

# VIEWS

The Newsletter of the  
**Friends of the Michigan Tech Library**  
Michigan Tech University  
1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931  
—<http://lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/>—  
**October 2021 Volume 26, Number 2**

## **Boo! Friends 2021 Annual Meeting 21 October 2021**

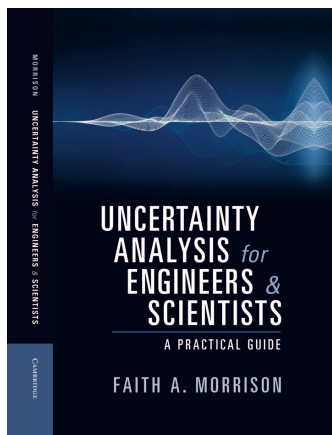
The Friends of the Michigan Tech Library will hold their 2021 Annual Meeting on Thursday, 21 October 2021 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. on Zoom. All are encouraged to attend.

The FMTL Annual Meeting will consist of a short business meeting followed by a presentation by speaker Dr. Faith A. Morrison who recently retired from Michigan Tech after 30 years of teaching, scholarship, and service.

Prof. Morrison's presentation at the Annual Meeting centers on issues addressed in her recent book *Uncertainty Analysis for Engineers & Scientists* (Cambridge University Press, 2021). Measurements form the backbone of scientific and engineering discovery and understanding, but no measurement value is known with 100% confidence: equipment limitations, random events, and calibration issues all conspire to make it difficult sometimes to interpret the meaning of a measurement. Uncertainty analysis is the process by which data-takers face, assess, and continuously improve the reliability of their measurements. Knowing at least a little bit about uncertainty analysis would be good for everyone—it would help us to better understand decisions made with numbers, such as those used to determine the healthfulness of what we eat and drink or the efficacy of medicines and vaccines.

Join the meeting from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:  
<https://michigantech.zoom.us/j/86836422668>

Or Telephone: Dial: US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location). All are welcome!



## **Friends' Book Sales planned in 2022**

The Friends annual Winter Carnival book sale and free hot chocolate and cookies event is scheduled to be held in the lobby of the Van Pelt and Opie Library of Michigan Technological University on Saturday, 12 February 2022. This event is likely to be modified to be “pandemic friendly.”

Our annual Spring book sale is scheduled to be held in the Ballroom of the Memorial Union Building the evening of Thursday, 31 March 2022 for members of the Friends of the Michigan Tech Library. The sale is open to everyone on Friday, 1 April 2022.

All campus health and safety practices ([www.mtu.edu/flex/](http://www.mtu.edu/flex/)) will be followed for the book sales and all Friends events.

Please check the Friends web site for news on these events:  
<http://lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/news/>.

## **The Worm turns... Changes to the Book Landscape in the Copper Country**

by Steve Walton, FMTL Board Member

Residents and visitors of the Copper Country know that we are not exactly bursting at the seams with local options to buy books. There has, however, been some change in the landscape in that regard over the last few months in which people may be interested.

First, back in April the Bookworm bookstore, coffee shop and ice creamery (and, oddly, very nice frozen lamb!) at the east end of downtown Houghton near the miner's statue closed after 17 years in business. We hear that the building was sold and the owners did look for another suitable place in town, but not finding one, decided to move to De Smet, South Dakota to be near their children and grandchildren (see *Daily Mining Gazette*, Apr. 8, 2021). We wish them well. The closing sale weekend was exceedingly busy.

And although we lost one shop, we have now gained a new one: The Well Read Racoon Books & Curiosities has opened in the lower level of what used to be the Hardee's/Krunch/now Baby E's BBQ at 501 W. Memorial Drive just west of the Yooper Loop. Amidst the wafting smell of BBQ from upstairs

Anne and Will, the owners (and she's a former public health nurse), offer new and used books on the usual breadth of topics and will soon have coffee and gelato (not just any ice cream, but the real Italian type) as well. They aim to be a community resource, taking our collective wellness to heart, and have a meeting room that can be rented outside bookshop hours [see their Facebook presence for more information]. They also have spoken word Saturday nights from 6–10pm, so you can get your poetry slam fix as well!

In other news, Black Ice Comics moved from their tight and rather dark space underneath the Houghton parking deck up to 503 Sheldon Avenue (the former LB's Chill and Grill on the corner of Huron), and is now considerably larger, airier, and has an expanded selection. They also started serving ice cream, so I guess that that is a thing in bookshops now...

Beyond that, and in the style of the old newspapers that would announce local news (as in "We hear that Mr. and Mrs. Longacre of Escanaba are in town at the Scott Hotel to visit their daughter for the week"), we see that the old dental office at 528 Quincy St. in downtown Hancock, just across from Finlandia, will soon become Sunflower Bookstore and Coffee Shop, featuring some baked goods as well. Interior and exterior renovations are underway and Susan Mattila, owner and Tech alum, is planning to open in November. We look forward to yet another bookstore in town soon.

In 'news from the north', we also hear that Grandpa's Barn bookshop in Copper Harbor had a good summer, with tourism doing so well this year that they were able to bring back their book groups again. The Friends of the Calumet Library speaker series remains on hiatus and they, too, had to cancel their book sale last June. We look forward to their June 2022 sale as well as FMTL's own spring sale. Here's to a return to normalcy, soon, we hope!

We hope you can help support our local bookshops—or local bookshops wherever you may be. If you are not familiar with it, try [Bookshop.org](http://Bookshop.org), which allows independent bookstores around the country to sell direct to you (rather than having you order from a mega-retailer that threatens them). Also, if you're visiting the Copper Country, or really the whole Western U.P., check our webpage with all the known book shops west of Marquette (<http://lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/book-sales/wupbooks/>) and let us know of any updates or news.

## ***Update from the Archives***

by Lindsay Hiltunen, University Archivist, [lehalkol@mtu.edu](mailto:lehalkol@mtu.edu)

The Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections have expanded their appointment hours for fall semester. After a busy summer season, the Archives added Monday afternoon to available reference hours. Appointments may be scheduled Monday-Thursday, 1–5 p.m. Please note appointments must be confirmed by an archives staff member via telephone or email at least one business day prior to the requested appointment time. Call (906) 487-2505, email [copper@mtu.edu](mailto:copper@mtu.edu), or visit the

online form to request an appointment:

<https://mtu.libwizard.com/f/schedule-an-appointment>.

In addition to a busy research season, the department has also been active cultivating new collections and planning projects for the academic year. While we are saddened to learn of the passing of longtime Archives supporter, Joseph Wildberg, we



Joseph Wildberg,  
Archives supporter

are so excited to welcome his beloved collection of mining stock certificates to our collections. This planned gift contains hundreds of rare stock certificates and scrips for local mining firms and will be a great resource for researchers.

In other collections news, the Michigan Tech Archives is working with the Friends of the Michigan Tech Library to hire a collections processing intern once again. The call for applications is now open and

we are hopeful to welcome a skilled processing intern during the spring semester to help us manage the arrangement and description of a significant bank records collection.

If you have any questions regarding archives services and collections, please reach out to the university archivist or the main staff line any time.

## ***Do you see yourself as a Library Friend? We need you on the Board!***

The Friends of the Michigan Tech Library organization is governed by a friendly group of volunteers who are staff, faculty, students, and community members. What we have in common is a love for libraries, and for this library in particular, the Michigan Tech Van Pelt and Opie Library.

There are openings on the board of the Friends and we invite interested persons to contact us and check out board service. We meet monthly during the academic year, usually in person in the library director's board room. Participation by Zoom is also possible. Meetings last about an hour. Board members are also super-volunteers, but you won't be asked to do more than you can or wish. If this sounds attractive to you, please drop an email to any board member (for example board chair Amy Hughes, [alhughes@mtu.edu](mailto:alhughes@mtu.edu)) or come to a meeting to see what it's like. Thanks for considering it!

## ***Friends Reach out to Tech Alumni***

The Friends are always looking to make new friends, and this year we did so during the summer Alumni Reunion. On 6 August the Friends' table at the library was a place to hear

about our activities (through the newsletter) and to pick up some swag (our Friends' bookmark). Thanks Erin, Amy, and library staff for setting this up (and taking it down!). Post-pandemic perhaps we'll do a bit more, but this was a start at reaching out to our alumni friends. Know someone who loves libraries? Tell them about our library here at Michigan Tech. Join us! See info at the URL in the masthead on p. 1.

## ***USG Keeps Close Ties with the Friends***

*by Jordan Wheeler, USG liaison on FMTL Board*

I am a fourth-year undergrad majoring in Transportation Engineering with a minor in rail transportation. I am from the little village of Ortonville, Michigan. I am the Undergraduate Student Government liaison to the Friends of the Michigan Tech Library, and I am also a member of the Beta Sigma Theta Fraternity, and the Railroad Engineering Activities Club here at Michigan Tech. Some of my hobbies are reading about history, collecting and playing vintage out-of-print board games, hunting, and playing video games.

## ***Friends' Blankets Make Great Gifts***

You can renew your membership in the Friends online and you can also buy Friends notecards and the beautiful Friends Michigan Tech blanket. All this with a few clicks beginning here: <http://lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/>.

Each pack of Friends notecards contains 12 distinct historical cards. The 4 foot by 5 foot cotton blanket in navy and white (below) features historic buildings from the Michigan Tech



*To purchase a blanket, go to the Merchandise tab on the Friends' website: <http://lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/>. Only \$65 plus shipping and handling.*

campus and sells for \$65 plus tax and shipping/handling. All items make great gifts for Michigan Tech graduating seniors (*hint, hint*), alumni, and friends. All proceeds of items for sale benefit the Michigan Tech Library.

## ***Looking for a Good Book? Come Check Out the Bargains***

In addition to our Winter Carnival and non-pandemic-year annual book sales, the Friends of the Michigan Tech Library maintain an honor-system sale shelf, near the service desk in the library. The shelf is stocked with many high-quality books, most of which are priced at \$1 (paperback) or \$2 (hardback). All proceeds benefit the Michigan Tech Library. Check out the shelf when you are in the library—books are added regularly, and you will be sure to find something you would like. Many thanks to Friends board member Holly Nemiroff, who keeps the shelf in order and stocked.

## ***Donor Hall of Fame (October 2021 Edition)***

The books for the Friends book sale come from generous donors, and we are grateful for their contributions. We seek to thank them by name, with the list below indicating those whose books were donated since the last newsletter. For the many, *many* donors of years past, thank you too for your generosity and for your support of the library.

Judy Albee	Judith Carne
Jimmy Diehl	Larry Durland
Hugh Gorman	Blair Orr
Ryszarda Pelc	Sally Santeford
Susan Bagley & Gil Lewis	
Faith Morrison & Tom Co	
Bill Sewell & Ruth Robertson	

## ***Book Donations Welcome Year Round***

The Friends of the Michigan Tech Library are always seeking donations for our used book sales.

There is a need for gently used books, paperbacks, CDs and DVDs. Make room for new books by donating your old books to the Friends. All proceeds go to help the library. To donate your books, bring them to the book donation receptacle just inside the library front doors. If you have a larger quantity of books to donate (boxes), bring them to the library loading dock and call the number on the door and someone will come and help you. Thanks for donating to the Friends!

Friends of the Michigan Tech Library  
Van Pelt and Opie Library  
Michigan Technological University  
1400 Townsend Drive  
Houghton, MI 49931-11295  
Website: [lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/](http://lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/)

*It is time to renew your membership in the Friends of the Michigan Tech Library.*

Membership Categories

Friend	\$20-49
Family Member	\$50-99
Benefactor	\$100-249
Book Sponsor	\$250-999
Best Friend	\$1000+

*Senior Citizens (65+) and Students may join for \$15*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

To renew your membership in the Friends, please go to [lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/](http://lib.sites.mtu.edu/friends/) or send your contribution with this form to:

**Friends of the Michigan Tech Library**  
c/o the Michigan Tech Fund  
Michigan Technological University  
1400 Townsend Drive  
Houghton, MI 49931-1295

Send us your email and receive our newsletter electronically. Email [fmorriso@mtu.edu](mailto:fmorriso@mtu.edu).

Please make all checks payable to the Michigan Tech Fund-FMTL. All contributions to the FMTL are tax deductible on your federal return. ***THANK YOU for your support of the Michigan Tech Library.***