Connecticut Library Snapshot Day

February 18th was Connecticut Library Snapshot Day and Buley Library was a part of the picture. The purpose of the day was to show CT libraries in action and to show the impact that libraries have on their communities every day. Libraries around the state, public and academic, recorded the action in their libraries with photos and statistics. Such things as numbers of people using the library, reference questions asked, loans made, library cards issued were all counted.

For that one day, across Connecticut:
- 80,616 people walked through the library doors
- 99,537 books, movies and more were borrowed
- 988 new borrowers were registered
- 8,960 reference questions were answered
- 12,982 people used computers
- 591 programs/classes were offered
- 9,599 people attended programs/classes
- 113,143 people visited library websites

“The library is a great place to get work done.”

The Connecticut Library Association is hopeful that libraries can use the data collected to show trustees, city councils, state legislatures and others that “people need libraries.” In our own library, the reference staff fielded 139 questions and the 400 respondents overwhelmingly indicated that they come to Buley for the quiet study space, to engage in research, and to use computers. Comments were positive with such statements as “The librarian gives me advice whenever I can’t find what I’m looking for,” from Kevin, and John’s note: “The library is a great place to get work done. It is quiet and helps me focus on my work. It is a great place to be if you have roommates.” Letasha summed up her feelings about the library saying “It’s a great place to complete my work, read, and study. I’m able to focus for the most part. The reference desk is helpful and full of resources.”

Cindy Schofield
“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times,” (Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities) a famous adage that applies to most libraries today, including Buley. So let’s begin with the best. Buley Library has a beautiful new addition (almost two years old now!) that serves more students than ever before. Study tables and study rooms are filled for a majority of the time the building is open. Students request additional open hours on a regular basis. A computer never sits alone. Our reference librarians are busier than ever answering research questions, teaching library instruction classes, meeting with students one-on-one to assist with their research, exploring new technologies like using mobile devices, chat reference, and Text-A-Librarian. Our technical services librarians are adding new types of content to the CONSULS catalog, looking for better ways to display information, discussing and planning digitization initiatives, just to name a few.

However, one may view this as “the worst of times” as well, as we all face cruel realities with our budgets at least through 2012, as we struggle to do our jobs and the jobs of those who retired last year and whom we cannot replace in this economic climate. Every day we walk into work while glimpsing at Old Buley and wondering what magical day we will see activity begin again on the renovation. (Work stopped in March 2009). In the recent Connecticut State Library newsletter, The Connector, Ken Wiggin, State Librarian, wrote an article entitled “When Less is Really Less.” In it he quotes, “It is not a question of how we do more with less—we have long passed that quaint notion. Rather, it is how we are going to identify that which are core services and then determine how best to deliver them effectively and efficiently—and, yes, with less.” I could not say it any better.

In the coming weeks, as we continue to work on and define the Library’s Strategic Plan, we will be focusing on the core services, their access and delivery, as we are committed to providing our students and faculty with the best service possible. In addition, several librarians, staff and myself are actively involved in the work and preparation for Southern’s 10-year comprehensive evaluation in 2011 by the NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. This is an excellent experience as it will highlight our strengths and reveal our weaknesses so that we can continually strive to do better.

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

I would like to share a heartwarming story with you. About a month ago, I received a package in the mail (addressed to “The College Library at Southern Connecticut State College,” with attention to “The Librarian.” The package was from Susan Lindberg, of Surprise, Arizona, and a former student at Southern. In the package was an old government document entitled “Television and Social Behavior” that was due in March, 1972 and a check for $1,000 made out to Southern Connecticut State College. Ms. Lindberg’s note read, “The return of a long overdue book about social behavior could be captioned a paradox of endurance. The book and gift far more benefits us both.”

-Dr. Christina D. Baum

Microforms Project

Before the digital preservation technology of today transformed access to historical documents, one of the ways that documents were both preserved and distributed was via microfilm technology. SCU scholars can remember spending hours in the basement of Buley Library squinting in front of microfilm reader printers and later trying to read the blurry, reversed white on black images of the printed pages they were searching for. Many back issues of journals that Buley has on film are now available in easier-to-use digital format through our database and journal subscription services. But in addition to journals, Buley’s collection of microfilm includes reproductions of documents, books and historical newspapers, many of which are not included in the catalog and remain as hidden library treasures.

Currently, the Technical Services staff is cataloging some of these collections and linking those that exist in digital format to images found in Google Books and other digital collections. Images that are not already available will be scanned and added to the growing world wide collection of digitized literature, continuing the cataloging tradition of being both consumer and contributor to the pool of accessible resources. Such things as the 5,600 titles of the American Culture series are now being made

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Buley Partners with FYE Program

Buley Library has embarked on an exciting new partnership with Southern’s First Year Experience (FYE) Program. The FYE program creates a community that fosters intellectual and creative inquiry for each incoming class. The library is a natural partner for this endeavor, and it is with these shared goals in mind that a summer reading program is being added to the FYE program. This fall’s incoming class will be the first to take part.

Buley Library will supply the books that will be distributed to all first year students in June when they attend New Student Orientation. Students will read the book independently over the summer and share their reactions in reading groups that will be conducted electronically through social networks such as Facebook. When students return to Southern in the fall for the start of their first college year, they will participate in events related to the book during Welcome Week and throughout the semester.

The book was chosen from a list of almost 95 suggestions generated by the university community. After consulting with other universities with successful summer reading programs, it was determined that books that were the biggest “hits” with students had a few things in common: they were engaging, inspiring, and readable. With that in mind, the list of suggestions was whittled down to a list of four. A committee of faculty, staff, and students was charged with reading all four titles (in four weeks!) and voting on the final choice.

The chosen book, Outcasts United: An American Town, A Refugee Team, and One Woman’s Quest to Make a Difference by Warren St. John, is a nonfiction account of a soccer team made up of refugee children in the town of Clarkston, Georgia. Clarkston became a refugee resettlement center in the 1990’s, a development that brought desperate refugees from troubled regions all over the world. One woman, concerned with their situation and looking for a soccer team to coach, founded a soccer program for refugee boys. The book depicts how the young boys learned to rebuild their lives in an unfamiliar place, how they became a successful soccer team, and how one person can make an enormous difference in the lives of others. It’s a fitting read for our incoming class who are also entering a new place and time in their lives: college.

Lisa Bier

Handheld Librarian

On February 17th & 18th, Buley Library hosted the broadcast of the Handheld Librarian Online Conference, a virtual conference highlighting current trends and leading developments in mobile library services (www.handheldlibrarian.org). Librarians Rebecca Hedreen and Lisa Carlucci Thomas organized the on-site event which was attended by faculty, staff, students, and librarians from across the Connecticut State University system. The conference featured keynote addresses by Tom Peters (“Morphing with Mobile”), Joan K. Lippincott (“Mobilizing Libraries for Today’s Students”); Joe Murphy (“This is Now: The Mobile Library”); and Alison Miller (“Mobile Trends and Social Reference”). Presentation topics included: text message reference, ebooks and e-readers, mobile applications, QR codes, geolocation, marketing mobile library services, social networks, and the mobile web. Lisa Carlucci Thomas presented “Mobile Rx: A Prescription For Mobile Leadership.” The conference introduced new ideas and best practices and sparked lively discussions among participants interested in learning more about mobile libraries.

The next Handheld Librarian Online Conference is scheduled for July 28-29, 2010. Keep in touch with mobile events at SCSU by becoming a fan of our Handheld Librarian @ SCSU Facebook page: www.facebook.com/scsuhhlib

Lisa Carlucci Thomas
University Library Committee:

Associate Professor Arlene Bielefield is the new chair of the University Library Committee, filling the position vacated by Associate Professor Clyde Weed on his retirement in January. Arlene Bielefield is well known to most of the faculty for her participation in governance and AAUP matters. She brings a legal education as well as a long and rich experience in libraries.

New members elected in November include Assistant Professors Gayle Bogel (Library Science), Eric Cavellerro (Philosophy), Barbara Glynn (Nursing), Kathleen Rondinone (Mathematics), and Matthew Rothbard (Education). The committee also welcomed Anne Scholl as the new undergraduate representative. Ms. Scholl is a political science major and a senior of whom her department has great expectations.

Nancy Bobrek is leaving:

Collection Development Librarian Nancy Bobrek left Buley on April 1. Nancy worked hard over the past years planning and acquiring a collection keyed to Southern's needs and made many friends both in and outside of the library. Departmental liaisons will remember the receptions which she hosted and many others in the Southern community will recall her efforts for the Don Quixote exhibit which featured the paintings of Professor Carlos Arboleda. She was always optimistic and maintained a poise which never seemed to leave her. Good luck, Nancy.

Activities:

Digital Services Librarian Lisa Carlucci Thomas has been busy. She attended the ALA Midwinter Conference in January where, as speaker for the RUSA-MARS Virtual Reference Discussion Group, she addressed current trends in mobile technologies. In February she gave a virtual presentation, “Mobile Rx: A Prescription for Mobile Leadership” for the Handheld Librarian Online Conference (www.handheldlibrarian.org). Lisa’s article, “Twitter at the Office” was published in the January issue of the Journal of Web Librarianship. Lisa was also named a “Mover and Shaker” by Library Journal for her advocacy of mobile access.

February also saw Distance Learning Coordinator Rebecca Hedreen join with Lisa to offer a live broadcast at Buley Library of the “SCSU Handheld Librarian” from the Handheld Librarian Online Conference. Details and upcoming news on mobile technologies at SCSU can be found on Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/scsuhandhll

Rebecca also taught an online Continuing Education workshop for Simmons College in January: “Social bookmarking for Libraries” about using Delicious and similar social bookmarking tools to create subject guides, readers’ advisory lists, and current awareness services.

Library Technician Tom Celentano attended the ALA Mid-Winter Conference in Boston this last January. Tom is the gentleman who actually orders most of the books Buley acquires. He reported that he was happy to have an opportunity to meet our vendors personally and become acquainted with their new products.

Librarians Rebecca Hedreen and Winnie Shyam have built an interactive library tutorial for students using Camtasia, a screen video capture program, Wink, a tutorial and presentation software, and Comic Life, a program that creates comic book page tem-

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Featured Resources:
Tech Tools in the Library

Pubget is a new database at the library. Pubget is a life sciences search engine that is dedicated specifically to finding PDF copies of articles. Do a search and the PDF’s just start popping up! Pubget has partnerships with PubMed and PLoS to provide easy access to PDF copies of articles. While Pubget started with the health sciences, its life science coverage is excellent. It also has good coverage in chemistry and environmental science, and moderate coverage in physics, mathematics, computer science, and other applied sciences. They call it, “Science at speed.”

We’re very excited to have this new service and would love to hear what you think of it. Please email your comments to Rebecca Hedreen, Library Coordinator for Distance Learning, at hedreenr1@southernct.edu.

If you have suffered frustrations in trying to connect general web searches to the library resources, we have a tool for you. The Buley Library LibX Toolbar is an add-on to your Internet Explorer or Firefox web browser. It adds a search box and links to the “button area” of your web browser. The Toolbar also has a bunch of Google Scholar features, like right click access to a Scholar search.

If you find yourself on a publisher’s website, being asked to login or pay for viewing an article. Right click anywhere on the webpage and select Reload via Remote Access. If we have a subscription, you will be asked to login like you do for a database.

There are a lot more features in the Toolbar. Please ask Rebecca Hedreen, Library Coordinator for Distance Learning, at hedreenr1@southernct.edu or just download the toolbar at http://libx.org/editions/download.php?edition=1651A803 and try it out for yourself!

Rebecca Hedreen

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plates. The tutorial includes modules for finding a topic, searching the catalog, locating and requesting materials, and using the online library. A useful assessment component is included. A link can be found on the home page (http://library.southernct.edu/) under “Library Services” or via the Research Guides.

In March Director Christina Baum and Librarians Nancy Bobrek and Cindy Schofield attended the Lyrasis Collection Services Conference in Southington. Speakers challenged current collection services while offering patron-driven collection development, on-demand publishing, and cost-per-use journal access as solutions to slashed budgets. Lyrasis became the nation’s largest library network when it merged NELINET, the New England library network, in 2009.

Paul Holmer

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available through the catalog. According to the publisher Proquest the collections were “selected and compiled in the mid-1950s by the Committee on Microfilm Bibliography of the American Studies Association… [and include] information on American education, religion, pacifism, feminism, the city, the history of science, and many other subjects of importance to American historiography” deemed to be “fundamental research materials.”

The hope is that by creating more access points and awareness of these important publications, their use will inform the SCSU scholarly community and enrich the academic output of the university.

Cindy Schofield

New at the Library

H.C. BULEY LIBRARY
INTERLIBRARY LOANS:
REQUEST IT! TRACK IT!
GET IT!

Buley Library is introducing a new interlibrary loan service that will make it easier for you to initiate and track your Interlibrary Loan requests. The system is called ILLiad and can be accessed from on-campus or at home through our Web interface. ILLiad offers advanced features such as viewing your outstanding Interlibrary Loans, receiving e-mail notification of received ILL requests and cancellations, and renewing all library items without staff assistance.

How do you get started? Library patrons must first register and establish a personal profile. Once the system is active, you will login with your University network User ID and Password. Once this is completed, you can immediately request journal articles, book chapters, books, or dissertations. ILLiad is free for all SCSU students, faculty and staff. We’re hoping that this service will exceed your expectations and will save you time and improve access to research materials.

--Shirley Cavanagh
Book Sale!

The library will be holding its second annual Book Sale on April 22nd from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the plaza level patio of the Adanti Student Center. There will be approximately 1400 books for sale. Hardbacks will be sold for one dollar and paperbacks for fifty cents. The proceeds of the sale will go to the Friends of Buley Library. In case of rain, the sale will be moved to the first floor of the library.

For more news of the Friends, see http://libguides.southernct.edu/hcblfriends

Author Talk!

Please join the Friends of Buley Library for an interesting evening with authors Lawrence and Nancy Goldstone. This is the first in a series of Author Talks sponsored by the Friends of Buley Library. Lawrence and Nancy are both successful authors who gave up their lucrative careers on Wall Street to follow their passions for writing and book collecting.

The event will take place on Wednesday, April 28 at 7pm in the ground floor periodicals room of Buley Library. We hope that you will come hear this entertaining talk on book collecting and enjoy the Goldstones’ humorous stories. Refreshments will be served following the talk. For additional information, please contact Shirley Cavanagh at (203)392-5768 or e-mail at cavanaghsl@southernct.edu.

Text-A-Librarian!

Ever wanted to find out if the library has a book, or you need the library hours but weren’t near a computer or somewhere where you could talk on the phone? Now you can Text-a-Librarian! Send a text message to 66746 and start your message with ‘scsu’ (quotes NOT needed), and we’ll get back to you ASAP. Some messages may be automated, so a request for library hours should come back right away with the current schedule.

Regular hours of service will be Mon-Fri, 9am-4:30pm, with limited service available weekday evenings after 4:30pm and on weekends. For more information, see our guide to the service at http://libguides.southernct.edu/txtscsu.

Q: scsu Do u have Real Wizard of Oz by Loncraine