

UMass Amherst Libraries

News from New England's Largest Publicly Supported Research Library,
Open to All in the Commonwealth

Season's Greetings from the UMass Amherst Libraries!

Wishing you and yours much happiness and warmth
during this holiday season.

We are so grateful for your support.



The Libraries Introduce and Welcome Dean Simon Neame



Simon J. Neame has been named Dean of the largest state-supported academic library system in New England. Dean Neame comes to the Libraries from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver (UBC) where he served as Associate University Librarian and Director of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. Get to know Dean Neame through this short Q&A:

What interested you most about becoming the Dean of Libraries at UMass Amherst?

Having worked at the University of British Columbia (UBC) Library for most of my career I really enjoy the incredible range of activities and projects happening every day in a research library. When I learned about the opportunity at UMass Amherst, I was ready for a new adventure. I was excited to take a next step in my career, having been greatly influenced by the experience of being an Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Leadership Fellow from 2013 to 2015.

The UMass Libraries are known for their innovative approach to developing new services and meeting emerging campus needs and the chance to work in the Northeast region, among so many great institutions, was also part of why I decided to come here.

[Read more Q&A](#)

W.E.B. Du Bois Center Grand Opening



Dr. Whitney Battle Baptiste
Director, W.E.B. Du Bois Center

Provost Katherine Newman, Dean of Libraries Simon Neame, and Du Bois Center Director Whitney Battle-Baptiste welcomed faculty and students to the [newly renovated and expanded W.E.B. Du Bois Center](#) on Floor 22 of the Du Bois Library. Attendees learned how students and researchers can use the Center to gain greater access and understanding of the work of Du Bois and celebrated the recently awarded Andrew W. Mellon Grant and the rollout of the Du Bois Fellows program, made possible by the grant.

Mothballed yet Not Forgotten

Life-long postcard collector and appraiser Gregory Wilson was sorting materials for the "antiques table" of a church bazaar in Northampton when he recently came upon a book with Massachusetts Agricultural College (MAC) stamped inside. He kindly returned it to the library; (Wilson has a Master of Library Science degree and was curator of the Theodore Roosevelt collection at Harvard, where his first job was to catalog Roosevelt's 500 postcards.)

The book, *The natural history of British moths, sphinxes, &c.* is an 1836 imprint with hand-colored images.

[See more illustrations here.](#)



Thank you, Gregory Wilson!

440 Steps to the Top

The second annual Tower Run was held on Thursday, November 17, 2016, from 7–10 p.m., at the W.E.B. Du Bois Library.

[See photos of the run.](#)

Just under 50 students and staff participated. Karl Frohlich '20, clocked in the fastest time at 2:13, and, along with the other top 4 runners, received a library mug as a prize. The event is sponsored by UMass Students of Recreation (USOR), UMass Campus Recreation, and the UMass Amherst Libraries.

"We are extremely excited about the Tower Run," says Bethany Welch of USOR. "Both Campus Recreation and the Library are a huge part of UMass students' lives and it is awesome to be able to combine the two in one great event and develop camaraderie in the UMass community."



This occasional newsletter includes stories about students, faculty, research, and updates on our newest collections and initiatives. Please share your feedback with us!

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