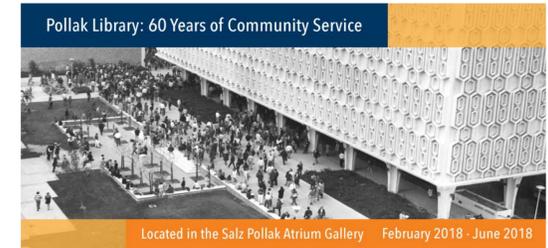


Government Documents & Special Collections: Opportunities for Collaboration

Megan Wagner | Government Documents Librarian
California State University Fullerton | Pollak Library

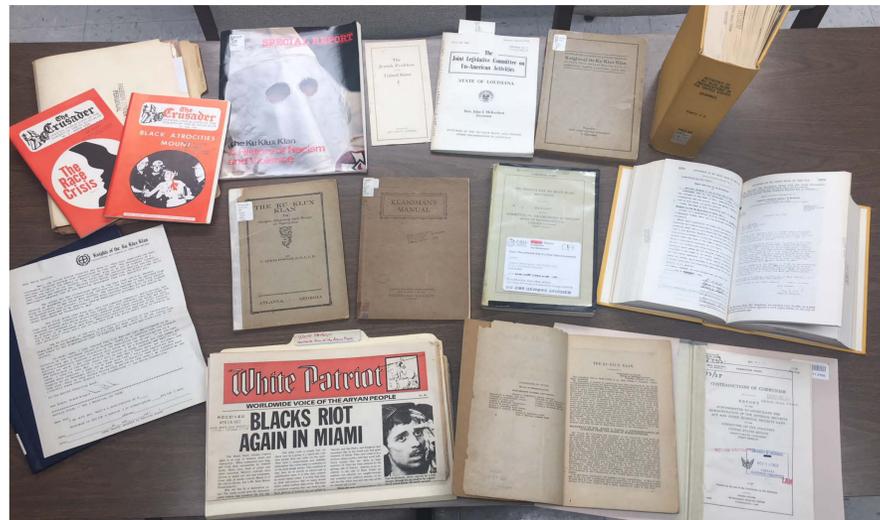


INTRODUCTION

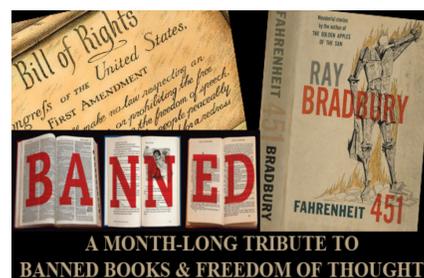
On the topic of collaboration between libraries and archives, Richard J. Cox encourages professionals to “consider how government publications could be treated ‘archivally’ to the benefit of both professions, opening the door to increased cooperation” (Cox, 1986). Considering this advice in the context of library instruction and outreach, showcasing government documents housed in archives helps to realize this vision and promote various collections in chorus. This poster describes ongoing collaborative instruction and outreach efforts utilizing Government Documents and University Archives & Special Collections material at California State University Fullerton's Pollak Library. Collaborative library instruction sessions aim to provide an archival “white glove” experience for undergraduate students and connect them with a constellation of primary sources first hand. By incorporating various primary sources and document types into library instruction sessions, students analyze multiple viewpoints in historical context while gaining a deeper understanding of resources provided by the library.



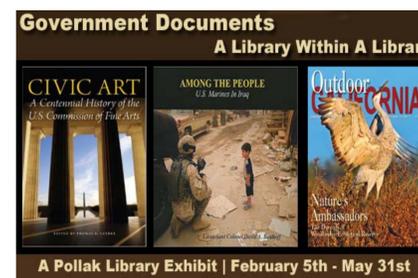
University Archivist Patricia Prestinary introduces CSUF ROTC students to historical military maps



Freedom Center Collection & Government Documents Display Examples



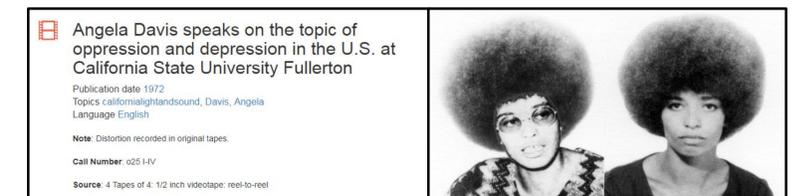
Book displays featuring government documents & special collections



A Pollak Library Exhibit | February 5th - May 31st

METHODS

Collaborative library instruction sessions, displays, and outreach efforts include pre-selected documents from both the Government Documents Collection as well as University Archives & Special Collections. During instruction, students learn how to request library material from the online catalog (Primo & ArchivesSpace) and are introduced to archival documents and physical material prepared for the course. Linking various document types around course themes, students are given the opportunity to explore the material and make connections between sources in groups or individually. Experiential learning activities help showcase library treasures as well as provide a sensory experience that complements the demonstration of primary source digital collections. Students also receive a brief introduction to archival research in person or via YouTube eLearning videos.



Calisphere Record of University Archives Material & NARA FBI Photo

IMPACT

- ✓ Consistent, original displays of archives and special collections material and government publications.
- ✓ Fivefold increase in library instruction requests for extended archival instruction and growing.
- ✓ Improved use and awareness of both collections.
- ✓ New full-time archives assistant staff member and student assistant recruitment due to increased reading room use.
- ✓ Increased faculty engagement through personalized, course grounded instruction with unique material.

REFERENCES & MORE INFO

For a brief list of references and additional information about Pollak Library please visit:
<https://sites.google.com/fullerton.edu/mewagner-poster-references>



In what ways do you collaborate with archives or special collections at your institution? Share your ideas in this poll:
<https://tinyurl.com/CSUF1957>