

Spring 2022

Library Newsletter

Old Dominion University Libraries

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New Dean of Libraries Announced this Semester

By Jennifer Hoyt

In April, ODU announced the hiring of our new dean, Timothy Hackman, marking an exciting step forward for the University Libraries. Hackman offers nearly 20 years of academic library experience, allowing for leadership in the field of librarianship and for emphasis placed on connecting ODU Libraries' services and resources to the needs of the Monarch community.

Prior to accepting this position, he served at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) as associate director for public services. The new dean also holds a M.A. in English Language & Literature, Master of Library Science, and a B.A. in English. Hackman was appointed to the Dean of Libraries position following a competitive nationwide search and will begin his service at ODU in July of 2022.

Notably, changes in leadership open up avenues for development and growth and opportunities to question long-held assumptions. As we recognize and prepare for Hackman's arrival, our interim university librarian, Stuart Frazer, expresses gratitude for being given the chance to oversee the Libraries over the past two years.

"It has been both a challenging and rewarding experience. I am truly grateful for the support I received from those within the Libraries, Academic Affairs and across the University," reflects Frazer.

"Although, as individuals, we may be capable of more than we think, accomplishing organizational goals always requires contributions from many people."

Progress comes by way of collaboration, reciprocity, sacrifice, trust, and recognition moving vertically and horizontally across our organization. Frazer encouraged this process during his time as interim and was entrusted by Libraries'

employees with the opportunity to try. He shares, "I look forward to continuing to build the Libraries with you all under the leadership of our new dean!"



New Dean of University Libraries, Timothy Hackman, joins ODU this summer!



Themester Events and Exhibits at ODU Libraries

By Jennifer Hoyt

ODU Libraries currently prepare for ODU's next Themester in the fall of 2022. Through planning and collaboration, the campus will center around the significance of sustainability. And as the University recognizes, the theme will support the practice of environmental, social, and economic sustainability.

Notably, the Libraries were among several participants in ODU's previous Themester last fall, which offered events and exhibits centered on the arts and social justice. Aligning with the theme to merge coursework with engagement, the Libraries kicked off September by encouraging the Monarch community to pick up a Themester passport and to explore the opportunities planned for Fall 2021.

The Arts and Social Justice Themester reflected on issues and concerns stemming from recent social unrest and activism, as well as providing outlets for academic and social expression. As stated on ODU's website, "People the world over and throughout history have grappled with issues of justice in their societies, and they have explored and expressed what it means to be human through many art forms. This vital work has intersected in powerful ways with science, technology and engineering, affected political change, and altered ways in which people think, behave, communicate, educate, and do business."

Among the Themester opportunities, ODU Libraries



Positive words of encouragement were posted for fellow Monarchs on the "Message a Monarch" board in an effort to showcase ODU's supportive community.

welcomed students, faculty, and others across campus to select materials from the Arts & Social Justice in the Libraries: A Physical and Virtual Book Display, featuring print books, e-books, and media on issues related to arts and social justice. The Libraries also invited Monarchs to visit a student art display titled *Food, Shelter, Water; an Arts-Based Research Investigation*. Notably, students of Dr. Natalia Pilato's ARTS 495 course dedicated their time and effort to the Fall 2021 Themester project, while collaborating with the Libraries and our available resources.

Moreover, the Libraries hosted the virtual event *"Poems From the Holocaust" Revisited* to encourage exploration of a musical composition that melds both art and social justice by urging listeners to never forget the tragedy of the Holocaust's youngest victims. In October, panelists shared their perspective and expertise on *"Poems From the Holocaust,"* which was written by composer Allan Blank and was based upon children's poetry found at the Jewish concentration camp of Terezin after its liberation in 1945. Performers also participated in the evening's reflection.

"The music expressed exactly what Mr. Blank had hoped when he first wrote the piece - sadness, anger, and a call to never forget the horrors of the Holocaust," shared LaraAnn Canner, event planner and curator of Music Special Collections at ODU Libraries. "In contextualizing the music, the faculty panelists brought those themes to the forefront and created even more empathy for the young victims."



Organizer LaraAnn Canner at the "Poems From the Holocaust" Revisited virtual event. October, 2021





Gender, Engineering, & Solutions: Kicking off Women's History Month at Perry Library

By Alisa Faumore

Students of Dr. Stacie Ringleb's Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Information Literacy and Research (MAE 111) class entered Perry Library on March 3rd to present their research projects on the various ways that gender impacts the field of engineering. Moreover, before the student presentations began, attendees gathered in a Libraries' conference room as Dr. Annette Finley-Croswhite, professor in the History Department, gave a pre-recorded keynote address on the history of prominent women who trailblazed in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

During the address, she noted, "Throughout time, intelligent, hardworking, ambitious women confronted many challenges and closed doors in terms of pursuing education, especially in what we would think of as STEM today."

Finley-Croswhite concluded by offering ways STEM students can work towards a more inclusive environment, through networking, role modeling, and participating in leadership roles.

Following Finley-Croswhite's address and building on the history she established, Dr. Mona Danner, chair of the Sociology and Criminal Justice Department, gave a rousing speech motivating the students in the room to make space for more women in STEM. Danner urged them to consider gender as a major factor in the fields they study and to not leave marginalized groups behind as they build their future careers.

Student presentations took place immediately after the keynote addresses in the lower lobby area of the Learning Commons. Among the 13 posters lining the rows of tables were topics, such as "Removing Barriers for Women in Aerospace Engineering"; "The Sexism of Spacesuits"; "Safety and Confidence for Women in the Battlefield"; and "Bottle Opening for Elderly Women with Disabilities." As attendees moved

through the space, they were invited to engage with student presenters, who explained their research and proposed solutions, while answering any questions that came up.

Abbie Basile, ODU Libraries engineering and physical sciences liaison librarian and event organizer, recalled her experience working with Engineering faculty and students, noting, "Being able to partner with Dr. Ringleb and her freshman students on a diversity, equity, and inclusion topic allowed the Libraries to demonstrate how we can partner with faculty in a variety of ways to support student success. Several people commented how impressed they were with the students' topics choices and quality of work. Dr. Ringleb and I are hoping to make this an annual event for Women's History Month."



Monarch Book Club: A Place for Students with a Passion for Literature

By LaraAnn Canner

"I found the Monarch Book Club while I was looking through the University Announcements at 3 a.m. one day during the fall semester of 2020. I was in Reading, Pennsylvania, so I was glad that the book club was being held online. Since then, I have been to every MBC meeting, several planning meetings, and the 2021 Virginia Library Association Conference. The Monarch Book Club is one of my favorite parts of being in college." – ODU student Olivia Cheskey

A group of students gathered to attend the Libraries' first Monarch Book Club meeting on October 22, 2019 in the Learning Commons of Perry Library to share their thoughts on *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood. The title won the vote by participating students, and a lively discussion made the meeting a success, leading to more bi-semester book club events. Since this meeting, students have read *The Hate U Give*, *Mexican Gothic*, and *Honey Girl*. Moreover, just as diverse as the books chosen, student Book Club members have encompassed a range of backgrounds and majors (including an honorary infant member!). Each meeting brings in new faces and new ideas.

And while students lead the book club, library staff facilitate behind the scenes. Interested staff members create an atmosphere conducive to student discussion and social interaction – from organizing the questions, proposing titles, and conducting book voting to ordering books, providing the location, and, of course, ending with a survey.

"We talk about books nominated and voted on by students, and we include students in the planning process. But what has really surprised me is how student-driven the discussions are," shared Undergraduate Success Librarian Travis Jones. "There have even been meetings when the conversation is so organically fruitful that we forgo the discussion questions and just let students talk about the parts of the book that mattered to them."

From that first meeting in 2019, much has changed - times, locations, in-person sessions, virtual meetings, and hybrid discussions. However, the most important aspects remain unchanged. The Libraries' Monarch Book Club still aims to create a space for students to read diverse authors, explore different perspectives, and develop leadership skills in an encouraging environment, and it strives to become one of the best parts of the college experience.



Another Successful Year for the Undergraduate Research Symposium

By Jennifer Hoyt

ODU Libraries welcomed the University's 14th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium in mid-March, offering over 80 displays of academic scholarship. The day's event, set up within the Learning Commons @ Perry Library and the library's gallery section, presented a mix of posters and art as an outcome of student research and creativity. Organized by the Perry Honors College, the symposium also invited the Monarch community to join discussions virtually.

Honors College Dean David Metzger kicked off the day by speaking to those attending, noting that research is necessary in all fields of study, from science and business to art, fashion, and set design. He also shared his appreciation for another semester of commitment to the symposium. "Thank you, students, for being here, and thank you mentors - not only for being here and doing the work, but often on top of a whole bunch of other projects."

Paintings, photos, and designs filled the gallery section for attendees to view and ask questions regarding inspiration and scholarly intent. Moreover, posters lined the front sections near Perry Library's main entrance with students prepared to share their knowledge on specific academic topics. Looking ahead to graduating in 2023, undergraduate Fozi Alkaifi presented research on the computational analysis of cellular differentiation, while also noting the significance of participating in the spring symposium.

"It's really great to be a part of the symposium because it's important to let other students know about the opportunity that ODU provides about undergraduate research and being able to learn about other fields," Alkaifi explained. "It's important for us to contribute to help them learn about this experience."

In addition to the symposium featuring research and scholarship, ODU Digital Commons has archived the abstracts and artwork from the event for future exploration at <https://digitalcommons.odu.edu/undergradsymposium/2022/>. Also, recorded sessions of the 14th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium are now available on the Undergraduate Research Symposium's [webpage](#) through the Perry Honors College.





Virtual Zine Workshop

2022 Arts in the Libraries Virtual Festival

Old Dominion University

Gay Acompañado (She/her/hers)
Art Library Supervisor
Elise N. Hofheimer Art Library

ODU Libraries 2022 Arts in the Libraries Virtual Festival

By Staff Writers

ODU Libraries hosted the second Arts in the Libraries Virtual Festival from March 21 to 25, which featured art, a lecture series, digital exhibits, dance and music performances, and a zine-making workshop. Notably, the Gordon Art Galleries, the University Theatre, and faculty collaborated as co-partners with the Libraries to make this festival a success once again.

“Our Arts in the Libraries Virtual Festival is designed to showcase all the unexpected treasures we have available for the community to discover, from rare art books to historic ceramics to our special collections of music recordings and composer sketchbooks,” said LaraAnn Canner, curator of Music Special Collections at the ODU Libraries and lead planner of the event. “Our Libraries have so much to explore beyond the page.” Among the week’s events was a screening of assistant professor Priya Vashist’s film “Yet So Far,” which explored queer romance and South Asian identity; a lecture from Robert Wojtowicz, vice provost and dean of the Graduate School, on the Hampton Roads art scene 200 years ago; and “Here Us Out: Methods of Theatre Performance as Activism,” a presentation by assistant professor Brittney S. Harris that merged theatrical performance, community building and conflict resolution.

“Using the virtual stage to engage participants with our new performance space as a unifier really shifted the theatricality of community-engaged theatre. No longer were the participants simply audience members but were asked to reflect and contribute beyond their screens,” said Harris, who also presented in the 2021 virtual festival.

By showcasing the beauty found in books, ODU Libraries hope that all attendees of the festival found an opportunity to celebrate the arts, felt creatively inspired, and walked away with increased understanding of the arts. Please visit the Arts in the Libraries Virtual Festival website for a look back on music performances, digital exhibits, virtual tours, and past presentations! <https://www.odu.edu/library/arts-lib-festival.html>

Virginia Poets Database

A Literary and Educational Resource



Poetry Spotlight

A Spring Launch of The Virginia Poets Database

By Jennifer Hoyt

ODU Libraries collaborated with Luisa A. Igloria, the 20th Poet Laureate of the Commonwealth of Virginia, to host the [Virginia Poets Database](#) in ODU Digital Commons. Available this semester, the digital archive, created by Igloria with the help of a fellowship from the Academy of American Poets, serves as a literary and educational resource and is structured using eight Virginia regions ranging from Hampton Roads to Virginia's southwest region.

"After getting to know Luisa through our work on the Annual Literary Festival, we were happy to work with her on one of her cornerstone projects as Virginia's Poet Laureate," explained Karen Vaughan, head of Scholarly Communication and Publishing. Notably, the database provides a centralized location for information about Virginia poets and their literary works that will hopefully grow and develop over time for the use of students, teachers, and the general public.

By highlighting the richness and diversity of Virginia poets, the Virginia Poets Database offers a growing and relevant repository of information. Specifically, it features historically recognized or established poets alongside emerging poets and spotlights those from underrepresented communities. Although the database does not claim to be a steward for literary merit in poetry across Virginia, it shares information on Virginia-born poets, poets who are current residents, and poets who have spent significant time producing literary work in or about Virginia.

Moreover, the Poetry Spotlight, an added feature of the database, periodically focuses on one or more

Virginia poets and their work based on a theme or other subjects. For example, in celebration of 2022's Black History Month, Remica Bingham-Risher and Nathan Richardson, among others, shared their thoughts on how they, as poets, work directly with their communities. The poets also provided short lists of books and/or works by Black poets/writers that they felt to be essential reading during times of social activism and historic reflection.

"The Poetry Spotlight is a great way for students and others to participate in the database," Vaughan noted. "Luisa invites suggestions for future spotlights."

Numbers from the Naro Collection

ODU Libraries' staff are working hard to process and catalogue the vast collection of DVDs, BluRays, and VHS tapes donated to the University by the Naro Expanded Video store.

37,195 + DVDS



1,200 BluRays, and 421 VHS tapes.

While the majority of the Collection is DVDs, the donation also included about

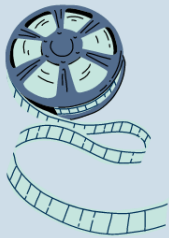


91 FILM GENRES

The Naro Expanded Video had a categorizing system of 91 genres for their collections. The Libraries have consolidated these categories into **16 genres** to ease the process of cataloguing.

TIME TO UNLOAD: 8 HOURS

216 boxes of discs/tapes and 100+ boxes of empty cases were transferred to Perry Library over 2 days.

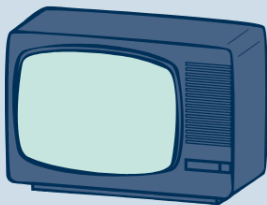


166 OUT OF 216 BOXES OF DVDS UNPACKED

DVD cases have been unpacked through "SEINFELD", leaving the current matching range primarily "OTHER" through "SEINFELD."



15,150 TITLES FULLY CATALOGED



That's almost 40% of the entire collection of DVDs, BluRays, and VHS tapes!

**SMALLER NARO
DVD CASES ARE
RECYCLED BY
MOVING &
HAULING.**



ODU Libraries Conduct LibQual+ Survey

By Michael Price and Dot Lockaby

Old Dominion University Libraries launched a survey in March 2022 to a sample of ODU students, staff, and faculty to help us determine what you expect of us, what we do well, and in what areas we can improve.

The survey, *LibQual+*, is used by many academic libraries to assess user satisfaction across several areas of library services, spaces, and collections. Developed and standardized by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), *LibQual+* was previously administered by ODU Libraries in the Fall 2015 semester. It uses a set of standard questions developed by ARL while also allowing us to include some additional questions that are tailored to the unique environment and needs of ODU. In response to the 2015 survey results, ODU Libraries made several adjustments by reviewing and improving our website, and clarifying which spaces in the Libraries were either for quiet study or for collaboration and group activities.

We released the survey again in 2022 to compare how user satisfaction has changed between then and now and to see if there are new concerns. In addition, because this survey is employed nationally by many research universities, we can compare our results with peer institutions to help us learn more about how our performance compares to other libraries. Lucy Wittkower, head of Teaching & Learning Initiatives in the Libraries, is leading the team administering the survey. She observed that, "*LibQual+* is a valid and reliable tool that gives us insights into student, faculty, and staff perceptions of library spaces, resources, and services. We thank everyone who completed the survey, and we are looking forward to analyzing the results this summer, sharing the information with our constituents, and developing future plans."

**Highlight YOUR
Libraries**

Masters of Library and Information Studies Accreditation

By Michael Price

The Master of Library & Information Studies (MLIS) is a standalone, 30-hour, asynchronous and online degree program that prepares students for careers in librarianship. According to Sue Kimmel, MLIS graduate program director, "The faculty and I are delighted to offer the only Master of Library and Information Studies degree in the Commonwealth of Virginia." Since the role of a librarian has been rapidly transitioning towards more tech-centered responsibilities, the MLIS proudly stands as the only program in the entire Commonwealth of Virginia that prepares students for this change. By receiving library-based curriculum, an internship, and real-life experiences in a library setting, graduates will be set apart in their future careers.

We are proud that ODU's MLIS program was recently accredited by the American Library Association (ALA) Committee on Accreditation, with the status of Initial Accreditation.

Representing a form of recognition granted when an educational program demonstrates high-quality and complies with [ALA standards](#), initial accreditation means all MLIS students receive relevant and strong curriculum that must pass through a rigorous evaluation procedure.

This process to earn ALA accreditation took several years, beginning when pre-candidacy status and candidacy status were granted in November 2018 and November 2019, respectively. The program leaders then conducted a thorough self-study in October 2021 to ensure these standards were followed. Finally, during its meeting on accreditation in January 2022, the ALA Committee voted in favor of ODU's MLIS program. The lengthy process was worth it, as all past and future degrees bestowed to the 92 alumni and current 150 MLIS students are ALA accredited.

If you're considering what to do for a profession, pursuing the newly ALA-accredited MLIS degree might be the option for you. Its high-quality instruction will give you the tools you need to succeed in a rewarding career as a library leader.



Winners Announced for the ODU Libraries Annual Awards

By Alisa Faumore

The ODU Libraries' Annual Librarian/Faculty Administrator and Staff Member of the Year Awards event, a long-standing tradition created to recognize and honor outstanding performance and service by Libraries' employees, announced two winners for 2021. The formalized process seeks nominations from Libraries' faculty and staff, which are submitted to two separate elected committees for consideration. We're proud to announce that James Rhoades received the Librarian/Faculty Administrator of the Year Award, while Karen Roulet received the Staff Member of the Year Award.

Rhoades serves as ODU's Social Sciences Liaison Librarian, joining ODU Libraries in 2013. Notably, Dot Lockaby, a member of the Librarian/Faculty Administrator of the Year Award Committee, shared, "As the newly designated leader of the Libraries' Collection Development Team in 2020, James had to master a great deal of information in a short time, and his success in the role was pivotal to important vendor negotiations in 2020 and 2021. James knew what questions to ask, and he organized the team to make collections decisions that will serve the campus community well for years to come."

James and his efforts in various 2021 projects were also described favorably by co-workers who nominated him for the award. In a letter of support, colleague Abbie Basile said, "James is an excellent librarian and a highly supportive colleague who has gone above and beyond his assigned duties in order to enhance and maintain services, collections, and relationships that benefit the Libraries' users and his peers."

Karen Roulet works as the Libraries' Bindery & Physical Processing Specialist in the Resource Description & Maintenance Department and has served ODU Libraries since 2018. Sue Hinrichs, member of the Staff Member of the Year Award Committee, described Karen as "... consistently positive in her interactions with other staff. Her strong work ethic and encouraging personality has made her a valued member of her department. She has been active in her service with the Staff Development Team and helped with multiple events within the Libraries. Finally, her amazing work this past year calls out for special recognition. Combining skill, optimism, and determination she took the initiative to organize and carry out the massive Naro Project. Not only did she take the lead on such a daunting project, but she also took the

time to educate and update the rest of us about the collection and the process. She is truly a positive force within the Libraries."

The Libraries' Annual Awards events hold a history reaching back to 1991 when they were established by former Libraries' Director Cynthia Duncan. The first recipients of the awards for 1991 were Nancy McAuliffe, Librarian of the Year, and Jackie Knighton, Support Staff Member of the Year. Both recipients were announced and honored with \$100 checks. Since then, ODU Libraries have chosen Awards' recipients each year and continue to use these awards to recognize employees for exceptional job performance.



James Rhoades with family



Karen Roulet (left) with family

Congrats to ODU Libraries' Faculty Research Grant Recipients

By Jennifer Hoyt

ODU Libraries send congratulations to six full-time faculty members who participated in the Libraries' Faculty Research Grant Program pilot, which offered funding for new library acquisitions to support research and creative work. Led by the Libraries' Collection Development Committee, the program awarded mini grants during the Spring 2022 semester, ranging from \$500 to \$10,000 out of a total pool of \$50,000. Established to identify and purchase necessary materials to enhance scholarly research, the Libraries awarded grants for the proposals of faculty members Angela Wilson, Ed Neukrug, Brenda Bradshaw, Rosaleen Keefe, Faryaneh Poursardar, and E. James Baesler.

Before announcing the mini grant recipients, the committee members considered how the requested materials would facilitate original scholarship and creative projects, as well as strengthen ODU's holdings in a particular field. Additionally, they focused on how the materials will enhance specific research programs and creative activities of faculty members. Notably, the committee placed priority on funding applications from tenure-earning faculty and on applications that described how the materials would enhance specific faculty research programs and creative activities.

Among the six grant recipients, Angela Wilson centered her research project on the Cuban healthcare model and medical laboratory science, including approaches that reduce healthcare disparity. "I have been laying the foundations of this research since 2018. However, it has been a lifetime of experience building up to it," reflects Wilson. "This award will provide media and print resources for university students studying the Cuban healthcare model and medical laboratory science."



Angela Wilson, Clinical Assistant Professor, College of Health Sciences



Ed Neukrug, Licensed Psychologist, Batten Endowed Chair of Counseling



E. James Baesler, Professor, Department of Communication & Theatre Arts

The research project of professor E. James Baesler examined efforts to create positive communication, specifically when developing the voices of young children. Baesler's proposal, designed to teach positive communication to children through story books, stems from his interest in teaching. "I want to add to the positive voices in young children's lives by providing story books that teach positive communication skills, such as greeting, asking questions, telling a story, and listening with empathy," explains Baesler. "I've been interested in the topic area of positive communication for a decade, developing unique courses around positive communication themes like peace, love, and listening."

As for Endowed Chair of Counseling Ed Neukrug, he describes how his research grant serves a significant purpose for the Monarch community. "This mini-grant will help to provide books, videos, and artifacts that highlight classic counseling theories, emerging theories, and lesser-known international theories to support original scholarship for the International Institute for the Advancement of Counseling Theory (IIACT)." Neukrug highlights that IIACT was recently developed as an aspect of his endowed chair and has been a point of focus for about six months.

Library resources acquired through this program will be accessible to the ODU community. Also, based on the success of the Faculty Research Grant Program, ODU Libraries plan to welcome proposals from full-time faculty again this fall. For more information regarding this program, please contact James Rhoades at jjrhoades@odu.edu.



Beverly Barco (left), David Corona (middle) Marelene Patac (right)

Remembering a Colleague at ODU Libraries

By Jennifer Hoyt

ODU Libraries recently received the sad news that our lending services coordinator, David Corona, had passed away during the late-winter morning of March 8th of this year. Our interim university librarian shouldered the difficult task of announcing the loss, including David's work history and hobbies, with nearly 70 Libraries' employees who felt a sense of loss and disbelief. Highly respected by co-workers and across campus, David began work at the Libraries in 2003 and had currently held the full-time position of lending services coordinator, specifically working with Interlibrary Loan. Notably, David received a nomination for the ODU Customer Relations Employee of the Year award and was awarded the Libraries' Classified Staff Member of the Year award, both in 2010.

Remembering him, David's colleagues looked beyond his professional achievements and his ability to set examples for others to follow. They recall his favorite sports - hockey, football, and soccer. Some remember his sweet tooth, particularly for cake and chocolate, while others point to his love of several genres of music, from rock to classical, and his passion to play one instrument that often makes a lasting impression: the drums.

"I remember many years ago, David got stuck in one of the Perry Library elevators. Upon being freed, he mentioned having no problem passing the time drumming on the floor of the cab," recalled Interim University Librarian Stuart Frazer. "As a fellow fan, I always enjoyed talking to David about the styles of drummers like Neil Peart, John Bonham, Buddy Rich, and Billy Cobham." As he recalled, David tried to pass along his knowledge and experience of odd time signatures to Stuart. And although the skill never quite developed, Stuart was grateful for the effort.

David also served the Navy Reserve for six years prior to moving to Hampton Roads. After contributing to his family's business, David joined ODU, earning a reputation for reliability and upholding strong work ethics. Following his passing, Libraries' employees took time out to gather and remember their colleague and friend, with music by Rush and Rich playing in the background.

One co-worker noted a memorable journey for David – his trip to Rome with ODU students and a university professor. She shared, "I had a dream this morning that he was walking down steps from a plane in Rome and smiling."

Find ODU Libraries Online

