



Queens College

PAGEDOWN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE QUEENS COLLEGE LIBRARY

VOL. 6 NO.2, FALL 2001

WHO'S IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT ON THE INFORMATION HIGHWAY?



The library's mission includes its instructional and reference activities, collection development in support of the QC curriculum and faculty research, and service as a gateway to information. *Page Down*, *FYI*, and other campus venues have reported on incremental improvements in our electronic-based services and resources in support of this mission.

We have now arrived at a point where I wish to summarize library progress on our collective road trip on the information highway. It is my view that we have come far, quite often riding in an old-model vehicle. With the new CUNY+ system scheduled for the showrooms in mid-2002, the QC library user community will soon be able to travel the information highway in the latest

model, if not the car of the future.

But what is our destination? Aided (or perhaps pushed) by all this high-tech wizardry, will students and faculty just virtually cruise by seemingly infinite information sources, or will they make carefully planned and executed visits to sites, selected through a process of critical assessment and navigation skills?

The Library faculty don't know. We are not in the driver's seat. We know that the changing nature of publication and information production and access has required that we create these services and build the technological infrastructures to ensure QC students and faculty are able to benefit from these changes. We, the Library faculty and staff, have prepared the means and provide content through a selective and evaluative process, but student destinations and use of this (and other Internet content) are guided by classroom fac-

ulty, course content, and course assignments. The issue of how students discern quality content is not new, but they now have additional forms and formats and require additional technical skills. The ability to discern quality, authority, comprehensiveness, and accuracy of the numerous sources located through the many Internet search engines is not as easily learned as the keyboard and computer skills that take students there.

What students are able to access must be critically viewed and understood within the context of the information query/research assignment and within the context of the publisher's intent and authority and the totality of appropriate resources to be consulted. How does a student distinguish between the appropriateness of a "clickable" source and one available in a printed volume? The library's instructional role

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JUST THE STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the standard IPEDS (Institutional Postsecondary Educational Data System) statistical indicators for academic libraries below. A copy of the June 2001 Progress Report on the Library Strategic Directions is available by request.

What these numbers do not capture are the thousands of hits/articles retrieved from the many electronic library databases. There is no standard of statistical reporting of database use. Though each vendor varies in the frequency and type of statistics it provides, we have more information about electronic databases than we have ever had about our print collections. We use this data to de-

cide about renewals, user instruction, publicity, home page revisions, systems and reference support staffing, and CUNY consortial acquisition plans. In the next issue of *PageDown* we will present some patterns of use of these electronic services.

- Instructional sessions: 269
- Students in instructional sessions: 4,586
- Library entrance count: 561,664
- Book circulation: 102,208
- Book titles added: 6,619
- Volumes added: 10,428
- Total print volumes: 763,322
- Books/articles lent to other libraries: 3,624

- Books/articles received through ILL/ Document Delivery: 3,495
- Journal subscriptions (print/microform): 3,085
- Journal subscriptions (electronic): 2,216 with c. 25 percent duplication of print subscriptions
- Government publications: 214,364
- Microform collection (pieces): 879,115
- Audio materials (pieces): 29,544
- Graphic materials (pieces): 68,514
- Video/film materials (pieces): 625
- Volumes bound and repaired: 3,994
- Volumes lost or discarded: 1,045
- College archives: 990 linear feet

FACULTY/STAFF NEWS

Inna Shpilko Joins Library Staff



Assistant Professor Inna Shpilko has joined the Library faculty as bibliographer for Biology, FNES, Linguistics and Communication Disorders, and Psychology, and as reference and instruction librarian. Professor Shpilko comes to us from the Russell Hibbs Memorial Library, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. Prior to that position, she held librarian positions at the ISP Management Company and the American Insurance Services Group. Ms. Shpilko has an MS in Library and Information Science from Pratt Institute and an MS in Chemical Engineering from Mendeleev Institute of Chemical Technology in Moscow.

Eileen Grogan Wins President's Multicultural Award

Eileen Grogan, Rosenthal Library's Stacks Maintenance Supervisor, has won the President's Multicultural Award in the staff category. Grogan was recognized at the Fall 2001 Faculty and Staff Assembly.



The award recognizes those members of the Queens College community whose contributions of creativity, imagination, and innovative thinking enhance the College's commitment to multiethnic and multicultural learning and living. It also includes a cash award. Grogan, who has been at the College Office Assistant Level since 1998 and was a College Assistant in the Circulation Department of Rosenthal from 1993-1998, received the award for her "commitment and dedication to the mission of the College in general, and to promoting respect and collegiality among faculty, staff, and students in particular."

Some 30 part-time student employees are assigned to Grogan's department during the course of the school year, most of whom are QC students who reflect the diversity of the student body.

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INFORMATION HIGHWAY *continued from page 1*

is one of assisting students to develop information-seeking strategies that include critical assessment of sources.

However, the academic and critical faculties that students bring to their independent research are best developed in the classroom. The critical apparatus for making best use of all these resources is developed through faculty guidance, appropriately structured assignments, and independent research informed by the library faculty.

Endorsed by the American Association of Higher Education, a set of information competencies have been developed by the Association of College and Research Libraries to assist faculty as they seek to build the tenets of information literacy into their courses, freshman-year programs, and library-based instruction. The Middle States Association of Colleges and Universities has included information literacy as part of the outcomes of college learning in its recent revision of *Characteristics of Excellence*.

Will the library be empty except for

those students pounding away at PCs? Will reference librarians be replaced by chat support? Will students ever have to consult books again? As a recent article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* (May 18, 2001) asked, "Are We Headed Toward the Bookless Campus?"

Some of the answers to these questions can be guided by the technology and College budget allocations for information resources, educational technology, and faculty development programs. All of the answers center on the faculty member and his/her course design, rigor, and methods to engage students in learning how to think critically, retrieve and analyze information, and solve problems within and across disciplines.

Who should be in the driver's seat on the information highway?

*Sharon Bonk
Chief Librarian*



ELECTRONIC RESERVE: ANOTHER MILESTONE

A new date has been added to the chronology of significant library events at Queens College: in the fall of 2001, the traditional paper Reserve Department became electronic reserve. Gone are the days of 2-hour limited loans of photocopies. Students can simultaneously access electronic reserve readings 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from computers with Internet access and a modest amount of memory and speed.

You don't need a proxy server account or a QC domain email address to access the site at <http://www.reserve.qc.edu>. Course readings are organized by department or by instructor and a link to QCOonline/Blackboard is available from every screen. Another link for downloading a free version of Adobe Acrobat Reader (used to open scanned files) is also available on each screen. Library public-access computers

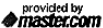
and all OIT lab computers are up to par for students to access readings.

Here's how it works. Any QC faculty who has contacted the Reserve Department (Level 2 of the Library, x 3750, or via email, reserve@qc.edu) or submitted items for reserve, will have an electronic reserve account established. A username and password are entered into the system so that both the faculty member and the library reserve staff can manipulate the course site. In most cases the Reserve Department will scan in any documents sent or brought to the department. We require a crisp clean copy with a complete citation so that we can adhere to copyright guidelines or to pursue copyright permission as appropriate. Other documents such as syllabi, class notes, digitized articles from electronic full text journals, links to Internet sites, graphic

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- Art Library / Art Center
- CUNY+ Online Catalog
- Education Curriculum Center
- Government Documents
- Information & Services
- Instructional Services
- Interlibrary Loan
- Library Giving / Friends
- Music Library
- QC Library News



Search  provided by



New Library Home Page Unveiled

Huzzza! After several months of concerted work, we brought up an entirely new library home page in early May 2001. Much of the credit for this challenging venture goes to Rudy Manalac of the Library Systems staff.

When you bring up the new home page (<http://www.qc.edu/Library>), you are greeted with a photograph of Rosenthal Library, flanked to the left by more user-friendly links to various library departments and services. There are four flashy icons at the bottom, including one for the new E-Reserve service. At the lower left is a search box.

Perhaps the most important feature of the new home page is the link to the Online Resources page, where you can

choose to look at the ever-increasing array of databases. Click on "Databases by Subject" to show every primary database or electronic resource we offer for any college academic department, based on a list prepared by Betsy Crenshaw.

Try our home page and have your students use it. To access our resources at home, click on Off Campus Access on the Online Resources page. The members of the Library Web Page Committee are Lisa Flanzraich, Galina Letnik, Rudy Manalac, Jim Mellone, and Rolf Swensen (Chair). To contact the committee, e-mail me at Rswensen@q1.qc.edu.

Rolf Swensen
Chair, Library Web Page Committee

images and so forth can be sent via an e-mail attachment directly to the reserve department, or can be submitted on a clearly labeled floppy disk. All courses and/or individual documents can be password protected at the discretion of the faculty member in order to limit access to the course site or item.

Faculty can depend on the staff of the Reserve Department to mediate their site or they may control their own site. The software used to offer electronic reserve allows the staff or the faculty member to modify the site through a series of easy-to-follow point-and-click steps under the "Administrative Functions" link found on the electronic reserve homepage. By logging on, one may retrieve rapid statistics for course reserve items on a daily or monthly basis. One of our staff members will be glad to show faculty one-on-one how to manage their site.

So what about the books? They are

still here. The new electronic reserve site includes citations to the books in the course listings and call numbers are provided so there is no need to further consult the catalog. Reserve staff still pull books from the stacks when requested and items are still ordered on a rush basis if the library does not own a copy of the required reading. Faculty can still place personal copies of items such as books, course packs, or videos on reserve for students to access during library hours.

We are investigating the possibility of offering some of the more heavily used text books electronically in the near future. Given the size, weight, and cost of some of these texts, we anticipate a wave of eager users. Please look for the "e reserve" button on the Library Homepage and check out the new electronic reserve offering.


Amy Beth
Coordinator, Access Services

Eileen Grogan Wins President's Multicultural Award

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Many recruit their friends to work in Grogan's department because of the positive, friendly atmosphere, the teamwork in what some might consider the mundane tasks of reshelving and shelf reading, and the personal connections among the staff and Grogan.

In addition to QC students, Grogan's workforce includes students from such community programs as Queens Services for Autistic Citizens and the HANAC high school summer program. Last year, she was awarded a Community Service Award by District 75 Office of Vocational/Transition Services for her work as a partner in vocational and career education.

Congratulations, Eileen!

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Lisa Flanzraich, Editor with the Library Publications Committee: Sharon Bonk, Amy Beth, Rolf Swensen, Richard Wall, Izabella Taler

Contributors: Amy Beth, Sharon Bonk, Ben Chitty, David Cohen, Lisa Flanzraich, Jon Leong, Rolf Swensen, Richard Wall

Photos: Nancy Bareis

PAGEUP

We'd like to hear from our readers. Please address your suggestions or comments about **PAGEDOWN** to Chief Librarian Sharon Bonk at her Rosenthal Library Office. And watch for our next issue.

Richard Wall, Chair,
Library Publications Committee



WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?



Your suggestions, comments, and ideas about Library collections and services are important to us. We'd love to hear from you via one of our suggestion boxes – located on the circulation counter and throughout the Library – or via e-mail at our website:

<http://www.qc.edu/Library>; click on library@qc.edu. If you include your name and address, we will be happy to respond.

"PREMIER" PREMIERES: New Multidiscipline Database Features Full-text Journal Access

On October 1, EBSCO's *Academic Search Premier* replaced Gale Group's *Expanded Academic ASAP* (Infotrac) as the main multidiscipline database for CUNY libraries, with a projected 75 percent full-text coverage of journals cited.

Academic Search Premier has been designed and developed to be the world's largest scholarly, multidiscipline, full-text database for academic institutions. *Academic Search Premier* includes full-text access (varying coverage periods) for nearly 3,200 scholarly publications out of the 4,150 journals the database indexes. The implementation of full-text coverage by EBSCO will continue over

the next year. EBSCO will also be working with individual CUNY libraries to provide additional links to many full-text journals in other subscription packages. Coverage for many titles will date back to 1984.

Academic Search Premier covers nearly all academic disciplines and provides access to a number of EBSCO's affiliated databases. These include *Business Source Premier* (full-text of over 2,200 business periodicals); *CINAHL* (citations to Nursing and Allied Health Literature, 1982–to date); *EconLit* (citations for over 400 economics journals, 1969–to date); *ERIC* (citations to over 750 education journals, 1966-to

date); *Health Source: Nursing Academic Edition* (more than 500 full-text journals); *MasterFile Premier* (full-text for nearly 1,860 serial publications back to 1990); *Medline* (full-text of articles from 90 leading medical journals); and *Psych Info* (citations to articles in over 1,300 journals back as far as 1887).

A "Search Help Sheet" with tips to search the databases can be found at www.epnet.com/eptech/ebs_2219.pdf. You must have Adobe Acrobat to access this tip sheet. Printed copies are available in the Library.

LIBRARY ACQUIRES POWERFUL LITERARY RESEARCH TOOL: LRC Includes MLA and Much More

Gale Group's *Literature Resource Center* – LRC has become the first electronic resource purchased for the consortium of CUNY libraries in the new academic year. LRC provides researchers with access to a massive amount of full-text content with an emphasis on critical writings, biographies, bibliographies, and related reference materials covering authors from every age and literary discipline. The package purchased for CUNY also includes Gale Group's new, user-friendly version of the *MLA International Bibliography*, 1963–to date, with its database of 1.4 million citations. (Queens College Library's individual subscription to Silver Platter's online edition of *MLA* will be available until April 2002).

LRC is founded on three of Gale's core literary reference tools whose print versions have long been library standards: the *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, *Contemporary Literary Criticism Select*, and *Contemporary Authors*. LRC also includes a wide range of critical material from Gale's *Classical and Medieval Literature Criticism* through *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*, in-



cluding *Shakespearean Criticism*, the genre criticism series (*Drama, Poetry, Short Story*), and *Children's Literature Review*.

The database also features full-text access to articles on major authors and their works in more than 130 prominent literary journals (years of coverage vary; mostly 1990s and later).

Among other features, LRC designates some 2,400 writers as "Most Studied Authors" and includes links to over 5,000 websites devoted to or prominently highlighting these authors. It also provides a "Literary–Historical Timeline" file which can be searched to establish a context of date ranges for literary figures, movements, and historical events and incorporates the complete contents of Merriam-Webster's *Encyclopedia of Literature* with over 10,000 descriptive

entries on literary figures, works, and terms.

LRC features a number of general and specific search options, and various facets of the database can be searched individually or in combination. New and updated material will be added quarterly, including commissioned essays, full-text journal articles, and links to related websites. For a more detailed introduction to LRC, access the database from its link via the QC Library's "Online Resources" page. At the LRC Home Page click on the "Help" link; when the next screen appears, choose "About the *Literature Resource Center*." On the next screen choose the "Description" link. Sections that follow include a list with dates of full-text journals covered, an explanation of the "Most Studied Authors" feature, and outlines of major search paths and key content elements.

Richard Wall, Chair
Library Collection Development
Committee

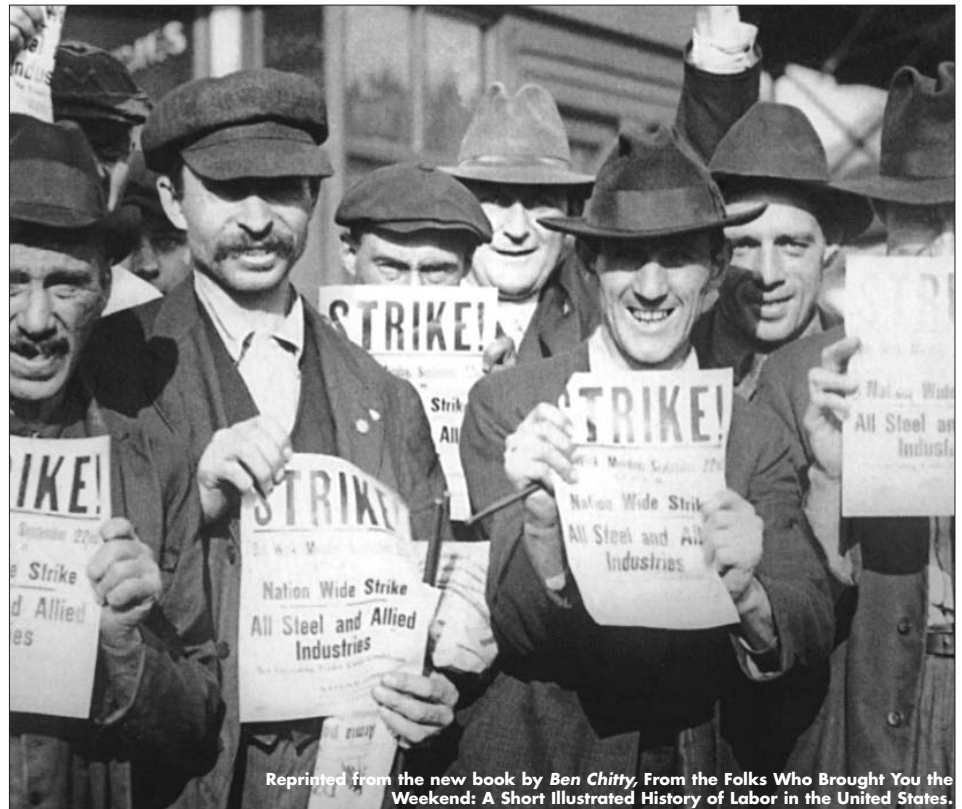
Systems Librarian Publishes Book on Labor History

We are pleased to announce that our librarian systems officer, Ben Chitty, has published *From the Folks Who Brought You the Weekend: A Short Illustrated History of Labor in the United States*. Co-authored with his wife, Priscilla Murolo, who teaches American history and directs the master's program in women's history at Sarah Lawrence College, this readable popular history covers U.S. labor from precolonial times to the year 2000. Murolo has also taught in the Queens College Labor Center's Union Semester program. As quoted in July 26, 2001 issue of *Publisher's Weekly*, "the authors reshape common views of social history and gracefully handle a broad range of subject matter." The following is an extract from the foreword:

Why this book now? Mainly for two reasons. When we started this project in 1998, no comprehensive survey of U.S. labor history for the general reader had appeared for more than two decades. Recent scholarship had added new dimensions and many details to the story of working people in America. It was past time to compile these insights into a new general history.

Also the labor movement itself had changed since the 1970s – most dramatically in the 1995 election of the New Voice slate to the leadership of the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations. This change reflected a belated recognition that the Cold War labor-government-management accord had already been scuttled by both corporations and government, and that without reorientation to new economic and political realities, the federation and its unions might wither away. The new generation of leadership brought with them a different perspective on the role of organized labor in society, an outlook not so much new as a revival and development of labor traditions which had long been subordinated to the demands of the scuttled Cold War accord. It was a good time to look again at these traditions.

The process of research, compilation, and writing brought a third rationale to



Reprinted from the new book by Ben Chitty, *From the Folks Who Brought You the Weekend: A Short Illustrated History of Labor in the United States*.

the surface. Even a casual look at American history reveals how much of what we learn and teach in school is just not true. Sometimes these misreadings are errors of fact – the extent of the U.S. war in the Philippines at the turn of the last century is one example. More often they are errors of omission – the African American role in the Civil War, for example. Mostly they concern perspective – who did what and why, and with what consequences. Looking at historical events from the bottom up transforms our understanding of historical agency. The focus on ordinary people organized to achieve common goals gives a truer account of historical events, an account much more useful to people committed to that struggle.

Compared to conventional labor history, we tried mainly to be more inclusive in terms of “workers” and “working peoples’ movements,” to incorporate as much recent research, historiography, and events as we could. Almost none of our material is original work, but the project was already hard enough. We tried hard to keep from straying into major reinterpretations of American his-

tory, perhaps with mixed results. Beyond the fact that such a project would go beyond our ambition, and competence too, our restraint also followed from our conviction that the significance of the past is found in the present.

The present moment is full of rapid changes, even surprises. We have hopes for the future, but can be certain of very little. What we do know is that in the past people have always found a way to struggle to make life better for themselves and their posterity, and that their struggles have generally been effective in proportion to the range and depth of the solidarity of their movements. The constant adversary is privilege, legitimated by law, custom, and popular ideology, which never yields without a fight, to which democracy is anathema. We side with democracy. We write for our side, the people who work too hard for too little, who see how the defense of privilege deforms our humanity and threatens our common welfare, who have the power to change history.

Ben Chitty
Systems Librarian

Art Exhibit Explores Chinese American Issues



As part of the 2001-2002 season, the Queens College Art Center will host a group exhibition titled "Perspectives: Artists of Chinese

Descent and New York" from February 4 to March 22, 2002 curated by Jennifer Keane of Creatures for Culture. The exhibition features the following thirteen artists of Chinese descent who live and work in New York: China Blue, Patty Chang, Ken Chu, Ming Fay, Arlan Huang, Wennie Huang, Su-Li Hung, Alexander Ku, Nina Kuo, Corky Lee, Carol Sun, Mary Ting, and Tai Lam Wong. Employing a variety of media, ranging from painting to sculpture to mixed media installation, the exhibition highlights the complex issues of Chinese American identity.

Creatures for Culture is a non-profit arts organization that promotes contemporary artists of diverse backgrounds. Through exhibitions and educational programs, Creatures for Culture seeks to provide a greater understanding of and appreciation for contemporary art.

*Jennifer Keane, Director,
Creatures for Culture New York*

Library Hosts Workshop for Local French Teachers

This past Spring, Rosenthal Library and the Department of European Languages and Literatures welcomed forty teachers of French from the tri-state area to one of the library's electronic classrooms for a workshop on pedagogy and multimedia resources. Many of the teachers were Queens College alumni teaching in local high schools. The workshop was co-sponsored by the French Cultural Services and the CUNY Council on Foreign Languages.

Our electronic classrooms are available for group instruction and workshops. Please book them through Instructional Services at 997-3747.

OFF-CAMPUS ACCESS: News & Tips

All QC students and faculty who have QC email addresses on Forbin, QC1, or Vanguard are able to use these accounts to access library resources restricted to the QC. EDU domain. For students this is a new service and they must have a QC domain email account to use the proxy server. They may apply for an account by going to <http://accounts.qc.edu>. Please announce this to your students.

For faculty, if you have already received a QC proxy server account, there is no need to change your account, but read on for some user tips. For those faculty who have a QC domain account, use that account and password to log on after you have configured your Netscape or Internet Explorer browser. For those using an ISP and do not have a QC domain email address on Forbin, QC1, or Vanguard, please apply for an account by going to the Help Desk in I building with your QC ID. You will need your QC email account number and password to log on to the proxy server each time you use it. You can find instructions for configuring Netscape and Internet Explorer at the following:

www.qc.edu/OIT/PROXY/proxy.faq

USER TIPS:

- The QC proxy server will not work with the AOL browser.
- The QC proxy server will not work with the AOL version of Internet Explorer (IE). Download Netscape separately.
- Once you have configured IE or Netscape browser, you need not do it again unless you change to a new browser.
- Once you have logged onto the proxy server (using your QC account name and password), you can continue to use it until you close the browser. However, if you move to general Internet searching, please close the browser and restart it to avoid using the proxy server. This will make your Internet searches faster and it will lighten the load on the QC system.
- If you are unsuccessful in getting the proxy server to work from a commercial or other institution's network, that network may have a firewall, or may be using a proxy server. In both instances these block the use of the QC proxy server. Check with that organization's network administrator.
- Please direct questions to help_center@qc.edu.

Jon Leong, OIT

OFF-CAMPUS ACCESS EXTENDED TO STUDENTS

The campus proxy service has been extended to all QC students, who now can have access to the library's subscription databases from off-campus as well as throughout campus. *I cannot stress strongly enough the importance of availing yourself of the OIT proxy server to ensure that you are able to connect to ALL QC resources from home.* Although many web resources are available via the Remote Patron Authentication system using your library barcode, it does not include most of the QC electronic journal subscriptions, about 3,000 NetLibrary monograph titles, the *Oxford English Dictionary*, Groves dictionaries of music and art, and *ERIC* documents, among others.

MEDIA COLLECTION UPDATE: Friends of the Library Fund New Immigrants Video collection

Thanks to the generosity and support of the Friends of the Queens College Library, our Media Center now has a videocassette collection dedicated to the study of those who have emigrated to the United States within the past twenty years. Since 1980, a wave of immigration from has changed the demographic nature and personality of both New York City and the nation at large. Queens is now the largest immigrant population of all five boroughs. The New Immigrants collection reflects the mosaic of recently arrived ethnic groups and their relationships to their communities.

Black and White in Exile (2 cassettes 1999). Chronicles thirty years of Caribbean exile in the United States, focusing on Cubans and Haitians.

Central Americans (1993). Covers the poverty, political unrest, and oppression that compelled many Central Americans to emigrate to the United States.

Cuban Roots (2000). Highlights the journey of a black Cuban family who emigrated from Cuba to the Bronx in 1962.

Desi: South Asians in New York (2000). Part of WNET's Ethnic American Series, presents first- and second-generation Pakistanis, Indians, Bangladeshis, Sri Lankans, and other South Asians who have become an integral part of the city.

Desounen: Dialogue with Death (1994). Interviews with Haitians concerning the years of economic and political chaos in Haiti which lead to a mass exodus of Haitians to the United States.



Displaced in the New South (1995, on order). Explores the immigration explosion in Georgia, following the cultural collision of Asian and Hispanic communities.

Dominican American Spirit (2000). Part of WNET's Ethnic American Series, focuses on the largest foreign-born ethnic group in New York City.

Dosvedanya Means Goodbye (1990). Follows Tamara Okun, a Russian Jew who waited eight years to receive her exit visa, and her family's journey from Leningrad to Vienna to Washington D.C.

Go Back to Mexico (1994). A PBS *Frontline* documentary, chronicles the public opposition to illegal immigration, particularly in California, from Mexico.

Harmony and Spirit: Chinese Americans in New York (2001). Part of WNET's Ethnic American Series, explores Manhattan's Chinatown and how it has spawned new Chinatowns in Flushing and Sunset Park.

High School of American Dreams (1994). Introduces the International High School, a public high school in Queens, where immigrants from 43 countries are part of a multicultural learning environment.

Kababayan: Filipino-Americans in New York (2000). Part of WNET's Ethnic American Series, spans several generations of Filipino-American culture.

Korean-American Spirit (2000). Part of WNET's Ethnic American Series, offers an overview of the obstacles experienced by first-generation Korean immigrants.

7 Train (1999). A glimpse of the passengers that ride the #7 subway that runs from Flushing to Times Square and carries 500,000 people from 117 countries.

Tales from Arab Detroit (1995). Chronicles the ways an Arab American community weaves new traditions with the threads of the old when it brings an Egyptian poet to perform the 1,000-year-old Bani Hilal epic.



Videocassettes can be borrowed for one week and renewed for an additional week. Please visit the Media Center on Level One to check out materials. If you have any questions about our media collection, call 997-3673 or e-mail Lisa Flanzraich at flanzra@qc1.qc.edu.

Lisa Flanzraich
Reference/Media Services

Friends of Library Induct Second Queens Poet Laureate



We are happy to report that under the auspices of the Borough President of Queens Claire Shulman and the Friends of the Queens College Library, Hal

Sirowitz has been inducted as the new Poet Laureate. The author of a collection of poems entitled *Mother Said*, Sirowitz succeeds Stephen Stepanchev, the borough's first Poet Laureate.

Sirowitz has gained widespread recognition for his work, particularly *Mother Said*, which has been translated into several languages, including Norwegian. He has also been published in a variety of anthologies and has appeared on MTV's *Poetry Unplugged* and National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*. Asked why Sirowitz was selected, David Cohen, one of five members of the Queens Poet Laureate Committee, said, "He's a people's poet. He reflects the opinions of the ordinary people of Queens."

As Poet Laureate, Sirowitz says he would like to create a program that uses poetry to help teach literacy. Sirowitz, a resident of Flushing, is a special education teacher at P.S. 224.

The Poet Laureate serves for a term of three years. Applicants must have been a resident of Queens for at least five years and have a significant publication record, demonstrated by the publication of a collection of poetry or through inclusion in recognized journals or anthologies.

The Friends are also celebrating the fact that Professor Bill Collins of Lehman College, CUNY, has been installed as the Poet Laureate of the Library of Congress. They hope to have him come to Queens for a visit in Spring 2002.

David Cohen
Director, Friends of
the Queens College Library

Calendar of Events 2001

Queens College Art Center 2001-2002 Season

Deborah Harse: Cuba in Black & White Photographs

Curated by Jerald R. Green
Spanish and Latin American Art
September 5–October 26, 2001
Reception: Tuesday, September 25,
5:00–7:00 pm

Fulvio Testa: Works on Paper

November 1–December 21, 2001
Reception: Thursday, November 1,
5:00–7:00 pm

Perspectives: Artists of Chinese Descent and New York

Curated by Jennifer Keane, Creatures for
Culture, New York
February 4–March 22, 2002
Reception: Thursday, February 7,
5:00–8:00 pm
Gallery Talk: Thursday, February 7,
7:00 pm

Eva Fuka: Gardens of Peace Photographs

April 4–June 6, 2002
Location TBA

Friends of the Queens College Library Events

The Remaking of an American

Dr. Jane S. Gabin, Assistant Director of
Admissions at Chapel Hill, NC and QC
Alumna '71, discusses book, for which she
wrote introduction, about Elizabeth Banks, an
American journalist working in London
Monday, November 12, 12:30–2 pm,
President's Room No. 2, 5th Floor

Fall Bookfair

November 12–15.
Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am–5:00 pm, foyer
of the Rosenthal Library

Spring Bookfair

April 12–18, 2002
Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am–5:00 pm, foyer
of Rosenthal Library

National Library Week Observance

April 14–21, 2002
*The Centennial Celebration of Langston
Hughes, poet and playwright*
Sunday, April 14, 2:00–4:00 pm,
Aaron Copland Music School, Choral Room
Co-sponsored by the Colden Center and Aaron
Copland School of Music.

Fall 2001 Exhibits

Fine Art and Paper Money in Jacksonian America

Curated by Leo Hershkowitz
October 16–December 2
Library Rotunda, 3rd Floor

Zen Moments: Photos and Poetry by Young Artists

Curated by Rikki Asher
December 3, 2001–January 2, 2002
Library Rotunda, 3rd Floor

Exhibits in the Queens College Art Center, located on
the sixth floor of the Benjamin S. Rosenthal Library,
can be viewed Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 8
pm; Friday, 9 am to 5 pm. Call for weekend hours.
Closed major holidays.

Exhibitions in the third and second floor display cases
can be visited during scheduled Library hours, usually
9 am to 10 pm, Monday through Thursday; 9 am to 5
pm on Friday; and 12 noon to 6 pm on Saturday and
Sunday.

For the Art Center: Suzanna Simor, Director; Alexan-
dra DeLuise, Curator; Jerald R. Green, Coordinator,
Spanish and Latin American Art.

For more information, call 718-997-3770. Visit the Art
Center website at: <http://www.qc.edu/Library/art/center/>

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