



Library Newswire

Spring 2010, Issue 2

Library Newswire is a quarterly online publication created by the CSI Library. Library Newswire informs the college community of current events, new services, and resources that relate to the CSI Library.

Editor: [Prof. Mark Aaron Polger](#), Instruction/ Reference Librarian

Greetings from the Chief Librarian



Greetings and Happy New Year!

There is much to report since you last heard from me in the Fall 2009 edition of this newsletter. First and foremost, as you have just read the title, the newsletter now has a name, *Library Newswire*. Many thanks to all who took the poll.

This issue holds several exciting articles for you to explore, but before you skip over to the articles, let me share some breaking news with you, hot off my desk. In response to the growing users of [Chat Reference](#), a new service that debuted last summer, we are expanding its hours of service from ending at 5:00pm to 11:00pm on weekdays.

Last fall, [Course Reserves](#) experienced a surge in users as the [CUNY Financial Aid Textbook Initiative](#) injected over 600 new textbooks into the Library. In addition, due to popular demand for calculators and laptops, we have increased the number of calculators from 10 to 30 and the laptops from 35 to 50. Wireless users will be pleased to note that the 1L building also received a boost 26 receptors this January, from a meager 6.

Be sure to explore the new databases we acquired last Fall. They include: [ebrary](#) (a collection of 50,000 academic e-books), [Web of Knowledge](#) (a database for the Humanities, Sciences, and Social Sciences, includes [Web of Science](#) and [Journal Citation Reports](#), a citation analysis database), and [Access World News](#) (a collection of sources from national and international news media agencies, i.e. newspapers, television and radio news transcripts, etc.).

If you have not discovered our [Research Guides](#), please check them out. Find your discipline and revel in the wealth of resources we have acquired to support your learning, research, and teaching at CSI. If there is one you need that is not on the list, do not hesitate to send me the title so that we can respond better to your needs.

Which brings me to report briefly on the library survey we embarked upon last fall. Many thanks to all who attempted and completed the survey. Preliminary review of the data from students shows some interesting spikes: 40% of the respondents use the library primarily for a "quiet place to read or study"; 26% "to use the computers or laptops; and 21% to "find a course textbook or books and articles for research."

Surprisingly, a recurring statement in the open-ended responses show students asking for the Library to "block Facebook" so that they may gain access to PCs to complete their assignment. Other requests topping the list: enforcing the silent zone on the third floor and expanded hours of the library beyond 11pm. On the other hand, 67% of the faculty respondents, use the library primarily to "find books and articles for their research." Not surprisingly, selective research resources topped the list of needs for faculty. However, it appears that more communication between library and the academic departments is needed so as to better inform faculty of resources the owned by the CSI Library. A full report will be given in the next newsletter.

Meanwhile, as you settle into 2010, a new decade beginning in the 21st century, the year of the Tiger, let me wish you a year that's filled with new discoveries, exciting and successful projects, and all the information resources at your finger tips.

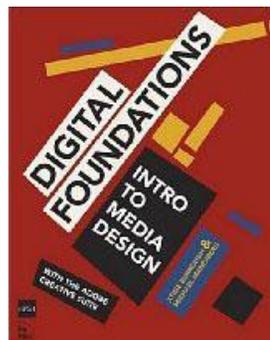
Cheers!

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CSI Author Talks

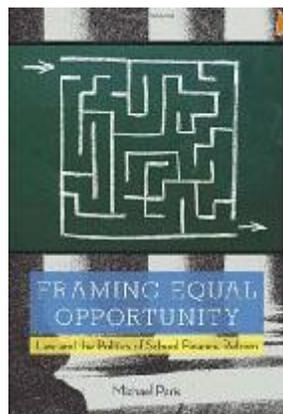
Wednesday, April 14, 2010 at 2:30 PM, Library 1L-216

The [Archives & Special Collections](#) unit of the Library is proud to host a series of **Author Talks** to give CSI authors an opportunity to discuss the research that went into their books.



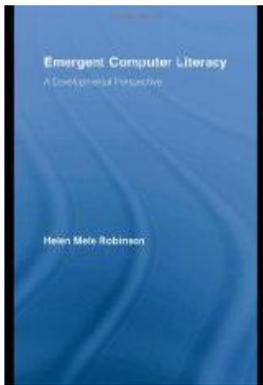
Michael Mandiberg Department of Media Culture
Digital Foundations: Intro to Media Design with the Adobe Creative Suite (with Xtine Burrough). Peachpit Press, 2008.

Digital Foundations uses formal exercises of the Bauhaus to teach the Adobe Creative Suite. All students of digital design and production—whether learning in a classroom or on their own—need to understand the basic principles of design in order to implement them using current software. Far too often design is left out of books that teach software for the trade and academic markets. Consequently, the design software training exercise is often a lost opportunity for visual learning. Digital Foundations reinvigorates software training by integrating Bauhaus formal design exercises inspired by the history of art and design into tutorials fusing design fundamentals and core Adobe Creative Suite methodologies. The result is a cohesive learning experience.



Michael Paris Department of Political Science, Economics, and Philosophy
Framing Equal Opportunity: Law and the Politics of School Finance Reform
Stanford University Press, 2010.

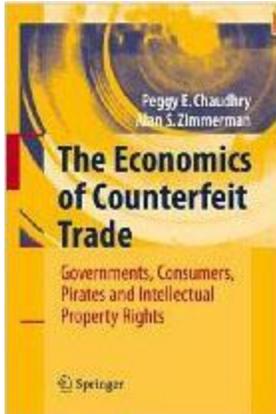
In the struggle to ensure that schools receive their fair share of financial and educational resources, reformers translate policy goals into legal claims in a number of different ways. This new work uncovers the options reformers have in framing legal challenges and how the choices they make affect politics and policy beyond the courtroom. *Framing Equal Opportunity* follows lawyers and activists in New Jersey and Kentucky as they negotiate the complicated political terrain of educational change in their respective states. This work emphasizes the importance of legal translation, the process through which reformers transform their visions and goals into plausible legal claims. The kinds of arguments lawyers choose to make matter not only to their success in the courtroom, but also to the nature of the political fights they face in the community at large.



Helen Mele Robinson Department of Education

Emergent Computer Literacy: A Developmental Perspective. Routledge, 2009.

The United States is currently grappling with how to prepare our students to be computer literate citizens in the competitive technological world in which we live. Understanding how children develop computer knowledge, and the ways that adults are able to guide their computer learning experiences, is a vital task facing parents and educators. This groundbreaking book is an attempt to fill a gap in current understanding of how we become computer literate and proposes a theory of how computer literacy skills emerge in computer users.



Alan Zimmerman Department of Business

The Economics of Counterfeit Trade: Governments, Consumers, Pirates and Intellectual Property Rights (with Peggy Chaudhry). Springer, 2009.

Walk down any main street in Shanghai, Paris or New York and you will see evidence of the counterfeit goods trade. Everyone has seen or heard of fake Prada bags or Omega watches. But how large is the counterfeit market? It appears that the same numbers have been quoted repeatedly in sources ranging from serious academic journals to the BBC to the Sydney Morning Herald. This is the first book to fully examine the size of the counterfeit market. Many authors have proposed actions to combat counterfeiting. Chaudhry and Zimmerman are the first to take a global look at the intellectual property environment using a research-based approach. This book also gives international business managers practical, tested tools they can use to combat piracy. These recommendations are based on the successful experience of managers wrestling with these problems every day. The book is based on solid research but written in an accessible style.

This event is co-sponsored by the Office of the Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs/Provost.

View a listing of other books discussed at [previous CSI Author Talks here](#).

Please note that this program is a Co-Curricular CLUE Event.

For more information about CSI Author Talks, please contact:

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Darwin Day Update

The Darwin Day event held in the CSI Library's Archives was a big success. The December 2nd symposium, which celebrated Charles Darwin and his lasting legacy, drew over 60 members of the College community, including a dynamic mix of students and faculty from various programs and departments. Many attendees were from CSI's STEAM initiative, a National Science Foundation-funded program, which also co-sponsored the event.

Gail Simmons, former Dean of the Science & Technology Division, introduced the guest speakers, which included Provost William Fritz, who discussed Darwin's early roots as Geologist and Prof. Frank Burbrink of the Biology Department who spoke on Darwin and the quest to conquer human disease.



Representing the Humanities & Social Sciences Division, Prof. Mark Lewis of the History Department discussed Darwin's impact on society and Prof. Alyson Bardsley of the English Department spoke on Darwin's influence in literature.

The program concluded with Prof. Amy Stempler of the Library Department, who gave an overview of the Library's comprehensive resources on Darwin and his theories. The event was met with such enthusiasm that future interdisciplinary programs are being planned. The next conference will examine Sigmund Freud and his far-reaching influence. Stay Tuned!

For more information on this upcoming event, please contact:

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Introducing ebrary



ebrary, a commercial e-book provider, is now available at all CUNY libraries, with **nearly 50,000 ebooks** in all disciplines!

The Academic Complete collection is available in key academic subject areas, including biology and life sciences, business and economics, computer science, education, engineering and technology, history and political science, medicine, nursing and allied health, physical sciences, psychology and social work, religion, philosophy and classics, and sociology and anthropology.

For example, an ebrary subject search for "elementary education" yields 73 ebooks. A subject search for "programming" yields 316 ebooks. A subject search for "Greek history" yields 103 ebooks. A subject search for "marketing" yields 385 ebooks, etc.

There is simultaneous multi-user access, thus no turn-away problems, no checked-out problems, no limited reserve problems. These ebooks can be used successfully as class assignments, since all students would have constant access from campus or remotely by proxy. Search the ebrary web page or the CUNY+ catalog for your subject, using "and ebrary" or "and electronic book" in CUNY+ to locate this new electronic resource. Printing is available for up to forty pages. Text can be copied and pasted into your documents. Personal or shared bookshelves can be created for research or instruction needs.

Click here for ebrary access:

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Click here for quick start guide:

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For more information on ebrary, please contact:

Prof. Linda Roccas, Coordinator of Electronic Resources and Projects
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Our Growing E-Reference Collection



The Electronic book has come a long way since the 1970's with, among other things, the grandiose undertaking of Project Gutenberg, whose mission is to digitize all the books in the public domain under U.S. copyright law.

These days, with the availability of e-readers such as Amazon's Kindle and the Sony Reader, as well as reader applications for the iPhone, the e-book has become a staple of the consumer market.

Likewise in the academic library, electronic book collections have been steadily multiplying. While a good deal of controversy persists concerning issues of user preference, readability, accessibility, and licensing agreements, one kind of resource so naturally lends itself to the digital environment that it stands above the fray – the Reference e-book.

Invariably the entries in a reference e-book derive from reliable authoritative source, are almost always brief, therefore easily read online.

Moreover, content can be regularly updated and patrons can search across texts if the work happens to be part of a database. All this is in keeping with the obvious – that encyclopedias, dictionaries, handbooks, guides, almanacs, bibliographies, directories, etc. were never intended to be read from cover to cover but rather to provide users with rapidly accessible, fairly succinct answers to specific questions as needed.

It's no surprise then that the CSI Library has been growing its e-reference collection for several years now, either through CUNY consortium agreements or independent acquisition of titles often in support of existing curricula.

Imagine, then, that the fifteen volumes of the encyclopedic *Brill's New Pauly* devoted to Greco-Roman antiquity and its five volumes given over to the Classical tradition are now at your e fingertips! Or that browsing through the [Gale Virtual Reference Library](#) and [Oxford Reference Online](#), you can find hundreds of titles dealing with disciplines ranging from the arts to technology. For example, if you're curious about how your frozen food makes it to the supermarket, try the seven volumes of [How Products are Made: An Illustrated Guide to Product Manufacturing](#).



EBSCOhost Integrated Search

Library users can now search across multiple databases and electronic resources from a single interface using [EBSCOhost Integrated Search \(EhIS\)](#). EhIS is a federated search tool that allows for the integration of virtually all of the Library's databases into one central location, thereby eliminating the need to repeat searches in different databases and significantly reducing research time.

Users simply select a broad subject category to begin searching all databases in that subject area.

EhIS makes it easier to access the Library's large and diverse collection of electronic articles, books, and reference sources from a single access point. It provides access not only to the well-known EBSCO line of databases ([Academic Search Complete](#), [ERIC](#), [PsycINFO](#), etc.) but also to other popular databases such as [JSTOR](#), [LexisNexis](#), [CQ Researcher](#), [Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center](#), [WorldCat](#), and the Library's own online [library catalog](#).

Users also gain the benefit of searching across databases using EBSCOhost's familiar and user-friendly search interface, which includes a variety of useful features such as subject clustering, article quick view, limit and sorting options, and user-customization tools. For more information on using [EBSCOhost Integrated Search \(EhIS\)](#), check out this [video tutorial](#).

[EBSCOhost Integrated Search](#) is available as part of a CUNY-wide trial subscription until June 30th, 2010. If you would like to recommend that the Library subscribe to this resource, please send us your feedback by leaving a comment.

For more information on [EBSCOhost Integrated Search](#), please contact:

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Students of neurobiology might be properly served by the *Oxford Dictionary of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology*. And, if your research touches on traditional African religions, you might begin with the *Worldmark Encyclopedia of Religious Practices*. Add to those the [Cambridge Collections Online](#), which include the electronic versions of the *Cambridge Companion* book series in literature and classics, philosophy, religion, and culture, as well as the *Shakespeare Survey*, a yearbook of Shakespeare studies and production. If you're looking for primary resources in American history, you can turn to Salem's *Milestone Documents*. If gaining an understanding of the cultural and historical events of some period in American history is your interest, the decade series might just be your cup of tea, comprising *The Fifties, Sixties, Seventies, Eighties, and Nineties in America*.

It's common for publishers of reference books to offer package deals whereby, for example, purchase of a hardcopy title will also include the title's electronic version. As a consequence the shelves of the CSI Reference collection are undergoing a transformation. The same is happening to college libraries across the country. In fact, a sure panel discussion at just about every national library conference held over the past several years has been titled "Rethinking the Reference Collection," or something like it.

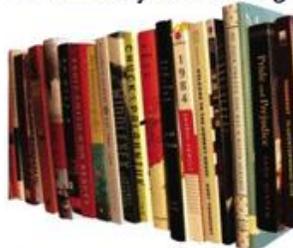
Access to CSI's e-reference resources can be obtained through the [CUNY+ catalog](#) or through the [CSI Library's Homepage](#) – just click on [E-Reference Collection](#).

For more information, please contact:

Prof. Rebecca Adler Schiff, Coordinator of Reference Services
Rebecca.AdlerSchiff@csi.cuny.edu

What Are You Reading? Social Networking for Bookworms

What are you reading?



Social networking for bookworms

Looking for good book recommendations? Want to connect with others who share similar reading interests? Illustrating the tendency toward convergence of old and new media, social networking sites are breathing new life into an old friend: the book.

Sites like [goodreads](#), [LibraryThing](#), and [Shelfari](#) offer book lovers a place to discuss, share, and discover new books. How does it work? Basically, users create a free account, list books they've read/are reading, label them with descriptive tags, ratings and/or reviews, and the resulting "bookshelf" is available for other users to peruse. Finding that next book to read becomes easier because users can rely on the bookshelves or recommendations of other readers with similar interests. All three sites also include a Facebook application that allows users to easily integrate their bookshelves and reading activities with their Facebook profile.

goodreads®

With close to 3 million members, [Goodreads](#) is one of the largest online reader communities. Similar to Facebook, individual users create profiles and connect with other users by adding them as friends. Users begin building their profiles by adding books to their bookshelves and creating book lists classified by genre, subject, author, etc. Members can also browse book lists created by others to discover new books they might be interested in. With such a large user community, there are book lists to match virtually any interest or taste from science fiction and graphic novels to GLBT fiction and chick lit. Members can share book recommendations and ratings with friends and list what books they have read, are currently reading, or plan to read. Readers with similar interests can form online books clubs which can be public, moderated, or restricted.

LibraryThing

[LibraryThing](#) makes cataloging one's personal book collection easy by giving members access to bibliographic information from Amazon, the Library of Congress, and over 80 world libraries. Users can edit, search, and sort their book collection, "tag" books with their own subject headings, or use the Library of Congress and Dewey classification systems to organize their collection. Like goodreads, members can view other people's libraries and share reviews and ratings. Additionally, LibraryThing makes book recommendations based on data from users with similar interests.



Like goodreads, [Shelfari](#) uses the social networking sites concept of "friends" to connect with and interact with other members. Once users build their network of friends, they can receive regular updates on what friends are reading, share recommendations, and create online discussion groups.

For more information, please contact:

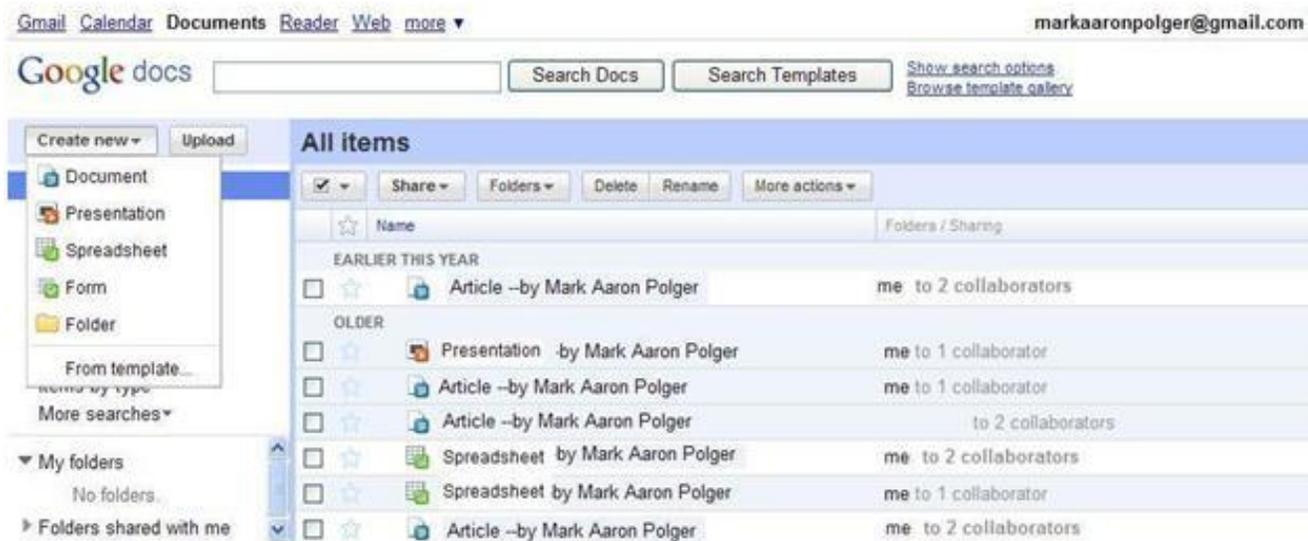
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Access Your Documents Anywhere with Google Docs



[Google Docs](#) is a free, web-based word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation software package offered by [Google](#). It allows users to create and edit documents online while collaborating in real-time with other users. Google Docs is "virtual" software that can be used from any computer connected to the Internet. There is no software to download. It has a similar interface to Microsoft Office and all you need is a [Google account](#).

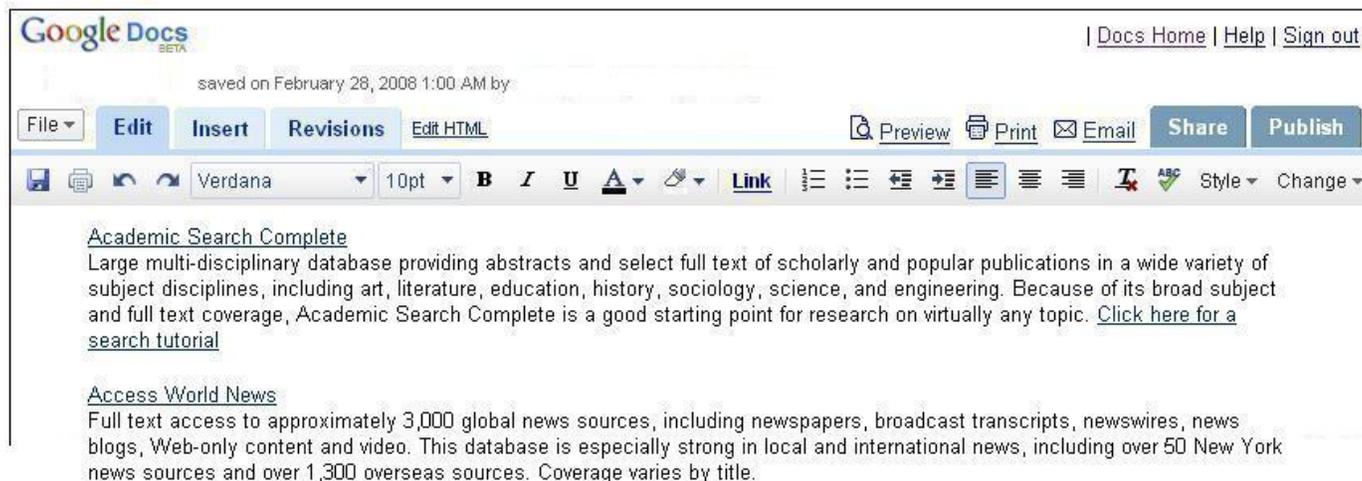
With [Google Docs](#), you can import your existing Word documents into folders, or create new documents. Group projects are made easy by creating a document and then click on the "share" button. You can set different levels of access to different group members. [Google Docs](#) also allows you to store documents securely online.



Are you nervous about your storing your documents "virtually"? It's easy to export or download your documents in a variety of formats, including HTML, DOC, PDF, or PPT.

Using the Share button, you can invite others to edit your documents collaboratively. You can also trace the number of revisions to your document with the revision history, found under tools in [Google Docs](#). Revision history is a great way to track all of the changes made to your document.

[Google Docs](#) merges word processing, spreadsheets and presentations in a free online service that lets you access your documents from any computer and it also allows you to collaborate with others.



Google Docs can be accessed at <http://docs.google.com> or from Google's top navigation bar.

For more information, contact:

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