



UTSA® LIBRARIES

2012

ANNUAL REPORT

Greetings!

Rarely does a week go by when a faculty member or alumnus doesn't approach me to rave about how much the library has changed.

When I arrived four years ago, the John Peace Library looked very much like the traditional academic library you might picture in your head — uncomfortable furniture, dim lighting, subdued atmosphere, and books everywhere.

Together with our stellar staff, we are working to model a new breed of 21st century academic library where spaces and services are shaped to encourage active learning, engage students, and support the remarkable teaching and research being done by our faculty.

Today the library environment is entirely different, and change is a constant. In a typical week, 64,000 articles are accessed through our website and 50,000 people walk through our gates. We are well on our way to creating a library befitting of a premier research institution, but we have so much more to do. I hope you'll enjoy this glimpse into our ongoing journey to reframe UTSA's libraries for the digital age.



Krisellen Maloney

Dr. Krisellen Maloney
Dean of Libraries

**“I love my school’s
gorgeous library #UTSA.”**

— As seen on Twitter, April 12.
Photo by Karina Garza.



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UTSA LIBRARIES

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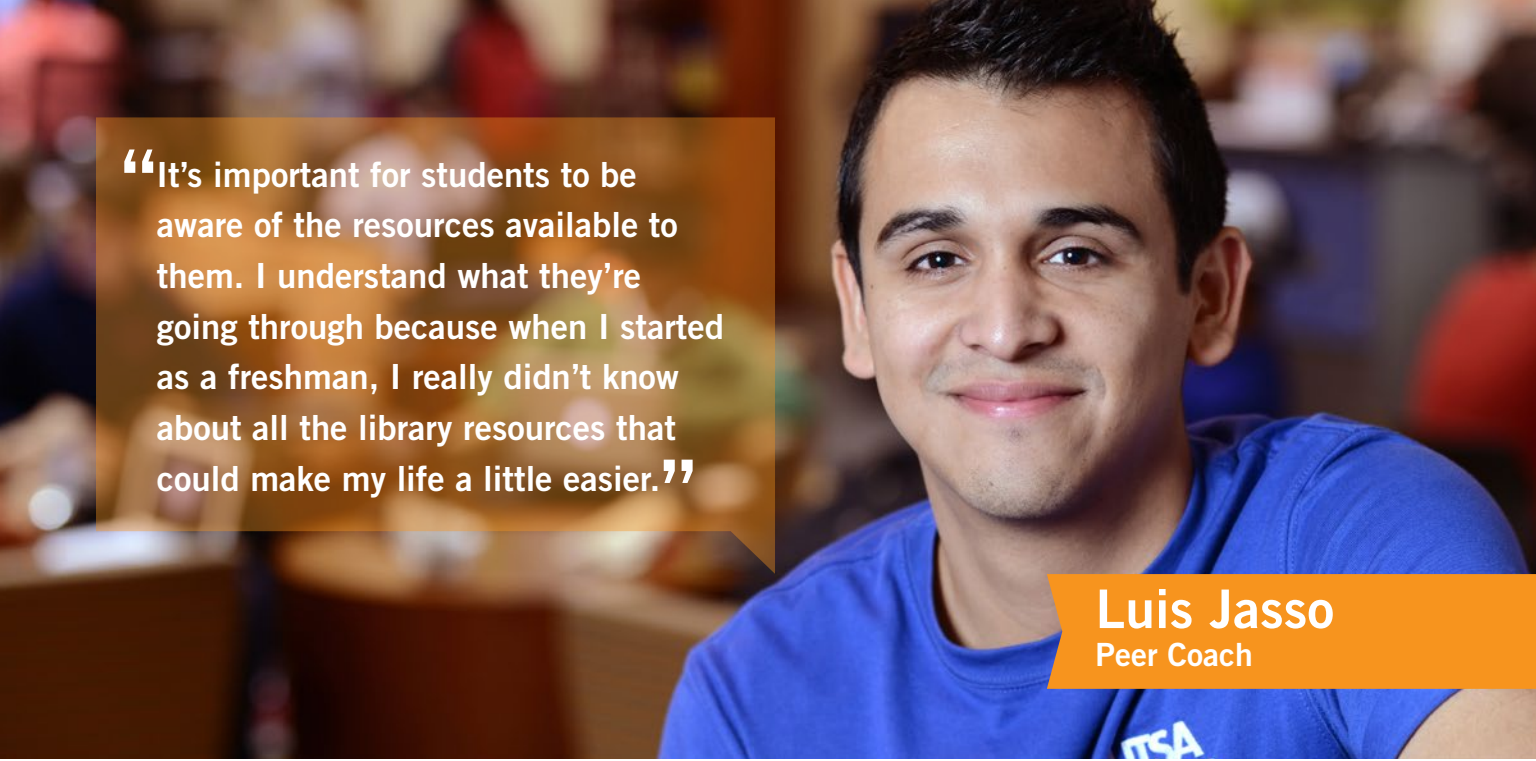
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JOHN PEACE LIBRARY

Over the past four years the John Peace Library has undergone major renovations, realizing a new vision for the intellectual heart of an emerging premier research university. As just one example, the Learning Commons provides a one-stop shop for academic support services and student engagement by centralizing tutoring, supplemental instruction, and writing assistance services. The library's Information Commons computers are in constant use.

JPL



“It’s important for students to be aware of the resources available to them. I understand what they’re going through because when I started as a freshman, I really didn’t know about all the library resources that could make my life a little easier.”

Luis Jasso
Peer Coach

On any given day, you might see student Luis Jasso walking around the John Peace Library, talking to a lot of people, and usually wearing a blue T-shirt and a big smile.

It’s his job.

The architecture senior from Tamaulipas, Mexico, is one of five peer coaches at the UTSA Libraries. The program, which is funded by a grant from The USAA Foundation and an endowment from the Hearst Foundation, trains students to be on the frontline helping other students with library research.

A lot of students are scared or don’t feel comfortable asking librarians

for help, he says. It’s easier for them to talk to people their age who can relate to their situations.

Jasso and the other peer coaches help with anything library-related, from locating books to navigating the catalog to using databases. They also organize workshops to offer students research tips.

“My most memorable experience was giving a workshop...30 people showed up” Jasso says. “I’m lucky to work with a great group of people who strive for a common goal. We want to do the best for students and improve their time at UTSA.”

Helping Fellow Students Succeed

ENHANCING ACADEMIC SUCCESS

OUR LIBRARY SPACES HAVE EXPLODED IN POPULARITY, REACHING FULL PHYSICAL CAPACITY DURING THE BUSIEST WEEKS OF THE SEMESTER



JPL — John Peace Library, Main Campus

UTSA's largest library with three floors of computers, study spaces, books, media, academic support services, special collections, and more.

AET — Applied Engineering and Technology Library, Main Campus

A bookless satellite library designed with science and engineering students in mind.

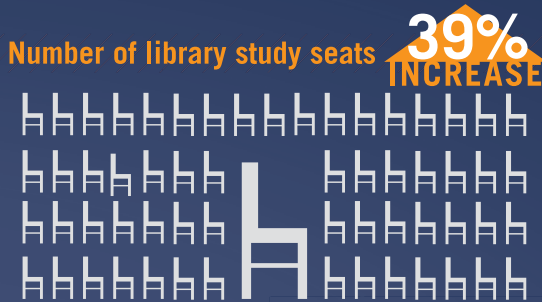
DTL — Downtown Campus Library

An information hub dedicated to students pursuing some or all of their degree coursework at this scenic campus.

HFP — Special Collections Reading Room, Institute of Texan Cultures, HemisFair Park Campus

One of two reading rooms dedicated to UTSA's rare books, manuscripts, photographs, and other one-of-a-kind historical materials.

PERCENT CHANGE 2011 TO 2012



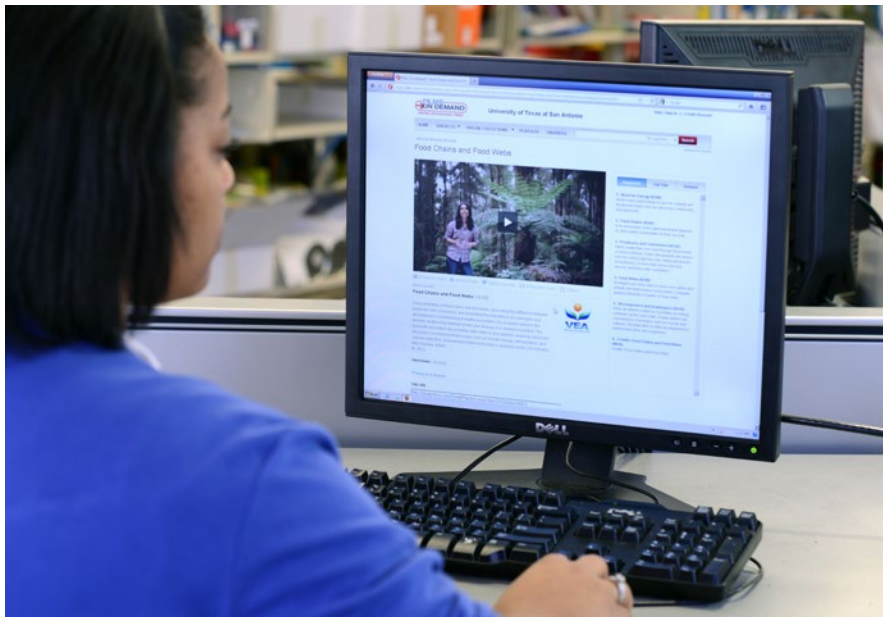
A TYPICAL WEEK AT THE UTSA LIBRARIES

Group study rooms
CHECKED OUT
2,057
times



DYNAMIC COLLECTIONS FOR A 21ST CENTURY LIBRARY

Films on Demand streams more than 1,000 educational videos in the humanities, social sciences, business, and economics fields. It's just one example of the hundreds of databases to which the UTSA Libraries subscribe, providing students and faculty with instant access to the most relevant resources from any computer, tablet, or smartphone. As information continues to go digital at a rapid pace, we are turning our focus from filling bookshelves to providing comprehensive access to online scholarly materials.



“The UTSA Libraries’ growing collections of streaming audio and video are available to faculty and students at any time through any internet or Wi-Fi connection — in class, at home, or on the go.”

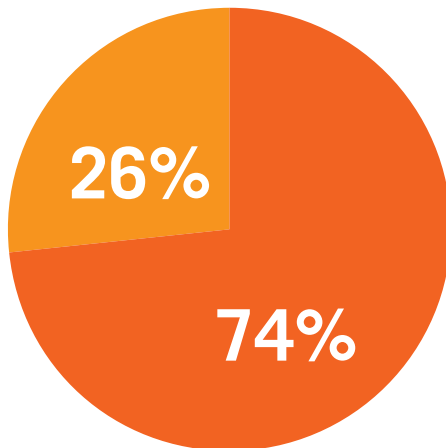
—Jeff Lacy
Librarian

UTSA[®] LIBRARIES MOBILE

In August, the UTSA Libraries launched a mobile website providing convenient access to popular services. Students can now use their phones to search for articles, check computer availability, track study room openings, renew books, and review their library accounts.



MATERIALS EXPENDITURES



\$1,549,822
Print & Media

\$4,306,754
Online Resources
(eBooks, journals, databases)

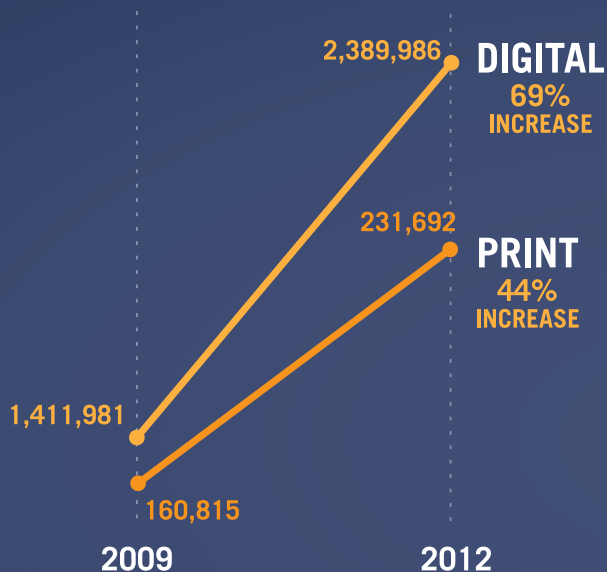
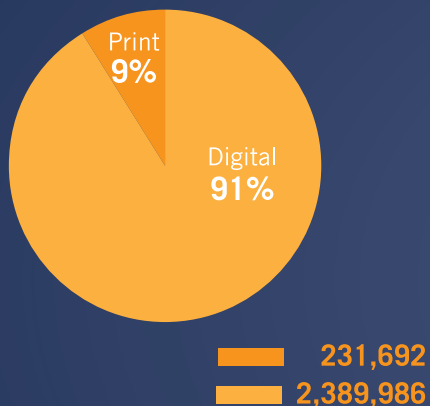
“A majority of my research could not have been possible without online access to the library on the weekends.”

—Library survey comment, April 2012

ENABLING INFORMATION DISCOVERY

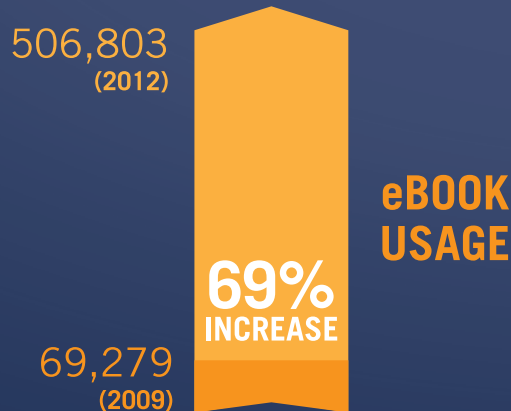
THE NATURE OF LIBRARY COLLECTIONS IS CHANGING, SHIFTING FROM PRINT TO DIGITAL FORMATS.

USE OF **DIGITAL VS. PRINT** LIBRARY RESOURCES 2012



“*The Interlibrary Loan staff has been incredibly helpful in providing PDFs of older articles.*”

—Library survey comment,
April 2012



PERCENT CHANGE 2009 TO 2012

128%
INCREASE

Database searches

44%
INCREASE


Circulation of
print collections

246%
INCREASE

Circulation of textbooks
and other
course reserves

A TYPICAL WEEK AT THE UTSA LIBRARIES



A close-up portrait of Tara Schmidt, a woman with long brown hair, smiling warmly. She is wearing a pink top. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a library or classroom setting with bookshelves.

“I’m not a fan of silent classrooms. Any time I can get students to really understand what is behind an academic resource through an activity they enjoy, I consider it a success.”

Tara Schmidt
Librarian

Teaming Up with Faculty to Create Inspired Classroom Experiences

Librarian Tara Schmidt is a big believer in active learning.

Whether she’s leading students through a round of “Guess the Google” or having them try their hand at curating a collection of paper fans used in African-American churches, Schmidt is an expert in working with faculty to design assignments that engage students.

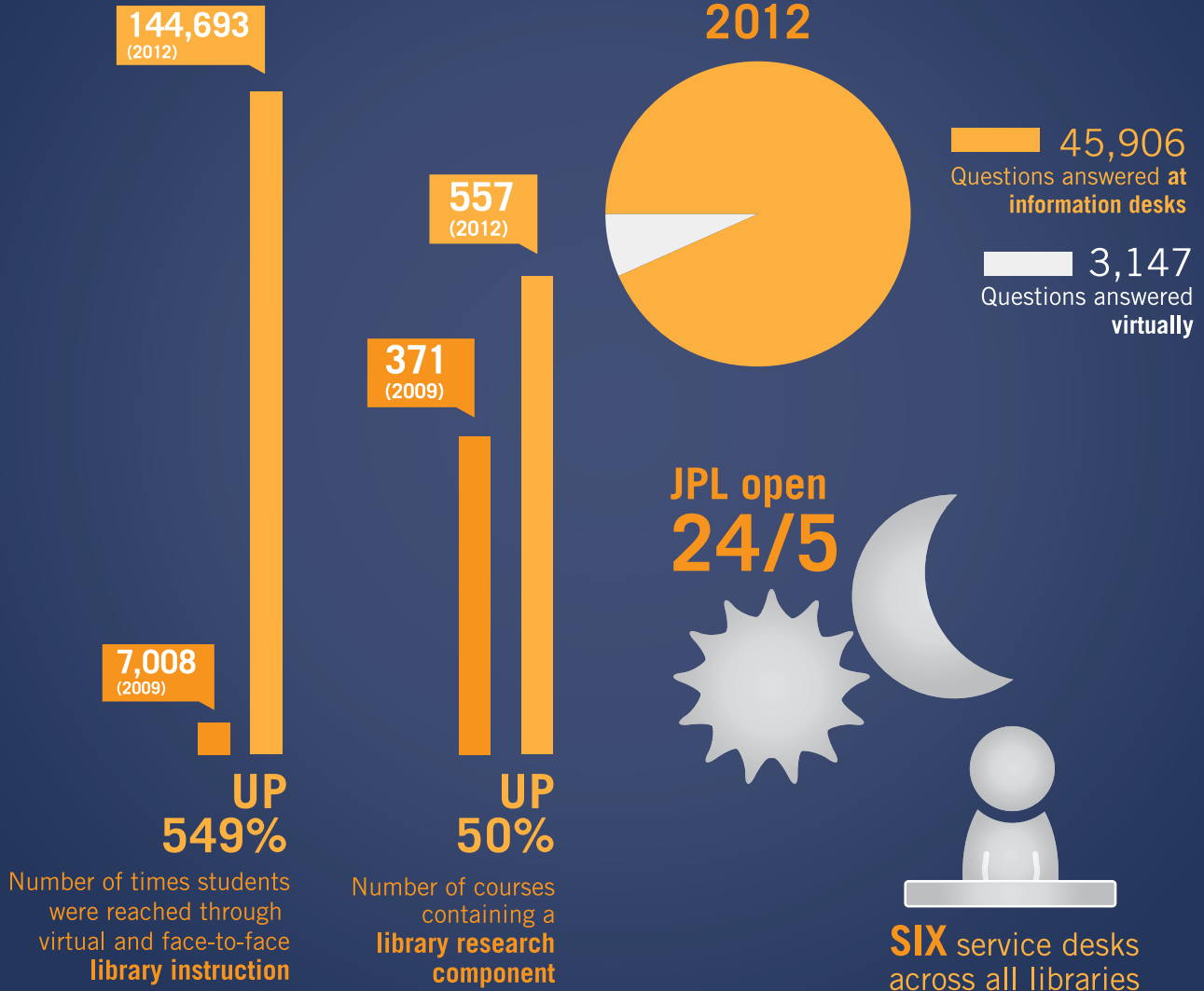
Schmidt, the UTSA Libraries’ subject specialist for the English department, is sought after by faculty who involve her in 30 to 40 English classes each semester. Her services range from creating course research guides to teaching lessons on becoming critical information seekers.

“Tara Schmidt is truly a member of the English Department team, and an outstanding one, at that,” says Dr. Bridget Drinka, chair of the English department. “All of our faculty know that she is there to help them with their research, and to assist in making the teaching experience a richer one.”

Schmidt is well known for working closely with faculty to really understand the learning outcomes for the course. “Are they trying to get their students to understand literary criticism? Identify scholarly journals? Learn their way around datasets? It becomes a conversation and a partnership to find creative ways to get the concepts across,” she says.

FACILITATING ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT

AN INCREASE IN VIRTUAL FORMS OF LIBRARY INSTRUCTION MEANS MORE STUDENTS ARE TAUGHT HOW TO FIND — AND UNDERSTAND — THE INFORMATION THEY NEED TO SUCCEED IN THEIR COURSES.



FACULTY ENRICHMENT AND INNOVATION

SUPPORTING FACULTY AND GRADUATE STUDENTS
TO BE THE BEST TEACHERS THEY CAN BE

Helping faculty go farther

Faculty need opportunities to sharpen their skill sets to respond to the changing educational environment. The Teaching and Learning Center is constantly adapting by offering a slate of seminars and workshops for faculty throughout the year, including portfolio development and the popular Provost's Academy. Faculty attendance at these workshops has increased by 101% since the center became part of the library in 2010.

Developing better teaching assistants

The UTSA Libraries' Learning Technology unit developed a hybrid orientation for graduate students new to teaching university-level courses. Making its debut in fall 2011, the training combines online modules with classroom sessions, making for an efficient way for new TAs to learn from seasoned teachers.

Supporting innovative teaching and faculty initiatives

With a campus of 30,000 students, online instruction can be a useful complement to in-class learning. The UTSA Libraries help make faculty visions into realities by developing interactive media for diverse learning environments. As just two recent examples, the Learning Technology unit developed an online certificate program in partnership with the College of Business, and an interactive eBook for a faculty-led astronomy conference.



“Some think you can take a class, put all the text online, and it becomes an online class. That’s not how it works. You must keep your learners engaged and entertained, and there is a lot that goes into it.”

Heather Williams
Instructional Designer

Heather Williams is so dedicated to her job that sometimes she gets out of bed in the middle of the night to jot down thoughts for projects.

As an instructional designer for the UTSA Libraries, she takes traditional classroom content and transforms it into online tutorials that combine text, graphics, videos, animation, and quizzes.

Williams has created tutorials for many departments at UTSA, including the Teaching and Learning Center, and the physics and psychology departments. The topics range from cultural competency to presentation skills.

Williams, who has worked at the Libraries for two years, sees limitless possibilities to online learning. She believes it doesn’t take the place of in-person teaching — it amplifies it.

Williams has always loved computers, and this position puts all her best qualities to work.

“When you have a job that you’re continually thinking about, I think it says a lot about how much you enjoy and are dedicated to your profession,” she says.

Transforming Traditional Learning into Classes Fit for the Virtual World

AET

APPLIED ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY LIBRARY

The Applied Engineering & Technology Library models a futuristic approach to library spaces and services. Soon after opening in 2009, it was recognized by the *New York Times* and *USA Today* as the nation's first bookless library on a university campus. Inspired by the vision of Dr. Mauli Agrawal, dean of the College of Engineering, this popular space offers collaborative study areas to support curricula emphasis on teamwork and communications. Students benefit from on-site personalized library research support.



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

PRESERVING HISTORICAL TREASURES

The University of Texas at San Antonio holds treasures unique and rare.

But unlike the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, these treasures are easily accessible to scholars and students alike.

The precious materials are the legacies of San Antonio and South Texas in the form of historical photographs, manuscripts, rare books, and other archival materials. The UTSA Libraries Special Collections department preserves and digitizes these distinctive collections, making them available to the world.

Local, national, and international scholars continually use the materials in their research, thereby elevating the university's academic reputation — an essential component to becoming the nation's next premier research institution.

Highlighted on the following pages are just five of the hundreds of collections housed within the UTSA Libraries.

lib.utsa.edu/specialcollections

ARCHIVES AND MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS



RARE BOOKS



GOING DIGITAL

Digitized items within Special Collections unique to the UTSA Libraries, 2011–2012

TWENTY COLLECTIONS



43,439,955 Searches



Items viewed 3,316,650 times

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: HIGHLIGHTS

SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY COLLECTION

The San Antonio River Authority conserves, controls, preserves, utilizes, and distributes the region's waters for the benefit of the public. The collection documents the management of the San Antonio River watershed through project materials, correspondence, maps, surveys, minutes, publications, and images of construction and river control projects in the early 20th century.



MEXICAN COOKBOOK COLLECTION

Generally considered the largest of its kind in the United States, UTSA's Mexican Cookbook Collection includes more than 1,200 cookbooks from 1789 to the present. While the collection's coverage is wide-ranging, it includes concentrations in the areas of regional cooking, healthy and vegetarian recipes, corporate advertising cookbooks, and manuscript recipe books. Recipes from the collection are regularly kitchen-tested and featured on its companion blog *La Cocina Historica*.

lib.utsa.edu/lacocina

HEMISFAIR '68 COLLECTION

Documenting the only international exposition ever held in Texas, the HemisFair '68 collection contains extensive materials on the fair's planning, financing, and facility construction. Included in the collection are television and radio advertising spots as well as photographic images of the buildings and homes demolished to make room for the fair, visiting dignitaries, and scenes from the fair itself.



UTSA CENTER FOR ARCHEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COLLECTION

Features archaeological survey reports from excavations in Southern and Western Texas, including several significant archaeological excavations in the San Antonio area. The 436 reports in the collection encompass all of the Center's publications between 1974 and 2010, and include more than 30,000 digitized pages.

WILLIAM K. PAGE PHOTOGRAPHY COLLECTION

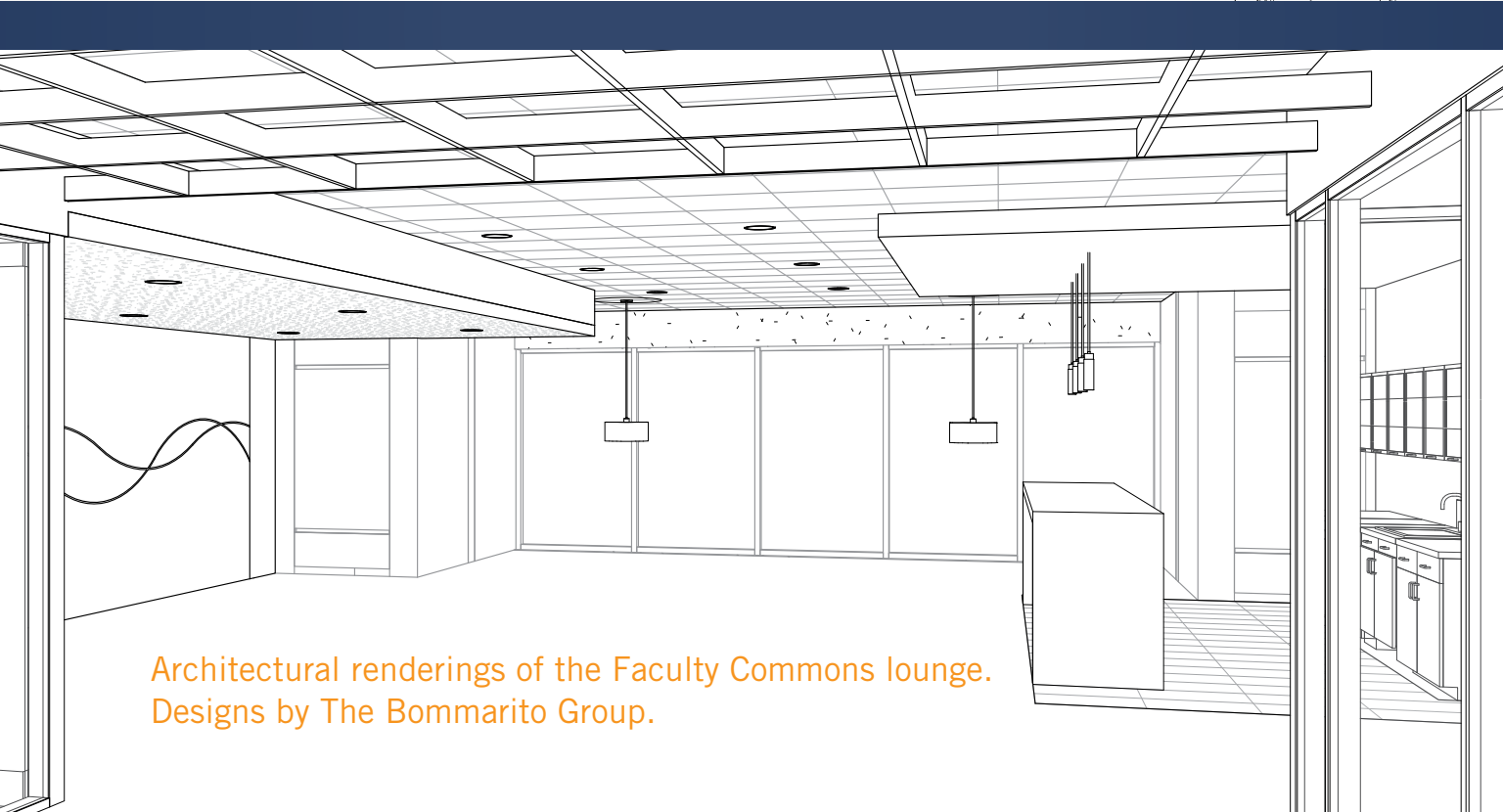
William K. Page was stationed at the Brooks Army Medical Center Convalescent Photographic School of San Antonio during World War II. His collection includes photographs and color slides of the post, San Antonio, the Spanish missions, and the Hill Country.



ON THE HORIZON

Looking ahead to 2013, the John Peace Library will undergo its final phase of renovations, completing a transformation that started in 2008. A new 4,578 square-foot Faculty Commons on the fourth floor will include a digital classroom lab, meeting and event rooms, and casual spaces for informal gatherings.

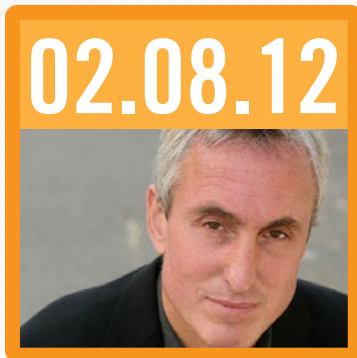
The transition of former office spaces into new quiet study areas and a large state-of-the-art collaborative digital classroom on the second floor will support JPL's position as the primary information hub for UTSA's 30,000 students.



Architectural renderings of the Faculty Commons lounge.
Designs by The Bommarito Group.

RE-CAP: UTSA Libraries 2012 Special Events

Best-Selling Author Explores Bad Nutritional Science



About 350 students, faculty, and community members attended a lecture by Gary Taubes, the best-selling author of *Why We Get Fat: And What To Do About It* (Knopf 2010) on Feb. 8 in the University Center's Retama Auditorium. The Provost's Distinguished Lecture was organized and co-sponsored by the UTSA Libraries in collaboration with the College of Sciences and College of Education and Human Development. Taubes discussed his hypothesis that people "get fat not because we consume more calories than we expend, but because the carbohydrates that we eat happen to be uniquely fattening."

Author and ¡Ask a Mexican! Columnist Discusses How Mexican Food Conquered America

UTSA celebrated National Hispanic Heritage Month with Gustavo Arellano, author of *Taco USA: How Mexican Food Conquered America* (Scribner 2012) and writer of the nationally syndicated column *¡Ask a Mexican!*. More than 300 attended Arellano's talk Sept. 12 at the Downtown Campus, a joint effort of the UTSA Libraries, Vice Provost for UTSA Downtown, and the UTSA Mexico Center. Arellano kept attendees engaged with lots of humor and a particular focus on San Antonio's role in the popularization of Mexican fast food in the U.S.

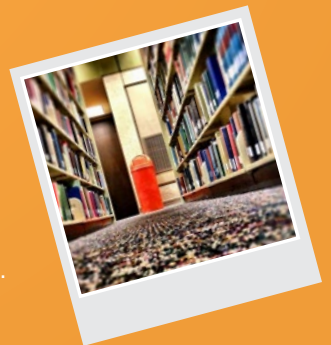


UTSA LIBRARIES STRATEGIC VISION

To be the model for a new breed of 21st century academic library focused on providing students and faculty with seamless and comprehensive access to information as well as spaces for active learning, teaching, and interdisciplinary scholarship, thereby fueling UTSA's ascent to national research university status.

*#instamood #library #jpl
#clubjpl #random #bestofday*

— As seen on Instagram, Nov. 15.
Photo by Peniel Molina.



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