Gift Books

by Kristin Jacobi, Librarian, Head of Cataloging

Unlike many academic libraries, J. Eugene Smith Library accepts gift books from donors. Many of the donors are Eastern faculty who are retiring, moving their office space or downsizing their residences. They have collected and used these books in their academic disciplines and want a ‘good home’ for their book collections.

It is an honor for us to be the recipient of these collections, and we are pleased by the consideration. As you can imagine, we might rapidly run out of space if we retained everything given to us. There are a few practical rules regarding gifts. The highlights from our Gift Policy are below:

• Smith Library encourages donations of material in all formats provided that the donated resources remain consistent with the policies and mission set forth in the collection development plan.
• Donated items will be carefully reviewed for their overall contribution to the Library’s mission.

The Library will not accept:
• Mass market paperbacks
• Older textbooks (published six or more years ago)
• Books that have significant highlighting, underlining or margin notations
• Moldy, mildewed, infested or damaged materials
• Foreign language materials (except materials that would support the curriculum)
• Most periodicals or obsolete, non-print formats

The library has received an annual average of 2,200 gift books over the last few years. Future Library newsletters will highlight and acknowledge several of our older and newly-received gifts. We would also like to take this opportunity to extend our gratitude to all the anonymous benefactors as well.
A Fond Farewell to Bryan Tajam

by Hope-Marie Cook
Head of Curriculum Center & Education Librarian

Over the years my staff and I have had the pleasure of meeting some very diverse and talented individuals who we think have demonstrated the value of receiving a degree from Eastern. One such student is Bryan Tajam who graduated with a degree in Biology. Bryan has been one of our most focused and dedicated students who started off as a dual enrollment student taking classes at Eastern and Quinebaug Valley Community College. Bryan worked for the Library / Curriculum Center since his freshman year. We have seen his confidence and maturity build since he first came to Eastern.

It always amazes me when I see a shy, young person break out of their shell and comfort zone to adapt to their surroundings and flourish despite many difficult obstacles throughout their academic career. Bryan’s patience and persistence, and ability to go with the flow, we believe helped him to succeed at Eastern. Not to mention all the dedicated staff in the various student services departments along with talented faculty and loving family members who encouraged him to not give up.

Growing up in Cameroon, Africa and attending boarding school at a very young age, Bryan speaks both French and English. Over the years he shared many interesting and colorful stories about his education and life in Africa and also in the United States. We wanted to hear one final story as he finished his studies at Eastern.

Did you select Eastern or did Eastern choose you?

I was chosen by Eastern. I was accepted to Eastern through the Dual College Initiative (DCI) program. During my senior year at the Law and Government Academy of Hartford Public High School, I had very few college options at that time. I was approached by recruiters from the DCI program at Eastern Connecticut State University, who provided me with an opportunity to attend. I didn’t hesitate to say yes!

What are your plans and goals after graduation?

After graduation I plan on attending a graduate school of either pharmacy or nursing. I plan on furthering my education here in Connecticut. My top two options for graduate school are the University of Connecticut and the University of St. Joseph. I made inquiries of both schools, and I’m strongly considering St. Joseph as my first choice.

What made you want to become a Pharmacist?

I like chemistry, and pharmacy is a career that applies chemistry to real life. This career, like several others, would also allow me to apply my hands to help our society, which is something I really enjoy doing. Pharmacy is a great career, providing a wide array of opportunities for us to involve ourselves in every aspect of daily life. Furthermore, I chose pharmacy over other professions because of the flexibility of the job, the good salary, and my respect of the profession.

What are some of most enjoyable moments on campus?

Most of my enjoyable moments came from my on campus job at the curriculum center of the J. Eugene Smith Library. Working as a student assistant, I was required to do a variety of tasks such as; shelf reading, checking and putting books in order, checking out books, and assisting customers find books. All these tasks helped me grow into a better person throughout my years at Eastern. Also working at the curriculum center permitted me to meet a lot of good people, some of whom ended up becoming very good friends. Furthermore, I received a lot of encouragement and advice from my supervisors at the curriculum center which helped boost my self-esteem a lot.

What advice would you give to new students?

It’s ok to be scared, nervous, sad, anxious, and uneasy at first. Work through this and try to open yourself up to new experiences. Change can be scary, but it can also be exciting, fun, and lead you to amazing new places in life. Do well in school, but don’t think you need to have the rest of your life figured out. Also make friends. Even if you end up in different places in life after graduation, you will keep in touch with the people who matter most to you. Also always be yourself, do what you love and cherish the most. And never forget where you came from.
Our final words to Bryan, are from Dr. Seuss

“You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You’re on your own, and you know what you know. And you are the guy who’ll decide where to go.”

Dr. Seuss

Tara’s Trivia by Tara L. Hurt, University Archivist, Head of Archives & Special Collections

In 1932, what student club/organization did these ladies represent?

A. Archery  B. Drama  C. Glee Club  D. Student Council

Send your answer to askarchives@easternct.edu

Winners of Spring/Summer 2017 Trivia
First Lourdes Ardel  Second Diana Morales  Third Dale Dubina
PLEASE CONSIDER BEING A FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY

By designating your tax deductible contribution in one of the categories below, you will be supporting the collections and services of the J. Eugene Smith Library at Eastern Connecticut State University.

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_____ The Century Club $100-299
_____ The President’s Circle $300-499
_____ The 1889 Society $500-999

_____ F. R. Nobel Associates $1,000-4,999
_____ Tower Society $5,000 and above
_____ Other contribution amount

Total amount enclosed: ____________________________ Today’s date: ____________________________

I would like to make this donation in honor of: ________________________________________________

I would like to make this donation in memory of: ________________________________________________

The library will gift plate a book in your name, or in honor or memory of someone you designate, for a donation of $50 or more.

Name: ______________________________________________________________________________________

Phone: (optional): __________________________________________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________________________________

E-mail (optional): _____________________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: ___________ Zip: ______________________

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