

Annual Report

2023/2024

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Message from the University Librarian

Steven Mandeville-Gamble



“Bad libraries only build collections. Good libraries build services (and a collection is only one of many). Great libraries build communities.”

— R. David Lankes, *Expect More: Demanding Better Libraries For Today's Complex World*

The North Star for the UCR Library is be a great library, one that lives up to R. David Lankes’ admonition for great libraries to build collections upon which dynamic services are scaffolded and which ultimately support the creation and nurturing of dynamic communities. While not one of the wealthier academic research libraries in North America, the UCR Library nevertheless proudly demonstrated its commitment to these goals during the FY23/24 academic year.

Throughout FY23/24, the UCR Library served as a locus of engagement, a safe refuge in uncertain times, a supportive environment where all can thrive, a center of intellectual discourse and the exchange of ideas, a living laboratory, an engine of research, and a place dedicated to inspiring a sense of wonder for the UCR community and beyond. It served – and continues to serve – a diverse population of scholars: students, faculty, staff, UC researchers, community members, and scholars from around the world.

As this annual report attests, during the FY23/24 academic year, the staff of the UCR Library demonstrated their commitment to serving all of these functions. From programs aimed at inspiring K-12 students to consider attending a University of California and enabling them to see themselves as students in a major research institution to our Finals Week Stress Relief program which provides much needed emotional – and caloric – support during the

most stressful moments throughout the year to the students studying in the Library for their mid-term and final exams, the dedicated staff make a positive contribution to student outcomes and help provide them a sense of community and belonging. The Library built upon its connections with campus partners to enhance existing partnerships and build new ones, most notably with the McNair Scholars undergraduate research program and multiple partnerships with the Division of Undergraduate Education to support the academic success of students.

A key part of the Library’s strategy to spur the success of our students and our faculty is to become a center of experiential learning on campus. The Creat’R Lab, the UCR Library’s Makerspace, expanded its programming and reached students in every discipline. But the emphasis on experiential learning does not begin or end with the Creat’R Lab; the Library hosted or curated exhibits in both library buildings that reached thousands of students throughout the year, ranging from such topics a book bannings, the success of the UCR Women’s Resource Center during its first 50 years, the history of Women Physicians in U.S. medical history, the cultural impact of science fiction and fantasy movies on the popular imagination as seen through the Eaton Collection, and the *Semana de la Mujer* (Week of the Woman) exhibit which underscored the role that strong, brave women played in preparing the next generation of scholars and leaders of all

genders for success.

But the Library did not stop at only curating exhibits created by its team members, it also served as a vital platform for students to display their own academic content in the form of faculty- and student-curated exhibits displaying the works of original historical research created by students. The History 197 exhibit is a prime example.

The UCR Library is equally committed to enabling leaps in the research success of the campus community. Its Research Services team served as a vital lynchpin for geospatial research and the use of spatialized thinking and resources in the academic output of UCR's faculty and students across the disciplines.

And during the FY23/24 academic year, Research Services launched a number of exciting new initiatives such as the Scholarly Technology and Research (STAR) Lab, a Summer Digital Scholarship Program, and a Robotics Camp, all of which aimed developing key skills that students, faculty, and other scholars can use for their future careers or research endeavors.

Despite all of these successes, the year was not without its challenges. The waterproof membrane and other aspects of the roof of the Orbach Science Library failed completely during this period, and what had been an increasingly problematic series of leaks which the Library had been reporting since at least 2013 became a veritable flood throughout the top floor of that building during every rainstorm. Ultimately, the entire floor had to be closed off due to significant damage and the dozens of 55 gallon drums, tarps, and hoses throughout the floor that were capturing the water from the leaks and redirecting it into a floor drain in one of the restrooms on that floor.

While the roofing system was finally replaced in FY24/25, the floor remains closed.

Despite these setbacks, there were moments of success even in this situation. Staff stepped up to the plate, sensitive collections were saved or relocated, and the Collections Management team developed a comprehensive plan on how to manage the collection moving forward, weed damaged content for which we have both physical and digital surrogates, or replace content where needed.

None of the Library's successes would have been possible without the dedicated and talented staff. The Library is dedicated to investing in those staff, most notably by focusing on filling vacancies and hiring staff that bring an infusion of new skills to our midst. This has allowed us to rethink and reorganize units such as the former Acquisitions Department and the former Metadata and Technical Services unit into the Acquisitions, Description, and Discovery department, which now allows for a seamless integration of our efforts to acquire content, catalog it, and then make it maximally discoverable in our online catalog. The ability to make ADD a reality only happened by investing in key new staff and continuous investment in funds to enhance the skills of existing staff.

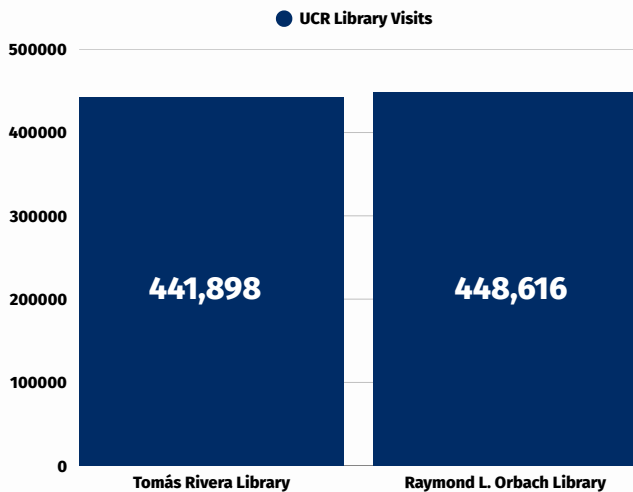
As you will see, the resulting intellectual and professional output of the staff at the UCR Library is impressive. Their commitment to their work, the students and faculty that they support, and the academic vitality of UCR is something to celebrate.

Steven Mandeville-Gamble
University Librarian



NUMBERS

2023/2024



Total Library Visits:
890,514

VOLUMES HELD:
4,653,145

**WORKSHOPS, MEETUPS, AND
PRESENTATION PARTICIPANTS:**
14,259

TOTAL INTERLIBRARY LENDING:
6,404

TOTAL INTERLIBRARY BORROWING:
7,497

TITLES HELD:
4,107,399

ELECTRONIC BOOKS:
1,536,627

GROUP PRESENTATIONS GIVEN:
306

PROFESSIONAL & SUPPORT STAFF:
100

STUDENT *SUCCESS*



Community & Belonging

Building Bridges: K–12 and Community Engagement

The UCR Library helps strengthen the pipeline to higher education through its engagement with local K–12 students. Over the past year, library staff have supported more than 10 school programs through tailored instruction and hands-on learning experiences designed to equip young scholars with the skills they need to thrive in college and beyond.

These efforts are rooted in relationship-building. When students visit UCR's campus, often for the first time, they are introduced not only to a university environment, but also to the idea that higher education is within reach. Through workshops, classroom visits, and project support, the library helps young learners see themselves as future researchers, students, and leaders.

For the library, this work reflects a core value: that education is a public good. By investing time and resources into K–12 outreach, the library fulfills its mission to serve not just the campus, but the broader region—where the need is great. According to the California State Auditor, California ranks at the bottom nationally in its ratio of school librarians to students, with only one school librarian for every 7,000–8,000 students. Some local schools, such as Riverside STEM Academy (RSA), do not have a school library at all.

Despite these challenges, schools like RSA are finding innovative ways to collaborate with UCR Library. Each grade at RSA visits the library annually as part of a scaffolded curriculum that builds research skills over time. The program grows with students—from the basics of searching for reliable sources to designing research posters and presentations.

The library also supports research-based programs including International Baccalaureate, National History Day, and AVID. In a visit, AVID students in grades 3–5 from a school in the Coachella Valley participated in a creative lesson on digital citizenship. Using real-world disinformation strategies, students crafted their own satirical animal news reports—featuring everything from sourdough-loving pigs to levitating chinchillas—while learning how to spot and question misinformation.

Through these and other programs, the UCR Library continues to build bridges—between the university and the community, between today's students and tomorrow's scholars.

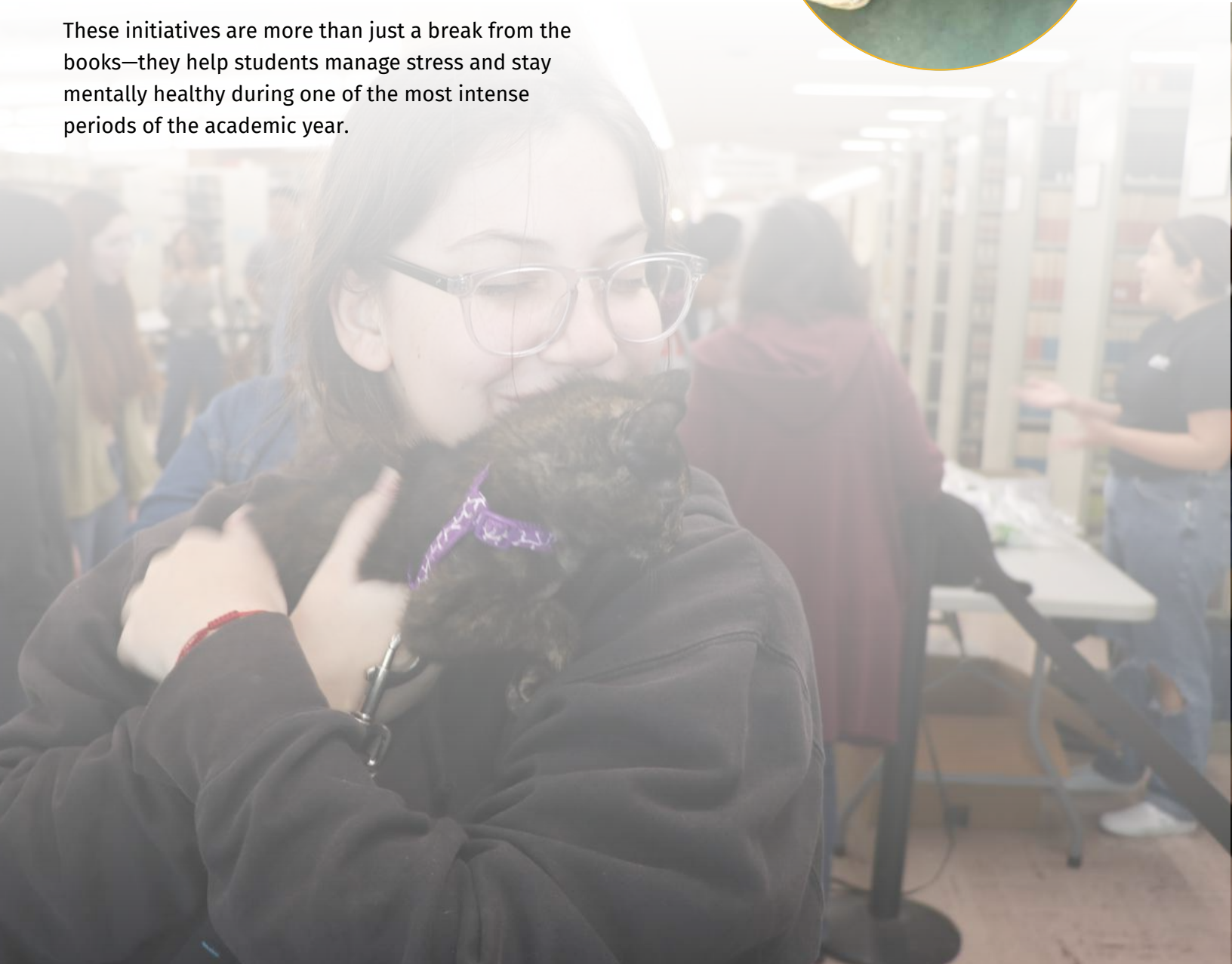
Final Week Stress Relief at the UCR Library

During finals week, the UCR Library becomes a second home for many UCR students—and library staff work hard to make that home a little more comfortable.

This year's Finals Week Stress Relief programming included a mix of relaxing activities, wellness resources, and fun, low-stress events to help students recharge. Activities included therapy dog visits, bingo, rock painting, gift card raffles, food giveaways, and more.

These initiatives are more than just a break from the books—they help students manage stress and stay mentally healthy during one of the most intense periods of the academic year.

By transforming the library into a place of comfort and care, the library plays an important role in supporting student wellness.





Maximizing Space: Compact Shelving in Rivera Library Basement

To meet the needs of students and the library's growing collections, compact shelving was installed in the basement of the Tomás Rivera Library. This upgrade allowed the library to consolidate physical materials more efficiently, freeing up square footage for expanded study areas.

Compact shelving not only improves how space is used—it helps the library continue building and maintaining strong collections without compromising user space. It's a strategic solution that balances the library's dual priorities: preserving access to materials and supporting student learning environments.

This project demonstrates how even behind-the-scenes changes can have a meaningful impact on the student experience. By investing in smarter shelving solutions, the library is able to preserve important print materials without sacrificing the space students need for group study, quiet research, or collaborative work.

Bringing Archives to Life: First Annual Archives Fair

In honor of National Archives Month, the UCR Library's Special Collections & University Archives (SCUA) hosted its first-ever Archives Fair in October 2023 outside of the Tomás Rivera Library. The event brought together local institutions and campus partners to highlight the importance of archives in preserving regional history and supporting student research.

Visitors had the opportunity to engage with physical collections, explore examples of student research, and take part in hands-on activities like button-making. The event was free and open to the public, inviting both the campus and community to learn more about what archives are and why they matter.

By hosting the Archives Fair, SCUA created a welcoming, public-facing space to promote archival literacy, celebrate regional partnerships, and showcase the value of preserving and accessing history.



Rivera Library Study Room Upgrades

To enhance the student study experience, the UCR Library made a series of updates to group study rooms in Rivera Library. These upgrades included fresh paint, reupholstered chairs, and new carpet.

While small in scale, these changes reflect the library's ongoing efforts to maintain and refresh its spaces where possible. By making incremental improvements, the library continues to support student learning through environments that are more functional, flexible, and welcoming.

These were the old cushioned seats and a peek of the old floor.



Outreach Highlights



- **Spring Splash Concert:** The Creat'R Lab provided VR experiences to concert attendees. Concert attendance was approximately 6,000.
- **Highlander Early Start Academy:** 33 students participated in VR experiences and tours of the Creat'R Lab as part of this academy.
- **Residential Life, University Honors, and XCITE VR Activity:** The Creat'R Lab hosted a VR activity for 30 students from Residential Life, University Honors, and XCITE.
- **Club Collaborations:** The Creat'R Lab held 20 workshops in collaboration with various clubs, with an estimated 400 attendees.
- **MIRA (Makerspaces for Innovation and Research in Academics) Conference 2023:** The Creat'R Lab hosted this conference, which had 60 attendees.

Academic Success

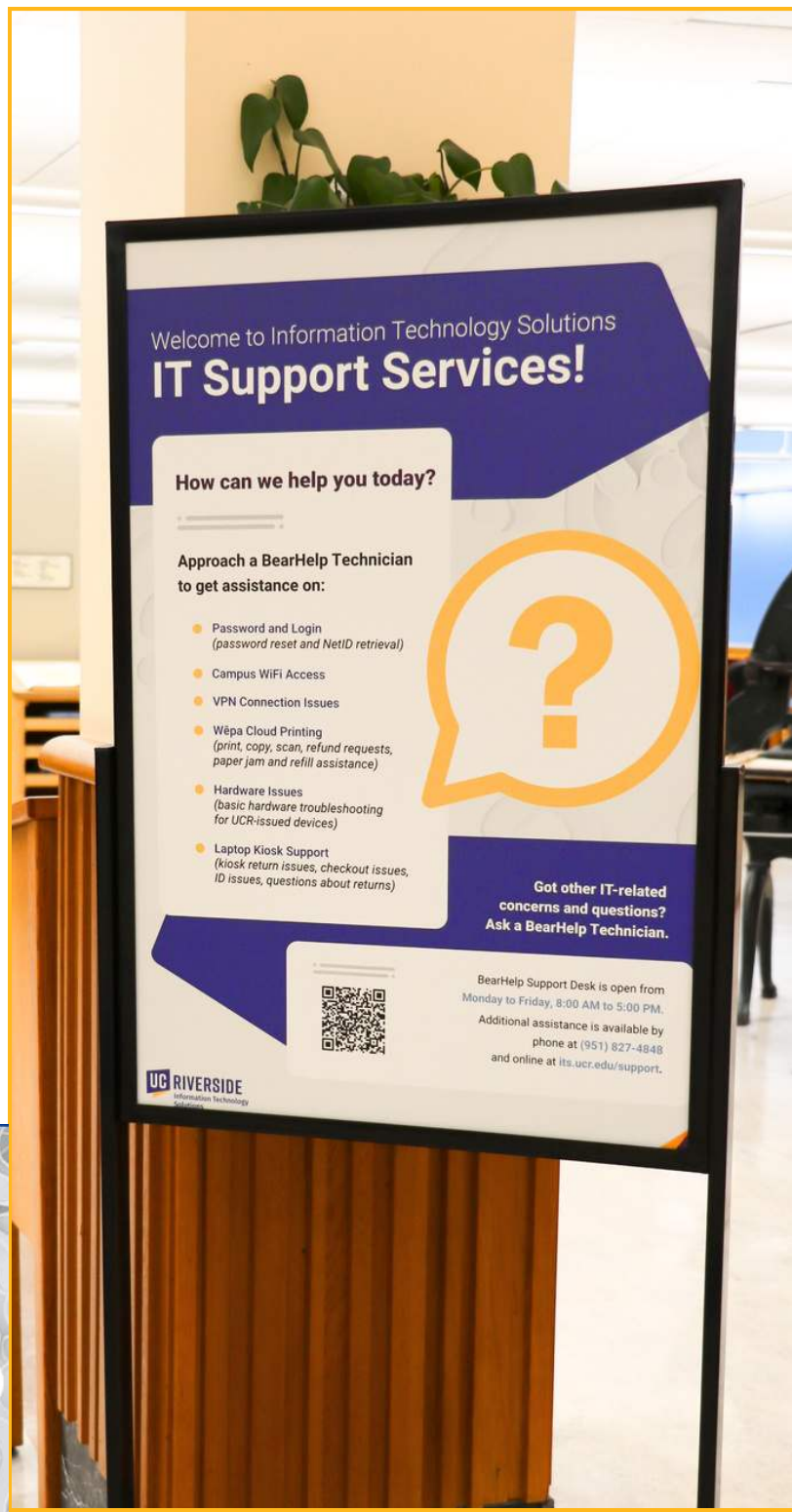
Enhancing Student Support: New Service Desk Model

At the start of the school year, the UCR Library partnered with Information Technology Solutions (ITS) to launch a new dual-function support center, offering both library and IT help from a single point of service.

The Information Desks in both Orbach and Rivera Libraries were transformed into the Library Support/IT Support Desk, with one side staffed by the library and the other by ITS. This collaborative model brings together two essential campus services in one convenient location.

The library side of the desk continues to provide research support, assistance with finding books and articles, help using databases and citations, and referrals to subject experts. ITS staff are available to assist with account logins, Wi-Fi connectivity issues, cloud printing, hardware issues, and more.

By bringing together expertise from both departments, the unified service desk makes it easier for students, faculty, and staff to get the help they need—whether it's academic or technical. It's one more way the library is rethinking how to improve the campus experience through collaboration and innovation.



IT Support

Library
Support

Strengthening Campus Partnerships

At the heart of the UCR Library's mission is a deep commitment to student success—and that mission is amplified through strategic campus partnerships. Over the past year, the library expanded its collaborative efforts across departments to provide more targeted support to students at every academic level.

One standout example is the partnership between Student Success and Engagement Librarian Carrie Cruce and Residential Education, which has opened doors for deeper engagement with students where they live and learn. Together, they developed a scaffolded workshop series for Resident Advisors (RAs) and Peer Advisors (PAs), beginning with foundational library skills and building toward real-world applications of information literacy. The goal is to empower student leaders to support and refer peers to library resources with confidence.

This collaboration also supports Residential Education's programming for first-generation and transfer students—groups that benefit greatly from early and sustained connections to academic support. In the year ahead, the library will deepen this work by partnering with Living and Learning Communities to offer discipline-specific research instruction and skill development.

The UCR Library also strengthened its partnership with the McNair Scholars Program, which supports first-generation, low-income, and underrepresented undergraduate students preparing for graduate school. A dedicated, scaffolded workshop series was designed specifically for McNair Scholars to help them build essential academic and professional skills. Through this series, the library provided support in:

- Developing effective research strategies and strengthening information literacy.
- Designing academic posters and presentations with a focus on visual literacy.
- Identifying reputable journals and understanding where to publish or present research.
- Using Zotero and other citation management tools.

In addition, the library is currently developing Artificial Intelligence literacy programming to support students in understanding and responsibly using emerging AI technologies in research and academic work.

These partnerships exemplify the library's role not just as a service provider, but as an engaged collaborator in campus-wide efforts to close equity gaps and advance student achievement. By aligning with university priorities and adapting to student needs, the UCR Library continues to serve as a vital contributor to UCR's educational mission.



EXPERIENTIAL *LEARNING*



Creat'R Lab Makerspace Expands Services



In the past year, the [Creat'R Lab Makerspace](#) in Orbach Library has seen remarkable growth.

No longer just a hub for 3D printing, the Creat'R Lab has evolved into a collaborative learning environment supporting hands-on experimentation, creativity, and skill-building across disciplines with the launch of two exciting new spaces: the 3D Experience (3DXP) Lab and the Robotics Lab.

The 3DXP Lab is a dedicated workspace designed for developing media and virtual reality (VR) projects, particularly those that require tools not typically found in standard computer labs. The space includes a green wall for photography and video and is equipped with advanced technology such as ArcTec Spyder and Leo industrial scanners, Meta Quest 2 VR headsets, and a high-performance Alienware computer loaded with Adobe Creative Cloud, Blender, and other creative software.

Just steps away, the Robotics Lab offers a focused environment for building robotics and electronic systems. With soldering stations, Raspberry Pi and Arduino microcontrollers, and flexible workbenches, students and faculty can prototype everything from basic circuits to custom animatronics.

These new labs build on the Creat'R Lab's core mission: providing students with access to cutting-edge tools, creative opportunities, and spaces that encourage experimentation.

Whether users are designing a robot, building a VR experience, or exploring digital media, the Creat'R Lab continues to evolve as a vibrant hub for experiential learning.

Expanding Exhibits: A Year of Thought-Provoking Displays

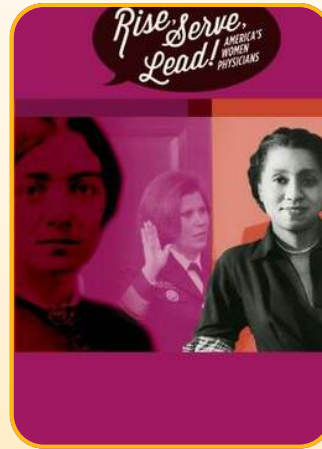
This year, we expanded our exhibit program by increasing the number of rotating displays across our library locations and collaborating with more campus partners to showcase diverse voices and collections. These exhibits highlighted everything from student research to rare materials from our archives.



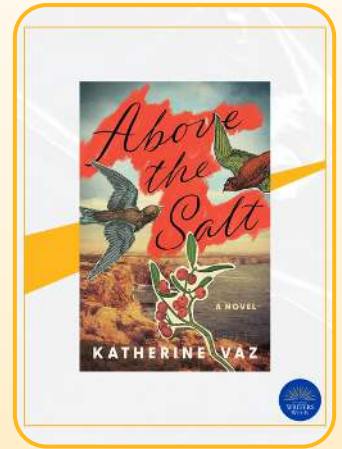
Banned Books
Unleashed presented the Top 10 most banned books in America.



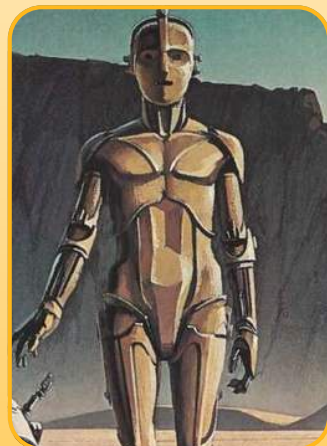
Celebrating 50 Years of the Women's Resource Center
celebrated the 50th anniversary of UCR's WRC.



Rise, Serve, Lead! America's Women Physicians
highlighted women's contribution to medicine.



Celebrating the 47th Annual Writers Week
featured books from authors participating in Writers Week 2024.



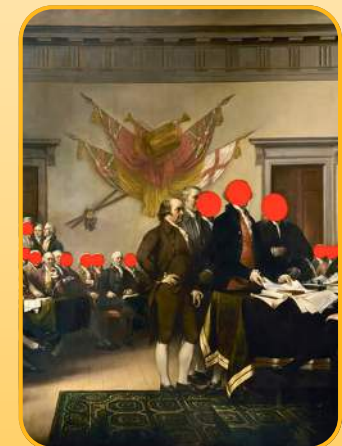
Eaton at the Movies
showcased science fiction film and television-related materials from our Eaton Collection.



Semana de la Mujer was a collaboration with Chicano Student Programs and highlighted the women in the lives of UCR community members.



R'Voices in the Library
highlighted the unique stories and creative expressions of UCR's first-generation students..



History 197 Exhibit featured posters from students in an American history course who received assistance from our Teaching and Learning Department.

Rivera Library Gaming Room Update in the Works



The UCR Library is investing in a refresh of the popular Rivera Library Gaming Rooms, a space that blends entertainment, social connection, and cognitive development. Plans are underway to upgrade the technology and enhance the environment to better meet student and faculty needs.

This revitalization project underscores the library's commitment to creating spaces that support both academic success and student well-being.



RESEARCH *SUPPORT*



Collections

Shaping the Collective Collection of the UC Libraries: UCR Collections Leadership

The UCR Library continues to play a leadership role in shaping the collective collection strategy of the University of California system. Through leadership roles, coordinated acquisitions and shared licensing negotiations, the UCR Library contributes to a sustainable, equitable approach to providing access to scholarly resources across all ten campuses.

Increasing the extent of academic resources available to the entire UC community has long been a systemwide priority, one that has grown to include licensing agreements not only across the University of California campuses but also with the California State University (CSU) system and some members of the Statewide California Electronic Library Consortium (SCELC). It was in 2020 when UC collaboration took a major leap forward with the launch of [UC Library Search](#), a shared discovery platform. While the interface is customized for each campus, it allows users to discover and request materials across the entire UC system.

Behind these achievements are dedicated efforts from UCR Library librarians and staff working across institutions to license content, improve discoverability, and optimize access. At UCR, several members of the Collections Strategies team actively participate in UC-wide committees and working groups to help shape this shared infrastructure. Tiffany Moxham, Deputy University Librarian and Assistant University Librarian for Content and Discovery, has chaired the UC Shared Content Leadership Group for two years, focusing on how to expand content and resource access across the system.



Tiffany also plays a key role on the UC Project Transform team, which develops transformative Open Access publishing agreements that broaden publishing opportunities for researchers throughout the UC system.

Our leadership in shaping the collective collections of the UC Libraries ensures that UCR remains at the forefront of UC collection strategy and that UCR students, faculty, and researchers benefit from a system-scale approach to information access.

Research Services

Geospatial Innovation: Mapping a Stronger Campus



With geospatial tools increasingly relevant across almost every academic field, it's important to ensure that UCR students and researchers have access to the skills and support needed to work with geospatial tools confidently. At UCR, Geospatial Information Librarian Janet Reyes plays a central role in supporting this work, helping students and researchers develop sought-after geospatial skills.

Janet offers workshops, consultations, and campus programming that make geographic information systems (GIS) more accessible. Through workshops, class visits, and events such as UC GIS Week and GIS Meetups, Janet provides hands-on opportunities to build skills in mapping, analysis, and visualization.

Reyes's workshops are recorded and shared on the UCR Library's YouTube channel, where many have received thousands of views from people around the world. In addition to teaching and consultations, she curates a quarterly newsletter, using ArcGIS StoryMaps, that highlights new tools, events, and applications of GIS across disciplines. She has even been ACRL Insider's [ACRL Member of the Week!](#)

By providing approachable instruction, expert guidance, and engaging resources, Janet empowers the UCR community to think spatially and apply geospatial tools in meaningful, impactful ways.



Geospatial Information Librarian Janet Reyes's April 2024 Introduction to ArcGIS Pro workshop has been viewed over 5,000 times on YouTube.



Innovating in Research and Learning: New Programs and Opportunities

The UCR Library continues to reimagine how it supports research and learning through innovative programs that blend technology, mentorship, and experiential learning.

The launch of the [STAR Lab](#) (Scholarly Technology and Research Lab) provides the UCR community with access to high-powered software tools and computing resources often required for advanced data analysis, design, and modeling. Designed for both independent work and collaborative projects, the lab fills a critical gap in campus infrastructure, supporting both undergraduate and graduate-level research.

Summer 2023 saw the launch of the Digital Scholarship Certificate Program, where undergraduate students engaged in hands-on projects while working with archival materials from the UCR Library. Students also gained valuable skills in research, photography, data, and critical analysis.

And for the first time, the Creat'R Lab hosted a Robotics Camp in summer 2024, bringing together students from across disciplines to build autonomous robots from scratch. Participants learned coding, electronics, and design skills—while also developing teamwork, creativity, and problem-solving abilities.

These programs reflect the library's evolving role as a laboratory for exploration and innovation on the UCR campus.



SCUA Team Completes Sadakichi Hartmann Project

This year, Special Collections & University Archives completed a major processing and preservation project on the Sadakichi Hartmann papers, making one of UCR's most unique collections more accessible to researchers.

Sadakichi Hartmann (1867–1944) was an essayist, poet, dramatist, journalist, and art critic whose life and work spanned continents and artistic movements. A significant figure in the modernist and symbolist movements, he was among the earliest critics to recognize photography as a legitimate art form and co-founded the anarchist magazine *Mother Earth*.

The collection at UCR includes his published and unpublished writings, diaries, correspondence, photographs, and original artwork, including pastels and paintings.

With this project complete, scholars now have improved access to the rich and complex legacy of a boundary-pushing artist whose life defied categorization



INVESTING *IN STAFF*



New Faces, New Expertise: Strengthening Our Team



Christina Bean
Conservator



Darren Furey
*Director of Metadata and
Technical Services*



Andrea Decker
*Instructional Design
Librarian*



Phylicia Mossiah
*Course Reserves
Coordinator*



Jennifer Rodriguez
*Director of HR and
Academic Personnel*



Mary-Michelle Moore
STEM Teaching Librarian



Anthony Pedroza
*Library Facilities Sr.
Building Maintenance
Worker*



Grecia Lizaola-Velazquez
*Access Services
& Billing Assistant*



Eliana Martinez
HR Generalist



Shannon Castro
*Senior Director of
Development*

New Roles



Natalie Moller
Metadata Librarian.



Sahra Missaghieh Klawitter
Head of Access Services



First UCR Conservator at the Library

In a landmark step for preservation at the UCR Library, we welcomed our first-ever conservator, Christina Bean, in summer 2023. With a specialization in paper, Christina quickly enhanced the library's capacity to safeguard rare and aging materials for future generations.

During her first year, she led Preservation Week, a campus-wide initiative that raised awareness about preserving books, archives, and cultural heritage.

She also organized an Integrated Pest Management Workshop where she equipped UCR Library staff, and librarians and conservators from around the Southern California region, with the knowledge and tools needed to identify and prevent risks to physical collections caused by insects.

Christina has already made a strong impact by advising on housing fragile items, training staff in best practices, and contributing to collection assessments. Her presence signals the library's growing commitment to long-term preservation, ensuring that both scholars and the public can continue to access UCR's valuable holdings for years to come.

New Leadership in MTS

This year, the UCR Library welcomed Darren Furey as the new Director of Metadata and Technical Services (MTS). With extensive experience in cataloging, metadata standards, and organizational leadership, Darren brings a forward-thinking, collaborative approach to the role.



Prior to joining UCR, Darren served as interim Associate Dean of Libraries for Technical Services at Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN), where he also spent six years as Head of Cataloguing & Metadata.

Since arriving at UCR, Darren has played a key role in the launch of the new Acquisitions, Description, and Discovery (ADD) department and has begun leading efforts to streamline workflows and redesign technical services spaces to support more efficient collaboration.

Darren's arrival marks a new chapter for technical services at UCR—one centered on innovation, collaboration, and making resources more discoverable and accessible.

Meeting the Resource Needs of the Mid-21st Century: Launching ADD



In early summer 2024, the UCR Library officially launched its Acquisitions, Description, and Discovery (ADD) Department—a strategic merger of the former Acquisitions Unit and the Metadata and Technical Services Department. The new department brings together key library functions into a unified team focused on improving the discoverability, accessibility, and organization of print, electronic, and digital resources.

The creation of ADD reflects the library's commitment to streamlining workflows, enhancing collaboration, and aligning with evolving library management systems. By also consolidating staff expertise and responsibilities, the library is building a more adaptive and efficient infrastructure to support modern collection strategies and user expectations.

ADD manages library resources from the moment of purchase to the moment they become discoverable in UC Library Search and other platforms. This includes ordering and receiving materials, processing payments, cataloging, metadata creation, and the organization of digitized collections.

The department also ensures that UCR's digital materials are accessible via platforms like Calisphere, expanding the reach and impact of the library's unique collections.

Led by Director Darren Furey, ADD is actively evaluating and refining its workflows to better serve students, faculty, and staff. Strategic cross-training and new hires—plans include hiring two Metadata Catalogers and an Acquisitions, Description, and Discovery Supervisor—will further strengthen the department's capacity to handle diverse formats and meet the increasing demand for timely, accurate access to information.

By connecting the behind-the-scenes processes with front-end discovery, the department plays a vital role in supporting teaching, learning, and research at UCR. Whether users are searching for a newly published book, accessing a digitized archival item, or navigating a scholarly database, ADD ensures they find what they need seamlessly and reliably.

Celebrating Staff Professional Achievements

Professional Publications & Presentations

We're proud of our team members who shared their expertise through publications and presentations this past year!

- **Alvaro Alvarez and Brendon Wheeler:**
 - Presented on the exciting topic of "Digitization with 3D Scanning" at the Makerspaces for Innovation and Research in Academics Conference in La Verne.
- **Britt Foster:**
 - Co-authored the chapter, "'We don't have time for that!' Evidence-based practice during a time of crisis," in the book *Everyday evidence-based practice in academic libraries: Case studies and reflections*.
- **Elisa Cortez:**
 - Collaborated on an Immersion Session, "Case by Case: A Panel Discussion and Workshop on Developing Case Scenarios for Health Sciences Related Searching Demonstrations in Instruction,"¹ with colleagues at the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting.
 - Contributed a chapter in *Intersections in Healing: Academic Libraries and the Health Humanities*.
 - Contributing author to the article "Journals accepting case reports" published in the Journal of the Medical Library Association.
- **Elisa Cortez and Janet Reyes:**
 - Collaborated on a presentation at the inaugural QI/GIS conference at the UCR School of Medicine in May 2024.
- **Janet Reyes:**
 - Co-presented a pre-conference workshop, "(Map) weeding for the uncertain gardener: Advice for massive weeding projects," with collaborators at the WAML 2023 conference and also presented a panel, "The Need to Weed: A Panel On Paper Map De-accessioning," with collaborators at the Leap into MAGIRT conference.
- **Krystal Boehlert:**
 - Co-authored a book chapter, "Transforming Digital Pedagogies with Heritage Speakers of Spanish - Collaborative Instruction and Latinx Archives," within the collection *Serving Hispanic, Latine, and Latinx students in academic libraries*.
- **Mark Buchholz:**
 - Presented a poster, "Constructing Digital Collections: Careers in Cultural Heritage Digitization," at the 2024 American Library Association Annual Meeting in San Diego.
- **Mary-Michelle Moore:**
 - Contributed to a panel discussion submitted to CARL 2024 on "labor in libraries."
- **Phoenix Alexander:**
 - Published "Island of dreams: Post/colonial imaginaries in contemporary Cypriot Anglophone literature" in *Literature, Critique, and Empire Today*.
 - Wrote editorials (in addition to editing) issues 299 and 300 of *Vector: the Journal of the BSFA* and their short fiction was published in *The Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction*, *Space Cowboy Books presents: Simultaneous Times*, *The Dark*, and *Beneath Ceaseless Skies*.

Celebrating Staff Professional Achievements

- **Robin Katz:**

- Shared her expertise through invited presentations and workshops, including "Archives, Ableism and the Work Ahead" for the UCR Health Humanities and Disability Justice Initiative, "Excellent Archival Reference" for the Archives Society of Alberta, and "Turn Your Teaching into Scholarship" at the RBMS Conference.

Grants, Awards, and Recognition

We're thrilled to celebrate the well-deserved recognition and support our staff have received!

- **Elisa Cortez:**

- Provided her expertise to the Health Humanities and Disability Justice Lab by contributing to the "Abolition Medicine and Disability Justice: Mapping Inequity and Renewing the Social" grant.
- Received the Sewell Travel Award for Public Health to attend the American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting.
- Honored with the Medical Library Association, Hospital Library Caucus Scroll of Exemplary Service and also received the MLA 2024 Naomi C. Broering Latinx Heritage Grant.
- Selected to pilot the Institute of Museum & Library Services funded msDSMP through ARL/CDL and received a \$5,000 travel grant.

- **Janet Reyes:**

- Recognized as the ACRL Member of the Week on October 30, 2023.

Facilities

and Infrastructure Enhancements



Out of Disaster to Resilience: Protecting Collections from Orbach's Roof



When a significant roof leak on Orbach Library's third floor endangered thousands of books, UCR Library staff responded swiftly to protect the collections and evaluate the damage.

Demonstrating remarkable coordination, staff from across library departments immediately took action, relocating vulnerable materials, meticulously documenting water-damaged items, and identifying rare and unique materials for specialized care.

A notable effort involved the transfer of the library's rare agriculture collections to the secure environment of Special Collections & University Archives in the Tomás Rivera Library.

This incident accelerated existing collection planning and fostered increased collaboration among UCR Facilities Services, UCR Environmental Health & Safety, and library personnel.

Despite the catastrophic roof leak, the library not only protected its valuable collections but also strengthened its systems and gained renewed focus on preservation, infrastructure improvements, and long-term collection care.



Give

to the UCR Library

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