



EAR REVOLUTION IN PUBLIC POLICY
KANSAS PIONEERS
CHANGE AGENTS

the first woman mayor elected in the United States in
U.S. Representative Sharice Davids, first Native-American
and openly LGBTQ member elected in 2018, women have
ended their numbers,
DIVERSITY AND POWER.



ANNA SALTER
Anna Salter is a striking
creation of the possibilities for
women in Kansas. She is the wife
of a successful lawyer, the mother of four
children, Mayor of the town of
Gardner and only 27 years old."

from the Salter Family News
Letter, Topeka, 21 Nov 1887

**WHAT'S
NEXT?**

OUR NATION'S
STORY IS STILL
BEING WRITTEN
FOR WOMEN
AND FOR ALL
AMERICANS.
THE MOST
POWERFUL TOOL
YOU CAN USE
TO
SHAPE OUR
FUTURE IS
YOUR VOICE.

Equal Rights Amendment
2020

DO YOU KNOW THESE WOMEN?



LEARN MORE AT
LWV.KANSAS.ORG/CENTENNIAL

**WHAT
WILL YOU
DO WITH
YOUR VOICE
IN 2020?**

@LWV.Kansas
@kansassuffragists
@LWVKansas



2020-2021 Special Report:

Resilience through the Pandemic



FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY
FORSYTH LIBRARY

Letter from the Dean

As Fort Hays State University plans to return to full on-campus operations this Fall, we're all reflecting on what we've learned from this past year through the pandemic. When I started as the new Dean of Forsyth Library in November 2020, the library had been skillfully navigating the pandemic under the leadership of Dean Ludwig. Like any new leader, I wanted to assess where we were in relation to our past and our aspirational future.

To look at Forsyth Library's resilience, preparedness, and our ability to adapt, I've compared the first year of the pandemic to a 3-year average to truly take the temperature of how we've weathered the storm and share some of our areas of strength. Here is what I've discovered:

We were resilient. This has been a difficult year for everyone. This report compiles many of our opportunities and accomplishments but those have been offset by challenges that have helped us grow to be stronger for serving the entire FHSU community in years to come.

We were prepared. Forsyth Library was delivering online library services for FHSU's online and international student populations for many years, so that experience allowed us to quickly pivot to meet the needs of our entire university community from a distance. We had a suite of comprehensive online tutorials, online research help, and a collection of library resources where nearly 70% of library books, articles, and media are accessible anywhere, anytime through the library catalog which allowed the library to thrive in the hybrid learning environment.

We have adapted. We've continued to provide library instruction, research help, consultations, displays, and events in new ways. We've modified our building hours, spaces, and safety protocols to respond to the needs of our community. We'll continue to adapt as we navigate the new normal.

The inspiring view of a library buzzing with activity and students studying, practicing presentations, and working on group projects is emerging from the socially distanced study spaces. We look forward to the day when our building will be full of students and scholarly explorations in addition to providing online library services to tigers anywhere in the world.



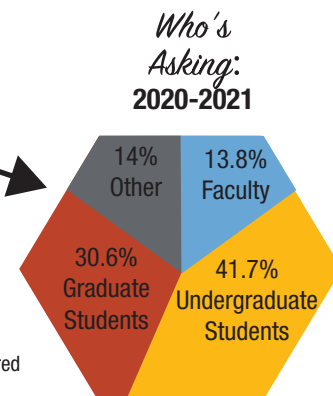
Reshe Haas
Dean, Forsyth Library

Supporting Student & Faculty Research

Ask A Librarian research help service has continued to provide expertise and guidance for searching, evaluating, using, and citing library resources. Prior to the pandemic, the library prioritized building asynchronous research support materials that proved very beneficial in meeting the online and hybrid demands of the FHSU community.

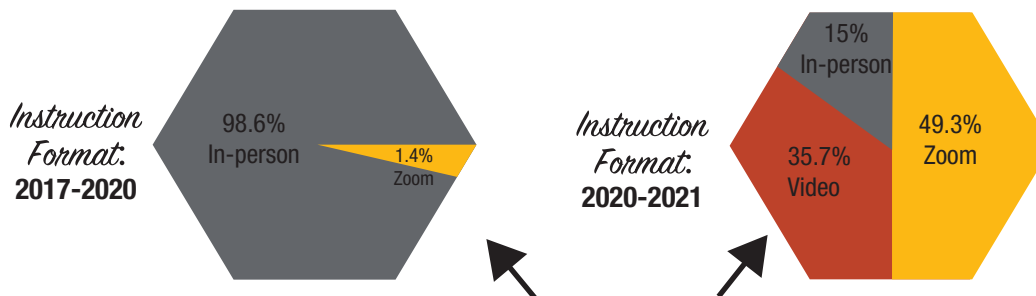
	3 Year Average Mar 2017 - Mar 2020	Pandemic Year Mar 2020 - Mar 2021	% Increase
Reference Questions	1,626	1,896	+16.6%
FAQ Views	2,037	2,172	+ 6.6%
Subject and Course Guide Views	44,605	51,183	+14.8%
Tutorial Views	1,554	2,882	+81.6%

*March 16, 2020, marks a significant day in FHSU history with the President's announcement about campus classes converting to emergency remote teaching and continuing through the 2020-2021 year in the online and hybrid format. Therefore, the first year of the Pandemic is measured from March 16, 2020 - March 15, 2021 with the 3 year average using that same date range as a comparable.



Teaching & Learning in New Ways

The classroom experience has changed dramatically in the past year, especially in terms of modality. While the library taught fewer instruction sessions this past year, we've expanded teaching formats to meet the demand for hybrid and on-demand learning styles.



	3 Year Average Mar 2017 - Mar 2020	Pandemic Year Mar 2020 - March 2021	% Increase
Instruction Sessions	224	146	-32.9%
- in-person	221	22	-89.0%
- online via Zoom	3	72	+1100.0%
- online asynchronously via video	0	52	+5100.0%
Number of Students Instructed	3,846	2,211	-35.2%

Advocating for Affordability

Years of close collaboration with the FHSU Open Educational Resources (OER) Committee came to fruition as 94 courses were offered with a zero-cost course material, or z-course, designation for Fall 2021 enrollment. Z-courses will save students thousands of dollars because they don't require costly textbooks and ensure that ALL students have access to the course materials. This initial set of z-course offerings is just the beginning of a program that uses a minimal cost sharing model to incentivize faculty to design courses that will continue this cycle of textbook savings. Learn more at www.fhsu.edu/oer

In Fall 2021
94
courses
will have
zero-cost
course materials

saving each student
an average of
\$100
per textbook

Adapting to Changing Needs

(top right) New self-checkout machine in lobby; (below) Students learning about Kit Kat Hats; (bottom right) Library table at back-to-school picnic



Since reopening the building in July 2020, the Learning Commons Desk has provided “library takeout” making books easy to request through the online catalog to be ready for pickup in the lobby. This spring, two self-checkout machines were added to the lobby to allow contactless checkouts of books and other materials.

Throughout the past year, the library has creatively found ways to engage on-campus and online students with materials from the library and university archives. Activities included a digital escape room that had 181 students successfully complete and a take-and-make event for students to learn about the tradition of the Kit Kat Hat and pickup supplies to make their own.

Preserving History for Future Generations

For Homecoming, artifacts and stories spanning decades of FHSU history were shared during a live broadcast of Show and Tell with the University Archives. Each decade was represented with several materials to showcase primary sources that demonstrate how the university has grown and developed over the years.



(above) Archival materials displayed from the 1920s; (right) Amber Watts, Special Collections Librarian & University Archivist, and Heidi Pearson, Coordinator of Student Engagement, pose by a jacket worn by Leora B. Stroup during the time she served as a flight nurse during WWII. Stroup started the nursing program at FHSU in 1952.

2,264
linear feet
of artifacts in the
Special Collections
& Archives

119
years
of
University History

The Tim Johnson Photograph Collection was completed with a final donation of photographic and “real photo” postcards enriching Forsyth Library’s concentration of Special Collection materials about Great Plains Research. These postcards feature work of renowned national photographers, such as Hal Reid, traveling lensmen, and local photographers who captured unique moments of ordinary Americans in turn-of-the-century Kansas communities.

3,831
postcards
in the
Tim Johnson
Postcard Collection



Postcards from the Tim Johnson Postcard Collection