Radical Revisions: Using an Information Literacy Course Grant to Drive Collection Development

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Introduction

This project was undertaken to support undergraduate research topics which have shifted from an almost exclusively white, cis male cannon of interior designers and architects. Scholars (Cruz 2019, Koury et al 2019) have established that collection development must support diverse research topics.

Process

The professor provided a list of interior designers which students would research. These designers were searched in WorldCat.org in order to develop a comprehensive list of materials available. Next, this list was compared against IU’s current holdings. Finally, those books not already held by IU Libraries were searched in Gobi and on out of print dealer websites for pricing and availability.

Results

As a result of the collection development project, fifteen books were added to the collection to support student research. In some cases, monographic materials were available in languages other than English. These were not acquired due to language limitations at the undergraduate research level. The addition of materials reflects wider gender and ethnic diversity which was previously missing from the IU Libraries collection. The instructor wrote that “the final papers were the most interesting that I’ve read in a long time . . . This is an indicator of the quality of source materials several of the students were able to find.”

List of architects and designers

Minnette de Silva  Aino Marsio-Aalto  Zaha Hadid
Kazuyo Sejima  Ray Eames  Ron Arad
Hella Jongerius  Denise Scott Brown  Kengo Kuma
Marianne Brandt  David Adjaye  Shigeru Ban
Ly Reich  Julia Morgan  Doojin Hwang
Nomra Merrick  Lina Bo Bardi  Hella Jongerius
Vella Vignelli  Luis Barragan  David Adjaye
Patricia Urquiola  Carlo Scarpa  Duangrit Bunnag
Eileen Gray  

Conclusions

Information literacy instruction planning is an opportunity to work with faculty members to explore their goals related to student research topics. By including materials which reflect wider gender and ethnic diversity in research library collections, librarians contribute toward the decolonization of the curriculum.

Literature cited


Acknowledgments

Sincere gratitude to Professor Kennon Smith for her partnership regarding this information literacy grant design. Thank you to Edwin Cheek for managing the bibliographic searching process.

Background image by Ellen Van Deelen on Flickr