



Hunter College Libraries

News

Fall 2014

Message from the Chief Librarian

"An efficient library demands any amount of hard work on the part of those who run it, and it is work which is never finished, because the field itself is almost unlimited, there is always something which cries to be done." – L. Stanley Jast, 1931.

Truer words were never spoken when it comes to libraries and librarians. I am entering my 5th year as Chief Librarian here at Hunter College, and it's no lie when I say that many of our services are perpetually in flux. Our physical spaces have seen some remarkable improvements, but we are far from finished with any renovations. The Library faculty and staff continue to develop new services, products and initiatives, but we are always looking to see what else we can do.

"The perfect librarian does not exist, never has existed and assuredly never will exist. But good librarians do, and better librarians may." – L. Stanley Jast, 1915.

We know we are far from perfect. But I can safely and officially say that we are continuing to excel at improving all we do for the Hunter community. Our updated website is truly a fluid work, constantly changing and improving for our users. Our instructional resources continue to be used by an even greater number of students and faculty. Even the material we are loaning out has changed to fit our student needs; tablets,

streaming media, charging devices.

But we still answer to the basic needs that we see; a space to provide students the chance to discover material, complete projects and work with each other. For every new device or innovation we deploy, we still also need to provide a chair, a desk and, yes, books.

Louis Stanley Jast, whom I have quoted here, was, among other things, the Chief Librarian of Manchester Central Library in the UK. He saw libraries as a nerve center for the development of communities. His ideas may be a century old, but some things remain the same, even as we move ahead.

These past few years have been hard for everyone. But I can also say that we will never stop trying to make the Hunter Libraries experience better every day. There will always be a space for what has always worked yet enough wiggle room for us to make the changes that you all need to seek and experience.

Dan Cherubin
Associate Dean, Chief Librarian

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What's Going on at the Cooperman Library?

It's been a challenging semester at the Cooperman Library in terms of space and noise. We understand and we're doing our best to keep things running smoothly. But as with all major construction projects delays are inevitable. We emptied the 6th and 7th floors in January 2014 in anticipation of imminent renovations but plans changed and now people want to know what is going on. The honest answer is that we are waiting to hear what's next. In the meantime, we have moved tables and chairs back up to 6 and 7 and opened up another lab space since we know it is needed. We've also been offering free earplugs at the Welcome Desk on 3 so you can create your own silent study zone.

There are a lot of people at Hunter and we are all sharing a limited amount of space. At the Hunter College Libraries we strive, through all our means, to make our Libraries places for students to study and learn and succeed in their time at Hunter. But with so many people sharing such little space problems are going to arise. We regularly receive noise complaints through our Text-a-Librarian service as well as handwritten complaints in our Suggestion Box and email complaints through the

Contact Us form. We hear you and we take these complaints seriously. We also receive a number of complaints about food in the library and the resulting rodent problem. We hope that people who come to use our libraries do so with the intention of being respectful members of our community. The rules exist for good reasons, although they are not set in stone. We'll keep working to make reasonable accommodations as long as others step up and treat our spaces and other people with respect. Together we can keep things running smoothly as we transition into the next phases of this large-scale renovation project.

Although we cannot fix everything, all at once, we do our best to address concerns as they arise. Keep talking to us, keep giving us feedback, and we'll keep improving. ■

Sarah Laleman Ward
Outreach Librarian

Connect with us on Social Media



Hunter College Libraries blog for news and updates. library.hunter.cuny.edu/news

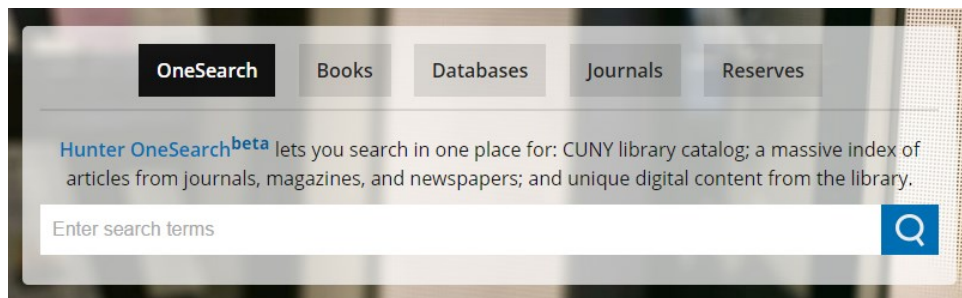


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Send us your library-related comments and suggestions at library.hunter.cuny.edu/contact, or drop a suggestion in our Suggestion Box at the Cooperman Library, 3rd Floor near the Welcome Desk.

Making Things Easier: Your New Library Website



Search tools are now front-and-center, making it easier to find exactly what you're looking for

Library websites are complex endeavors. A typical commercial website wants to keep the user close within the site, clicking around and reading the content it provides. A library website instead acts as a portal to the various sources information we librarians want our visitors to discover and use; we want you to find what you need efficiently so you can go about your work. While we do have a news feed and lots of information to keep you up-to-date on library happenings, in the end we're really the beginning to your journey.

After nearly five years, the Hunter College Libraries' home on the internet was starting to show its age. Months of work had gone into the previous design and information architecture: where to place links, what to provide on the front page and how to categorize the information. But a lot has changed in the online environment in the past five years. The web redesign team, comprised of Web Librarian Gardner Treneman, Assistant Systems Administrator Joel Polanco, Networked Systems Manager Stefan Kuss, and Head of Library Systems Ilan Zelazny, took on the task of making our already well organized site into one that was faster, sleeker and overall easier to use. The design team worked closely

with the members of the Web Committee acting in an advisory role. Both the old site and new site are built with an open source content management system called Drupal. Drupal is a more robust, more customizable version of the familiar online publishing platform WordPress. Drupal allows us to manage everything about the site from one interface; building pages is as simple as pushing a button and allowing other staff members to have access is just as easy. The availability of easy to install plugins adds functionality with minimal fuss. However, it also allows for the use of standard web design tools to build elements from scratch such as our Hours page.

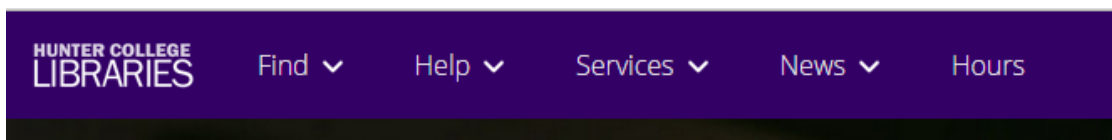
We decided to upgrade from Drupal 5 to Drupal 6 which streamlined a number of things about the site including: load speed, site management, plugins, and out-of-the-box responsive design. A responsive site is one that adjusts to the size of the screen on which it's being viewed. For our users, this means a seamless transition to using our site on a desktop, to a tablet to a mobile phone. For us it means we only had to make one site, not three. At this time, roughly 10% of our traffic is coming from mobile devices, and we see that increasing in the future.

On the back end of things, our fantastic systems department worked on creating a few custom modules for our new site, for example our Hours page and our Faculty and Staff Directory. Libraries sometimes keep strange hours, for example when the Cooperman Library extends hours during final exams. The premade hours modules didn't work for us so we had to build our own. We spent a lot of time developing a module that allowed easy updates of hours by anyone who needed access to do so. Additionally, some faculty and staff members' names appear in multiple locations on our site. To streamline updates to this information we created a directory that allowed updating of this information in a centralized interface that would subsequently update all other locations on the site.

The two most important things about the site are finding things and getting help. To expedite finding things we put the search tools front and center. The new search boxes make it much faster to switch between finding books, journals or Hunter's new discovery service OneSearch. We also made searching the site itself more prominent with a search tool on the upper right corner of all pages.

Additionally users have a way to contact us on every page: "Contact us" in the footer, and chat boxes visible on every page, as well as in several of our electronic resources.

Although the new site looks very different, some of the information architecture from the old site was maintained in the categories seen at the top of the landing page: About, Find Services, Help. We felt this was strong



Familiarity: We kept the structure of the top navigation bar from the old website largely intact.

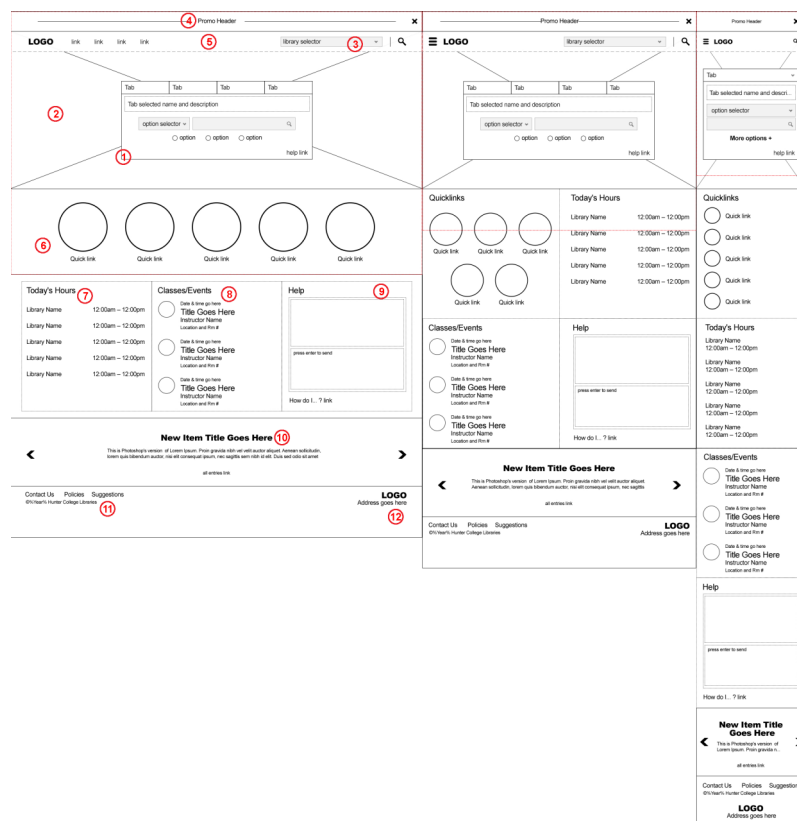
Your New Library Website (cont.)

and didn't warrant a complete overhaul, but we did shift the focus of the 'About' menu to the four physical locations of the Hunter College Libraries.

The initial redesign process took over a year to complete but the site itself will always be a work in progress, which is as it should be. We still have a lot of plans for the site, most of which are on the back end and thus invisible to users. We are starting the process of user testing to determine if what we're doing is indeed working for our users. There will always be things that come up and cause us to rethink what we've done. But for the time being, we hope you like what has been created and are able to get what you need quickly and easily. If not, then contact us here:

library.hunter.cuny.edu/forms/contact-us ■

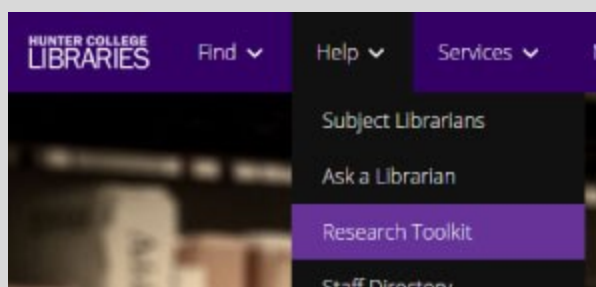
Gardner Treneman
Former Web Librarian



These wireframe mockups illustrate the website's responsive design. The site's layout changes automatically to best fit the current screen, window, or device size.

Research Toolkit: Online Help for Students and Faculty

As academic librarians, one of the big challenges that we face is how best to support students in their research. Generally, we approach from two directions: library instruction and just-in-time help through our various Ask-a-Librarian services. Considering the constraints of library instruction -- the limits (time and otherwise) to what we can cover -- we were interested in creating tools to reinforce (and in some cases necessarily replace) library instruction in key areas. While we initially imagined our work targeted toward students, we quickly realized that our best hope for the Research Toolkit to actually be used was to create a faculty guide and promote the materials to faculty.



categorized the materials based on questions that students are most often asking: What is my research question? How do I find sources? How do I read this stuff? How do I use sources in my paper? Many of our strategies have been tried in the classroom; others are new. We are soliciting feedback for all.

The Faculty Guide offers resources (including a Zotero group with relevant readings) and Guides to help faculty with suggestions on research challenges. Using another lens to focus on research papers, the library has compiled a Creating Research Assignments page, with some recommendations based on the kinds of questions students ask us as they write their research papers.

The Research Toolkit is the product of an on-going collaboration between our librarians and Wendy Hayden, the Co-Director of Hunter's first-year composition course. It is a still-growing collection of resources and activities. Faculty can select and assign specific resources or exercises as needed, or students can explore the Toolkit on their own. We've

The [Research Toolkit](http://library.hunter.cuny.edu) is available under the Help menu on library.hunter.cuny.edu. ■

Stephanie Margolin
Instructional Design Librarian

New Cooperman Library Classroom E404

As I'm sure you are all aware, classroom space is at a premium here at Hunter, in the library as much as elsewhere on campus. In an effort to combat this chronic space shortage, we have converted our former scanner and microform storage room into a brand new Library Classroom E404. The scanners were moved to a much more accessible public space on the 4th Floor, and the microform materials and reader have been moved to Floor B2. The room has new desks and chairs, 25 new laptops, and a brand new large touchscreen monitor. I was lucky enough to teach the first library instruction session in this new space, and I'm happy to report that it works wonderfully. Not only is the room well lit and comfortable, the students responded very well to the brand new laptops. Thanks to technical support from Ilan Zelazny and his staff, all of the new technology worked perfectly. Room E404 will be available for any of the library faculty to book for instruction sessions, and it will also be replacing room E609 once the library loses access to Floor 6. Anyone looking to book sessions on Floor 6 should look to Floor 4 instead. ■

Mason Brown
Science Librarian

Free Digital Access to New York Times

This is a reminder that anyone with a valid CUNY email address can receive unlimited access to the New York Times in digital and mobile formats. Go to nytimes.com/passes, and click on "Register" to create a NYTimes.com account using your Hunter email address.

Once you have registered, look for a "Confirm Your Email Address" message, which should arrive to your Hunter email within 15 minutes.

Once you've created an account, access will simply require your Hunter New York Times login--you will not have to authenticate it through the library's website.

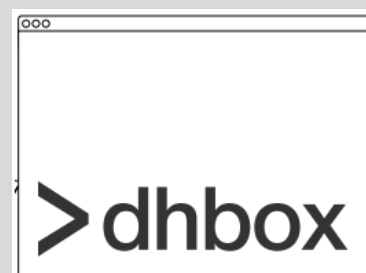
The only limit to material is for articles published before 1980. However, Hunter College Libraries has full access to New York Times - Historical, with digitally reproduced pages from every issue starting in 1851. ■

Facilitating CUNY Research Collaboration Through New Tech Tool

Hunter College Libraries is proud to have among our faculty the developer of a new technology tool, DH Box. DH Box is a cloud based Digital Humanities laboratory designed to give teachers, students, and scholars access to a suite of tools that facilitate research and collaboration across a variety of operating systems and devices. It is accessible through a web browser, thereby lowering technical barriers to entry by enabling those who work on digital projects to bypass set-up and compatibility issues and move more quickly to their own research. Its virtual programming environment comes equipped with digital tools such as IPython, RStudio, Omeka and Natural Language Toolkit (NLTK). Users can customize their DH Box environment with additional modules, data sets, and libraries.

DH Box came about as a group project that Visiting Instructor, Stephen Zweibel, worked on under the guidance of Professor Matt Gold at the Graduate Center. The group was tasked with developing a technology tool with the goal to make it available to digital humanities scholars at large. Others working in the

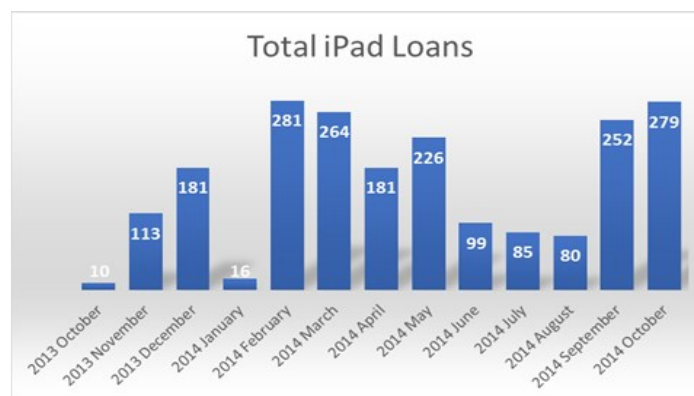
group held roles of public relations, documentation, and project management. DH Box will be available to all CUNY schools by mid-2015 and, subsequently, to interested digital humanities scholars outside the CUNY system.



A beta version of DH Box is currently being used in the classroom this semester, in Professor Jeff Allred's ENG 396 course, Seeing + Writing: US Literature and Visual Culture, 1865-1914. Students are using Omeka to build collections of images, primary source material, and other relevant resources around essays that connect to assigned readings. The students are excited to have access to this new tool that opens up a novel way of thinking about literature. ■

Iris Finkel
Reference/Instructional Librarian

Tech “Ins-and-Outs”: A/V Reserve Desk Sees Increased Usage



The usage of audio visual material at the **Cooperman Library A/V Reserve Desk** has continued to increase over the last year. Since September 2013, we have added 20 Mac Book Pro laptops, 25 Dell Latitude 3340 laptops, 28 iPads, and 29 Microsoft Surface tablets to the Library's collection.

The most popular items are the Mac laptops. Mac laptops are loaned for 3 hours and must stay within the library. In September, Mac laptops saw an additional 600 more checkouts than in September of 2013.

Dell laptops have also seen an increase with about 400 more checkouts from September 2013 to September 2014. Dell laptops are available for a 3 hour loan, for library use only. Dell laptops are also available for an all-day loan, may be taken outside of the library and are due one hour prior to closing. The all-day Dells are the most popular Dell laptops loaned. iPads are in high demand. Introduced in October of 2013,

usage has increased tremendously. February 2014 was a record-setting month with 281 checkouts. Some popular apps downloaded onto the iPad include: Dropbox, Evernote, Chrome, Dictionary, YouTube, Adobe Reader, Facebook and a variety of calculator apps.

This fall the Hunter Libraries also began circulating Microsoft Surface tablets. In September they were checked out 86 times. This number increased to 191 for the month of October. Due to the increasing amount of material available on loan, we have recently added a fourth station to the A/V Reserve Desk. Moreover, we have increased the level of staffing to strengthen our services and to better serve our users. ■

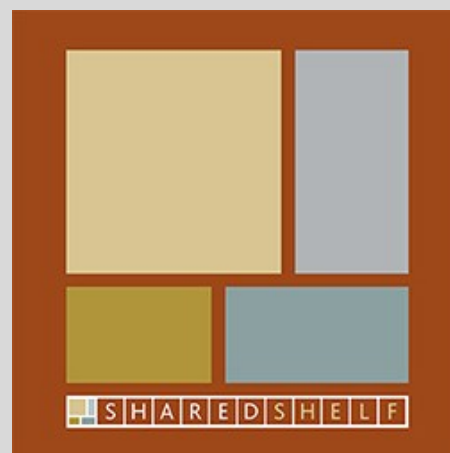
Roxane Pacifico
Manager, Media Reserve Desk

New Media Available Through Hunter's Artstor Subscription

The Hunter College Libraries, along with the libraries of Brooklyn College, City College, the Graduate Center, and Queens College, are now using the web-based [Shared Shelf](#) media management software provided by Artstor. Hunter College's new institutional media content, including **images, audio, and video**, can now be made accessible through our Artstor subscription. Content access can be restricted to the five CUNY campus consortium, or made accessible to the general public via [Shared Shelf Commons](#).

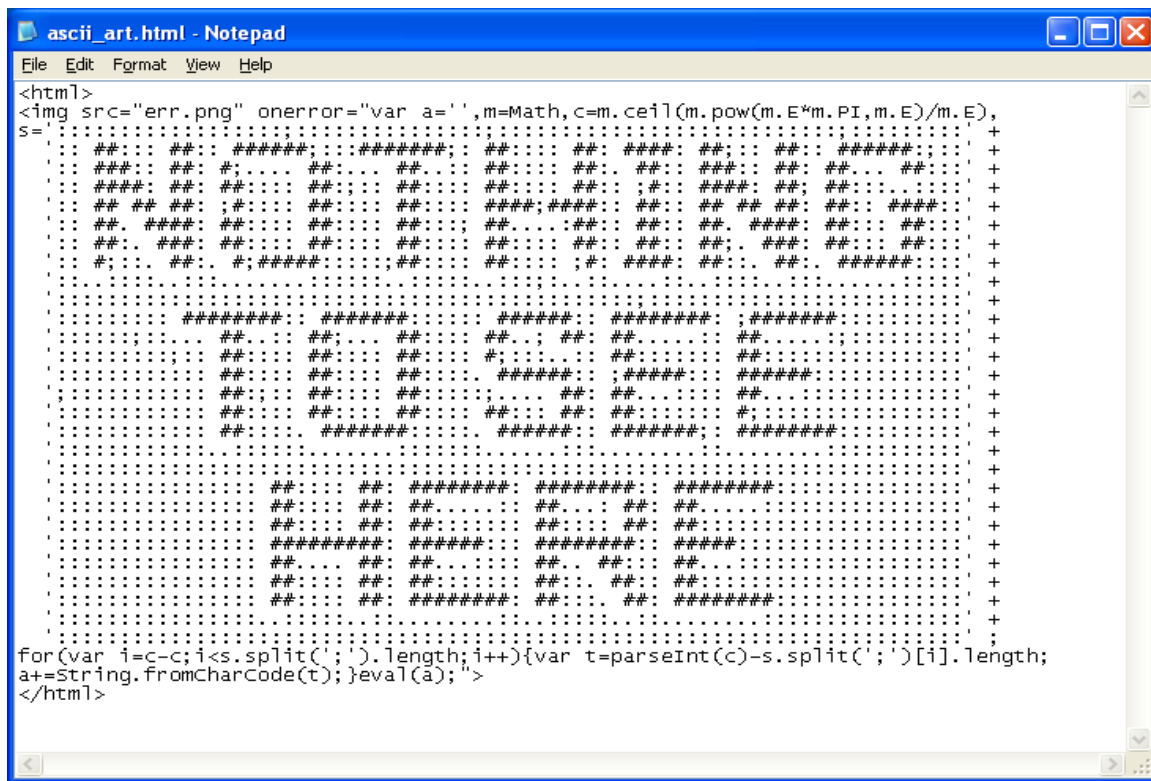
The Hunter College community can access Artstor through this page: <http://library.hunter.cuny.edu/databases/titles/a> ■

Contact [Steven Kowalik](#) if you'd like to use Artstor resources to enhance classroom study and teaching.



Shared Shelf media management provided by Artstor.

Anonymity and the Obfuscation of Online Data



Once or twice a semester Hunter librarians gather to hear several of their colleagues talk about their current research. I spoke at the December 17 session. The title of my talk was “Anonymity and the Obfuscation of Online Personal Data.” The topic grows out of my research over the past six or seven years on privacy and anonymity, emphasizing how technology has been adverse to both. My focus now is on anonymous web searching. When surfing the web, we routinely deposit staggering amounts of information about our likes, habits, and activities. We generally do not know who is gathering the information, who they are sharing it with, or what these third parties are doing with it once they have it. This information, usually trivial on its own, can be aggregated and analyzed to yield rich personal portraits,

which in turn can be used to predict and even manipulate our future behavior. Currently, we have little legal recourse.

One solution, in the light of today’s patchy legal protection, is obfuscation of one’s online queries. The idea of data obfuscation is as old as the hills. One pre-digital example involved non-Jews wearing the yellow star in German-occupied territory during World War II. More recently people have organized swaps of discount cards. Both acts muddy the data stream, making it more difficult for receivers of information to judge the accuracy of what they get. Regarding online obfuscation, numerous programs have been devised to produce false, misleading, or ambiguous data about our clickstreams, frustrating third parties’ attempts to trace the activity back

to a given IP address. I defend the kind of online anonymity that these programs promote, while acknowledging the costs of such anonymity and of tainting the information well.

I hope to present in April at the annual [Information Ethics Roundtable](#), to be held this year at the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. ■

Tony Doyle
Reference/Instructional Librarian

Add Rigor to Your Literature Review by Collaborating with a Librarian

As the quantity of published research literature has expanded, the importance of review articles that summarize and synthesize this research has also increased. In a narrative review, an expert selects articles that they think are important and summarizes what those articles tell us about the topic they address. These reviews can be very helpful to less specialized readers looking to get an overview of important issues related to the topic, but narrative reviews are vulnerable to the selection bias of the author writing the review. A researcher with an interest in a certain approach to a problem could easily select articles that support the preferred approach, ignoring confounding evidence without even meaning to.

A systematic review attempts to control the risk of selection bias by including a documented method for identifying articles to include in the review. An important part of this method is the search strategy. Guidelines from the Institute of Medicine and the Cochrane Collaboration recommend involving a librarian in the process of developing and executing the search strategy for a systematic review.

Researchers who are not carrying out actual systematic reviews may benefit from incorporating some systematic methods in their searching- at the very least, collaborating with a subject librarian on a literature search can help turn up items that have been missing.

I have created a research guide for researchers interested in conducting, appraising, or just learning more about systematic reviews. It can be found in list of Hunter College Libraries research guides, or at this URL: http://libguides.library.hunter.cuny.edu/systematic_review ■

John Pell
Reference/Instructional Librarian

Call for Student Papers from Faculty for Annual Paul LeClerc Competition

As we enter the final months of 2014, we ask all faculty to please help us recognize exceptional work done by Hunter students by participating in the library's annual Paul LeClerc Competition for Best Research Papers.

Prizes will be awarded for student papers judged to be the best of 2014. Instructors may nominate papers written for any course given in the **winter, spring, summer, or fall semesters of 2014**. Only papers submitted by course instructors will be eligible for awards. Please submit no more than three papers for any one course. All departments and special programs in the college may participate.

The goal of this competition is to stimulate the creative use of library resources, so winning papers should be thoroughly researched, well written, and properly documented. The library will award gift certificates in the amounts of \$200 for first prize and \$100 for second prize in the categories of (1) 100-level undergraduate, (2) all other undergraduate, and (3) graduate-level research papers. **Theses or other works of comparable length are excluded.**

The deadline for the 22nd annual competition will be **TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2015**. Please submit papers either as hard copy or via e-mail to:

Donna Braithwaite, Hunter Health Professions Library
obraithw@hunter.cuny.edu
212-481-5117

Please include the course name, number, and semester, as well as **the student's phone number, e-mail address, or other contact information**. A faculty panel will select the winners. The awards ceremony will take place at the annual Library Day celebration in April of 2015, at which time we will also formally recognize the instructors of the winning candidates for their support in this common effort to promote the research and writing skills of Hunter students.

Please feel free to contact Donna Braithwaite or John Carey (john.carey@hunter.cuny.edu) with any questions.
Thank you! ■

The Eleanor Project: Remembering Eleanor Roosevelt, Hunter College, and Roosevelt House



We are happy to announce that Deborah Gardner, Roosevelt House Historian, recently donated a copy of "The Eleanor Project: Remembering Eleanor Roosevelt, Hunter College and the Roosevelt House" to Archives & Special Collections. This resource consists of one bound volume of thirty short interviews and nine extended interviews and ten corresponding DVD's.

The Eleanor Project brings together the memories of thirty-nine Hunter College alumnae who reminisce about Eleanor Roosevelt, Hunter College, and the Roosevelt House. This project was initiated and supported by Hunter College President Jennifer Raab and was developed with the collaboration of the Film/Media Department and nine students from Hunter's Macaulay Honors College (MHC) during the 2008 - 2009 academic year. Additional assistance was provided by Dr. Jay Roman, Chair Hunter College Department of Film/Media Studies and Mr. Peter Jackson, Chief College Lab Technician, Hunter College Film/Media Studio.

The interviews took place at Hunter Col-

lege Alumni Reunions in May 2008 and May 2009. The nine students from Hunter's Macaulay Honors College researched the history, drafted the questions, and conducted interviews of the alumnae while working under the direction of visiting Professor and Filmmaker Robert Katz. The short and long interviews were transcribed in 2011 by two Roosevelt House interns and the said transcripts were finally edited by Deborah Gardner.

In addition to reminiscing about Eleanor Roosevelt, Hunter College, and the Roosevelt House, the 39 alumnae who participated in the Eleanor Project also shared their recollections about President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the Great Depression of the 1930's, the Works Progress Administration of the 1930's, SING (1917 - 1960), Hunter College in the Bronx, U.S. War Bonds, the W.A.V.E.S., the Holocaust, B. Altman department store (1865 - 1989), Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia (1882 - 1947), Robert Moses (1881 - 1981), Senator Joseph R. McCarthy (1908 - 1957), the New York World's Fair of 1964, President George N. Shuster (1894 - 1977), Dr. Mina S. Rees (1902 -

1997), Bella Abzug (1920 - 1998), Ruby Dee (1922 - 1914), and Regina Resnik (Class of 1942) among other topics.

The transcripts of the short and extended interviews, along with the accompanying DVD's, are available in Archives & Special Collections to the CUNY-wide community and independent researchers. ■

Julio Hernandez-Delgado
Head of Archives & Special Collections

News from the Branches

Schools of Social Work and Public Health Library



The Schools of Social Work and Public Health Library's (SWPHL) central garden takes on the russets of fall as our tables, computer stations, carrels and study rooms all hum with activity. With floor counts increased by 39% this fall over the same weeks last year, our students have settled in for the busy mid-term season.

While the use of our physical space increases, so too our reach lengthens beyond the library's walls. For the first time, this fall's library orientation for full-time social work students was delivered in a flipped modality. The Silberman Office of Student Services created a series of podcasts made available via Blackboard to incoming students during August. The podcasts introduced students to the Student Services Department, the Silberman Writing Center, and the services and resources available through the SWPHL. Each podcast was paired with a brief follow up quiz. Upon arrival on-campus, the students attended a group session with the librarian featured in the podcast for an in-person discussion and Q & A.

Another first for the SWPHL, we are piloting an Agency Guest Access Program. The pilot follows the overall structure of the Hunter Libraries fee-based guest access program. However, eligible "patrons" are 2 representatives from a social service agency that is connected with the Silberman School of Social Work through the East Harlem Initiative. Sponsored by a Silberman faculty member, agencies in the program will have onsite access to the resources and services of the SWPHL with no fee for 30 days in order to meet a specific information and/or research need. We are pleased to welcome the Bowery Mission as our pilot guest and look forward to being of service to other East Harlem organizations in the future. ■

Health Professions Library

Staff at the Health Professions Library continued to serve the needs of Hunter's students in Nursing, Physical Therapy, Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology, and Medical Lab Sciences as well as other members of the Brookdale Campus community. Also, this fall we welcomed a new adjunct reference librarian to the HPL team, A.J. Pathak. A.J. earned his master's degree in library science at Queens College but also has roots at Hunter, having graduated in 2010 with a master's degree in Public Health, with a concentration in Commu-

nity Health Education. He also has an undergraduate degree in Biology, making him an ideal addition to the health professions team." ■

News from the Branches

Zabar Art Library

New Acquisitions: Museum Exhibitions in New York City

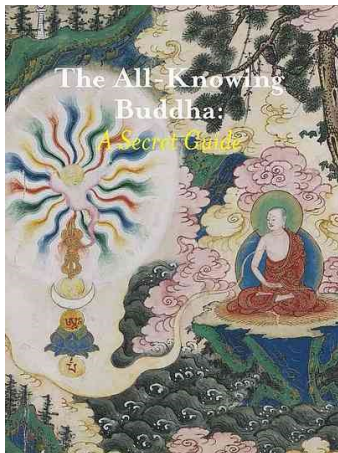


Cubism: The Leonard A. Lauder Collection

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, October 20, 2014–February 16, 2015

Cubism: The Leonard A. Lauder Collection at The Metropolitan Museum of Art is the most important exhibition of the essential Cubists—Georges Braque, Juan Gris, Fernand Léger, and Pablo Picasso—in more than 30 years. The exhibition and accompanying publication traces the invention and development of Cubism using iconic examples from the Leonard A. Lauder Collection, with its unparalleled holdings in this foundational modernist movement. The exhibition marks the first time that the Collection, which Mr. Lauder pledged to the Museum in April 2013, is shown in its entirety. The exhibition presents 81 paintings, works on paper, and sculpture: 17 by Braque, 15 by Gris, 15 by Léger, and 34 by Picasso.

This exhibition is co-curated by Emily Braun, Curator of the Leonard A. Lauder Cubist Collection and Distinguished Professor of Art History at Hunter College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Hunter College's Anna Jozefacka, Adjunct Lecturer, and Luise Mahler, MA candidate, also assisted Professor Braun with the Lauder Collection and Archive, as well as the exhibition and associated publication. ■



The All-Knowing Buddha: A Secret Guide

Rubin Museum of Art, October 3, 2014 - April 13, 2015

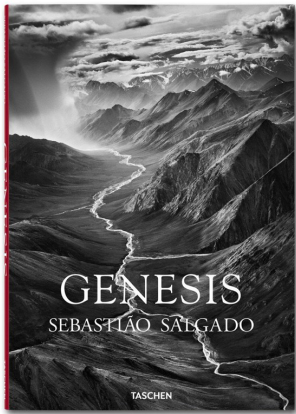
The All-Knowing Buddha: A Secret Guide focuses on an exceptional set of paintings in the intimate format of album leaves from 18th-century China that illustrate the meditation practice of Sarvavid Vairochana, a primordial Buddha central to the Tibetan Buddhist tradition. The album is one of only two of its kind in existence to depict visually a secret esoteric practice. The presentation at the Rubin is the first time that these important paintings are exhibited in the United States.

The 54 richly detailed paintings provide step-by-step guidance to visualization of the Buddha Sarvavid Vairochana and offer unique insight into the meditation and rituals of Tibetan Buddhism. These practices are normally not meant to be depicted and are usually restricted to oral transmission by a teacher to his initiated disciple. The album is displayed at the Rubin alongside an array of sculptures and paintings that provide an artistic, religious, and historical context for Buddhist practices related to Vairochana. ■

News from the Branches

Zabar Art Library

New Acquisitions: Museum Exhibitions in New York City



Sebastião Salgado: Genesis

International Center of Photography, September 19, 2014–January 11, 2015

Genesis is the third long-term series on global issues by world-renowned photographer Sebastião Salgado (born Brazil, 1944), following *Workers* (1993) and *Migrations* (2000). The result of an eight-year worldwide survey, the exhibition draws together more than 200 spectacular black-and-white photographs of wildlife, landscapes, seascapes, and indigenous peoples—raising public awareness about the pressing issues of environment and climate change. ICP is proud to be the first U.S. venue of this momentous exhibition, which is curated by Lélia Wanick Salgado. ■



Henri Matisse: The Cut-Outs

The Museum of Modern Art, October 12, 2014–February 8, 2015

In the late 1940s, Henri Matisse turned almost exclusively to cut paper as his primary medium, and scissors as his chief implement, introducing a radically new operation that came to be called a cut-out. Matisse would cut painted sheets into forms of varying shapes and sizes—from the vegetal to the abstract—which he then arranged into lively compositions, striking for their play with color and contrast, their exploitation of decorative strategies, and their economy of means. Initially, these compositions were of modest size but, over time, their scale grew along with Matisse's ambitions for them, expanding into mural or room-size works. A brilliant final chapter in Matisse's long career, the cut-outs reflect both a renewed commitment to form and color and an inventiveness directed to the status of the work of art, whether as a unique object, environment, ornament, or a hybrid of all of these.

Henri Matisse: The Cut-Outs is a groundbreaking reassessment of this important body of work. The largest and most extensive presentation of the cut-outs ever mounted, the exhibition includes approximately 100 cut-outs—borrowed from public and private collections around the globe—along with a selection of related drawings, prints, illustrated books, stained glass, and textiles. The last time New York audiences were treated to an in-depth look at the cut-outs was in 1961. ■

Sources: metmuseum.org, rubinmuseum.org, icp.org, moma.org

Prepared by Eugenie Fortier, Zabar Art Library, College Assistant

News from the Branches

A “Typical” Day in Archives & Special Collections

Often we are asked “What is it we actually do in Archives & Special Collections?” Archives & Special Collections is like a mini-library that offers all its services in one place. We do reference (in person, by telephone, via email, web requests, Question Point referrals, and the occasional snail mail request). We do technical services in that we acquire collections (from alumni, various departments/programs/offices on campus, faculty/staff/students, etc.) that we then process and create finding aids for (cataloging), and then shelve in the correct place so that we can provide access to them as needed (access services). We work with Systems staff and Gardner Treneman, Web Librarian, to post finding aids and other important information online. We also work with them to update and revise our Web pages and to get advice regarding our Flickr account and the database we have created on the history of Hunter/Normal College (Highlights from the Hunter College Archives). We are also beginning to explore new online options that would enhance and allow us to expand our online offerings. We also do instruction for classes and individual researchers on how to use our archives and our materials.

We manage two distinct collections – Archives, which is mainly comprised of materials related to Hunter/Normal College, and Special Collections, which is

comprised of pre-20th century rare and valuable materials, signed faculty publications, Wistarion yearbooks, and masters’ theses. Many of our archival collections are “living” collections in that we receive new materials regularly that need to be added. This often requires revising the finding aid, reorganizing the collection and sometimes realizing that some of the materials no longer belong in a particular collection and either adding it to a different collection or creating a totally new collection. It is a continuous process with the primary goal of making our collections accessible to researchers now and in the future.

Our reference questions run the gamut with one of the most popular being “Do you have a picture of (insert relative name here – mother, grandmother, aunt, sister, wife, etc.) from the yearbook (Wistarion)? Another popular question is “My (insert relative name) went to Hunter in the (insert date here, ex. 1920s). Can you tell me when she graduated?” In response to the frequency of this question, we digitized our complete collection of Commencement programs (1870-current) so that they can be searched directly online. This online collection is consulted frequently by the Alumni Office and Institutional Advancement. A few other popular topics include the Bronx campus, especially when it served as a training center for the WAVES during World War

II (a researcher from Florida was here recently to work on this topic) and when men were first admitted to Hunter and the construction of the “Palace on Park Avenue” after the 1934(?) fire which we now call the North Building. Another frequent question is “I need the course description for courses I took at Hunter” (often years ago) because the person is now applying for graduate school, a professional license or certificate, or trying to transfer credits. We do have course catalogs although the newest ones are now online through the Hunter web site.

Working in Archives & Special Collections is never boring. Every day is different and our goal is to provide excellent service to materials that are often unique and more difficult to locate and access. It is truly a collaborative effort among all our staff members contributing in a multitude of ways to providing a collection that meets the needs of our many and varied users. ■

Dr. Louise S. Sherby, Professor
Assistant Head, Archives & Special Collections

Library Faculty & Staff Activities

Faculty Resources Roundup



In September of 2014, the Hunter College Libraries teamed up with the Academic Center for Excellence in Research and Teaching (ACERT) to present the Faculty Resources Round-Up at each of Hunter's campuses. Librarians and ACERT members co-presented to groups of faculty at each campus about the types of resources and services available college-wide to support faculty research and teaching and everyone enjoyed a nice lunch in the process. Additionally, faculty members spoke at each event about their successful collaborations with librarians, ACERT, or both.

It is our intent to continue this partnership and the "touring" model to each campus in order to reach as many faculty members as possible. We will also incorporate more college-wide resources into the round-up as we move forward. ■

Sarah Laleman Ward
Outreach Librarian

Student Mentorship for IBM Watson Case Competition



I am mentoring a group of four students, three from Baruch and one from City Tech. Their proposal is named "The Sherlock Application" which would:

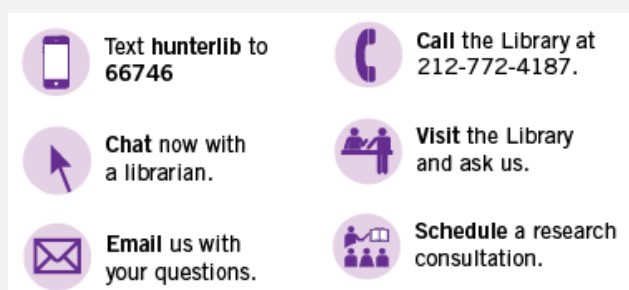
"Streamline the emergency response system in NYC by Integrating IBM Watson into the emergency call dispatcher system. At present each department uses a different response system which leads to problems relaying relevant information to the response teams out in the field (NYC 911). The city can then improve the efficiency of the FDNY and EMS response teams in emergencies by providing cohesive information across all agencies. "

I spent time working with them to streamline their ideas before pitching it to judges from Baruch and IBM. Currently, I am sending them articles they can use to further refine their proposal and hopefully move forward to the next round. ■

Philip Swan
Head of Research and Instruction

Connect with us!

Ask-a-Librarian Services



Library Faculty & Staff Activities

Proposing a Three-Credit Information Literacy Course

On October 10 I presented at the Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy in Savannah. The title of my presentation was “Offering a Three-Credit Information Literacy Course.”

The library has offered a one-credit information literacy class, Information Research (LIBR 100), every semester since Spring 2007. The class covers the standard topics in information literacy, to wit:

1. Selecting a manageable, researchable topic
2. Choosing an appropriate database
3. Search strategies with keywords
4. Controlled vocabulary
5. Writing annotations
6. Newspapers and magazines vs. peer reviewed sources
7. Detecting point of view or bias in magazine and newspaper articles
8. Scholarly books
9. Web evaluation

Over the years I have been mildly frustrated at not being able to do these topics justice in time allotted. I have also regretted neglecting other topics altogether, like literature reviews, plagiarism and academic integrity, copyright and intellectual property, podcasts, and YouTube. As a result, with substantial feedback from my colleagues, I have drafted a syllabus for a three-credit information literacy course.

In my presentation I spoke first about the contrast between the syllabus of our one-credit course and my proposed three-credit version, focusing both on the different material that the latter covers and on its main assignments. I then discussed some of the readings in the draft syllabus, including my choice of a textbook and my mix of peer reviewed and non-peer reviewed supplementary readings. Finally, I went over potential strategy, based on my experience with LIBR 100, for proposing the course to Hunter’s Curriculum Committee. ■

Tony Doyle
Reference/Instruction Librarian

Librarians and Instructors Working Together



Although librarians are mostly known for helping our students with their research, we can also provide a valuable contribution to faculty research. During the course of this past year, May May Leung in the Nutrition department asked me to help her prepare and update an annotated bibliography for a paper she was hoping to publish. A few years back she and a colleague had prepared a literature review of the efficacy of public health interventions in low income countries during disease outbreaks. Three years later, they were looking to update that paper, which would require a fair amount of new research. May May asked me to look over what they had prepared, and I devised a plan for bringing their literature review up to date. The plan was rather time consuming, and so May May asked to come aboard as a full collaborator.

Over the course of a month, I sifted through upwards of 10,000 potentially relevant journal articles, and I narrowed the field down to the 33 best. Working together, we read through these, significantly updated and reworked the paper, and submitted it for publication to the journal *Pathogens and Global Health*, where it was published in the March 2014 issue. This is exactly the kind of collaboration that Hunter library faculty are eager to get involved with, and we hope that faculty will keep us in mind when they are designing their research. ■

Mason Brown
Science Librarian

Faculty/Staff Comings and Goings

Sarah Johnson

Visiting Assistant Professor

Sarah Johnson is one of two new Visiting Assistant Professors in the Library Department. She has been with Hunter College Libraries for over three years, working as both an Adjunct and a Substitute Assistant Professor. She is the new liaison to the Romance Languages Department.

Utilizing her experience and qualifications as a Licensed Master Social Worker, she continues to provide reference and instruction at both the Silberman and Cooperman campuses. Sarah recently attended the Social Work Librarians Group annual meeting as part of the Council on Social Work Education's annual conference in Tampa. She is currently facilitating communication among this professional group. Outside of Hunter, this year Sarah assisted with editing two doctoral dissertations and one manuscript. She also completed a 2 ½ year project as Processing Archivist for the Derrick A. Bell, Jr. Collection. ■

Iris Finkel

Reference/Instructional Librarian

Iris Finkel has been an adjunct librarian at Hunter College Libraries on and off since 2010, working in the Cooperman library and the Health Professions Library at the Brookdale Campus. Additionally, she assisted with archiving the papers of an author of children's books, was a digital librarian for an organization that facilitates collaboration among groups working on education-based projects, and worked in a research library at a bank. Iris' first career was as a project and product manager for information technology companies and is happy to now be supporting students in an academic library. Her research interest is in using images in teaching and learning. ■

Adina Mulliken

Social Work Librarian

Adina began her Library career at Kean University, Union, NJ as a library assistant in the Ethnic Studies Center. She then worked as a reference librarian at Kean. She went to Syracuse University Library as the librarian for Social Work and Allied Fields in September 2002. She started at Hunter College in the Silberman Building as an Assistant Professor and Social Work librarian this summer, and is excited about the job. Before working in libraries, she was an Employment Consultant for people with disabilities at P.A.T.H. Inc. in northeast Philadelphia, PA. She became interested in library website accessibility in 2006, when a graduate student began asking for assistance at the reference desk with navigating some sources using a screen reader. She has an MLS from Rutgers University and graduated with an MA in Cultural Foundations of Education and CAS in Disability Studies in 2013. Her undergraduate degree is a double major in English and Philosophy with a certificate in Women's Studies from Albright College in Reading, PA. For fun, she enjoys hiking, bicycling, of course reading, and persuading her cats to stop begging for food. ■

Gardner Treneman

Former Web Librarian

This December we bid farewell to our friend and colleague Gardner Treneman. Gardner served as our Web Librarian for the past couple of years and was the driving force behind the redesign of the Libraries website. We wish him well in his future endeavors. ■

Hunter College Libraries Newsletter Staff

Edited/compiled by Sarah Laleman Ward, Outreach Librarian
sarah.ward@hunter.cuny.edu

Design by Nicholas Pappas, npapp@hunter.cuny.edu

Thanks to everyone who contributed time, content, and feedback!