This will be my last newsletter message as SUNYLA President. Only a couple of months more and I’ll be handing things off to Rosanne Humes. I’m sitting here at my computer trying to recall everything that’s happened since last June and I have to say that the memories are mostly good. Some are stressful, many are flat out funny, and the rest are just plain good. I think I can be proud of what we all accomplished together this year.

And now, rather than give in to the maudlin prose trying to find its way to the keyboard, I leave you with this...

Top 10 Things I Learned While Serving as SUNYLA President

10. Eyelashes lodged in tear ducts cause more pain than you might expect and require professional help to safely remove.
8. Take your down time when you can get it.
7. Not every question has to be answered today.
6. Equal parts vodka, tequila, rum, gin, triple sec + 1.5 parts sweet-n-sour mix + a splash of cola.
5. Librarians can be ruthless when it comes to getting what they want.
4. Some people will take what you say very seriously and give great weight to your opinions; choose your words with care.
3. Some people will not; try not to take it personally.
2. “Other duties as assigned” is a useful tool.
1. Have fun with the whole thing.
Go here to register:  http://www.sunyla.org/registration/2012/

- Registration is $75 for students, $100 for members and $175 for nonmembers. (The registration form has an option to become a first-time member for $20, so if you are a non-member, you may wish to take that option.) Payment is by either check or Paypal.

**EXTENDED REGISTRATION DEADLINE!**

- Registration closes May 18th, and payment must be received by May 21st.  **E-only payments for registrations after May 11th.**

- You need your member number to register at member rate. If you don’t have yours, ask your campus delegate. If you don’t know who your delegate is, look up your campus here - [http://sunyla.org/membership2/](http://sunyla.org/membership2/). Delegates will have a D next to their name.

- As usual, you can pay your dues when you register. If you want to register as a SUNYLA member, and you are not paid up right now, you can pay for 2012 and it will last through the 2012 conference. You can also pay for the following year, which will last through the end of the 2013 conference.

- Each presenting group gets up to two member-rate registration vouchers! Each poster presenter up to two 10% vouchers. Each 20 minute tech talk gets one 50% voucher. Vouchers CAN be split among group members.

- FIT dorms do not provide sheets, towels, pillows, etc. You will have to either bring these yourself, or order them from a store and arrange to have them ready to pick up in Manhattan. The locals recommend the nearby KMart.

- There are no dinners to sign up for. A dine-around sign up form will be making its way to you shortly. Paying for dinner will be handled by the group leader. We made this decision because it is actually cheaper for you to eat out at a fairly nice restaurant in Manhattan than it is to pay for a dinner catered at FIT. Also because who wants to miss a chance to eat dinner out on the town?

- A pre-conference excursions sign-up form will be coming around soon. Money will be taken at the excursion, so bring cash. Things to think about: Book Expo at the Javitz Center, a tour of Highline Park, myriad museums, and sightseeing opportunities!

- When you register, that counts as signing a document taking financial responsibility for any damages to the dorms. This is because FIT doesn’t have that kind of waiver for you to sign individually. They make the organization responsible for any damages, and we will have to recoup it from you ourselves.

Thank you to Logan Rath, for helping with registration; Greg Bobish, for helping with payment things; and NJ Wolfe and Tabitha Hanslick for helping with housing, meals, excursions and the like!

Plans are underway to build dorms on the SUNY Adirondack campus, in time for the Fall semester, 2013. Details are available at: http://www.sunyacc.edu/housing.

Senior library assistant Joanne Palmer is celebrating 35 years of dedicated service at the SUNY Adirondack Library. She will be honored at a campus-wide ceremony in May.

Library director Teresa Ronning attended "Hunters and Gatherers: Reshaping Community College Libraries for the 21st Century" at Onondaga Community College on March 6th and 7th. This program, on redesigning library space, was hosted by JMZ Architects of Glens Falls. Terry will participate in the June 12 annual meeting of NYSHEI (N.Y.S. Higher Education Initiative) in Syracuse, as one of the public college representatives. She'll also attend New York 3Rs Academic and Special Libraries biennial meeting the next day in Syracuse.

Reference and Instruction Librarian Joyce Miller serves as the chair of the Sabbatical Subcommittee for the Professional Development Committee. The subcommittee is developing a sabbatical evaluation form, listing criteria and rationales, to be given to the Executive Committee of the College Assembly in late April. Joyce is the liaison librarian for the college's International Education Committee. Faculty led a trip to Switzerland over spring break in March. Upcoming trips will go in May to Glens Falls' sister city Saga City, Japan; to Florence, Italy in January 2013; and to Bali in May 2013.

SUNY Adirondack Librarians have offered several workshops this semester: “Google Like A Librarian,” “Time Saving Databases Tips,” and several on the PIVOT: COS Funding Opportunities grants database from ProQuest.

The college's Writers' Project programs this spring included visits by poet David Budbill and Alexis Levitin, documentary filmmaker David Devries, and nonfiction writers Elizabeth Samet and John Frances.
Binghamton University Libraries has also now integrated Subject Guide links into Blackboard course pages. These links are set up to open a new page, directing users to the appropriate librarian’s subject guide for a specific area of study or course-guide. For more information, see the blog post- [http://library2.binghamton.edu/news/blog/2012/02/02/subject-guides/](http://library2.binghamton.edu/news/blog/2012/02/02/subject-guides/).

**Erin Rushton**, Web Services Librarian, presented "Implementing Primo at Binghamton University Libraries" at the National Federation of Advanced Information Services' (NFAIS) meeting "Web Scale Information Discovery: The Opportunity, the Reality, the Future" in September 2011.

Rushton also co-authored the article, “The Goodness in the Evil of SEO: Why Search Engine Optimization Matters to Information Professionals,” with Susan Funke. The article was published in the November 2011 issue of Searcher.

**Edward M. Corrado**, Director of Library Technology co-edited a book, "Getting started with cloud computing: A LITA guide," with Dr. Heather Lea Moulaison that was published this summer by Neal-Schuman.

Corrado presented on the topic of cloud computing with Dr. Moulaison at LITA National Forum, St. Louis, Missouri in September 2011.

Corrado also presented at the New York Library Association’s Annual Conference about cloud computing. During this conference, Corrado also co-presented about Tools for Digital Preservation and Asset Management with Mark Wolff, Rachael Jaffe (metadata/cataloging librarian), and Molly O'Brien (metadata/cataloging librarian ), and he participated in a panel about emerging technologies with Blake Carver and Ken Fujiuchi in November 2011.

**Anne Larrivee**, Social Sciences Subject Librarian, presented with colleague Ava Iulliano for the Reference Services Section (RSS) of RUSA for the 2012 American Library Association’s Midwinter Conference. Their presentation was titled: “For whom the Catalog Serves: Reference Librarians using Information-Seeking Features of Catalogs and Discovery Systems.” Larrivee & Iulliano will be presenting a similar topic at the 2012 ALA Annual Conference for The Readers’ Advisory Research and Trends Forum.
Dean Hendrix is the new Assistant Director for University Libraries. Dean received his MLIS from the University of Texas, Austin, and has been with the UB Libraries since 2004. Recognized nationally for his expertise in research metrics and assessment, Dean served most recently as Coordinator of Education Services in UB’s Health Sciences Library. As Assistant Director, he plans to develop strategies designed to enhance the Libraries’ role as a key partner in UB’s research mission.

The UB Libraries are planning to pilot a “Personal Librarian” program as part of the university’s new Finish in Four program. Beginning with the freshman class entering in Fall 2012 (Class of 2016), UB will provide the academic resources that participating students need to graduate in four years. Personal Librarians will reach out to individual students and educate them about the role of libraries and librarians in their academic success.

Associate Librarian Fred Stoss (Biological Sciences, Geology and Mathematics) provided interviews for Library Journal and The Chronicle of Higher Education in which he discussed the termination of the U.S. Geological Survey’s National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) and the permanent closing of its domain, nbii.gov. Fred’s comments appear in, “Librarians, Researchers Concerned as U.S. Terminates Only National Biodiversity Network” for LJ’s Digital Shift column (1/11/2012), and in The Chronicle’s “Budget Cuts Force Biodiversity Program to Close” (1/12/2012).

Brockport is in the process of a new search for a Systems/Assessment librarian. This is a continuation of our search from the fall. Also, Brockport has made great progress with Digital Commons, thanks to Kim Myers, our Repository Specialist and Bob Cushman, Head of Library Technology.

Logan Rath is teaching LIS 523, User Education, in the University at Buffalo’s online program.

Also, Drake Library hosted "Emma Lazarus: Voice of Liberty, Voice of Conscience." This exhibit was developed by Nextbook, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting Jewish literature, culture, and ideas, and the American Library Association Public Programs Office. The national tour of the exhibit has been made possible by grants from the Charles H. Revson Foundation, the Righteous Persons Foundation, the David Berg Foundation, and an anonymous donor, with additional support from Tablet Magazine: A New Read on Jewish Life. More information at http://brockport.libguides.com/emma
Recent retirees include librarians Jean Dickson and Renee Bush, both of whom enjoyed long and distinguished careers with the UB Libraries. Renee served both in the Science and Engineering Library and the Health Sciences Library, and Jean was subject liaison to the Romance Languages and Literatures and Linguistics departments and the Caribbean Cultural Studies Program. Jean also served as Curator of the Libraries’ Polish Collection for many years.

The Poetry Collection presents *When Poets Ruled the Earth: An Exhibit of Poetry in Buffalo 1962-1978*. As a satellite exhibition of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery’s current *Wish You Were Here: The Buffalo Avant-garde in the 1970s*, the Poetry Collection’s exhibit features first editions, manuscripts, posters and broadsides from acclaimed UB poets Charles Olson, Robert Creeley, John Logan, Irving Feldman, Carl Dennis, Leslie Fiedler, and others. UB campus poetry magazines of the period are included, along with publications from Buffalo community poets. The exhibit is on display through June 30th, 2012 in 420 Capen Hall, UB North Campus, M-F, 9 am – 5 pm.

Searching for a unique gift item? Visit our Library Store! Prints and posters in several sizes may be purchased from the store which offers a selection of images from several popular UB Libraries’ digital collections, including cover art from the *Bison* Magazine Collection, photographs from the James Joyce Collection, and vintage images of Buffalo and Niagara Falls.

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SUNY Conference on Instruction and Technology is slated for May 29th – June 1st at Stony Brook University. Registration is open. Here is the conference web page [http://www.cvent.com/events/cit-2012/event-summary-db65a26b62fc4b50865ad540a18b1661.aspx](http://www.cvent.com/events/cit-2012/event-summary-db65a26b62fc4b50865ad540a18b1661.aspx).

This year’s keynote is George Siemens.

The tracks are:

1. Connecting: Building Communities and Bridging Campuses
2. Mobile: Anytime, Anywhere, Any Tool
3. Innovative Instruction: Supporting Academic Excellence and Student Success
4. Education Pipeline: From Developmental through Continuing Education
5. Open Everything
Congratulations to Donna Davidoff: 25 Years of Service
Donna Davidoff, Associate Librarian at E. H. Butler Library, was honored for 25 years of service at Buffalo State College at an annual campus luncheon on March 27. President Aaron Podolefsky awarded certificates of recognition and appreciation to 14 employees who were celebrating their service to the college for the last two and a half decades.

"I Am College Bound" Program at E. H. Butler Library
More than 500 first-, second-, and third-graders from Buffalo Public Schools attended “I Am College Bound” at Buffalo State during March and April. Students participated in a variety of lessons and activities across campus, including a tour of E. H. Butler Library.

Media:scape and Multi-media Room
E. H. Butler Library is pleased to announce improvements to the group study rooms located in our 24/7 StudyQuad facility. The first group study room, 110A, now offers the technology-enabled workspace furniture media:scape. The improved setup includes a table with embedded hardware and interactive technology to encourage collaborative group work. The library’s innovative multi-media lab, located in 110B, is perfect for working on video or audio projects that require specialized multi-media software. The lab is equipped with Final Cut Pro X, iLife, and Adobe CS 5.

Rooftop Poetry Club News
E. H. Butler’s Rooftop Poetry Club celebrates National Poetry Month with an open mic reading on April 17th. The club is also holding a student poetry contest in which students can submit original work via the Butler News Blog.
On Friday, November 4th, 2011 the Norman F. Bourke Memorial Library on the Auburn campus of Cayuga Community College hosted “Fairy Tale Friday,” a field trip for children from the Booker T. Washington (BTW) Community Center in Auburn. The second and third graders were treated to a variety of fairy-tale-themed activities, including readings from traditional European and African fairy and folk tales, a puppet show, and a computer game that prompted the children to make a picture and describe the characters in a book. Snacks were served, and the children received gift bags containing bookmarks, pencils and more reading activities. The event was organized in collaboration with the Library by CCC VISTA volunteer Savonne Crews, and the activities were supervised by CCC Student Government Officers and BTW Center volunteers.

VISTA volunteer Savonne Crews will again be bringing a group of children to the Norman F. Bourke Memorial Library on the Auburn campus. The event will take place on Friday, April 27th. The theme of this event will be “Spring Fever.” The children involved are from the “Explorer” group from the Booker T. Washington Center and are ages 5 and 6.
The Douglas Library’s subscription to Medcom’s online library of web-streamed nursing videos went live on March 15th. Jill Tarabula, our Systems and Technical Services Librarian, collaborated with the nursing faculty in this effort to make 100 current medical videos available to nursing students and faculty.

In collaboration with the Math department, the Douglas Library has instituted a Graphing Calculator Loan Program. Since students enrolled in a mathematics course numbered 103 or higher are required to have a graphing calculator, the college is making them available to borrow on a first-come first-serve basis, for the period of one semester. The TI graphing calculators that are available for loan were obtained through our Perkins Career and Tech. Ed. Grant efforts and, as a result, are available first to Perkins eligible students, and the remaining calculators are loaned to non-Perkins students. Over 170 graphing calculators have been loaned this semester.

Reference & Instruction Librarian Francine Apollo is retiring at the end of May. While we won't be able to truly replace her, we will be hiring a successor. By the time this publishes, the search process should be well underway.

Katherine Brent and April Davies will both be presenting at the SUNYLA annual conference in June. April is working with Stephan Macaluso (New Paltz), Mark A. Smith (Alfred Ceramics), and others on a pre-conference session titled "Leadership Group Study," while Katherine will be discussing how to keep your library in operation while it's ripped apart for construction during a regular 45-minute session.

This spring, the Van Wagenen Library’s Participatory Art Program staged the 3-D Book Art Challenge. First prize, a brand new Kindle Touch, went to second year animal science major Kelsey Hamilton for "Free." Kelsey used a variety of techniques to turn an old reference volume into a true work of art.

The Library is serving as a client for one of Prof. Margrethe Lauber's graphic arts classes. We're very excited that an idea that started with our desire for some new "quiet zone" signs will actually result in a variety of signage throughout the Library.
At Resnick Library, the search for a new Acquisitions Manager is well underway. Our search for a Reference & Instruction Librarian is just about complete, with the new librarian slated to begin work on August 1st. We are eager to fill these spots and bring some new people on board.

All of the members of our campus community have been spending a lot of time preparing for our Middle States site visit. The external review team visited campus April 15th-18th. Library staff were involved not only in assessing the library’s contributions to the college, but also in curating an online document repository for all of the information available to the reviewers.

Renovations are beginning on Sanford Hall, which will displace several computer classrooms needed during the upcoming school year. As a result, a new computer classroom was recently constructed on the third floor of the library. Regular classes for Fall 2012 are already scheduled in this space and in our existing library computer classroom. Next year should be an interesting one in terms of library instruction. Since the library's classrooms will be unavailable during most class periods, we are investigating creative ways to teach interactive research instruction in non-wired classrooms.

At the beginning of the spring semester, we purchased two human skeleton models for our nursing students to use in studying skeletal anatomy. One skeleton is fully articulated on a wheeled stand, and the other is disarticulated (a set of separate bones in a wooden case). Both skeletons will circulate as reserve items. We ran a little contest to gather suggestions for names for both skeletons, and received 59 entries! The library staff voted and the winners were Vincent (after Vincent Price, and Alice Cooper's real name) and Indiana Bones.
ERIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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The Erie Community College (ECC) Library Resource Centers made great strides toward improving its facilities and online resources during the 2011 Fall and 2012 Spring semesters.

From January to April, the second floor of the North Campus Library was remodeled to include a dedicated open computer lab. The new computer lab was made possible through cooperation between ECC’s Campus Information Technology Services, the ECC Library Resource Centers, and the ECC Administration. The lab features dedicated staff assistants, new workstations supporting 50 computers, and new printing and scanning equipment. The addition of the new computers in the lab brings the North Campus Library’s total to 128 public computers. This project represents a further merging of the ECC’s technology and library services. It is evidence of the ECC’s ongoing commitment to the information-commons concept.

In January, College Librarian Matthew Best unveiled a digitized version of *A Verbal History of Erie Community College* by James E. Shenton. The project is available online at libguides.ecc.edu/ecchistory. Originally published in 1982, this document existed as an oral history of ECC that was recorded on six audio cassettes accompanied by a typewritten transcript. Shenton is remembered as ECC’s President from 1963 to 1974, but his commitment to the College ran deeper than this honorable position. Shenton was instrumental in the College’s creation in 1946 and was part of the early movement to establish a two-year technical college system in New York State. Best’s digitization project includes streaming-audio reproductions of Shenton’s oral history, reproductions of the audio transcript, and resources for further research. The next phase of the project will be to include its content in the New York State Heritage digital collection <www.newyorkheritage.org> which is maintained by The New York 3Rs Association <www.ny3rs.org>.

From March to April, the ECC Library Resource Centers administered the LibQual+ survey across the ECC campuses for the second time since 2008. LibQual+ is a suite of services that libraries use to solicit, track, understand, and act upon users’ opinions of service quality. This year, Systems Librarian Joe Riggle was instrumental in the
administration of the survey and was assisted by Librarians Margaret Lew, Jane Ashwill, Matthew Best, Kathleen McGriff Powers, Taheera Shaheed-Sonubi, and Melissa Peterson. Tutor Andrew Filippone was also a great assistance to the project. More information about LibQual+ is available www.libqual.org.

Throughout 2011 and 2012, Systems Librarian Joe Riggie took on the yeoman’s task of redesigning the ECC Library Resource Centers’ entire website. He approached this daunting project armed with a solid knowledge of HTML, JAVA, and the mighty content management system LibGuides <www.springshare.com/libguides>. As the redesign nears completion, Riggie is busy analyzing results from usability tests that were conducted on the new site. He expresses his gratitude to all those who assisted him in this essential part of the project. Riggie thanks Librarians Kim Coney, Amy Glende, Hadeen Stokes, Katherine Hill, Lynnette Mende, Margaret Lew, and Taheera Shaheed-Sonubi who conducted the tests with students, faculty, and outsiders. Riggie will be incorporating the feedback from the usability test over the next few weeks. He hopes to launch the new site before the Fall 2012 Semester.

FARMINGDALE
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Congratulations to Theresa Zahor, our Reference/Information Literacy librarian, on the completion of her MALS degree with a concentration & certificate in Educational Computing from Stony Brook University.

Theresa is also a recipient of the Fall 2011 President’s CARES Award for excellence in service.

FREDONIA
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At the beginning of the Spring Semester, Reed Library implemented Summon, the discovery service through Serial Solutions. We have also started migrating our library guides to the LibGuides program.

In addition, we submitted the application for what will be our 5th National Endowment for the Arts’ Big Read Program. After a successful program last year, based upon the works of Edgar Allan Poe, we selected Jack London’s classic story “The Call of the Wild.” The next Big Read Program is scheduled for a kick-off date of February 2013.
The Inauguration of James M. Sunser, Ed. D as GCC’s 4 th President was held on May 5 th. Events held during Inauguration Week “Beyond Expectations” included the construction of a Mandala Sand Painting by Monks from the Drepung Loseling Monastery and a display of Dr. Sunser’s career highlights created by part-time Reference Librarian Cindy Hagelberger.

Dr. Eunice Bellinger, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Nina Warren, Director of Library Services, attended a two-day symposium, “Hunters & Gatherers: Reshaping Community College Libraries for the 21 st Century”, hosted March 6 th-7 th at Onondaga Community College. The event was sponsored by JMZ Architects and Planners, P.C. and participants from 13 colleges used OCC’s Coulter Library as a case study to explore design and service issues for the next generation of community college libraries.

Yannick Murphy, award winning author of The Call, visited GCC on March 22 as part of the annual “A Tale for Three Counties” area-wide library “one book” reading project. Partnering with the Batavia Daily News and public and school libraries of Genesee, Orleans and Wyoming counties, GCC participated with great success. A record 21 classes in 4 disciplines and several reading groups across GCC’s five campus centers used the book. In all, a record 400 free books were distributed to students. In a related talk, Veterinarian Dr. Keith Carlson visited GCC on March 8 to present “A Day in the Life: Tales from a Large Animal Veterinarian”. Yannick joined winners of our student essay contest, committee members and college faculty for a luncheon and presented a talk to over 150 attendees. Director of Library Services Nina Warren and Reference Librarian Michele Asmus served as co-chairs of the GCC portion of the project.

Another highlight of this year’s program, the Friends of Richmond Public Library group awarded “A Tale for Three Counties” as the recipient of the 2012 Friend of the Year Award for recognition of ten years of outstanding programming.

After a lifetime in libraries, Anita Whitehead is retiring at the end of the semester. She has served as Head of Reference Services since 2007. Now she will have the time to work in the garden and continue renovations on her 1884 home in Geneseo, NY. It will take her some effort to wrest control of the house from her husband, Jim, who retired a year ago. Together they will walk the village or wander the country visiting their kids.
Michelle Eichelberger replaced our old chat system with Libraryh3lp’s chat system over spring break. The new system offers the same user-friendly interface as our old system, but it provides librarians with better access to tracking, transferring, and monitoring chats.

The Library is in the midst of its 11th annual Student Poetry Contest. Over 50 poems have been received. Nina Warren, Nicki Lerczak, Michelle Eichelberger, Rich Bartl, Laura Dumuhosky, Jim Hartway, and Jared VanDyke serve as judges with Anita Whitehead coordinating. An awards ceremony is planned for April 26 where the winning poets will read their work and answer questions from the audience. “Warsaw Sketches,” an art show featuring the work of students from Margaret VanArsdale’s classes at our Warsaw Campus Center, is currently on display in the library. Anita Whitehead hosted an Artists Reception on April 20 which showcased the students as they worked on drawings.

The Library participated in the college’s World Creativity and Innovation Week (April 15th-21st) with displays created by Collection Development Librarian Cindy Francis. A display highlighting Leonardo da Vinci’s inventions was provided to generate ideas for GCC’s Invention Convention and a Creativity book display highlighting titles to support GCC’s new Creative Problem Solving course.
In January, the GIST Team and IDS Project announced that the next generation of GIST tools have been released and are ready for customizing and streamlining your acquisitions, collection development, and interlibrary loan processes & workflow. http://www.gistlibrary.org/

Several staff members from Tech Services are being trained in XML TEI (Text Encoding Initiative) to markup and enrich a digital text of Walden with scholarly annotations, links, images, and social tools that will enable users to create conversations around the text. The encoding project is the core of SUNY Geneseo's Digital Thoreau initiative (a partnership with the Thoreau Society and the Thoreau Institute at Walden Woods). As part of their training, staff spent 1.5 days in intense workshops led by Syd Bauman (Brown University Center for Digital Scholarship) and Kristen Case (University of Maine at Farmington, English Dept.), who visited the campus in February. Syd will return to Milne in April with Julia Flanders, a colleague at Brown, to provide advanced training to the staff and other members of the Digital Thoreau project.

Joe Easterly has joined Milne as our new Electronic Resources and Digital Scholarship Librarian.

Kim Hoffman is teaching LIS 518 Reference Sources and Services for UB at RRLC in Spring 2012.

Mark Sullivan's nomination proposal was accepted for the National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education (NITLE) Innovation Studio. He intends to work on project-based learning that address the “thorny challenges” faced by Liberal arts colleges. http://www.nitle.org/help/innovationstudio.php

Bonnie Swoger will be taking over as the editor for the Geosciences Information Society (GSIS) Newsletter starting with the March Issue. GSIS is the professional organization for librarians in the geosciences. She has also been busy writing, with a guest blog post at ACRLog (http://acrl.org/2011/10/03/evaluating-research-by-the-numbers/) as well as having begun to write database reviews for Library Journal, as a part of their eReviews series. The reviews appear in most print editions of the magazine, and my reviews can be accessed online here: http://reviews.libraryjournal.com/author/bswoger/. This latest opportunity came about as a result of writing on her personal blog, The Undergraduate Science Librarian at http://theundergraduatesciencelibrarian.org.
The biggest news lately at JCC is that our campus will be getting dorms, probably breaking ground in about a year, to be completed by 2014. Exciting! We know this will change our role on campus, so we are busy working to prepare for that.

We also just got a premium subscription to EasyBib (citation manager). So far, it seems to be a hit with faculty and students. However, we've been working some of our Writing lab tutors to host regular workshops on citation and using EasyBib, since it tends to do no one any good if students aren't able to identify what type of resource they need to cite.

Since her return from Cyprus in July 2011, Library Director and Department Chair Constantia Constantinou’s success there as a Fulbright Scholar has been widely recognized as one of the most instrumental supports to change since the Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot rift in 1974. Constantia’s accomplishments during her Fulbright have bolstered her already impressive career as an academic librarian, for which she has been promoted to the rank of Distinguished Librarian – the highest faculty librarian rank in the SUNY system. Constantia’s accolade is only the fifth such appointment in SUNY history, and comes on the heels of SUNY’s establishment of the Distinguished Academy comprised of all Distinguished Faculty and Librarians. Congratulations, Constantia!

This semester we said farewell to our part-time reference librarian, Julia Furay, who has moved on to new waters, and welcome aboard to Jennifer O’Keefe (Circulation Coordinator) and Katie Bram (part-time reference librarian). Demonstrating the ongoing success of our internship program with local MLS-granting institutions, Jennifer and Katie both participated in the Luce Library’s internship program in previous semesters and it is a pleasure to have them aboard again.

Cataloging and Metadata Librarian Kimmy Szeto most recently presented at the Music Library Association’s Annual Meeting in Dallas, Texas. His topics, “A brief introduction to RDF, linked data, and RDA registered properties” and “The shape of music publishing: Impacts of international copyright agency relationships on acquisition and licensing,” were both well received. Additionally, Kimmy was published in the Journal of Library Administration Management Section of the New York Library Association, 8 (1), 31-49, for his article “Digitizing everything? Part II: Piloting metadata creation” in the fall, and a report on a workshop from the 2011 SUNYLA annual conference, entitled: “Digital spoken word demystified: The nuts and bolts of do-it-yourself podcasting” in the Journal of Electronic Resources Librarianship, 23(4), 417-419.

As the semester winds down, preparations are gearing up for the annual Summer Sea Term cruise. This summer, the Luce Library’s own Kimmy Szeto and Elizabeth Berilla
Kimmy Szeto kszeto@sunymaritime.edu

(Coordinator of Services and Collections) will be shipping aboard the TS EMPIRE STATE VI as the ship’s librarians during the first and second halves of the cruise starting on May 7th. This summer’s anticipated ports of call are New York (New York), San Miguel (Azores), Reykjavik (Iceland), Norfolk (Virginia), Gibraltar, and Liverpool (England). We wish Kimmy and Elizabeth fair winds and following seas during their cruises!

Collaborative efforts between the Stephen B. Luce Library, Archives, and Special Collections and the Snug Harbor Cultural Center (Staten Island) have grown tremendously in recent months. Originally known as Sailors’ Snug Harbor, this site was home to a community of retired sailors in the 19th and 20th centuries. While the Luce Library holds the archival collections of Sailors’ Snug Harbor, Gregory Murphy (the archivist for the Sailors’ Snug Harbor collection and part-time reference librarian for the Luce Library) has finalized a full update to the finding aid, which is the first to be completed in over 35 years and incorporates significant additions to the collection including manuscripts, artifacts, and photographs. In January, the staff of the Snug Harbor Cultural Center paid a visit to the Luce Library, and in March our librarians Constantia Constantinou, Shafeek Fazal (Assistant Director, and Head of Reference and Access Services), Joseph Williams (Head of Collections and Technical Services), Kimmy Szeto, Elizabeth Berilla, and Jennifer O’Keefe returned the favor with a site visit to Staten Island. We look forward to further partnerships between our institutions.

The Cornell University Library Advisory Council selected SUNY Maritime College to host their spring 2012 regional meeting on March 31, and we were honored to share our campus with all in attendance. Constantia Constantinou, Shafeek Fazal, Joseph Williams, Elizabeth Berilla, Jennifer O’Keefe, and Gregory Murphy presented on institutional knowledge and archival material on Maritime College, the Luce Library, and Sailors’ Snug Harbor.
The library is taking advantage of the current spring break to finalize the library renovations that were started during the January holiday, with the addition of the last pieces of furniture (including a new circulation desk and reference area furniture). The progress can be seen here: http://www.facebook.com/MVCC.Libraries.

MVCC will be hosting the ENY/ACRL Spring Conference on May 21st, 2012. The day’s schedule is available at http://enyacrl.org/site/ and the theme is "Measure for Measure: Exploring Library Assessment".

As the spring semester begins, the Monroe Community College librarians are busy working with the students and faculty on a variety of projects. Pam Czaja is serving as an the embedded librarian in an on-campus Travel course, and also in an SLN online Health Education course; Mary Timmons is working on integrating literacy skills into the curriculum at the Applied Technology Center and the Public Safety Training Center; Alice Wilson and Deb Mohr are helping students with research for the Model UN conference in NYC.

For the second year in a row MCC Libraries were partnered with Rochester City School District #15, The Children’s School of Rochester, to participate in the READ: Hope in Action project. Approximately 35 MCC student athletes, coaches, as well as librarians Deb Mohr and Lori Annesi traveled en masse to The Children’s School of Rochester for the Giant Read, the first segment of the READ: Hope in Action project. MCC students read Little Bear and the Marco Polo to a group of 45 enthusiastic first graders. The first graders were then given their own copies of the book to keep. Great fun was had by all!

The LeRoy V. Good Library continues to host its lecture series about a variety of topics. In the Fall, MCC professor Richard Monikowski presented on “Life and the Law in Indian Country,” and Damon City Campus Learning Commons employee Dennis Woodyard described “My Time in TV Animation: Concept to Final Cut.” This spring, the MCC Libraries’ very own Rick Squires presented “Hollywood on the Genesee,” documenting the Rochester area’s long history of involvement with the film industry.

The MCC Libraries is implementing True Serials, an electronic records management system. We are using it to keep track of our serial subscriptions as well as providing the main web interface for databases access.
On February 28, 2012, Nassau Community College suffered a tremendous loss with the passing of Professor Gerald Leibowitz. A librarian at NCC for 30 years, Gerry held several positions during his tenure: Chair of the Library Department, Media Unit Head, Media Librarian, and Reference Librarian.

He served on library committees too numerous to list, and represented the library through his many campus activities over the years. Gerry was part of the fabric not just of the college library, but of all the college community. Film festivals, Civility Week, Sexual Harassment Awareness workshops, the NCCFT Operetta – Gerry embraced campus life in so many areas. He could often be seen walking the campus and taking pictures, some of which are on display in the Library’s Information Commons Exhibits area. Outgoing and friendly, Gerry had a warm greeting for everyone. So many faculty and staff members at NCC have their own special memories of Gerry. An active member of the library profession, Gerry was currently serving as a trustee of the North Babylon Public Library. He was a proud member of the SUNY Librarians Association, receiving the prestigious Friend of SUNYLA Award in 2008. Gerry served as editor of the SUNYLA Newsletter and was a popular figure at the annual conferences. He was also an active member of the Nassau County Library Association’s Media Division for much of his career. Perhaps Gerry’s career accomplishments are best highlighted by his SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Librarianship which was awarded to him in 2002. While Gerry enjoyed many personal and professional accomplishments during his career, to understand his essence, one would need to understand his unflagging dedication to students. I met a young man standing before Gerry’s memorial exhibit as it was being assembled this week. He told me that Gerry always helped him with his homework, and always encouraged him to smile when he was feeling down, saying that Gerry always made him feel like he really cared. In a room usually teeming with hundreds of people, Gerry had the ability to make each student feel like he counted. He will be missed.

From Nancy Williamson, Library Dept. Chair

NCC is proud to announce that we have established a scholarship in Gerry’s name. Anyone interested in contributing can contact me at Christine.Butler@ncc.edu for more information.
The renovation of Sojourner Truth Library continues with the installation of additional compact shelving and the start of work on our office annex, Phase I. Once the annex is renovated, with a new access door, new furnishings, carpeting, and wall treatments, staff and librarians will move back into that space. This is expected to take 2-3 months. When this is completed, sometime during the summer, we expect to go into Phase 3, the renovation of the Library’s main floor. This will require the closure of that floor and all services and staff moving to the lower two floors of the library. The entire project is expected to be completed in summer 2013.

No major changes in library services or hours are expected during the renovation. Some of the outcomes of the completed renovation include:

- A reorganized public services desk where patrons can access a wide range of technological and research services
- New semi-private individual work spaces and group meeting areas that invite both quiet study and team projects. Many of these spaces will be equipped with “smart” technologies e.g., interactive whiteboards, projectors and media equipment
- Improved computer and wireless network access, and improved document scanning and printing facilities
- Redesigned main floor with increased natural light and views of the Shawangunk mountains
- Installation of compact shelving to house essential print materials and maximize study space
- A redesigned late-hours study area available during peak times of the semester
- Improved quiet-study carrels
- A new faculty study room where scholars can read, meet and secure materials for longer-term research projects
- Refurbished lobby: redesigned restrooms (including a gender neutral restroom); enlarged café; improved art gallery area

Kristy Lee conducted a regional training workshop of TextHelp literacy assistive technology on October 19th, 2011. Participants were staff and tutors who work with students at New Paltz Disability Resource Center and the Tutoring & Writing Center, as well as high school teachers from local school districts and BOCES. New Paltz has purchased a campus site license of the software program TextHelp. It is installed on all library public access PCs and lending laptops. TextHelp Read & Write 10 Gold and Web Apps integrate with applications (i.e. MS Word, Adobe Reader and most web...
browsers) giving access to features for reading, writing and research support. TextHelp tools are particularly useful for students with reading and writing difficulties, learning disabilities, and English as Second Language learners. Colleen Lougen also demonstrated the ‘read-aloud’ features on several online databases subscribed at Sojourner Truth Library and publicly available on NOVEL NY databases.

NEW PALTZ (CONT.)
Heather Whalen Smith whalenh@newpaltz.edu

The librarians at the H.G. Lewis Library hosted a National Library Week breakfast for all full and part-time faculty to celebrate the collaboration between faculty and the NCCC Library. Our guests were served bagels, muffins, homemade coffecakes, fruit, and beverages. We were pleased to welcome many faculty and to have a chance to visit with them before or after their morning classes. We had displays of our newest books, DVDs, Kindles, and a continuous PowerPoint presentation titled “What the Library Can Do For You” to inform faculty about our resources and services. We had a drawing and gave away two copies of the book, “Common Phrases and the Amazing Stories Behind Them”. Jeanne Tuohey, Reference Librarian, created a large banner fashioned after the ALA National Library Week logo, “You Belong @ Your Library”, that we proudly displayed at the entrance for all to see. The faculty members who attended were most appreciative of our efforts and many learned something new about how we can help them in their teaching and research. For our first time hosting such an event we were very encouraged by the attendance and also by the positive comments we heard afterwards. We may even do it again next year.
The new Alden Scholar Series which celebrates SUNY Oneonta faculty members who have published scholarly books or produced book-length projects within the last five years was introduced this spring. The first program, held April 12th, highlighted the recently published book of Dr. Yuriy Malikov (Department of History): *Tsars, Cossacks, and Nomads: The Formation of a Borderland Culture in Northern Kazakhstan in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries* (Berlin: Klaus Schwarz Verlag, 2011). The Library again joined the New York Council for the Humanities in promoting community conversations by hosting *A Community Conversation – MLK’s Legacy of Service* on February 9th.

Nancy Cannon has been granted sabbatical from July – December 2012. She will be working on her project “*Eyewitness to History: Letters and Photographs of Ms. Norma Lenschow, Medical Missionary, Highlands, New Guinea (1955-1956)*”, which entails sorting, organizing, transcribing, and digitizing selected documents and photographs in order to render them accessible to the public. Creation of a topical framework with introductory essays for each section will contextualize the data.

Oneonta continues its search for a Library Director and a Reference/Instruction Librarian.

Coulter Library hosted its first Fall Poetry Reading on Wednesday, October 26th, 2011. Students, faculty, and community members joined together to read both their own poetry and the poetry of others. In addition, the annual Shakespeare’s Sisters Poetry Reading was held on April 23rd, 2012 from 11:15-12:30 at Coulter Library; once again, all students, faculty, and staff were invited to participate, either by reading or just by listening. Light refreshments were provided.

**Angela Weiler** is on sabbatical for the spring 2012 semester. She is researching open access resources and repositories, as well as open access e-textbooks and public domain resources.

Coulter Library is holding a Chess Night at Coulter Library every Wednesday Night this semester. The games are held in the Coulter Library Living Room area from 6 to 8 pm. All faculty, staff, and students are welcome.

**Pauline Lynch Shostack**, Electronic Resources Librarian, along with library clerks **Vi Marcy** and **Marta Loomis**, created a 50th Anniversary Puzzle Hunt for the preschool students at the Children’s Learning Center. The kids hunted for puzzle pieces once a week for a total of six weeks. They started the puzzle hunting game in March and found the final piece the last week of April. They made various stops on campus,
Angela Weiler weilera@sunyocc.edu
including a trip to the President’s Office in Whitney on Friday, March 30. Dr. Sydow presented the students with their second puzzle piece, which brought them one step closer to decoding a “special message.” Other stops they made included the Library and the new SRC Arena. With all six pieces in hand – and their interpersonal/navigational skills sharpened – the students completed the puzzle and spelled out “Happy 50th OCC!”.

Frank Doble presented volume 13 of the Albums That Shook the World lecture series (Jimi Hendrix) on Monday, April 9th @ 11:15 in Coulter Library, Room C108.

Coulter Library is currently undergoing a program review in preparation for an extensive renovation. A related symposium was held in March by JMZ Architects and Planners, P.C., and was attended by a number of SUNY library directors as well as the librarians of Coulter Library and other members of the Onondaga community. Attendees heard comments from the campus community at large, and then brainstormed ideas with existing Coulter Library floor plans. Not only did this process create many new ideas for the renovation, but it also resulted in surprisingly high consensus among groups regarding use of space in a number of areas in the library building.

The College of Optometry is pursuing a uniform identity, a branding, for both its physical and virtual presence. Should you pass by the College on 42nd Street in mid-Manhattan, you will also see the SUNY logo displayed prominently.

Inside the building, the drilling and hammering continue just below the Library as the Center for Student Life and Learning tries to take shape, not very conducive to studying or working.

http://www.sunyopt.edu/blog/public/Construction/student_life_and_learning/2012/03/#000028
OSWEGO
Kathryn Johns-Masten kathryn.johnsmasten@oswego.edu

Penfield Library welcomes Michelle Bishop, the new First Year Experience Librarian. Michelle comes to us from Union County College in New Jersey where she worked in library instruction, including teaching the First Year Seminar course. Michelle will concentrate on working with our first year students and programs. She will officially begin her work at Penfield on April 23rd.

Got Books? Need more small group study spaces? If you’ve got some extra books – perhaps in storage – make a room! That’s just what we did at Penfield. We noticed a need for more small group study areas, so we got innovative. Our law books had been put in storage, but were brought back upstairs to construct the walls of our “Book Rooms.” Empty shelving units were formed into small “rooms” around a pillar with electrical outlets, and the law books were placed on the shelves to form the walls. Chairs and tables with power hubs completed the room, although we’re also looking into placing portable whiteboards in the “rooms” too. They are popular!

The Middle States Association’s Commission delivered a “very positive” report to SUNY Oswego in early April and the team found no grounds to issue either recommendations or requirements. The team went on to commend, among other things, our culture of assessment and continuous improvement. We await final reaccreditation in June.

PLATTSBURGH
Michelle Toth tothmm@plattsburgh.edu

Construction and rearranging continues in Feinberg Library. The Instructional Technology Resources Room was moved and a new Reading Room is being set up. “Waiting for furniture” is our official status at the moment. We are also in the process of equipping two rooms to become technology-presentation rooms.

Feinberg Library’s Special Collections participated in the Society of American Archivists (SAA) “I Found it in the Archives” contest. Our local contest winner, Julie Dresser, made it all the way to the finals in the national SAA contest: Read Julie’s essay and vote online at http://www2.archivists.org/initiatives/i-found-it-in-the-archives/i-found-it-in-the-archives-2012-national-competition
PLATTSBURGH (CONT.)
Michelle Toth tothmm@plattsburgh.edu

Special Collections also recently launched the “Mystery Archives Series,” featuring short detective stories based on true events in Special Collections. Four episodes are now live—read all about the “Inspector” and his adventures at http://www.plattsburgh.edu/library/specialcollections/

Searches for the Dean of Library and Information Services, a tenure-track Librarian, and an Acquisitions Manager are all being held this spring.

POTSDAM
Marianne Hebert hebertm@potsdam.edu

New Hire
Elizabeth Andrews has joined the College Libraries as our new User Services Librarian. Elizabeth comes to us from Cudahy Library at Loyola University Chicago and holds an MS in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Elizabeth also has an MA in Humanities with a concentration in Cinema and Media Studies, from the University of Chicago. Elizabeth is a member of the Reference and Information Literacy Instruction teams; she is Collection Development Liaison to several departments, and will be working on outreach projects to connect the Libraries and our users.

Archives in the News
SUNY Potsdam recently unearthed a forgotten gem hidden in the stacks of the College Archives and Special Collections at Frederick W. Crumb Memorial Library. A 93-year-old College alumni magazine cover with original art by famed American illustrator Norman Rockwell was recently discovered by the SUNY Potsdam archivist, Matt Francis. The July 1919 cover of “The Normal Magazine” marked the 50th anniversary of Potsdam Normal School.

Rockwell was connected to Potsdam’s campus by his marriage to Irene O’Connor, who graduated from Potsdam Normal School in 1911. In appreciation for Rockwell’s kind gift, the July 1919 edition of the Normal Magazine stated: “We want to express our gratitude to our adopted Mr. Rockwell for his cover design representing the sweet girl graduate of 50 years ago. It was his gift to our semi-centennial and surely one of no mean proportions.”

The location of Rockwell’s original drawing for the print is still unknown at this time. The magazine will continue to be stored in the SUNY Potsdam College Archives, where it can be viewed by members of the general public.” The full story, and photo of the illustration is available at the North Country Now website:
Photographic History of SUNY Potsdam

Jane Subramanian along with co-author Virginia Cayey, recently published a photographic history of the college with Arcadia Publishing, covering much of SUNY Potsdam's nearly 200 year old history - see http://www.potsdam.edu/newsandevents/122911college-arcadia-book.cfm. Recently retired, Jane is presently serving as a grant reviewer for New York State Archive's Documentary Heritage Program. She will be finishing her continued part-time employment with the library and college in mid-May 2012, but will continue some work in the SUNY Potsdam College Archives & Special Collections on a volunteer basis.

New Seminar Space: Occasional use limited – projection classroom

Faculty have asked many times if there is a place they can use as a “home base” at times when they bring their classes to Crumb for in-class library research. Crumb Library now has a revamped classroom with 16 movable student seats to accommodate any teaching or work style, a 55” TV on the wall that can be plugged into our DVD/Blu-ray player, a laptop, or campus cable TV, and chalk and white boards on the walls.

Weeding Project 2012

Collection Development Librarians and Technical Services staff are knee deep in a very large deselection project in Crumb Library. Both books and print periodical collections are being weeded to make room for a 2013 renovation and redesign of library spaces and information service. Details about the project are on the Crumb Library Weeding Project 2012 web page: http://potsdam.libguides.com/weeding

Susanne Markgren, Digital Services Librarian, wrote an article on relocating to NYC for METRO's web site. “A Librarian's Guide to Relocating to NYC” is available at http://metro.org/librarians-guide-to-relocating-to-nyc/. Ms. Markgren was also recently interviewed on the INALJ (I Need A Library Job) blog for her work as a columnist for the online column “Career Q&A with the Library Career People” available at http://inalj.com/?p=2629.
Cataloger and Library Subject Specialist for Spanish and Portuguese, Amelia Salinero, has translated N. Scott Momaday's Pulitzer Prize winning novel *House Made of Dawn* into Spanish.

*House Made of Dawn* has been translated into German, Czech, French, Italian, Polish and Russian. This is the first translation into Spanish. Amelia's translation is being published in Spain by Appaloosa Editorial.

Dana Antonucci, Head of the Science & Engineering Library, has authored an article published in a recent issue of *Science & Technology Libraries*.

Susan DeMasi, Professor of Library Services, had a bibliographic essay, “The Federal Writers’ Project: A Legacy of Words,” published in the March 2012 issue of *Choice*.

Kevin McCoy, Professor of Library Services, was recently elected to be the Long Island Library Resources Council Board President. Kevin also serves as President of the Suffolk Chapter of the New York Civil Liberties Union.

Susan Lieberthal, Ammerman Campus Head Librarian, Tatiana Tchoubar, Instructional Technology Specialist and Min Su, Specialist for Title III, will be presenting “A Virtual Learning Commons for Student Engagement” at the *Campus Technology Forum* in Long Beach, CA on May 1st, 2012.

Shaun Gerien, Specialist for Central College and Community Services has been elected to serve as the 1st Vice-President of the NYS Associated Press Broadcasters Association for 2012-2013.

The Montaukett Learning Resource Center was honored this past March in the collaborative learning feature of the American Libraries 2012 Design Showcase. The layout of the one year old MLRC, provides students and faculty with ample space for collaboration, while still respecting others need for quiet study. The MLRC was the only community college included in this design category. Photo credit: Paul Turano

Suffolk County Community College implemented double-sided printing on all student computers, but there is still more that can be done to reduce paper consumption and waste. For Earth Day the Eastern Campus Library took steps to promote green printing practices. Using digital signs created by SCCC student Lisa Nolan throughout the campus and links on the computer desktops, the library supplied tips for more eco-friendly printing. Some of these included printing PowerPoint slides six to a page and using Print Preview to help print web sites and pages. The Library Facebook page also posted these tips throughout the week before Earth Day.
Jessica Clemons joined the staff of the Moon Library at SUNY-ESF on March 29th. Jessica received her M.S.L.S from Clarion University of Pennsylvania and began her career as a science librarian at the College of Wooster. She has accepted a tenure-track assistant librarian position at SUNY-ESF (from which she has a degree in Environmental Studies) where she will work closely with the Office of Research Programs. One of her favorite librarian duties is to help people use technology to make their research more accessible, vibrant, and useful. She is an experimentalist by nature and always willing to try to something new. When working closely with students and faculty she gains valuable insight into the way non-librarians do research. She is professionally active and has presented several posters at various conferences. She is presenting a workshop on screencasting at a national conference (LOEX) in May. Find her at jessicaclemons.net.

Jane Verostek, Associate Librarian at Moon Library spent time during the spring 2012 semester creating the Library 411 video tutorial series on the SUNY ESF YouTube Channel http://www.youtube.com/SUNYESFTV. These video tutorials were produced with the assistance of SUNY ESF Television and ESF Productions. The video tutorials cover such topics as: Searching Library Catalogs, Grant Research, Searching Journal Article Databases, Using Bibliographic Styles and Online Citation Generators, QR Codes, Podcasts and more! These video tutorials are used in the online version of the SUNY ESF course – ESF 200 Information Literacy, for guest lectures, incorporated into LibGuides and used for outreach to area high school students. QR Codes that link to the video tutorials have also been posted throughout Moon Library (on the front door, on table tents, etc.) to allow for easy linking/access to these video tutorials. The video tutorials can be viewed at this site http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL1F250FCBAF580DFE.

On Wednesday April 11th and Thursday April 12th Moon Library was the site for the annual SUNY ESF Spotlight on student Research and Outreach http://www.esf.edu/spotlight. This event allows students to present their current research to peers, faculty and staff.

On Thursday April 19th SUNY ESF – Moon Library held a Food for Fines amnesty day. On that day Moon Library collected food for the needy and offered patrons the opportunity to reduce their overdue fines. $1.00 was taken off a patron’s overdue fines for each healthy and nonperishable food item donated. The collected food was then donated to a local food pantry. Our numbers are not in for 2012 but in 2011 patrons donated 202 food items.

In November 2011 Moon Library received a generous donation from The Unsworths, Robert E. (’84 FRM – SUNY ESF) and Lisa (’84 Syracuse University), to transform Room 103 in Moon Library into a quiet study room for the current students of the college. In the year 2012, Room 103, which was the library’s current periodicals room, is on the path to becoming an inviting space for students looking for a quiet place to study. Many improvements have been made such as new table top lighting and new paint and more improvements are planned, including custom furniture, more study carrels, and artwork.
**SUNY IT**  
Barbara Grimes  
barbara.grimes@sunyit.edu  

This semester we welcomed the Learning Center to the Cayan Library. Director Doug Eich and the professional and student tutors have settled in and students are taking advantage of the new surroundings. The writing and statistics tutors have established schedules in the building. The math tutors still have some hours outside of the library but have evening and weekend hours in the library.

SUNYIT and Morrisville State College are involved in shared services talks. The library has been identified as one of the initiative areas and faculty and staff from both campuses have begun to talk about possible areas where services could be shared. Barb Grimes was elected by the Faculty Assembly to serve as a faculty representative on the SUNYIT Shared Services Committee. She also is involved in the dialogue between the library staffs.

**TOMPKINS CORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
Susanna VanSant  
vansans@tc3.edu  

**Instruction**  
Under the leadership of our Instruction Librarian, Barbara Kobritz, we have completely revamped the library and Baker Commons orientation that we offer to students in the entry-level composition course. Transformed into the Quest, students work in teams to undertake a series of challenges that require them to engage in practical activities that not only earn them points in the game but improve their chances for college success. Give it a try/learn more at the upcoming SUNYLA conference.

**Collection Management**  
Following the retirement of collection management librarian Ann Sullivan, TC3 moved to a liaison model for outreach and communication between the library and academic departments.

In order to increase student work space as well as to increase display space to promote the collection, the library is undertaking a significant weeding project. The focus is on materials that have not circulated in 10 or more years or are otherwise out of date or are no longer relevant to the curriculum.

With thanks to the help of Kate Pitcher (Geneseo) and our own Bill Drew, plus the hard work of Lucy Yang (Circulation Services Coordinator) and Edania Hernandez (acting Senior Library Clerk), we are efficiently updating Aleph and shipping materials off to Better World Books.

In other collections news, Library Director Gregg Kiehl coordinated the shared purchase of a collection of streaming nursing videos from Medcom. Karla Block, liaison to TC3’s nursing department, identified titles for TC3 in consultation with nursing faculty.

**Access**  
In addition to the usual books and media, the service desk also circulates eReaders (Nooks) and MP3 players (Sansa Fuze). These devices hold both Reserves resources as well as leisure titles. Monika Chavez, an SU iSchool student (graduating in May 2012) who interned at TC3 and is now our weekend adjunct, created a Gadgets and Gear LibGuide to assist users with these technologies. (See [http://tc3.libguides.com/gadgetsandgear](http://tc3.libguides.com/gadgetsandgear).) Titles on the Nooks are all represented in the OPAC, as are reserve audiobooks purchased for the MP3 players.
The SUNYLA Information Literacy Task Force has an update regarding information literacy assessment in SUNY. The task force proposes that SUNY libraries work in the spirit of one system and share rubric based assessment instruments and also consider incorporating a nationally normed assessment tool such as Project SAILS into our campus assessment plans. Details can be found in this report.

**SUNYLA Information Literacy/Management Task Force**

**Group 2: General Information Literacy/Management Assessment**

Members:
- **Mark McBride**, Chair, Coordinator of Library Instruction, Buffalo State College
- **Michelle Toth**, Reference and Instruction Librarian, Plattsburgh
- **Karen Shockey**, Coordinator of Library Instruction, Oswego
- **Penny Bealle**, Associate Professor, Suffolk County Community College
- **Michael Daly**, Instruction & Public Services Librarian, Fulton Montgomery Community College

**Introduction to Task Force:**

In Spring 2011 at a SUNYLA Council meeting a discussion began on how to improve information literacy assessment throughout SUNY. Many instruction librarians had been frustrated by the lack of resources available to conduct meaningful assessment of information literacy (IL) skills on their campuses. **Angela Weiler**, the SUNYLA Council President at the time, made a motion to form a task force to examine IL assessment within SUNY. She asked **Mark McBride** to chair the task force; **Dunstan McNutt** from SUNY Delhi agreed to co-chair the task force. After the council meeting Dunstan and Mark developed a plan. They agreed to break down the task force into four groups. The volunteers named in each group were assigned within the first six months.

**Task Force Composition:**

Group 1: SUNY Information Management Competency Team: **Dunstan McNutt**, (formerly of SUNY Delhi) Amherst College; **Jim Nichols**, SUNY Oswego; **Alice Harrington Wilson**, Monroe Community College; **Carleen Huxley**, Jefferson County Community College

TEAM GOAL: To ensure SUNY standards and Middle States standards are consistent to one another. Looked at the Guidelines for the Approval of SUNY General Education Courses, and SUNY Information Management competencies and suggested changes for the competencies. It would be useful to compare these to the Middle States standards for Information Literacy to address overlap, and to broaden our assessment efforts to meet both the SUNY-wide requirements and those of our accrediting body.

**Team goal accomplished**

Group 2: General Information Literacy Assessment Team (listed above)

TEAM GOAL: Look at each institution within SUNY and find out what they do to
measure general IL skills. Do they pay for an assessment, build their own, or use some other instrument for measurement? Will institutions share their homegrown instruments? How are the assessments administered?

**Team goal accomplished**

Group 3: Discipline Specific Information Literacy Team: Rebecca Oling, Purchase College; Darcy Gervasio, Purchase College; Kimberly Detterbeck, Purchase College; Wenli Gao, Morrisville College

TEAM GOAL: Will contact institutions (based on their response to the Gen Info Lit team’s survey regarding discipline specific assessments) and ask if/how they build assessments geared towards specific disciplines or if they use some other assessment tool to measure student IL within a subject area. This team will also detail how the assessments are administered.

**Still in progress - plan to have accomplished by SUNYLA 2012**

Group 4: Repository Development and Metadata Team: Logan Rath, Brockport; TBD

TEAM GOAL: To ensure the collected instruments are located in one accessible repository with a searchable interface. Other duties may be assigned as the task force progresses with its agenda.

**Awaiting task force developments**

**Group 2: General Information Literacy Assessment Findings**

The group decided to survey all SUNY Libraries but decided that in lieu of creating an electronic survey they would call each library and conduct phone interviews with the librarians who oversaw IL assessment or coordinated library instruction. We began making calls in September of 2011 after the survey questions were agreed upon.

**Survey questions:**

The questions were agreed upon by Groups 2 and 3.

**Phone Questions for Campuses – Information Literacy Assessment**

Below are the talking points for conversations about campus assessment efforts for the SUNY Information Management general education category. These questions are offered as guides to ensure we are able to collect the pertinent information on each campus’s assessment efforts. Please feel free to use your own language and relevant follow up questions as you see fit.

**Campus:**
**Type of Campus:**
**Person Contacted:**
**Date:**
Questions

- What assessment instrument is used to assess information management on your campus?
  
  *Follow ups:*
  
  Is it a commercial or homegrown assessment? (Ask for copy if homegrown!)
  Or do you use a combination of homegrown and commercial?
  If you use both, how well do they interface with each another?

- Are you assessing all 3 elements of Information Management?
  
  *Follow ups:*
  
  Are Info Lit and Tech skills separated out?
  Are there other standards used to base your assessment (ACRL)?

- How is the assessment run/implemented on your campus?
  
  *Follow ups:*
  
  Who makes the decision on which assessment is used?
  Is this the only assessment used in the last 3 years? Others?
  How often is the assessment used?

- Who administers the assessment?
  
  *Follow ups:*
  
  How are librarians involved?
  How are faculty involved?
  How are administrators involved?

- Are you happy with how the assessment is working?
  
  *Follow ups:*
  
  Ease of use?
  Amount of time to administer?
  Do you feel you are accurately assessing your students’ abilities?
  Are you able to collect the data you need for reporting to SUNY? (Exceeds/Meets/Approaches/Does Not Approach)

- What population is assessed?
  
  *Follow ups:*
  
  Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors? / Upper or lower classmen?
  In particular classes or majors?
  Is the assessment instrument aimed at lower or higher levels (beginner or advanced users)?

- Do you do any discipline specific assessments on your campus or know of any?
Quick Yes or no. For the other Team working on Subject Specific assessment. They may follow up on this separately.

The detailed responses are available at: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JoF0w8cB0mCtgHk23tnmFfDqc0iOG7FvBYv4WvENmgM/edit?pli=1

Group Findings

From discussions with our colleagues and by reviewing the interview responses it was obvious there was no congruent process for Information Literacy assessment or Information Management assessment within SUNY. Many campuses have been using a homegrown multiple choice assessment, some campuses purchased a nationally normed assessment tool like SAILS or ETS, others have developed rubrics to apply to assignments on their campuses. The administration of the assessments is also wide ranging. Some campuses team up with faculty colleagues infusing assessments inside courses. Others have administrative support and the assessment is administered and managed by an institutional assessment office.

Additionally, many institutions have a required IL course where they conduct their assessment, primarily in English Composition programs and mostly in the community colleges. It was also discovered that some libraries do not have a role in Information Management or Information Literacy assessment. That concerned everyone. Another concern was that few institutions had been running the same assessment instrument or following the same assessment plan for any length of time.

Nearly every librarian we spoke with expressed a profound interest in improving the way assessment was conducted on their campus. They also talked about a desire to compare IL assessment results with other SUNY schools.

After the reports were collected and shared with the group it became obvious that IL assessment in SUNY lacked focus and consistency. Some institutions were pleased with the results of Project SAILS, but many instruction librarians felt that the instrument did not give them an accurate picture of IL skills. Many librarians were happy with rubrics they had developed to assess common assignments, but the setback was that it could be very labor intensive. All agreed if the instrument used provided an accurate picture of student IL skills the amount of time that it would take to score the assignments was secondary.

The pros and cons of the different approaches emphasize one of the complex issues to be negotiated with IL assessment. On the one hand institutions need data for various reports. While such data can be generated by commercial products or multiple choice tools it may not provide an accurate picture of how students apply IL skills. On the other hand instruction librarians and other faculty need an accurate understanding of how students apply IL skills in order to determine how to improve student learning. Our preliminary findings indicate that rubric assessment of
assignments is one method that should be explored as a tool that can provide this understanding. Most importantly as we move forward with this initiative, we recognize the importance of a transparent process that utilizes the collective expertise of SUNYLA as we collaborate to develop an IL assessment strategy and IL assessment tools that can fulfill the needs of all constituencies.

Group Recommendations

The group would like to suggest that SUNYLA and SCLD collaborate to improve IL assessment across SUNY. We believe that the Middle States requirement that IL be infused across the curriculum is a golden opportunity to develop a rich plan of action.

Here is what we recommend:

1. That rubrics collected from within SUNY be uploaded and shared within the Rubric Assessment of Information Literacy Skills (RAILS). Collected rubrics could be placed in a SUNY category, similar to what Trinity University and the University of Kentucky have done.

2. That when a rubric is used within SUNYLA to assess IL skills of students the results as well as the process for administration of the assessment be shared with all of SUNYLA.

3. That SUNYLA librarians collaborate on creating rubrics and implement the same assessment tool on their campuses so they may compare results with each other.
   a. One initiative that is being discussed and developed is at the community college level. An assessment instrument will be developed for the community colleges to use to measure IL skills and compare results.

4. Work in coordination with SCLD in reviewing commercial assessment tools and make a recommendation on the instrument that could best be used inside of SUNY.

5. That SUNYLA and SCLD work on driving down the cost of the commercial assessment tool so that all institutions could afford to administer the tool.

6. All rubrics be given Creative Commons licensing so that it will be free share.
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