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Library Olympics: The Power of Friendly Competition

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LIBRARY OLYMPICS: THE POWER OF FRIENDLY COMPETITION

Olympics Day
- Opening Ceremony and Food
- 3 Mental Events (with trophies)
- 3 Physical Events (with trophies)
- Medal Ceremony

Early Years 2011–12
- More a creative outlet for the Stacks supervisor
- Less planning, little promotion, few pictures
- Monitor which events go well and which to cut

Recent Years 2013–14
- More targeted to events popular with students
- Longer planning, better promotion, more pictures
- Greater staff interest, tight-knit group of participants

Engagement: Test shelving knowledge, creative ways of problem-solving.
Advocacy: Highlights areas requiring more training, draws attention to stacks from all levels of the library.
Outreach: Include Circulation Desk students in the contest, hire a diverse set of student workers.

Future Plans
- Collaborate with other library departments
- Promote and advertise with more social media
- New projects result in new events

Opening Ceremonies

Popular with Students
- Dumpster Shootout
- Microfilm Cornhole

Popular with Staff
- Book Balancing
- Bookend Tower

Selected Bibliography
- Reference Olympic glory! motivating student employees through competitive training ScholarsArchive@JWU, 2011-04-01.