As you’ll see in the pages that follow, Millstein Library has had a flurry of activity this summer! New lighting, repairs to some of the infrastructure, new equipment, and more room to grow in our main stacks.

One thing that hasn’t changed is our commitment to creating a student-centered learning environment. I recently came across an interesting blog post about envisioning library reference services as beta spaces (Dickerson, *In the Library with the Lead Pipe*). This was so interesting and exciting to me, because it gave us a name for the philosophy that had been driving the library for many years.

Based on the work of others, Dickerson notes the purpose of beta spaces is to facilitate real-time knowledge creation in spaces that are designed for experimentation and community-driven innovation. Millstein Library’s Digital Media Lab and the Research Collaboratory are examples of how we hope to foster this beta-space atmosphere for our students and faculty. Adjusting to the academic demands of college life can be stressful, and the library hopes to promote an environment in which students feel safe asking questions, taking risks, and making mistakes in order to learn. —Amanda Folk
SPRING & SUMMER WINDOW DISPLAYS

Anna Mary Williford, Kelly Bradish, and Bonnie Chambers created several of the many window displays inside the library’s main entrance and exit during Spring and Summer.

Anna Mary’s display featured Newbery Medal books. Kelly’s display featured biographies and autobiographies.

Bonnie’s display featured authentic items from Scotland for Scottish-American Heritage Month in April.

WPWVC ACRL SPRING CONFERENCE

Librarians Kelly Bradish, Renee Kiner, and Anna Mary Williford attended the Spring Conference of the Western Pennsylvania/West Virginia Chapter of the Association of College & Research Libraries at Seton Hill University on Friday, June 10. They gave a brief lightning-round talk, "It’s a Marathon, Not a Sprint: Planning That Will Go the Distance at Your Library." This talk focused on their approach to developing lesson plans and learning outcomes for information literacy instruction. Library Director Amanda Folk also contributed to the presentation.

Right: Kelly, Renee, and Anna Mary at the WPWVC ACRL conference.
NEW MATERIALS

Note: Access to ULS Databases is restricted to current Pitt faculty, staff, and students

ULS Databases
- Gartner
- Readex AllSearch
- Publishers Weekly Digital Archive
- Pittsburgh Business Times
- Times of India

Books at UPG
- Grunt
- The Lost Elements
- Face Value
- Quantified
- Lift
- Friended at the Front
- Dante
- Winning Arguments
- Global Information Warfare

DVDs at UPG
- Deadpool
- The Hateful Eight
- Kung Fu Panda 3
- The Revenant
- Spotlight
- The X-Files: the Event Series
- 10 Cloverfield Lane
- Creed
- Chasing Heroin

LIBRARY UPDATES

There are many updates at the Millstein Library. Students can now borrow portable dry erase boards at the information desk; laptops and iPads now circulate for 7 days instead of 3; and the Millstein Library computer lab has been updated with 2 additional PCs and 2 iMacs.

During the summer, the library’s lighting was replaced with energy-efficient light bulbs and automatic sensors. The front steps, loading dock, and second-floor sidewalk were also replaced. A new digital display was added inside the library’s main entrance/exit to feature campus news, events, and information.

The librarians and staff have also been working diligently on a collection evaluation project, since we’ve been running out of room for new materials on our shelves!

The new digital signage inside the library’s main entrance/exit.

Right: New portable dry erase boards available at the information desk.

The new iMacs in the library computer lab.