



Library Newswire

Spring 2011, Issue 4

Library Newswire is an online newsletter created by the CSI Library. Library Newswire informs the college community of current events, new services, and resources that relate to the CSI Library and the College of Staten Island.

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

Greetings from the Chief Librarian



Greetings and Happy Spring!

Your warm responses to articles presented in our previous three issues have been well received and rewarding, especially to the authors. We appreciate your interest in reading our articles and we promise to keep up the quality of news that we bring to your attention.

In this issue, we bring you much news about past and forthcoming events in the Library. Our literary brunch was held on March 13th and featured Pulitzer Prize-winning author John Matteson. On March 24th please join us for our Faculty Author Talks event where four faculty will share the backstory to producing their book.

We will also be hosting our first Edible Book Contest in the Archives on April 2nd. Our Earth Day event is on April 14th and will showcase local Green initiatives at CSI and on Staten Island. We are also excited to share news about our new gallery space in the Library, the peer-to-peer student monitoring program, our librarian-faculty collaborations to implement information literacy into the curriculum, and our first experience with the CUNY-Shanghai exchange librarian program. In addition, the Archives & Special Collections web site got a facelift! Take a peek.

The continued increase in enrollment has had a direct impact not only expanding numbers in classrooms, but also in the Library. Three weeks into the semester, the Library has been close to full occupancy from 9:00am through 9:00pm from Monday through Thursday. The opening hours remain extended as of last fall from 8:00am to 12:00am and we currently have a poll open during the month of March via our web site for all to sound off on their experience regarding the extended hours. The demand remains high for textbooks and calculators, as well as for other study spaces in addition to study group room, and for additional access to computer workstations or laptops.

What's new this spring semester in the Library is the Digital Stack Map (a.k.a. our own GPS to the 3rd floor) that was created locally by our professional technical support staff team – Mark Lewental, Brian Farr, and Ziv Karmi. A click on the hyperlink of call numbers in the [CUNY+](#) catalog will open up a map of the 3rd floor map and will highlight the range of shelves in which the book is located. The students love it. The map has diminished the number of students who return to the reference desk. I am extremely proud of the Library's Tech Team who were able to invent this innovate resource tool after listening to a description of a map (unrelated) that I had seen at a Conference.

Special thanks go to CUNY Office of Library Services who integrated the coding into the [CUNY+](#) data set for CSI.

Last week, in preparation for my biannual visit with the President and Vice-President of the CSI Student Government, I reflected on some of what we accomplished during the previous year for our students, staff, and faculty. There were eleven (11) initiatives I considered as the top tier items implemented in 2010. My guests demanded a copy of the list to have it printed in their online magazine, *TimeOut*, #3 as “[Best additions of 2010 @ your Library.](#)” The list has also been posted to Facebook.

As the College prepares for the Middle States Accreditation visit in 2012, the Library faculty have been very involved in college-wide committees including the various working groups of Middle States, the working groups of the Strategic Planning Process, and the Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness Committee. In addition, the Library is also pulling together data and documents for its own Self-Study which has every library faculty and professional staff member involved. Three department meetings have been devoted solely to reviewing materials and providing updates on activities. A second and final survey to the college community to be distributed at the end of April will conclude the Self-Study.

We said farewell to one of our best, Professor Allen Natowitz, who was enticed to retire by the New York State early retirement incentive this January 2011. Allen Natowitz, Associate Professor and Deputy Chief Librarian, joined the Department of the Library in 1979 as an adjunct librarian who not only offered reference services, but also library instruction (then known as bibliographic instruction). Ten years later, he accepted a full time position as the Periodicals Librarian, while continuing to provide library instruction. Over the years, he has served the Library in other roles such as Coordinator of Circulation/Reserves, Coordinator of Library Instruction, and Deputy Chief Librarian for the past six years. At the Holiday Party, the Library faculty and staff had the opportunity to express their respect and admiration for his service and dedication to the CSI Library and the College, especially for his unrelenting attention and devotion to the various needs of students and faculty. His presence has been sorely missed by many students who have come to the reference desk hoping to see him regarding their research paper or assignment. We wish him well and hope that his retirement is the beginning of other fulfilling life experiences and adventures.

I will close in encouraging you, as faculty or student, to check out our [Research Guides](#) which have been created to identify specific resources in your discipline.

Here's to a productive and successful semester,

Cheers!

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Pulitzer Prize Winner Visits CSI Library



On Sunday March 13, 2011 from 12:00pm-3:00pm the CSI Library hosted *the Friends of CSI Literary Brunch* with Professor John T. Matteson. The brunch was held on the second floor of the CSI Library. Professor Matteson received the 2008 Pulitzer Prize

for his book *Eden's Outcasts: The Story of Louisa May Alcott and Her Father*, published by W.W. Norton and Co. in 2007. Also nominated as finalists in this category were: "The Worlds of Lincoln Kirstein" by **Martin Duberman** (Alfred A. Knopf), and "The Life of Kingsley Amis" by **Zachary Leader** (Pantheon). Dr. Matteson now stands among other Pulitzer Prize winners in the Biography category such as **David McCullough** for John Adams (2002) and **T.J. Stiles** for *The First Tycoon: The Epic Life of Cornelius Vanderbilt* (2010); **Frank McCourt** for *Angela's Ashes* (1997).

Matteson's book is a sensitive exploration of the relationship between Louisa May Alcott and her philosopher father, Bronson Alcott, opposites in temperament yet united in their ideals and regard for each other (McFarland, Boston Globe, 2007).

Professor Matteson has a history degree from Princeton University, a Ph.D. in English from Columbia, and a law degree from Harvard. He teaches literature and legal writing at John Jay College in New York, where he has been a professor since 1997. Mattson is currently working on a book about Margaret Fuller.

The Friends of the College of Staten Island is a volunteer organization comprised of community members who are dedicated to the mission and Strategic Plan of the College. The organization develops programs that involve the community in the educational and cultural activities of CSI. They also raise funds for scholarships and other needs of the College. Funds raised by the Friends of the College of Staten Island are donations to the CSI Foundation. Donors receive a tax deduction based on the tax-exempt status of the CSI Foundation.

All proceeds from the brunch will benefit the College of Staten Island Library. For more information about the event, please contact:

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New Gallery Space



The CSI Library is pleased to announce the inauguration of a new exhibition space in the Edmond L. Volpe Rotunda.

Made possible by a generous grant from Con Edison in support of programs and events regarding the 350th anniversary of Staten Island (si350), the gallery space features new lighting and wall display apparatus. To inaugurate the new exhibition space, the CSI Library hosted the exhibit, *Going Places*, which featured the work of local artists, Robert Padovano and Mary Bullock. Their works were part of the January si350 program which celebrated the history of transportation on Staten Island.



Mr. Padovano's impressionistic paintings showcased the ferries, railway stations, buses, bridges, tugboats, and waterways of Staten Island, while Ms. Bullock offered an exhibition based on her photograph collection, "Postcards from the Rails." (continued on next page left column)

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The exhibit ran from January 20th to February 26th, 2011 and drew crowds from both the college and the larger Staten Island communities, with noted praiseworthy comments that filled half a notebook.

The new gallery space is a significant addition to the CSI Library as the space will allow for further exhibitions featuring local and regional subjects.

For more information about the new gallery space, please contact:

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Announcing Full Text Finder



Do you have a citation for a particular article? Do you want to know if it is available at the CSI library? Try [Full Text Finder!](#)

Full Text Finder is an easy tool that enables you to quickly locate specific articles by citation. A complete citation is not required but is recommended in order to achieve the best results.

To search for an article, simply enter as much information as you know (journal title, volume, issue, date, etc.) and click "Find It!" Full Text Finder will indicate whether the article is available at the library electronically or in print.

If the article you want is not available at CSI, you may request it via [interlibrary loan](#). For further information, please contact:

Prof. Joseph Deodato
Web Services Librarian
joseph.deodato@csi.cuny.edu

Upcoming Greener Library Event- April 14th, 2011



Save the Date!

In honor of Earth Day 2011, the Greener Library Committee will be hosting an event on **Local Green Initiatives at CSI and on Staten Island**. We have not confirmed

our speakers as yet.

When: Thursday, April 14, 2011, during Club Hours.

Where: CSI Archives & Special Collections, room 1L-216

This will be a CLUE Certified event.

More information will be made available in the next few weeks. Check the library web site for more updates. We hope to see you there.

For more information please contact:

Rachel Jirka
Assistant to the Archivist
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SI350 : Academic Conference



The College of Staten Island will be hosting the upcoming Academic Conference entitled "*Staten Island in American History and 21st Century Education*" on March 19-20, 2011, along with Wagner College, St. John's University, SI350, and Staten Island Foundation as co-sponsors. Two Library Faculty members will be presenting at this event. Professor James A. Kaser will give the talk on, "*A History of Land Use of the Willowbrook School Site*," while Professor Amy F. Stempler will discuss "*New York's Forgotten Jews*."

Both of these scholarly papers incorporate research materials from the archival collections found in CSI's Archives and Special Collections, located in 1L-216.

This conference is one of many events associated with SI350, the year-long celebration of the 350 anniversary of permanent settlement on Staten Island. "SI350 envisions this anniversary as an opportunity to educate the public of all ages and backgrounds and to enhance ongoing efforts of diverse organizations to showcase the Island and its rich economic, cultural and political legacy, both on Staten Island and to the world at large."

To learn more about this event, which is open to the public, please visit <http://www.si350.org/>

For more information on the presentations given by Library faculty, please contact:

Prof. Amy F. Stempler
Coordinator of Library Instruction
Amy.Stempler@csi.cuny.edu

Shanghai Librarian Spends Six Weeks at the CSI Library



Last fall, CSI faculty and staff warmly welcomed Huiping Du, a finance and business librarian from Shanghai Normal University. Ms. Du was on of four applicants to come to CUNY via the CUNY-Shanghai Library Faculty Exchange program.

This exchange program was established by the Council of CUNY Chief Librarians at the beginning of the 2009/2010 academic year with the support of the University Dean of Libraries, Curtis Kendrick. This program offers CUNY Library faculty in New York and Shanghai professional assignments, and the opportunity to observe library operations and conduct research on site. An overarching goal within the program was to facilitate American and Chinese library collaborations as well as promote positive international relations between the United States and China. Participating libraries were asked to provide the librarian with a workspace in the Library and assist with locating housing. Funding for housing and a small per diem was provided by CUNY.

Prior to arriving in November 2010, Huiping Du had expressed in her application a primary interest in management and dissemination of electronic resources. She also wanted to explore as many other new areas in the "American" library. As a result, a schedule was designed for her to spend four days at CSI and one day visiting one of the other CUNY Libraries. While at CSI, she spent mornings at the Reference Desk observing how we serve our constituents. In the afternoons she would work with the Electronic Information Services Librarian, the Periodicals Librarian, the Cataloging Librarian, or the Web Services Librarian.

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On several occasions, she was invited to observe colleagues teaching library instruction, and also spent half a day in Media Services, Inter-Library Loan, and the Archives and Special Collections. Huiping also met with the Chief Librarian once a week and attended special events around the College, e.g. Coffee Hour at the Center for International Services, Open House, and several CLUE events, including one that featured Google's demise in China.

Six weeks seemed to have raced by too fast. A few days before Huiping returned to China, she gave a lecture to members of the department in which she described all she had learned at CSI and other CUNY libraries. She gave comparisons to resources and services at her home library at Shanghai Normal University. Two things stood out for her: the role librarians played as liaisons to various academic departments and software management tools used to manage and promote e-resources.

Huiping's presentation to the department at the end of her stay provided us with insights to the differences between our libraries, and sparked a discussion for over an hour. Her time with us was, indeed, so valuable that it resulted in three CSI librarians sending in their applications to the CUNY-Shanghai Exchange program, an interest that had not peaked since the program began two semesters ago.

Huiping Du's first visit to the U.S. and her experience in the Staten Island community and in New York City, were positive. She was hosted by a wonderful Hispanic American family with whom she enjoyed spending time, experiencing the American culture through cuisine, shopping, and watching television. On weekends, she explored the other boroughs with CSI librarians or CUNY librarians whom she had already met in China. The number one highlight of her excursions was watching the New York City Marathon.



Huiping's stay would not have been so successful and smooth without support and cooperation from colleagues and certain offices at CSI and CUNY. Special thanks are extended to the Center for International Services at CSI, for ensuring that Huiping's documents were all in order prior to her arrival. My sincere thanks to the library faculty and staff who were all instrumental in making Huiping's stay comfortable, enjoyable, and successful. I'd especially like to thank Profs. Linda Roccas, Ewa Dzurak, and Judy Xiao who acted as chaperons during the first few days of her arrival. Furthermore, the Office of Library Services along with Kenneth Schlessinger, Chief Librarian of Lehman College, are to be thanked profusely for creating and coordinating this wonderful exchange program.

Our colleague, Mark Aaron Polger, is one of two CUNY librarians who have been awarded this Spring's CUNY-Shanghai Faculty Exchange. Prof. Polger will be in Shanghai from May 5 to June 5, 2011.

For more information on the CUNY-Shanghai Faculty Exchange, please contact:

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Re-design of the Archives Web Site



This January, the [Archives & Special Collections unit](#) of the Library launched a redesign of its web site. This goal was to facilitate the browsing experience by ensuring that each section of the web site was represented in a menu bar, as seen below.

The web site is divided into six different sections:

General Information, Collections, Research Assistance, Exhibitions, Programs & Events, and CSI Students and Faculty

General Information is where you can find our opening hours,

the staff directory and our mission statement. **Collections** includes an overview of our holdings as well as detailed descriptions of all major manuscript collections and the College Archives.

All finding aids, subject guides, and tutorials can be found in the **Research Assistance** section of the web site. **Exhibitions and Programs & Events** features online exhibits prepared by members of the Archives & Special Collections staff. It lists activities and events hosted in our programming space. Lastly, information concerning the transferring of records to the

General Information <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Home• Hours & Directions• History & Mission• Policies• Staff Directory• Make a Donation• Frequently Asked Questions	Research Assistance <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using the Collections• Finding Aids & Other Resources• Research Tools & Subject Guides• Make an Appointment	Programs & Events <ul style="list-style-type: none">• News & Upcoming Events• Past Events
Collections <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collections Overview• College Archives• Special Collections• Digital Collections• Documentation Projects	Exhibitions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online exhibitions	CSI Students & Faculty <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit a Thesis• Transferring Records

Archives or the submission of a thesis is available to students and faculty under **CSI Students and Faculty**.

In addition, the Archives & Special Collections is proud to offer students and faculty a variety of services online. All manuscript collections available to the public have finding aids published online, which are linked to keyword-searchable databases. We have also made available a searchable photograph database, comprised of noteworthy photographs from our collections. We offer a number of subject guides and tutorials directed towards those interested in primary source research. These subject guides revolve mostly around Staten Island and New York City, and include resources located at CSI and other local institutions.

The Archives & Special Collections also offers extensive online guides to our documentation projects. Conducted by staff members through grants from the New York State Archives, the goal of the projects was to amass documentation of significant periods in local history. These projects address the Willowbrook State School and the response of Staten Islanders to September 11th. In addition to our online content, the Archives & Special Collections makes it easier to contact staff members; researchers now have the option of filling out our online appointment form.

We are excited about our new look as we consider the possibilities involved in expanding the Archives' web presence. If interested, please explore the redesigned web site at: <http://www.library.csi.cuny.edu/archives/>

For more information please contact:

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Integrating Information Literacy into the Curriculum



Librarian-Faculty Collaboration for Successful Student Learning

Information literacy is a crucial component of higher education, and is the basis for lifelong learning. Accreditation organizations, such as the Middle States Commission on Higher Education include student learning outcomes for information literacy in their standards, emphasizing the importance of collaboration between librarians and faculty in fostering information literacy skills across the curriculum. What is information literacy? Middle States Commission on Higher Education defines information literacy in its document

Characteristics of Excellence in Higher Education: Eligibility Requirements and Standards for Accreditation, March 2009.

Several skills collectively referred to as “information literacy,” apply to all disciplines in an institution’s curricula. These skills relate to a student’s competency in acquiring and processing information in the search for understanding... Therefore, information literacy is an essential component of any educational program at the graduate or undergraduate levels.

These skills include the ability to:

- determine the nature and extent of needed information;
- access information effectively and efficiently;
- evaluate critically the sources and content of information;
- incorporate selected information in the learner’s knowledge base and value system;
- use information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose;
- understand the economic, legal and social issues surrounding the use of information and information technology; and
- observe laws, regulations, and institutional policies related to the access and use of information.

Over the years, librarians at CSI have worked closely with classroom faculty to help students develop information literacy skills, providing library orientation, course-related library instruction, as well as topic workshops for both undergraduate and graduate students.

CUNY’s support of Blackboard as a teaching and learning tool have provided excellent opportunities for librarian-faculty collaboration in integrating information literacy into Blackboard courses. At CSI, librarians have developed successful partnerships with faculty from various departments including nursing, liberal studies, and education. Course-specific library resources and information literacy components were integrated seamlessly into Blackboard courses. Faculty and librarians worked together to teach students effective research skills. Results of student and faculty evaluation of these projects suggest that integrating course-specific information literacy into Blackboard is an effective way to improve student learning.

Librarians at CSI are available to work with instructors to integrate course-specific library resources into their Blackboard courses. Instruction sessions on Turnitin can also be arranged to assist students through the process of creating a Turnitin account, submitting a paper, and interpreting the Turnitin originality report.

An integrated model: library component as part of the NRS 110 course

As illustrated in the example above, course-specific library resources, plagiarism prevention instruction, and assessment are integrated into the NRS 110 Blackboard course. The CSI Library page contains links to Nursing 110 related library resources and learning activities organized in eight topics. For example, the [NRS 110 Research Paper Tutorial guides](#) students step-by-step to completing their transcultural nursing research paper, from finding articles and books, web resources, to citing sources and avoiding plagiarism. The Turnitin page explains what Turnitin does, contains a Turnitin student quickstart tutorial, as well as plagiarism prevention and citation resources.

To explore a collaborative project with a librarian, please contact :

Prof. Judy Xiao
Judy.Xiao@csi.cuny.edu
718-982-4140.

Library Ambassador Program @ CSI Library



The CSI Library instituted an Ambassador Program to assist in monitoring behavior and safety issues in the Library.

The program was created in response to numerous

the library, and safety concerns. Starting this spring semester, 10 students were recruited through the work-study financial aid program to provide a total of 80 hours a week for the pilot of this program. While several of the recruited students have prior security experience, all received a 90mins training session by the Office of Public Safety.

Ambassadors were trained to be friendly but firm in enforcing current library policies. They are provided with identification tags and are presently awaiting uniforms. During times when the Library is not so full of students, Library Ambassadors can be found stationed at a desk on the second floor. At peak times when there are no seats available, they can be seen patrolling the three floors non-stop and are in constant touch with the Office of Public Safety. We look forward to a successful pilot of this program this semester and hope it can be expanded in the following semester.

For more information about the Library Ambassador program, please contact:

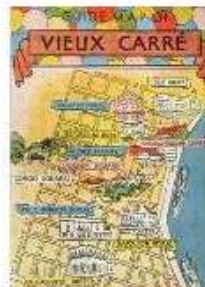
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Norman L. Jeffer Historical Postcard Collection

In celebration of Mardi Gras, the CSI Archives & Special Collections hosted a display on the history and architecture of the city of New Orleans. The display featured postcards from the Norman L. Jeffer Historical Postcard Collection, and gave a historical overview of the city from its founding in 1718 to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

The postcards, ranging in date from 1900 to the 1960s, showcased sites of architectural significance, such as St. Louis Cathedral, the Presbytère, and the Cabildo—all 18th century buildings built during the period of Spanish Colonial rule on the Gulf Coast.



Other highlights of the display included postcards of the French Quarter and Bourbon Street, as well as a feature on the history of Mardi Gras. The CSI Archives & Special Collections generally offers a postcard display every month, highlighting the history and significance of different cities. To commemorate the Battle of Lexington on April 19th, April's display will feature the towns of Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts. For more information on the current display, please contact:

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About Library Newswire

Library Newswire is the College of Staten Island Library's online newsletter, available both in HTML and PDF formats.

Library Newswire informs students, faculty, and staff of library services, resources, and other college-wide activities that may be of interest to the College community. Library Newswire is produced by the CSI Library.

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URL of newsletter:

<http://www.library.csi.cuny.edu/newsletter/>