August 18, 2021

Dear Winthrop University Community:

I hope you had a restful summer. As Dacus Library and Pettus Archives employees continue preparations for the 2021-2022 Academic Year, this message shares several updates to our operations and services as we respond to user data, guidance associated with COVID-19, and human resources capacity at the library and archives.

Beginning August 23, Dacus Library will have new regular hours of operation: Sunday: 4PM – 12AM; Monday – Wednesday: 8AM – 10PM; Thursday: 8AM – 8PM; Friday: 8AM – 5PM; Saturday: Closed. Pettus Archives’ hours are Monday - Friday, 9AM – 5PM (last appointments at 4PM). Please check our calendar for exam, holiday, and intercession hours, and be sure to bring your WU ID Card with you when you visit the library and archives so you may swipe it for building access - and so you may check out items.

Our stacks are open for in-person browsing and we are continuing services that were developed in response to COVID-19, including our Pickup Service (pick up requested items at the Information Commons Desk! Here’s how) and our Personal Delivery Service (request Dacus-owned items to be sent to a personal address! Here’s how). PASCAL Delivers is operational, and you can let us know to send your PASCAL items to an address of your choice. Interlibrary Loan is also available for journal articles, books, book chapters, and audio-visual media not owned by Dacus or Pettus or that is not available via PASCAL. Additionally, continue using electronic course materials, Open Access portals, and Open Educational Resources to support your courses (consider browsing the Open Textbook Library). Other legacy services and resources include:

- Information Literacy Instruction
- Course and Textbook Reserves (contact Nancy White for assistance)
- eBooks via Dacus Library and PASCAL (perform a search and download to your devices)
- Digital Commons (Winthrop University’s institutional repository)
- Electronic databases, available on- and off-campus
- Curated online resources organized by discipline via the library’s Research Guides

We are reinstating our Textbook Reserve service - a collection for students who may have difficulty funding this portion of their academic needs. Consider offering copies of textbooks you’ve adopted for this academic year to the Textbook Reserve Collection - Nancy White can help you add to this collection.

More recently, we implemented a new authentication system, OpenAthens, to provide seamless, secure access to our electronic resources. You should log in with your Winthrop credentials and be sure to update any direct links you’ve created to databases, ebooks, or journal articles in your syllabus or class page with new links. If you have questions, reach out to Martha Smith.

Students may ask you about services and spaces we offer. In addition to the services mentioned above, we are continuing our Chat Service (Sun 4PM – 11PM, Mon – Wed 10AM – 9:00PM, Thur 10AM – 7PM, Fri 10AM – 3:30PM); and our Book A Librarian service is available for online, on-site, or now - around
campus - appointments. To make more equitable use of our Group Study Rooms and Individual Study Rooms, some of those spaces are now reservable. Dacus Library’s computers are available during hours of operation.

Contact IT for information on more places where students may access computer labs (here is a list of campus hotspots). We also continue to offer access to black and white and color printers and a scanner that sends documents to email.

Dacus Library will continue offering a variety of engaging, inclusive, and informative events this year, and we invite you all to participate or attend - here is a brief program preview:

- Welcome to Dacus during Welcome Week: August 24 - 26, 11AM – 2PM
  - Three days of on-site relaxed events, including crafting, games, giveaways, and more
- Preserved in Clay and Stone: Celebrating the History of Ancient Latin America - September 16, 3PM – 4PM
  - A panel discussion with Dr. Brent Woodfill about indigenous artifacts from South America
- Research Explorations (collaboration with the College of Arts & Sciences)
  - A series of Cultural Events featuring talks from WU Faculty regarding their research (dates/times TBD)

Finally, our website has undergone a design refresh that results in easier navigation and offers information more intuitively. We are continuing our updates through the Fall semester, and be sure to follow Dacus Library on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and Pettus Archives on Facebook to see what we’re doing – and what we have planned.

As the central information and cultural heritage spaces of Winthrop University, Dacus Library and Pettus Archives aim to inspire belonging and affirm value on campus and in our community. We invite you to explore your purpose and make your place in our stacks and spaces. Welcome (back) to campus. We’re glad you’re here.

Very Sincerely,

Kaetrena Davis Kendrick, M.S.L.S.
Dean, Ida Jane Dacus Library and Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections