SANTA FE COLLEGE
Lawrence W. Tyree Library
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Santa Fe College

Mission Statement:
In keeping with our values and goals, Santa Fe College, a comprehensive public institution of higher education serving North Central Florida and beyond, adds value to the lives of our students and enriches our community through excellence in teaching and learning, innovative educational programs and student services, and community leadership and service.

*Adding value to the lives of our students and enriching our community*

About Santa Fe
Santa Fe College, based in Gainesville, Florida, is a student-centered public college that enrolls nearly 24,000 degree-seeking students each year. Santa Fe College offers two year associate degrees, four year bachelors, career and technical certificates, and continuing education for workforce and community enrichment programs.

Santa Fe College was recently named, for the second consecutive time, a top 10 finalist for the 2015 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. The selection of the top 10 colleges by the Aspen Institute was based on student academic achievement, degree and college completion, job placement, and minority and low-income student accomplishment. Santa Fe College continues to be recognized due to its excellent overall graduation/transfer rates (62% compared to the 40% national average), and strong success rates for underrepresented minority students which make up 20% of the student body.

Lawrence W. Tyree Library

Mission Statement:
The L.W. Tyree Library supports Santa Fe College with knowledgeable staff, appropriate resources and an environment that promotes user success and life-long learning.

About the Tyree Library
The Lawrence W. Tyree Library is an integral part of Santa Fe College. Our library is located on the Northwest campus where over 80% of all credit hours are offered. The Northwest campus is the only SF instructional delivery location where associate, baccalaureate and certificate programs can be completed. The mission of the L. W. Tyree Library is to serve all Santa Fe College students, faculty and staff, thus supporting the mission of the college. The overarching outcome of the library is service to students. Specifically, appropriate collection of all types of media and databases, adequate facility for research, quiet study and instruction as well as qualified staff who support the faculty and students. The library is a popular destination on campus averaging 10,000 visitors per week. It is a place to meet, share ideas, work on team projects, and study.
Creativity and Innovation

Using creativity and innovation to meet the needs of our academic community

Innovative Information Literacy Instruction

Library instruction sessions have become an integral part of the Santa Fe College curriculum, rising over 20% in the last two years. From January to October 2014, we taught 255 library instruction sessions, reaching over 5,000 students (nearly a quarter of the students enrolled at Santa Fe College). For each session we collaborate with faculty, tailor our instruction to the course and create an online class guide that students can use after the session. In Fall 2014 library faculty created 45 unique class guides.

Flipped classes

Library faculty piloted a flipped approach to library instruction in Fall 2013, and due to its success, now offer flipped instruction every semester. Library faculty create and embed tailored library lessons into the college’s learning management system (LMS), Canvas. Students can learn on their own. Lessons are a mix of written content using graphics as necessary and video tutorials. Librarians collaborate with faculty to ensure that the lessons correspond with assignment parameters. Learning outcomes are assessed through a self-grading quiz, which students may take repeatedly until a pre-determined minimum score is achieved. During their library visit, students can then focus on finding the resources they need, with guidance from the class librarian. By utilizing the flipped approach, students have more hands-on time for research, and specific questions can be answered immediately.

So far, feedback has been very positive, and the instructors whose classes have been flipped indicate that they will continue to choose this format in the future. Of the students surveyed, 75% also indicated that they found the format very effective or effective, and that they felt better prepared to research their topic.

Virtual instruction

Many of the courses at Santa Fe College are offered online. Due to the challenges of time and distance, library faculty needed an innovative way to provide information literacy instruction to these students. In Fall 2014, library faculty began offering web conferences, via Canvas LMS, as an instructional option for faculty. Students either attended a live virtual instruction session, or if they could not attend, watched the recorded session afterwards. By the end of Fall A 2014, library faculty conducted three Canvas conferences to 57 students in fields of education and nursing. Twenty students completed the

“In my [flipped] courses, this semester, the results have been amazing. In four sections of philosophy courses... more than 90% of the students were able to successfully find a suitable primary text for research in the library session.”

Eugenio Zaldivar, Associate Professor
online survey and 100% reported that the content of the Canvas conferences was “very beneficial” and 85% of students reported feeling “very prepared” to research their topics after the Canvas conference.

Scavenger Hunts
SLS1101, College Success, is a one-credit course offered through the Student Development Instruction department (SDI). This course focuses on teaching core skills for new college students, including study skills, communication and life skills, and information on academic achievement. In collaboration with SDI, library skills are a required module within the class. All SLS1001 classes visit our library for a brief introduction to library services and resources, and participate in a 10-question library scavenger hunt, created by library faculty, designed to familiarize students with the library’s many resources and guide them through the entire building. In the Spring and Fall 2014 semesters 1,211 SLS students attended an instruction session. Online SLS1101 classes have a library module and digital scavenger hunt in our Canvas LMS, with the presence of a librarian to answer any questions. The SDI department deemed the library scavenger hunt so valuable that, in Fall 2014, it became a core assessment tool for the entire department. Through this course, many students gain an essential introduction to the library that contributes to their success at Santa Fe.

Measuring outcomes
To ensure that our instruction sessions meet students’ needs and that their information literacy skills are improving, we assess every session in the fall and spring semesters with an end of the session survey. Based on these assessments, we have found a marked improvement in students’ information literacy skills. Before the sessions, the majority of students used Google or Wikipedia as their primary research method, and felt only somewhat or not very confident in using library resources. After the sessions, the majority of students planned to use library resources for research and felt very confident.

“"This is awesome! Thank you so much for doing this I feel so much more confident now!”

IL Student Survey Response

“"In my opinion, these information sessions are one of the greatest services offered to students - campus wide. Most students' researching skills and their ability to discern GOOD source material from bad always improves subsequent to these sessions.”

IL Faculty Survey Response
Active Learning in the Classroom

Library faculty offer five for-credit library courses that teach information literacy skills and library research. The classes, taught both in person and online, are popular among undergraduate students who are developing essential research skills. In 2014 library faculty taught 24 classes to 270 students.

In-person courses resemble workshops, take place over one weekend, and have a primary focus on developing students’ practical information literacy skills. To engage students and improve retention, we integrated several active learning strategies into our instruction. These activities, such as sorting and taping call numbers to the wall, brainstorming keywords with partners while covering their desk with post-its, or hunting through the stacks for information, encourage hands on learning that is both meaningful and fun.

To improve our understanding and implementation of these strategies library faculty are active participants in professional development offered by the SF Center for Academic Technologies. After participating in a six week course on active and cooperative learning, three library faculty earned Certificates for College Teaching and Learning in 2014. We continue to apply these strategies to our courses so that our students achieve their learning outcomes.

Library Courses

LIS1000 Basic Library Skills
LIS1001 Library Print Resources
LIS1002 Library Online Resources
LIS2004 Internet Research
LIS2018 Library Research for Health Sciences

“The class was very fun and I loved the different class activities we did that kept the class interesting.”
LIS1000 student

“I enjoyed participating in all of the activities that were there for us to do. Overall it was a very good course and helped me understand more about what I thought I already knew.”
LIS1000 student
Quality Matters
In an effort to improve the quality of our online courses, three library faculty participated in training this year through Quality Matters (QM), a nationally recognized program designed to ensure quality online learning. Through this program our course, Internet Research (LIS2004), was fully reviewed by a group of internal SF reviewers and became the first course at Santa Fe College to pass the Quality Matters checklist. By the end of 2014, all full-time library faculty will participate in Quality Matters training, and we will be able to apply the QM standards to all of our online courses. Also, due to our strong relationships throughout the college and our commitment to the success of our students, library faculty were invited to a review team for other Santa Fe College courses.

Complete Reference Services
The Library is open 7 days a week, for a total of 83.5 hours. During final exams, the library provides an additional 15 ½ extended hours staying open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday until 10:00pm for a total of 99 ⅔ hours that week. Unique among college libraries in Florida, library faculty offer reference services during all operating hours including nights and weekends. Our students are diverse, full-time, part-time, nontraditional, and distance learners, and our goal is to be accessible to every student. To meet our students’ needs library faculty staff 126.5 hours per week between the second floor reference desk and the third floor information desk. There are 20 hours during the week where it is so busy on the second floor that a second librarian is required. 14 of these hours are during the weekend (Saturday/Sunday). We also provide reference assistance through phone, email, chat, and individual appointments, for our Book-a-Librarian service, during all operating hours.

In order to better assist our students, in 2014, we designed a custom reference desk that allows multiple points of contact and simultaneous reference assistance. Each of our two reference computers has dual monitors, allowing us to share our screens with students and provide interactive assistance. From August to November 2014, library faculty answered 2,035 reference questions and 96 extended reference questions (questions which require longer than 10 minutes to answer).

“I came out [of QM training] with lots and lots of great ideas for improving my LIS 1002 course.”
Ramona Miller-Ridlon, Professor

Reference Services
Reference Desk
Phone
Email
Chat
Consultation
Leadership

Developing and implementing exemplary programs that other libraries can emulate

Financial Literacy

The Smart Investing@your library® grant is an invitation only grant. Last year the American Library Association and the FINRA Investor Education Foundation invited our library to apply. Based on the needs of the Santa Fe College community and our commitment to their success, we applied and received $100,000, the highest level of award given to selected libraries. We are the second community college to receive the grant since 2007. Our goals included increasing financial self-sufficiency in our target populations and providing reliable and unbiased financial information through library materials and resources.

In our first year of the grant, the library worked with various on-campus departments to offer 17 workshops and 7 days of individual financial counseling. Each workshop was tailored to a specific user group including veterans, athletes, and displaced homemakers, and different financial topics were covered.

Library faculty created a user-friendly financial literacy portal, designed to provide access to materials purchased in support of grant populations. The portal had more than 2,400 page views in 5 months. The library purchased two financial databases, two print magazine subscriptions, and over 200 circulating books and eBooks with grant funds in the first year. Topics of materials are varied, including investing, financial aid, budgeting, healthy cooking for less, and job interviewing. The addition of these materials and a concentrated effort in marketing them led to a 53% increase in circulation rate for relevant call number ranges.

“Outstanding. I learned a lot.”
“The workshop changed my views on credit cards.”
“I wish every student could have been here.”

Financial Literacy Workshop attendees
Library Mystery Night

Each year to welcome our students and introduce the library, we host Library Mystery Night, a grand library scavenger hunt. The event, which is hosted three times to allow all interested students to participate, consists of students forming teams and following a unique set of clues that take them throughout the library and its resources. A team of librarians write the hunts around a specific theme and include a curious cast of characters (portrayed by the library staff), which allows the participating students to meet the librarians.

This year, our theme was The Great Mystery, a jazz era caper that had students researching topics from aviators to gangsters, and from speakeasies to the temperance movement. In Fall 2014, 123 students participated, with every team successfully completing the hunt. After the event each student has visited every collection in the library, met librarians, found books in the library catalog and on the shelf, and searched the library databases.

Library Research Award

Since 2011, the library has partnered with the Santa Fe College Research in Undergraduate Education Workgroup to sponsor an annual Library Research Award. The Library Research Award recognizes exemplary research and information literacy skills of Santa Fe College students. Each application consists of the research paper, a reflective questionnaire describing the student’s research strategies, and a statement of faculty support. The paper is then evaluated by a team of librarians and other faculty across disciplines who assess the quality of search strategies, quality of resources, relevance of sources, improvement in the research process, and proper citation of sources. In 2014 we awarded the top three researchers with financial prizes. Through this partnership we are able to promote information literacy and research across campus and recognize those students who excel in library research.
Relationships
Creating substantial and productive relationships with faculty and students

Liaisons
All Library faculty serve as liaisons to 30 different academic departments and program areas across campus, guaranteeing that the library collection and services reflect the academic and programmatic needs of the college. Liaisons have ongoing communication with teaching faculty, alerting them of new additions in their respective disciplines, discussing curriculum, and responding to collection requests. College faculty and staff are kept informed, by their respective liaisons, of library developments including lists of new resources and updates to services. Liaisons work with faculty to add to and deselect materials from the collection as well as develop and maintain relevant research guides and tutorials faculty can use in their classes. Because of these relationships, teaching faculty seek input from their liaisons on the creation of course assignments that incorporate library collections and resources.

Collaborative Programs
This past year library faculty coordinated and collaborated with the Education Programs department to present a program designed specifically for students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education program. Students asked for information about incorporating STEM concepts into early childhood classrooms. In response, library faculty procured two dynamic children’s literature specialists from the Alachua County Library District and the Marion County Public Library to present an interactive workshop demonstrating techniques and strategies to incorporate STEM concepts through children’s literature, song and movement. 42 students attended DiscoveREAD: Teaching Science through Children’s Literature. Of those who attended the event, 13 completed a survey and 54% rated the event “excellent” while the remaining 46% ranked it “very good.” This was the second year our library collaborated with the Education Programs staff and faculty to host a children’s literature event in the library.

“Faculty members, as a result of collaboration with library staff, are more likely to [make] use of the library as an integral part of their courses.”
Bobby Hom, Professor
New Faculty Orientation

In Fall 2014 to welcome new faculty to the library and introduce our liaisons, the library staff took an active role in the college’s new faculty orientation. As they entered the library classroom each new faculty member was greeted by our librarians and received a folder containing a welcome letter and subject specific library resources from their liaison. After library faculty gave an introduction to the library and our faculty services, the faculty completed a scavenger hunt that took them throughout the library, including their collection area. The college also offered an online faculty orientation for which we created a module and a virtual scavenger hunt for them to complete. Our participation in New Faculty Orientation had a direct increase on the number of bookings for Information Literacy instruction sessions. After Orientation, new faculty scheduled 10 Information Literacy instruction sessions with library faculty and brought 273 students to the library during Fall 2014.

“Thanks to new faculty orientation, I was able to include a library instructional day my first semester at Santa Fe. My students found the instructional day invaluable.”

Taryn Taylor, Professor
Program Accreditation

Working collaboratively with the college, library faculty are responsible for a comprehensive collection analysis with benchmarking for each new B.A.S. proposal. This requires analyzing the curriculum to determine the research needs, identifying current titles, comparing the collection to other institutions, and finding titles to purchase in support of the curriculum. Thus far, we have contributed to 8 B.A.S. proposals since 2008.

In addition, program accreditations for various health science and technical education programs require a library component. In the past 5 years, library faculty liaisons performed 23 program accreditations. Access to research collections that support the programs and liaison faculty are a necessary component for the continued accreditation of these programs.

Committees

As an integral part of Santa Fe College, library faculty and staff actively serve on many college and state-wide committees, lending both our time and skills. Librarians are faculty and, together with teaching faculty, continue to serve the college in leadership roles on many vital committees campus-wide. Past positions include:

- Jenna Miller, Associate Professor: Vice-President, College Senate
- Ramona Miller-Ridlon, Professor: Chair, Liberal Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee
- Diana Matthews, Associate Professor: Webmaster, Research in Undergraduate Education (RUE) Workgroup.

Our productive relationships with faculty and our distinct relationships with students give us a unique perspective valued by our colleagues on campus. Library faculty are often invited to serve the college at the direct invitation of other departments on campus including:

- Nance Lempinen-Leedy, Associate Professor: International Education committee (new college initiative)
- Jenna Miller, Associate Professor: Instructional Designer Screening Committee.

Santa Fe College Committees

Advisory Council
Career Service Council
College Senate
Curriculum Committee
International Education Committee
Library Advisory Committee
Petitions Committee
Research in Undergraduate Education (RUE) Workgroup
Safety Committee
Salary & Benefits Committee (co-chair)
Sustainable Santa Fe Committee
Technology Advisory Committee
Technology Advisory Committee on Teaching & Learning

State Committees

Northeast Florida Library Information Network Board of Trustees
Florida Virtual Campus
Next-Gen ILS Task Force
Florida Academic Library Services Cooperative
Statewide Technical Services Committee
Statewide User Interface Committee
Library faculty work diligently to form relationships across the state, serving on state committees that impact all Florida libraries including:

- Scott Tarbox, Associate Professor: Secretary, Northeast Florida Library and Information Network (NEFLIN) Board of Directors
- Jenna Miller, Associate Professor: Florida Virtual Campus (FLVC), Next-Gen ILS Task Force

In this capacity library faculty and staff serve Santa Fe College as a whole and support the college’s mission.

Halloween Costume Contest
For the first time this year the library hosted a campus wide Halloween costume contest. The goals of the contest were to foster a campus wide community and to increase our reach through Facebook, by sharing costumes via Facebook and encouraging students and faculty to “like” their favorite costumes. Throughout the day we invited students, faculty, and staff to get their photo taken by a librarian, and then we posted the pictures on Facebook. We had many cleverly costumed participants, including the entire Finance department of the college. We awarded the winners with trophies made by our very own librarians, gifts cards and candy and featured the winners on our Facebook page. During the week of the event we had a 250% increase in “new page likes, and over 350 “people talking about this.”

Stress Free Zone
Since Fall 2013, library staff and faculty have organized a Stress Free Zone for students during the week of final exams. The goal is to offer our students fun and creative stress relief during their most anxious time of the semester. Puzzles, board games, coloring books, graffiti whiteboards and bookmark making stations all contribute to an atmosphere of collegiality between students and library staff and faculty.
Library Staff

Myra Sterrett Library Director
Ramona Miller-Ridlon Reference Librarian, Professor
Scott Tarbox Reference Librarian, Associate Professor
Jenna Miller Reference Librarian, Webmaster, Associate Professor
Nance Lempinen-Leedy Reference Librarian, Associate Professor
Diana Matthews Reference Librarian, Associate Professor
Trenita White Technical Services Librarian, Associate Professor
Nancy Schenewerk Reference Librarian (Part-time), Adjunct Assistant Professor
Lisa Campbell Reference Librarian (Part-time), Adjunct Assistant Professor
Kim Hankins Library Specialist
Antonio Quesada Library Specialist
Peter Sokol Circulation Supervisor
Michael Mulhauser Evening Circulation Supervisor
Celeta Taylor Administrative Assistant
Tom Holland Technical Services Support Specialist
Patty Moore Technical Services Support Specialist
Letters of Recommendation

Dr. Jackson Sasser
President, Santa Fe College

Dr. Eugenio Zaldivar
Associate Professor, Humanities and Foreign Languages

Mr. Robert Ganem
Senior Program Director, FINRA Investor Education Foundation

Dr. Edward Bonahue
Provost, Santa Fe College

Dr. Bobby Hom
Associate Professor, Humanities and Foreign Languages

Dr. Ted S. Yoho
Congressman, Florida’s 3rd District

Mr. Keith Perry
State Representative, Florida House District 21
November 10, 2014

Dr. Steven J. Bell
Associate University Librarian for Research & Instructional Services
Temple University
Paley Library 017-00
1210 Polett Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6088

Dear Members of the Award Committee:

Behind every great college is a great library. The Santa Fe College Lawrence W. Tyree Library also is in front of the intellectual, cultural and social life of the institution. It is a leader for the 21st century in its services, technologies and programs. It has artwork throughout the building, a veranda and café for socializing, and, most important, a rich diversity of academic resources brought home by librarians who place students first. For these and other reasons, I enthusiastically endorse Santa Fe’s library for the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award.

Our library is a center of ideas, information and intellectual discovery that enriches our campus and the surrounding community. As one example, Santa Fe was one of 17 libraries nationwide, and the only academic library, chosen this year for a grant designed to educate people, including those disadvantaged, about financial and economic measures they can take to improve their lives. With this two-year, $100,000 award from the American Library Association and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Investor Education Foundation, we are reaching out to high-need groups in our service area that include prospective first-generation college students, financial aid recipients, veterans and displaced homemakers. So far, with assistance from several certified financial counselors, our library has provided 17 workshops and seven days of one-on-one financial counseling to 373 participants. By giving these individuals the knowledge and skills they need to succeed, our library vastly enhances their chances for a better life and in doing so enhances the prosperity of the community.

Service is a hallmark of our library. It reflects Santa Fe’s time-honored and proven value of “student-centeredness.” The library is open seven days a week for a total of 84 hours, which are extended to 99½ hours during exams. A reference librarian is always on duty ready to assist students, and the entire staff is available in person, by phone or email. Students benefit from a combination of study environments ideal for individuals or groups that range from private rooms to a popular in-house café. The architectural setting for all this is high ceilings, tall windows, wide and uncluttered spaces, good views of expansive oaks and rolling terrain, and much light. This inviting library is heavily used, with an average of 10,000 visits per week.

Service to students, faculty and staff is enhanced by an underlying commitment to professional development that is seen in cordial and knowledgeable assistance. Our librarians regularly take web writing and computer science courses, applying their expertise to create an informative and easy-to-navigate website that as a result of its frequent use is featured on the college’s main web page.
Each librarian is a liaison to a specific area of the college, and as part of that responsibility teach classes and produce study guides that are readily accessible on the library’s website. Our librarians also work with faculty in tailoring individual class sessions to address databases and citation methods for particular assignments, and they provide a library presence in online courses through a “virtual librarian” service. In addition, our librarians teach credit courses about research and use of information resources online. Equally as important, our librarians like those who use the facility and in turn are liked by those they serve. They, for example, create novel ways to acquaint students with themselves and their services, such as by hosting a “Mystery Night” scavenger hunt. The results are visible in our strong record of student success in every area of the college.

Santa Fe’s library is not a program apart, nor are the librarians. They embrace continuous learning and sharing their knowledge. They are leaders in campus and state committees. As part of a profession that has experienced dramatic changes in recent years, our librarians stay abreast of new developments by attending statewide meetings and establishing relationships with colleagues in their field, in addition to keeping up-to-date with the latest journals, all with a mind to making the library experience a good one for all who enter its doors.

These efforts and this spirit have made Santa Fe’s library synonymous with innovation. We recently introduced a new automated method for students to register for our much-in-demand study rooms, using QR Codes and their smartphones. Santa Fe’s library consistently tries new approaches that match changing preferences. Our peers in the Florida College System have recognized our library with the Association of Florida Colleges’ Learning Resources Commission Exemplary Practice Award in 2012, 2010 and 2006. The 2012 honor was for our annual Library Research Award, a joint collaboration between our library and Santa Fe’s Research in Undergraduate Education Workgroup, which supports undergraduate research across our campus by recognizing exemplary research and information literacy skills of our students.

At Santa Fe, the library is more than a logical extension of the classroom. It is central to everything we achieve and seek to achieve. Through the years, it has advanced students’ academic journeys, fostered a greater sense of community, and elevated our institution to new levels of success, respect and affection. Please count me as one of the many who are enthusiastic about our library. Its many accomplishments make it richly deserving of your serious consideration for the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award.

Sincerely,

Jackson N. Sasser
President

JNS:tc
Hello,

I write this letter in support of the L.W. Tyree Library at Santa Fe College for the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. As an Assoc. Professor of Philosophy at Santa Fe College I could not be more pleased with the exemplary people, collection and facilities of the Tyree library. As a member of the Library Advisory Committee I have seen first hand the care for students, attention to detail and clear expertise of the library staff and faculty. It is these traits, and more, that make the Tyree Library not just a pleasure to use but a genuine partner in the education of our students at Santa Fe.

I believe that statistical case for our library is clear and evident. It’s dedication to maintaining an effective collection of on-campus resources, excellent access to research databases and an engaging space for students speaks volumes for the Library's focus and guiding mission. However, the true value of the library for our college is perhaps best exemplified through specific examples that testify to library's value to our academic community.

While I was considering accepting a position as an Assistant Professor at Santa Fe, one of my concerns was the adequacy of the Library's ability to facilitate philosophical research. I decided to test the library by requesting several—nearly a dozen—ILL materials that I needed for my PhD research. The library's easy and intuitive ILL request forms helped me acquire all but one of the texts in less than a week. The one text it could not acquire was an English language essay in an Italian journal for which the originating library wanted to charge a reproduction fee. I declined to pay the fee that considered the matter closed. To my mind the library had performed very well in getting me nearly everything I had asked for. To my surprise and delight, however, I was contacted several weeks later with the information that the library had procured a cost-fee copy of the essay. I was amazed at the dedication of the staff and very pleased to see that the Tyree Library was more than capable of sustaining research at any level. As I require my students to engage in extensive research themselves this was no small thing.

Last year language professors in my department were concerned about the inability of their students to complete lab assignments on-campus. These assignments require computers equipped with cameras and microphones, features not commonly found in typical academic computer labs. As I am my department's representative to the library it occurred to me that they—in conjunction with our Center for Academic Technologies—could help solve this
problem. With the Library Director's enthusiastic support I arranged to have laptop computers made available, through the reserve desk, for student use. Our students can now check out these computers and use them to complete their assignments. Many of our students do not have their own, appropriately equipped, computers at home. So, this program is a significant aid for them. The willingness of the library to help fill this gap on our campus and the flexibility to accommodate unusual loan materials is an excellent example of the student oriented culture of our library.

Finally, the Library has done an excellent job in developing programs that take advantage of new trends in pedagogy. Specifically, the library has implemented a flipped classroom instruction module that allows students to significantly improve their research efforts. The library staff developed an instruction module that is easily imported into Canvas, our college's LMS. This module provides instruction on the resources available to students for research and also explains concepts such as peer-review and academic sources. The module even incorporates a forum where librarians can directly interact with students when they need help. This module is then combined with a research session that helps students get a strong start to their research projects. Because students have learned the basics of research from the module they can spend their time in the library session actually doing research! In my courses, this semester, the result have been amazing. In four sections of philosophy courses, numbering approximately 100 students, more than 90% of the students were able to successfully find a suitable primary text for research in the library session. In previous semesters the norm was much, much lower. Again the skill and flexibility of the library faculty have produced a great advantage for our students. I would not dream of going back to the traditional library orientation.

From developing effective instruction modules to accommodating the many diverse needs of our students and hosting events such as the Research in Undergraduate Education festival the L.W. Tyree Library is truly one of the best things about Santa Fe College.

Eugenio E. Zaldivar

Assoc. Professor of Philosophy
October 14, 2014

Excellence in Academic Libraries Award Committee
Association of College and Research Libraries
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Members of the Award Committee:

I am proud to write in support of the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award application submitted by the L.W. Tyree Library at Santa Fe College in Gainesville, Florida.

For the past year, I have had the privilege to work with the library as part of the FINRA Foundation’s Smart investing@your library® grant program, which is a partnership with the American Library Association. The Tyree Library is one of a select group of community college and public libraries across the country to receive a grant from this program. Under this grant, librarians and library staff are working in partnership with college faculty to increase financial capability among several high-need audiences in the college’s service area: the college’s veteran population and their dependents; first-generation college-goers; students receiving financial aid; students who were displaced but have returned to campus (including some who have previously defaulted on student loans); students in the college’s Displaced Homemaker Program; high school dual-enrolled students; and middle and high school students and their parents in pre-college assistance programs. The initiative gives special attention to building financial self-sufficiency and making sound, informed decisions about paying for college. Instructional units are being integrated into the college’s continuing education courses, credit-bearing courses, and various college readiness and student support programs. Project leaders are also collaborating with community agencies to refer students to supplemental services and one-on-one financial counseling as necessary.

This is truly a college-wide effort operating under the inspired leadership of the library. The project team includes representatives from the college’s student affairs, academic affairs, communications, business, community outreach, economic development, financial aid, and veterans’ affairs departments, among others. Indeed it’s rare to see this level of collaboration across an institution. The library has exhibited the strongest commitment to service innovation and to expanding the skills and knowledge of its staff to ensure that students receive the best possible guidance. Equally important, the library has put in place an outcomes-based evaluation plan and engaged a third-party evaluator to ensure objective, data-driven analysis of its work and a mechanism for service improvement. Project leaders have also made a commitment to sharing their experiences with the broader library profession and have provided important counsel to other institutions with a similar interest in building students’ financial capability and well-being.

Every interaction I have had with the Tyree Library reflects the values set forth in the Award criteria. I recommend the library’s application with enthusiasm and without reservation.

Sincerely,

Robert Ganem
Senior Program Director
December 4, 2014

Dr. Steven J. Bell
Associate University Librarian for Research & Instructional Services
Temple University
Paley Library 017-00
1210 Polet Walk
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6088

Dear Dr. Bell,

It is my pleasure to recommend the Lawrence W. Tyree Library at Santa Fe College in Gainesville, Florida for an Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. I have had the privilege of serving at Santa Fe College as a faculty member, as department chair and dean, and, for the last five years, as provost of the College. In all of these capacities, I have found in our library the highest caliber of programming in all areas—collection management, service to faculty and to students, and development of our human and physical resources.

Over a decade of service as a faculty member and department chair, I had thought I had known everything there was to know about our library and its staff. They provided customized instructional services for my students upon request; they regularly canvased faculty for suggestions and recommendations on holdings; and during those periods I was engaged in research, they helped reacquaint me with the resources I needed to complete scholarly work (a task that is not part of our official College mission but one with which staff provided very kind and thoughtful assistance).

However, when I began serving as provost in 2009, I quickly learned that the superior services don’t happen by magic. Rather, I found in the library director and her staff, an extraordinary commitment to continuous improvement that was reflected in all the areas of library operations. Our library staff have never been to content to rest on merely meeting benchmarks and having adequate services; rather, as a unit, they have pursued annual goals for professional development that ensure a continuous refreshment and renewal of programming and service. I invite you to peruse their website for details of the scope of their contributions and evidence of their creativity.

Edward T. Bonahue, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Robertson Administration Building • 3000 NW 83rd Street • Gainesville, FL 32606-6210
Office 352.395.5843 • ed.bonahue@sfcollege.edu
www.sfcollege.edu
In short, the library has been one entity on campus this provost hasn’t had to worry about, and I am happy to give them my highest recommendation. If you should have any questions, I trust you will not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Edward T. Bonahue, Ph.D.
Dear Selection Committee:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of the Lawrence W. Tyree Library’s application for the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. As Director of the Santa Fe College Honors Program, Co-Chair of the Research in Undergraduate Education (RUE) Program, and a 20-year Humanities professor, I have had extensive interactions and long-term relationships with librarians and library staff. Based on my experiences developing college-wide initiatives as well as individual class assignments and projects, I am comfortable saying that students, because of their contact with the Library, improve their information literacy skills, their overall academic performance at SF, and their chances of success at the upper-division institution to which they transfer. Additionally, faculty members, as a result of collaboration with library staff, are more likely to use of the library as an integral part of their courses.

These outcomes are best exemplified by the success of the College’s RUE initiative. Santa Fe College was the first two-year institution in the Southeast to host a Library Research Award. This award recognizes exemplary research and information literacy skills, based on the use of library materials and resources to identify and utilize references in a synthetic and analytical research paper. Santa Fe was also the first two-year college in Florida to host an on-campus research symposium. Our week-long event, held in the library, provides students in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, health sciences, biotech, and arts an opportunity to present research posters, podium presentations, and creative projects to the College community. The academic quality of the research papers, posters, presentations, and projects developed for both the Library Research Award and the research symposium are testaments to the quality of the library’s bibliographic instruction program, the librarians’ willingness to work with faculty to support undergraduate research, and their ability to work with individual students in developing works cited. Moreover, in our assessment of student RUE outcomes, we ask students to self-identify learning and attitudinal gains in twenty areas. Seventy-five percent of students who completed the self-assessment reported large to very large gains in their “Ability to document sources.” Eighty-six percent of students reported large to very large gains in their “Ability to gather, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate data (or information) relevant to an issue/problem.”

The Lawrence W. Tyree Library is a pivotal partner in the College’s academic programs. Without the dedication and hard work of this team of academic librarians, administrators, professional staff, and student assistants, Santa Fe College would not be an Aspen Institute top ten community college. I give them my strongest praise for their contributions to the life of the College and my strongest recommendation for the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award.

Cordially,

Bobby Hom
Coordinator, The Honors Program
Co-Chair, Research in Undergraduate Education
Professor, Humanities
American Library Association  
Association of College & Research Libraries  
50 East Huron Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Re: Santa Fe College, Gainesville, Florida  
Excellence in Academic Libraries Award

Dear Award Committee:

I am honored to have Santa Fe College of Gainesville, Florida (“SFC”) in my congressional district. They are an integral part of the fabric of life in the two counties they serve, providing leadership in economic development, continuing education, and personal enrichment in those counties. Among the many resources SFC offers the community is the L.W. Tyree library.

The L.W. Tyree Library is well suited to the institution it serves. SFC is a member of the Aspen Institute’s Top Ten Community Colleges in the nation as a finalist for the prestigious Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. Like the other components of SFC, the Tyree Library’s functions as a major contributor to SFC receiving this recognition. The Tyree Library interacts with college faculty and students as part of a team to ensure the students at SFC receive the best possible support to suit their informational and media needs. It is accessible to students with an accommodating schedule of operating hours and always has an expert reference librarian on duty when it is open. It supplements what students experience in the classroom by collaborating with college departments to host co-curricular activities like Constitution week, debates, and student scholarly projects. Like the college itself, the Tyree Library seeks to serve the students, faculty, and staff of SFC. This attitude of service is what sets the Tyree Library apart from other college libraries.

For these reasons, I fully endorse the L.W. Tyree Library of Santa Fe College as a recipient of the 2015 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. As you consider the applications for this grant award, I ask that you give this application full and fair consideration, consistent with applicable rules and regulations. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Ted S. Yoho, DVM  
Member of Congress  
Proudly Serving Florida’s Third Congressional District
November 6, 2014

Tina Sibley, Excellence in Academic Libraries Award Committee
Distance Education Librarian, Arizona Western College
PO Box 929
Yuma, AZ 85365

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to present this letter in support of Santa Fe College for the Aspen Nominee College Libraries-ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award.

Santa Fe College is ranked first in graduation rate among Florida public colleges and is in the Top 10 nationally in the number of associate degrees awarded in liberal arts. The library is a crucial and vital part of the success of the college. Librarians teach credit information literacy courses, collaborate with faculty across the curriculum, serve as liaisons to the continuum of subject areas, and attend departmental meetings. It is open seven days a week for 84 hours and voluntarily extends hours of service before exams and whenever the library is open an expert reference librarian is on duty. The library routinely collaborates with departments across campus to host events from Constitution week, student produced graphic projects, student research and scholarly projects, debates, and student science exhibits. In addition, the library sponsors the Library Research Award on annual basis. All in all, service to students, faculty and staff are the hallmark of the library.

The director and the librarians are committed professionals and have continuously participated and led college-wide and state-wide committees. The innovation and creativity of the library has been recognized by 28 peer colleges in Florida with the 2006 FACC Learning Resources Commission Exemplary Practice Award (Library CD case calendars), the 2010 FACC Award (Online class guides) and the 2012 AFC Award (Library Research Award). Also, in 2011 the Student Senate passed Resolution 2011-1005 “fully acknowledging the excellence of the L.W. Tyree Library” and “that the Library serves as the faculty role-model of student-oriented innovation.”

As a legislator, I have personally seen the achievements of Santa Fe College and it is with my upmost sincerity that I ask you to consider Santa Fe College L. W. Tyree Library for this award.

Sincerely,

Keith Perry
State Representative
House District 21