

**A STUDENT-DRIVEN AND STUDENT-CENTERED APPROACH TO ENGAGEMENT IN THE COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES**

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**COLUMBUS STATE**  

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**UNIVERSITY**

**These slides are also available here:**

<https://alankarass.com/ealc-2023/>

# UNITED STATES





# STATE OF GEORGIA



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0 65 130 mi  
0 100 200 km

# COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY MAIN CAMPUS





# COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY RIVERPARK CAMPUS



# MAIN LIBRARY (EXTERIOR)





# MAIN LIBRARY (INTERIOR)





# SCHWOB SCHOOL OF MUSIC



# MUSIC LIBRARY





# ART LIBRARY





# ADVISING AND TUTORING





# INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY HELP DESK





# EINSTEIN BROTHERS COFFEE SHOP





# Library Open House



January 20, 2022 • 11 AM - 1 PM  
Simon Schwob Memorial Library



# POPULAR READING AND GAMES





# PUZZLE STATION





# “Hygge Nook” Christmas Corner





# TRADITIONAL LIBRARY SERVICES

- Databases, books, journals, newspapers, media
- Archives and Special Collections
- Research assistance and consultations
- Library instruction
- Information- and research-focused seminars for first-year students
- Study spaces and rooms for group study
- Open late into the evening

# UNCONVENTIONAL LIBRARY SERVICES

- Library consultations available in nursing classroom, graduate school lounge, education department, café, science labs
- Loaner laptops and mobile hotspots
- Free earbuds available at service desk
- Free earplugs available at service desk
- Bicycle locks available for loan at service desk
- School and standard household supplies available at Music Library
- First responder capabilities
- “Switchboard” function: helping students find services they need



# **OTHER OFFICES AND SERVICES INSIDE THE LIBRARY**

- University Advising
- Academic Center for Tutoring
- University Information Technology Services Help Desk
- Einstein Brothers Coffee Shop

# CAREER READINESS

- Provide jobs, assistantships, and internships for students
- Host job fairs throughout the year
- Drop-in career counseling



# **SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

- Games and puzzles
- Friday game night in the library
- Books for recreational reading

# SPECIAL EVENTS

- December “Hygge Nook”  
(Scandinavian-style holiday snacks and hot drinks)
- “Cougar Kick Off” library open house at the beginning of each term
- Free coffee during exam periods



# HEALTH, WELLNESS, AND SAFETY

- Food pantry and basic kitchen facilities
- Summertime cooling center
- Rucksacks in library with basic emergency medical supplies
- Defibrillators
  - Devices that apply an electric charge to the heart in the case of a heart attack

# SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

- Provide support to students from nearby Columbus Technical College
- Computer access, scanning, and printing for everyone
- Participation in the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) – Official Documents from the US Government
- Recycling



# MUSIC LIBRARY FOOD PANTRY





# MUSIC LIBRARY FOOD PANTRY





# MUSIC LIBRARY FOOD PANTRY



If music be the food of love, play on.

What are you proud of doing?

Please take  
only L pack  
of tuna or  
chicken and  
L can of tuna  
or chicken a day.  
This is not a  
grocery store,  
and I want  
all students to  
get something.  
Betty

Make good choices today and every day.

Be sure to leave some for others.

Soup and  
the



# ART LIBRARY FOOD PANTRY





# MAIN LIBRARY



# Suggested Reading

## Student Engagement in Academic Libraries

- Appleton, Leo. 2020. "Academic Libraries and Student Engagement: A Literature Review." *New Review of Academic Librarianship*, 26:2-4, 189-213. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13614533.2020.1784762>
- Arnold-Garza Sara and Carissa Tomlinson. 2017. *Students Lead the Library: The Importance of Student Contributions to the Academic Library*. Chicago, Illinois: Association of College and Research Libraries. ISBN: 978-0-8389-8867-1
- Schlak, Timothy. 2017. "Academic Libraries and Engagement: A Critical Contextualization of the Library Discourse on Engagement." *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 44. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2017.09.005>
- Van Kampen-Breit, Doris and Michael Campbell. 2017. "Understanding Student Perspectives on Self-Efficacy, Scholarship & Library Research in Graduate Social Work Distance Learning: A Pilot Study." *Internet Reference Services Quarterly*, 22:4, 167-179. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10875301.2018.1427170>



# Suggested Reading

## Social Services & Food Pantries in Libraries

- Baum, B. and M. Gross. 2023. "Bridging the Service Gap: Branch Managers Talk about Social Workers in Public Libraries." *Public Library Quarterly*, 42:4, 398-423. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01616846.2022.2113696>
- Goldrick-Rab, Sara and C. Baker-Smith. 2019. *College and University Basic Needs Insecurity: A National# RealCollege Survey Report*. The Hope Center.
- Goodson, Kymberly, and Rachel Conry. 2019. "Optimizing Library Services — Food for Thought: Leveraging Library Services to Address Food Insecurity." *Against the Grain* 31:4. <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.8485>
- Henrich, Kristin. 2020. "Supporting Student Wellbeing and Holistic Success: A Public Services Approach." *International Information & Library Review*, 52:3, 235-243. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10572317.2020.1785171>
- Udell, Emily. 2019. "Food for Thought: Academic libraries are fighting campus food insecurity with onsite pantries." *American Libraries*, 50:5, 12–13, 15. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26677410>
- Wood, L. 2020. "Empty Shelves: How Your Academic Library Can Address Food Insecurity." *College & Research Libraries News*, 81:7, 322. <https://doi.org/10.5860/crln.81.7.322>

**QUESTIONS?**

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