Twenty years ago, I was given a desk, a computer, and a bookshelf and asked if I could start a college library. YOUR college library started in a 299 square foot room with an adjoining 253 square foot computer lab which was in collaboration with La Plaza Telecommunity, the first organization to bring internet service to Taos.

Dr. Augustine Martinez was the Executive Director of the Taos Education Center at the time, and I reported to the Dean of Instruction Dr. Antonio Delgado. There were approximately 770 students enrolled in 1995, and we were operating out of the Civic Plaza Drive campus. Each classroom space on that campus, I have been told by local Taoseños, was originally the Forest Service parking garages. Now, coming full circle, UNM-Taos is graduating students with skills to work at the Forest Service, and other natural resource management agencies.

There have been approximately 80 student employees through the State and Federal WorkStudy program working for YOUR college library over the years. That is a substantial number of students getting trained in skills they can utilize regardless of what occupation or career they pursued. Again, coming full circle, the first student employee to work at YOUR college library was Michael Romero, who is now the director of the Red Willow Education Center at Taos Pueblo. We would love to hear where all of our previous student employees are in their lives now, and how they are using the skills they gained working for YOUR college library.

The space, the staff, the resources, and the special events have continually evolved and transitioned with the needs of the college, the community, and the courses and degrees offered. Starting at 299 square feet we gradually increased space over the years until YOUR college library consisted of 1,886 square feet throughout the whole north wing of the Civic Plaza.
The Election Recycle: Campaign Tech Needs R&D, Not Constant Do-overs
By Issie Lapowsky

Alpha Geek: Leading Light, Pixar’s Natural Wonder
By Lexi Pandell

How Stuff Works: New Thing Explainer provides a simple blueprint of the universe
By Randall Munroe

War of the Words: A battle over diversity is raging in the world of science fiction. And it’s a battle for the soul of all popular culture
By Amy Wallace

Get Up, Stand Up How Black Lives Matter is rebooting the civil rights movement for the 21st century
By Bijan Stephen

Should the world legalize drugs?
By Naina Bajekal

Mexico: a 16th century church emerges
Photo By David von Blohn

Why some restaurants have declared war on tipping
By Ben Goldberger

Why it’s easier than ever to get great advice — if you know where to look
By Lily Rothman

A Star is Born: Startup companies are rebooting the quest for clean energy’s holy grail: fusion
By Lev Grossman

Women Flip the Script: Sandra Bullock and her A-list sisters are hunting down Hollywood’s best new roles — the ones written for men
By Eliana Dockterman

Financial-crisis fiction by Paul Murray, Calvinist essays by Marilynne Robinson
By Radhika Jones

Sympathy is Short-Lived for Marginalized Irish After a Deadly Fire
By Douglas Dalby

China Ranks Last of 65 Nations in Internet Freedom
By Edward Wong

Caught in a Vicious Cycle, With Haitian Roots and No ID
By Sandra E. Garcia

In City Where So Many Puzzles Seem to Defy Solution, One Gets an Answer
By Jim Dwyer, about NYC

Consumer Spending and Housing Prop Up U.S. Economy: Underlying strength suggests the Fed may yet raise rates this year
By Nelson D. Schwartz

Tasting the Nectar of an Artisanal Life in Tuscany
By Manohla Dargis, film review

From Painting And Beyond, A Return: Frank Stella’s Migrations Across Media, Laid Out in Dazzling Detail
By Roberta Smith, art review
Great Expectations: Jennifer Senior on Modern Parenthood and Its Discontents
By Mark Leviton

The Dog-eared Page: Excerpted from The Little Virtues
By Natalia Ginzburg

Poetry: And Another Generation Cometh
By Various Authors

Essay: The Permission Slip
By Lad Tobin

Fiction: Plagiarism
By Emma Duffy-Comparone

Readers Write: Saying No
By Various Authors

True Story: Labor Day
By Lisa Taddeo

Sunbeams
By Various Writers

20 Engaging Life: TCUs (Tribal Colleges and Universities) and their Role Building Community
By Cheryl Crazy Bull

27 TCJ (Tribal College Journal) Student
Edited By LeAnne Howe

44 Lighting the Way: Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College Serves as a Beacon Light for Tribal Members
By Sherrole Benton

50 Barrow’s Living Room: How a Tribal College Library Connects Communities across the Arctic
By Erin Hollingsworth

54 Talking Circle: Oshki Bimaadiziwin: Restoring Balance through Education
By Patricia Hemming & Patrick Shields

Above: EARTH, Young Children, American Sociological Review, Indian Country Today, JADE
Visit YOUR library to see ALL our Journals, Magazines and other Periodicals!
Drive campus. It was a special place, with hand-hewn vigas, a courtyard with plantings, and a mural commissioned by YOUR college library and the Water Institute, specially painted by George Chacón.

As time passed, Dr. Kate O’Neill, current executive director, saw the need to move the library to the Klauer campus where most of the classes were now being offered. With her infinite wisdom and vision, in 2012 she was able to make this happen in a 1,792 square foot modular building placed just adjacent to the hub of classes.

Now, YOUR college library is again moving, this time to a 1,032 square foot space in Pueblo Hall East. What we’ll lose in space, we’ll gain in collaboration with the CASA team—Center for Academic Success and Achievement. It’s a natural match in our mutual goal to serve students in their academic endeavors.

So, with all of this transition in spaces, staff, and resources, we haven’t yet had a chance to plan for a special event celebrating 20 years as YOUR college library. Now our goal is to celebrate with a grand opening of the new space in Pueblo Hall East combined with our annual Love Your Library event; so please plan to join us because it really is all about you—our students both present and past, our staff and faculty, and our community-at-large.

Thank you for a most productive and more importantly, most rewarding 20 years as YOUR college library. We will continue to hold the dream of a library and learning center building with adequate space for collections, both current and historical, various student study spaces, proper library instruction spaces, and a venue for events showcasing our students, faculty, and community partners.

~ K. Knoth