

# Library Chronicles

Dick Smith Library

Issue 4 (2013 - 2014)

[www.tarleton.edu/library](http://www.tarleton.edu/library)

## READ @ DSL: Libraries, Literacy & TSU Pride



Begun in 1958 by the National Book Council, National Library Week (NLW) recognizes the importance of libraries and library staff to their communities of users. The READ poster campaign was initiated in 1980 by the American Library Association and is a fun way to celebrate and focus attention on libraries, literacy, and reading.

The first Dick Smith Library READ posters were created in 2010 and featured Dr. Dottavio and the Purple Poo. Later posters have showcased Army ROTC cadets, the Tarleton Players, the Texan Rider, and TSU Plowboys.

In keeping with the library staff's desire to spotlight Tarleton history, traditions, and core values on our READ posters, the 2013 posters feature members of The Sound & The Fury marching band in a "READ" formation and members of Tarleton's award winning rodeo team holding their favorite rodeo-related reading materials.

The posters were revealed on April 15, 2013 with presentations by Dr. Dottavio and Dr. Murray and a great showing of Tarleton pride. Attendees were treated to refreshments and souvenir postcard-sized versions of the 2013 posters.

**The Sound & The Fury:** Organized in 1919, Tarleton's first marching band had only nine members. The band has grown in talent and size and is now one of the finest marching ensembles in the state, as well as one of the largest and most spirited campus groups. Open to all students, the band includes wind and percussion musicians and a color guard unit. Learn more about the Tarleton's bands at <http://www.tarleton.edu/band>.

**Tarleton Rodeo Team:** In 1947, a group of students formed the campus Rodeo Association to encourage participation in rodeo activities. They succeeded. By 1964, rodeo memberships topped all campus groups and Tarleton joined the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA). Members also began competing in officially sanctioned rodeo events.

Tarleton has one of the largest rodeo associations in the nation. Members are skilled competitors: Teams have won 6 national championships and individuals have won 19 national championships. Learn more about TSU rodeo at <http://www.tarleton.edu/rodeo>.



## Neither Sleet nor Snow nor an Ice-pocalypse . . .

When much of North Central Texas was immobilized by a blanket of snow and ice in December 2013, the staff at Dick Smith Library rose to the occasion. Along with a select group of [other campus departments](#), the library was committed to ensuring that the Tarleton community had access to necessary services.



So students, faculty, and staff could have access to our resources and facilities, the library's staff and student workers modified their schedules and trekked across slippery roads and walkways to keep the library open during the extra days of final exams extended hours. Yay, library team!

Interested in what students were saying during the 2013 ice-pocalypse? Check out this [Storify](#).

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# New Learning Spaces for You @ the Hickman Bldg.

Texan Hall, a reference/reading library in the Hickman Building ([Southwest Metroplex Center](#)) in Fort Worth, has been able to expand its service points with the addition of a new Learning Commons adjacent to the existing library area.

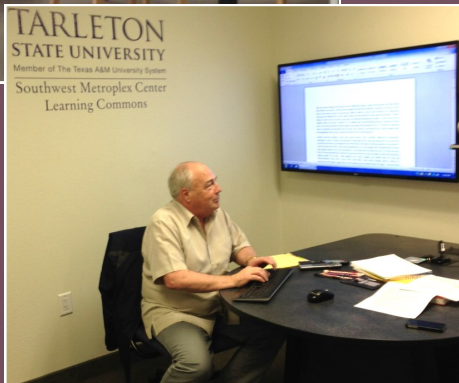
Work began on the Learning Commons at the beginning of the Fall 2013 semester and involved re-inventing a classroom space, uniting the library and classroom for easy traffic flow, and incorporating a variety of student-focused features:

- The door opening between Texan Hall and the classroom was enlarged to allow easy passage between them.
- Three glassed-in rooms were created for use as study spaces and/or academic support partner workspaces: All three rooms have wall-mounted computer monitors. Students can use one room to work on projects in groups or to study. The other rooms are used for accounting tutoring sessions and by the Hickman Writing Center.
- A bank of computers was added along the window-wall area, which almost tripled computer access -- from four computers in Texan Hall to eleven in the Learning Commons and Texan Hall combined.
- A symposium makes the space adaptable for use as a classroom or for practicing presentations.
- Flexible furnishings were also added to the re-imagined space: Students can study while seated in comfortable, stuffed chairs. They can also take advantage of modular tables that can be configured for individual use or pushed together so groups of students can work together.
- A closet was converted into a room for vending machines giving students easy access to snacks while they study.
- The north wall of the space features a 15-foot whiteboard and gives students a place to chart study topics, brainstorm ideas, and/or work on presentations.

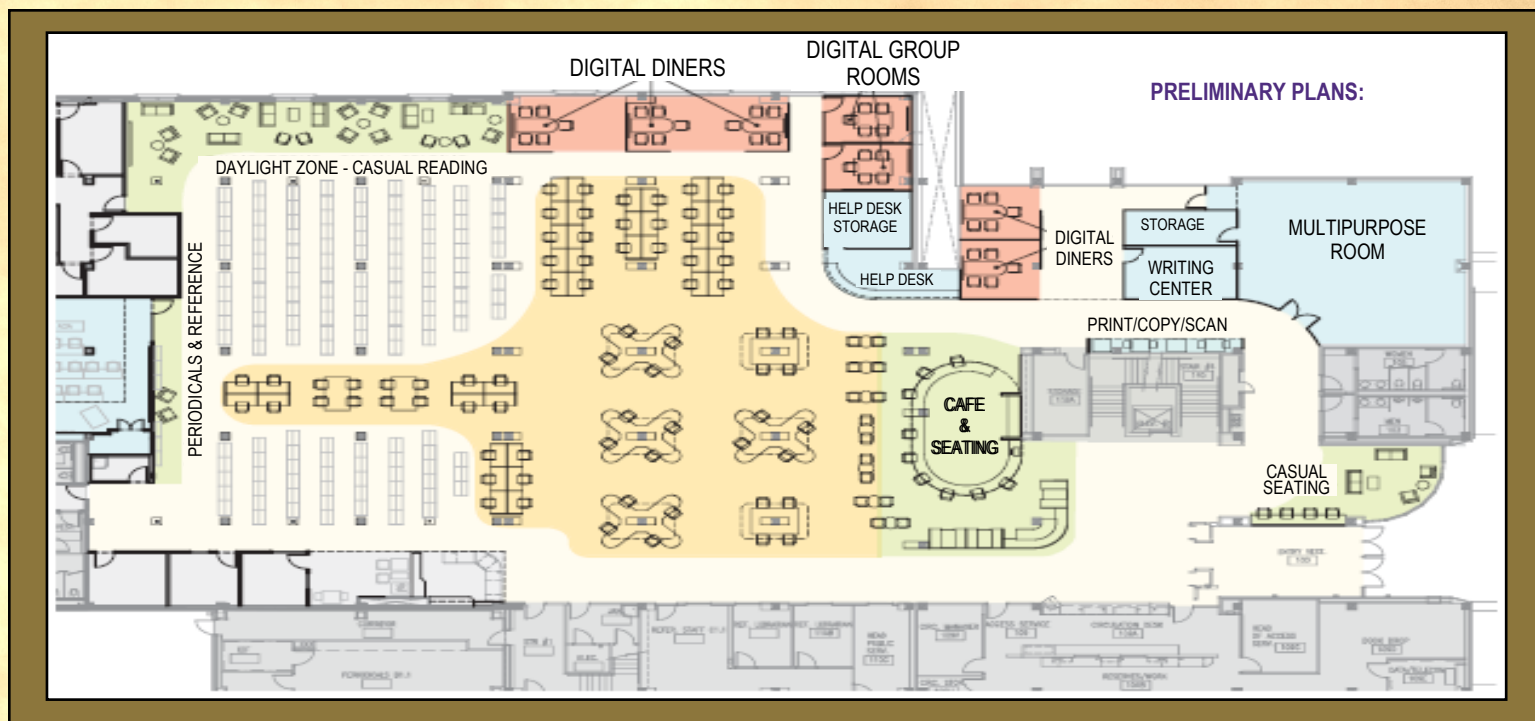
The combination of the new Learning Commons and the Texan Hall library offers the best of both worlds:

- The new Learning Commons will provide spaces for collaborative or individual study activities, as well as access to academic support staff.
- Texan Hall will be a place for quiet, individual study and a place to get research assistance. The librarian and/or student worker will offer students assistance with using library databases, developing research strategies, finding printed materials, using library services like interlibrary loan and document delivery, and much more. They will also answer questions about printer, copier, and scanner services.

While an official celebration for the new Learning Commons has not been held yet, one is anticipated during the Spring 2014 semester. Nevertheless, this new learning space is being discovered with delight by many students on this Tarleton campus in Fort Worth. Come check out Texan Hall (Rm #445) and the new Learning Commons (Rm #450). You'll be pleased!







## Change is in the Works @ the Dick Smith Library

If you've been in the Dick Smith Library lately, you're aware that a multi-phase renovation project is underway. Progress has been steady with completion in sight -- even if much of the library's main floor currently is not.

Phase 1, expanding library storage in the Tarleton Center basement, created a long-term, climate-controlled area for county records, archival materials, legal reference works, and older periodicals.

Phase 2, relocating the [Center for Instructional Innovation](#) (CII) to the library, was completed in April 2013. This renovated space now houses CII offices and offers collaborative work areas for faculty and CII staff, as well as a content capture studio, training areas, a Faculty Innovation Room, and a centralized space for faculty support services: [Academic Assessment](#), [Office of Faculty Research](#), [Writing Intensive Program](#), and [Applied Learning Experiences \(ALE\)](#).



Phase 3, establishing a Library Learning Commons, is currently in progress. Preparation for construction began in June 2013 and involved relocating resources from the library's main floor so users could have access to them during this phase. Construction started in fall 2013 with completion expected in spring 2014.

The floor plan image at the top of this page gives an idea about the Library Learning Commons' configuration and shows some of its planned features.

As the architect's rendering above indicates, plans for the Library Learning Commons call for a technology-rich environment that is configured to support collaborative group work and individual research/study. Plans also include technology help desks staffed by [Information Technology Services](#) and CII's [Online Instructional Support Services](#), areas for [University Writing Center](#) consultations and [Academic Support Program](#) tutoring sessions, and an expanded [Tarleton Dining Services by Sodexo](#) coffee cafe.

We'll keep you updated as the project progresses by posting pictures and announcements on our [Learning Commons Renovation](#) page. Also, be sure to check the [library's blog](#) for updates and watch for postings on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Flickr](#), and [Pinterest](#).



# Convenience & Easy Access Meet User Needs

Since the summer of 2013, Dick Smith Library has undergone several changes in order to enhance our services for Tarleton State University students, faculty, and staff.

One way we have tried to accommodate our users' needs is by obtaining a collaboration table, a charging station, and a KIC scanner. Since these items have been popular with all of our users, we decided to purchase more of each type to be part of our new Library Learning Commons offerings.

If you have not seen these items, you may be curious to know what each does.

The [collaboration table](#) was added to the library's offerings by the Center for Instructional Innovation. It lets up to four users connect their laptops to a shared monitor so they can work on a project while viewing it on the same screen.



The mobile charging station lets users plug in and re-charge their mobile devices and/or tablets while they are in the library studying or doing research.

The charging station supports many different device types and brands so you should be able to charge any of your mobile devices or tablets with no worries, but please remember to turn down the ringer volume.

The [KIC scanner](#) is a standalone unit; you don't need to have a computer to use it. It lets users scan a document and then email it to themselves or save it to USB drives.



Each of these items is available in the library to help you get things accomplished efficiently.



Also, these devices are self-service so you can use them at your convenience.

If you have questions about how to operate these devices, please ask a library staff person for assistance. We're always happy to help.

Reminder: We also offer a Campus Store [vending machine](#) that's filled with supplies for classes: scantrons, pencils, pens, bluebooks, flash drives, highlighters, and more. The vending machine accepts cash. Prices vary per item.

While the Learning Commons is being completed, the vending machine is located at the library's Circulation Desk and offers quick access to basic supplies -- you can get what you need and still be on time for class.

## Research Apps: Find Articles, Read News & Listen to Music

Do you sometimes think of great research topics when you're out and about with friends?  
Do you need to find some articles for class, but you're on the road?

**Help is close at hand.**

Dick Smith Library subscribes to several databases that offer mobile interfaces:

- ★ American Chemical Society ★ Annual Reviews ★ Classical Music Library
- ★ Cochrane Library ★ EBSCO and Gale databases ★ IEEE Xplore ★ IOPscience ★ JSTOR
- ★ Mango Languages ★ SciVerse ★ STAT!Ref ★ Taylor and Francis ★ and many more

**more info @ [www.tarleton.edu/library/mobile.html](http://www.tarleton.edu/library/mobile.html)**



# Did You Know? Library+Pinterest = Success!

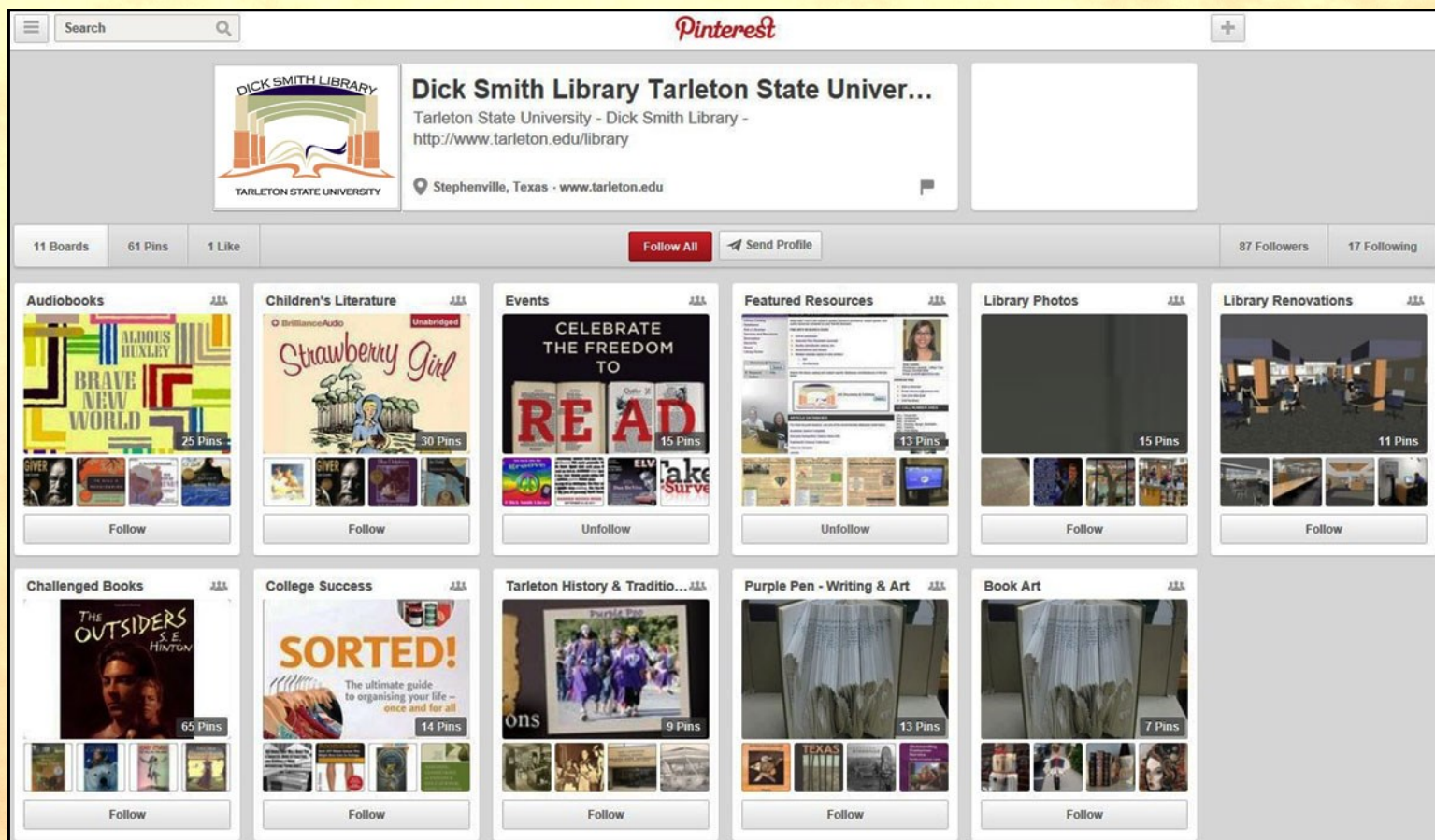
Many people use Pinterest to get ideas for crafts and gifts, find tips for DIY home improvement projects, locate fashion and cooking advice, collect examples of impressive art, share their creative works, and to accomplish any number of other tasks. However, not as many might think to go to Pinterest to find resources to help them in their college classwork, to locate information about their university, or to look for resources in their library.

So, you might be surprised to learn that the Dick Smith Library has a [Pinterest account](#) with 11 unique boards that range in topic from library-specific to interesting Tarleton tidbits to college success strategies.

Happy Pinning and enjoy our boards:

- Audiobooks: Title, author, and call number information, plus a brief description of audiobooks in the library's collection.
- Book Art: Images of books that have been transformed into works of art.
- Challenged Books: Title and author information, plus reasons each book has been challenged.
- Children's Literature: Title, author, and call number information, plus a brief description of some of the children's literature books in Tarleton libraries' collection.
- College Success: Books and other resources about adjusting to and succeeding in college.
- Events: Topics, dates, and descriptions of library and Friends of the Library events and activities.
- Featured Resources: Items selected from the library's online resources, plus links to LOL blog posts about resources.
- Library Photos: Selected pictures from Tarleton Libraries' Flickr, Facebook, and blog posts.
- Library Renovations: Selected pictures of the Library Learning Commons renovation project.
- Purple Pen - Writing & Art: Showcase for Tarleton faculty, student, and staff creative works.
- Tarleton History & Traditions: Photographs and links to online posts.

Please let us know if you have suggestions or questions: Call 254-968-9249 - Email [reference@tarleton.edu](mailto:reference@tarleton.edu) - [Stop by and see us](#) at the library - Tweet us [@TarletonLib](#).





# We've Got Spirit - Yes, We Do!







We've Got Spirit - How 'bout You?



# Student Workers: A Vital Part of the Library

Library staff is made up of more than librarians and paraprofessionals, who help users with research, work with faculty on projects, tend to countless administrative tasks, and make sure that the library purchases, organizes, and circulates quality materials.

Student workers make up a significant percentage of our work force and are vital to keeping the library functioning smoothly.

These, too often, unheralded workers re-shelve the materials you use, keep our service points running efficiently, and are our general go-to helpers whenever another staff member needs a helping hand.

This list barely hints at what all library student workers accomplish for the library and for our users. They always step up to the plate for us and for you.

During the ice-pocalypse of December 2013, for example, our student workers still came in to work, despite the weather, so that we could be open even though the university closed.

They were also willing to work more hours than usual that week even though they had their own finals to study for and take.

Library student workers juggle school and work. They stay as late as midnight during the week so the library can provide service to our campus and our community of users.

They have even gone so far as to help trap and release a poor squirrel after it snuck its way into the library!

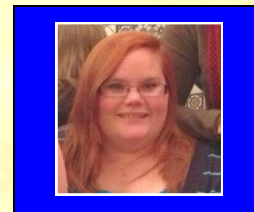
While we never really know what might happen next in the library, we can always count on our student workers to rise to the occasion and to provide quality service.

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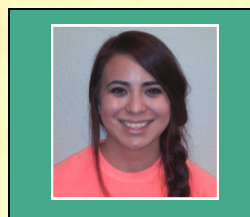
Here are what a few of our students had to say when they were asked "What is it like to work in the library?"

I've been a student worker at the circulation desk for over a year and a half and it is always a joy. I love coming in and having all the librarians and staff know your name and greet you with a smile. Getting help with papers is a great bonus, too! I will be sad when I graduate, but I know I can always visit and still be welcomed ☺

Sara Bussey  
– Circulation



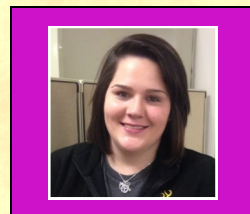
Working at the library has improved my organizational and social skills tremendously. My grades have also improved because I was taught where to find information and how to find the materials I need at the library. I also enjoy the quiet atmosphere.



Love Leigh Gonzales  
– Circulation & Administration

I absolutely love working in the library! I have learned so much about the different services that I can take advantage of through the library. The staff are really great, respectable people and I enjoy working for my managers. I take pride in knowing I have helped someone else attain a goal such as completing a crucial paper or piece of research by sending them books or articles through interlibrary loan.

Kelsie Tobin  
– Interlibrary Loan



## Library Student Worker + You = Perfect Fit?

Have you ever thought about working in an academic library? Perhaps you should. It could be a great fit.

If you are a current student and you would like to work on campus, you might want to consider applying for a student worker position at the Dick Smith Library.

The library employs about 30 students each semester. They assist in all areas of library service: processing new materials, repairing damaged items, managing periodicals, processing interlibrary loan requests, and tending to circulation services.

You do not need to have prior library experience to obtain a position at Dick Smith Library. You just need good customer service skills and a willingness to learn.

Student worker application forms are available in the Library Administration Office, third floor of the library across from the elevator. They can be submitted Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm.

You need to bring a current class schedule with you to include with your application form because we offer a wide range of hours and will work around your class schedule.



# Library Lovers Contest & Twitter: What Fun!

Every February, libraries across the nation celebrate Library Lover's Month and invite their users to join in the fun. The Dick Smith Library is no exception.

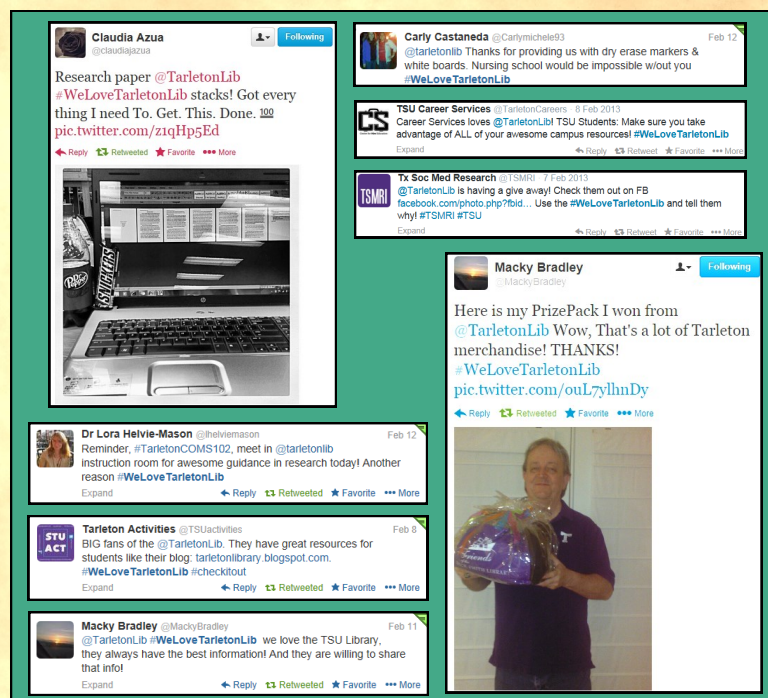
To remind users to consider and celebrate library resources and services, we distribute specially designed buttons, give out candy kisses, have themed displays, and create opportunities for our users to share comments about why they love libraries.

To make the celebration more special, we designate February 14 as Library Lovers Day because we want to emphasize the point that our users are special to us.

In 2013 during Library Lovers Month, library staff held our first [Twitter contest](#). We asked contestants to tweet as many different reasons as they could think of why they love Tarleton libraries. They used the #WeLoveTarletonLib hashtag for their tweets and could not repeat reasons or use more than one account. The contest was a great success!

Winners were announced on Library Lovers Day and given some nice prizes of library swag. When the contest ended, we had two very happy winners and hundreds of tweets stating why our users love the Tarleton Libraries.

We tweeted pictures of the winners and their prizes to show how much we LOVE our users.



Want to keep spreading the good news about your libraries? You can by tweeting reasons why you love Tarleton Libraries throughout the coming year:

#libraryloversmonth @tarletonlib #WeLoveTarletonLib

## Friends Help Support the Library

Members of [The Friends of the Dick Smith Library](#) are committed to supporting the library's efforts to address the service and information needs of our users.

The Friends work with library staff to identify what's needed and provide financial help to acquire library enhancements and amenities not addressed by the library's annual budget.

Examples of items the group has purchased for the library include student art, "Book of the Month" best sellers, popular fantasy/science fiction magazines, video cameras and a scanner. They also helped fund digitizing *The J-TAC* and *Grassburr*.

The members promote the library's value to Tarleton and to the surrounding communities and sponsor events like book talks and "Dinner in the Stacks" programs. In addition, members have provided financial assistance by seeking bequests to the library and through creating library endowments.

The Friends are able to provide this financial support due to the generosity of donors, membership dues, and book sales.

Friends members partner with the Stephenville Historical House Museum to offer the *Spirits of Erath: Cemetery Walk* -- an annual event celebrating the area's history and people.





# ~ Dick Smith Library Staff ~



**Donna Savage**  
University  
Librarian



**Sharon  
Alexander**  
Catalog  
Specialist



**Jodie Baker**  
Coordinator for  
Reference  
Services



**Jennifer Barrera**  
Assistant Director  
for User Services



**Lisa Blackwell**  
SW Metroplex  
Librarian



**Trudy Carlson**  
Associate Director  
for Library  
Services



**Amy Castillo**  
Periodicals  
Librarian



**Melissa Cookson**  
Catalog  
Librarian



**Sandy Dennis**  
Periodicals  
Specialist



**Tonya Dobson**  
Administrative  
Services  
Coordinator



**Chris Grantham**  
Technology  
Support  
Specialist



**Tracy Holtman**  
Assistant Director  
for Collection  
Management



**Crystal Money**  
Reference  
Assistant



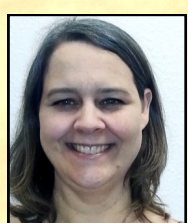
**Yvonne Mulhern**  
Instruction  
& Reference  
Librarian



**Leslie Newcomb**  
Administrative  
Assistant



**Amanda Pape**  
Coordinator for  
Archives &  
Special Services



**Kimberly  
Resendez**  
Interlibrary Loan  
Specialist



**Kym Schow**  
Access Services  
Librarian



**Christy Singleton**  
Reference  
Librarian



**Peggy Smith**  
Evening  
Circulation  
Supervisor



**Vickie Sowell**  
Special Services  
Assistant



# ~ Dick Smith Library Staff ~



**Gary Spurr**  
Collections  
Archivist



**Clay Stewardson**  
Circulation  
Manager



**Jodee Tennyson**  
Acquisitions  
Librarian

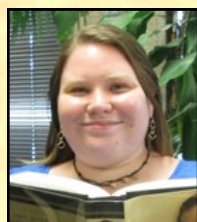


**Kay Wiley**  
Acquisitions  
Specialist



**Cathy Wilterding**  
Coordinator for  
Outreach &  
Instruction  
Services

## Staff Comings . . .



**Margie Maxfield**  
Systems Librarian



**Laura Prewitt**  
Graduate  
Assistant

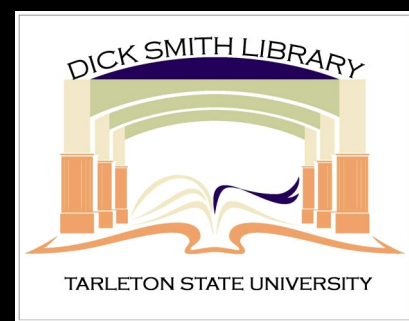
## . . . and Staff Goings



### **Rashelle Burchfield:**

In November 2013, Rashelle and her husband moved to Arkansas to pursue their careers in the newspaper industry. She began working at Dick Smith Library in 2001 as a student worker. After graduating with a BBA in Administrative Systems and a minor in Finance, she was employed as the library's Access Services Assistant and then as our Electronic Resources Specialist. Rashelle applied her energies and talents to an array of library activities. For example, her creativity and artistry are showcased in the library's READ posters and most of our promotional materials.

**WE ARE HERE  
TO SERVE YOU!**



**(254) 968-9249**  
**reference@tarleton.edu**

## Library Staff Members Support Varied Campus Activities

In addition to supporting campus educational, research, and professional endeavors, library staff also lend their energies and talents to bolster campus unity and the success of activities sponsored by campus organizations and departments by

- featuring campus groups that exemplify Tarleton's core values and traditions on our annual READ posters;
- offering Library Poker sessions during Transition Week;
- helping plan and facilitate the university's first Midterm Mania and Finals Frenzy efforts;
- participating in Texan Tour sessions and in orientations for new students, faculty, staff, and graduate assistants;
- finding creative ways to boost the library's participation in the campus "Pass the Hat" campaign;
- collecting food donations for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion's Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week;
- riding in Tarleton's homecoming parade and attending campus events and presentations;
- attending Tarleton Night at Rangers Ballpark in Arlington;
- creating milk jug jack-o-lanterns to make trick-or-treating more fun for Child Development Center children; and
- holding an in-house auction to raise monies to purchase gifts for two Tarleton Angel Tree children.



# Multiply the Power of your Search with Discovery@Tarleton

<http://www.tarleton.edu/library/discovery.html>

Search & discover more!

Find the items you need:

books, ebooks, audiobooks, cds, digital music, dvds, streaming videos,  
journals, magazines, newspapers, and more.

Collect, save & share what you find!

Find it, save it, share it.  
I can do it all with  
Discovery@Tarleton.

