

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

Kresge Library



Message from the Dean

Welcome to our Fall 2023 Oakland University Libraries newsletter!



In this issue we celebrate the retirements of three long-time OU Libraries faculty and staff members. Kris and Eric and Fran contributed immeasurably in the years they worked with us at Kresge Library. We sincerely appreciate them as colleagues, we will miss working with them and we hope to see them again soon and often!

This summer we said au revoir to our Director of Philanthropy, Lynn Fisher, who is now Director of Philanthropy for another unit on campus. I am thankful for Lynn's advice and guidance over the years that I've been here. I've also enjoyed Lynn's company immensely and I am glad that she is not too far away for us to get together now and then.

In August we welcomed a new Director of Philanthropy for OU Libraries, Kelly Brault. Kelly is also the Senior Director Annual Giving & Special Audiences for Oakland University (learn more about Kelly below). Kelly has jumped right into working with me and the OU Libraries Board of Advocacy to advance our fundraising initiatives. It is great to have Kelly as a partner and we look forward to great things to come!

Check out our unique upcoming events and learn more about what we are doing to support student success with programs and student-friendly policies. We are seeing our traffic increase more and more with each semester and we are reaching more students as those numbers rise.

If you are an OU faculty, staff, or retiree, don't forget we are in the waning days of the OUFD (Oakland University Fund Drive) which ends on December 8.

[Please consider supporting the OU Libraries during the OUFD by donating here.](#)

You can filter for "Kresge Library" in the [List of Funds](#).

Thank you and best wishes!

Polly D. Boruff-Jones, Dean, OU Libraries

People and Places



Congratulations on Your Retirement!

Kris and Eric Condic retired this summer after working a combined total of 76 years at Kresge Library! Kris was a professor and the Psychology, Journalism & Communications, Bio Sciences, Chemistry, & Physics Librarian. Eric was the Manager of Library Assessment and Strategic Initiatives.

Kris supplied their "meet-cute" story for us: "Eric and I had seen each other when we were both at WMU before working at OU but we never spoke to each other there. I was a student working on my library degree (that's when WMU had a library program), and he worked at the Circulation Desk. Then, once at OU, we both participated in the OU Monday night bowling league and played euchre afterwards, and that's when we started to find out more about each other. Soon we started dating, and about a year later we were engaged. About six months after that we were married in Kalamazoo on a sunny day in October, 1990."

Kris and Eric are looking forward to traveling (see photos above of Italy and Mackinac Island), piano lessons, and birding. We wish you [both] all the best!!

Fran Van Huysse also retired this summer after 15 years at Kresge Library. Fran started out in Access Services and moved into her most recent role as the Serials Acquisitions Technician.

The folks at Kresge will miss her creativity in her artwork (especially her photoshopping skills) and her costumes! Fran will be missed for her hard work, common sense, always funny, always cheerful demeanor, and her infectious laugh. We wish you all the best in your retirement, Fran!

Thank you, Lynn Fisher

Lynn Fisher was our Director of Philanthropy for more than six years, from April, 2017 until this past June. In that time, she set up our Kresge Library Campaign, spearheaded many other fundraising activities, and was instrumental in creating our OU Libraries Board of Advocacy and Resource Development. Lynn became a great friend to many at Kresge Library and to many of our library donors. We wish her all the best in her new position.



Introducing Kelly Brault

We're pleased to announce that Kelly Brault will be working on fundraising initiatives with Kresge Library.

In her own words, here's a little about Kelly:

I've been at OU for a little over 10 years and I love it here! Although I'm not an OU alumna, OU feels like home to me. And OU literally is home to my oldest child, who started as a freshman this fall and is living in Oakview Hall. Besides working with the library to raise funds, I also work with the Honors College and the Graduate School and with overall annual giving efforts. One of my favorite projects that I've been involved in at OU has been raising funds for the Matilda Wilson statue on campus. It makes my heart happy to know that current students visit her on their tours of campus, connecting them to our history. The historical significance of the Kresge Library is just one thing that makes me proud to be a part of its future through sustainable funding. I look forward to connecting with you soon! I can be reached at brault@oakland.edu.

In Other News

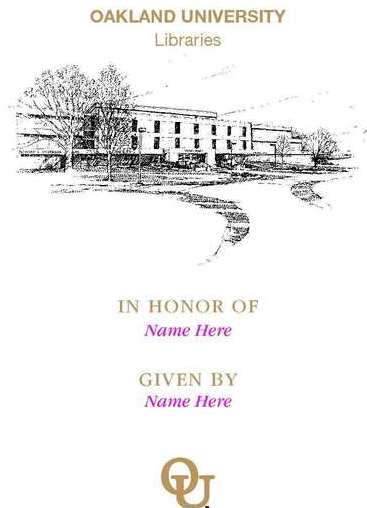


Student Success Fall Open House was a Huge Success!

On September 14th, as part of OU's Welcome Week, the Kresge Library welcomed more than 250 students to an open house designed to highlight library services and resources.

Students toured a number of stops in the library and picked up snacks along the way, learning details about services available at each stop. At the end of the tour, participants enjoyed pizza and received a limited-edition aluminum water bottle featuring our new Sustainability at OU Libraries logo, designed by our Marketing Intern, Chloe Kukuk.

Many thanks to the library faculty and staff who organized the event and volunteered to help the students learn more about Kresge Library, and to [Oakland University Credit Union](#) who generously co-sponsored this event.



Honor Someone with a Book and help the library grow . . .

For a donation of \$100, you can dedicate a library book in honor or in memory of a special person. Remember a colleague or friend, honor the accomplishments of a graduate, celebrate a birthday or anniversary or simply support the Kresge Library in a creative and lasting way.

The **Honor with Books** program provides vital funds to acquire and preserve library materials, helping the library support academic success, facilitate research and promote lifelong learning. Your name and the name of your honoree will be placed in a book in the subject area of your choice. Both names will be listed in the library's online catalog record for the chosen book.

[Find out more and dedicate a book today.](#)

Kresge Library is Now Fine Free!

We're excited to share our latest steps towards advancing student success at OU Libraries. We have eliminated all overdue fines, ensuring students can utilize our resources without worrying about penalties. In addition, we've extended our checkout periods, allowing all OU students to borrow general collection books for the entire semester, creating a more student-friendly and

stress-free library experience at Kresge Library.

Upcoming Events

Human Library - UNjudge Someone

Thursday, November 30 | 4:00 - 7:00pm | Kresge Library Main Floor

Please join us as the University Libraries invite you to "Unjudge Someone." The idea behind this event is to "challenge stigma and stereotypes" by "creating a safe space for dialogue" about personal experiences surrounding prejudice, beliefs, disability, ethnicity, origin, orientation, etc.

It's set up like this: Human "books" representing groups in society that are often subjected to stigma or discrimination, offer conversation/dialogue to "readers" who may ask questions. The "books" will speak about their own personal experiences. The event format offers a way to challenge stereotypes and dispel misconceptions. During the event, the "books" are stationed at tables, and the "readers" will move through the "library," from book to book, learning from the stories/conversations as they go along. These types of events have been held all across the country (and the globe). [Human Library_\(Denmark\) website.](#)

All are welcome and refreshments will be served!

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Outreach Librarian, [Anne Zacharias](#).



Lit to Film Book Club

The Oakland University Libraries invite you to explore the transition and interpretation of literature on the silver screen.

The Lit to Film Book club meets in the Nyberg Room, 242 Kresge Library at 6:00pm, every first Tuesday of the month (except when indicated.)

Upcoming 2023-2024 Book/Film Schedule

December 5 - *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams

January 9 - *Eye of the Needle* by Ken Follett (2nd Tuesday)

February 6 - *Manchester by the Sea* by Kenneth Lonergan

March 5 - *On the Road* by Jack Kerouac

April 2 - *The African Queen* by C. S. Forester

May 7 - *Where the Heart Is* by Billie Letts

June 4 - *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann (meet at 5:00)

Read the book first, then come view the movie, followed by discussion!

For more information and how to join,

contact: [Anne Zacharias](mailto:Anne.Zacharias@oakland.edu) (248) 370-2475 switzer2@oakland.edu

Giving to OU Libraries

Kresge Library was founded on donor support.

It continues to evolve with changing technology and student needs, thanks to current donors. Gifts of all sizes can help with a variety of projects including digitization, the affordable textbook initiative, and meeting diverse needs.

[Make a gift online](#) today to help support this great resource for students!

Give to OU Libraries

Oakland University Kresge Library

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