

Monday, March  
15, or  
thereabouts

# Unbound Times

“An Occasional Irregular Newsletter of the Oregon Tech Libraries”

Unbound: a  
volume which  
was once in a  
bind but now,  
is not.

## March is Women’s History Month

A new [subject guide](#) for women’s history month is now available on the Oregon Tech library website.

Highlighting books on women of note and women in science and engineering the guide gives some perspectives that are not always readily available. Also look for local resources for women and more ways to research women history through the Oregon Tech Library.



Dr. David Johnston, Ph.D, Natural Sciences, Portland-Metro Campus, received a textbook affordability star during the latest Open Education Week celebration.



WPA poster - "Rosie the Riveter", 1942

“When women entered the factory floors, there was no going back, says [Lisa Kathleen Graddy](#), a curator at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History. It was a transformative moment in American culture, which had reserved many careers for men.”

Oregon Tech’s [library catalog](#) has primary sources and multi-format materials on feminism, intersectionality, etc., to further your research.

## Oregon Tech Professors Highlight Open Ed Week

March 1-5 was Open Education week. This internationally celebrated movement was highlighted by the Oregon Tech Library in a variety of ways.

Three forums were held where faculty who received an Oregon Tech low / no cost textbook incentive in 2020 talked about what they had done. These included faculty from Comm, Management, Chemistry, and Psychology.

You may have noticed stars in the halls. The library recognized faculty who have switched to open, low, and no cost course materials with gold stars on their office doors or windows. We want to make sure to recognize everyone who does this work, so if we missed you, email [libtech@oit.edu](mailto:libtech@oit.edu).

Applications to [create, adapt, and adopt](#) materials for your courses will remain open with the next review date of 4/12

The activity of the week with the most impact was a question each day that students answered. See more quotes, pictures, and recordings on [the web](#).

Here are some of the student answers we received:

Q: If you purchased the textbooks for your courses, do you think it was worth it?

A: Depending on the class. At least half my class don't need books and buying them was a complete waste of time.

Q: What is something you'd like faculty to know about access codes or textbooks?

A: Access codes are crazy overpriced and usually not worth buying. Textbooks I don't mind paying for if they're for a core class, but if it's for speech or a general elective, I would much prefer a cheap or free pdf.

Q: How do you budget for textbooks? what happens when you are under budget?

A: It is impossible to budget for textbooks because the prices vary so much. If I budgeted for the maximum amount a text could be that would be over 1000 a term. You just have to hope it isn't too bad.

## Student Quotes

“I usually hope I have enough financial aid to cover books, but lately I have not, and I have been more desperate to find them for free.”

“The class with the best course materials was my sociology course because the Professor used a textbook that we had free access to and it was interesting material.”

“OERs! It is a huge relief to find out a course textbook is available for free on a website like Openstax.”

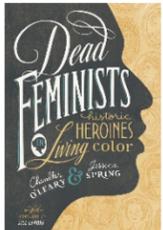
Shifting spaces

## LRC Makes Room

The LRC is welcoming several departments moving out of Boivin Hall. Online Learning will be occupying previous librarian offices on the second floor across from the library administrative offices.

The Office of Advising and Retention (previously, The Rock) will be occupying space on the LRC first floor. Due to the nature of their conversations, they will be using the space in and around LRC113, which was once a classroom, but was converted into a large student contemporary study room. That room and its technology will be moved into a librarian's previous office.

**Lagniappe:** [Dead Feminists](#). A collection of stunning letterpress posters bringing feminist history to life by celebrating extraordinary agents of change. Forward by Jill Lapore.



Teaching tools

## Robots Land

We have robots! Well - only one. Working with Dr. Cecily Heiner (CSET), the Library has purchased a Finch robot 2.0, some microbits, and some Circuit Playground boards. These inexpensive robotic platforms provide a low-floor, high-ceiling opportunity for Oregon Tech students to explore technical interests. In addition, students who participate in outreach activities can use them to capture the imagination and enthusiasm of local K-12 students.

The Finch 2.0, microbit packages, and the Circuit Playground Express circuit boards can be [found in our catalog](#). They can be checked out for 7 days.



[Author extraordinaire](#)

## Octavia Butler



“All that you touch you change. All that you change changes you. The only lasting truth is change. . . .” Octavia Butler’s Earthseed principle unifies and fosters life as depicted in her Parable series which includes the 1993 prophetic novel, [Parable of the Sower](#), a dystopian vision of societal collapse, climate change, and corporate greed, set in 2024. Sound familiar? Winner of SF’s highest awards and the MacArthur Genius Grant, Butler forged a remarkable vision that has [motivated scholars and writers](#). Dive into her [extraordinary work](#).



1972, Oregon Tech, Klamath Falls, Karen Finnicum (left), fills a syringe with Assistant Professor Maria Melroy (middle) while Registered Nurse Susan Riverman (right) observes. [See this picture in the collection](#).

## Women of the Klamath Basin

Shaw Historical Collection and University Archives

On the second floor of the LRC the Shaw historical collection houses some hidden gems about the people and goings on in the Klamath Basin.

[The Cora Conner Collection](#).

Cora Conner worked as a telephone operator in Bly in 1945. On May 5, 1945 she was on duty at the Bly telephone office, when six people were killed by accidentally detonating a Japanese balloon bomb. This collection contains materials related to the 1945 Japanese balloon bomb explosion and aftermath.

[Ida Odell Photographic Collection](#)

Ida Odell was well-known in Klamath County business and social circles during the first half of the twentieth century. Her business activities included banking and sheep ranching. She was the founder and first President of the Klamath County Historical Society.

Find more about the [Shaw historical library and University Archives collections](#) online.

The [Campus History Collection](#) also has pictures of some of the women of Oregon Tech.

## Faculty, It Is Time to Invest

Book buying coming soon

Librarian liaisons will be contacting faculty soon to buy books for their courses and programs. For maximum access, the librarians will be concentrating on electronic versions. Print is still an option when electronic is not available.

If you have titles that would help in your activities, classes, research, or that you think would be a good thing to have in the library, let us know.

[Tracy Scharn](#): Communication, CSET, Math, and Management

[Karen Kunz](#): Civil Engineering, and Geomatics

[Iris Godwin](#): AHA, MIT, Nursing, and Respiratory care and polysomnography

[Dawn Lowe-Wincentzen](#): Dental Hygiene, MLS, EMS, EERE, MET, and Manufacturing.

[Alla Powers](#): Psychology, Natural Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, General Education