



# CHECK IT OUT!

Merritt College Library Newsletter

Volume 3, Number 3

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## Library Service Area Outcomes and Assessment

For the 2016-2017 academic year, the Library introduced three new service area outcomes (SAOs):

### Resources

*Students have access to library information resources in various formats, which reinforce and supplement the college curriculum, programs, and courses.*

### Services

*Students receive accurate, professional, and timely assistance at library service points, both in person and online.*

### Technology

*Students receive adequate support in using information technologies to complete their coursework.*

The first SAO with regard to resources is currently being assessed to help the Library determine what kinds of books and materials it should acquire to better meet the information needs of students. An assessment survey is being distributed in the Library and random classrooms until the end of the semester. The survey contains a section of demographic questions and a section based on the Noel Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory, which asks students to indicate how important various resources are to them and how satisfied they are with the resources that the Library provides. Results shall be compiled over the winter break, and library staff will meet at the beginning of spring semester to analyze the data and develop an appropriate improvement plan. Each of the remaining SAOs will be assessed in subsequent years to complete the rolling three-year cycle of assessment and continuous quality improvement.

## Learn College-Level Research Skills in Spring 2017

### LIS 85: Introduction to Information Resources

#### Late Start



#### Who should take this class?

- First-year students
- Students who have research assignments
- Anyone who wants to become a better researcher

#### What are the details?

- Online class
- 2 units (CSU/UC transferable)
- Fulfills computer literacy requirement

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02/08/17—05/26/17  
02/13/17—04/28/17

## Winter Break

**The Library is closed from December 17 until January 22.**

*The Library Staff wish you a peaceful and safe holiday season!*



## Norvel Smith Papers Added to Library Archives



The Library is pleased to announce the recent acquisition of the personal papers of Norvel Smith. Dr. Siri Brown made the fortuitous discovery of the cache of letters, memorandums, paraphernalia, publications, etc., in the Q Building administrative offices, immediately realizing their cultural and historical import.

Norvel Smith (1924-2004), a pioneering educational and political leader in the East Bay, became the first African-American college president in California in 1968, leading Merritt College through a turbulent era of civil rights activism until 1973. His tenure saw the relocation of Merritt from Grove Street to its current hillside campus, the formation of the Black Panther Party, and the establishment of the first Black Studies department. He subsequently served as Vice Chancellor for Student Services at the University of California, Berkeley, until his retirement in 1982.

We encourage faculty and staff to keep an eye open for similar historical documents that may be appropriate for preservation in the library archives. As you clean out your campus offices at the end of the semester, check cabinets, closets, and desks for forgotten documents and files. If you would like to donate materials to the library archives, contact Nghiem Thai at [nthai@peralta.edu](mailto:nthai@peralta.edu).



## Introducing Principal Library Technician James Gordon

Meet James Gordon, our new Principal Library Technician!

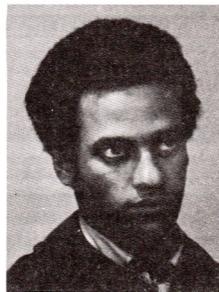
Jim comes to Merritt after a 25-year career in the acquisitions department at the UC Berkeley Library. In his current position, Jim coordinates library administration, finances (including budgeting and purchasing), facilities, and human resources. He may be reached at (510) 436-2554 or [jgordon@peralta.edu](mailto:jgordon@peralta.edu).

With a bachelor's degree in history from Cal, Jim has taken a keen interest in the library archives and volunteered to organize the recently acquired Norvel Smith papers. He will also assist in the preparation of the Black Panther Party Archive for a prospective digitization project in the near future (see article below).



## Black Panther Party Archive Digitization Project

**HUEY NEWTON**  
**FOR U.S. CONGRESS**



**BOBBY SEALE**  
**FOR STATE ASSEMBLY**

**black panther**  
**candidates**

**Register TODAY in the**  
**Peace & Freedom Party**

The Library's Black Panther Party (BPP) Archive was collected and developed by retired library technician Judy Singer over the course of her 30-year career at Merritt.

As a former faculty member and chair of the Ethnic Studies Department, Dr. Siri Brown recognized the historical and scholarly significance of the BPP Archive. In fact, she has referred colleagues to archival materials to support her argument that Merritt had established the first African-American Studies department back in 1967, as a result of black student activism and organizing on campus.

Now in her role as Interim Dean of Division I, which includes the Library, Dr. Brown has turned her attention to promoting the BPP Archive and making it accessible to researchers both on campus and in the wider community. She is working with the Library to digitize the various brochures, flyers, letters, newsletters, pamphlets, etc. into an online repository.

Partnerships with other organizations and grants will be explored to fund this initiative. In addition, these resources may be incorporated into the Africana Center multimedia curriculum, so that students can also explore the rich legacy of social justice activism and resistance created by Huey Newton, Bobby Seals, and their associates.

## Educational Videos for the Classroom

Infobase My Films Help

MENU FILMS ON DEMAND Search 44,447 titles and 250,701 segments MERRITT COLLEGE

Advanced Search

Most Popular 1-4 of 19 View All

Karl Marx and Marxian Economics: Masters of ... Open University

Hayek and the Free Market: Masters of ... Open University

Study of the Child: Theories of ... MAGNA SYSTEMS, INC

Common Mistakes People Make in Interviews Cambridge Educational

Through the Library’s subscription to Films on Demand, faculty and students now have access to an online database of over 44,000 award-winning educational videos on a variety of topics from major content providers and publishers. All videos include full transcripts and most are closed captioned as well. Videos may be edited into segments and/or compiled into customized playlists with a personal three-minute introduction video.

Films on Demand videos may be streamed 24/7 on or of campus. Remote access requires a library account. Contact Jordan Yee at [jgyee@peralta.edu](mailto:jgyee@peralta.edu) for curated subject playlists or additional information.

### Library Book Sale!

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

### Spring Textbook Adoptions

Instructors, if you haven’t done so already, please submit your textbook adoptions to the Bookstore Manager at [0312mgr@follett.com](mailto:0312mgr@follett.com). Your timely submission will help the Library to have reserve textbooks ready for students to use on the first day of classes.



### 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

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**Website**

<http://www.merritt.edu/wp/library>