Vann named National Role Model

Charlcie Pettway Vann, Psychology & General Reference Librarian, has received the Minority Access Inc. 19th National Role Model Award. The award recognizes those who inspire students, faculty, alumni, innovators and diverse institutions by serving as role models to expand the pool of minority scientists, researchers, and professionals in fields underrepresented by minorities. The Minority Access National Role Models Conference is one of the most prestigious conferences of its kind. The 2018 conference was informative, educational, and exciting for Ms. Vann.

She shares, "Wow, what an honor to be selected as one of the recipients of the award. I appreciate the opportunity to get an award for just being or doing what I love doing, which is encouraging people, especially our students. I had no idea how awesome this conference would be. Seeing individuals from all over the United States in National Harbor, Maryland and Washington D.C. was inspiring. The workshops started early September 28 with the College and Career Showcase. There was also the 'Serving Diverse Communities and Engaging STEM Disciplines through Federal Programs' session, which was extremely informative. I had an opportunity to meet and connect with several people in academia from the Midwest and West Coast. Vann continues, "There was a large-screen slideshow featuring all of the National Role Model recipients. It was odd seeing my head so large in a room of distinguished scholars. It was a humbling and celebratory emotion at the same time. I noticed Dr. Safaa Al-Hamdani, JSU Professor of Biology, seated at the next honorees' table. I felt delighted that JSU had two National Minority Role Models at the gala."

Congratulations to Ms. Vann for her achievement.
The graduation ceremony was held on July 26, 2018. In addition to the granting of diplomas, students and parents were treated to refreshments and a student-led comedy show. As a testament to the success of the program, over 60 students received diplomas.

CONSTRUCTION & SPACE UPDATE

The March 19 tornado impacted many campus units, including the Library. The devastation caused a scramble to find space for classes for the Fall 2018 semester. Despite its own damage, the Library stepped up and offered help. This included extensive shifting of the collection on the 6th floor and relocating bound journals from the floor to a University storage facility. Once these collections were moved, classroom spaces were constructed. There are two spaces on the 2nd floor and one on the 6th floor that are currently being used as classrooms. In addition to those spaces, the conference center on the 11th floor, open classroom on the 7th floor, two library instruction classrooms in the basement and on the 10th floor, as well as the Dean’s Conference Room and Administrative Conference Area, are available for classroom use. Other spaces in the Library may be available on a case-by-case basis, with the approval of the Head of Public Services and the Dean of Library Services.

These spaces are being heavily used. During the fall semester, there were 1,175 events and classes, including Biology, English, Music, Nursing, Physics, STU101 and University Honors. The Library has created digital signage and posted information on the Library website (http://www.jsu.edu/library/libclass.html) to point students to the appropriate locations for their classes. To reserve a space, please complete the online form (http://www.jsu.edu/library/forms/librarypaperrequest.html). For more information, please contact Ms. Alisha Henson, Secretary to the Dean of Library Services.

While much of the JSU campus was quiet during the summer of 2018, the 5th floor of the Library buzzed with activity. During the inaugural year of the HCL College for Kids, children from the ages of 4 to 7 had a little taste of the college experience. The 20-plus mini-lectures ran the whole range of the academic spectrum, from music to movement, drama to dance, and germs to jokes. Faculty from across the Jacksonville State community delivered programs in their areas of expertise, designed specifically for kids to enjoy. Kids who attended more than 5 sessions earned their own College for Kids diploma.

To mark the end of the fall semester, Professor Hanrong Wang’s poster session at the American Library Association Conference was selected for presentation. The session focused on the challenges of collaborative preservation. The presentation was a part of the annual conference焦点。“If You Build It, They Will Use It: Creating Effective Course-Level Library Guides,” Presentation at the Chinese American Librarians Association/American Library Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, June 24, 2018.

The library also hosted several presentations and publications. One of the highlights was Professor Harriett Thompson’s poster session at the American Library Association Conference. The session focused on the challenges of collaborative preservation. The presentation was a part of the annual conference.