THE DIRECTOR’S CORNER

By Lelan McLemore
Director of Library Services
Professor of Politics

The central mission of Carroll’s library, to serve the informational needs of students, is straightforward, but challenging. Partly, this is because these needs are always changing as new majors are added and old ones are dropped, as programs revise their curricula, and as courses are revised. Partly, it is because of excessive increases in the cost of books, journals and databases that put a strain the library’s budget. For example, in the past 25 years, the cost of institutional subscriptions to journals has increased by about 325 percent—more than four times the increase in the consumer price index during this period.

I believe that Carroll has responded well to challenges to the library’s mission. The administration has continued its stellar support of the library with increased funding for materials. The library’s liaison system that links professional librarians to academic departments helps librarians stay in touch with the changing curriculum. The faculty is helpful and supportive of the library’s efforts to give students the sources they need. And finally, the library’s practice of carefully tracking the usage of library materials allows us to drop unused databases and journals, and add needed new ones.

In short, the mission is demanding, but remains vital; its achievement will always be a work in progress.

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iPhone/iPod Literary Apps and Public Domain

By Brittany Larson
Learning Commons Librarian and SI Supervisor

It’s no longer a surprise that there is an app for everything. There are apps that cook digital French toast and apps that allow me to throw angry birds at green pigs (by the way, the app is called Angry Birds and will destroy your productivity in one stroke).

I recently came across an app called Classic Books. It has many complete works, ranging from Lewis Carroll’s “Alice in Wonderland” to Sun Tzu’s “The Art of War” and more. It is separated by genre and text-searchable. This in itself is not unique. There are many similar apps, and many more online websites that host a similar range of books (Project Gutenberg, Googlebooks, etc).

I noticed a comment under the ratings of this app that said the poster liked it, but wished there were more current works available. Free literary apps will most likely only have work published from 1923 and earlier. This is because the works are in public domain (meaning that the intellectual property rights have expired and the work can be reproduced, posted and otherwise shared without the need for approval by the creator).

There are exceptions, but, in general, works in the United States can go into public domain 70 years after the author’s death. For corporate creations, the work goes into public domain 95 years from the date of publication or 120 years from the date of creation. There are literary apps out there with more recent publications, but you will have to pay for the pleasure. So don’t rate free literary apps poorly due to a lack of recent publications. It’s not their fault. It’s the law.

Linda Hartig Retires

By Sue Riehl
Public and Technical Services Librarian

Linda Hartig, a member of the library’s staff for almost 14 years, retired at the end of January. Linda joined the library staff in March 1997, after working at the Golda Meir Library at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee as music librarian. Linda’s contributions to the library and Carroll University were varied throughout her years here. She has been responsible for editing as well as overseeing the Library Currents newsletter for numerous years. She was the library liaison for several disciplines. Originally hired to be the cataloging librarian, she transitioned into the library’s head of reference several years ago. Linda and her husband Hugo plan to move to Oregon. The staff of the library wishes to thank Linda for her many contributions to the library and to Carroll University, and we wish her well in retirement.
New to the Learning Commons

By Allison Reeves Grabowski
Learning Commons Director

Kathleen Volk has been hired as the student services coordinator for the Learning Commons. She will supervise the Math Center and the Subject Tutoring Program, and will be responsible for providing academic workshops to students.

Kathleen is a graduate of Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. After graduating from Loras, Kathleen earned a Master of Arts degree in British and American literature at Marquette University. During her graduate program at Marquette, Kathleen was a teaching assistant for the English Department and a seminar leader for the freshmen program.

Kathleen comes to us from Concordia University in Mequon, where she was assistant director of the Learning Resource Center for three years.

Kristy Black is a 2010 Carroll graduate and our new Learning Commons assistant. Kristy earned a Bachelor of Science degree in communication and worked as a peer educator in the Learning Commons.

Kathleen and Kristy joined the library staff at the end of February. We look forward to working with Kathleen and Kristy to improve services for students. Please feel welcome to drop by their offices in the Learning Commons.

What's New with the Archives?

By Lani Kleczka
Business and Archives Manager

The Carroll University Archives has recently re-visited its collection policy and implemented a new donation policy. Going forward, all donations to the archives will require a signed Deed of Gift form for all external donations. A signed Records Transfer form will be required for internal donations. Internal donations are defined as donations to the archives from other departments on campus. The new policy was implemented to ensure that the archives' contents align with the Archives Mission Statement. The form requirement will also ensure a more formal tracking system to help in the identification and future use of items. As always, the Carroll University Archives maintains a commitment to the campus community to provide access to materials that preserve the university's history.

With the new collecting policy also comes an initiative of reorganization in the archives. The creation of finding aids will begin this spring. The finding aids will allow a descriptive contents outline that will assist researchers in locating materials. The ultimate goal is to improve the accessibility of materials that, in turn, will increase the efficiency of responding to research requests.

New to the Library?

By Nancy Bennett
Electronic Resources and Systems Librarian

Are you new to Carroll University? What about the Todd Wehr Memorial library? Don't be nervous; I am, too. I began work here in August, but, in some ways, I still feel like the new kid on the block. The start of the new calendar year and the spring term felt completely different than the start of the fall term and an academic year. I had so many questions back then, but with four whole months under my belt, I thought this time around it would be easier. Guess what? It wasn't. I just have a bunch of brand new questions.

The start of new classes can be nerve-wracking, but don't despair because there is plenty of support at Carroll. Check out the library's website at http://divisions.carrollu.edu/library/ to see all that we have to offer. Come visit us and we'll assist you anyway we can. Trust me, librarians love to help people.
New Library Noise Levels

Studying for a big exam? Maybe you need total silence.

Meeting a group from class to work on a project? Maybe you need space where you can talk with your group members and not disturb everyone around you.

Not sure what level of volume is OK where? Next time you’re in the library, look for colored stickers on tables. These stickers will tell you what kind of noise level is appropriate for the area that in which you’re studying. We want to make sure that all students have the best place to study.

**RED** stickers mean silent study. This includes the Reading Room and the individual desks in the library stacks in the Reading Room and on the mezzanine. This means no conversation, no whispering, no group study and no phones.

**ORANGE** stickers mean whispering is OK. This includes most of the second floor and means no group studying, phones need to be off or set to silent, and if you use your laptop or MP3 player, you need to use headphones.

**YELLOW** stickers mean low talking. This includes the Information Commons, the CMC and the area on the second floor right outside the archives. Small group study and normal conversation is OK, but phones should be set to silent or off, and you should use headphones with your music or laptop.

**BLUE** stickers mean academic conversation. This includes all the group study rooms and the Learning Commons. Phones should still be off or set to silent, but group conversational noise and laptop noise is fine.

**GREEN** stickers mean that any level of noise is OK. This only includes the Second Cup Coffee Shop and the library lobby. Phones are OK, all conversation levels are allowed.

Please look for this signage and respect your fellow students by following the guidelines. Students have different study needs at different times, and we strive to provide a place in the library to accommodate everyone.

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WorkForce 2011 Career, Internship and Graduate School Fair

A total of 142 employers attended the WorkForce Career, Internship and Graduate School Fair on Thursday, Feb. 17, 2011, at Marquette University's Alumni Memorial Union. WorkForce is an annual career fair that Carroll University's Career Center and 20 other private colleges host for all Wisconsin private college students and alumni.

Of the 142 employers, there were 82 private sector businesses, seven financial services, 16 government organizations, 15 graduate schools, 19 nonprofits and three staffing firms recruiting for job, internship and graduate school opportunities.

A total of 1,016 students and alumni attended the event. One student wrote on his event evaluation form, "It was great. In 45 minutes, I got two interviews." Another student wrote, "Overall, I think the event was great – lots of available career and internship opportunities out there."

These students' comments seem to be an accurate reflection of available employment opportunities. There are a number of employers looking to hire Carroll University students for paid internships and full-time jobs. A recent employer survey reported plans to hire 13.5 percent more new bachelor's graduates from the Class of 2011 than from the Class of 2010 (NACE, 2010). This is very positive news.

If you know Carroll students or alumni looking for help with internships, job searches or career development, encourage them to contact Deb Weber, Director of Career Services, dweber@carrollu.edu or Torrie Boduch, Career Services Adviser, tboduch@carrollu.edu.

Foreign Language Apps for the iPhone/iPod Touch

Yes, there is an app for that. There is an app that can cook digital French toast, so of course there are reference tools to translate your every thought and desire into multiple languages. But are mobile device language apps trustworthy?

The tricky thing with online language tools is that they are sometimes right, but often enough range from a little bit to a lot wrong. The clincher is that you have to be proficient in the language to spot these errors, and, let's face it, you wouldn't be using the app if you were. That makes these apps dangerous, especially if you plan on putting your language skills to use.

It takes a lot of work to be perfect at a language. And more often than not a mobile app cannot provide the current vocabulary, grammar and sentence structure correctly at the same time.

A foreign language app might be good enough to help you limp through a country if you are stranded with no knowledge of the native tongue, but be aware that there will be errors and strange looks coming your way. For academics, where you must do more than limp along, there is a better way.

Want a language reference tool you can trust? The library has language dictionaries, grammar books and fiction with which to sharpen your skills. Rosetta Stone is also available for free.

By the Numbers:

By Meg Rein

Learning Commons Manager and Facilities Liaison

Fall 2010 semester
Visits to the library 170,433
Books, CDs, DVDs checked out 8,325
Items checked out via interlibrary loan 534
Busiest times 10 a.m.-noon; 7-9 p.m.
Busiest evenings Monday, Wednesday
Career Center peer-to-peer sessions 56
SI sessions 727
Subject tutoring sessions 616
Math center tutoring sessions 495
Writing center sessions 316

Spring 2011 semester
Writing Center assistants 13
LC desk student assistants 29
SI leaders 21
Career fellows 7
Student workers 182

Marian the Librarian

Dear Marian,

My dad went to Carroll and I heard he had a unique yearbook picture. He told me Carroll used to have a yearbook called the Hinakaga, but he won't show it to me because he is afraid I will post it on Facebook. Can you find it for me?

Sincerely,

Big Plans for Facebook

Dear Big Plans,

Carroll did, indeed, have a yearbook called the Hinakaga. It ran from 1910-2000. Much of Carroll’s history (and your father’s pictures) can be found there. Luckily for you (and not so fortunate for your father), the library has digitized all of the Carroll Hinakaga editions and they are available to view online 24/7. Go to the library homepage, click on Collections, then Digital Collections and you will be able to see the entire Carroll yearbook collection.

Regards to your dad and Facebook,

Marian the Librarian