7-1-2017

News - Armstrong State University

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Armstrong State University

Lane Library and the Learning Commons at Armstrong State University (ASU) held several inventive—and successful—programs this past spring. In March, Dog Day was held at the Learning Commons. This therapy dog program is held every semester to help students de-stress during mid-terms and finals. It drew 236 frazzled students and 6 local Therapy Dogs International dogs. While ASU did not invent this program, it may be the only one attended by a Pekingese rocking a pineapple visor!

National Library Week was April 9–15 and Lane Library had no shortage of events to celebrate libraries. Library employees were invited to dress up like their favorite book characters, and dress up they did! A special book display was created by the library’s entrance, themed “Read the Book That Inspired the Movie.” For National Library Workers Day, each employee received a hand-crafted goody bag, stocked with whimsical tokens of appreciation. A poster stationed near the library’s entrance asked students, “What’s Your Favorite Thing About Lane Library/Learning Commons?” This solicited many hand-written responses, including “Everything!!” and “The GREAT people!!”

The library bookmobile was the major highlight of the week. Library staff spruced up a golf cart with Hawaiian-themed décor, loaded it with books and DVDs, and drove it around the entire ASU campus. Students and staff checked out materials and commented on how they loved seeing the librarians out around campus having fun! There were several requests to
continue the bookmobile outreach and students were inspired to come visit the library and take a closer look at the collection.

In April during final exams week, a grown-up coloring book program was held for students. Several coloring books and colored pencils were set up at stations on the first and second floors of the library for students to visit at their leisure. This no-pressure program was not advertised so that students could serendipitously stumble upon it. This program was developed after the Savannah Barnes & Noble store donated hundreds of coloring books to the library.

In May, Lane Library and Georgia Southern University’s (GSU) Zach S. Henderson Library held a joint Library Day for its staff. This event brought together each university’s library employees for a day of team-building, sharing ideas, and discussing the direction the libraries are taking during the ASU/GSU consolidation process.

All of these programs made employee’s heads spin, so this summer’s line-up will be slower paced. In July, Lane Library will host an Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) webinar viewing party. The webinar, “Essentials of Usability Design for Library Research Guides,” is sponsored by the Academic Library Division (ALD) of the Georgia Library Association (GLA), and is being co-hosted by GLA’s Coastal Georgia Library Collaborative (CGLC). Lane Library will host a recorded ACRL webinar in August, “Fighting Fake News with the ACRL Framework.” It is also sponsored by ALD and co-hosted by CGLC.