Research shows that fostering student engagement and participation is one of the most important factors for increasing college retention. At the Library, we try to help cultivate a sense of community on campus through our student events and our social media. I’m excited to report that our Love, Your Library events this semester were more popular than ever! Thank you to everyone who attended and brought their classes to Nacho Average Library, Baxttober, Cookies, Coloring, & Coffee, and the HABIT dogs. We never get tired of hearing how much students love our events, and we especially love every time these events bring a student to the Library for the first time. We’re proud to offer events and services that promote community on campus.

Our Instagram is also thriving! Recently, a student approached us at a Love, Your Library event to tell us that our Instagram helped them get involved on campus more than anything else during their time at Walters State! Other libraries across the world use our Instagram material frequently as well, sharing our material at least twice a week on their own accounts. The New York Public Library, one of the biggest libraries in the world, shared one of our posts on their account!

In addition to our efforts to foster student engagement, we have had a record-breaking semester. The Librarians taught a record number of students, taught a record number of classes on satellite campuses, and given a record number of research coaching sessions! Fall 2017 has been the most active the Library has been to date. I commend the Library staff for the incredible amount of work they accomplished this fall.

Hope to see you in the Library!

Dr. James Posey
Dean of Library Services
**Upcoming Events**

**Blind Date with a Book:**
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 from January 29-February 16th. If you don't have time to stop by, you can still participate! Simply email tiffany.delias@ws.edu to receive a book in the mail. This fun reading initiative is for everyone on campus, so please encourage your students to participate! And remember: don't judge a book by its cover!

**Yoga in the Library:** Yoga instructor Andy Daniels is coming to help students, faculty, and staff relax around midterms! This yoga session will be beginner’s level and will take place on the first floor of the Library. Bring your own mat or towel!

**Puppies, Puzzles, & Poptarts:** The Habit Dogs are coming back for finals season! We'll also have Poptarts for a study snack and puzzles so students can take a study break.

**New Reading Room Books**
Visit the Reading Room or library.ws.edu/readingroom to view all 48 new books. Email chasity.brogan@ws.edu to have a book sent in campus mail.
Dr. Jamie Posey has worked at the Walters State Library for over 17 years. He has lived in Tazewell his entire life and is a graduate of our very own Walters State. His doctorate is in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis from ETSU. As Dean of the Library, he oversees all aspects of library operations including personnel, budget, policy development, facilities planning, and services.

Dr. Posey enjoys working at Walters State because it’s a close-knit family where has developed many friendships. He especially appreciates working in the Library, where he gets the opportunity to interact with intelligent, cultured, well-read faculty, staff, and students that bring a myriad of skills, backgrounds, and interests to WSCC.

As many of you know, Dr. Posey is quite the prankster. He keeps life interesting at the Library with ready sarcasm, fake phone calls, and plenty of jokes up his sleeve. Once, he mixed up Secret Santa gifts, even going so far as taking the wrapping paper out of the trash, rewrapping a gift, and sending it back to the person he guessed sent it. After he creates chaos, he always manages to get back on our good sides by bringing lunch or ice cream.

Dr. Posey loves spending time with his family doing outdoor activities like camping, hiking, and fishing. Dr. Posey’s wife is a high school librarian at Cumberland Gap High School. He has a daughter in high school and a son in fifth grade. His children are active in school sports and travel ball, so he spends most evenings and weekends at a basketball court or ball field.