



Library Currents

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Library Instruction Opens to Students. January 25th the library instruction room opened its doors as a writing and research lab. The instruction room will be open Sunday through Friday from 2PM until 9PM. This schedule is subject to change when library instruction is scheduled. A weekly schedule will be posted indicating the open hours and class times. Eighteen PCs are available for searching the library databases, checking email, and typing papers. In addition, limited reference and writing help is available in the classroom.

Krisy Edenharder will staff the room. Krisy, a Carroll College graduate and Waukesha native, recently joined the Library staff as a full time Instructional Services Assistant. Krisy graduated from Carroll in 1998 with a double major in History and English with a minor in secondary education. In the two years since graduation, Krisy has worked as both a corporate trainer and an account executive in yellow pages advertising. Her primary role in the library will be to facilitate and supervise the development of the new Instructional Services classroom on site. Krisy will be in the classroom every week from Sunday through Thursday (2-9pm). Stop by to say hello.

W. Norman FitzGerald Collection. Refurbished MacAllister Hall is the new showcase for Carroll College's W. Norman FitzGerald Collection and the Institute for Civil War Studies. The holding of 5,000 books, pamphlets, maps, documents and other items includes the papers of General Rufus King and his son, Charles King, a soldier and popular author, as well as correspondence from authors Bruce Catton, Douglas Southall Freeman and Gone With The Wind's Margaret Mitchell.

The institute occupies the first floor of MacAllister Hall; a research center is on the lower level. History and English faculty offices are on the second and third floors of the building.

The collection, which was moved to the new facility last summer, had been housed in the Carroll Library since it was acquired in 1972. The historic three-story mansion now looks much like it did when it was built more than a century ago for the family of Waukesha lumber dealer George Wilbur. The new identification is to recognize the generosity of Pershing and Becky MacAllister of Indianapolis in renovating the building. It previously was Morgan Manor.

The move to the new facility is an effort to continue to develop the collection as a resource for students and scholars. The Institute regularly sponsors tours, speaker programs and special classes. More than 150 people, some from as far away as Manitowoc and Baraboo, regularly attend the institute's Certificate in Civil War Studies classes. Fifteen students have earned certificates and five others have been awarded advanced certificates. Researchers and students also contact the institute seeking information on various Civil War Topics.

The institute recently was cited on the History Channel's Civil War Journal and is credited with providing photos for several recent Time-Life books. It was also featured at an American Studies presentation at Cambridge University in England, at the Wisconsin Sesquicentennial celebration in Madison, and on recent public television offerings. A highlight of last year was the discovery of a series of extremely rare letters from Caroline Quarrells, Waukesha County's most famous runaway slave.

In the past two years ago, the Institute has received donations of 3,500 books and publications including several dozen anti-slavery newspapers. Recent book gifts include Frank Leslie's Illustrated History of the Civil War, several bound volumes of the Century Magazine, and a reprint of the 128-volume Official Records of the War of Rebellion. Other additions include swords, accoutrements and badges as well as more than 50 unpublished 1861-65 era photographs and more than 60 journals, diaries and letter collections.

FitzGerald, who died in 1971, was a prominent Milwaukee insurance executive who had a life-long interest in the Civil War. He served as a member of the National Civil War Centennial Commission, the Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission, and as a curator of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. He was one of the first members of The Civil War Round Table of Chicago and in 1947 founded The Civil War Round Table of Milwaukee, the second oldest such group in the nation.

Books for Tots. During the weeks before Christmas, the Todd Wehr Memorial Library sponsored a "Books for Tots" drive in cooperation with the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. Thanks to the very generous response from the Carroll Community, a total of 195 new children's books were collected. The books were distributed to families throughout the Waukesha area through the local Salvation Army, one of many service agencies that assist the U.S. Marine Corps in their annual drive. It was exciting to see the wonderful selections of children's books as they were dropped into the collection box in the lobby each day. Many books were childhood classics (Dr. Seuss, Where the Wild Things Are, Charlotte's Web) as well as many new favorites (The Polar Express, "Little Critter" books). Thank you to all who participated in the book drive. We hope to do another next Christmas season!

Who was Todd Wehr? The 1998/99 renovation of the library brought a new name to the campus when the designation “Todd Wehr Memorial Library” appeared over the expanded entryway.

The Todd Wehr Foundation is named for C. Fredric “Todd” Wehr, the former chairman of the Wehr Steel Company of Milwaukee. He died in 1965 and endowed the foundation with his estate.

The foundation gives to local educational institutions with emphasis on private higher education. Classroom buildings, dormitories, theatres, and libraries bear the Wehr name on every college and university campus in Wisconsin. The foundation was one of four local organizations founding the Discovery World science, economics and technology museum for children in Milwaukee.

Want to Verify a Web Site? You have reached a web site with information that appears to be useful, timely, and authoritative. The individual or organization providing the information is not predominately displayed in the web address or on the site’s homepage.

Go to www.allwhois.com, one of several sites that lets you run a “who is” search. Type in the Web address, and it will list the name of the individual or organization responsible for the site along with address and telephone number.

As information from the web becomes more a part of academic research, it becomes crucial that its source and authority be verified and that we pass this habit of examining sources on to younger researchers.

A Day, Week, or Month for Everything in the New Millennium. Calendar Zone, www.calendarzone.com, is a site with extensive links leading you to hundreds of calendars organized by subject, including religious, historic and geographic topics. With so many calendars, every day is cause for celebration of something.

Books for the Millennium. Important and favorite books of the 20th Century are displayed in the lobby through the end of the month. Special thanks to the twenty-five faculty and staff who contributed nominations and shared their thoughts on these important books. A bibliography of the titles is also available at the Circulation Desk.

From the Carroll College Archives. Recent additions to the Archives include three scrapbooks, photographs, and memorabilia from the estate of Jean “Teach” Kilgour, professor of physical education, 1926-1969.

Encouraging Students To Create A Working Bibliography In An Online Research Environment

Remember Advanced Composition? Remember your numbered note cards with meticulously written quotes and paraphrases taken from library books and journal articles? With the ease of access to information online, you don’t see many college students traveling with 3x5 card boxes anymore. More often students are carrying multiple printouts from full-text journals or web

pages. The convenience of printing information from online sources is not worth arguing about—students want full-text. But, where is the methodology for organizing the bits and pieces of information students pull from each source and incorporate with their own ideas and arguments in a research paper? Where is the research/writing process?

The absence of the 3x5 card box as an organizational tool for research has led to three epidemic problems in the college online research environment:

- The printing epidemic

- The disconnected research paper problem

- The plagiarism epidemic

A simple solution to these problems can be found on most campuses by incorporating word-processing into the research process.

Printing

The largest growth area in the collection at the Todd Wehr Memorial Library has been in access to online full-text resources. As laser printing has become widely and freely available and the processing speed of our computers has increased, students can find and print information quickly. In this era, finding and printing information quickly seems like a fine objective. Observing students with stacks and stacks of articles they had printed, I was surprised when one such student asked for help finding more information. I asked him what sources he had found already that were useful. The reply was simply that he hadn't really used the printed information, or even read it thoroughly, but that there might be a need for these printouts at some point. The possible future need this student identified is often coupled with a fear that good information may never be found again. It becomes clear that students are not printing because what they have found will be useful in their research. In fact, printing a twenty-five page article does not necessarily mean the student will even read the article.

Part of this problem can be solved by helping students become more comfortable with online search techniques. The basics of online searching will help them find the information they want without just stumbling over it. Another solution to this problem is encouraging students to store the information they think will be valuable in a working bibliography. On our campus, students have access to the library catalog and the online indexes from any networked computer. The vast majority of these computers have standard word processing applications like MS Word, WordPerfect, Word Pad or Note Pad on them. With word-processing so readily available, all students need to do is open a new file and cut and paste their citations and abstracts into a Word document. Most of these computers are also hardy enough to allow the user to keep more than one window open at one time and toggle back and forth quickly without waiting for each window to load.

Although the format of the clipped text may not align perfectly, once it is pasted it can be edited quickly. Popular indexes like IAC, EBSCO, and FirstSearch generally give three options for retrieving citations, abstracts and full-text: print, email and save. The print option simply reformats the citation, abstract or full-text so that it can be printed easily from the browser's print option. Once the screen is reformatted, it can be cut and pasted into a Word document. Emailing a document is an excellent option for students who are not prepared with disks for saving their citations. Again, once these emailed citations are delivered, the student has the option of cutting

and pasting them into a working bibliography. The email option is often desirable because the student does not run the risk of losing data that is not translated between the library's word processing and the word processing on the student's personal computer. This is also important because the library relies on a Windows Operating System and students may use the Mac Operating System for their personal computers. Many faculty also use Macs in their offices. Using email to collect citations allows the researcher to reformat them into a working bibliography on the computer and operating system that will be used to do the majority of the word processing. The final option, saving a marked list of citations, is an excellent idea, but the lack of assurance that the disk will be readable from one computer to the next often stops people from saving directly to a floppy. On our campus, students and faculty also have the option of saving information directly to a folder on their Windows NT user profile.

Disconnected Research Papers

There are rumblings from our teaching faculty about the quality of student research papers. We have no doubt that students are finding information, because we have the printing epidemic to prove that they are using library resources. So where is the disconnect between finding information and actually writing a good paper? Perhaps it is in the 3x5 card box that is no longer used. The 3x5 card box was the place where students recorded what they had learned from each information source. Each card represented a specific thought, fact or new idea the student had gleaned from a book or a journal. You rarely see students "taking note" of what they read on a web site. Students are more likely to print or photocopy the information they need, and in the best-case scenario, they will annotate or highlight the text.

Annotating and highlighting may be proof that the student has actually read the information, and indeed, for lengthy articles, reading from a printed copy is more comfortable than reading from the screen. But, by reading, annotating and adding notes to a working bibliography, the student can begin to create an organized record of his or her thoughts on each source. In the age of the three by five card, after writing notes and quotations on each card, you could then arrange the cards in the order they would appear in the paper. So, if you were writing from an outline, you could find all the cards that supported your statements and lay them out in the order you would write about them.

Visually you could see which were your own ideas and conclusions and which were coming directly from your research sources. You might also be able to pick out parts of the paper that were obviously weaker than others and needed to be developed.

The same, basic method of integrating the writing and research processes is still possible in the online environment. After cutting and pasting their citations into a word processing file, students can number and arrange the sources in a way that lets them keep track of their sources and their notes. The first quote from the first source might be numbered 1a. and so on. If students can annotate on the printed copy of an article, they could also enter their notes into the working bibliography and begin collecting the information they are eventually going to write about. This short process takes the student one step closer to integrating the various sources they've read. If this working bibliography were paired up with a statement outline, the student can again cut and paste the supporting notes or quotations into the outline and begin drafting.

The Plagiarism Epidemic

The online research environment seems to have opened the door to a new wave of plagiarism problems. A larger problem is that often students do not know they are plagiarizing when they simply restate something they've read without providing the source of the information. Making students aware of plagiarism and how to avoid it is an important part of teaching them the ethics of research. One way of doing this might be to require students to turn in a working bibliography in which they list their sources immediately followed by the notes, quotations, or questions. Students might also be encouraged to think of this part of the process as writing down what they have learned from each source. Anytime they have learned something new, they should give proper credit to that source in the final paper. This gives students the opportunity to separate their own arguments and conclusions from the information gleaned through research.

Developing the research habit of writing from a working bibliography will teach students to use technology to do better research and writing. In this case, technology is actually used to engage the critical thinking skills students need to be effective writers and researchers.

Additional Information

Basic guidelines for creating a working bibliography can be found in the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 5th ed.

New Books. A list of all newly purchased books cataloged during January is attached to the electronic version of this issue of **Library Currents** and is available on the library's webpage by selecting "Recent Acquisitions."