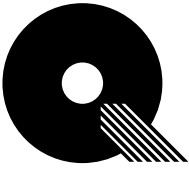


PAGEDOWN



Queens College

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE QUEENS COLLEGE LIBRARY

VOL. 9, NO. 1, SPRING 2004

Upbeat Update

At the midpoint of the 2003/04 academic year, I am pleased to report some positive news: We have increased funds for acquisitions! Our expenditures on monographs this year will be more than double that of the last two years. The college's allocation to the library, student Technology Fee funds, a \$50,000 alumna bequest, and other donor contributions have made this turnaround possible.

Alumni donations were allocated to the monographs funds. Funds from the Technology Fee provided several new databases of use to accounting, business, economics, and general reference: ABI Inform (business); Accounting and Tax; Proquest Research Library; national newspapers; and Factiva (with Dow-Jones). Tech Fees also provided replacement computers for two Rosenthal classrooms, and many of our public workstations. Another "lab cluster" of 24

PCs was added to the Level Two Reading Room.

The Music Library's CD and VCR collections have been moved upstairs, and the two service desks have been combined into one service point on the main floor of the Music Library.

Students appreciate the 40 laptops, which they can use for up to 4 hours anywhere on campus. Fall semester saw these laptops circulate 5,833 times. I am also pleased to report that there has been no major damage or loss in the year since the program's inception in December 2002.

The library homepage was revised with new content and a new look to the front page, designed in hopes of making the terminology more natural to use (with less librarian jargon) and locating service information more direct.

We have continued to follow up on our User

Survey comments. One visible result is the new policy that Rosenthal Levels Four, Five, and Six are now quiet study floors, and the south side of Level Three is a quiet study area. These demarcations will make it easier for Security and Library staff to redirect groups of students to other areas and for a modicum of self-enforcement.

Several library faculty are members of the college's General Education Task Force Working Groups (Professors Bonk, deLuise, Macomber, Oates, Sanudo, Simor, and Swensen). We value this opportunity to participate in the curriculum review and revision process, and look forward to engaging our colleagues in discussions and developing models for means of employing information technologies and new media in meeting the goals of the proposed curricular changes.

Sharon Bonk, Chief Librarian

USE AND USERS OF ELECTRONIC LIBRARY RESOURCES

Increasing use of electronic resources by scholars and students is a recognized and positive phenomenon in higher education. The scope of resources available is now quite broad, no longer focused in a few disciplines such as medicine, business, or science. Each professional discipline has had a different take-up rate and has created different resources used directly by academics and/or researchers without the benefit of library mediation or library subscriptions.

Library-provided databases across disciplines are more consistent in scope and formats: indexes and abstracts; reference books; newspapers; subject aggregations of journal ar-

Council on Library and Information Resources



ticles; and specific journals. Statistical data provided to the library tell us what is being used and when, but not by whom and for what purpose.

Over the past several years, there have been many national-level research studies done on how the academic community uses electronic resources. In August 2003, the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) published a report, "The Use and Users of

Electronic Library Resources," by Professor Carol Tenopir, University of Tennessee School of Library and Information Sciences. Tenopir analyzed more than 200 recent (1995-2003) studies that focused on the use of electronic library resources. She looked at the methodologies and the different types of results reported. Key conclusions are paraphrased below:

- Both faculty and students use and like electronic resources and most readily adopt them if the sources are perceived as convenient, relevant, and time saving to their natural workflow.
- Print is still used for some reading and is part of research in almost every discipline, especially in the humanities.
- Print remains the most popular medium for books; e-book use is still in the very early stages.
- Subject experts use hyperlinks; student use of hyperlinks is less clear.
- Browsing a small number of core journals is important for subject experts and for current awareness searching.
- Searching by topic in an article database is important for all other purposes.

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About the Library | How Do I...? | Library Services | Support the Library | New @ Your Library

E-RESOURCES



Library Catalogs (CUNY+)



E-books



Periodicals Research



Websites



Queens College Libraries

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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.

News from the Libraries

New People



Grace LaFichi, a COA in the Library Administration Office, graduated in May 2003 from the Women and Work program, a privately sponsored training program hosted by

Queens College; its students acquire computer expertise and administrative skills in preparation for work.



Jeri Chapman, a COA in the Reserve Library, is no stranger to libraries. Her background includes work in acquisitions at the University of Chicago and Loyola Univer-

sity. She also worked at the Strand Bookstore in New York City.



Monita Chatterjee, a COA in the Music Library, previously worked at Computer Career Center in Rego Park, NY. She attends QC and is a history major.

See a portion of our user friendly and streamlined homepage on page 1.

OLD MASTERS IN THE LIBRARY

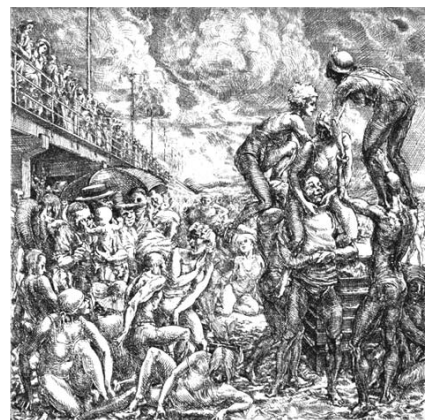
Where at Queens College would you go to see an original Picasso? Cézanne? Bonnard? Or perhaps a Grant Wood? Reginald Marsh? The Godwin-Ternbach Museum? Quite possibly. The Art Library? Certainly, for materials and information on their art, including images in a multitude of formats. But didn't we say "original?" Indeed. You find original artwork by these and several other modern masters right on the Rosenthal Library's main floor.

In the French "group," there is a landscape etching by Paul Cézanne (1839–1906), from July 1873, in which the artist reproduced the reversed image of a picture he painted at Auvers, where he was spending the summer; it was a gift to his artist friend Camille Pissarro. A delightful, immediate pencil drawing of a company in the theater is by Pierre Bonnard (1867–1947). It captures the intensity of this artist's vision and carries the imprint of his hand, and seems to have just been sketched. Modernist giant Marcel Duchamp is present in a pensive, haunting portrait sensitively etched in the 1950s by his artist brother, Jacques Villon (1875–1963). Pablo Picasso's (1881–1973) *Model and Large Head*, one of his Classicist etchings of 1933, exhibits his power of naturalistic observation and mastery of line. It belongs to the so-called Vollard Suite, named after Parisian art publisher and dealer Ambroise Vollard.

Three works are by American masters of the first half of the 20th century. Grant Wood's (1891–1942) lithograph of *Tree Planting* (1937), has the measured narrative eloquence familiar from his iconic painting, *American Gothic*. The nearly contemporary etching of *Coney Island Beach* (1935) by Reginald Marsh (1898–1954), a teeming, exuberant urban bacchanal, opposes it in temper. Stow Wengenroth's (1906–1978) *Canal in Spring, New Hope, Pennsylvania* (1943), a sun-dappled, peaceful scene, is a good example of this lithographer's luminous, richly textured landscape, distinguished by fine tonality



Paul Cézanne, *Paysage a Auvers, Entrée de ferme rue Saint-Remy (Landscape in Auvers, Farm Entrance on the Rue Saint-Remy)*, July 1873. Etching on paper, only state, 5-1/8 x 4-1/8 in.



Reginald Marsh, *Coney Island Beach*, 1935. Etching on paper, final state, 8-7/8 x 11-3/4 in.

and subtle atmosphere and mood.

These works were selected by members of the Rosenthal Library's Art Selection Committee, and purchased, at an auction, for the Rosenthal Library by the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, as part of the Percent for Art program connected with the library's construction.

Suzanna Simor
Coordinator of Art & Music Library Services
and Director, Queens College Art Center

Poet Laureate to Be Chosen

The Borough of Queens will elect a new Poet Laureate this year. The Poet Laureate encourages poetry writing and reading and other literary pursuits in the country's most diversified county.

"The post of Poet Laureate is an honorary position that requires a full-time commitment to the Borough of Queens," said Borough President Helen Marshal. The new borough bard will replace Mr. Hal Sirowitz, whose term has expired.

David Cohen, secretary to the Poet Laureate Committee of Queens College, said that the committee works in collaboration with the Borough President's Office to identify candidates for the three-year post. The final decision will be made by an independent panel of judges comprised of professionals from the literary community.

Candidates must have resided in Queens for at least the past five years and have published poetry inspired by the borough.

Our own distinguished poet, Professor Emeritus Stephen Stepanchev, was the First Poet Laureate of Queens, serving from 1998 to 2001.

Media Services Librarian's Choice: Free Film and Video Review Websites

The following websites are recommended to help faculty select media titles for both professional use and personal viewing:

Movie Review Query Engine (www.mrq.com) offers an amalgam of movie and video reviews from assorted sites, magazines, and newspapers. Search by title or degree of popularity. Perhaps the best single search engine for locating full-text reviews online, including reviews in journals and newspapers, user groups, and other miscellanea. Depth of chronological coverage varies. An excellent, time-saving source with citations to reviews from all over the world.

EMRO (libweb.lib.buffalo.edu/emro/search.html)

EDUCATIONAL mediareviewsonline

Educational Media Reviews Online is a database of video, DVD, and CD-ROM reviews on materials from major educational and documentary distributors. These reviews are written primarily by librarians and teaching faculty in institutions across the United States and Canada. Reviews are insightful and thorough, written with an academic audience in mind.

New York Times Movie Reviews (www.nytimes.com/pages/movies/index.html)

Includes: archived *Times* reviews from the past 20 years, as well as a limited selection back to 1929; "Critic's Picks" recommendations from *Times* film critics Stephen Holden, Elvis Mitchell, and A.O. Scott. Easy registration allows users to login and access reviews. This website allows users to shortcut Lexis Nexis, ProQuest, and other all-encompassing news websites, especially if they are not readily available.

Lisa Flanzraich, Media Services Librarian

New Newspaper Databases

Rosenthal Library recently purchased a package from ProQuest, which includes ABI Inform Global, Accounting & Tax newspapers and periodicals, Ethnic NewsWatch, Gender Watch, and 27 national newspapers, such as *Barron's* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

Perhaps the most intriguing and universally useful of the new ProQuest holdings is New York Times Historical, which includes digitized images of every page that appeared in the *Times* from its inception in 1851 to 2001. Thus, one can search for primary source articles, such as the immediate reaction to President Lincoln's epochal Gettysburg Address of 1863. Contrary to many accounts, the *Times* of November 20, 1863, shows that Lincoln's address was not passed over lightly. True, it did not receive the attention that other, lengthier orations did, but, under the heading "Heroes of July," the *Times* reporter indicated that Lincoln's speech was interrupted by ap-

MUSIC VIDEO COLLECTION

The Queens College Music Library has a variety of recording collections, including LPs, audio cassette tapes, compact discs, and VHS videos. While the CD and LP collections are most frequently used, more patrons are beginning to explore the video collection. Patrons can view the videos with the VCR on the first floor of the Music Library. Faculty, however, are allowed to check videos out for their courses or research, and students may obtain special permission to take videos to classes for presentations.

The music video cassette collection has over 60 items. While the majority of the videos are operas, the collection also includes lectures/talks by composers, movies, biographies, concerts, and videos exploring specific musical genres, styles of music, or musical instruments.

The movies range from largely fiction to experiments with music and film. A boy and Beethoven become friends in *Beethoven Lives Upstairs*. *Immortal Beloved* and *Amadeus* combine history and fiction to create exciting stories about the lives of Beethoven and Mozart, respectively. *Farinelli* explores the world of castrati in 18th-century Italian opera. Walt Disney's *Fantasia* combines classical music with animation for a stunning aural and visual treat.

Videos about composers include Aaron Copland's *A Self Portrait*, Arnold Schoenberg's *My Evolution*, Leonard Bernstein's talks at Harvard, and the music of Ernst Krenek. Concerts by soprano Jessye Norman and pianist Vladimir Horowitz represent recordings of live performances.

Other videos explore the history of the piano-forte, baroque dance, baroque keyboard music, how the voice works, and so forth. Operas and musicals in the collection range from standard works, such as Puccini's *La Bohème* and Bernstein's *West Side Story*, to lesser works, such as Benjamin Britten's *Albert Herring* and Umberto Giordano's *Andrea Chénier*.

plause four times, with "Long continued applause" at the conclusion.

Other diverse topics in New York Times Historical include the Great Blizzard of 1888, which produced 35-foot drifts in Herald Square, and Krystallnacht (1938) at the outset of Hitler's Holocaust. New York Times Historical is being used in two Civil War courses this semester (see "Civil War at the Library").

To access the databases, go to the library's new home page (www.qc.cuny.edu/Library), run your mouse over Article Databases A-Z, and scan the list to see the databases with the distinctive icon.

For home access, you will need a proxy account. Click Off-Campus Access, then click QC Proxy Server. For more information, contact Rolf Swensen at 718-997-3675 or via e-mail (rswense@qc1.qc.edu).

Rolf Swensen
Reference Librarian & History Bibliographer



All periods of opera are represented, from Monteverdi of the 17th century to more contemporary composers, such as Bernstein and Gian Carlo Menotti. The collection contains works in Italian (including operas by Monteverdi, Handel, Mozart, Donizetti, Rossini, Puccini, and Verdi), German (operas by Mozart, Weber, Wagner, Strauss, and Berg), French (works by Berlioz), English (music by Britten, Stravinsky, Menotti, and Bernstein), and Russian (such as Musorgsky's *Boris Godunov*).

The collection encompasses the diversity of classical music and the variety of videos on classical music available. The Music Library plans to continue expanding the existing collection devoted to classical music and add videos on jazz, world music, and other forms of popular and vernacular music. The Music Library also hopes to expand its collection to include DVDs.

Jennifer Oates
Head, Music Library



The Glorious Revolution Continues: English and Library Faculty Partnership



As last reported in the Spring 2003 issue of *PageDown*, the Library and English Composition program planned a joint partnership for Fall 2003. The pilot program increased both the length and breadth of instruction concepts taught to a select number of English 110 classes.

After many planning meetings between the English Composition faculty and the Library, and incorporating some of the lessons learned from the Spring 2003 trial, we have developed a generic instruction outline that can be used with a minimum amount of librarian preparation time. Under the general rubric of "The Urban Experience," the pilot consisted of both information literacy components and active learning sessions.

Our goal was to respond less to the students' immediate need to find sources for a research paper, but rather to provide lasting information literacy and evaluation skills that ultimately could be transferred to any course. As with most transformations that involve a rethinking of pedagogical methodologies, this program revealed both positive results and a few areas that could be tweaked for improvement for next time.

The Fall 2003 pilot was carried out within the Freshmen Year Initiative. It involved five Freshmen Year Initiative community English 110 courses, as well as the time of eight English 110 faculty and six librarians. One Library intern also participated in the workshops.

A questionnaire probing the quality and satisfaction with this mode of instruction indicated that the English faculty felt this expanded instruction was a better way to teach over the one-time class, and that their students recommended the program for future students of English 110. Many students felt they had a better understanding of "how I should go about researching a topic."

The Spring 2004 semester is being used to review and revise the pilot program, based on comments received from both faculty and students. It will also be a time to do a count of resources needed (person-power, classrooms, and staff time) and whether we could ask for the participation of all English Composition and Library faculty if we were to mainstream this teaching approach. Results will be brought before the General Education Task Force, as they continue their deliberations on what a core Queens College undergraduate education should include. Stay tuned for further developments.

Alexandra de Luise, Coordinator, Instructional Services

USE AND USERS *Continued from page 1*

- Users will read articles from a wide variety of journal titles and sources if available to them, although most of the readings come from relatively few journals.
- Personal subscriptions to journals continue to decrease, so users rely more on electronic subscriptions subsidized by the library or available on the Internet.
- Most journal article readings are of articles within their first year of publication, but a sizeable minority of readings come from materials that are older than one year.
- College and high school students use the Internet more than the library for research, and many believe they are more expert at searching than their teachers.
- Students exercise some quality judgments about materials that they retrieve from the Internet, but those quality judgments may not exactly match faculty members' criteria for quality.

Full text of the study is available at the CLIR website (<http://clir.org/pubs/reports/reports.html>).

Sharon Bonk, Chief Librarian

ALL WE NEED ARE ~~A FEW~~ ^{Many} GOOD FRIENDS . . .

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Exhibitions Calendar

Centennial Celebration of George Balanchine

David Cohen (Friends of the Queens College Library), Coordinator

Sunday, April 18, 2004, 3 pm, LeFrak Concert Hall, Aaron Copland School of Music [A program of music and dance, with guest speaker Nancy Goldner, author and dance critic].

Signs of Jewish New York: In Celebration of the 350th Year of the First Jewish Arrivals in New Amsterdam

Theodore Cohen, M.D., and Leo Hershkowitz (History), Curators
Barham Rotunda, 3rd floor
May 3–June 19, 2004

Art Libraries Society of North America: Members' Exhibit

April 15–July 15, 2004

Sponsored, in part, by Art Libraries Soc. of N.A.
Gallery Talk & Reception: Art Center, 6th Floor
Sun., April 18, 2004, 1–5 pm,



General Lee surrendering to General Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia

Civil War at the Library

Associate Professor Rolf Swensen was invited by the History Department to teach two courses for Spring 2004. Both entitled "Civil War and Reconstruction," History 262 is at the undergraduate level, and History 767 is a graduate course. Dr. Frank Warren, History Department chair, requested that Dr. Swensen teach the classes since the department's regular Civil War expert, Dr. Stanley Hirshon, passed away in December.

Swensen, who holds a Ph.D. in U.S. Social History from the University of Oregon, has assigned many primary sources. Examples include Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, Mark Twain's *Roughing It*, Hamlin Garland's "Return of a Private," *The Narrative of William W. Brown, A Fugitive Slave*, various Civil War diaries and letters, Lincoln's speeches, and John Muir's *A Thousand Mile Walk to the Gulf*. In addition to these social and literary sources, students are reading W.E.B. DuBois's *Black Reconstruction in America* and other materials.

Says Swensen: "Perhaps the most challenging aspect of teaching these courses is to impart how people lived and reported events of the times. History is not just the record of bygone events; it is the experience of how people lived."