

# STETSON UNIVERSITY

## duPont-Ball Library

### Message from the Library Dean

*Susan M. Ryan, Betty Drees Johnson Dean of the Library & Learning Technologies*

Each summer we look forward to welcoming a new class of first year students and this year was no exception. As I greeted my 34th Stetson class in August, I thought back on how much has changed since I arrived at the University in 1989. Our facility is bigger and brighter and our “building partners” - the Hollis Family Student Success Center and the Writing Center - help make our library a one-stop place for academic research and assistance.

Perhaps the most impactful change since 1989 has been the advent of the Internet and the electronic age. The Internet changed the way we live, of course, but it also revolutionized the way we acquire and distribute information. Our library has gone from about 1,500 print journal/magazine subscriptions to more than 200,000 online journal and magazine titles. We offer access to hundreds of thousands of e-books, streaming videos, and streaming music—all of it available 24/7.

What has not changed, however, is that we still cultivate close personal relationships with our students and we have never changed our primary missions of teaching and learning. In an age of information abundance, we need now more than ever to teach our students how to evaluate critically what they read and hear. Here’s to another productive academic year of teaching and learning!



*The PAWS dogs are always welcomed in the library!*

### Newsletter Fall 2022

INSIDE:

- Faculty Honored
- Faculty Book Authors
- Enjoying Fall
- PAWS Therapy Dogs
- Prize Winning Work
- Haunted History
- The Hat Box
- Welcome New Library Staff



*Follow the signs to the library!*

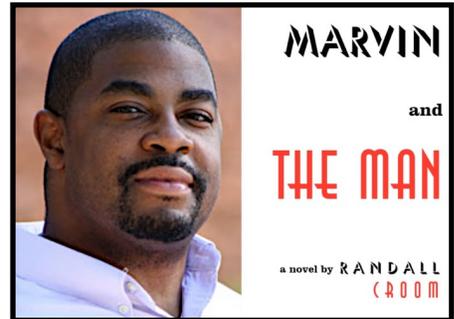
## Honoring Our Faculty

The library has an annual tradition of honoring faculty members who have been recently tenured and/or promoted. We ask each faculty member to choose a book that has been particularly meaningful to them in their personal or professional lives and we add that book to our collection with a commemorative bookplate. In addition, we celebrate our faculty and staff authors who have published a book during the last year. Congratulations to the faculty celebrated below!

**The Missing Piece by Shel Silverstein:** “Though I’ve read hundreds of academic articles and books in my career, not one of them sticks out as an answer to this question. Oddly enough, the first book that came to mind was Shel Silverstein’s *The Missing Piece*. There are many important life lessons packed into this short children’s book, but the main one that has stayed with me is that there is an incredible amount of joy and excitement in searching for something. As researchers, we are focused on searching for answers, but whenever we find an answer, we find even more questions to pursue. This results in a life and career spent continuously searching, much like the missing piece. From a young age, my mother read this book to me frequently and instilled in me a joy of searching that I have carried over into my research career. So thanks to my mom for reading to me and indirectly showing me how much fun research can be.” (Michael Eskenazi)



**Randall Croom,  
Management (right) and  
Michael Eskenazi,  
Psychology (below),  
both tenured and  
promoted to Associate  
Professor.**



**The Missing Piece Meets the Big O by Shel Silverstein; Marvin and the Man by Randall Croom:** “I have to choose two. The first is *The Missing Piece Meets the Big O* by Shel Silverstein. It’s the first book I ever gave my girlfriend, who is now my wife, freshman year at Florida A&M. It’s a book that helps you love others, love yourself, and keep moving forward. It’s classified as a children’s book, but don’t worry—it’s written so simply that even an adult can understand it.

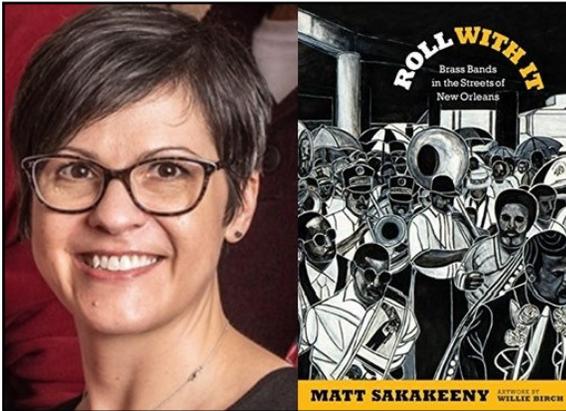
The second is *Marvin and the Man*, by me. I’d read about a great writer working on what he knew to be his last book: he was terminally ill, with months to live. Yet he described those painful last days working on his opus as being full of life. Writing *Marvin* helped me understand: living feels different when you know the reason why. When I was writing, I felt like the work and the living I did every day meant something. I wanted to keep feeling like that. That’s part of how I ended up doing the work I do now. It feels like it’s part of my life’s purpose, and I believe the key to living well is living on purpose. Everybody procrastinates on something, but procrastination about your life’s purpose reflects an arrogant belief that you will be given tomorrow to do what you know you ought to be doing today. Because while we may not all be ill, we’re all terminal. Might as well get to the work that means something to us, and both of these books have helped me do that by influencing the direction and intensity of how I live, love, and work.” (Randall Croom)

### Congratulations to those also tenured and promoted:

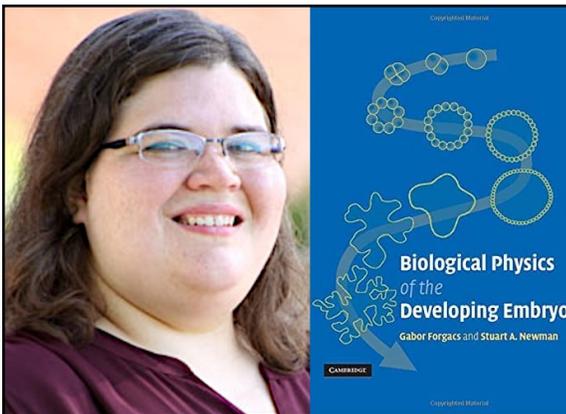
Christopher deBodisco, Economics, tenured and promoted to Associate Professor  
Melissa Parks, Education, tenured and promoted to Associate Professor



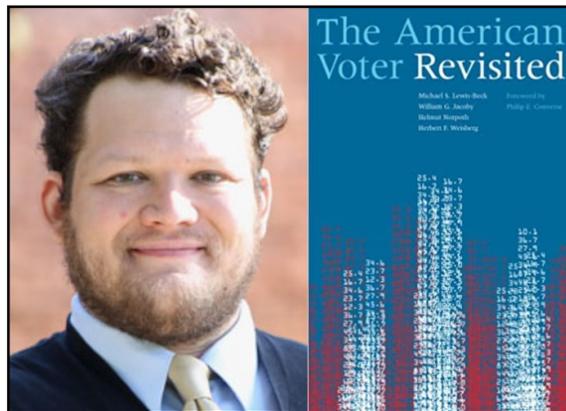
## Honoring Our Faculty



***Roll With It: Brass Bands in the Streets of New Orleans* by M. Sakakeeny and W. Birch:** “The book I selected is one that gave me a deeper understanding of New Orleans music and musicians -- *Roll With It: Brass Bands in the Streets of New Orleans* by ethnomusicologist Matt Sakakeeny. When I moved to New Orleans in 2007, I was familiar with the second lines that follow funeral processions but I had limited knowledge of New Orleans Brass Band traditions. The book outlines the role of brass bands, jazz funerals, and second lines in New Orleans culture. It describes the tension between bands that have a more traditional approach and those that are incorporating hip-hop, R&B, and funk into their compositions. It provides insight into the lives of musicians who face structural racism, poverty, and violence before and after the levees broke in 2005. This book has enriched my experience listening to and watching brass bands at second lines. The author’s website includes videos, reading guides, and more to explore.” (Jennifer Corbin)



***Biological Physics of the Developing Embryo* by Gabor Forgacs and Stuart A. Newman:** “In graduate school I took an interdisciplinary, cross-listed course that used this textbook. Through that course, I saw how researchers trained in different disciplines didn’t just bring different tools to studying a complex process like development, but also were interested in asking and exploring different questions. This cemented my interest in interdisciplinary research. This book continues to be an excellent tool because it provides an overview of some of the most relevant information from different fields for key processes during early development.” (Holley Lynch)



***The American Voter Revisited* by Michael S. Lewis-Beck et al:** “This book radically changed my trajectory as a graduate student. When I entered graduate school, I wanted nothing to do with either quantitative political science or the study of American politics. Then I was assigned this book in one of my graduate seminars. The first thing that struck me was the ease with which the authors built the case for understanding the social-psychological mechanisms that drive American voters: partisanship isn’t something that one can easily pick up or put down; it is an affective attachment to the Party. And, the simple, yet decisive, use of quantitative evidence to support their arguments convinced me that quantitative evidence doesn’t have to be overly complicated or aloof. Entering graduate school, I assumed that I knew how Americans thought about politics. But, thanks to this book, I left graduate school with a drive to understand, in new ways, that which I assumed I already knew.” (Steven Smallpage)

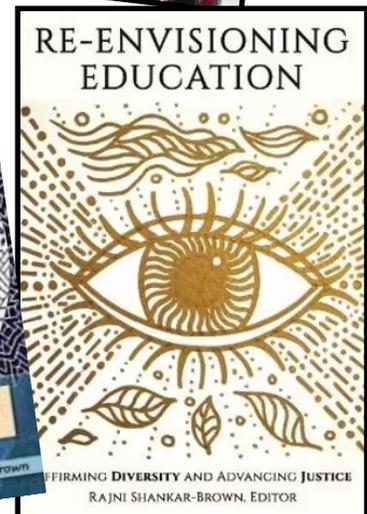
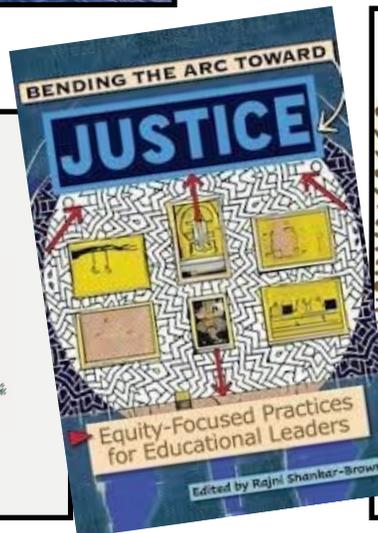
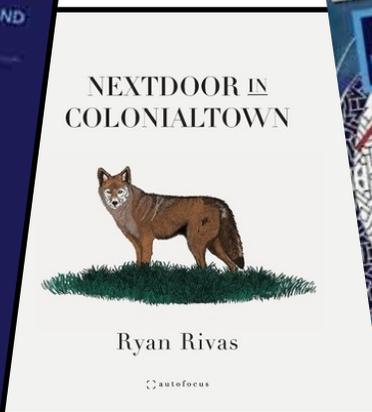
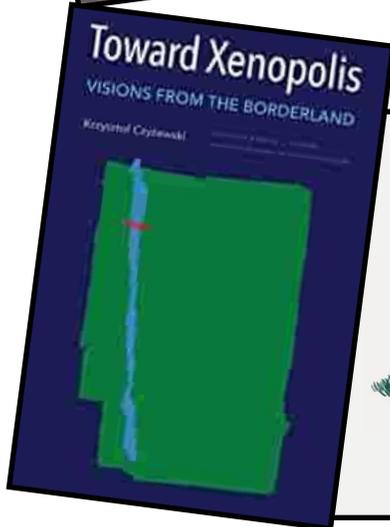
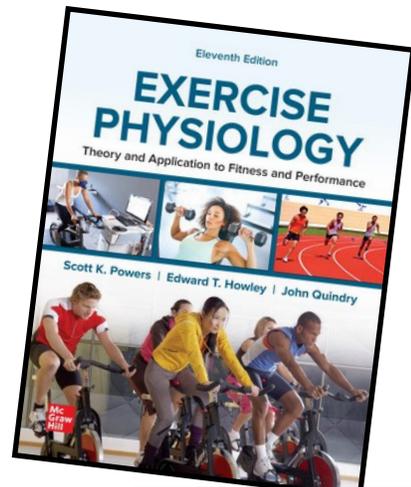
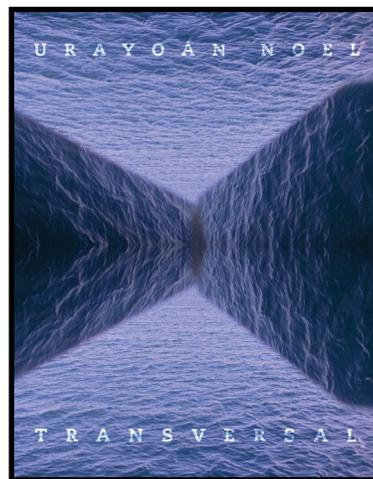
**Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor  
(pictured above from top):**

- Jennifer Corbin, Library**
- Holley Lynch, Physics**
- Steven Smallpage, Political Science**

## Faculty and Staff Book Authors

Congratulations to our faculty and staff authors who have recently published books:

- Sarah Cramer and Tara Schuwerk, *Food Instagram*, 2022
- Mayhill Fowler, ed., *Toward Xenopolis: Visions from the Borderland*, 2022
- Luca Molnar and Sarah Cramer, *Delicate Connections*, Fall 2022
- Urayoan Noel, *Transversal*, 2021
- Scott Powers et al., *Exercise Physiology: Theory and Application to Fitness and Performance*, 2021
- Ryan Rivas, *Nextdoor in Colonialtown*, 2022
- Rajni Shankar-Brown, ed., *Bending the Arc Toward Justice: Equity-Focused Practice for Educational Leaders*, 2022
- Rajni Shankar-Brown, ed., *Re-Envisioning Education: Affirming Diversity and Advancing Social Justice*, 2022



There's something about the months from September to November that's just unparalleled! By now, we can already feel the gradual shift in season as our days become a little shorter, cooler, and a bit more festive. Fall quotes and photos with clever captions have dominated my Instagram feed. As I do my morning Insta-scroll, I see a 'gram of my friend David awkwardly holding a venti-sized drink against his Prius steering wheel captioned, "where are all my #PSL lovers at?" The most haunting thing this season is not recognizing how scary good your Pumpkin Spice Latte is, but rather, realizing how fast these months will escape us as we balance responsibilities of work, school, and family. This season is a perfect time to start thinking about inspiring moments and opportunities to achieve focus, quietly reflect, and deeply engage with interests and others.



In a time where technology has changed how we learn, entertain, and connect with others, it is easy to let our devices drain *our* batteries. Digital distractions can quickly become malevolent *if* we fail to disconnect and learn how to stay present in the moment. According to an article published in *Psychology Today* (2020), we forget that the brain, the psyche, and the soul all need rest. Overstimulation can overwhelm critical thinking because the mind thrives on quiet, not push notifications.

Taking a step back to connect with our surroundings and with interests can take place on many different levels. While at work, offline breaks can provide temporary relief from demands and help prevent exhaustion. At home, creating technology-free moments like watching a live play as opposed to a streamed movie can heighten our senses, stimulate the imagination, and allow us to get closer to the performers. When doing research, log off the computer and engage with information through first-hand experiences such as visiting a museum or a library archive. Studies show that those who engage with information experience enhanced learning through increased knowledge retention.

Despite the surge in research examining technology and hyper-connectivity, being mindful and learning *when* and *how* to unplug can make a huge difference in the way we relax, learn, and create memorable experiences. I'll toast a **double** Grande PSL to that! Happy Fall, Hatters!

If you are a regular library newsletter reader, you know we love our PAWS Therapy Dogs!

Scheduled by Stetson's Wellness Services and the duPont-Ball Library, these wonderful dogs and their humans visit our students several times a semester just to spread some love and happiness.

You can learn more about the PAWS Therapy Dogs at <https://pawstherapydogs.com/>

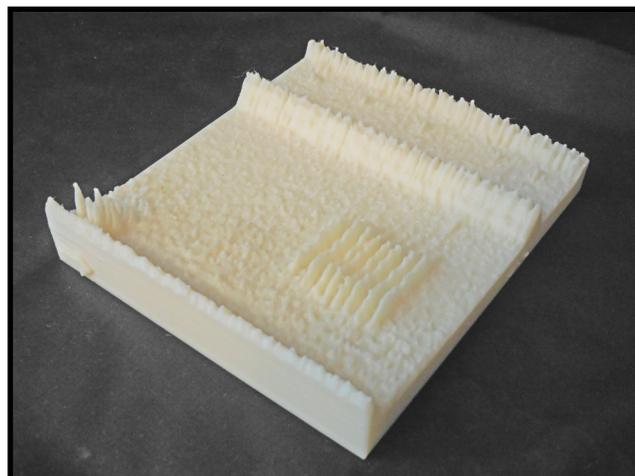
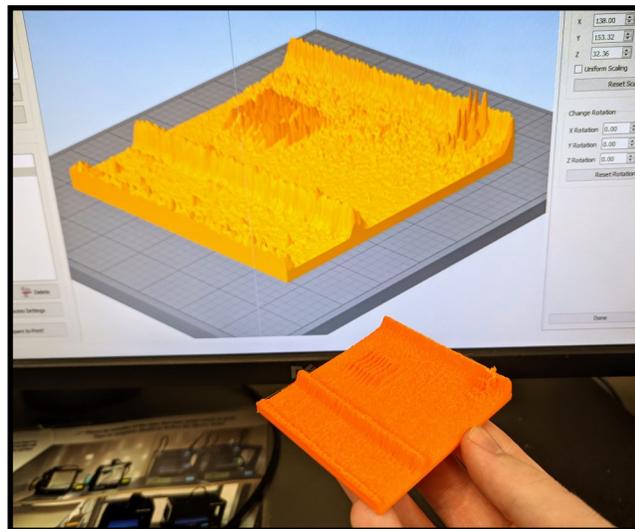


## Prize-Winning Work in the Innovation Lab

The library's Innovation Lab continues to provide research opportunities for students and faculty. Dr. Nathan Wolek, Professor of Digital Arts, and student Grace McEllroy (Digital Arts and Education major, '22) made use of the Lab's 3D printers as they designed a unique project for blind and partially-sighted students. Their 3D-printed spectrograms provide tactile representations of sound recordings (such as the frog croaks and crickets pictured below) allowing students to feel changes in duration, pitch, and loudness with their fingertips. Having easy access to the Lab's 3D printing resources allowed them to quickly iterate through multiple prototypes and discover the most effective sizes and formats for the needs of blind or partially-sighted students, as well as test the durability of different materials.

This project began in 2020 with a National Park Service grant that is jointly run by Stetson University and Atlantic Center for the Arts. Dr. Wolek and others lead 'Sound Seekers' - blind and partially-sighted young people - on field trips to learn about field recording and soundscapes with the goal of helping them experience public lands using sound. (Learn more about the Young Sound Seekers at <https://youngsoundseekers.org>.)

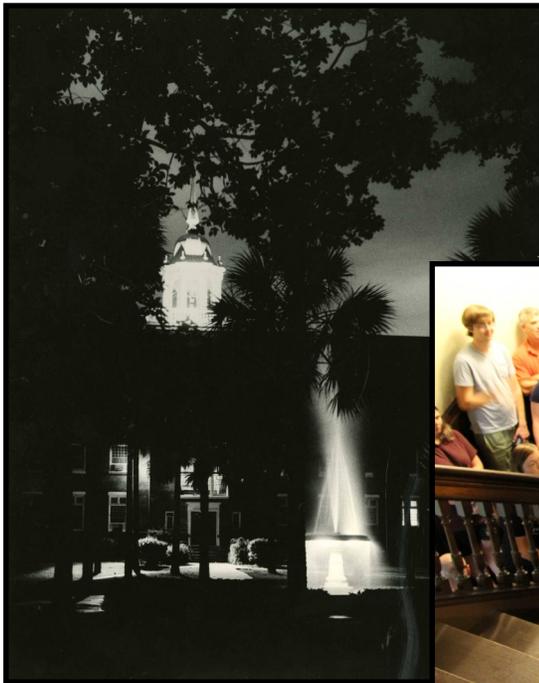
Although others have 3D printed sound files, the Stetson team was the first to use 3D printing to create teaching aids and teaching tools for blind students. They have made their 3D printable files publicly available on the GitHub website (<https://github.com/nwolek/3d-printed-spectrograms>).



Wolek and McEllroy (pictured above) presented the results of their work at the International Computer Music Association conference and won the Association's 2022 Best Presentation Award for their talk, *Designing 3D-printed Spectrograms for Blind Students*. View the conference presentation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r79kPSwyisc>

## Haunted Stetson Tours by Kelly Larson

This October, the duPont-Ball Library hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Haunted History Tour of Stetson. Each year, Outreach and Instruction Librarian Hunter Murphy and Archivist Kelly Larson lead a walking tour of Stetson's DeLand campus that focuses on the spookier side of the University's history, relating the ghost stories and scandalous tales that have been passed down from class to class for generations. Along the way, they offer historical evidence from the archives to support or debunk our colorful campus legends and lore. The tour is a popular event, especially among students, and registrations usually fill up within a day. About three hundred students have taken the tour since its first year, learning about Stetson's past and archival resources while earning cultural credit and having a ghoulishly good time!



*Have you seen the lady in white floating through Elizabeth Hall?*



## The *Hat Box* is Now Available Online

Did you know that the John B. Stetson Company had a company newsletter called *The Hat Box*?

Our library has all of the 133 original print issues published between 1920 and 1930 in our Special Collections. Full of wonderful photographs of Stetson hats and stories of the hat company's state-of-the-art facilities and services, the newsletters are a historical treasure trove... and just plain fun to read!

To view them: <https://archives.stetson.edu/digital/collection/Memorabilia/search/searchterm/hat%20box%20newsletter/page/1>

Or... Go to [archives.stetson.edu](https://archives.stetson.edu) and choose *Memorabilia Collection*  
In the upper right search box, type *Hat Box Newsletter*

## Welcome New Library Faculty and Staff!

Welcome Nancy!



Dr. Nancy Marksbury joined us in May as our Systems and Digital Initiatives Librarian. Nancy has a Ph.D. in Library and Information Studies and the M.S. in Educational Technology. She has an impressive background in academic libraries and IT, and is coming to us most recently from Keuka College in New York.

Welcome Daniel!



Daniel Logan joins us this semester as a Research Librarian who is helping meet the needs of our students while one of our librarians is on sabbatical. Daniel also works as a librarian at the Valencia College Library. He has a Master of Library Science from Indiana University.

Welcome Melissa!



Melissa Simon is the library's new Circulation Coordinator. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in English from Rollins College where she worked at their library as a student. Melissa continued working at Rollins' Olin Library as a staff member after graduation, and joined our team this summer.

Welcome Back, Lauren!



Lauren Woodall Westmoreland is a Stetson alumna who received her Bachelor's degree in English in 2010. She worked in our library as a student assistant, and went on to work for the Seminole State College Library. We were pleased to have her come back to our library this summer.

**Want to share a Stetson memory with us?  
Send us a note:**

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