



Fall 2006

LIBRARY CONNECTIONS

LIBRARY INSTRUCTION WORKSHOPS

Melville Library's Instruction Team provides many opportunities throughout the semester for students and faculty to learn about our resources and how to use them better. For the list of workshops, or to schedule a customized session for your class or group of 5 or more, please see our webpage:

www.sunysb.edu/library/services/instruction/

You may also call 632-1217 or e-mail: Janet.Clarke@stonybrook.edu

CONTACT THE LIBRARY

Library Hours 632-7160

Circulation 632-7115

Reference 632-7110
on-campus only 2-0530

Administration 632-7100

For complete information:
www.sunysb.edu/library

Read *The Screen Porch* online for current library news and events: melvillelibrary.blogspot.com



Online New Library Books List Debuts

Paul B. Wiener

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Monograph Acquisitions Head, Min-Huei Lu, and Department of Library Information Technology software specialist, Fang Peng, the Library is now offering monthly, updated listings of newly acquired books, videos and CDs. The primary link to the **New Book List** can be found at the top, center of the STARS screen (see URL at bottom), as well as on the Library's new Blog *The Screen Porch*:

<http://melvillelibrary.blogspot.com/> Other links to the New Book List will soon be added. Although the concept of listing new acquisitions sounds simple, making it happen actually represented an enormous amount of work. Thousands of items in different formats arrive every month from around the world, many the results of separate orders. Since processing Library material is fragmented into many operations, the challenge was complex: coordinating records of purchase requisitions, checking the items received invoices, tracking materials through several handlers, identifying and re-integrating MARC record subject fields and classifications, compacting the workflow into a software program that made "new" items instantly recognizable and retrievable, and customizing ALEPH's proprietary cataloging software to facilitate this display.



The New Book List is updated automatically every day. It can't be searched like a catalog, but it can be scanned easily with buttons for the different subjects and format – CD & DVD, History, Education, Science, Literature, etc. Hundreds of books are listed in call number order, so if the general number of a field of interest is known – ML 410 for music composers, for instance – items can be quickly found. A separate section for materials still *In Processing* – listed alphabetically since they're as yet uncatalogued — shows many additional titles. If a title is searched in STARS, its record notes it as "in process" as well. Live links to all the new books, catalogued or not, are embedded in the listings and take you directly to the STARS record. For many books, a separate catalog link takes you to a descriptive table of contents. This service is one example of how technology maximizes the interdependence of all media. A plan to turn the New Book Acquisitions List into an RSS feed is under development.

New Book List: <http://magellan.cc.sunysb.edu:4330/newbook/newbook.html>

From the Desk of the Director

Chris Filstrup, Dean and Director of Libraries

This newsletter describes some of the ways Library staff make information available to the campus and community. On the acquisition end, you'll see that we acquire a wide variety of formats -- for example, rare cookbooks located in Special Collections and thousands of electronic journals located on publishers' servers. Our services reflect both face-to-face and computer-to-computer approaches. In an increasingly "webby" information environment, we are working hard to make information available through our website. This includes the new books list and digitization of campus publications such as technical reports. Whether the information is print or digital and whether the service occurs across a desk or on a computer, it takes a dedicated and talented staff to make it happen. I extend a welcome to give us a try, whether in person or from your computer and an invitation to let us know how we can serve you better.

Special Collections & University Archives

Kristen Nyitray



Stony Brook University Libraries received a donation of 2,626 Chinese cookbooks. The donation includes related magazines, videos, slides and other materials collected by Jacqueline M. Newman, a retired professor of nutrition and lifetime lover of Chinese cookbooks.

The collection totals more than 7,000 items and is valued at \$400,000. Newman's collection is the largest collection of English-language Chinese cookbooks in the world. "This is as special as it is important," Stony Brook President Shirley Strum Kenny said. "It is a very important collection for understanding the Asian-American community, and it will help support our curriculum." Newman has collected Chinese cookbooks for about 50 years, ever since she got her first one as a wedding present. She wrote her doctoral thesis on changing Chinese food and habits in New York City.

What's Up in the Core?

Kathleen Weiner

In the heart of the library, the third floor core near the Circulation desk, there is a small room that has become very busy lately: the "Library Digital Lab". Due to the cooperation of Disability Support Services and the Library Digitization Team, a Canon DR7580 high speed document scanner has found a new home. The DR7580 can scan 75 pages a minute, recognize and rotate text orientation, correct skewed images, enhance faint text, and self-adjust for different types of paper - even paper as thin as onion skin! To facilitate quick scanning, the spine of a book is removed and the pages are fed through the scanner. Special software is then used to format the text to audio - a process that takes only seconds!

This small space is currently shared by Special Collections, Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery, the branch libraries, and Disability Support Services, all of whom perform many different tasks using various equipment in the lab. Special Collections recently used some of this equipment to digitize Stony Brook's own newspaper, *The Statesman*, 1957-1998. The digitized copies are now available on DSpace, SUNY's new searchable digital repository. The Library will also be scanning many new projects for the University's upcoming 50th anniversary.

Disability Support Services will begin a program this fall to assist visually impaired students by producing alternative media, including e-text and audio. They will, in essence, be reformatting textbooks from text to speech or specialized e-text. Ultimately, the benefits of this joint partnership and the items produced in this lab will reach a multitude of people; this is truly work from the heart....

SUNY DSpace: <http://dspace.sunyconnect.suny.edu/handle/1951/406>

SB Disability Support Services: <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/disabilityservices/>



Electronic Resources

Aimée deChambeau & Nathan Baum

Online, web-based access to content has become the format of choice for most library users. In direct response to our patrons' preference we dedicate roughly 40% of our materials acquisition budget to online resources, thereby providing convenient 24-by-7 access to library resources that are available online.

Over the past 5 years our e-journal holdings have increased from a few dozen to tens-of-thousands of unique titles; SCIENCE DIRECT alone contains over 2000 journals. Recently, with the generous support of the Office of the Vice-President for Research, we purchased the back issues of *Nature*, extending our historical access to 1950. We also acquired the *New York Times* archive, providing online coverage back to 1851.

The e-resources we offer are no longer limited to full-text journal or newspaper articles, but have expanded to include art image collections, electronic book collections, audio music files, and datasets. The library purchased a collection of over 1000 e-books from NETLIBRARY, an equal number of titles from OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS and, more recently, a smaller set of technology titles from SAFARI TECH BOOKS ONLINE. We also provide access to ARTSTOR, which contains curated collections of digital images representing artistic traditions across time and cultures. Of further note is an ORAL HISTORY COLLECTION and a database of NORTH AMERICAN WOMEN'S LETTERS AND DIARIES from the Colonial Period to 1950. One of our newest additions, the NAXOS MUSIC LIBRARY, provides access to over 150,000 music tracks – primarily classical, but including some blues, jazz, world, and Chinese music.

All of our online resources may be explored from the library home page, under the links Databases & E-Journals or E-Books and Texts.

New Reference Desk Established in the Melville Library

Susan Lieberthal

A new Point of Service for Reference has been established in the Melville Library. During the semester, Reference Librarians are providing an additional eight hours per week of reference assistance at a new reference desk set up on the third floor across from the Circulation Desk. As a continuation of outreach attempts by the Reference and Instruction Departments, it was decided that in March, 2006, Susan Lieberthal would provide assistance at a temporary reference desk on the third floor, Monday-Thursday 2-4 P.M.

This pilot project that she initiated was very successful, with an average of 4 transactions per hour as compared to just under 3 transactions per hour at the Reference Desk in the Central Reading Room. Many inquiries which start out with students looking for a particular book develop into research questions. Students find it easy to ask follow-up questions at this new point of service for reference, and because of the proximity to the Stacks the librarian is able to go with the students to the shelves when they are having trouble locating a book.

The librarians at this desk work closely with the staff of the Circulation Department. This enables the Public Services departments to provide a more holistic approach to serving the students and faculty in the Melville Library.

Branch Library News

Compiled by Cornelia Creel

In the past year the branch libraries have upgraded their services and user friendliness by using the newest technological tools to facilitate access to knowledge. The Chemistry Library, in cooperation with the faculty, has made many journals available in electronic format, thus providing easy access from on- and off-campus. Substantial savings were made by switching to the online format. This branch also provides wireless Internet access. The Computer Science Library has moved all journals that are available electronically to off-site storage. New books are prominently displayed at the entrance. The Science & Engineering Library recently completed two digitization projects. In one project, 600 College of Engineering and Applied Science technical reports were scanned and are available through DSpace. In the second project, 50 historical US Coastal Survey maps were digitized. Two grant proposals were submitted to the National Spatial Data Infrastructure. The Music Library added ten computers and a network server. Music selections for teaching purposes are now accessible digitally.



Hat's Off To . . .

President's Award
for
Excellence
in Classified Service
Josephine Castronuovo
Bookbinder,
Preservation Dept.



President's Award
for
Excellence
in Librarianship
Kristen Nyitray
Head,
Special Collections

THE LC?

Victor Santiago

What's the LC? The LC (Library Club) is a new campus organization that aims to encourage "peer to peer" literacy information and library advocacy.

The LC unofficially originated in the summer of 2004 when a core group of student assistants working in the Melville Library befriended each other. Given their common understanding of both student and library concerns, they felt that a group should be formed to serve both. The Student Undergraduate Government agreed, and the club was formed.

The LC plans on helping to promote the library and its programs, as well as hosting fun and educational events. Additionally, by becoming a "peer-to-peer" learning resource through the creation of educational tutorials for students, by students, the LC can act as a liaison from the Melville Library to the rest of the SBU student community.



The LC is primarily made up of students who work in the Melville Library as well as their friends; it is always open to all students from around campus.

Check out our blog: thelibraryclub.wordpress.com

Friends of the Library

Maryanne Vigneaux

The Friends group represents various members of our population—corporation heads, emeriti faculty, those doing research, others writing books and most taking advantage of the extensive collection that their public libraries do not provide. There are currently 165 members of the Friends, 20 of whom joined within the last six months. Friends come from as far as Greenport on the east end of L.I. to Manhattan. Thanks to the Friends, the library has purchased a relief globe which is in the Science & Engineering Library, has funded the printing costs for a brochure about Special Collections, and sponsors author's programs primarily held at Wang Center and Javits Room at Melville Library. Upcoming program information is found in Library Happenings.

Library Happenings

The Library is co-sponsoring, with The Center for Italian Studies, a program on Sept. 28 at 7:30 pm on the 4th floor of Melville Library. The booktalk, by Fred Gardaphe, is on the topic of Masculinities and the Italian-American Gangster. The author investigates the role of the gangster in film, as well as in the literature of such great Italian-American writers as Mario Puzo and Gay Talese.

To be held on Nov. 7, at 4:00 pm in E-2340 Javits Room, is a program featuring Peniel Joseph of the Africana Studies Dept. The topic is Waiting 'Til the Midnight Hour: A Narrative History of Black Power in America. Building in Malcolm X's legacy the author traces the movement for racial equality from the 1950's in Harlem.