Latest Edition

News from the Ammerman Campus Library   **Spring 2004**

One College, Three Libraries, One *New* Library Web Page!

Library
Suffolk County Community College

Hours, Directions, Services, etc.

What's New

- Congratulations to Lisa Melendez on her promotion to full professor! Click here for more info.
- Stony Brook University in Iraq: Rebuilding Academic Institutions - February 11th, Ammerman Campus Library, Room 111 at 11:00 AM. Click here for more info.

Books and Media

Search for Books & Media in our catalog and other local library catalogs.

Periodicals

Search for journal, magazine & news articles in library databases. Some articles are available online, others can be found in the library's print collection.

Reference Sources

Search for information in encyclopedias, almanacs, maps, search engines, dictionaries, etc.

Subject Resources

Find books, library databases and internet sites for your classes.

Information Literacy

Learn how to find, evaluate and use information.

Suffolk

Please send problems/suggestions to Kevin McCoy at mccoyki@sunysuffolk.edu. This page was last modified on 02/09/2004 15:08:03 ©2003, SCCC Libraries.

You don't have to come here to be here! The three campus libraries at Suffolk County Community College are pleased to present their new unified Web page located at http://www.sunysuffolk.edu/Library

Designed to be a user-friendly resource tool, the new site allows the college community to access library information and resources at all three campuses by visiting one site.

In the spring of 2003, librarians at the three campuses decided that combining resources and eliminating duplication would enable the library to more effectively meet the needs of the college community.

A college-wide library committee was formed and, with input from librarians, faculty, staff and students, they developed the current design. Gayle Sheridan, instructional media coordinator from the Grant Campus, loaned her expertise in developing the colors and layout for the new page.

Nearly all the resources on the library's Web site are accessible from any computer connected to the Internet. Users off campus will be required to log in when using third party library databases. This means that when using the library's peri-odicals databases, such as InfoTrac OneFile or WilsonWeb, off-campus users enter a User-ID and password. Faculty and staff use their campus login information. Students use their e-mail name for User-ID and date of birth for password.

This spring librarians will be conducting additional usability tests to get more feedback from the SCCC community. We would like to know what you think, so please explore the new site and fill out the feedback form that is located under "Hours, Directions, Services, etc." Your comments and suggestions will be used to make modifications to the new and improved site.

Library Highlights—Fall 2003

Patron Confidentiality

On September 26, 2003, Suffolk County Community College hosted the DASL-sponsored lecture, "Patron Confidentiality in a post 9/11 World."

Guest speaker Tracy Mitrano spoke about the impact of the USA PATRIOT ACT, the Homeland Security Act, the proposed Domestic Enhancement and Security Act (PATRIOT ACT II), and the Total Information Awareness (TIA) Program on patron confidentiality in libraries. Ms. Mitrano is the policy advisor and director of the University Computer Policy and Law Program for the Office of Information Technologies at Cornell University. She has a doctorate in American history from Binghamton University and a law degree from Cornell Law School. In the fall of 2002, she was a panelist in the ARL-sponsored teleconference, "Safeguarding Our Patrons' Privacy: What Every Librarian Needs to Know about the USA PATRIOT ACT and Related Anti-Terrorism Measures."

Film Series

On November 5 and November 19, 2003, the Ammerman Library Film Series featured two films, *Hidden Warriors: Women on the Ho Chi Minh Trail* and *Happy Ever After.*

Hidden Warriors: Women on the Ho Chi Minh Trail is a documentary, co-produced by American and Vietnamese teams, that tells the stories through interviews and archival footage, of North Vietnamese women who defended the Ho Chi Minh Trail after 1965. A discussion with director and producer Karen Turner followed the film screening.

Happy Ever After is a film directed by SCCC English Professor Anthony DiFranco. The movie focuses on private eye Frank Lupo who is working on a department store pilferage case. Things get sticky when he is forced to make a choice between two beautiful women, two sides of himself, and two destinies. Following the movie, Professor DiFranco discussed his latest film.

MEDIA SERVICES REMINDER

For questions or requests regarding Smart Carts or Smart Cart instruction, please call Classroom Media Services at 451-4189.

News and Noteworthy . . .

New Computers in the Reference Department

During the wintersession, the library happily welcomed 25 new computers to the Reference Department. One of the new machines is handicapped accessible, equipped with a 19" monitor and height-adjustable table. Through each workstation's Internet connection, students can access the library catalog to locate books, search databases for journal articles, or use the Internet to complete classroom assignments. The computers are networked to three black and white laser printers and one color printer.

New Microfilm Readers

Two microfilm scanners that arrived over winter break are up and running. This state-of-the-art equipment allows users to view either microfilm or fiche and to print images to attached laser printers. The microfilm scanners are slated to be connected to PCs, which will facilitate e-mailing microfilm documents between campuses and to individual users' e-mail accounts.

Preparing for Migration

As part of a SUNY-wide initiative, SCCC libraries will be migrating to a new library management system called Aleph. During the spring 2004 semester, the library will be getting ready for the conversion to the new system that manages circulation, cataloging, acquisitions, and other library-related tasks. What does this mean to you? The most obvious difference will be seen after the conversion has been completed and the new catalog is available for searching. The catalog will have a new look, and search features will be more powerful and sophisticated than the current catalog. The new system will give the user an online account where he/she can access his/her personal library records, renew materials and place hold requests. All SUNY institutions will convert to Aleph, and users will be able to search across these catalogs and request materials from any SUNY campus.

Library to House New Holocaust Collection

The Ammerman Library is proud to announce that it will permanently house *The Suffolk Center on the Holocaust, Diversity & Human Understanding,* a collection of artifacts, photographs and books depicting the Nazi criminal acts against the Jewish people. Collected and donated by Mr. Andrew Liput, the collection serves as an educational tool to inform the community about atrocities committed against humans and highlights the need for inter-cultural communication and understanding. Future exhibits will feature other examples of human suffering that further illustrate the importance of human rights and tolerance. Located on the second floor of the library, the exhibit will be opening during the spring 2004 semester.

Student Intern

The library staff welcomes Ann Fuchs, who will serve as an intern this semester. Ms. Fuchs is a student in her final semester at Queens College Graduate School of Library and Information Studies and is a part-time library trainee in the Adult Services Department at Longwood Public Library. She received her B.A. in English from Franklin and Marshall College.

Dear Friends . . .

Welcome back and Happy New Year.

The library staff and faculty are pleased to return with more energy and plenty of programs and news. I am sure that you have noticed the library's new Web page. This is the result of a college-wide library effort. Librarians from our three campuses collaborated in harnessing their know-how to produce this very orderly, clear and easy to use library Web page. I urge all of you to use it, and let us know your comments to better serve your information and academic needs.

The library is now the host to a very valuable collection. This collection is called *Holocaust, Diversity and Human Understanding,* and I am certain that you agree that this is enriching our curriculum and resources. We are looking forward to its introduction to the college and to the community on April 18, 2004.

As you read this newsletter, I want to bring to your attention how the library is serving our college community. From the sheer number of library information literacy courses taught this past fall, to the number of circulated books, periodicals, and media materials, as well as our classroom media services, we are delighted that the library is a full partner in this cherished academic endeavor. Please continue to visit your library and keep asking us for more information and services. This spring we will continue diligently to contribute in enriching our college academic, cultural and social life. Have an excellent spring semester.

Hedi BenAicha, Associate Dean of Libraries

Calendar of Events
Spring 2004

Writers' Café Series — Begins February
The library will begin its second year of the *Writers' Café Series* this spring. The lecture series gives writers an opportunity to discuss their works with members of the community. In April guest speakers include John Westermann, author of *Exit Wounds*, and Louisa Thomas Hargrave, author of *The Vineyard: The Pleasures and Perils of Creating an American Winery.* Details and updates on dates, times and additional speakers will be posted to the "What's New" section of the library's homepage. Visit us at http://www.sunysuffolk.edu/Library

Plagiarism Workshop — March 10
Plagiarism: What's a Prof. to Do? The Problem. Prevention. Detection. Papermills. Assignment Design. Resources. Faculty Guide. . . and more. Join us Wednesday, March 10 at 11 a.m. in Room 111 of the Huntington Library for a presentation and discussion of the issues.

Plagiarism Workshop — March 10
Plagiarism: What's a Student to Do? A workshop designed to teach students what plagiarism is, why it's wrong, and how to avoid it by citing sources properly. Join us Wednesday, March 10 at 11 a.m. in Room 112 of the Huntington Library for this workshop.

Copyright Workshop — March 17
Do you use a variety of materials, such as slides, music, or film, created by someone else in your classroom? Have you placed photocopies, CDs, or software on reserve in the library? Do you teach a distance education course? Are you concerned about copyright infringement? The library will be running an *Introduction to Copyright* workshop designed to explain what copyright is, what can and cannot be copyrighted and what copyright protects. An overview of fair use and guidelines for fair use for educational multimedia for instructors will also be discussed. Join us on Wednesday, March 17 at 11 a.m. in Room 112 of the Huntington Library.

Smackdown in the Library! — April 21
Students, faculty, and staff are invited to participate in the 4th Annual Poetry Smackdown sponsored by the Office of Campus Activities, the Huntington Library at Ammerman and the English Department. The smackdown, a celebration of National Poetry Month, will be held in Room 111 of the library on Wednesday, April 21, 2004, from 10:45 am - 12:15 pm. Poets that perform original pieces of poetry will be eligible for prizes. For those of you who would like to participate but are too shy to share your own work, you're invited to recite your favorite poem. Special guest judges will be announced! For more information, contact Deborah Provenzano at x4183.

My Little Skinny Gay Wedding — May 5
Robert Vitelli, director of Education, Training and Policy of Long Island Gay and Lesbian Youth (LIGALY) and adjunct professor at Nassau Community College, will be a guest speaker at the library on Wednesday, May 5, 2004, in Room 111 during common hour, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Mr. Vitelli will discuss the cultural and social aspects of gay marriages and civil unions. The discussion will be followed by a question and answer session.

Electronic Databases

Several core databases—Applied Science & Technology, Art, Biological & Agricultural Index, Business, Education, General Science, Humanities, Index to Legal Periodicals and Books, Library Literature and Information Science, Readers' Guide, and Social Sciences—are no longer available through our FirstSearch subscription. A new product, **Wilson OmniFile Full Text, Mega Edition** now supplies the library with access to these databases. Over 3,500 titles are abstracted; of these, 1,300 are peer-reviewed with over 1,700 available as full text. Indexing and abstracting coverage begins in 1982 and 1984 respectively, with full text beginning in 1994.

To search OmniFile, begin at the library's new home page. Click on **Periodicals**, then click on the **WilsonWeb** icon located on the far right. The Advanced Search mode, which appears by default, allows you to search one or more databases simultaneously while limiting by a number of parameters. When you use the All-Smart Search, all search terms are automatically truncated. You need not enter symbols for word stems or individual characters. Note that if you opt for the basic search (left side bar), you lose access to all limiting features, such as dates, full-text, and peer-reviewed options.

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Explore **Gale Virtual Reference Library** (GVRL) — a collection of electronic reference materials (eBooks), such as encyclopedias, almanacs, directories, handbooks, and more. GVRL covers a variety of subject areas from the arts to law, medicine, and the social sciences.

Go to the "Reference Sources" section of the library's home page and click on the Gale Virtual Reference Library icon.

Facts and Figures for Fall 2003:

People who came to the library:	approx. 100,000
People who logged in to library databases (total):	51,904
from *off* campus	27,464
from *on* campus	24,440
Books:	
Books ordered:	1,085
Books checked out:	3,903
Books the library borrowed through interlibrary loan:	149
Books our library lent to other libraries:	161
Reserve materials checked out:	410
Periodicals:	
Periodicals checked out:	5,081
Journal articles received through interlibrary loan:	44
Journal articles supplied to other libraries:	60
Media:	
Classroom Media Services equipment requests:	2,020
Smart Cart Requests:	343
Library Instruction:	
Library Instruction Classes (total):	174
OS15/20 classes	81
Subject Specific classes	93

If We Teach It, They Will Come: Library Instruction Works!

During the fall 2003 semester, library faculty helped students navigate diverse resources by teaching 174 library instruction classes and workshops. In addition to providing 81 OS15/20 classes with an overview of the basic tools necessary to search the library's catalog and general databases, 93 subject-specific classes were taught.

Building on the basics covered in the OS sessions, subject-specific classes teach students advanced search strategies for finding and evaluating materials that satisfy their research needs. Recent examples of classes that have incorporated full-text databases into assignments are HM46's use of *GenderWatch*, as well as various communications classes using *Opposing Viewpoints.* A specially designed orientation for incoming nursing students introduces them to resources in their field, such as the *Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health* database*.* With the library subscribing to over 60 databases, opportunities abound for incorporating them into class projects.

Classes coming into the library for instruction often include hands-on research time. It is our experience that after having had personal contact with a librarian, many students return for more in-depth assistance. These learning opportunities contribute to the acquisition of information literacy skills that are necessary to critically evaluate the staggering amount of information in today's world.

TIPS FOR GETTING THE MOST OUT OF LIBRARY INSTRUCTION

- Arrange for a library instruction class tailored to the class's research needs.

- Collaborate in advance with the librarian conducting your session.

- Ensure that each student has a topic prior to the library session.

- Avoid approving vague or very broad topics, e.g., "women in America."

- Follow the library instruction session with a class discussion of your students' experiences in the library. Assess your students' learning, and communicate both problems and successes to the librarian who gave the instruction.

- Consider a follow-up hands-on workshop to reinforce the strategies covered during the instructional session.

If you would like to schedule a library instruction class, please contact Rita Brasen at x4181. If you would like more information about incorporating databases and other resources into assignments, please contact Lisa Melendez at x4171 or melendl@sunysuffolk.edu.

Designing Effective Library Assignments

Students may have minimal experience using academic libraries and are most likely just beginning to develop information literacy skills. Course-related projects can be an effective way to introduce them to the research process. To ensure positive learning experiences, please consider the following:

- Assign projects that directly relate to course material.

- Create assignments that incorporate the use of library resources and services.

- Provide a handout that clearly outlines the assignment.

- Provide librarians with a copy of the assignment.

- Check to make sure that our library has the resources students will need to successfully complete the assignment.

- Encourage students to ask for help at the reference desk.

- **Try out the assignment yourself to make sure it can be completed.**

Things to Avoid…

- Assigning the same topic to the entire class. The library may not have material in sufficient quantity for students and/or classes "competing" for the same material.

- Scavenger hunts. A library scavenger hunt, unless focused on the **research process** and the **use** of the information found, is usually an exercise in futility. Students become frustrated and confused when the connection between the class objectives and the "hunt" is not clear.

- Requiring students to use printed materials the library does not own or online sources they are not licensed to access.

- Giving students incomplete or incorrect citations to sources you would like them to use.

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