

# Why Do We Need Libraries?

"I always see librarians as the aunties and uncles within the academic ecosystem. So the faculty are the parents, where they're kind of high up, and the students may or may not want to engage with them, because they're a little nervous. And so the librarians are the ones that are willing to step in. We're happy to talk to the students to understand where they're coming from, but also happy to talk to the faculty, and also understand where they're coming from. We understand both sides of that coin of the talk between them. So we try to be that middle person that can translate between."

-USM Library Staff

"The database access through the library is so handy. I have not completed a single project at this university without a database search. When I look up the word library, database is the first thing that comes up as a suggestion because I use it so often."

-USM Student

"I think, first and foremost, what I find meaningful is working with students. What I find really fulfilling in this role is that you as USM students have access to so much information, and resources, and so many things via the libraries, and it's all free. But no one comes into college with an intuitive understanding of what's available. I really see my role as facilitating the relationship between students and everything a library has to offer, and how to make those resources and spaces work for them."

-USM Library Staff

The Library is a tool of connection. Not just to books, but to technology, resources, and even to faculty. The Art below is inspired by the historical book collection at Special Collections.



# CONNECTIONS

By Lex  
Lecrone