While Oklahoma is miles away from the runways of New York you can still get a taste of designer fashion on the 2nd floor of the Chambers Library where four display cases are devoted to UCO’s Oklahoma Fashion Museum Collection. The collection was developed and curated by two Oklahoma City women, Lillian Russell a designer and Mary Lou Bohnard, former buyer for John A. Brown.

Both women were part of a club that promoted fashion related businesses called the Fashion Group of Oklahoma City. The group was part of a larger international guild founded in 1931 by several noted designers headquartered in New York City. Top on the list were names that would become familiar in households across the globe Elizabeth Arden, Helena Rubenstein, and Margaret Case to name a few. Even Eleanor Roosevelt, a champion of labor representing manufacturing and the garment industry, lent her support as a charter member of the Fashion Group International. The history of this organization is another fascinating story that can be further explored at the New York Public Library where the group deposited their historical archive. http://archives.nypl.org/mss/980

Formation of the Fashion Group of Oklahoma City happened in late 1959. Several prominent Oklahoma City women in fashion related businesses, initiated contact with Fashion Group International to establish a new regional Oklahoma City based Fashion Group. Their aims were to advance professionalism in the fashion industry, provide a public forum for the examination of important contemporary issues in the fashion business, present information regarding national and global trends effecting the fashion industry, and provide activities and programs that enhanced networking skills and encouraged the professional, social, and personal development of its members.

In 1984 as members of this group, Lillian Russell and Mary Lou Bohnard began selecting garments for what would become the Oklahoma Fashion Museum Collection. Russell is quoted in a 1987, Vista article stating, “We are collecting designer clothes representing significant periods and looks. We are very selective in the garments we add to the collection. The Fashion Group is extremely proud of this collection. We even have designs by Charles Worth, the originator of the term ‘haute couture.’” That same year the group would donate the collection to then Central State University’s, Department of Home Economics.

Largely responsible for the university acquiring the collection, retired UCO faculty Darlene Kness, originally managed the collection curating displays, fashion shows and educational programming. In 2017 Mary Evening gown designed by Jacques Fath worn by super model Dovina

Continued on page 2
Huffman, grants writer for the College of Education and Professional Studies, secured a preservation assistance grant that enabled her to purchase proper archival housing for the collection, as well as photograph and catalog each piece. As a former cataloger in the Chambers Library, Huffman was uniquely qualified to create catalogs for the entire collection. These catalogs can be viewed on ShareOK, UCO’s digital repository.

Used today primarily as a teaching tool for fashion design and merchandising classes, the collection covers several decades in fashion design and represents significant changes in women's fashion. Held in the collection are noted designers like Adolpho, Christian Dior, Halston, and Oscar de la Renta. Over the past year Prof. Susan Miller and Instructor Jo-anne Wong of Human Environmental Sciences have led their Fashion Marketing classes in bi-monthly rotation of these display cases as their students learn about styling, detail, design, silhouettes and fabrics.

Examined on a deeper level through the lens of material culture these garments can reveal historical information about a period informing us about class, economics, world events, social mores, global change and gender roles among others.

The Oklahoma Fashion Museum Collection can be viewed at the Chambers Library, 2nd floor north.

We have all been challenged this year. In the Library we’ve been diversifying our collection content, holding virtual conferences, documenting a pandemic, updating our disaster plan to include pandemics, working from home all while navigating a serious economic slump.

It is truly a transformative moment in higher education and while the pandemic has accelerated the pace, the trends driving the disruption are not new or unexpected. Add to this the dramatic changes artificial intelligence will bring to every industry over the next few years and it becomes imperative we exploit ways to leverage this crisis to create new and innovative collections and services that continue to benefit our campus community.

Some of the changes being forecast for academic library collections revolve around diminishing print collections in favor of electronic resources, mass digitization and access to unique collections, changes in access models to published materials, and copyright or fair use challenges.

Use of electronic resources has skyrocketed over the past few years. We have spent more time and money developing electronic collections and we need to continue on this path but it will be challenging with diminishing budgets. We have been developing new strategies for negotiating better deals with publishers. We are reevaluating multi-year licenses to larger journal package subscriptions exploring other models like title by title purchasing that may result in significant cost savings.

Over the last few years we have been working to implement a joint digital repository with OU and OSU so we can embark on digitizing distinctive collections making them more accessible. Copyright has always been challenging and restrictive. While fair use does provide for educational use of copyrighted materials, a lot of faculty don’t understand it and are mainly concerned with making content available to their students. This need will likely increase as more classes are delivered in alternative ways. We are developing strategies for providing more copyright education including information on creative commons licensing for faculty and students.

One thing we know for sure, we will have to do more with less as the university struggles to maintain enrollment and reduce expenses. We will have to streamline and exploit every avenue of change. We will need to be more agile and responsive to thrive in this new reality.
Friends of Chambers Library

We would like to acknowledge and thank those who support the Friends of Chambers Library

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Library Hours
Monday - Thursday
7:30am - 10:00pm
Friday
7:30am - 6:00pm
Saturday
10:00am - 6:00pm
Sunday
12:00pm - 10:00pm

Max Chambers Library
100 N. University Dr.
Campus Box 192
Edmond, Oklahoma 73034
Phone: (405) 974-2885
Fax: (405) 974-3806
library.uco.edu
On Thursday, November 12, the Library held its first in person event since the pandemic began last spring semester. An exhibition that included a talk by noted artist, author and UCO Faculty Emeritus from the Art Department, Bob Palmer, as well as an art exhibit highlighting the work of mural artists delighted a small audience of Palmer fans.

With seating set for social distancing and everyone wearing masks, we were entertained by Dr. Palmer’s usual wit. Palmer was promoting his first book, which came out in October. He stated he had been, “working on the book for about 25 years.” He originally expected it to be a text book for a mural painting class he taught here in the art dept. He mentioned that by the time the publishers got a hold of it any reference to a textbook quickly went out the window in favor of a book highlighting some of the more than three thousand murals Palmer has painted across Oklahoma and beyond.

In addition to sharing information about the publishing process Palmer shared stories about the murals in his book. He revealed the level of research that goes into every mural before he even meets with his clients. He said, “If there’s an error in a mural I will hear about it probably from multiple people.” He went on to relate a story about putting a tractor augur on the wrong side of the track and how several farmers in that small town told him the augur would never be on that side of the tractor.

For forty years Dr. Palmer was an arts educator. His last post was here at UCO where he served as Professor of Art in the Department of Art. He has won many prestigious awards throughout his career but is probably best known for his murals that can be found in small towns throughout Oklahoma. He has painted murals across Oklahoma in Canada, Mexico and Europe and maintains he really likes working in Oklahoma. He said, “Although I enjoyed doing the ones overseas, I just really like Oklahoma you can’t beat Oklahoma people they are the best.”

In addition to the presentation guests were treated to an exhibit curated by Archives Specialist Kristi Kohl. The exhibit titled Oklahoma’s Indigenous Muralist During the New Deal Era highlighted the work of Native American artists who painted murals for the Works Progress Administration (WPA) part of the New Deal package in the 1930s. Included were works by Stephen Mopope and Monroe Tsa Toke, two of the noted Kiowa Five, championed by Oscar Jacobson who was also represented in the exhibit. Other noted artists on display included Fred Beaver, Acee Blue Eagle and Woody Crumbo. The art exhibit can be viewed at the linked exhibit title above.

After the presentation Palmer was available to sign copies of his book. Many people in attendance provided positive feedback about the event and said they have missed having in person events and were delighted to attend. Individually wrapped refreshments were sponsored by FOL. View a clip of the event on the Library’s Facebook page #UCOLibrary or on YouTube.

Dr. Bob Palmer
Exhibits

Fashion Marketing Students Study Oklahoma Fashion Museum Collection

Our clothing offers an intimate peak at who we are. What we select from our closet to wear each day is a form of self-expression giving visual representation to our personal identity. Garments may also reveal cultural details about a person’s religious, economic, and political status. Examining fashion from this deeper perspective gives a more complete picture of the society we live in.

As part of the Fashion Marketing course in UCO’s Department of Human Environmental Sciences, students are introduced to the historical significance of fashion. One resource used to teach the class is UCO’s Oklahoma Fashion Museum Collection (OFMC). The collection of 20th century fashion clothing and accessories donated to UCO in 1987, gives students an opportunity to study material culture in a way that could never happen from a book. One assignment in the curriculum required a group of four students to study attire from a specific decade then create an exhibit illustrating what they learned about fashion in that period. Utilizing four display cases in the library, each student selected an outfit with accessories to support the exhibit for their selected decade. A different group of students organized an exhibit every two weeks during the Fall 2019 semester.

Always interesting the displays sparked a lot of interest. Featured exhibits included, 1950’s men’s and women’s wedding apparel, 1960s women’s day wear, and 1970s elegant evening wear displaying beautiful gowns. Handmade clothing from the 1950s reflected the common use of mass-produced sewing patterns and more affordable material and sewing machines in the early part of the 20th Century. The 1970’s exhibit of evening wear illustrated the popularity of using ostrich feathers for embellishment. A drop waist dress with vibrant colored flowers illustrated trends from the 1960s.

Just as our daily attire reflects who we are, the outfits selected by the students were an expression of their interests. Each group of students was excited to dress the mannequins and arrange accessories for the display. This assignment was truly a transformative learning experience for each of the students who participated. Thank you to Dr. Susan Miller and Instructor Joanne Wong, who teach the Fashion Marketing course, for this wonderful collaboration with the Library.

Interactive Exhibit

The first two weeks of the semester we do interactive exhibits on the big display wall in the south elevator lobby. We pose a question or comment and ask students to provide feedback by writing on the wall. Don’t worry we put butcher block paper up for them to write on. This year because of COVID we provided markers students could keep after making their comments to eliminate the risk of virus spread. This semester the comment posed was, “Tell us your bright side of the pandemic.” The paper filled up within the first week. A wide range of positive comments from getting a new pet to learning a new skill to spending more time with family were shared. One of the funnier comments was from a female student who said wearing a mask meant she didn’t have to shave her moustache. We hope it helped students reflect on more positive things during this tumultuous time.
Library Lifehacks Contest

In October the Library held another fun contest, Favorite Library Lifehacks. We asked students to share their top tip for using the Library to assist them in their academic pursuits. We offered cash prizes of $300-1st place, $200-2nd place, and $100-3rd place. We were overwhelmed with the response. When the contest closed on Oct. 30, 116 tips had been submitted by 51 students, who were allowed to submit more than one tip. Three library staff members volunteered to serve as judges in selecting the winners. It was a difficult task with all the great tips that were submitted. The winners were announced on the Library’s social media Friday, Nov. 6, 2020. Included on the right is the list of winners and their tips. We will be sharing many of the other great tips on our social media over the coming weeks. Congratulations to our winners and a big thank you to all the students who participated.

1st Place: Jack Cheatham
Tip: Since Max Chambers Library is part of the OK-SHARE network, ask the front desk for an OK-SHARE library card (for free!) This gives you access and check-out privileges at other university libraries in Oklahoma, like OU and OSU!

2nd Place: Dalton Payne
Tip: Use the library’s lockers to safely store items you don’t want to lug around with you while you’re on campus.

3rd Place: Emily McGough
Tip: If you’ve been studying too long and need a small break, just take a trip up the staircase. You’ll be out of breath and miss reading real fast. Trust me, it works.

Student Involvement Fair Bookface Giveaway

The Library had a table at the Student Involvement Fair in August. We challenged students to have a Bookface photo taken with one of eleven different book jacket covers we had blown-up. Everyone who participated had their name entered in a drawing for an Amazon Fire 7 Tablet. We also gave away other freebies, educated students about what the Library has to offer and encouraged everyone to follow the Library on social media. It was a great success with 37 students participating in our challenge. The winning name was drawn and announced in a live Facebook Event on August 28. The winner, Ryan Lykins, is one of UCO’s sustainability ambassador students on campus. Congratulations Ryan! We want to thank all the students who participated making this a fun event for Library staff who manned the table.

Luci Seem and Jean Longo

Ryan Lykins
NEW
CHAMBER OF BOOKS STORE
ONLINE BOOK SALE

Chamber of Books Store

The Friends of Chambers Library is excited to announce the latest edition to our ever popular book sales—The Chamber of Books Online Book Store! This online shopping site will function as the Friends sole method of book sales during the rest of the pandemic. It enables FOL members and the UCO campus community to continue supporting The Friends through our book sale efforts.

With our 1st floor sales shelf and the monthly basement sales on hiatus due to the pandemic, the Chamber of Books Store is where fans of our book sales can safely shop all of the newest and most interesting items we have received in 2020.

As always the Chamber of Books Store, will have basement bargain pricing and now shoppers can pay by credit card, which previously we were able to offer.

Adding even more convenience customers can choose how to receive their books. Items purchased can be picked up at the Information desk on the 1st floor, of Chambers Library, or for a small fee, items can be mailed directly to the customer’s home. Additionally, UCO Faculty and Staff can opt to have their items delivered to their offices on the Edmond campus for no additional charge.

New items will be added to the store on a weekly basis! Shoppers can browse items by category—say you just wanted to see what children’s books are available—as well as by the standard search bar function.

Enhancing the way we sell books, the new digital platform gives us one more method of supporting FOL through the sale of donated books.

We are excited for you to check out the Chamber of Books Store! To start shopping you can scan the QR Code above with your phone or go to library.uco.edu and click the ‘Chamber of Books Store’ link under Services. We want to hear from you so for questions or to provide feedback please email us at chamberofbooks@uco.edu.

Library Snack Cart

During the last full week on campus, just before Thanksgiving break, FOL sponsored its finals week activities. This semester because of COVID-19 we had to provide food that was pre-packaged. One of our library trucks was cleverly turned into a light up snack cart and wheeled around the library twice a day all week by Jeff Musslewhite and Olivia Potter giving away free snacks. Students were delighted with all the various goodies piled high on the cart. At the end of the week there were still snacks left so a table was stationed on the 1st floor under the digital monitor where students could help themselves to snacks. The snack baskets were continually refilled until all the treats were gone. Good luck on finals to all our students!

Research Assistance

As always Research & Learning librarians are available to provide help via chat and email. You can also schedule a virtual appointment with one of our experts. Reach out to us at libraryresearch@uco.edu.
Author Workshop

The library hosted a virtual Author Workshop on November 6, 2020, for faculty and graduate students. David Parsons from Elsevier Publishing explained how to select a journal likely to be interested in publishing your research, the importance of following the journal's author guidelines, and successfully navigating the peer-review process.

Voter Registration Kits

In September, ahead of the Presidential election, the Chambers Library partnered with the Edmond Public Library to give away free voter registration kits. Shalla Strider, Engagement Manager and Jessica Burch, Adult Engagement Specialist from the Edmond Public Library, created the kits, which included a voter registration form, information on how to vote as well as absentee voting, swag and information about the Metropolitan Public Library System. The kits were made available on the first floor of the library free to anyone interested in learning about Oklahoma's voting process.

The Library also served as a distribution site for the Oklahoma Voter Guide a project of the League of Women Voters who furnished this year’s guide. The Voter Guide presents the candidates and State Questions in a non-partisan way informing citizens about what to expect on the ballot.

Wellness Station

We launched a Wellness Station in October where patrons can check their temperature with a no touch scan before entering the library. We want ever one to stay safe so if you aren't feeling well stop and take your temperature. If your temperature is 100.4 or above we ask that you go home and contact a medical professional.

Library Takes 2nd Place Homecoming Decorating Contest

October was homecoming month and while the game and many of the activities were cancelled because of the virus, we managed to make things festive in the Library. Stevie Tatum and her decorating committee did an outstanding homecoming display that garnered 2nd place in the campus Homecoming Decorating Contest.

The Archives and Special Collections also worked with the Alumni Association to provide information for packets sent to our honored class of Golden Broncho’s. This year we celebrated the class on 1970. To make it fun we examined differences between 1970 and today. We also made an appeal asking the Golden Bronchos to send us a written account of their time here at Central. It was a different but interesting homecoming this year.

Golden Bronchos
Happy 50 Years to the Class of 1970
Kristi Kohl

Kristi Kohl, Archives Specialist, was awarded a scholarship to attend the Oklahoma Museum Association's 3-day virtual conference held in September. Kristi took particular interest in the topics of fundraising, engaging local artists, and the proper way to handle culturally sensitive items like Native American objects imbued with living spirits. Congratulations Kristi for being awarded this scholarship and growing your knowledge about the profession!

OK-ACRL

Shaye Caban was accepted to the American Library Association's (ALA) Avram-Camp. The camp hosted by the CORE division of the ALA, focuses on creating a support network and increased participation from underrepresented groups in open technology and culture to ensure equitable access to information for everyone. This years camps will be held virtually. Thanks Shaye for helping us to diversify the profession!

Shayne Caban

The Oklahoma Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries (OK-ACRL) voted on it's latest slate of board officers. We are proud to announce that Kaitlyn Palone is serving as President, Anona Earls was elected Treasurer and Beth Jones was re-elected Development Coordinator for a second term to provide continuity as they work to establish an endowment to fund travel scholarships to out of State conferences. Thank you to these wonderful librarians for their willingness to step up and serve!

Shay Beezley

Shay Beezley, Manager, Metadata & Cataloging, was appointed to fill a chair vacancy on the Oklahoma Library Association's University & College Division. As UCD chair, Beezley is a voting member of OLA’s Executive Board and represents academic library interests in Oklahoma. Additionally, Shay works with UCD membership to develop programming of interest to academic librarians. Most recently the UDC held an online forum discussing pandemic response and its impact on academic library services. Thanks Shay for taking on the commitment to make the profession better for Oklahoma’s college and university librarians!
Chambers Library
Year in Review

Each year Chambers Library serves thousands of students, faculty, staff and community members. Here’s a closer look at what we were up to in the 2019-2020 academic year.

33,198 Checkouts of physical materials

6,505 Checkouts of equipment

563,556 Full text downloads from e-resources

4,005 Interlibrary loans

10 Rooms 5,457 Reservations

387,541 Website pageviews

385,313 Library Visitors

10 Classes Taught

225 Research assistance by appt.
or roaming reference

162 In Library

163 Around Campus

4,949 In Person, 2% Around Campus

301,120 Items added to the collection

New Materials:

295,809, 98%

250,120, 82%

Research & Learning

Research assistance:

4,445 questions answered by Peer Consultants & Librarians

62% In-Person

22% Online Chat

9.5% Email

5% Phone

2751, 62% In-Person

977, 22% Online Chat

223, 5% Phone

424, 9.5% Email

Librarian Engagement

Physical Items eResources

Chart Title

200 250 200

100 50 0

Classes Taught

Research assistance by appt. or roaming reference
**Book Reviews**

**Title: The Stranger in the Woods**  
**Author: Michael Finkel**  
**Chambers Library Call Number: CT9991.K65 F56 2017**  
**Reviewer: Cory Castoe, Library Specialist**

This is the story of Christopher Knight, who lived alone in the Maine wilderness for 27 years, until he was arrested in 2013 for breaking and entering. The book begins with Knight’s arrest, and what follows is an attempt by the book’s author, Michael Finkel, to get an accurate account of how Knight was able to survive on his own for nearly three decades. When Finkel first hears of the story, he feels a kinship with Knight, and searches him out to find out more. He finds Knight unwilling (and maybe unable) to trust him, but slowly, Knight’s mind starts to open, and he tells Finkel an incredible story. At times humorous, and at other times heartbreakingly, *The Stranger in the Woods*, is a tale just bizarre enough to be true. It speaks to anyone who has ever dreamed of being a hermit (a term Knight takes great offense to), or even just to be in communion with nature. Get a tent and a sleeping bag, go out in the middle of nowhere, and read this book right now.

**Title: The Starless Sea**  
**Author: Erin Morgenstern**  
**Chambers Library Call Number: PS3613.O74875 S73 2019**  
**Reviewer: Jean Longo, Research & Learning**

Having read Erin Morgenstern’s previous book, *The Night Circus*, I was eager to take on, *The Starless Sea*. I was not disappointed by this imaginative, layered and sprawling fantasy story.

This is a story about books and preserving stories. We meet a young graduate student in Vermont named Zachary Ezra Rawlins. While working in the university library he comes across a mysterious book called *Sweet Sorrows*. He becomes obsessed with the book. He reads it several times because one of the stories included in the volume is about an incident that happened to him as a small child when he finds a mysterious door that he does not enter. He begins research on the book to find its origin. This leads him to New York City, a masquerade party, and a Collector’s Club. He meets Dorian who tasks him with finding a book for him. A chase ensues, Dorian and Zachary escape and when they find a painted door Dorian pushes Zachary into it. An elevator takes him to a harbor and an underground library, and the lavish narrative continues.
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
2020 FALL NEWSLETTER

Friends of Chambers Library
University of Central Oklahoma
Max Chambers Library
Campus Box 192
100 N. University Dr.
Edmond, OK 73034

INTERSESSION HOURS
DEC. 12, 2020 - JAN. 18, 2021
MONDAY - FRIDAY SATURDAY - CLOSED
7:30AM - 6:00PM SUNDAY - CLOSED

DEC. 24, 2020 - JAN. 10, 2021 - CLOSED
JAN. 18 - CLOSED MLK DAY

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