

MILLSTEIN MATTERS

SPRING 2015

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GOOD LUCK TO OUR GRADUATING SENIORS!

One of the most famous lines from T.S. Eliot's poem *The Waste Land* is "April is the cruellest month." It can sometimes feel that way! The weather gets much better and everything starts to bloom, but many are afflicted with seasonal allergies and choose to admire spring from indoors. For those of us in higher education, April can sometimes feel cruel, but, more than that, it can be bittersweet. I started at the Millstein Library in 2010, and many of the students who came to Pitt-Greensburg that fall as freshmen are now

getting ready to graduate. It's wonderful to go to events like Honors Convocation and Commencement to learn about all of their successes and accomplishments. They are starting a new phase in their lives, one that we've worked collaboratively to prepare them for. It's also a bit sad, because we know that we likely won't get to interact with these students on a regular basis anymore. We often hope that we are making an impact in their lives, but, fortunately for us, they make an impact in ours as well. We wish the

graduating seniors the best of luck and hope that all Pitt-Greensburg grads remember to come back and visit us! - Amanda Folk



ACRL

Library Director Amanda Folk, Instruction / Public Services Librarian Anna Mary Williford, and Public Services Librarian Amanda Miller attended the 2015 Association of College and Research Libraries conference from March 25-28 in Portland, Oregon.

"This was my first time at the ACRL Conference and it was a great experience! I was able to attend sessions on many aspects of librarianship and learned about several things that we can implement here at Millstein. I am looking forward to sharing these new ideas with my co-workers as we continue to expand and improve our services," said Amanda Miller.



The Oregon Convention Center in Portland, site of the ACRL conference. (image: Wikipedia)

SPRING WINDOW DISPLAYS



Bonnie's display featured books and DVDs about Black History Month.



Sandy and Kelly's display featured books and scientific equipment for Women in STEM careers.

Bonnie Chambers, Sandy Buehner, and Kelly Bradish created the window displays inside the library's main entrance and exit for the months of February and March.

FRIENDS OF THE MILLSTEIN LIBRARY

The Friends of the Millstein Library are alumni, retired and current faculty and staff members, students, and members of the community who are interested in promoting and supporting the library and its activities. The group offers an annual \$500 award to a Pitt-Greensburg senior accepted into an ALA-accredited library or information science master's program.

Anyone may join the Millstein Friends. There are various categories:

Pitt Alumni who have graduated from any campus may become a Friend of the Millstein Library for only \$10 per year.

Friend is a member of the community or a graduate of another institution for \$25 per year.

Family (up to four members of a family) may become a friend of the library for \$50 per year.

As a Friend of the Millstein Library, you will have access to approximately 100,000 items in the library, including books, CDs, and DVDs.

For more information, go to: <http://www.library.pitt.edu/friends-millstein-library>

The Friends of the Millstein Library sponsored free coffee and tea for students in the Millstein Library during the last two weeks of the spring term. The library also had extended hours.

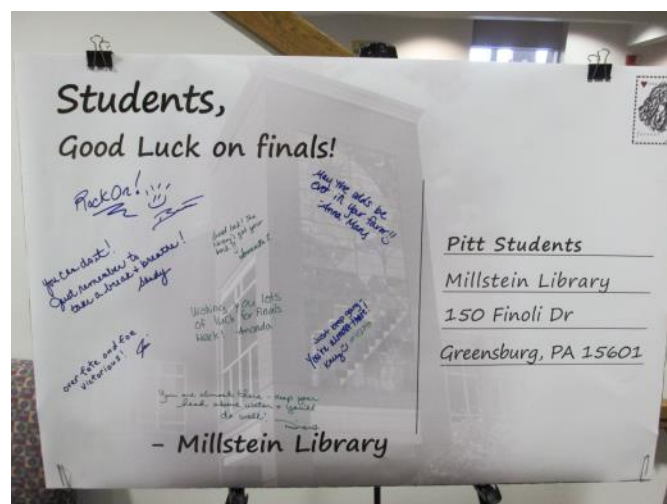
ENCOURAGEMENT FOR STUDENTS

For the last two weeks of the spring term, all library staff members signed an Encouragement for Students postcard poster.

The poster featured words of encouragement to help students get through finals week with success. It was placed near the Millstein Library information desk so

students could see it when they entered the library.

The Millstein Library's poster was designed by ULS Communications Support Specialist Justin Pastrick. He also designed a similar poster for display at Hillman Library at the Oakland campus.



NEW MATERIALS

NOTE: ACCESS TO ULS DATABASES IS RESTRICTED TO CURRENT PITT FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS

ULS Databases

Digitalia

ARBAonline

*Eighteenth Century Journals:
A Portal to Newspapers and
Periodicals c1685-1835*

Books at UPG

Odyssey of a Bombardier

Ancestors in our Genome

Suppressed Terror

Persuading John Bull

Myths of the Cold War

Tasty

Rare

The Invisible Front

Civilizing the Child

DVDs at UPG

True Detective

Game of Thrones: Season 4

Birdman

Boyhood

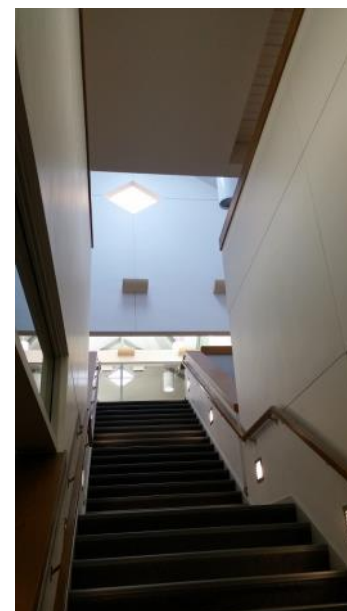
Foxcatcher

The Interview

The Theory of Everything

Fury

The Equalizer



NEW LAPTOPS & IPADS

Twelve new Dell touch screen laptops are now available in the Millstein Library. At first glance, these laptops look identical to the previous versions. However, these slim aluminum laptops feature Windows 8 and can be used with the regular keyboard or the touch screen. The touch screen is very helpful when navigating the interface of tiles on Windows 8.

Four new iPads are also available. The new iPads are thinner, lighter, and faster than the previous versions. They also include a protective case / stand.

These mobile devices feature a wide variety of software apps, and can be checked out for a loan period of three days. Visit the Millstein Library and check out a mobile device today!



FEATURED DVDS IN THE LIBRARY

Birdman: Or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance) is now available on DVD in the Millstein Library. *Birdman* won 4 Oscars, including Best Picture, Best Director, Best Original Screenplay, and Best Cinematography.

The film stars Michael Keaton as Riggan, an actor who played the superhero Birdman in a series of films many years

ago. Riggan is now struggling to overcome many problems in the opening of his Broadway play. The Birdman character is clearly a nod to Keaton's days playing Batman in *Batman* and *Batman Returns*.

Birdman is a comedy-drama that features great performances from Keaton, Emma Stone, Zach Galifianakis, Naomi Watts,

and Edward Norton. There are many hilarious moments and unique cinematography where most of the film appears to be one continuous shot. The film also has an ambiguous ending that leaves much to the viewer's interpretation. This makes *Birdman* an excellent movie for debate and discussion.

