

Special Editions

News from the Friends of the
Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery

How old is UMBC? How many Presidents have served at UMBC? What was here before the UMBC campus? The answers to these and many more questions can be found at the following website
<http://lib.guides.umbc.edu/c.php?g=24874&p=151546> What a great opportunity to read more about UMBC as UMBC celebrates fifty years of great history!



Guess Who Is The Winner of the Starbucks Gift Card?



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A Message from the New Director



As a way of a brief introduction, let me tell you a little about myself and how I came to the Albin O Kuhn Library & Gallery at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. I was born in the Southwest, New Mexico in fact. My mother's family has lived for generations in a land that has been claimed at various times by Spain, Mexico, and the Republic of Texas and currently is the 47th of the 50 United States. My family never crossed borders, borders crossed us. I became a librarian and have worked at various stages of my career in libraries at the University of New Mexico, the University of Arizona, the University of California at the Riverside, Irvine and Santa Barbara campuses and Northern Illinois University. What attracted me to UMBC was what has been accomplished here in only 50 years and the potential of the campus and library for the future.

In my career, I have witnessed incredible changes in the library profession and in academic libraries. In fact, the past 30 years have produced more changes in academic libraries than the previous 100. It is an exciting and invigorating time to be in libraries and my desire is to make sure that the AOK Library & Gallery is at the forefront of innovation which will benefit the research and teaching of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and contribute to the success of our students. I look forward to meeting all of you.

UMBC Says Good Bye to Dr. Homer Schamp



In 1965, a year before UMBC opened, Dr. Schamp was appointed dean of the faculty, with responsibility for hiring the university's first faculty members. "Homer was both a pioneer and visionary leader," says President Freeman Hrabowski. "A renowned physicist, he and other early leaders laid the foundation for the high quality education and research that UMBC is known for today."

Throughout his career at UMBC as a provost, vice chancellor for academic affairs, and research professor, Dr. Schamp's enthusiasm for learning inspired all those around him. His penchant for using new education techniques has led to advances in pedagogy, scholarship, and creative achievement reflected throughout the campus's history. His belief in the importance of connecting the university to its surrounding community established UMBC as a catalyst for economic development and quality of life in the Baltimore region.

Dr. Schamp dedicated his life to education, serving more than 50 years in higher education roles at the campus and system levels. Prior to his appointment at UMBC, he was a rising star in the physics program at the University of Maryland, College Park. He became a key player in developing the UMCP's Institute for Molecular Physics and became its director in 1964. Known as an exceptional problem-solver, Dr. Schamp was called upon once more toward the end of his career at UMBC to assist the chancellor of the newly established University System of Maryland. His long record of building consensus was critical in helping the System navigate complex personnel and academic issues.

Viewing services for Dr. Schamp will take place on Friday, January 15, 2016, 5–8 p.m. and Saturday, January 16, 2016, 2–4 p.m. at Ruck Towson Funeral Home, 1050 York Rd., Towson, MD 21204. A memorial service will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions to the Dr. Homer W. Schamp Memorial Scholarship. This newly established fund will support students interested in teaching science in K-12 schools after graduation.

Article originally published in *The Baltimore Sun* January 14, 2016. *image: Albin O. Kuhn, Guy Chisholm, and Homer Schamp at the UMBC Groundbreaking. Photo by UMCP Photo Services, 1966.*



Recently Hired Staff

Paula Langley joined UMBC Library in November 2015 as the Circulation Department Manager. She was recently employed at Towson University, and Boston University prior to that. Paula received her BA in History from Rutgers University and a Masters in Human Resources Development from Towson University. Paula looks forward to meeting and working with the UMBC population and strives to provide customer service that anticipates your needs and exceeds your expectations.



Brian Gilmer joined the Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery in July as an IT Support Associate. Brian's most recent position was one of a Network Engineer for NetLogic DC. In this role he was responsible for resolving incoming requests for assistance from clients who were experiencing issues with their software or hardware. Brian is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Cyber Security, he plans to continue his education at UMBC

Special Collections Acquires Kircher Work *Ars Magna Lucis et Umbrae*

The Special Collections of the Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery recently acquired *Ars Magna Lucis et Umbrae: In decem Libros digesta* [The Great Art of Light and Shadow] by Athanasius Kircher (Rome: Hermann Scheus), 1646. The acquisition of this major work was enabled by the generous support of the Friends of the Library & Gallery.

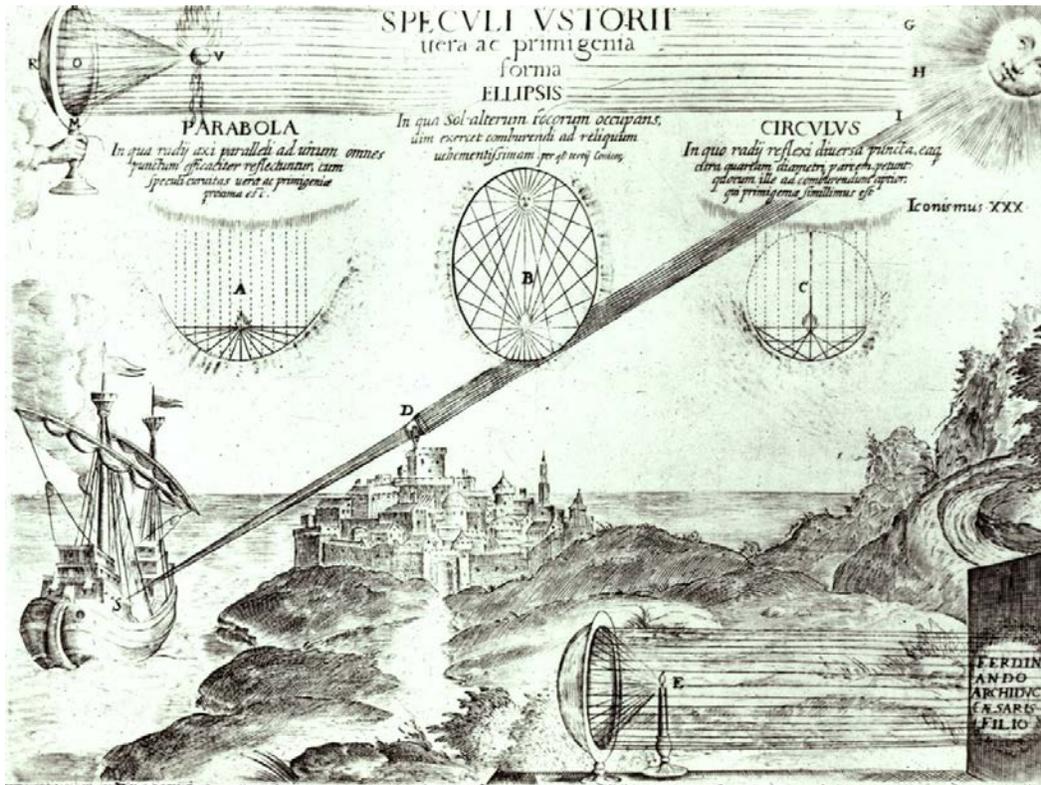
Athanasius Kircher (1602–1680) was a [German](#) monk who authored more than forty major works, and is widely considered the last of those to rank in intellectual stature with Leonardo da Vinci. He established the field of Egyptology, wrote an encyclopedia of China, was an authority on geology (especially the geology of volcanoes), and proposed that the diseases were caused by microorganisms, an idea far ahead of most other thinkers of his time.

Ars Magna Lucis et Umbrae, a volume highly valued in the history of science, is also notable in the fields of media, photography, and optics. In the book, Kircher discussed such diverse subjects as light and shadow, astronomy (especially the movement of the sun, the moon and the planets), fireflies, phosphorescence, sundials and mirrors, technology, mechanics, color, and projected images. Many consider his ideas on projected images to be the origin of the idea for motion picture projection. In the foreword to the book, Kircher wrote that "*Ars Magna* is not an ordinary book, it is a ship that sails in the vast expanse of the sensible world, and whose domain is the whole of the universe."

The copy that UMBC now owns was once in the library of Englishman Thomas Tyrwhitt (1730-1786) who was educated at Eton and Queen's College, Oxford and served as undersecretary of war as well as clerk of the House of Commons. He was elected a fellow of the Royal Society and a trustee of the British Museum, to which he bequeathed most of his personal library.

In addition to support from the Friends of the Library & Gallery, funds for the acquisition also came from the Richard and Alwilda Scholler Jaquish Endowment, the Albin O. Kuhn Endowment, and the Special Collections revolving account.

Illustration: "Speculi Ustorii" from *Ars Magna Lucis et Umbrae* by Athanasius Kircher



-Thomas Beck

Special Thanks to Joyce Tenney for her service and dedication as Acting Director.



The Library Launches A New Page

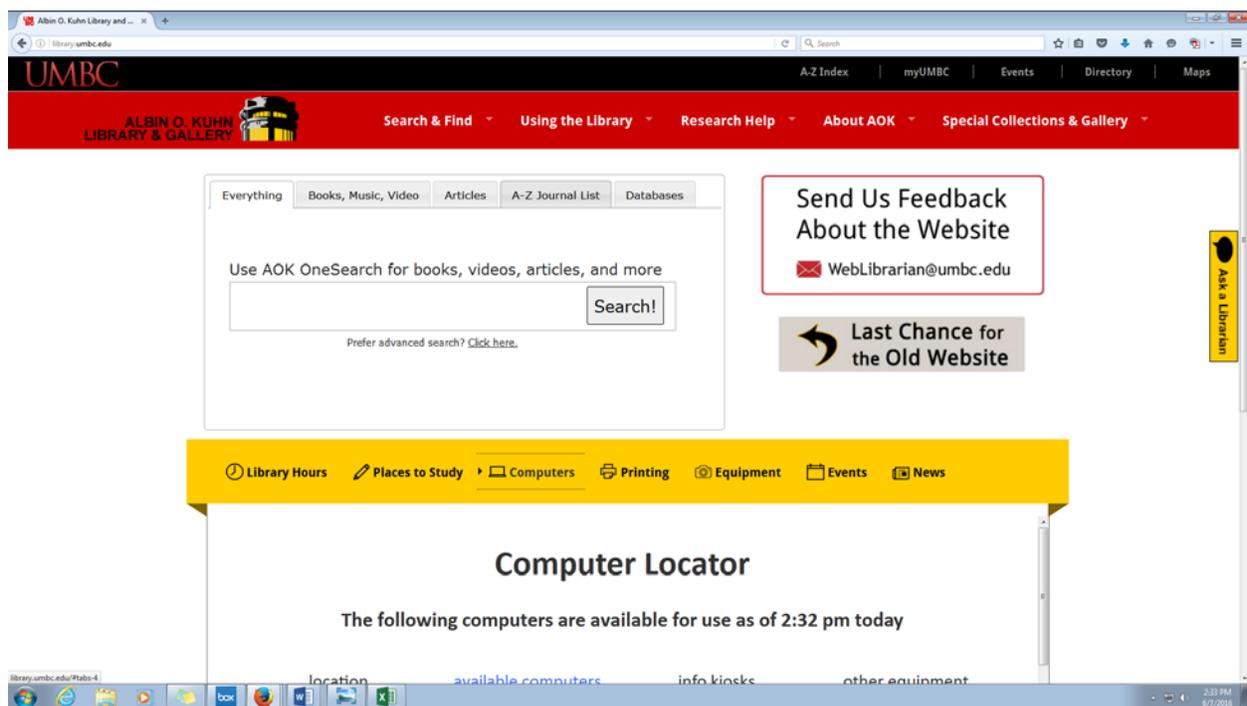
The AOK Library is pleased to announce that we launched a new and improved website on January 4th. Try it out at library.umbc.edu! Highlights include:

- A cleaner, less cluttered layout.
- A new default search tool: AOK OneSearch. View books, articles, media and more in a single results list.
- A page highlighting all of the Library's fabulous places to study

Our Web Services Librarian led the Web Committee in over a year of preparation, design work, and usability testing. The new website design highlights research functions and provides a clear path to the core tasks of students and faculty. It prominently features the Ask a Librarian feature, so that a Reference Librarian is always within reach. And it's built to be responsive, so that all functions available on a desktop computer can also be accessed from your mobile phone or tablet.

There is also a new Friends of the Library page at <http://library.umbc.edu/friends/>. It's the place to go for information about new Friends Publications and Events.

The Library has been working hard to make our website more user-friendly. Please tell us what you think! Send feedback to: WebLibrarian@umbc.edu



“Changing to Serve You Better” our new slogan submitted by Beverly Conner.

A Committee was appointed by the Director to look at strategies to optimize our service. As part of their work, this Committee sponsored a slogan campaign and Beverly came up with our winning slogan. In order to provide better service and streamline access to materials, services, and equipment, the Library is making a few big changes. This slogan will be appearing on all publicity relating to announcements about our changes. For more see:

<http://my.umbc.edu/groups/library/files/9005>

And here what Beverly has to say:

Salutations! I came to UMBC to pursue an undergraduate degree in Ancient Studies which was achieved in 1987. I worked as a student assistant at the Record/Tape and the Serials departments during my student years and after a little break came back to work here as a staff member at Library Media. I have been here to see the many changes that have taken place on the campus and in the library. The library has changed a lot over the years-- going from a 2 level building to a 7 floor structure. As the needs of the campus and students have changed the library has done its best to adapt and this change to a centralized multi-functional service point; is another example of this. The slogan “Changing to serve you better” just seemed rather appropriate as it is something that we’ve always done here.

Special Thanks to the Committee and Stay tuned for more details!

Committee Members: Robin Moskal (Chair), Jodi Hoover, Paula Langley, James Stephens, Katy Sullivan, and Laura Weathers .



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Mr. Patrick Dawson, Director
Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery
University of Maryland Baltimore County
1000 Hilltop Circle
Baltimore, Maryland 21250

If you wish to donate, please call us at 410 455-2356 or send E-mail to Pdawson@umbc.edu

This newsletter is an occasional publication. Editor: Simmona E. Simmons, Contributors: Thomas Beck, Patrick Dawson, Sarah New, Shawn Parker, and Robin Moskal (Reviewer)



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