



Library Currents

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TODD WEHR MEMORIAL LIBRARY, CARROLL UNIVERSITY

Fall 2008

Volume 11, Issue 1

The Director's Corner

By Lelan McLemore

Director of Library Services,

Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences

Who comes to the library and why do they come? About 6,000 people enter the library every week. This number is based on a gate count, and since some people enter several times weekly, perhaps it is more accurate to say that the library is entered about 6,000 times per week.

The vast majority of library visitors are students, but faculty, staff and emeriti, as well as alumni and townspeople also make use of the library. They come for a variety of reasons. Many come to get a cup of coffee and perhaps a snack in the café. Some come to check their e-mail, while still others make use of the computers in the library classroom. These reasons for visiting the library are relatively recent in origin; although we all take them for granted, the café and the library classroom have been part of the library for less than 10 years.

But students also come to the library for the same reasons they've been going to academic libraries for a very long time: to gather the information and the materials they need and to get help. In other words, they go to the library because they want to be successful students.

We don't know how many folks come to the library for these reasons, but we do know that students often come to the library because it offers a quiet, convenient place to study. We also know that, not taking into account use of the library's journal collection, almost 42,000 library items circulated during last year. Most of these items were books, but some were videos, CDs, materials from the Curriculum Materials Center, or items on reserve. Many come to the library, sometimes with their classes, to learn how to use the library's databases effectively, to find sources for their research, or to learn how to avoid plagiarism by citing sources correctly. Some students come to seek help at the information or circulation desks or to discuss their research needs with a professional librarian.

The Learning Commons on the library's lower level is a very popular gathering place for students coming to the library for

help. Nearly 1,900 students visited the Learning Commons each month during the last academic year. Some come here because it is a convenient place for group study, but many come to meet with peer content tutors. Peer tutoring is provided for 10 content areas as well as for writing. Last year, there were more than 600 formal meetings between peer tutors and students; and clearly many thought these meetings helpful since almost 60 percent were repeat visits.

Some students come to the Learning Commons to take advantage of the Supplemental Instruction program that is available for all sections of eight 100-level courses in the Division of Natural and Health Sciences. The students who participated in the Supplemental Instruction program last year were more successful than those who did not. Last fall, the average grade point for those participating was 2.42 in these courses while it was only 2.00 for the nonparticipants, and in the spring the average grade point for those participating was 2.62 and 1.95 for nonparticipants.

Coming to the library can be fun, but it's also a great place to find help.

FYS Library Sessions

By Susan Heffron

Instructional Services Librarian

The library sessions for First Year Seminar are expanding this year to include a BlackBoard course consisting of four interactive learning modules, plus a game that will assess

(Continued on Page 2.)

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 The Director's Corner
- 1 FYS Library Sessions
- 2 Career Services has moved to the Library Learning Commons
- 2 Introducing our new staff members
- 3 Library Learning Commons Calendar
- 4 New in the Learning Commons
- 4 Marian the Librarian

(FYS continued from Page 1.) students' information literacy skills before and after the FYS library sessions. The learning modules and short quizzes at the end of each module will help students learn about doing university-level research, evaluating Web resources and avoiding plagiarism. Students will play the Information Literacy game to test their new skills. The game is based on Trivial Pursuit and

questions range from selecting the best library resources to comparing Web sites. We look forward to discovering how literacy skills improve with this added online component to our regular FYS library sessions.

The last FYS library session will focus on helping students match various academic majors to real-world careers. Students will take a shortened online

version of the Myers-Briggs personality assessment and explore the "What can I do with a major in..." Web site to find out how a particular major can lead to a job that suits their personality and interests. Jennifer Maney, Director of Career Services, will continue the career discussions during follow-up workshops for freshmen in late November and Early December.

Career Services has moved to the Library Learning Commons

By Jennifer Maney
Career Services Director

How can Career Services help you?

Resources are available to all students and alumni to help you gain a better sense of yourself and your interests. Here are just a few of those resources:

- **Career Counseling:** Meet one on one with a career counselor who can help you sort through the decision-making process as it relates to all vocational issues, including choosing or changing a major, building a resumé, developing interviewing skills, and looking toward graduate school.

FOCUS

(<https://www.focuscareer.com/register/carroll.cfm>) An online program that helps you develop a more precise picture of your personal strengths, needs and preferences, and assists with creating a career plan.

- **Myers-Briggs Type Inventory:** The Myers-Briggs Type Indicator® (MBTI®) assessment is the best-known and most trusted personality tool available today. From developing more productive work teams to building closer families, the MBTI can improve the quality of life for any one and any organization. Both the MBTI and the FOCUS assessments are done at no cost.

- **Career Services Web Site:** Our Web site includes links to resources like "What can I do with this major?" (<http://depts.cc.edu/studentlife/majors/default.html>) and Career Connect (<http://www.cc.edu/studentlife/jobfinder>) which lists local, regional and national full-time and internship openings, in addition to upcoming events such as career fairs.

Come see us in the library's Learning Commons, and please accept our invitation to come to any of the Career Services Workshops scheduled for Nov. 18, 19, 24 and 25. They are listed on the Library Learning Commons calendar.

Introducing our new staff members



Brittany Bayer
Learning Commons Assistant

Brittany is a native of Waukesha who graduated from Carroll in 2007 with a degree in English (writing emphasis) and a minor in German and art. As an undergraduate, she worked at the library front desk and processed reserve materials for the library. In 2005, she joined the ranks of writing assistants when that program was instituted. Additionally, she kept up her interest in music by playing trumpet for three years with Carroll's Wind Symphony.

Brittany joined us this summer as the learning commons assistant, so you'll find her in the Learning Commons. She'll be quite busy in the beginning because she is also finishing her master's degree in library and information science at UW-Milwaukee.

In her free time, Brittany likes reading, writing science fiction and fantasy, and going grocery shopping (strange but true!).



Lani Kleczka
Business Manager and
Technical Services Assistant

Lani grew up in Green Bay, graduating from UW-Green Bay with a major in Spanish and a minor in business. During her undergraduate years, she took advantage of opportunities for study in Mexico and Spain.

Some of Lani's free time is spent on her motorcycle enjoying the scenery of Wisconsin.

Lani joined us at the end of June and says she is excited to be part of the Carroll community. You'll find her in our technical services office, Room 117.

Library Learning Commons Calendar

The following workshops for STUDENTS will be held in the Learning Commons unless otherwise noted:

OCTOBER 1 (Wednesday), 4-5 p.m.
Secrets to Success in Math – Session II

OCTOBER 5 (Sunday), 6-8 p.m.
Maxon 303
Math 101 Test 1 Review

OCTOBER 6 (Monday), 4-5:30 p.m.
Writing in the Disciplines
This workshop will focus on producing good quality academic writing and will include special instruction for students interested in writing in the sciences, humanities, or professional programs.

OCTOBER 8 (Wednesday)
1-2 p.m. & 7:30-8:30 p.m.
Study Skills & Time Management Tips
LC Tutors and FYS Peer Mentors will host an interactive workshop on how to manage a busy schedule and how to study successfully.

OCTOBER 23 (Thursday), 6-7 p.m.
Proofreading and Editing
Tips on how to identify and fix the most common grammar and punctuation errors. Learn how to proofread your own work.

OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 13
(Thursdays, 3-4:15 p.m., Board Room)
Test Anxiety Workshop
Participants will make a four week commitment to learn test preparation skills and test taking strategies, plus relaxation and anxiety management skills. Contact Dr. Margaret Kasimatis to register (mkasim@cc.edu)

OCTOBER 29 (Wednesday), 4-5 p.m.
Graduate School Workshop
With Jennifer Maney, Director of Career Services

OCTOBER 30 (Thursday), 5-6 p.m.
Citation workshop: Learn to cite your sources correctly in APA, MLA or Chicago styles.

NOVEMBER 2 (Sunday), 6-8 p.m.
Maxon 303
Math 101 Test 2 Review

NOVEMBER 5 (Wednesday)
1-2 p.m. & 7:30-8:30 p.m.
How to register online
Held in the library's classroom

NOVEMBER 6 (Thursday), 4-5 p.m.
Resume workshop
With Jennifer Maney, Director of Career Services

FYS Career Services Workshops with Jennifer Maney, Director of Career Services
NOVEMBER 18, Tuesday
3-4 p.m. in Career Services

NOVEMBER 19, Wednesday
3-4 p.m. and 5-6 p.m. in Career Services

NOVEMBER 24, Monday
4-5 p.m. in Career Services

NOVEMBER 25, Tuesday
3-4 p.m. in Career Services

NOVEMBER 30 (Sunday), 6-8 p.m.
Maxon 303
Math 101 Test 3 Review

DECEMBER 11 (Thursday)
10 a.m.-noon, Maxon 303
Math 101 Final Exam Review

The following workshops for FACULTY will be held in the Learning Commons unless otherwise noted:

SEPTEMBER 19 (Friday), noon-1 p.m.
Faculty Roundtable Discussion in Room 24 of the Library Learning Commons

Topic of discussion is student writing. Bring assignments, sample papers and ideas. Discussion will center on what works, what doesn't work, and what might make teaching writing easier and more effective.

SEPTEMBER 22 (Monday), 4-5:30 p.m.
Creating Effective Writing Assignments in the Ratzow Dining Room
With Writing Center Director Susan Nusser

OCTOBER 17 (Friday), 1-2 p.m.
Faculty Roundtable Discussion in Room 24 of the Library Learning Commons
Topic of discussion is student writing. Bring assignments, sample papers and ideas. Discussion will center on what works, what doesn't work, and what might make teaching writing easier and more effective.

NOVEMBER 10 (Monday), 4-6 p.m.
Faculty Book Proposal Workshop in the Ratzow Dining Room
Bring your publishing projects to this workshop where faculty members Dr. Lilly Goren and Susan Nusser will show you how to turn your ideas into book proposals for both academic and commercial publishers.

NOVEMBER 14 (Friday), 1-2 p.m.
Faculty Roundtable Discussion in Library Learning Commons study room TBA
Topic of discussion is student writing. Bring assignments, sample papers and ideas. Discussion will center on what works, what doesn't work, and what might make teaching writing easier and more effective.

New in the Learning Commons

By *Brittany Bayer*
Learning Commons Assistant

To better support the needs of Carroll students, the library Learning Commons has undergone some changes:

- A new coat of paint.
- New lighting (much easier on the eyes!).
- More clocks.
- More furniture (no more fighting over the last comfy sofa!).
- 10 general laptops that can circulate to any Carroll student.
- Science manipulatives. We have model skeletons, ears, eyes, magnetic cells and much more! These items can be checked out by content tutors and SI leaders only and will be used to provide a more visual education for Carroll students.

We hope you enjoy the many changes and welcome you back to the Learning Commons!

Todd Wehr Memorial Library
100 N. East Avenue
Waukesha, WI 53186

Circulation Desk: 262.524.7175

Reference Desk: 262.650.4892

Coffee Shop: 262.951.3006

Library Fax: 262.524.7377

LIBRARY HOME PAGE:

<http://divisions.carrollu.edu/library/>

LIBRARY MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the library is to satisfy the informational needs of students by providing an environment that fosters academic excellence, and by providing services that help students develop the sophisticated informational skills required for lifelong learning.

BY THE NUMBERS:

By *Meg Rein*

Access Services Assistant and ILL Manager

Number of student workshops offered
this fall in the Learning Commons 17

Number of databases available
through the library's Web page 86

Number of Learning Commons tutors ready
to assist students in specific content areas
(accounting, biology, chemistry, economics,
history, music; also conversation leaders for
international students) 11

Number of Writing Center Assistants ready
to help students with their papers 10

Number of math peer tutors ready
to assist students 10

Number of Supplemental Instruction
(SI) leaders in the Learning Commons 22

Number of courses offering Supplemental
Instruction this fall 5 courses, 13 sections

Number of student employees working for
the Todd Wehr Memorial Library (SI lead-
ers, content tutors, writing assistants, math
tutors, classroom monitors, technical serv-
ices assistants, circulation desk assistants, and
Learning Commons helpdesk assistants)

115

Marian the Librarian

Dear Marian,

I saw something crazy in the Learning Commons yesterday. To my right, I saw a biology tutor walking around with a giant eye-ball in one hand. To my left, I saw an SI leader walking around with a skeleton. Did someone raid a Halloween shop? What is going on?

Sincerely,
Seeing Skeletons

Dear Seeing Skeletons,

Don't fear! These aren't ghoulish gadgets you are seeing, The Learning Commons recently purchased a variety of science manipulatives. What is a manipulative, you ask? They are physical objects that can be used to assist in the learning process. For instance, we now have two mini model skeletons, 3-D plant and animal cells, a model brain and much more. We even have materials to construct atoms and magnetic cells. The manipulatives will be placed on LC Reserve and stored in the Learning Commons Reserve Room behind the LC Information Desk. While they will only be checked out to SI leaders and content tutors, Carroll students will have an opportunity to interact with them while attending tutor or SI sessions. Please enjoy the new additions!

Surrounded by skeletons and loving it,
Marian the Librarian



Marian the Librarian