positive manner to their friends will be an effective way for us reach even more students.

The Library Ambassadors will act as both Brand Ambassadors and Student Representatives. They’ll be the student face of the Library, and they’ll have the opportunity to share their ideas for Library events and initiatives. The program will provide students leadership skills, professional connections, experience in communications and marketing, practice with coordinating events, and the chance to make a positive impact at Walters State.

LIBRARY AMBASSADOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

* Attend all Love, Your Library events
* Appear in promotional videos and photos for the Library’s social media
* Create one original social media post about the Library
* Attend meetings with Library staff to suggest ways to improve the student experience at the Library

Each semester, the Library will select four Library Ambassadors on the main campus through an application and interview process. Two freshmen and two sophomores will be chosen, provided there are qualified applicants in each class. Encourage your students to apply for this resume-boosting opportunity!

This end of term activity will be our biggest Love, Your Library event of the semester! We’re going to serve a cereal bar so that students can fuel up while they’re studying for finals. We’re also providing a stress-relieving craft activity. This event will be the week prior to finals week so that we are hosting this event during the busiest time in the semester.
When you walk in the front doors of the Library, Chasity Brogan is most likely the first person you’ll see. Since she started working here seven years ago, she has become a familiar face to students and faculty alike, answering questions and managing equipment at the Circulation desk.

Chasity has lived in Thorn Hill, TN her entire life. She attended Walters State Community College, and while she was a student, she held a student worker position in the office of Planning, Research and Assessment. She enjoyed working at Walters State so much that she sought full-time employment after graduating with her Associate of Applied Science in Office Administration. She is currently taking online courses at Austin Peay State University to get a Bachelor of Science in Leadership and Organizational Administration.

When she’s not spending time with her husband Billy or their four year old son Hunter, Chasity is interested in all things scary or gory, including watching horror movies and The Walking Dead, decorating her home and the Library for Halloween, and visiting all of the haunted houses in the area. She loves taking pictures of families and babies, and she runs a small photography business. Chasity makes her co-workers laugh by telling her fabled “Chasity stories” and by eating lettuce sandwiches — perhaps more accurately described by Audrey as “nothing sandwiches.”

Chasity’s favorite part about working at the Library is the opportunity to give everyone who comes through the Library doors the best possible experience at WSCC.
Librarians Audrey and Julie will present “Use Us, Please: Faculty Professional Development that Works for Your Library” at The Collective, an interactive library conference at which the focus is “learning, networking, and kickstarting new ideas among next-generation librarians.” The Collective is hosted by the University Libraries at UT Knoxville and is a competitive academic conference attended by librarians from around the country and world. Faculty members Dr. David White and Angie Elkins will join Audrey and Julie in their presentation which will focus on the library’s involvement in professional development offered by Walters State’s Department of Instructional Design.

LIBRARY HOURS
Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 8:15 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
Sunday 1:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY
Encourage your students to join us for a self-led scavenger hunt that will teach students how to use the library on Thursday, March 21. Students will learn to locate basic resources, check out technology, schedule a research coaching appointment, and navigate the building in a fun and interactive way. This introduction to the library will help students to overcome library anxiety and motivate them to use this community space. Contact a librarian if you would like your students to participate for class credit or if you would prefer an individual class date. This activity is recommended for EDUC 1030 and READ 0800 students.

SEVIER COUNTY CAMPUS:
BURCHFIEL LIBRARY GRAND OPENING
The Burchfiel Library on the Sevierville campus is now open for use! On November 16th, WSCC unveiled the newly renovated and expanded Library, which now has a tutoring lab and comfortable study areas for both collaborative and private study. Emily Burchfiel Kile, pictured below, donated the funds to improve the Library in memory of her late parents, Norman and Josephine Burchfiel. Make sure to stop by and see the updated Library when you’re on the Sevierville campus!

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