

ACRL Delaware Valley Chapter, Spring Program 2018
Power of Partnerships

Session Report

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Collaborations with Faculty: Reaching Outside of the Classroom

In the final session of the day, presenters from Muhlenberg College's Trexler Library shared their experiences with faculty that extend beyond traditional course support. Each discussed how his or her expertise, a supportive campus culture, and established faculty relationships, serve as a foundation for successful partnerships.

Kelly Cannon, Scholarly Communication and Digital Learning Librarian, discussed how the project to pass an Open Access Resolution at the College stemmed from his previous work on an annual source book of faculty publications. His expertise brought him and two faculty allies together; Cannon conducted the research, and his partners helped to educate faculty on the benefits of an OA resolution. While there are still challenges with getting faculty works in the College's [scholarly repository](#), Cannon noted that there has been a positive shift in faculty's attitude toward Open Access publishing.

Rachel Hamelers, Teacher and Learning Librarian, leveraged her existing relationships with faculty to develop an interdisciplinary public health speaker series. Hamelers wanted to use the library space to bring speakers with different perspectives together to present a deeper, more complex treatment of an issue. The series featured experts from across disciplines to discuss public health topics including Ebola, the Zika virus, and most recently, [the opioid epidemic](#) in which Hamelers served as a panelist.

The third Muhlenberg presenter, archivist Susan Falciani Maldonado, described the inspiration for the [Muhlenberg Memories Project](#). After receiving a trove of primary materials from the WWII era, Maldonado reached out to Kate Raineri, professor in the Media and Communication department, and the two began a research project, recording oral histories of College alumni from the time period. Their work led to new programming and exhibits and raised the profile of the Archives. Maldonado and Raineri also developed a documentary research course focused on the WWII collection.