CHECK IT OUT!

Library Assessment in Action

The Library has completed its service area outcome (SAO) assessment for the current academic year and embarked on an action plan to improve its collections based on the assessment results.

Overall, the assessment survey responses revealed significant dissatisfaction among students with library resources. The target of 80% satisfaction was not achieved for any aspect of library resources, indicating that many students do not find library materials adequate for their academic or personal needs. In particular, the currency or timeliness of information sources scored the lowest, with only 54.5% of students expressing satisfaction at being able to find books and other library materials published within the past five years.

Needless to say, the Library must improve the quality of its resources to effectively support the information needs of students. The most pressing issue is the general age of the collections. Currently, out of a total of over 65,000 print and electronic books, only about 3% (or about 1,900 volumes) were published within the past five years. The majority of titles were purchased during the periods 1960-1979 and 2000-2009, when the library budget included stable and sufficient funding for regular collection development.

The actionable improvement plan, with an associated $34,000 budget request, calls for the Library to increase the proportion of books published within the past five years from 3% to 5% of its total holdings by the end of the 2017-2018 academic year. This will be accomplished through a combination of focused acquisition and continuous weeding of older materials.

Have a relaxing and safe spring break!

The Library is closed Monday–Saturday, April 10-15, 2017.

The Library will be open during the Summer Session.

June 19–July 27, 2017
Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Information Literacy in an Era of "Alternative Facts"

The unfortunate catch phrase "alternative facts" has been on everyone's lips these days, prompting spirited discussions about the societal significance of sharing truthful and objective information. The dialogue continues right here on campus with the ongoing assessment of Information and Computer Literacy, one of Merritt's six institutional learning outcomes (ILOs). This couldn't happen at a more opportune time, as our students become increasingly inundated with dubious information from professional and social media (and even government officials). How do you ensure that students use accurate, authoritative, current, relevant, and reliable information sources for learning and research? First and foremost, do your part to promote the intrinsic value of information literacy by participating in ILO assessment activities this spring semester. This is especially important if you teach courses or provide services that have outcomes mapped to this particular ILO. Contact Laura Forlin (lforlin@peralta.edu), the ILO Assessment Coordinator, to join the conversation.

Challenging Alternative Facts

Here are some other suggestions from your friendly Merritt librarians for guiding students towards information literacy:

- Encourage students to enroll in LIS 85: *Introduction to Information Resources* to learn college-level literacy skills to effectively evaluate information.

- Request a library orientation for your class, particularly in preparation for a research-oriented assignment.

- Advise students to visit the reference desk for personal assistance from a librarian with finding and using library resources.

- Incorporate library materials, including print and electronic books, databases, periodicals, and videos, which have been carefully vetted by librarians for academic appropriateness, into course content.

Avoid Fake News with Complimentary Access to NYTimes.com

The New York Times
inEDUCATION

Thanks to a district-wide subscription, all Peralta students and employees have full, complimentary access to all the articles, breaking news, editorials, reviews, blogs, multimedia, and more from *The New York Times*. Also included is historical coverage of articles published during 1851-1922 and 1981-present (with limited access to the years 1923-1980). Enjoy NYTimes.com from wherever you are with the NYTimes mobile apps. Be sure to check out New York Times in Education for a growing library of curated synopses, aggregated content by keyword, recommended articles, and real-life teaching applications.

Register for an Account

- Visit http://www.nytimes.com/passes
- Create a free NYTimes.com account using your Peralta email address
- Look for a confirmation email and click on the link to validate your account
- Download your free NYT smartphone apps at http://www.nytimes.com/mobile

Having a Problem?

If you didn't receive the confirmation email, check your junk or spam folder. If it isn't there, send an email to edu@nytimes.com from your Peralta email address to request confirmation.

Take Advantage of the Professional Development Collection

Are you aware that the Library has a fairly new professional development collection aimed at faculty, staff, and administrators who are interested in both practical and theoretical literature on higher education? Originally funded by a student equity grant of $7,000, this collection comprises an ever growing corpus of over 300 books in both print and electronic formats. The first round of acquisitions focused primarily on issues of student access and achievement, including assessment, online education, pedagogy, public policy, social justice, and student success.

If you want to learn more about topics such as academic counseling, assessment, adult education, educational technology, open educational resources, and serving students with special needs, be sure to come check out the collection. The books are located on the main floor of the library near the front entrance. Let us know if you have recommendations for purchases.

Sample Titles in the Collection

- *Adult Education and Vocational Training in the Digital Age*
- *Best Practices for Supporting Adjunct Faculty*
- *College (Un)bound: The Future of Higher Education and What It Means for Students*
- *Growing Critically Conscious Teachers: Social Justice Curriculum for Educators of Latino/a Youth*
- *A Guide to Online Course Design: Strategies for Student Success*
- *Handbook of Urban Educational Leadership*
- *Introduction to Rubrics: An Assessment Tool to Save Grading Time, Convey Effective Feedback, and Promote Student Learning*
- *Leading Academic Change: Essential Roles for Department Chairs*
- *Open Education: From OERs to MOOCs*
- *Successfully Serving the College Bound*
- *Teaching Toward Freedom: Moral Commitment and Ethical Action in the Classroom*

Learn New Skills with Free Access to Lynda.com

The Professional Learning Network (PLN) is a shared learning site for faculty, staff, administrators and trustees to collaborate across the California Community Colleges system and access a comprehensive library of professional development resources.

In addition to the many resources available on the PLN, access to Lynda.com has also been added. Faculty and staff can now view more than 4,500 online training videos and track training hours through their personalized professional development plan (MyPD).

Announcing New Library Resources

Global Road Warrior Database

The Library now has a new database called [Global Road Warrior](). This comprehensive cultural resource consists of 175 country guides. Each national profile contains a snapshot overview and basic facts, as well as more in-depth discussion of over 120 topics ranging from economy to geography to history. Perfect for finding background information for study abroad in China or researching marriage customs in Yemen.

Reference E-Books

Gale Virtual Reference Library
- *American Governance*
- *Encyclopedia of Islam and the Muslim World*
- *Financial Literacy for Millennials*
- *Gale Encyclopedia of Children's Health: Infancy through Adolescence*
- *Gale Encyclopedia of Nutrition and Food Labels*
- *Gale Encyclopedia of Psychology*
- *Human Diseases and Conditions*
- *World of Forensic Science*
- *Worldmark Encyclopedia of Cultures and Daily Life*
- *Worldmark Encyclopedia of the Nations*

EBSCO eBook Collection
- *Mosby's Dictionary of Medicine, Nursing and Health Professions*
- *Mosby's Medical Dictionary*

Library Book Sale

The Library is holding a book sale on the main floor. Come find a used textbook for a class or grab a novel to read over the spring or summer break. All books are priced $.25-2.00.

Student ID Cards & GoPrint

Did you know that student ID cards can be programmed for use with the Library's GoPrint printing system? Once encoded, money can be loaded onto the ID card to pay for copies and printouts, which cost 10 cents per page.

General Information

Location
Building L, 2nd & 3rd Floors
12500 Campus Drive
Oakland, CA 94619

Hours
Monday-Thursday:	8 am—8 pm
Friday:	8 am—4 pm
Saturday:	10 am—4 pm

Contact
Phone:	(510) 436-2557
Text:	(510) 545-4789
Email:	ask@merritt.libanswers.com

Website   http://www.merritt.edu/wp/library