

SUNY Buffalo State University

Digital Commons at Buffalo State

Butler Library Annual Reports

E. H. Butler Library

2024

2024 Butler Library annual report

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2024

Annual Report

Butler Library



BUFFALO STATE
The State University of New York

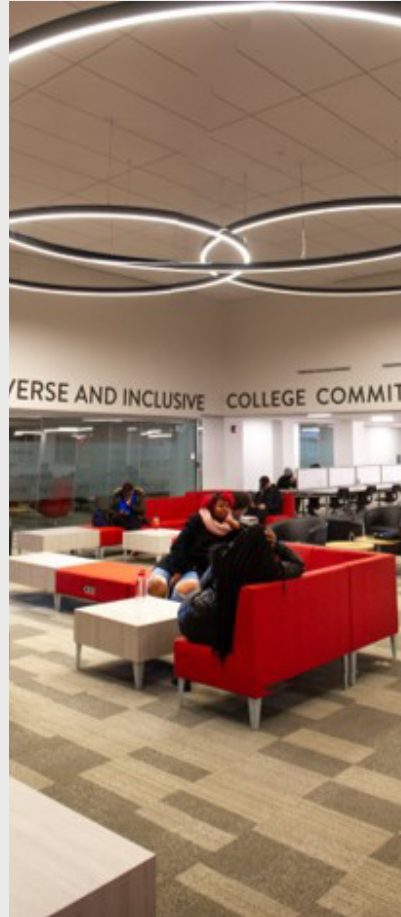


BUTLER LIBRARY
Buffalo State University



Table of Contents

1. From the Director
2. Overview
3. Spaces
4. Collections
5. Archives & Special Collections
6. Student Services
7. Open Pedagogy
8. Research Support
9. Courses & Workshops
10. Events





From the Director

Welcome to Butler Library

Our goal is for the library to serve as the academic heart and hub of the campus: a welcoming and inclusive space for learning, creativity, and scholarship.

Our talented librarians and staff are here to help you succeed at Buffalo State University. Call, text, or email us for assistance or swing by our research help desk on the second floor. While you're here, check out our reservable group study rooms, collection of circulating laptops, or perhaps even a book -- we have over half a million of them in our collections on the second and third floors.

The library's Academic Commons, which opened in March 2020, serves as the front door to student success at Buffalo State by bringing together a variety of support services that strengthen the relationship between students and the librarians, advisors, tutors, and other support staff dedicated to helping them succeed.

Here in Butler Library, we are dedicated to building a library that is innovative, student-centric, and community-driven. Let me know how we can help make your Buffalo State experience even better.

Director, E. H. Butler Library,



Charles Lyons





A Little About the Library

Named for Edward H. Butler, Sr., Butler Library occupies the center of campus at Buffalo State University. In addition to supporting the University's academic mission, the building hosts events, art displays, and provides services for the campus and Buffalo community.

Edward H. Butler, Sr. recognized the importance of library resources to education. His bequest to the school enhanced its reference and art collections, and when the first separate library building was completed in 1952 it was named the Edward H. Butler Library. On April 14, 1970, his granddaughter presided at the dedication of the present structure, which was built over and around the first building.

This contemporary, 216,000-square-foot building holds over 500,000 volumes and welcomes nearly 300,000 visitors per year. The building features modern spaces including computer labs, study spaces, exhibition space for art and rare books, lounges, reading and meeting rooms, and a coffee shop.



**BUTLER
LIBRARY**
Buffalo State University



216,000
square feet

400+
computers



1200
seats

550,000
print books



17
study rooms

300,000
annual
visitors





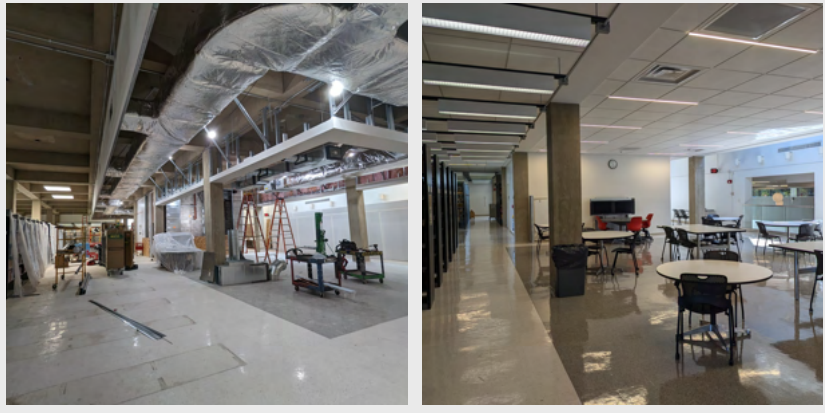
Improving the Heart of the Campus

Butler Library has undergone several major renovation projects in the last five years. These have made the building more welcoming to patrons, responsive to the academic mission, and improved our ability to preserve and display our collections.

In 2018, we began a radical transformation of the first floor, creating an Academic Commons to host student services such as Education Opportunity Program, IT Helpdesk, and the Writing and Math Centers.

Between 2022 and 2023, the library's windows were replaced with modern, energy-efficient glass. In 2023 the library's heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems were updated, necessitating the moving of nearly 200,000 books.

Additional improvements include the creating of a graphic novels space on the third floor and the updating of the Butler Room into a teleconferencing space that can host hybrid meetings.



Collections



Our Evolving Collections

Butler Library holds over 550,000 physical items and over 648,000 eBooks. Patrons can access content from over 99,000 electronic journals and enjoy access to nearly 100,000 music tracks and videos.

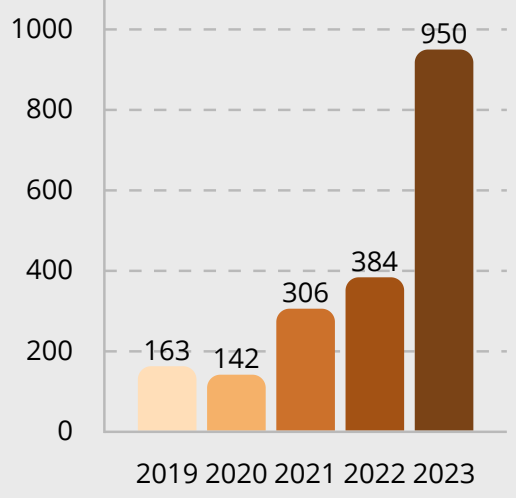
The library circulates over 4,000 physical items per year. While this number is trending downward, that trend is largely explained by recent enrollment decreases and the gradual shift toward eBooks in many disciplines.

Usage of electronic resources continues to grow. Library patrons averaged over 43,000 ebook uses per year over the past four years. With regard to journals, over 115,000 unique electronic articles were accessed by Butler Library patrons in 2023.



Butler Library collection, by topic

Adoption of SUNY resource sharing



Interlibrary loan and resource sharing are increasingly important as they expand access to SUNY library collections.

2023 saw nearly 5,000 total transactions, with Buffalo State faculty and students borrowing nearly 1,400 items from partner libraries. 2023 also saw the start of electronic article resource sharing which allows rapid sharing of scholarly journal content between SUNY libraries.

Material Type	Items
physical items	551,287
ebooks	648,317
ejournals	99,476
physical journals	5,172
streaming media	99,658
physical media	4,815

Butler Library collection, by type



Archives & Special Collections

Archives

The Archives & Special Collection Department at Buffalo State was established in 1975 and houses a growing and vibrant collection of primary and secondary source materials available to faculty, students, and the public. Our collections include various student publications, scrapbooks, speeches, memorabilia, photographs, annual reports, budgets, and statistics starting in 1860 and stretching to the present. In addition, we hold scores of unique collections of local importance, regional interest, and national significance.

Digital Commons

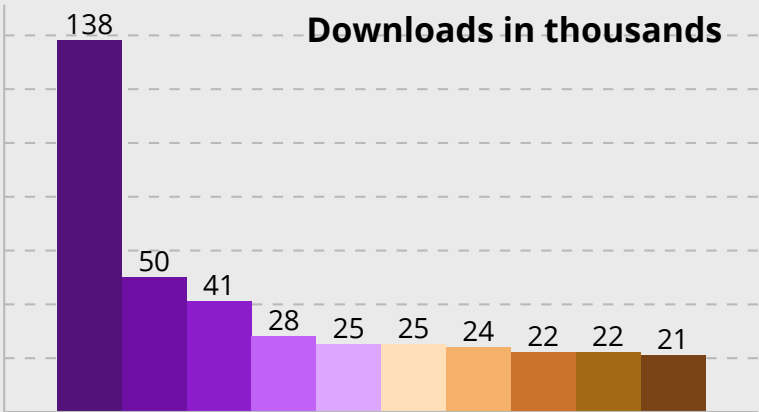
Digital Commons @ Buffalo State is the open access campus repository for scholarly and creative works produced by faculty, staff, and students. Managed by Butler Library, Digital Commons promotes the discovery, dissemination, and preservation of our intellectual capital.

Usage of Digital Commons continues to increase, with both students and faculty choosing to preserve their academic outputs on the platform. Works deposited in Digital Commons are used all over the world and in 2024 we will surpass the two-million downloads milestone.

Journals

Digital Commons hosts several academic journals edited by Buffalo State faculty and students, including *The Literacy and Language Spectrum* and *The Exposition*.

- In 2024, two new journals will launch:
- *Mosaic: The Undergraduate Research Journal*
 - *The Journal of Thematic Instruction*.



- Victorian Women and Their Working Roles
- Shell Shock in Times of Peace
- Creative Classroom Designs
- Impact of Online Shopping on Shopping Malls
- Student Attitudes Toward Reading: A Case Study
- Whose Monster? A Study in the Rise to Power of al Qaeda and the Taliban
- The Sacred Role of Animal Beings in Iroquois Lore
- Writing a Business Plan for a School of Creative Music Education
- John Dewey in the 21st Century
- The Effects of the 2007-2009 Economic Crisis on Global Automobile Industry

Archives & Special Collections

Distinctive Collections

The Courier-Express Photograph Collection

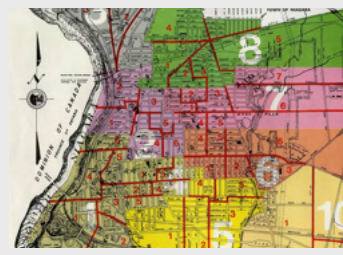
contains more than one million subject clippings, over one hundred thousand photographs, and several pieces of art and framed photographs. The collection includes the original photographs taken by Courier-Express photographers during the course of their work.

The Monroe Fordham Regional History Center

established by former President Muriel Howard, continues the archival collection work begun more than thirty years ago by Dr. Monroe Fordham. Focusing on regional African-American history, the collection includes newspapers, photographs, personal papers, organizational records, and more.

The Madeline Davis LGBTQ Archive of Western New York

was founded in 2001 to collect, safeguard, and provide access to archival materials that document the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender experience in Western New York and Southern Ontario. The largest collection of its kind in the area, the archive houses the records of more than fifty organizations and the collections of numerous prominent figures from the region's LGBTQ+ community.



1	Bidwell, D. D.	General	3d brigade 3d Div. 6th corps.
2	Blackford, Samuel	Captain	
3	Brink, C. F.	Lieutenant	
4	Bullington, K.	Major	
5	Cosler, Elisha	Lieutenant	K 116th New York vols.
6	Dewey, Devlin B.	Private	E 4th United States cavalry
7	Ellis, William	Major	49th New York vols.
8	Furnham, —	Lieutenant	A 100th New York vols.
9	Futty, E. P.	Private	36th New York vols.
10	Faxon, Elisha J.	Private	94th New York vols.
11	Fish, Henry	Major	11th United States infantry
12	Fisher, C. M.	Corporal	F 11th United States infantry
13	Fisher, Otto	Private	I 21st New York vols.
14	Herrmann, John G.	Private	I 21st New York vols.
15	Kirk, Robert	Sergeant	G 100th United States vols.
16	Ludrup, S. H.	1st. Major	36th United States infantry
17	Mulligan, George H.	Lieutenant	A 96th New York vols.
18	Mulligan, James S.	Private	I 21st New York vols.
19	Shadrock, Edward	Private	K 100th United States vols.
20	Tillinghast, W. D.	Private	I 21st New York vols.
21	Tuttle, David W.	Captain	C 116th New York vols.
22	Wallis, E. B.	Sergeant	

Church That Hid Slaves Observes Its 125th Year

A NEGRO church which once served as an underground-railroad station for slaves fleeing from the South to Canada will celebrate its 125th anniversary tomorrow.

Historic Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church at 1525 Michigan Ave. is the oldest Negro congregation in Buffalo. Its original meeting place was on Washington St.

Anniversary services will be held in the present church at 1525 Michigan Ave., which the congregation purchased in 1853. The property formerly was owned by a Presbyterian



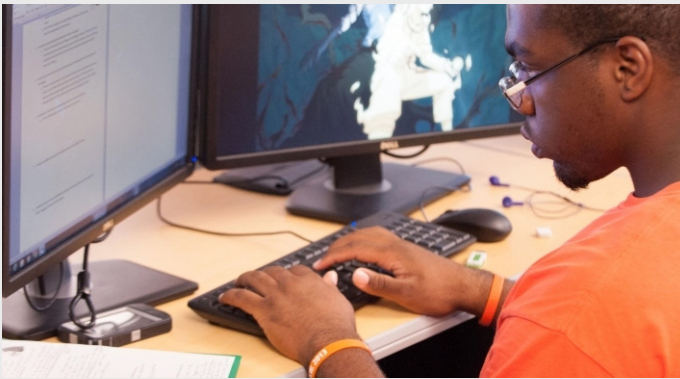


Student Services

Academic Commons: A New Hub for Student Success

The Butler Library Academic Commons brings together support services from across campus as a “one-stop-shop” for student success. Students are able to come to the library to work with a tutor, get advised for the upcoming term, grab some coffee, or just get some work done in one of many beautiful new individual and group study rooms. The Academic Commons comprises much of the first floor of the library and includes a variety of tutorial and other support services.

- **Academic Advising**
- **Academic Center for Excellence (EOP)**
- **Advancing Completion through Engagement (ACE)**
- **IT Help Desk**
- **Library Ask Us Desk**
- **Math Center**
- **Student Accessibility Services & Testing Center**
- **Tutoring Services**
- **Writing Center**



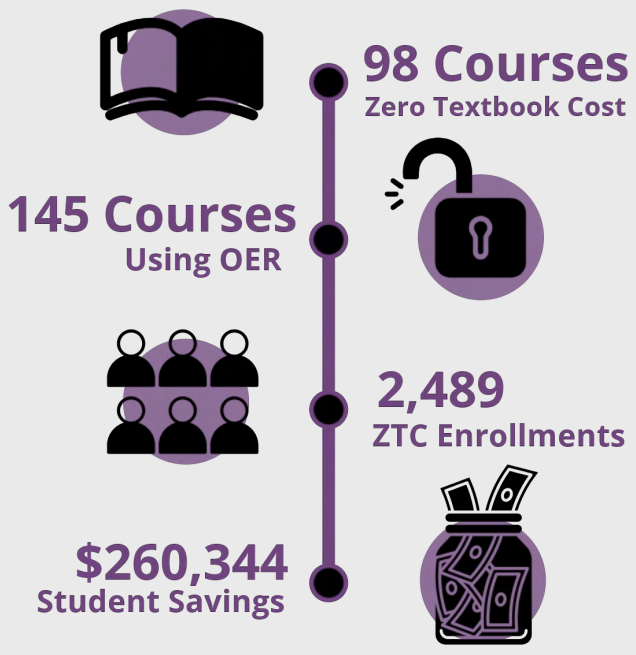
Open Pedagogy



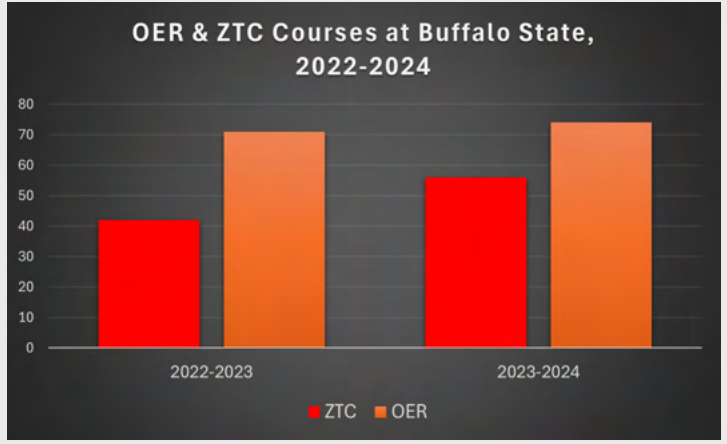
Open Access & Open Educational Resources (OER) Initiatives

Our Alternative Learning Materials Initiative (ALMI) assists faculty with the discovery, creation, and funding of open educational resources. The initiative has resulted in significant savings for students and helps create more low-cost and Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) options in Buffalo State's curriculum.

ALMI Statistics, 2022 to 2024



- 98 Courses** Zero Textbook Cost
- 145 Courses** Using OER
- 2,489** ZTC Enrollments
- \$260,344** Student Savings



Cambridge Journals Transformative Agreement

Butler Library is pleased to announce it has reached a three-year deal with Cambridge University Press to waive all article-processing charges (APCs) from Cambridge University Press journals for Buffalo State University faculty authors.

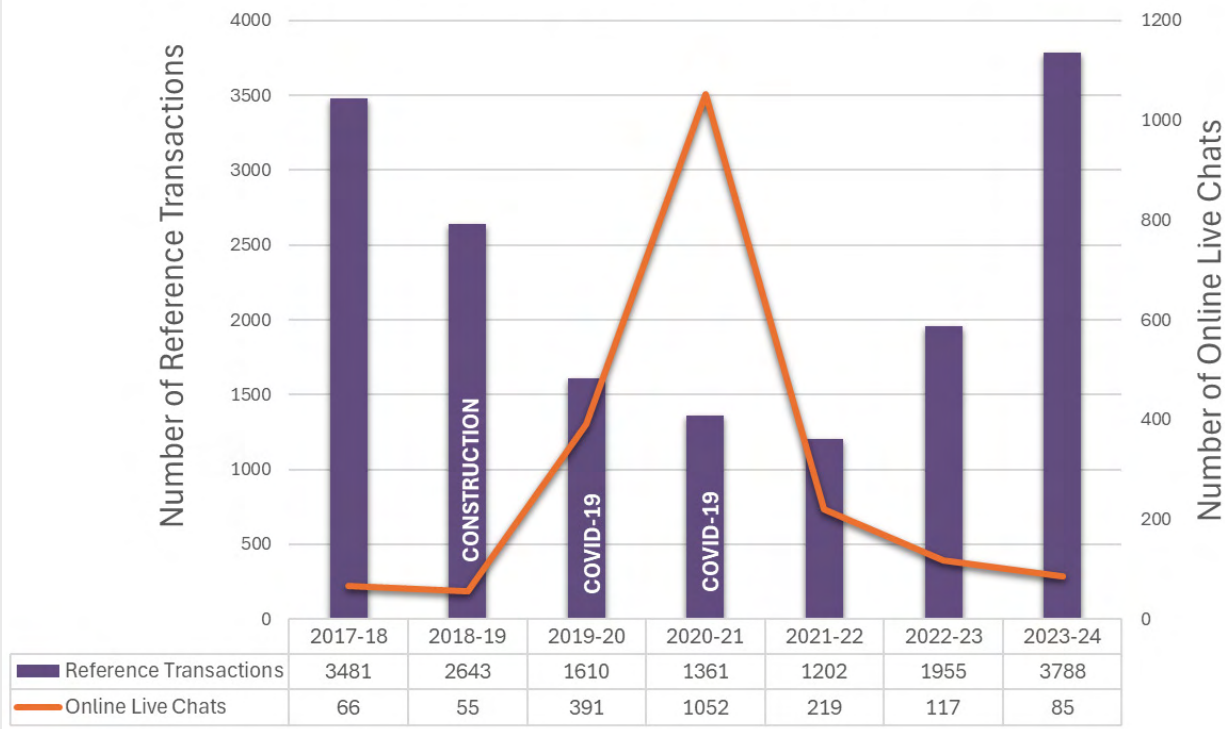
In addition to waiving APC costs for the duration of the new contract, Cambridge has granted Butler Library patrons access to an additional 397 Cambridge journals. This is a three-year transformative deal.



Research Support



Reference Transactions & Online Live Chats, 2017 to 2024



In-Person and Online Library Help

Butler Library provides excellent research assistance to students, faculty, and local community members. At our full-service **Ask Us Desk**, credentialed faculty librarians provide research support and trained students provide peer-to-peer concierge services to Library and Academic Commons patrons. In the 2023-2024 academic year, we helped answer **3,788 reference questions**.

The above chart demonstrates how the library transitioned to remote online support services (live chats) during the COVID-19 disruption.

Research Assistance 2023-2024



3,788
Reference Transactions

85 Live Chats
Reference Stats



289 Tickets
LibAnswers Stats



Library Courses & Workshops

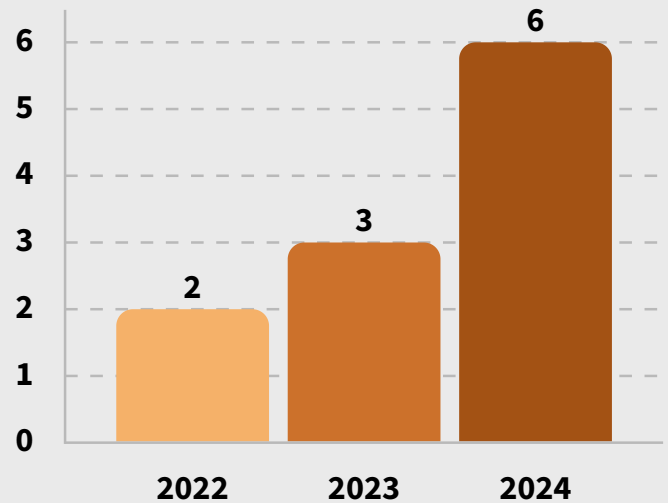
Our Growing Library Course Catalog

LIB100: Introduction to Library Research (1 credit): teaches students how to effectively use the library and provides them with the fundamental information literacy skills they need to succeed at Buffalo State and beyond. We are now offering this course every semester.

LIB300: Advanced Library Research Methods (3 credits): students learn how to conduct higher-level academic research and gain indepth knowledge about finding relevant, scholalry sources to support their studies. Offered in the fall.

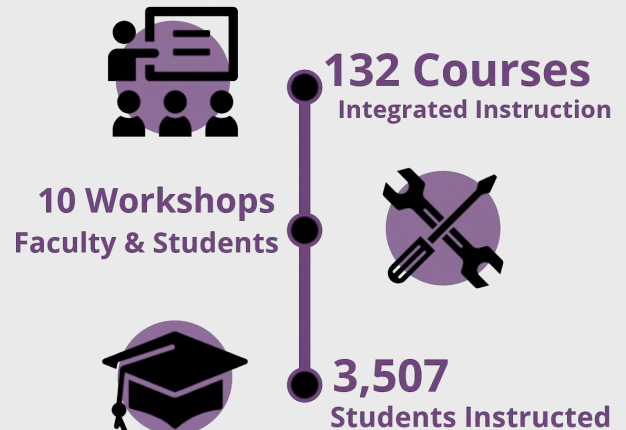
LIB389: Social Justice Through Zines (3 credits): examines social justice movements through the lens of zines (self-published, DIY works). Students study zines in the library collection and also create their own zines. Reflects on current and historical social justice movements to consider how to best support the information needs of those advocating for social justice. Topics course offered occasionally.

LIB Courses Offered per Year, 2022-2024



Library Information Literacy Workshops

Butler Library offers information literacy workshops hosted primarily in our active learning classroom. These workshops help improve student research skills and increase the integration of library resources into the curriculum.





Showcasing Butler Library's New and Improved Spaces

Butler Library has emerged from several significant renovation projects as a welcoming and lively center of campus life. Showcasing our improved spaces is a priority and we saw an increasing number of events held in the library this past year, notably:

- SUNY Chancellor John B. King campus visit
- The Bengala annual campus fundraiser
- SUNY Librarians Association Conference
- Social Justice Book Club
- Trivia Nights
- Campus Daycare Readings
- International Cultural Cafes

