

Library Currents



New in the Collection



Coming Soon to the Library — Leisure Reading

Carroll College Library will soon start providing a small collection of popular fiction and non-fiction books for students, staff and faculty. These books will be leased rather than purchased and will stay in the library for only a limited time.

Book leasing plans like this are common in public libraries. They can provide multiple copies of bestsellers for patrons without libraries actually buying them for their

permanent collections. The plans are gaining popularity in academic libraries as a way to provide current fiction for students and also have "hot topic" non-fiction items students can use in their research. Most of the books will stay in the library six months to a year. After that they will be returned to the book supplier for new titles, so there should always be a selection of current best-selling books. The library also has the option to purchase any of

the books that are wanted for the permanent collection at a greatly reduced fee.

Leased books come labeled and barcoded, ready for checking out. The lease price is usually far below the purchase price of the item. The library picks the books they want from lists which include authors like Stephen King, Joyce Carol Oates, Ken Follett, Tom Clancy, Barbara Kingsolver, Anne Rice and Maeve Binchy. Non-fiction titles to choose from include

...continued on pg. 3

Volume 3, Issue 6

April 15, 2001



"Most of the books will stay in the library six months to a year... so there should always be a selection of current best-selling books."

From Instructional Services

What is Library Instruction? What can faculty expect?

The Todd Wehr Memorial Library offers library instruction ranging in scope from a one hour hands-on instruction session for term papers to librarian-faculty collaboration on assignments that add information competency to student learning outcomes.

A typical one hour

hands-on session includes an overview of key research tools for students, tailored to the course research assignment. Emphasis is also placed on essential skills for modern research such as online search techniques, critical selection of research materials, database basics, and bibliography building. These sessions

generally allow time for students to practice their skills and begin their literature searches with librarian assistance.

Instructors teaching courses that include lab time are strongly encouraged to devote time over the course of the semester to library research. This approach

...continued on pg. 3



On the Inside:	
<i>From the Reference Department</i>	2
<i>From the College Archives</i>	2
<i>New in the Collection</i>	3
<i>From Instructional Services</i>	3
<i>Celebrate Poetry</i>	4
<i>From the Civil War Institute</i>	5

From the Reference Department



Statistics on the Web

The federal government is the largest statistical gathering organization in the world. They published the first edition of the venerable and indispensable Statistical Abstract of the United States in 1878.

Today, statistics from 100 federal agencies are available from a single web site. FEDSTATS (www.fedstats.gov) offers easy access to population, income, employment, labor, education, health, energy and social statistics.

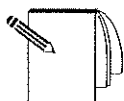
Access choices include: by subject, by geographical place (national, state, county, city), or by name of the agency. Agencies include the Center for Disease Control, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Reserve Board, and the National Cancer Institute, just to name a few.

Adobe Acrobat Reader is necessary to access larger files of information, and a few international statistics are also available.

A new Census Bureau site (factfinder.census.gov) offers population, housing, and economic data from 1990 and 2000 census reports. Included here are also many special tables that will be important for the redistricting of legislative districts.

Both sites are easy to navigate and offer pull-down displays for making search choices. Dealing with the government should always be this easy.

Tracking the Questions



No two days at the Reference Desk are alike. Assignments on emerging topics, new teaching styles and techniques, and new modes of information access are routine variables in the library environment today.

To monitor the volume and nature of questions coming from library users, the staff keeps a log of activity at the Reference Desk during one typical week each semester.

This semester, we conducted the survey the last week of March when library patrons asked 235 questions. A quarter of them asked for specific information or advice on how to search for specific information. Another

quarter asked for assistance on the PioPac catalog and other online databases.

More questions were asked on Wednesdays (24%) than any other day of the week. 13.5% of the questions came on weekends, and 10% were asked between the hours of 4 and 6 p.m. when a high number of professional studies students do research before their evening classes.

The goal of evaluating any aspect of library service is the improvement of our service. This twice-annual survey at the Reference Desk identifies the types of questions being asked and periods of high and low activity. Results can be used to strengthen the

Reference Collection by revealing subjects not included now in the collection, to modify staff scheduling patterns at the desk, to identify topics for staff education programs, and to set future objectives for areas to be improved in our reference service.

Staff members are accustomed to the variety and sometimes off-the-wall quality of questions from our patrons. ("What was the china pattern used at the Boston Tea Party?") The fact that no two days are alike is one reason we are in this profession. However, there is one plea for help that brings us down to the reality of providing our patrons' most basic needs: "The printer is out of paper!"

From the College Archives



Call for Publications

Books and articles authored by members of the Carroll College faculty form a unique collection within the Special Collections of the Library.

This year we received publications from Elena DeCosta (book review), Linda Hartig (article in the Grove

music encyclopedia), Scott Johnston (three articles), Deirdre Keenan (article), Kristin Miller (article), Joe Piatt (four articles), and Michael Schuder (8 articles). Thanks to these individuals for helping us document faculty activity.

Please send your future publications, or bibliographic citations for them, to Jim Van Ess at the Library. Thank You.

New in the Collection



Coming Soon to the Library — Leisure Reading

continued from front page...

current biographies like Maestro by Bob Woodward, and It's Not About the Bike by Lance Armstrong. Other titles include VISA: The Power of an Idea by Paul Chutkow, In the Heart of the Sea by Nathaniel Philbrick, and Flags of Our Fathers by James Bradley.

These plans are often known as McNoughton Plans, named after Nelson McNoughton of Altoona, PA. "The way it worked was McNoughton supplied the books, and the storekeeper lent them for a nickel or so a day. McNoughton would get part of the money and the storekeeper would keep

part of it," said Art Brody, founder of Brodart Co.

The service grew in the 1950s from drugstores to libraries. "As a result, McNoughton and I became 50/50 partners in the library part of the business. He agreed to get rid of the rest. When Nelson retired, McNoughton became a division of Brodart. We still do a lot of McNoughton business. It eliminates a library's problem in selecting certain books...More important, McNoughton gives them an edge, in that we can sell the used books, and they'd don't pile up in the library after their popularity

wanes. If they really want the book they keep it." *

The library will start the service by the beginning of Fall semester. The books will be located near the New Book area in the coffee shop. And borrowers of the books will not be charged even a nickel.

* Berry, John N. "Fifty Years with Libraries; an Interview with Brodart's Art Brody.." *Library Journal* (1989): p 83.

From Instructional Services



What is Library Instruction? What can faculty expect?

continued from front page...

allows students time to practice their skills and to learn more about "dry" research as a dynamic process.

Instructors teaching junior and senior level research courses are encouraged to meet with their library liaison and/or the Instructional Services Librarian to set up a program of library instruction that enriches the goals of the course over the course of the semester or multiple research courses in the major. This approach will allow us to build in skills and competencies at the time students need them, rather than expecting students to learn all the skills and tools necessary to complete a high quality research project in a single hour. At a minimum, this allows us to avoid duplicating the same information from

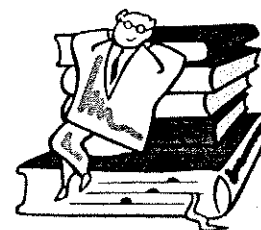
semester to semester when more than one faculty member is teaching in the research core.

Library Liaisons are also available to assist in planning course objectives and develop specific information-focused learning outcomes and measurements that can be included in the course syllabus. Again we encourage faculty teaching in research cores to seek librarian collaboration.

Along with planning learning outcomes, librarians can also offer assistance with creating assignments. Often it is helpful to consult the library before creating research assignments to find out what areas of study the library can support most effectively. It is also helpful to get librarian input on how to get the most learning out of

assignments that ask students to use research.

More information on information competency is available from the Association of College and Research Libraries' *Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education*. (<http://www.ala.org/acrl/ilcomstan.html>)



Celebrate Poetry



April is National Poetry Month

by Becky Steffes

Poetry is...

"the spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings...recollected in tranquility."
— William Wordsworth

"the innermost core of language."
— Dylan Thomas

"[that which] redeems from decay the visitations of the divinity in man."
— Percy Shelley

"the human soul entire, squeezed like a lemon or a lime, drop by drop, into atomic words."
— Langston Hughes

"imaginary gardens with real toads in them"
— Marianne Moore

"a psuedo-person. Like a person it is unique and addresses the reader personally"
— W. H. Auden

"metaphor, saying one thing and meaning another"
— Robert Frost

But how is one to read a poem? "Ecstatically," writes Edwin Hirsch in a recent book ([How to Read a Poem and Fall in Love with Poetry](#), New York : Harcourt Brace & Co., c1999). "Reading poetry," he adds, "is an adventure in renewal, a creative act, a perpetual beginning, a rebirth of wonder." Now Hirsch suggests that poetry is to be read in the middle of the night under a single lamp in an otherwise dark room.

While I am not opposed to such nocturnal renewals, I prefer reading poetry in the company of others. Which is why **I am inviting you to a poetry reading at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 26 in the Library coffee bar.**

Please come and share with us the poem you most enjoy reading. Or if listening to poetry is what you find more pleasurable, then simply come and listen as some of us share our favorite poems. Perhaps you will find, as Seamus Heaney did, that poetry is "an answer to the conditions of the world given in poetry's own terms rather than the language of uplift."

And now, I want to give you a preview of what you will enjoy. Here is what I will read:



Corners on the Curving Sky

by Gwendolyn Brooks

Our earth is round, and, among other things
That means that you and I can hold completely different
Points of view and both be right.
The difference of our positions will show
Stars in your window. I cannot even imagine.
Your sky may burn with light,
While mine, at the same moment,
Spreads beautiful to darkness.
Still, we must choose how we separately corner
The circling universe of our experience
Once chosen, our cornering will determine
The message of any star and darkness we encounter.



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



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

**Check out our Library homepage at:
www.cc.edu/library**

From the Civil War Institute

Gettysburg Diorama Now on Display

A battle of Gettysburg diorama built to mark Wisconsin participation in the Civil War Centennial in 1961-1965 is now on a new permanent display platform at the Institute for Civil War Studies in MacAllister Hall.

The display features hundreds of miniature figures depicting the charge of the Iron Brigade the morning of July 1, 1863 during the opening infantry action of the epic three-day battle. The famous Union fighting organization included the 2nd, 6th, 7th Wisconsin, 19th Indiana and 24th Michigan Infantry.

It is the only publicly displayed diorama of the first day's action at Gettysburg.

The exhibit was built in the late 1950s and put on display in the Grand Army of the Republic Memorial Hall in the State Capitol in 1961.

The diorama was viewed by hundreds of thousands of Wisconsin

school children before it was put in storage in 1992 when the museum moved to a new facility out of the capitol building. It was given to the Carroll College Institute of Civil War Studies in 1997 and was first put back on public display last year on a temporary table.

The new display platform was constructed and painted by the college's Physical Plant personnel. It was completed late in March, according to Institute Director Lance J. Herdegen.

"They did a wonderful job in making the platform. It was a difficult project because of the unusual shape of the diorama, which is in the shape of a crescent," he said.

The exhibit shows the charge of the 6th Wisconsin on the unfinished railroad cut while the four other Iron Brigade regiments charge through McPherson's Woods. The successful action is credited with delaying the Confederate advance to Gettysburg and

allowing the Federal army to secure the key defensive position south of town.

The Iron Brigade went into the action with 1,833 soldiers and rallied that evening of July 1, 1863 with just 491. It suffered the highest percentage of battle deaths of any brigade at Gettysburg.



The diorama is now on display at the Institute for Civil War Studies in MacAllister hall.