Going Where the Students Are
Librarians on the Fly

This summer Buley Library was closed June 23 through June 26 while repairs were completed to correct a mechanical failure of the library’s HVAC system. Although Buley Library would be closed to the public, the Library Faculty and permanent staff were to report to work on Monday - the first day of Summer Session B. Librarians sent emails back and forth throughout the weekend trying to devise a plan for providing service to the University community during this time.

Having knowledge of the terms “embedded librarians” and “mobile librarians” and “roving reference librarians” and “librarians on the fly” where the librarian steps out of the traditional library setting and into an on-site setting, we were well aware that this was our opportunity to be a “librarian on the fly.” We would bring a laptop over to the Food Court at the Adanti Student Center and connect to the Internet via the wi-fi. Once connected to the wi-fi, we would provide access to CONSULS (our online catalog), and the 150+ databases to which we subscribe! To make the “librarians on the fly” easier to locate, we posted signs on Buley’s doors indicating Librarians could be found at the Adanti Student Center Food Court, a Hilton C. Buley Library poster, and a directional poster in the Food Court. The blue Buley Library tablecloth covered our table to make the “librarian of the fly” more visible.

Students came to the Adanti Center with questions for the librarians - how to access databases from off-campus, how to locate electronic course reserves, how to locate articles on their topic from peer-review journals, how to access paper reserves if the library is closed, how can a student connect to the Internet on campus with their personal laptop, and more.

Departmental Hours

Sci...
Director’s Column

Seasons Greetings from the Hilton C. Buley Library! The semester has flown by and it’s almost time to turn the page to 2013. I would like to share with you an exciting happening in the library this past semester. In secret, and in collaboration with Ken Spelke, Interim Chief Information Office, I planned a retreat for all of the librarians in Buley. The retreat was held in the Facilities Conference Room (thanks to Bob Sheeley). When the librarians arrived, they had no idea what the topic of the day would be. Surprise! Each librarian was given an Apple iPad for use with their work with students, faculty, at meetings, etc.

Topics of the day included “How to Connect to Campus Services,” “Theft, Damage, Repairs,” “How the iPad is being used at Southern Connecticut State University,” all presented by Office of Information Technology staff, including John Young and Nick Valsamais.

The next portion of the program was presented by staff from Apple. The focus was on emerging tablet-based technologies and their applications in libraries and higher education. They also answered questions regarding “how to use” the iPad. Their insight was very helpful as we move forward in using our iPads with our patrons.

Larry Gal, SCSU Bookstore Manager, and Karen Musmano, OIT Support, discussed the Barnes and Noble Nook Study. The Nook Study is a free application that can be used to read your eTextbooks and eBooks. One of the best features is that you can highlight text, search, organize, tag, annotate and take notes with this application. For more information about the Nook Study, please contact Larry Gal at the Bookstore.

The last part of the program focused on policies of iPad usage (including security concerns). Ken Spelke and I discussed these issues and stressed the do’s and don’ts in using their iPads.

It was a great retreat. To follow-up, I asked the librarians to keep notes of the different ways (and how often) they used their iPads during the fall semester. The data has not come in yet, but I do know that the librarians have taken their iPads to various departments to meet with students, to take notes in meetings, to work with students at the Reference Desk, to use in the stacks when looking for materials, etc. I will discuss the data in the next issue of the Buley Bulletin.

Christina D. Baum, Ed.D.
Director of Library Services
Hilton C. Buley Library

Got a Question? Just Ask Us!

There are many ways to ask us a question. You can visit the reference desk on the first floor of the library or call us at (203) 392-5732; you can email us at eref@southernct.edu; you can text us using the Text-a-Librarian service and now there’s a brand new service – LibAnswers!

LibAnswers is a mobile-friendly knowledgebase of frequently asked questions and answers. The library user can type the question and the auto-suggest feature enables users to quickly find the answer, without needing to contact a librarian. If no successful match is found, the user can then submit the question and receive an answer by e-mail. We encourage faculty to submit any library-related questions that may arise in classes so the answers are ready for the students at their time of need. The library will be adding the SMS/Texting module for LibAnswers in March 2013. This will replace the more expensive Text-a-Librarian service that we currently use and can be fully integrated into LibAnswers.

-- Winnie Shyam

To connect to LibAnswers click on the Ask Us icon on the library homepage. And help us spread the word around!
**CONSULS Migration**

In the summer of 2012, the CONSULS Library Consortium, comprising the Connecticut State Library and the four Connecticut State University Libraries, updated the configuration of its shared integrated library system, Millennium from Innovative Interfaces Inc. (III). All data from the local server in Hartford was migrated over to an Innovative Interfaces hosted server in California. The migration took about two days to complete (August 29 and 30).

The goal of the migration was to improve ultimately the technical services aspect of the system to individual libraries by increasing III involvement with solving systems problems. An adjustment period followed the migration over the course of the following two months as libraries reported service interruptions, lock-outs, system lag times, and other system-related problems. Most of these issues were resolved by a systems upgrade from Millennium version 2009b to 2011, but not all. SCSU Office of Information Technology, for instance, had to turn off the university’s “packet shaping” method of data transference in order for Millennium to return to working efficiently. It remains to be seen how a hosted system will affect the resolution of problems in the future.

For the individual libraries, the new hosting relationship has had minimal effect on workflow. In one particular exception, each library now loads its own patron records into the server, whereas before patron loading was done at the central systems office. For a brief period after the migration, the Buley Library had to adjust to the migration with some minor changes—namely informing all proxy authenticated vendors of the new server address, and switching over to networked printing—but as of this writing, the system is running efficiently.

---Jeff Dickens, Systems Librarian

**Staff News**

Buley library has a new Systems Librarian in August. Mr. **Jeff Dickens** comes to us with Masters in Public History and Library Science from Indiana University and has worked in recent years in historic manuscripts, library systems, and information literacy. Currently he is on the Board for New London Landmarks where he also serves as Webmaster. Off-hours Jeff is a martial arts enthusiast and currently studies Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. At Buley he will be implementing Web services and fostering integration with other libraries in the Connecticut State Consortium (CONSULS). Home is an apartment in New Haven shared with a 14 pound tabby cat named Mr. Mink.

Patrons will find a new yet familiar face at the circulation desk as well. Access Services Division welcomes Ms. **Casey Welch** who was hired to be the Sunday and evenings Library Technical Assistant. Casey received her undergraduate degree in Library Science from Southern in 2011 and is currently enrolled in the MLS program at San Jose State University. She hales from New Hampshire but now resides in Shelton.

Technical Services has experience a turnover in staff. Library Technicians **Mary Migliaro** and **Marilyn Terlaga** both retired in the early summer. They were long-term veterans of the library, having worked almost thirty years each. Happily TS is able to welcome Library Technician Ms. **Song Zhou** as a new member of the staff. She started her library career as a library assistant at Yale Law Library and later as a Library Technician at Western from 2004 to 2012. Song has worked at different

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Faculty Author Reception

Dr. Christina Baum, Director of Library Services, planned an “evening of faculty scholarship” as part of the Inauguration Week of President Mary A. Papazian. The wine and cheese reception was held on Friday, September 21, 2012, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., on the second floor of the Hilton C. Buley Library. The reception recognized and celebrated faculty scholarship and the substantial body of published or edited books by members of Southern’s faculty between 2009 and 2012. This was the first event of its kind at Southern and well-attended. The library ordered the books for the reception if they were not already a part of its collection and some titles were lent by the authors. A total of 88 books were on display.

President Mary A. Papazian, who is a strong advocate of faculty scholarship, presented the opening remarks. Dr. Baum remarked that Buley Library would like to play a more prominent role in promoting SCSU’s faculty scholarship and looks forward to more of these types of events in the future.

--Dr. Christina Baum
Library Director

One of the three tables displaying the books highlighted at the event. For more pictures from the event please go to http://v.gd/jiQ8G4

Photos by Cindy Schofield

Student Work Recognized

Circulation Student Amy Berish, Library Science major at Southern Connecticut State University, wrote an article on “FDR and Polio” as a summer intern at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library. She used an array of artifacts and information from the FDR Library collections to illustrate and inform her readers. Her article was featured on the front page of the FDR Library website. See: http://v.gd/9CdgTS
Buley Partners with the Connecticut Women’s Hall of Fame

THE CONNECTICUT WOMEN’S HALL OF FAME
HONOR • PRESERVE • EDUCATE • INSPIRE
www.cwhf.org

Buley Library has entered into an exciting partnership with the Connecticut Women’s Hall of Fame (CWHF) to help them digitize some of their inductee archives. The first project underway is scanning and adding metadata to a collection of ephemera belonging to the late Governor Ella Grasso. Governor Grasso was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1994. The collection includes: awards the late governor received from various organizations, get well cards, and sympathy cards that were sent from grade school students. Staff from the library’s technical services department will work with a graduate assistant from the CWHF on the project. When the venture is complete, the digital images will reside on the library’s ContentDM server and the CWHF will be able to link to the items from their web site (http://www.cwhf.org). The project will be posted on the library’s digital collections web site (http://libcdm.southernct.edu:2011/cdm) sometime in the Spring Semester. Other inductee archives like the Rosalind Russell Collection should follow.

--Jackie Toce, Cataloging Librarian

An image from the artifacts of Governor Grasso.

Book Arts Build Community: Engaging creative inquiry through collaboration with FYE

Artists’ Books present the perfect opportunity for creative collaboration. The process of creating an artist’s book requires the pooling of a wide range of complementary talents and abilities as well as a commitment to working towards a common goal. Contributors to this artists’ book project included an extended classroom community of FYE students and faculty, the Arts and Special Collections Librarian, student workers and a graduate assistant. The interactive, tactile, and intimate space of the artists’ book provided a perfect gathering space for students’ personal stories.

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up with many of the same library needs as distance students, trying to do everything online, including talking to a librarian. The Nursing Building has a nice lobby with comfy chairs and computers, so it’s a great place to see students as they come in and out of the classrooms, and faculty as they come in and out of their offices. Rebecca also visits the department in the “Nursing Library,” a departmental common room in Jennings. More of the undergraduate classes are held near there. Her hours are Tuesdays 1-2 alternating between the 2 locations.

Finding a good time and space can be hard. Rebecca has also visited Biology, but because their classes are held all over Jennings and throughout the week, it’s harder to find a good time when a large number of students will have time to ask questions. “I’m still hoping it will work with other departments. Nursing was a nearly perfect department for a pilot project, with the classes concentrated in both time and space.”

Business Librarian Diane Tomasko also visits her departments in the new School of Business. “My first experience with “Librarians on the Fly” this summer when the HVAC system failed was so successful that I decided to offer reference service to Business students at the new School of Business Wednesday afternoons and alternating Thursday evenings. Prior to selecting the day/time for the sessions, I searched Banner to review the days and times undergraduate business classes and MBA classes were offered, and selected the weekday/time based on when more business students would be on campus. The initial question of where to offer the service was quickly answered by Dean Durnin who offered room 009 in the new School of Business – which has computers and a printer! Some of the library services I provide include locating corporate information and marketing information, searching our many business-literature databases, citation styles for bibliographies, using GoogleScholar linked to Buley Library’s databases, how to access databases from off-campus, how to access electronic reserves, requesting materials through interlibrary loan, as well as one-on-one instruction appointments. Although the evening hours were initially established to better serve the MBA student population, I have discovered that a number of undergraduate business students find it convenient as well. The mechanical failure of the Library’s HVAC system was certainly unfortunate at the time, but it was quite beneficial in the long run!”

Winnie Shyam has been going to the English Department on Tuesdays from 10:30-12 during the fall semester to provide research relief for students and faculty unable to come to the library for assistance. She has been using her iPad. One of the major advantages of the iPad is its portability – it has proved to be a handy tool for expanding service points and outreach opportunities. It’s multi-function use makes it ideal for reference as it can be used as a catalog, a web browser, an ebook reader, a calculator, and what’s more, it can even be used to monitor email and Text-a-Librarian questions.

English Chairperson, Michael Shea, and Department Library Liaison, Patrick McBrine, were very encouraging and supportive of this idea and asked the English faculty to announce this in their classes. Tanya Smith, the Secretary, set up a table and chair just outside the English Common room for the visits each week. Demand has been rather low but there have been requests for providing research assistance in the English Department during the evenings next semester so graduate students can benefit from this. As a direct result of the visits two new faculty requested library instruction classes, a couple of students pursued their research via email, and a couple of book orders were received. The most rewarding outcomes of these weekly visits are the direct interaction with the English students and faculty, and the satisfaction of offering library support in non-library spaces.

--- Diane Tomasko, Business Reference Librarian
Rebecca Hedreen, Science Reference Librarian
Winnie Shyam, English Reference Librarian
EasyBib is Here!

Buley Library now subscribes to EasyBib, an easy-to-use bibliography and citation generator. EasyBib is specifically designed for the common undergraduate student who needs guidance in finding, using, and accurately citing credible sources for research assignments. While other citation tools such as EndNote Web will continue to be available and may be a better fit for graduate students and seasoned researchers, EasyBib is an excellent resource for most students, and we hope faculty will advertise this useful resource in their classes.

EasyBib has a lot of great features.

• MLA, APA, and Chicago citation styles for 59 types of sources (books, articles, video, music, etc.)
• Bibliography analysis for diviersity and credibility of sources
• A database of sources (previously used by EasyBib subscribers) searchable by keyword and, using the Autocite feature, by DOI, ISBN, title, and URL
• Notetaking feature connects information to sources, and allows for easy outlining
• Guides for Research, Writing, Citing, and Plagiarism Avoidence
• Apps for iPhone/iPad and Android that can scan the UPC barcodes on books

What is most appealing about EasyBib is that it helps students focus on the research process. It emphasizes critical thinking and information literacy skills by providing guidance on the ethical use of information.

EasyBib can be accessed from the Library Home Page under Library News. To create an account and learn how to use EasyBib, consult the tutorial at http://libguides.southernct.edu/easybib.

--Winnie Shyam, Reference Librarian

Book Arts -- continued from page 5

Students initially came into the library where they were introduced to the Special Collection of Artists’ Books. They were given a writing assignment (incorporating their unique backgrounds and experiences) and over the next several weeks, composed their *Where I’m From* poems. They subsequently returned to the library in order to create a small artists’ book edition (25) of their own poetry and collages.

An introduction to the unique book objects in the Artists’ Book Collection created a sense of excitement for the bookmaking project. None of the students had ever previously seen artists’ books, and they engaged instantly with these tactile and unique book objects. Bookmaking requires pooling of a wide range of complementary talents and abilities--some students were more confident with the writing process, while others were more attracted to the visual or crafts aspect. The hands-on, collaborative activity of bookmaking cultivated a positive sense of community spirit in the classroom and established a climate of acceptance, cooperation, and attentive focus. Also importantly, the students experienced the library and its collections in new and unexpected contexts.

--Tina Re, Arts & Special Collections Librarian
departments including serials, cataloging and acquisitions so she will be a versatile addition to Buley Library.

Last June saw librarians David Feinmark, Jackie Toce, Cindy Schofield, Winnie Shyam, Shirley Cavanagh and June Cheng at the American Library Association annual conference in Anaheim. Besides the very first Disneyland, Anaheim also boasts the Anaheim Convention Center, one of the few large enough to host this event.

Special Collections Librarian Paul Holmer has been participating in a multi-day workshop on disaster preparedness sponsored by the Connecticut State Library Conservation Connection. Disasters were once rare events and participation in these workshops correspondingly sparse, the escalating sequence of weather-related events has made them very much today’s topic.

Instruction Librarian Wendy Hardenberg has translated three poems by Marie-Claire Bancquart for Asymptote and written an article describing the CAP program here at Southern, “Implementing a Consistent, Customizable Library Session for a First-Year Seminar” in E-Source for College Transitions.

In May Social Sciences Librarian Lisa Bier gave a talk on her book, Fighting the Current: The Rise of American Women’s Swimming, 1870-1926 (2011) at the International Aquatic History Symposium and Film Festival at the International Swimming Hall of Fame in sunny Fort Lauderdale. Lisa did a lot of research in their archives so she enjoyed returning to present the finished product.

Distance Learning Librarian Rebecca Hedreen made a presentation at an online conference in November, “Departmental Library Hours: Serving Commuter Students Across Campus as “Distance Learners” and authored an article, “Time Zones, Screencasts, and Becoming Real: One Distance Librarian’s Experiences and Lessons Learned” for the Urban Library Journal.

Tom Celentano spent some time at the DC Public Library in October. This is a startling Mies van der Rohe designed monument to Martin Luther King. An impressive building but overlooked since is but “the other library” in town.

Arts Librarian Tina Re mounted an exhibit, Artists’ Books: Recent Acquisitions, on the main floor of Buley Library in November. Contemporary artists’ books are a long-term interest of Tina and the collection is one of Buley Library’s distinctive components.

The Buley Library renovation was the subject of an article, “Way, Way Overdue” by Lary Bloom in the December issue of Connecticut Magazine. While the librarians are uncomfortable with the attention there is hope that it might spur the project on a bit.

--Paul Holmer
Special Collections Librarian

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