

SJSU | KING LIBRARY

Library News

SPRING 2020 NEWSLETTER

Spring



2020

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

Library News

SPRING 2020 NEWSLETTER

SJSU King Library

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A Message from the Dean

The San José State University King Library has many wonderful updates to share with all of our *Library News* readers this spring semester. Our library is committed to building a strong community for our faculty, staff, students, and world. Your support of this library means so much and I am excited to share with you what we have planned for this semester.

We would like to thank those of you who have designated the SJSU King Library for a legacy gift, including Benton and Mary Lou White. Their legacy will provide long-term support to the library and maintain resources for the benefit of the SJSU Comparative Religious Studies program. Please read more about Benton and Mary Lou's long-standing history with our campus on page 8 in this issue.

We are also highlighting the San José Water Company and how their ongoing support has directly benefited our students with some of the library's most popular technology. Please read more about the impact of their most recent gift of \$25,000 on page 12.

We are excited to launch a new *Library News* feature that spotlights one of our former student assistants and their current whereabouts. Working here provides students a unique experience, allowing them to gain valuable work experience as they embark on the next step in their career. On page 18 meet Timothy Duong and learn how his experience on the Library Marketing

Team prepared him as a designer at a creative firm startup in Santa Clara.

Also highlighted in this issue are the books published by library donors and librarians. We love books at the SJSU King Library and these are some of our new favorites! Please read about how we celebrated over 30 SJSU authors, editors, and artists last November at SJSU's Annual Author and Artists Awards in the library's beautiful Grand Reading Room on the eighth floor.

Finally, I want to call your attention to our feature on SJSU ScholarWorks, the library's institutional repository. Through SJSU ScholarWorks, the scholarship of the university is shared with the world. We are very proud of our repository, which is the most robust in the California State University System and I welcome you to learn more about its impact on faculty, staff, and students on page 26.

Enjoy these articles and more, and as always, thank you for your ongoing support. Your commitment inspires us to be a great library!

Tracy Elliott
Dean, University Library



Upcoming Events and Exhibits

100 Years of Women's Suffrage in the South Bay

Jan. 23 – Dec. 15, 2020

SJSU Special Collections and Archives, Fifth Floor,
Reading Room, Elevator Cases, California Room, SJSU King Library

SJSU's Special Collections and Archives presents an exhibit of archival materials covering the local origins of the women's suffrage movement, tracing these roots through to the present day. While Silicon Valley is known for its role in leading the technology industry, the South Bay Area also led the way for women in pioneering positions in local government and business. Featuring materials from former mayors Janet Gray Hayes, Dianne McKenna, and Susan Hammer; Kate Kennedy, a member of the first graduating class of the Normal School who became known for campaigning for equal pay for women; city councilwomen Blanca Alvarado and Iola Williams, and many other prominent local women in education, law, and science.



Before visiting our exhibits, please check the up-to-date hours of operation at: library.sjsu.edu/library-hours.



Trailblazers of San José

Art and Photography by Saphrona and
Chuck Alexander

June 8 – Aug. 9, 2020



SJSU Annual Author and Artist Awards

The SJSU Annual Author and Artist Awards honors SJSU faculty and staff who have recently authored a published first edition book or exhibited a significant work of art during the past year. Join us for this year's SJSU Annual Author and Artist event on **Friday, November 6, 2020 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** in the SJSU King Library's Grand Reading Room on the eighth floor.

For more information about the library's exhibits, visit: library.sjsu.edu/exhibits.

For more information about the library's events, visit: library.sjsu.edu/events.

AAACNA Exhibits

Asian American Heritage Month
20 @ 2020

Chinese brush paintings by the
Chan Lim Family

Apr. 6 – May 29, 2020

AAACNA Studies Center,
Fifth Floor, SJSU King Library

"20 @ 2020" is the celebration of the 20th Family Art Exhibit of the Chan Lim Family featuring Chinese brush painting on colorful lanterns. The Chan Lim Family of Artists is best known for their Asian-themed art with a particular focus on Chinese brush painting. The Chan Lim family aims to create art in a variety of media by incorporating Western influences into Eastern art.

Color: The Beauty of Her

Works by Valerie Michelle Parker, Jonny
Parker, and Quinton Pete

June 8 – Aug. 9, 2020

A Whole Lotta Frankie

May 1 – June 26, 2020

Jennifer and Philip DiNapoli Gallery,
Second Floor, SJSU King Library

This exhibit will feature drawings,
paintings, and other artifacts, old and
new, from local San José artist Frankie
"Mcfly" Loera.



Thank You for Your Continued Support

Support with a Legacy Gift

When Benton White and his wife Mary Lou Bloomberg moved to San José State in 1961 to start a campus ministry, they did not anticipate dedicating over 30 years to a campus that underwent many changes. White served as the nation's first university ombudsman and founded the university's Department of Comparative Religious Studies in 1970, where he taught for decades.

Following their retirement, White and Bloomberg decided to bequeath a gift to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library to provide long-term support to the library and maintain resources for the benefit of the Comparative Religious Studies program at San José State.

As San José State's minister, White became active in the local civil rights movement, which attracted the eye of then-President Robert Clark. In 1967, as student activists spoke out about housing discrimination, the segregation of fraternities and sororities, and improved conditions for students of all backgrounds, Clark appointed White as ombudsman to serve as a liaison between students and the administration. White made civil rights a priority in his college days at the University of Alabama and as an Air Force chaplain in Lincoln, Nebraska.

One of his first meetings was with then-sociology lecturer Harry Edwards, '64 Sociology, '16 Honorary Doctorate.

"Harry wanted to know why this white man from Alabama had been appointed as ombudsman during a time of such racial turmoil," says White. "He said he

didn't know what to think. But I listened and he gave me time and together we worked hard. Harry was a hero of mine in many respects."

During the 1967-68 academic year, White traveled across the United States, and spoke about his newly created role and how campus leaders could facilitate productive conversations. His wife was busy at home with two young sons, and that year remains in their memory as the beginning of something important.

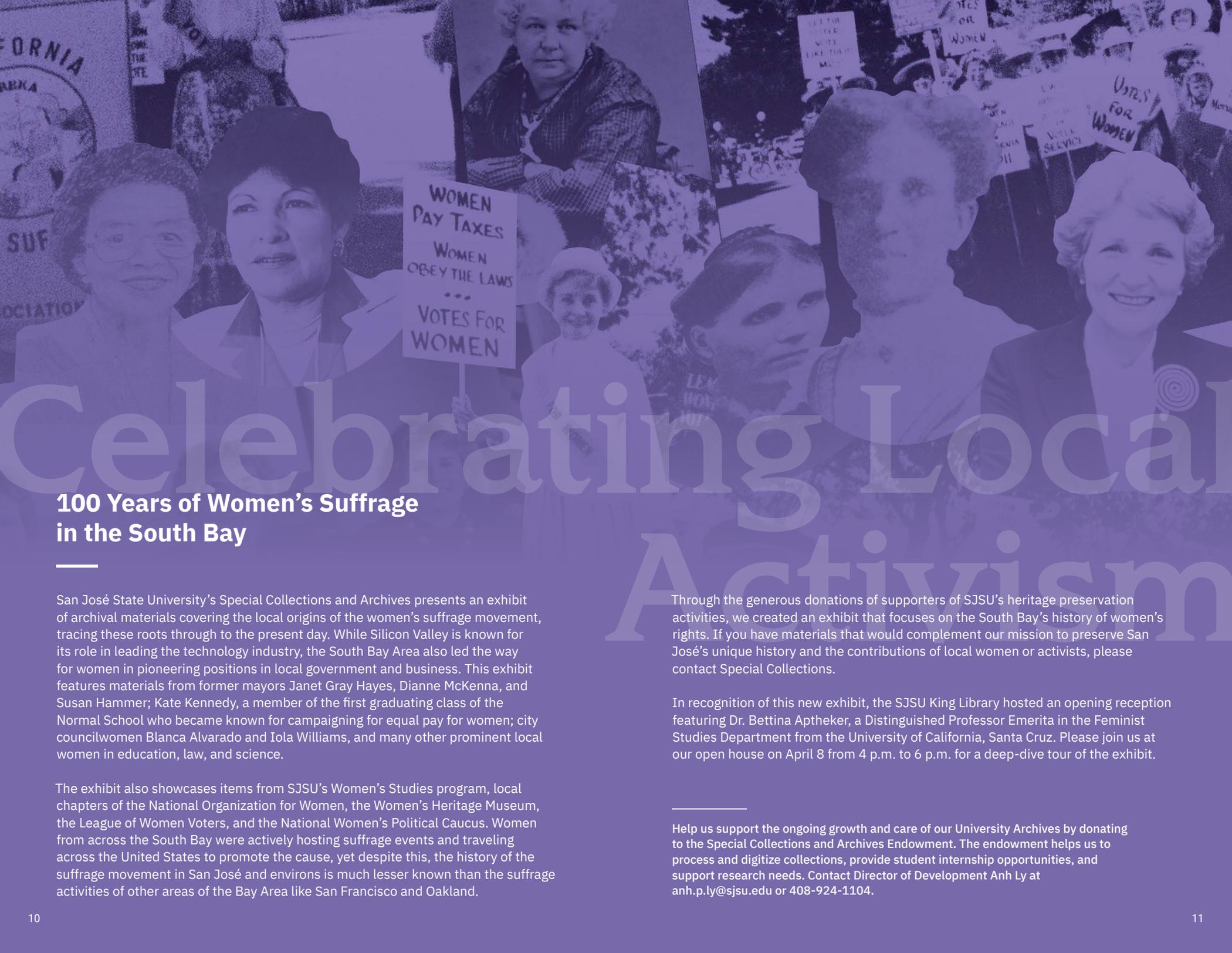
White helped create the religious studies department in 1970 and dedicated many years to teaching. Throughout his tenure, White stayed active on campus committees, as well as athletics and in his church.

"The religious studies program was an important part of why I wanted to leave money to the library," says White. **"SJSU was my life for decades and it's a wonderful university."**

"We came to San José in 1961—and nearly 60 years later, we're still here," says Bloomberg. **"We felt that San José State was the right place for us to leave a legacy."**

Learn how you can make a legacy gift to San José State University to support the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library or other programs at legacy.sjsu.edu.

Legacy Giving



Celebrating Local Activism

100 Years of Women's Suffrage in the South Bay

San José State University's Special Collections and Archives presents an exhibit of archival materials covering the local origins of the women's suffrage movement, tracing these roots through to the present day. While Silicon Valley is known for its role in leading the technology industry, the South Bay Area also led the way for women in pioneering positions in local government and business. This exhibit features materials from former mayors Janet Gray Hayes, Dianne McKenna, and Susan Hammer; Kate Kennedy, a member of the first graduating class of the Normal School who became known for campaigning for equal pay for women; city councilwomen Blanca Alvarado and Iola Williams, and many other prominent local women in education, law, and science.

The exhibit also showcases items from SJSU's Women's Studies program, local chapters of the National Organization for Women, the Women's Heritage Museum, the League of Women Voters, and the National Women's Political Caucus. Women from across the South Bay were actively hosting suffrage events and traveling across the United States to promote the cause, yet despite this, the history of the suffrage movement in San José and environs is much lesser known than the suffrage activities of other areas of the Bay Area like San Francisco and Oakland.

Through the generous donations of supporters of SJSU's heritage preservation activities, we created an exhibit that focuses on the South Bay's history of women's rights. If you have materials that would complement our mission to preserve San José's unique history and the contributions of local women or activists, please contact Special Collections.

In recognition of this new exhibit, the SJSU King Library hosted an opening reception featuring Dr. Bettina Aptheker, a Distinguished Professor Emerita in the Feminist Studies Department from the University of California, Santa Cruz. Please join us at our open house on April 8 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. for a deep-dive tour of the exhibit.

Help us support the ongoing growth and care of our University Archives by donating to the Special Collections and Archives Endowment. The endowment helps us to process and digitize collections, provide student internship opportunities, and support research needs. Contact Director of Development Anh Ly at anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu or 408-924-1104.



Support Student Success

#TechYes! San José Water Company Supports SJSU Students

San José Water Company continues its support of the Student Computing Services (SCS) program at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library with its recent gift of \$25,000. The gift will enable SJSU King Library to expand the inventory of its most popular devices such as the MacBooks and iPads and upgrade the software of its current equipment.

Liann Walborsky, Director of Corporate Communications at San José Water Company, sees San José State University as a strong partner. The university is an integral part of the City of San José, representing the largest public learning institution in Silicon Valley with more than 30,000 students enrolled. For almost thirty years, San José Water Company has been a generous partner of SJSU with its support touching upon many parts of the university's campus and student experiences.

SJSU King Library's SCS program is just one example of its support across

campus. The SCS program helps to provide devices to students who are unable to afford their own. From MacBooks to iPads to Surface Pros, students across campus are able to check out these devices for 24-hours and up to one week. Liann recently visited SJSU King Library to view the SCS program firsthand. She spoke with students who shared their experiences with using SCS and how important the service has been in getting them access to technology necessary for classroom success.

Few companies have as long a history in Silicon Valley as San José Water Company with its 150 years of service. SJSU King Library values the history and service of the San José Water Company and are grateful for our continued partnership.



Interested in supporting technology in the library? Contact Director of Development Anh Ly at anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu or 408-924-1104.

Make a Difference

Jo Bell Whitlatch History Endowment

Established in honor of former Associate Dean Jo Bell Whitlatch, the Jo Bell Whitlatch History Endowment enables SJSU King Library to provide the most current and diverse scholarship in the discipline of history. Each year, materials are added to the History Collection through the acquisition of printed books, media, and electronic sources. The collection is a rich resource for students and faculty members at SJSU who use it for study, teaching, and research. Among its most frequent users are the university's History Department along with Political Science, Ethnic and Justice Studies Programs, Humanities, the Arts, and the general public. Your support of the Jo Bell Whitlatch History Endowment will ensure continued growth of the History Collection to meet the varied needs of the university and the public.

Dean's Excellence Fund

Gifts to the Dean's Excellence Fund are among the most important and valuable forms of support for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. They represent unrestricted funds that are quickly accessed to provide immediate support for students, faculty, and programs in the library. The Fund is both flexible and responsive to the changing needs of the library with direct impact on students and faculty. Your gift to the Dean's Excellence Fund provides SJSU King Library a solid source of support to meet the library's greatest needs as they appear, helping to enhance the learning experience for both the library and university community.



Give to the Library

If you are interested in making a gift to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library to support students, faculty, programs, or facilities, please contact Anh Ly, PhD, Director of Development, at 408-924-1104 or anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu. You can learn more about ways to give by going to: library.sjsu.edu/giving-library/ways-give.

You can easily make an online contribution at: tinyurl.com/give2KingLibrary.

SJSU Dean Leads Cal State Research Study on Student Success

San José State University King Library is participating in a California State University system-wide study examining the impact of library instruction on student success. This study is being led by Dr. Lili Luo of the SJSU iSchool and Dr. Tracy Elliott, Dean of the SJSU Library. This large-scale study involves collecting data on nearly 75,000 first-year students enrolled at 19 of the 23 CSU campuses. The purpose of the study is to identify whether students who receive library instruction, either online or in person, perform better academically than those who do not.

At SJSU, the study is being led by Dr. Anamika Megwalu, Assessment and Engineering Librarian. Dr. Megwalu is currently preparing the fall semester data for submission to Dr. Luo and Dr. Elliott. This data includes information from over 300 instruction classes performed by SJSU librarians. SJSU has historically provided the most library instruction among the CSUs. All 19 campuses are engaged in similar activities.

The study should be completed by the Spring of 2021. Dr. Luo and Dr. Elliott would like to expand the study beyond 2021, making it a longitudinal study, in order to examine the impact of library instruction on student graduation and career placement.

To support this study, and other important library research on student and faculty success, please consider donating to the Dean's Excellence Fund by contacting Anh Ly at 408-924-1104 or anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu.



Upstairs Desk is Spartan Success

We are very excited to announce that our first-floor reference desk has been relocated to the fourth floor—also known as our Spartan Floor, a popular area for SJSU students.

The implementation was an outstanding success resulting in 1,578 consultations on the fourth floor compared to just 587 on the first floor last spring. Our dedicated group of librarians guided three times as many research questions to help our Spartans succeed.

“The library’s reference service is now located in the heart of where hundreds of students congregate every day, ensuring that the library’s services are accessible to walk-up support,” said Bernd Becker, Faculty Director of Instruction and User Services.

The library is always looking for opportunities to engage with students, whether in person or online, to give them the support they need to succeed. Along with in-person reference, we added a new type of online chat service in August to provide a more direct way for students to get research help. Called “proactive chat,” a chat window automatically pops up on a student’s screen when visiting the library’s OneSearch catalog. This led to a staggering 1,553 answered chats, compared to just 277 last spring.

The library is always looking for new ways to support students as they navigate their academic career. If you are interested in supporting student programs or initiatives, please contact Director of Development Anh Ly at anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu or 408-924-1104.



Where are They Now?

Former Graphic Design Student Assistant Tackles the Workforce

Students who work for SJSU King Library are prepared for their careers. Whether they are helping students check out books or laptops or advocating low-cost textbook solutions, our student assistants leave the library ready for the next step in their careers.

“Everything that had to do with graphic design and dealing with clients I learned while I worked at the library,” said Timothy Duong.

Timothy Duong has been hard at work ever since graduating in 2018 with a BFA in Graphic Design. During his senior year of college, he was the graphic designer for the Library Marketing Team. The marketing team gives students valuable work experience and provides the library with peer-to-peer communications and the student voice.

Duong not only honed his skills with designing projects like the King Library’s 15th Anniversary logo that was promoted across San José, as well as the brand for the University’s strategic plan “Inspire our Journey,” but he learned to manage his time, advocate his ideas, and interact with customers.

“Clients are pretty difficult in the real world,” he said. “Whether or not they know exactly what they want it’s harder to pin down something and try and get them to like it. But the creative process is very rewarding.”

Client relations is a huge part of Duong’s job at Zooka Creative in Santa Clara where he creates and revamps brands’ online presence. He says that learning how to interact with people while working at the library prepared him for the challenges in the real world.

The library marketing team also encouraged Duong to express his creativity while pushing him to grow professionally.

“I feel like working forever at one company is not a good way to expand your skill set,” he said. “I want to get a more well-rounded experience.”

No matter what he chooses to move on towards, the foundation of skills he learned at the library will ensure he is prepared for whatever his future brings.



If you are interested in supporting our student assistant program and allowing more students to gain valuable skills while contributing to the vitality of the library, please contact Anh Ly, Director of Development, at 408-924-1104 or anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu.



Left to right: Sheldon Onstead, Jack Taylor, Mary Lou Taylor, Mona Onstead, Arlene Okerlund and Gabriele Ondine.

Remembering Our Library Supporters

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library lost one of its dearest friends earlier this year. Jack Taylor, along with his wife, Mary Lou, supported the Center for Literary Arts at San José State University and SJSU King Library. His support reflected his love for reading. Jack was a voracious reader, delving into his mysteries and books on history and geography. As much as he enjoyed reading, he also took great pride in his wife Mary Lou's poems and often accompanied her to many of her poetry readings, including one at SJSU King Library last fall.

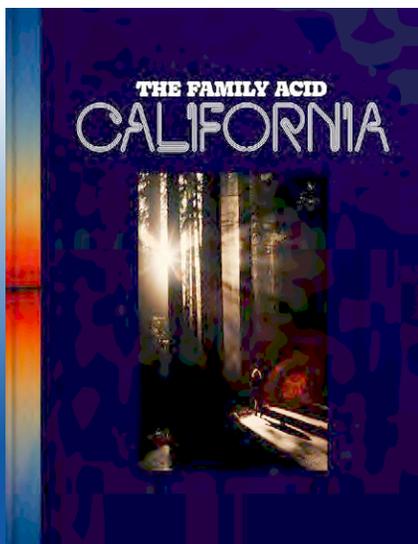
Jack was born and raised in Los Angeles and attended UCLA where he played varsity baseball while majoring in marketing. He later joined the U.S. Air Force, beginning his career as an Airman Third and leaving as First Lieutenant. After the U.S. Air Force, Jack returned to Los Angeles and worked for various tech companies such as GE, NCR, and California Computer, which sent him to San José to open a second office.

For the last fifty years, Jack lived in the same house he and Mary Lou moved into when they came to San José. There, they raised their two children and became much cherished among their neighbors. He was a father, grandfather, and great-grandfather who will be missed by his family. As they shared, "Papa's greatest love was his family. And they will never forget his smile." All of the many friends he made here at the SJSU King Library will certainly miss Jack.

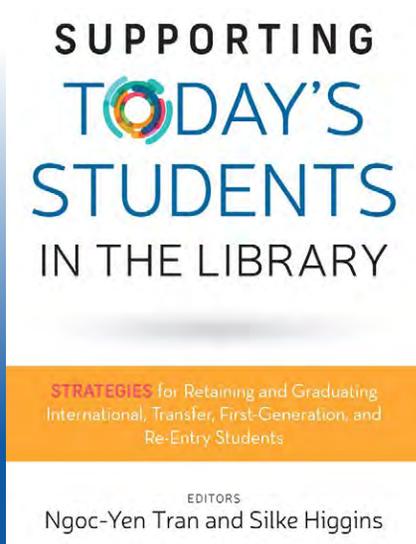
Jack Richard Taylor April 25, 1930 – January 31, 2020



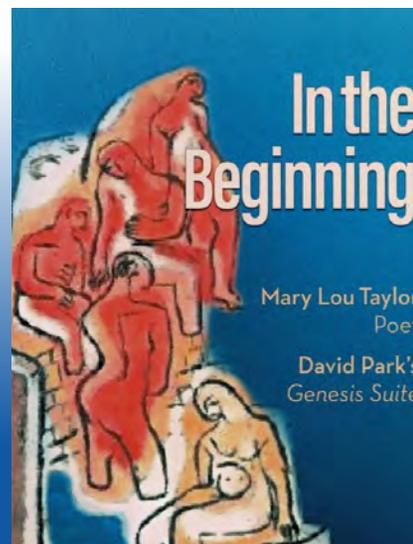
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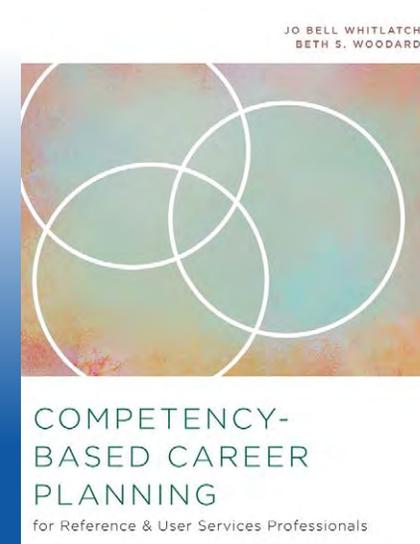
Kate Steffens, Special Collections Librarian, published *The Family Acid: California* which showcases 50 years of California photography by Roger Steffens. Steffens began photographing while serving in the Vietnam War, and amassed an archive of hundreds of thousands of images. These slides and negatives sat in a closet until 2013, when his daughter and son, Kate and Devon, began scanning them and posting their finds to Instagram. Their Instagram account, The Family Acid, became a runaway success. The images they unearthed and included in the book cover a wealth of historic events and people, from Joan Baez leading anti-war protests at UC Berkeley to Bob Marley hanging out backstage.



Yen Tran, Research Impact Librarian & **Silke Higgins**, Academic Liaison Librarian, published *Supporting Today's Students in the Library: Strategies for Retaining and Graduating International, Transfer, First-Generation, and Re-Entry Students*. This work centers on how academic libraries are addressing the unique struggles of international students, transfer or commuter students, first-generation students, and re-entry or older-adult students. The book, purposefully chosen as an edited volume to represent a large variety of voices, focuses on strategies for retaining and graduating these student populations by exploring methods for overcoming barriers, discussing best practices for engaging students in research and information literacy topics as well as providing a variety of services that support students beyond the classroom environment.



Mary Lou Taylor's, '70 English, new book, *In the Beginning*, is a collection of Ekphrastic poetry inspired by Bay Area artist David Park's Genesis Suite. The collection features 14 stencil prints by Park that are finely interwoven into Taylor's lyrical poetry. Nils Peterson, Professor Emeritus at San José State University and Santa Clara County's first Poet Laureate, (2009-2011) praises the overall beauty of the book, "To the exquisite prints created by David Park out of stories from Genesis, Mary Lou Taylor adds poems that give context and commentary. . . Together they make a remarkable book, a beautiful book, one that you will want on your shelf to look at and read again and again." A dear supporter of the library, Taylor gave many readings of *In the Beginning*, including one at SJSU King Library last fall. If you would like to purchase her book, please contact Mary Lou: mltpoet85@gmail.com.



Jo Bell Whitlatch, emeritus library faculty, published her long-awaited book, *Competency-Based Career Planning for Reference and User Services Professionals* in collaboration with Beth S. Woodward. The book provides a key reference to library professionals at every stage of their careers to honestly assess their skills and knowledge utilizing the RUSA (Reference and User Services Association) Professional Competencies as a framework. Whitlatch is well-regarded for her work and contributions in the library profession with a career spanning 33 years at San José State University. Upon her retirement, colleagues, friends, and family created the Jo Bell Whitlatch History Endowment in her honor to support the history collection at SJSU King Library.



Honoring Achievements



SJSU Annual Author and Artist Awards

On Friday, November 1, 2019 the eighth floor of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library was transformed from an area dedicated to quiet studying, to a venue for recognizing and honoring the academic and artistic achievements of SJSU faculty. Thirty-three individual university faculty members were acknowledged for their academic and artistic contributions over the course of the event. Specifically, faculty members who published the first edition of a book or exhibited a significant piece of art in the past year were honored.

SJSU President Mary Papazian opened the event by addressing the crowd. “We have some amazing faculty to honor tonight,” Papazian said. “I couldn’t be more proud of the work we’re doing here at San José State and I just want to extend a personal appreciation and congratulations to each and every one of you.”

Dean of the university library, Tracy Elliott, immediately followed, saying that this event “is something that the library considers to be such an honor, for us to be able to be part of the provost’s Author and Artist awards every year.”

One of this year’s stand-out accomplishments from our faculty was

Would you like to help support faculty research, scholarship, and creative activity? Contact Director of Development Anh Ly at anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu or 408-924-1104 for potential funding opportunities.



“Eyes”—a biometric art installation by graphic design assistant professor Yoon Chung Han that creates sound from people’s iris.

“Biometric data is a very sensitive issue right now,” Han said. “I wanted to explore what we could learn, and how we can use biometric data as an art material.”

Another faculty member who received an award was Dr. Sandra Hirsh for her book on blockchain technology, *Blockchain*. Hirsh says that recognizing and rewarding faculty achievements is important.

“I really love this event,” Hirsh said. “It’s really interesting to see all the different intellectual contributions that have been made across the university. There’s a lot of time and effort that it takes to produce something whether it’s big or small, and to have that acknowledged by the university is really special.”

Join us at this year’s SJSU Annual Author and Artist Awards on Nov. 6, 2020. For more information and to RSVP, please contact: Sylvia Ruiz, executive assistant to the dean, at sylvia.ruiz@sjsu.edu or 408-808-2107.



SJSU ScholarWorks: The University's Institutional Repository

One of the library's major projects this year is enhancing the Institutional Repository (IR): SJSU ScholarWorks. Since its inception in 2010, the SJSU King Library has grown the SJSU ScholarWorks collection to over 26,000 documents which have been downloaded over five million times from people all over the world. In the past year alone, there have been over one million downloads of university-produced research, scholarship, master's theses, dissertations, and creative activity primarily from faculty and students.

The significance of this is substantial. Without SJSU ScholarWorks, it is likely that the research and scholarly output of our students and faculty would not have been downloaded over five million times, and in many cases, even at all. SJSU ScholarWorks not only makes their work easy to find when searching the Internet, it also provides free access.

This year, the library staff is enhancing SJSU ScholarWorks with Esploro, a software platform that will make it even easier to connect SJSU scholarship with the world by providing automatic capture of faculty and student research and scholarship. Furthermore, Esploro also provides an opportunity for faculty and students to manage their own online profiles. This will make it easier for faculty to find collaborators and for researchers around the world to connect with SJSU experts. Ultimately, SJSU ScholarWorks can become the platform that provides even more global attention to SJSU and the important scholarship, innovation, and cutting-edge research taking place across campus.

SJSU ScholarWorks is supported in part by the Emerging Technologies Endowment. If you are interested in supporting this robust institutional repository, contact Director of Development Anh Ly at anh.p.ly@sjsu.edu or 408-924-1104.