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NJIT Library Annual Report 2022-2023

NJIT Libraries

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NJIT
LIBRARY

Annual Report 2022-2023



NJIT LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT 2022 - 2023

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Dear Students, Faculty, Colleagues, and Friends of the NJIT Library,

July 1, 2023, marked my sixth year as your University Librarian, and I am pleased to share this year's report with you, the NJIT community. First and foremost, the NJIT Library staff and I take great pride in presenting a comprehensive 2022-2023 annual report of our accomplishments. The report highlights our continuous efforts in supporting the University's learning, teaching, and research ecosystem. Thanks to our dedicated student staff, library staff, professional librarians, and leadership team, the NJIT Library continues to be rated as one of the most popular spaces for students to collaborate, gather, learn, and share knowledge outside the classroom environment.

The pandemic has left us with a changed world. Now, more than ever, we must assume that business as usual will be punctuated by unforeseen events, and plan accordingly. As a result, we must expand beyond growth and innovation to address risk and prepare for what may be ahead. Technology has garnered increased attention, transforming from a helpful learning tool to an indispensable part of the higher education infrastructure. With the explosive growth and public adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) tools, particularly generative AI, librarians must continue to monitor, learn, and adopt this new technology to provide education and guidance to students appropriately.

The NJIT Library is committed to continuing and expanding the success of the university through various projects we have completed throughout the fiscal year. We crafted a new 2024-2026 strategic plan, published a faculty-authored open textbook, completed the renovation of the Research Help Desk to create a more collaborative space for small group instruction, and collaborated on applying for a JBOC grant to renovate and transform the Van Houten Library with a focus on student success through a transformation of the library space. We introduced events to increase engagement with the NJIT community, especially with undergraduate students. We dedicated staff resources to increase efforts on special collections and archives and continued to add digital assets to the institutional repositories. Through strategic negotiations with vendors, we secured 47 additional electronic resources. We migrated from patron barcodes to an RFID technology reader to lend library materials. We partnered with the IST Division to install laptop lending and charger kiosks to support student learning anytime and anywhere. With support from the IST division, the library staff received new laptops, enabling them to have the appropriate tools for working remotely.

The Littman Library continued providing new tools and technologies to support its Digital Scholarship Lab, increased collection development efforts, and reference and instruction activities. The demand for additional events and exhibits was heard. The curated exhibitions "Homes for All: Architecture Combating the Housing Crisis," "New Trends in Housing," "Representational Techniques," and "Women in Architecture Art and Design" were well attended and received by the NJIT community.

We welcomed Tyvonnia Braxton, Library Assistant I; Kennedy Jones, Architecture, Art, and Design Librarian; and Luci Parrish, Library Access Services and Outreach Coordinator. We said goodbye to Alex Eud, Aimee Calderon Martinez, and Tim Valente.

In 2024 and beyond, we need to focus on developing institutional resilience while continuing to support student success and research innovation. Reflecting on our efforts, challenges, opportunities, and successes, I am grateful for the opportunity to continue as your chief librarian and a member of the NJIT community.

The Library staff and I look forward to continuing our partnership with NJIT's academic community and administration to enhance our student learning experience, faculty research, and lifelong success. As always, I welcome and appreciate your feedback.

Ann D. Hoang
University Librarian

STRATEGIC PLAN 2024 - 2026

Vision

The vision of the NJIT Library is to be a transformative research library, empowering the NJIT community with innovative services and impactful collections sustained by strategic partnerships.

Mission

The mission of the NJIT Library is to foster the exchange of ideas across the University's educational and research communities by identifying, organizing, preserving, and ensuring responsive access to information and knowledge that supports all forms of scholarship.

Core Values

The NJIT Library's core values guide our behavior, reflect our strategic decisions and operational approaches, and inform how we develop our staffing, services, programs, collections, and spaces.

Stewardship - We prudently identify, acquire, organize, preserve, and disseminate information, resources, and scholarship.

Diversity and Inclusion - We practice and celebrate inclusiveness and are sensitive to cultural and personal differences.

Service and Access - We provide user-responsive services and universally equal access to information resources.

Lifelong Learning Culture - We assist and enable the advancement of knowledge and respect the needs of future generations.

Collaboration and Partnership - We foster collaboration and partnership through openness and transparency.

Accountability - We commit to evidence-based planning, decision-making, financial stewardship, management, and assessment.

Innovation and Experimentation - We strive to adopt emerging services, tools, and technologies for continuous learning and exploration.

Goals And Objectives

Goal 1: Student Success

- Teach lifelong learning skills through information literacy, digital literacy, and the establishment of competitive programs to support face-to-face, hybrid, and online learning, including the development of diverse research skillsets to improve marketability upon graduation.
- Create a digital knowledge environment enabling all forms of scholarship to increase collaboration and engagement, supporting learning, locating, and using knowledge in a digital format.

Goal 2: Faculty Research

- Increase opportunities to support interdisciplinary research and ensure the availability of digital resources and tools in areas of interest and demand.
- Collaborate with faculty to increase the use of open textbooks and open educational resources (OER) to achieve significant savings for students.
- Establish support systems and functions between Library, IST, and Research Office to support faculty with data management mandates.
- Ensure access to knowledge resources is equitable and sustainable by establishing policies, procedures, and infrastructure to move NJIT's academic materials and scholarly endeavors into a more open and accessible format.

Goal 3: Resources and Infrastructure

- Create a Digital Learning Commons physical space within the library for students, faculty, and partners to immerse themselves in interactive computing, multimedia creation, and large-scale visualization — enabling new ways to process and use information.
- Expand the definition, scope, and functions of the research library by reimagining its resources, services, and spaces to meet the ever-evolving needs of students, faculty, and community.
- Invest in and build an indispensable library staff with the goal of becoming a model organization for 21st-century research libraries.
- Update and maintain a welcoming, inclusive, and innovative space while promoting a safe and creative learning and working environment.

NJIT LIBRARY BY THE NUMBERS

706,274

full-text online materials
accessed/downloaded

170

total databases available

33,901

physical and ebooks
circulated

300,972

total usage of digital
assets held in institutional
repositories

12,026

group study room
bookings

3,866

total interlibrary loan
requests fulfilled

90.5

hours open in a
typical week

1,501,904

total pages printed

213,163

total physical books
in the collection

274,651

ebook titles in the
collection

33,939

digital assets held
in institutional
repositories

DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2026

The NJIT Library is the scholarly center of NJIT and plays a critical and highly visible role on campus to assist with advancing the university's mission and vision by supporting the research, teaching, and learning efforts of the university. The Library is vital to the university's research and learning ecosystem. The Library connects users with rich and diverse resources. The Library fosters meaningful learning experiences. The Library provides innovative research support for a diverse user population.

NJIT requires a 21st-century research library. It is critical for the Library to be an organization that provides a top-notch service-oriented mission and vision to support the new strategic plan, "Building on a Strong Foundation - NJIT 2025." There was an opportunity to restructure the library with several key vacant positions during FY2021. The new structure mandated hiring new departmental leaders and key vacant positions, which was accomplished during FY2022. Throughout the fiscal year 2023, the newly formed library leadership team worked on revising the mission statement and creating a vision, core value, and goal statement. The Associate University Librarians presented this information to the staff at the May 17, 2023, staff retreat.

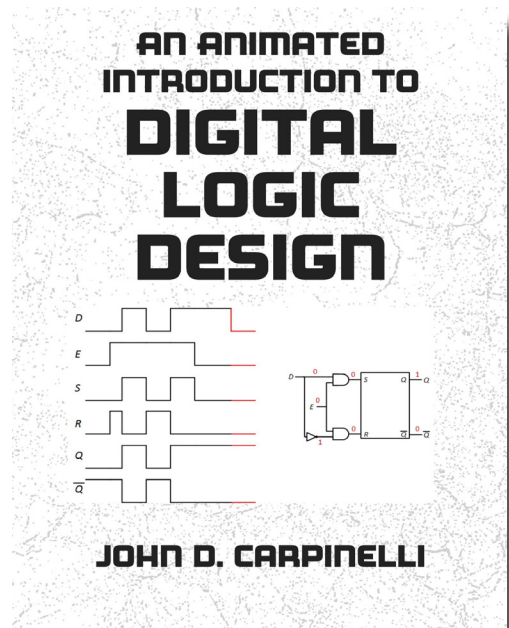
OPEN ACCESS TEXTBOOK PROGRAM

A Library team comprised of Matt Brown, Ann Hoang, Jennifer King, John Kromer, Jill Lagerstrom, and Lisa Weissbard worked with Dr. John Carpinelli, a professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, to publish his open textbook. An *Animated Introduction to Digital Logic Design* is the first publication of the Faculty Authored Open Textbook (FAOT) program, part of NJIT's Open and Affordable Textbook Program, and was supported by NJIT's Sabbatical Leave Award.

The uniqueness of this FAOT text is the extensive use of animation to help students understand the concepts. The animations used still diagrams (.gif, .tif, .vsdx) to generate the illusion of movement, which are integrated into multimedia files (.mp4).

Dr. Carpinelli's book is designed for use in an introductory course on digital logic design, typically offered in computer engineering, electrical engineering, computer science, and other related programs. Such a course is usually offered at the sophomore level. This book makes extensive use of animation to illustrate the flow of data within a digital system and to step through some of the procedures used to design and optimize digital circuits. The book is stored on NJIT Library's Digital Commons.

Pictured Right: Dr. Carpinelli's OER textbook cover. The textbook was designed in collaboration with the library team.



History of the NJIT OAT Program

The NJIT Open and Affordable Textbook (OAT) Program began in 2017 with the goal of encouraging NJIT faculty to redesign their courses using open textbooks, free or low-cost materials, library resources, or open educational resources (OER) instead of commercial texts to increase course material affordability for NJIT students.

To help realize this vision, various strategies are being used to expand the use of OER in as many courses as possible. The OAT Program plays an important role by communicating and raising awareness of OER to the NJIT community (which includes faculty, administration, and students) and by providing incentives for instructors to adopt open materials in place of a required commercial textbook.

Due to staff transitions, the program was paused from 2020-2023. However, it is starting again in AY2023-2024 by providing awards to faculty instructors interested in adopting OER or low-cost resources instead of a required textbook in their courses. To learn more about NJIT's Open and Affordable Textbook Program, visit <https://researchguides.njit.edu/opentextbooks/>.

PROPOSED RENOVATIONS FOR THE VAN HOUTEN LIBRARY

Last year, NJIT was provided an opportunity to seek grant funds from the New Jersey Joint Budget Oversight Committee (JBOC) to renovate the Van Houten Library. The project's focus was on Student Success through digital transformation.

This project sought to modernize the Robert W. Van Houten Library, a 56,256 square foot space built in 1992, into a contemporary Digital Learning Commons exploration hub, enabling the advancement of knowledge, supporting the needs of future generations, and adhering to the values of higher education.

The goal of the library is to create learning spaces that extend beyond the classroom. The library supports the creation and consumption of content in a low-stakes environment of flexible and informal spaces.

The first floor would be reconfigured to allow 24/7 library access while maintaining the safety and security of the students.

The remaining floors would be transformed from the traditional library look and feel into an exploration hub serving as an intellectual center for students and faculty with shared interests to meet, socialize, and work collaboratively and informally and as the traditional location for accessing published information.

The physical transformation would reduce the existing bookshelves and journal racks to clear the way for public, semi-private, and private collaboration spaces.

Unfortunately, NJIT did not receive the necessary grant funding during FY2023. There will be more opportunities to renovate the NJIT Library in the future.



Pictured Above and Below: An artist's rendering of the new outside of the Van Houten Library and the inside of the lobby in the new exploration hub format.



COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, LIBRARY AND ACADEMIC RESOURCES (CITLAR)

The Committee on Information Technology, Library and Academic Resources (CITLAR), a standing committee of the NJIT Faculty Senate, was co-chaired by the Vice Provost & Chief Information Officer and the University Librarian. The committee membership is comprised of faculty representatives from 17 academic departments, IST staff, and librarians. CITLAR is responsible for reviewing, discussing, and making recommendations concerning strategies, policies, and services relating to academic use of technology, information technology, and library services and resources.

In 2023, the committee addressed and discussed these highlighted topics: FY2023 IST strategy, classroom improvements and upgrades, cybersecurity, data management support including IEEE DataPort for managing large datasets, ChatGPT, and OpenAthens authentication for library resources. The committee ranked journals and databases as part of the annual renewals process, approved the Streaming Media Licensing Policy, and were an integral part of the initial discussions of the high performance computing (HPC) servers for research computing, the laptop lending kiosk, the two-factor authentication (2FA) process, and the licensing of Overleaf (an online collaborative publishing tool based in LaTeX).

RESEARCH, ENGAGEMENT, AND ACCESS SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS

Research and Instruction Team

The Research & Instruction team of librarians had a busy year! The team of Jill Lagerstrom, Joe Mercuri, Quinn Morris-Pearson, Jennifer King, and John Kromer taught 3,309 students across 146 classes and orientations, fielded 952 reference questions, and completed 19 cited reference searches for faculty members going up for promotion and tenure. The team also represented the Library at open houses and other events like Earth Day.

In Spring '23, our librarians worked closely with ENGL621. This new class was designed for graduate students, especially those for whom English is not a primary language, to focus on growth in writing for publication (journal articles, dissertations, technical reports, etc.).

Research Help Desk Renovation

In summer 2022, the reference desk underwent a renovation which reduced the footprint of the desk itself in order to create space for collaborative work and small group instruction. New lighting was installed to brighten the area. In preparation for removing shelving in the area, the librarians evaluated the Ready Reference collection to reduce it to what was not available online and what was most likely to be immediately needed at-hand.



Research Guides

Top 5 Guides Viewed During FY2023	Views
LaTeX for CoAD	70,350
How to Evaluate Information Sources	52,817
IEEE Citation Guide	24,923
Literature Reviews	10,012
Citations	5,456

Research Guides are created by our librarians to aid students in finding the best possible resources for their research. The guides support the information literacy program and course curriculum, ranging in topics from "AI Futures" to "Resources for Industrial Designers." They provide valuable information to both students and faculty. There are 311 guides and from July 1st, 2022 - June 30th, 2023, there were 290,221 views. October 2022 had the highest amount of views at 33,800.

Library Events

This year, the Van Houten Library kicked off its events season with Black History Month documentary film screenings, which received excellent feedback from our students and inspired a series of other events.

Black History, Black Present, and Black Futures

Documentary screenings of Netflix's "13th," "High on the Hog: The Rice Kingdom Episode," and Smithsonian Channel's original documentary "Afrofuturism: The Origin Story."

We Exist: A Night of Women in STEAM

A panel discussion featuring NCE Associate Dean Lucie Tchouassi, Research Librarian Jill Lagerstrom, and a Murray Center for Women in Science Student (who preferred not to be identified.)

Finals Week De-Stress Events

Peace and Puzzles, Coffee and Tea in the Commons, and a display on Self-Care.



Pictured Above: Three friends who attended our "Paint and Sip" event in April.

Paint and Sip in the Library

Students joined us to paint pre-drawn canvases to relax before exams.

TECHNOLOGY, COLLECTIONS, AND PRESERVATION HIGHLIGHTS

Institutional Repository & Digital Commons

The 2022-2023 fiscal year was a productive year for digital projects. 465 items (42,335 pages) were scanned as digital assets. These included 446 theses, 9 archival items, 4 yearbooks, and 6 course catalogs.

The Library uploaded 523 documents to the institutional repository, Digital Commons (<https://digitalcommons.njit.edu/>). Included are: 264 theses and dissertations, 129 video files in support of the Open and Affordable Textbook Program, 118 syllabi, 10 yearbooks, and 2 course catalogs. The administrators from various units around campus uploaded an additional 86 documents (36 syllabi, 37 STEM articles, and 13 journal articles).

In the year ending June 30, 2023, content from our repository was downloaded 293,967 times with theses and dissertations accounting for 135,944 of the downloads and syllabi accounting for another 148,164.

Archives & Special Collections

The Library hired a Part-Time Archivist, Mary French, to create finding aids and process donated materials. The following collections were identified and processed: The Anthony H. Lamb (NTS 1927, NCE 1930) Collection and the Eberhardt Collection. Pictured below is Thacher's Cylindrical Slide Rule from the Frederick L. Eberhardt Collection, believed to be used for engineering and business calculations in the family's Newark-based machinery manufacturing firm. Additionally, more than 400 of Edward Weston's technical drawings were inventoried.



Pictured: Thacher's Cylindrical Slide Rule, from the Frederick L. Eberhardt Collection.

With the help of student assistants, Archivist and Digital Initiatives Librarian Matthew Brown was able to complete the transcription of 58 pages of the final Newark Technical School (NTS) scrapbook (1917-1918) and the first 77 pages of Weston correspondence related to the 1885 Franklin Institute Electrical Exhibition. The content is accessible on the Digital Commons institutional repository.



Pictured: 1877 American Institute of New York Bronze Medal, awarded for Edward Weston's Dynamo Electric Machine.

Top 5 Most Downloaded Items in 2023

Improving methods to estimate time of death from body temperature (2018 thesis)

1

3,229 downloads

2

Optical properties of polymers and their applications (2019 thesis)

2,194 downloads

3

Heat transfer in silicon - experiments and simulation (2017 thesis)

1,853 downloads

4

CS 114-004: Introduction to Computer Science II (Spring 2020 Syllabus)

1,567 downloads

5

Kinematic and kinetic analysis of geneva mechanisms and their applications to synchronization of motion (1994 thesis)

1,553 downloads

TECHNOLOGY, COLLECTIONS, AND PRESERVATION HIGHLIGHTS

New Electronic Resources

In the last year, thanks to the tireless work and savvy negotiations made by our Electronic Resources and Discovery Librarian, Jennifer King, we were able to add new databases to our collection that will significantly expand our NJIT community's academic research resources. In particular, the addition of ProQuest One Academic (which includes 47 databases) has greatly expanded our database collection and, by extension, our students' options as they research at a high level.

- Academic Video Online
- El Croquis Digital
- New Play Exchange (NPX)
- O'Reilly for Higher Education
- ProQuest One Academic
- ProQuest Dissertations and Theses Global
- ProQuest Central
- WSJ: Wall Street Journal Online
- UrbanNext

New Laptop Lending Kiosk

Information Services and Technology Division (IST) and the Library collaborated to install a Laptop Lending Kiosk, housed outside the Van Houten Library, which has allowed students to check out laptops and chargers as needed and has proved to be a popular feature in the Van Houten lobby. The laptops were borrowed a total of 3,734 times and the chargers were borrowed a total of 1,463 times.



Revised Guest Computer Use Policies

The Library collaborated with IST to limit guest access to select computers and distribute daily passwords to library staff. This ensured that NJIT students have priority for the computer lab during high-traffic times while still providing a way to serve the Library's public guest patrons well. The librarians and staff also revised the Library's guest policy to reflect these and other suggested changes.

RFID Card Readers

To align with NJIT's move to RFID card access, the Library moved away from the traditional barcode sticker method to check out materials and instead implemented the faster, touchless RFID system for checkout.

The university's chip-embedded ID cards for all students, faculty, and staff have allowed us to eliminate the need for affixing a separate barcode on the back of a patron's ID card.

The librarians and IST have integrated RFID card readers to read the chip-embedded ID card to identify patrons. They have also equipped the laptop kiosk with an RFID card reader and integrated it with the library management system.

The RFID card reader integration has improved user experience by significantly reducing transaction time.

Website and New Laptops for Staff

The librarians and Strategic Communications recently updated the library website to make the site more intuitive and user-friendly and IST updated the hardware to make the site run efficiently, especially during heavy usage.

Mobile device users can view web content more quickly, including the interlibrary loan system. They also upgraded the Primo discovery layer web pages to meet industry compliance.

Additionally, each of our staff members received a new laptop and monitor from the university this year, to be replaced every four years. These laptops support remote access and allow for remote work days and replaced the older generation computers and operating systems that the staff computers previously used.

THE LITTMAN LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

This year proved to be successful for the Littman Library which was able to achieve remarkable outcomes, leading to high satisfaction with library services among students and faculty at the Hillier College of Architecture and Design (HCAD). Furthermore, the National Architecture Accreditation Board (NAAB) announced that the Littman Library met all their requirements "with distinction," signifying the library's commitment to excellence and demonstrating how to meet goals making the best use of all of its resources. The librarians take immense pride in transforming the Littman Library into a unique and inclusive space, a vibrant hub for knowledge, culture, and social engagement, and a welcoming and supportive environment that fosters learning, teaching, experimentation, and inspiration.

Digital Scholarship

With the support of the NJ Historical Commission (NJHC) grant awarded in 2021-2022, we collaborated with Prof. Hyejin Hannah Kum-Biocca and computer science students to develop the mobile app for the Digital Archive of Newark Architecture (DANA). This app received the 2023 New Jersey Library Association (NJLA) Innovation Technology Award. We also continued to develop the web version of the archive (<http://dana.njit.edu>).

Using the Littman Family endowment fund, we upgraded the Digital Scholarship Lab's equipment and organized an additional teaching station.



Pictured Above: Prof. Ruperto Arvelo Nieves and Prof. Erin Pellegrino instruct high school students enrolled in HCAD's Career Exploration Summer programs

Circulation & Collection Development

- Our collections were enriched by materials donated by Robert Geddes, the founding Dean of the School of Architecture at Princeton University
- Bound 86 volumes of print periodicals to continue to preserve the print journals
- Added El Croquis Digital and UrbanNext resources to our database offerings

Reference & Instruction

- Offered 70 course-integrated instructional sessions to undergraduate and graduate students in Architecture and Design



Pictured Above: A performance of traditional Indian music, given as part of the Littman's "Music in the Library" program

Events and Exhibits

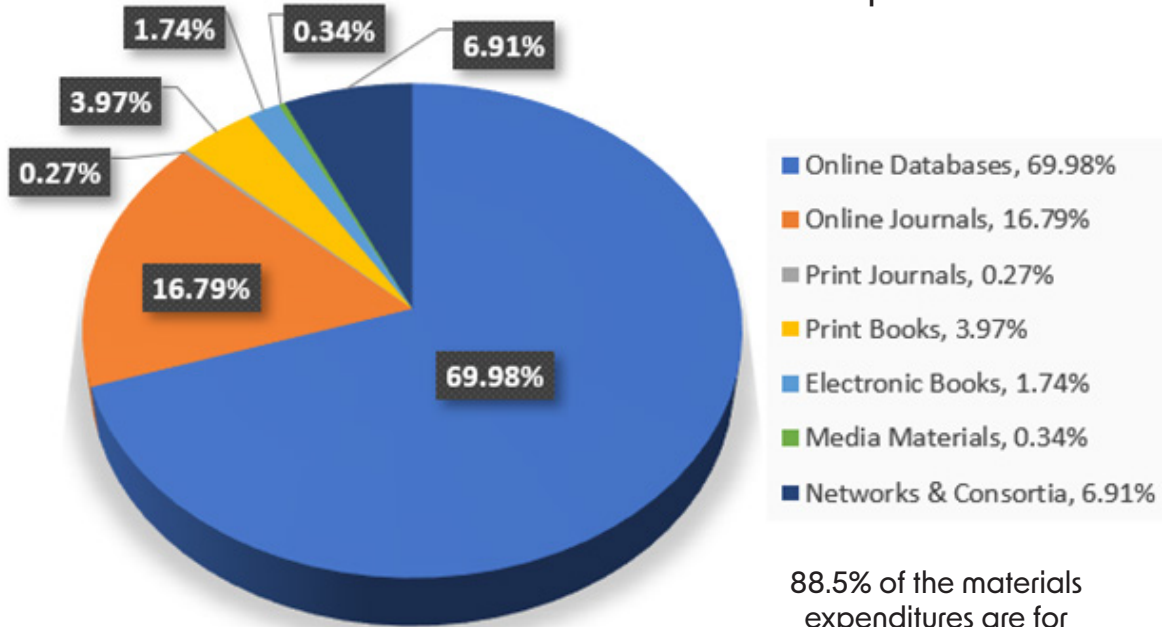
- Hosted two performances of traditional Indian music and two classical concerts as part of an open-to-the-public "Music in the Library" program with accompanying library displays for further study
- Curated four exhibitions: "Homes for All: Architecture Combatting Housing Crisis," "Women in Architecture and Design," "New Trends in Housing," and "Representational Techniques"
- Supported student initiatives such as "Women, Life, Freedom: Iranian Uprising," "Freedom by Design," NOMA chapters, and the student publication, "Transect"
- Continued to host "Tea for Alumni" and "Tea in the Library" events



Pictured Above: Author Book Talk, "Whale Music: Thousand Mile Songs in a Sea of Sound Singing Whales" by Prof. David Rothenberg

KEY STATISTICS

Materials and Expenditures



88.5% of the materials expenditures are for electronic format

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES	FY 2019	FY 2020*	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Van Houten: Total Visits Per Year	404,295	326,654	38,867	255,720	-**
Van Houten: Average Hours Open Per Week	117	110	74	109	109
Van Houten: Total Group Study Room Usage	10,285	7,409	2,300	13,341	12,026
Littman: Total Visits Per Year	-**	64,601	10,527	74,756	91,919
Littman: Average Hours Open Per Week	71	74	52	72	72
Circulation of Book Collection (Print+Electronic)	33,648	65,957	37,051	31,838	33,901
Interlibrary Loan: Materials Borrowed	2,047	1,589	1,045	1,609	1,657
Interlibrary Loan: Materials Loaned	1,694	1,303	1,443	1,610	1,442
Interlibrary Loan: Document Delivery	788	662	736	968	767
Institutional Repositories: Items Accessed	12,080	155,246	249,079	276,127	300,972
Presentations and Workshops Provided	N/A	N/A	N/A	176	216
Full-Text Online Materials: Accessed/Downloaded	376,288	472,958	503,044	699,458	706,274
Pages Printed from the NJIT Library	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,501,904

* = The physical libraries were closed from March 18 - June 30, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which impacted usage data

** = The security gate was inoperative during FY2019 at Littman Library and FY2023 at Van Houten Library

LIBRARY RESOURCES	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
Institutional Repositories Items	3,760	31,293	31,549	33,328	33,939
Online Journal Titles (Acquired + Open Access)	60,525	69,545	107,412	200,063	248,059
Print Journal Titles	54	54	52	54	54
Multimedia Items	80,645	80,588	80,569	80,573	80,572
Bibliographic +Full Text Databases	45	48	52	119	170
Electronic Books Items	187,172	217,080	238,673	256,771	274,651
Print Books Titles	140,063	139,980	140,674	140,598	139,553
Print Book Items	221,539	222,976	223,359	212,540	213,163

STAFF NEWS

It was a year of great staff transition which included four new hires, three departures, and an internal promotion.

New Hires and Promotions

Staffing changes in FY2023 included welcoming H. Kennedy Jones as our new Architecture, Art, and Design Librarian in July 2022 and Tyvonnia R. Braxton as our new Library Assistant I in June 2023. Luci Parrish was hired as our new Library Assistant I in January 2023 and promoted to Library Access Services and Outreach Coordinator in May 2023.

Tyvonnia Braxton, Library Assistant I (Data Collection)



We welcomed Tyvonnia as our new Library Assistant I (Data Collection) in June 2023. Tyvonnia has over 15 years of experience in public libraries, having worked in both the Dorchester and Worcester County systems in Maryland. She received a B.S. in Computer Information

Science from the University of Maryland in Adelphi, MD, and is currently working towards her MLIS from St. John's University in Queens, NY.

Kennedy Jones III, Architecture, Art, & Design Librarian



Kennedy joined our team in July 2022 as the Architecture, Art, and Design Librarian for Littman Library. His previous position was as the Archives Assistant at the Wells Library in Indiana University. He holds an M.L.S degree and an M.A. in Art History, both from Indiana University. Kennedy holds a B.F.A. in Studio from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (Chicago, IL).

Luci Parrish, Library Access Services & Outreach Coordinator



Luci was hired in January 2023 as our Library Assistant I with years of library experience working in both Access and Youth Services. She received her M.A. in Theology from Wheaton College Graduate School (Wheaton, IL) and her B.A. in Applied Linguistics from the

Moody Bible Institute (Chicago, IL). She was promoted to Library Access Services and Outreach Coordinator in May 2023. She is currently working towards a Ph.D. in Christian Theology at the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom.



Pictured Above: The Van Houten Library entrance.



Pictured Above: The Central Avenue Building, where the Van Houten Library is located on the right-hand side of the building.

Acknowledgments

At our annual NJIT Service Awards Ceremony, five of our staff were recognized for their dedicated years of service to the university: Joseph Mercuri for 10 years; Aron Nemeth for 15 years; Matthew Brown for 20 years; Maya Gervits for 20 years; and Jacquelyn Rock for 30+ years.

Departures

Timothy Valente was hired as our new Scholarly Communication Librarian in July but resigned in November 2022 for another job. We also bade farewell to Aimee (Calderon) Martinez (Library Assistant II) in October 2022, and Alexander Eud (Library User Services Specialist) in September 2022.

PROFESSIONAL NEWS

Ann Hoang, University Librarian



- Founding member and on the current board of the NJIT AAPI ERG (Asian American Pacific Islander Employee Resource Group)
- Served as Co-Chair of CITLAR and Chair of VALE Executive Committee. Served as a member of the Search Committee for NJIT Vice President for Digital Strategy

& Chief Information Officer, NJIT Faculty Senate, NJIT Anne Wiley Undergraduate Women Scholarship Selection Committee, 2030 NJIT Strategic Plan Subcommittee: Engaged Community, NJEdge Board of Trustees, LibraryLinkNJ Technology Advisory Group, Middlesex College Open Textbook Collaborative Advisory Council, and other related university, library, and consortia-wide committees

- Attended selected workshops and conferences: EdgeCon Autumn 2022 Conference, New Jersey Academic Libraries Conference, Virtual OER Conference @ Kean University, and the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Conference
- Participated in writing two grant proposals: "Reimagining the Student Experience", a \$20 million grant narrative to the New Jersey Joint Budget Oversight Committee (JBOC) and "Values-Based Agreements", a Lyrasis Catalyst Grant Project

Gordon Xu, Associate University Librarian, Collections and Information Technology



- Publication: Guo, J.X., and Xu, G. (2023). Decision-making in the selection, procurement, and implementation of Alma/Primo. *Information Technology and Libraries*, 42 (1). doi:10.6017/ital.v42i1.15599

- Committee Memberships: Chair of Alma/Primo Management Committee, Member of CITLAR, NJIT University Senate, Lecturers and Educators Congress (LEC), Library Website Development Committee, New Jersey Academic Library Network (NJALN) Systems/ Analytics Committee, NJALN Discovery/UX Committee
- Attended the Ex Libris Users of North America (ELUNA) 2023 Annual Meeting (Los Angeles, CA) and the Code4Lib Conference 2023 (Princeton, NJ)
- Obtained a Certificate of from the Asian Leadership Academy Management Accelerator Program through the McKinsey Academy and a Certificate of Project Management Fundamentals for Librarians from Library Journal Professional Development

John Kromer, Associate University Librarian, Research and Engagement



- Received the 2022 PAM Achievement Award from the Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics Division of the Special Libraries Association (SLA)
- Served on the hiring committees for the Research &

Instruction Librarian, Scholarly Communications Librarian, Library Assistant I, and Art & Architecture Librarian.

- Served on CITLAR; the Committees on Undergraduate Education (CUE); Graduate Education; Teaching, Learning, & Technology Support; CUE Subcommittee on General Education Requirements (GER); Alma/Primo Committee; and College of Science and Liberal Arts GER Committee
- Attended the 2022 SLA Annual Conference, the 2023 ACRL Conference, and the Virtual Conference on Academic Library Management (CALM)

Maya Gervits, Director of the Littman Library



- Selected Publications: "Plague, Quarantine, and Environmental Design in 19th-century Odesa" (Planning Perspectives, April 2023), "COVID-19 Pandemic Architecture Librarians Response," (co-authored, The Encyclopedia of COVID)

- Served on the HCAD Faculty-Library Committee (chair), CITLAR, the HCAD 50/15 Anniversary Celebration Committee, New Jersey Digital Humanities Consortium (NJDHC), and the AASL Professional Development Committee (chair)
- Presented at the NJSLA Conference (Atlantic City, NJ) and participated in the work of the AASL Annual Conference (Albuquerque, NM)
- Collaborated with Prof. Kum-Biocca on developing mobile apps with augmented reality features for the Digital Archive of Newark Architecture (DANA) that received the 2023 Innovation Technology Award from the New Jersey Library Association (NJLA)

Richard Donegan, Director of Library Operations



- Created Library Facility Team to address maintenance requests
- Served as Co-chair of the Policy Steering Committee; Chair, Search Committees for Library Assistant I, Library Access Services and Outreach Coordinator, and Part-Time Library Assistant

PROFESSIONAL NEWS

Lucy Velez, Business Manager



- Committee Memberships: NJIT Budget Manager Advisory Committee
- Completed a 6-month Management Accelerator program as part of the McKinsey Hispanic & Latino Leadership Academy

Matthew Brown, Archivist and Digital Initiatives Librarian



- Completed two courses in museum informatics: Introduction to Museums and Introduction to Technical Services in Special Collections
- Committee Memberships: NJLA CUS/ACRL Technology Committee
- Attended the 2022 Digital Commons North American Conference and the 2022 Northeast Institutional Repository Day, two virtual conferences related to institutional repositories
- Served the 2nd year of a term on the PSA governing board

Sayed Hassan, Senior Information Technology Librarian



- Attended the Code4Lib Conference 2023 (Princeton, NJ) and the ELUNA 2023 Annual Meeting (Los Angeles, CA)
- Committee Memberships: CITLAR, Alma/Primo team, OpenAthens implementation team

Kennedy Jones III, Architecture, Art, and Design Librarian



- Committee Memberships: CITLAR and Alma/Primo
- Attended a webinar on artificial intelligence and visual literacy and a course on student engagement in library presentations

Jennifer King, Electronic Resources and Discovery Librarian



- Publication: "Global Plants" in *The Charleston Advisor* 24.2 (2022): 23 - 27.
- Committee Memberships: CITLAR, Alma/Primo team, OpenAthens implementation team; member of ACRLNJ/NJLA - Electronic Resources Committee

Jill Lagerstrom, Research and Instruction Librarian



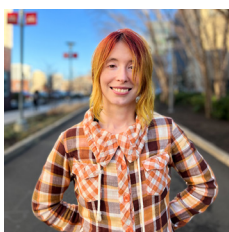
- Committee Memberships: CITLAR and Search Committee for Library Access Services and Outreach Coordinator
- Redesigned English 102 courses, supported graduate student writing in ENGL621, and created a new lesson plan for Honors Biodiversity

Joseph Mercuri, Research and Instruction Librarian



- Committee Memberships: CITLAR, Alma/Primo team, OpenAthens implementation team
- Coordinated with a professor to record a video to be used for a management class to assist with students' research

Quinn Morris-Pearson, Research and Instruction Librarian



- Committee Memberships: Committee on Information Technology, Library & Academic Resources
- Served on the search committee for the Library Access Services and Outreach Coordinator position

Luci Parrish, Library Access Services and Outreach Coordinator



- Promoted from Library Assistant I to Library Access Services and Outreach Coordinator in May 2023
- Attended Course Hero's Virtual Education Summit 2023 (June 29 - 30, 2023) focusing on teaching and DEIB sessions

Lisa Weissbard, Cataloging and Metadata Librarian



- Vice Chair/Chair-Elect of the Bibliographic Control and Metadata Committee of the NJLA College and University Section, member of OpenAthens implementation team, and Alma/Primo Committee
- Attended the virtual SUNYLA conference and the ELUNA conference (Los Angeles, CA)

LIBRARY ORGANIZATION

Leadership Team

Ann Hoang, University Librarian

John Kromer, Associate University Librarian,
Research and Engagement

Gordon Xu, Associate University Librarian,
Collections and Information Technology

Maya Gervits, Director of the Littman Library

Richard Donegan, Director of Library Operations

Lucy Velez, Business Manager

Research, Engagement, and Access Department

Tyvonnia Braxton, Library Assistant I

Rhonda Greene-Carter, Library Assistant

Chi-Eem Jones, Library Assistant I

Jill Lagerstrom, Research and Instruction Librarian

Joseph Mercuri, Research and Instruction Librarian

Quinn Morris-Pearson, Research and Instruction Librarian

Luci Parrish, Library Access Services and Outreach
Coordinator

Tanika People, Library Assistant I

Technology, Collections, and Preservation Department

Matthew Brown, Archivist and Digital Initiatives Librarian

Michael Costante, Library Assistant I

Sayed Hassan, Senior Information Technology Librarian

Jennifer King, Electronic Resources and Discovery Librarian

Aron Nemeth, Library Assistant II

Jacquelyn Rock, Library Assistant III

Lisa Weissbard, Cataloging and Metadata Librarian

Littman Library

Cherron Bradshaw, Library Assistant I

Kennedy Jones III, Architecture, Art, and Design Librarian

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Van Houten Library
<http://library.njit.edu>

Littman Library
<http://archlib.njit.edu>

Van Houten Library Hours
<http://library.njit.edu/hours>

Littman Library Hours
<http://archlib.njit.edu/aboutus/hours>

Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery
<http://researchguides.njit.edu/illiad>

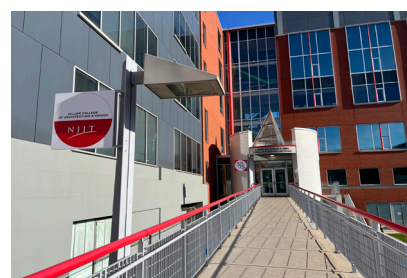
Special Collections
<https://library.njit.edu/collections>

Digital Commons @ NJIT - Institutional Repository
<https://digitalcommons.njit.edu>

Annual Reports
<https://digitalcommons.njit.edu/libraryreports>



Robert W. Van Houten Library
(located in the Central Avenue Building)
Phone: 973-596-3206
Email: askalibrarian@njit.edu
New Jersey Institute of Technology
University Heights | Newark, NJ 07102-1982



**Barbara & Leonard Littman
Architecture and Design Library**
(located in Weston Hall)
Phone: 973-596-3083
Email: littmanlibrary@njit.edu
New Jersey Institute of Technology
University Heights | Newark, NJ 07102-1982