

LIBRARY CHRONICLES

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Shifting Spaces: Paving the Way for Partnership

It's hard to describe the year 2020 without thinking of the word, "change," and the Dick Smith Library is no exception. In spite of the challenges this last year, the library was able to make several improvements to the building. The Dick Smith Library partnered with the Tutoring and Learning Center (TLC), moving TLC staff into what was formerly the Audio-Visual Room in the lower level. Students now have more space dedicated to tutoring appointments, supplemental instruction, and coordinated group study. As a result, the Legal Collection is housed in the Limited Room. A Resource Room was created on the lower level, which houses our Texas state adopted textbooks, anatomical models, education kits, and die cuts. The Presentation Practice Room relocated to the Library Learning Commons on the main floor

(Room 155). A new resource is the Green Screen Room, located on the upper level (Room 233). Available at both the Tarleton library locations (Room 143 at the Rickett Library), students can take pictures or record themselves in a private space that includes a drop down green screen.

Additionally, the exterior of Dick Smith Library got a facelift. The sidewalks were repaved and the front entrance doors were upgraded to automatic sliding doors, which have been a great asset this fall in combating the spread of COVID-19 in minimizing touch. Our last improvement was replacing the carpet throughout the entire library. Stop by and take a look!

Share what your favorite
library space is on Twitter
using [@TarletonLib!](https://twitter.com/TarletonLib)



COVID-19 Libraries Procedures

Tarleton Libraries instituted COVID-19 safety procedures during 2020 and will continue these as long as necessary. All patrons are required to wear face coverings. Plexiglass barriers are in place at all of the service desks. Both libraries provide wipes and hand sanitizers throughout the building. Dick Smith Library (DSL) patrons should use these wipes to self-clean their work areas upon departure. Patrons at Rickett Library are asked to check-in. After check-out, a library staff member will wipe down the work area. All study rooms have limited capacity; DSL patrons making reservations for rooms should stay within capacity limits. For students needing a private, isolated space to take a proctored exam using their personal device, the library has dedicated two DSL individual study carrels for their exam. See staff at the Circulation Desk for further information about these carrels. Students are welcome to use other library spaces and equipment for their exams on a first come, first served basis. Students may use Rickett computers, now equipped with web cameras, for testing. Note that seating was removed and/or limited at computer areas to ensure social distancing.

Students can get virtual reference help from the Ask a Librarian Chat from 8:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m., Monday–Friday. The library has over 310+ research databases and 280,000+ e-books available for remote access. Faculty may place items on e-reserve or provide multiple physical copies which allows for a 3-day quarantine after use. Article or book chapters (10% or less of the book) may be scanned to create an e-reserve. Students may access e-reserves through the library webpage, then read, print, or save materials. Email reference@tarleton.edu for more information.

Guests may visit the libraries. At DSL, guests may request a guest pass to use the computers. Passes are available after 3 p.m., Monday–Friday, and any time on weekends. Guests at Rickett must check-in with a photo ID.

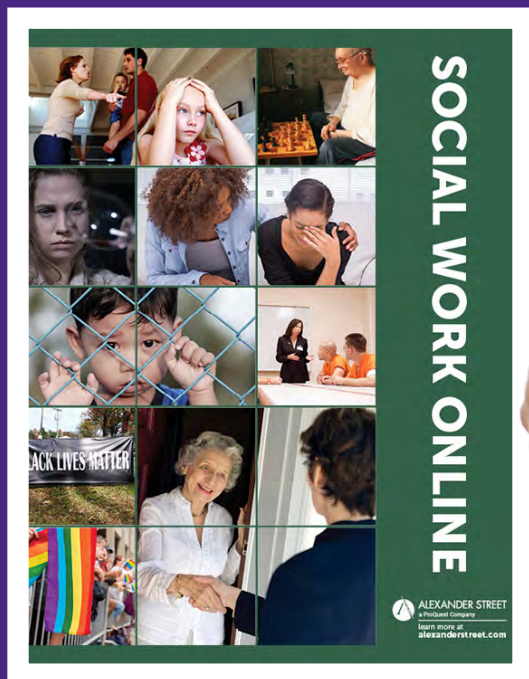
Current library procedures may be found at [University Libraries Coronavirus Updates and Resources – Tarleton State University](#).

New Library Resources

Early in 2020, the Tarleton Libraries were fortunate recipients of one-time use funds through the Provost's Office, which allowed for the purchase two large electronic collections. Sage Research Methods includes videos, datasets, The Little Green and Blue Data books, reference books, podcasts, and case studies covering a range of topics in the sciences and social sciences. This resource expands offerings supporting research and data projects. Social Work Online, through Alexander Street Press, contains social work

textbooks and videos of documentaries, lectures, and demonstrations to engage future social work practitioners. Curriculum areas covered include families, health care, diversity, substance abuse, and trauma. These two considerable resources help increase the depth and scale of the libraries' collection to support researchers and practitioners alike.

Enjoy our new collections:
[Social Work Online](#)
[Sage Research Methods](#)





Library Events Go Virtual!

As the community experienced lockdowns and social distancing ordinances, the small moments that connect people became more important than ever. With this in mind, Tarleton Libraries modified their events into online formats so that Texans can still have fun while staying safe during the pandemic.

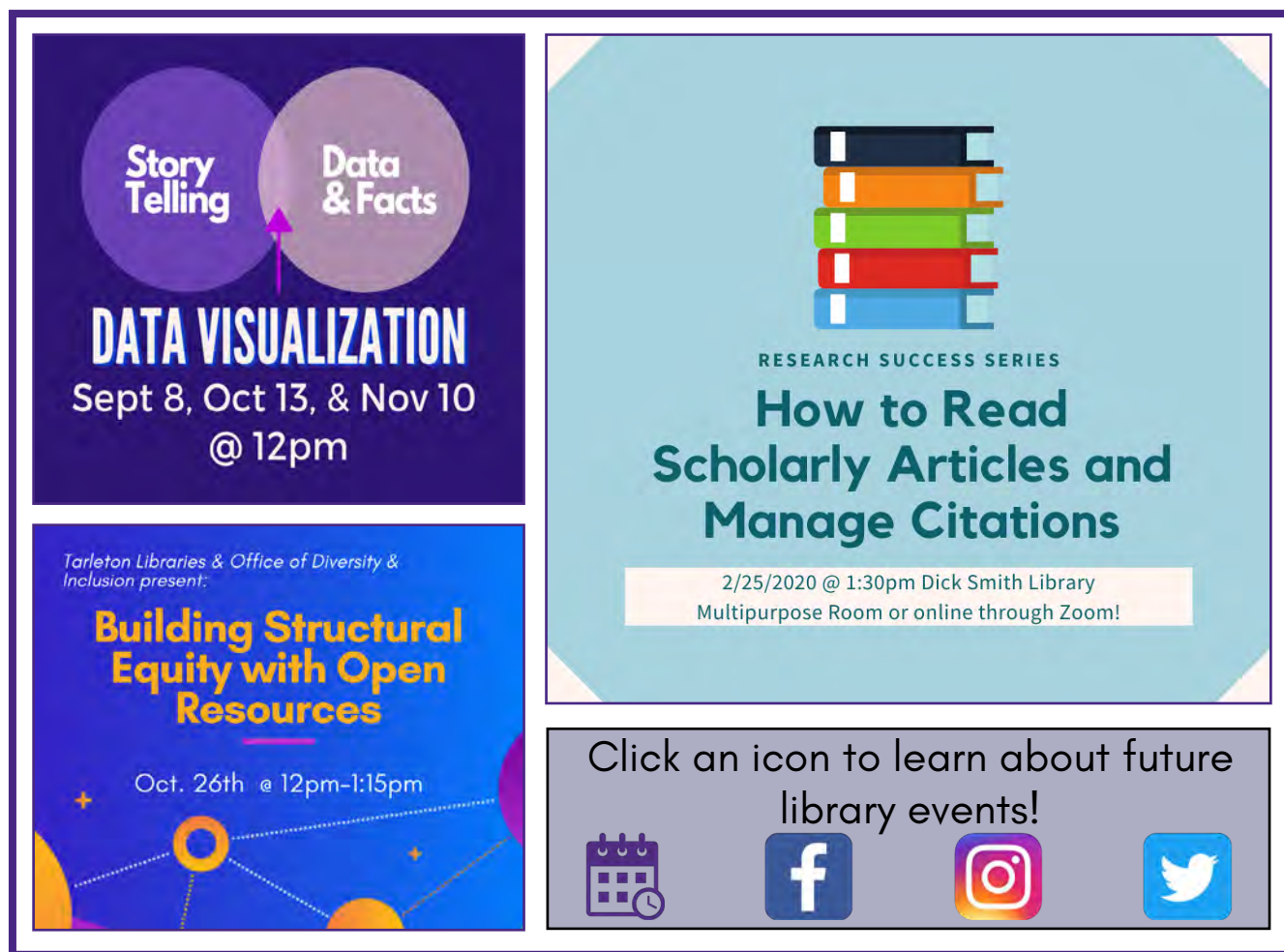
During National Library Week (April 9-15), Tarleton Libraries revealed Tarleton Athletics and President James Hurley as the honorees for this year's new READ posters available through library YouTube channel. Celebrating the value of libraries and literacy, the posters showcase Tarleton organizations or persons who exhibit the University's core values.

Typically during the summers, Tarleton Libraries have the honor of collaborating with the Stephenville

Public Library for story time performances. This year, library staff filmed themselves reading various children's books from the Curriculum Collection. These videos were shared on the Stephenville Public Library Facebook page.

In September, the Tarleton community turned to their cameras and took part in a Banned Books Read-Out online. Tarleton Libraries annually hosts a read-out to celebrate the freedom to read and highlight censorship. To ensure the safety of the community but still offer a voice, the library compiled the community's Read-Out videos and released them on social media during Banned Books Week this year.

Check out these videos:
Read Posters: [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)
Read-Out: [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), and [Part 3](#)



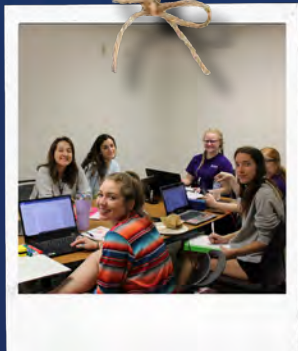
Academic Events

Tarleton Libraries hosted multiple events promoting scholarship and academic research. The Research Success Series kicked off in the spring. Aimed at undergraduate students, this series introduced them to library resources, offered time saving tips and tricks, and helped them get started on their research. Originally, the sessions were offered in-person but moved online for the fall semester.

The Data Visualization session guided students through several creation tools as well as important points to remember when analyzing or designing visuals. The presentation taught students about

how to tell a story with their research to engage their audience.

Lastly, following Open Access Week's theme of equity and inclusion, Tarleton Libraries and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion offered a program on Building Structural Equity with Open Resources. Faculty were provided information on how open educational resources can impact on student success, ways to incorporate diverse voices in their coursework, and they learned how to use open resources to encourage students to explore and discuss differing viewpoints.



Night Against Procrastination

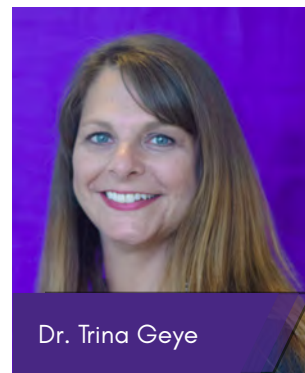
In the days before COVID-19, 143 dedicated students gathering on the lower level of the Dick Smith Library was an impressive sight! In early March 2020, the library partnered with the Tutoring & Learning Center to host, "Night Against Procrastination," an event designed to help Tarleton's students develop their study habits. There was a robust response (the late hours and the free snacks probably helped), and many people experienced the library's lower level for the first time. Seating was limited, but attendees lounged happily in every corner of the room. Tutors were available and Librarians were on hand to assist with research and citation.

Collaborating with another Tarleton University department for an event—one that was appreciated so much—reinforces the importance of cooperation toward a common goal. The libraries hope to enjoy safe, in-person functions again

Congratulations 2020 Grant Winners!



Dr. Karl Aho



Dr. Trina Geye



Dr. Robert
Anderson



Dr. Stephanie
Robertson



Dr. Charles
Howard

OER at Tarleton

This was another exciting year for Open Educational Resources (OER) at Tarleton! With affordability and accessibility more important than ever, Tarleton Libraries diligently worked to support and increase OER usage across campus. In April 2020, the Division of Academic Affairs awarded grants to three core curriculum classes to switch all sections over to freely available, open textbooks. The reception to honor these outstanding faculty members was postponed due to COVID-19, but an event will be held in the spring to celebrate the 2020 OER grant winners.

Over the summer, library staff offered a series of short informational presentations about different OER resources and the benefits of using open materials. These sessions familiarized faculty with sources for peer-reviewed OER

textbooks and guided them through the process of adopting an OER. The library identified several other faculty members who were already using OERs in their classes. Students can now access a list of OER classes to help them pick their schedules. So far 37 courses are listed and the library hopes to add even more in the coming year!

Another exciting development for Tarleton is participating in the OpenStax Institutional Partner Program, joining a cohort of colleges and universities advocating for the use of affordable, open educational resources. Tarleton was chosen to join the 2020-21 cohort of partner schools alongside 11 other colleges from around the country. This partnership will guide library staff and Tarleton faculty as they adopt OER, and will help develop ways to track impact and student success.

2020 Grant Winners

- Dr. Stephanie Robertson and Dr. Trina Geye – Psychological Sciences
- Dr. Karl Aho – Philosophy
- Dr. Charles Howard and Dr. Robert Anderson – Communication Studies



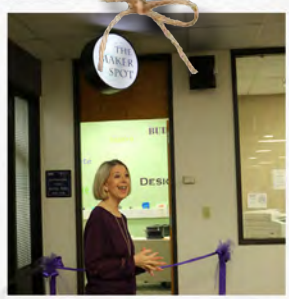
Welcome, Dr. Quinnell!

Tarleton State University Libraries recently welcomed Dr. Katherine Quinnell as the inaugural Dean of University Libraries. Joining the excited team in February 2021, she arrived with over 20 years of experience in academic libraries. Dr. Quinnell has a Doctor of Philosophy (Educational Leadership) from Mercer University, as well as a Master of Science in Education (College Teaching) from Northeastern State University and a Master of Library Science from Texas Woman's University.

Serving as Library Director at Athens State University from 2016 until January 2021, Dr. Quinnell looks forward to delving into students' study spaces at Tarleton. An additional area of interest is Open Education Resources (OER). During the past four years, Dr. Quinnell's funded grants exceeded \$14,000 for OER. Another impressive grant award she received was \$2.1 million for the Kares Endowment in 2019, supporting renovations and

future funding for the Kares Library at Athens State University. She has also spent time as a professor and instructor at Athens State University, Clayton State University, and Northeastern State University. Dr. Quinnell is eager to learn the nuts and bolts of the Tarleton Libraries, offering her insights and getting acquainted with everyone on staff.

Though a childhood spent in the military made frequent moves normal, Dr. Quinnell is excited to return to Texas to be closer to her family. She enjoys trying something new every year. Past experiences have included belly dancing and roller derby! A self-described "nerd," other hobbies include knitting, crocheting, audiobooks, and Renaissance faires. Future adventures in Stephenville and the surrounding areas should be interesting! Admitting to hair with blue highlights in the past, Dr. Quinnell advises not to be shocked to see her with Tarleton purple at some point. The Tarleton State University Libraries' staff are motivated and enthusiastic to be working with Dr. Quinnell!



Maker Spot
Ribbon Cutting 2016



Tarleton Day of
Service 2018



Laptop Vending
Machine Unveiling 2014



Donna's Retirement
2020



Read Reveal 2019

Thanks, Donna!

Starting at Tarleton as a Clerk-Typist in 1984, Donna Savage used her education, perseverance, and hard work to rise to the role of Tarleton's University Librarian in June of 2006. She was a strong proponent of input and feedback from those around her, building committees that focus on staff involvement. Ms. Savage excelled in creating collaborative relationships with other departments across the Tarleton campus. In 2012, she received the Quality Service Award. The award acknowledged staff who "go the extra mile," represent excellent dedication to the university, and express a positive attitude. Ms. Savage was forward-thinking with library trends and helped establish the library's first web-based catalog and the acquisition of its first databases. She facilitated the creation of library services first in Texan Hall Library and then the transition to Rickett Library at the Tarleton Fort Worth location. She also co-chaired the University Planning

Council during the creation of the University's 2020 Strategic Plan.

In the months before her retirement, Donna spent many long hours navigating the unexpected punch of COVID-19. Setting high expectations for serving students and faculty, she continued to manage her team with encouragement, grace, and patience.

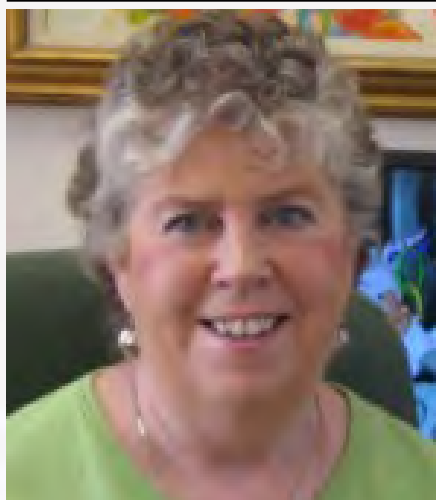
A socially distanced reception was held in Donna's honor on August 27, where she was recognized by Dr. Barry Lambert, Associate Dean of the College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences, and University Police Chief Matt Welch. Celebrated by family, friends, and co-workers, Ms. Savage was acknowledged for her loyalty and her caring management style. Looking forward to traveling with her husband, Ray, and friends, Ms. Savage is eyeing a destination to Japan in the future. Donna Savage was a valued leader who will be very missed.



Karen deFranchi



Jane Dixon



Jodee Tennyson

In Memoriam

In 2020, the Tarleton Libraries lost several former staff members who helped make the libraries what they are today. Sincere condolences go out to their families and friends.

Karen deFranchi worked at the Dick Smith Library from 1988 to 2008 as a cataloger but found her niche as the Acquisitions Librarian, the position from which she retired. She was known for her love of her work. Her hobbies included art, travel, and spending time with her grandchildren. After retiring, she divided her time between Granbury and Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Jane Dickson worked at the Dick Smith Library from 1980 to 2006, first as a Reference Librarian and then as Lead Reference Librarian. In 2018,

Ms. Dickson funded an endowment for Tarleton library staff's professional development for \$1,000,000. She was an avid mystery reader and had a variety of interests, including history, cooking, travel, gardening, photography, writing and martial arts.

Jodee Tennyson loved working at the Dick Smith Library from 2002 to 2020, first as an Administrative Assistant, then as Acquisitions Librarian, and retiring as Coordinator of Acquisitions. Previously, she worked at Tarleton as the Administrative Secretary for Engineering and Technology, and she was a Tarleton graduate with her Bachelor of Science degree in Human Science. She received the Employee of the Year Award for the 1999-2000 school year. Ms. Tennyson had varied interests, which included spending time with her family, cooking, floral design, and event planning.



Yeydi Rios

“It's time to say goodbye,
but I think goodbyes are
sad and I'd much rather
say hello...
...Hello to a new
adventure.”



Jodee Tennyson

Ernie Harwell



Carrie Pike



Natalia Juarez

We'll Miss You!

A truly great employee is difficult to find, disappointing to part with, and impossible to forget. This year saw several changes related to staffing, and these changes were felt strongly throughout both Dick Smith and Rickett Libraries.

January encountered the retirement of Jodee Tennyson. Having been with Tarleton since 1990, Jodee joined Dick Smith Library in 2002 as an Administrative Assistant. She retired as the Coordinator of Acquisitions.

July saw a departure from Natalia Juarez. Natalia came to Tarleton in July 2018 as the Electronic Resources Associate in the Resource Management

and Discovery division. She transitioned to the Periodicals Associate in 2019. Natalia was excited to return to the medical field.

November met with the resignation of Carrie Pike. Carrie joined the team at Rickett Library in September 2019. She was the Circulation Specialist II and departed to join JPS Hospital in Fort Worth.

The last departure for 2020 came from Yeydi Rios in December. Yeydi began her career with Dick Smith Library in August 2016 as a User Services Assistant. After receiving her Master of Library Science in 2019, Yeydi was promoted to Reference Librarian. She returned to Puerto Rico to be closer to her family.