New Library Director Starts

Taran Ley joined the Medical Library as Director on January 9.

She comes from the Illinois State Library where she was the Outreach Coordinator and Senior Reference Librarian. Before that, she worked for the Illinois Legislative Research Unit for 21 years.

In her first several weeks at SIU, she has been meeting individually with library staff and learning about our services.

Her outreach and research experience are a good fit for SIU, and we are delighted to welcome her!

Brown Bag Lunch Series - Meet Your Police Department

Meet Your Police Department at our next Brown Bag Lunch and talk about ways healthcare and law enforcement can work together!

On Tuesday February 28, members of the healthcare community, the SIU School of Medicine’s Office of Police and Security, and the Springfield Police Department will discuss how criminal activity affects both patients and law enforcement, prevention programs which have been effective in other communities, and ways for Healthcare and Law Enforcement to share strategies and resources.

Everyone is needed, so please join us!!

January was Radon Action Month

As part of “Radon Action Month,” the Library teamed up with the American Lung Association in Illinois and IEMA’s Bureau of Radiation Safety to help raise awareness about the deadly gas.

On January 4th at a press conference held in the Library, IEMA announced its new statewide initiative to help Illinois school districts screen school buildings for radon.

Tracey Smith, Director of Population Health Integration and Population Health Education and the Department of Family & Community Medicine at SIU Medicine, received the 2016 Illinois Excellence in Radon Award at the event.

There was also a radon awareness exhibit on display in the Library that featured student-created posters, videos, and research about radon that has been done at SIU Medicine.

To cap off Radon Action Month, the Library hosted a "Radon 101" brown bag lunch event that featured two speakers:

Pat Daniels from IEMA provided information on the science and history of radon and the impact on homeowners.

Whitney Zahnd from SIU’s Office of Population Science and Policy presented research she and her colleagues have done on radon testing patterns in Illinois.
Pajama Day Study Break

Library staff chose the theme of Pajama Day for the December 2016 study break. Students were encouraged to wear slippers, loungewear or pajama-type apparel. Those who dressed for the theme were entered into a drawing for a cuddly throw. Joe Blessman was our lucky winner and was awarded the throw upon his return to the Library after going home to take a nap.

This time students guzzled hot cocoa instead of coffee as they nibbled on treats.

Journal of Comparative Neurology

After careful consideration, the Library has cancelled the subscription to the Journal of Comparative Neurology, effective January 2017. While this has long been one of the most expensive journals to which we subscribe, its use has steadily declined. A cost-per-use analysis demonstrated that with 56 article downloads in 2016, each article cost the library over $560, which is far higher than most journals. SIU users will continue to have immediate access, both on and off-campus, to all content published between 1996 – 2016. For anything published after 2016, please fill out an article request form (www.siumed.edu/lib/forms/loanarticle.html).

Library staff will fill these requests as quickly as possible. Please contact Geoff Pettys (gpettys31@siumed.edu) if you have any questions.

Good Reads

Winter is always a great time to curl up with a good book! Next time you’re looking for something new to read, remember to check out the Little Free Library located in the atrium right outside the library entrance on the 4th floor of 801 Rutledge.

A sampling of currently (as of this writing) available titles includes:

♦ The World Is Flat – Thomas L. Friedman’s analysis of how globalization has “flattened” the world.

♦ The Accident – A NYT bestselling thriller about the secrets revealed by a “mysterious, anonymous manuscript” and how its forthcoming publication affects all those involved.

♦ A biography of President Ulysses. S. Grant.

Books rotate constantly, but there’s generally a good selection of fiction from several genres, biographies and memoirs, and historical and scientific non-fiction.

If you see a book that interests you take it home to read! All we ask is that you help keep the library stocked—either by returning the books you take or replacing them with titles from your own collection.
Highlighted Resource: StatPearls

William Gossman, MD, a Class of '92 alumnus, helped found Boston Medical Publishing, eMedicine, and StatPearls. He has donated free access to StatPearls, a new database of over 100,000 multiple choice questions to help medical learners. Go to www.statpearls.com/plan/siu to register. Users must create a username and password.

StatPearls has sections for many different learner groups including medical students, residents, physicians, physician assistants, nursing and allied health. The home page has a quiz dashboard to create different types of quizzes. During quiz creation you can choose the group (ex. Medical Student Specialties) and then select from one or more listed options, such as anatomy, clinical skills, USMLE Step 1, etc. There is also a Knowledge Base for each group and specialty.

Types of Quizzes

Knowledge Quizzzer
Create a quiz with teaching points. Questions are repeated until answered correctly.

Knowledge Builder
Create a quiz with teaching points. Questions are repeated until answered correctly. One new question added for every wrong answer.

Knowledge Tester
Create a quiz with no teaching points and only one chance to answer the question.

Flashcard Quizzzer
Create a flashcard quiz with teaching points for rapid review.

Once you have registered, access the page at statpearls.com. Questions? Contact Research & Education staff at 217-545-2113 or email reference@siumed.edu.

Holiday Fun in Carbondale

On December 15, Carbondale students, faculty and staff celebrated the season with a holiday party in Lindegren Hall. This was the return of a tradition that was lost in the 1990s. Faculty and staff provided a pot-luck style meal that included a variety of finger foods as well as an impressive dessert table and hot chocolate bar. The students enjoyed several games that included prizes for the winners. The holiday sweater was back in style.

What to Read?

As the sandy beaches of Spring Break begin to call, stop by the Little Free Library located outside of the Medical Resource Center. Find a variety of genres ranging from mysteries, to classics, to just plain fun. Take a book and share a book before you head out for springtime fun!
On January 5th, the new SIU Medicine logo was unveiled at libraries on both School of Medicine campuses. Dean Kruse presented the logo and new branding to large audiences at noon and 5 PM in the Medical Library, Springfield campus, while Debra Quamen organized a presentation for the gathering of faculty, staff, and students at the Medical Resource Center, Carbondale Campus.