

## **Department of the Library Report 2004/2005**

Over the last two years, the academic agenda for the Library has focused on access to resources and strengthening service areas. This year's agenda focused on engaging teaching faculty; library faculty; and students in (i) instruction, (ii) collection development, and (iii) research related activities in the CSI Library.

### ➤ **Collaborative Efforts**

- Work with teaching faculty to integrate library orientation and information literacy skills into their curriculum and pedagogy.
  - In one-to-one dialogs, several librarians worked with teaching faculty to integrate information literacy into their curriculum and encourage student use of the Library. In addition, visits to several departments have been made by the Chief Librarian to encourage faculty to find a place for information literacy in their curricula.
  - Under the leadership of the Coordinator of Library Instruction and Information Literacy, Edward Owusu-Ansah, the program continues to expand. In comparison to figures for 1998/1999 generated for the Middle States Self Study Review, there has been a 95.5% increase of course related library instruction classes. One hundred and thirty-eight sessions were taught in 1998/1999 and 253 in 2004/2005. In addition, the number of students served by library instruction has increased by 123.8% over the same period. Students reached, expressed as a proportion of the total student population, has increased by 106% (from 2750 in 1998/1999 to 6154 in 2004/2005). Library instruction reached 24.7% of all students enrolled at CSI in 1998/1999, compared to 50.9% in 2004/2005. There has also been greater penetration into course levels. While in 1998/1999 only 17 library instruction courses were taught to the 300 class levels or above, that figure was 55 in 2004/2005, representing an improvement of 223.5%.
- Established a library/faculty collection development initiative
  - This academic year, a new collection development initiative began. It offers new instructional faculty the opportunity to help build our collection by recommending titles. To date, 9 out of 18 new teaching faculty members have applied their \$400 vouchers to acquire books, maps, and videos that support their curriculum. These new faculty members have worked closely with respective department/library liaisons who have helped facilitate selections and acquisitions.
- Encouraged library faculty to collaborate with teaching faculty re: publications, grants, campus-wide activities, or special projects.
  - Linda Roccas collaborated with two History professors on digitizing ancient and medieval slide collections for History and SLS classes. Funding for digitization equipment was procured from the CELT mini-grants.

- Judy Xiao collaborated with an Education professor on developing an online course using BlackBoard. Funding was procured from CELT mini-grants.
- John Iliff collaborated with a Business professor on using BlackBoard in the classroom.
- James Kaser collaborated with a History professor on a curriculum-based primary research project. Approximately 70 students explored research topics on the Theodora DuBois Papers in order to learn how to conduct research using primary sources.
- Established an internship program for library school students.
  - Through collaborative work with graduate library schools at Rutgers University and Queens College/CUNY, two library students (one from each institution) have been selected to participate in our internship program as of Fall 2005. Each student will be supervised by a library faculty member.
- Multimedia technical support
  - The Library continues to provide high quality assistance with technical support required for special classroom projects. Among the many such projects include the Virtual Classroom Project with China, Turkey, & South Africa, the I-Pals Project with South Africa, Strategies for Success, the Inaugural Ceremony for the Center of Engineered Polymeric Materials, and the Nursing Department Technology Day Seminar.

### ➤ Collection Development

- Increased circulating book collection by 2%
  - Efforts to increase the circulating book remain is an ongoing activity aimed at reaching benchmarks for Phi Beta Kappa requirements and ACRL standards. This is a challenging pursuit in light of the limited book budget. Our new Acquisitions Librarian has developed procedures for the purchase of books from vendors on state contract with the best discount. To date, **3,845** titles were added to the circulating collection, and of the books donated as gifts, **275** were accepted. In addition **982** titles were withdrawn from the holdings for several reasons, 101 of which were not returned by patrons for over 10 months.
- Continued efforts to strengthen collection in deficient areas of the curriculum.
  - In our effort to increase and strengthen the collection library liaisons worked with teaching faculty to identify or recommend books to support the curriculum. Specific areas strengthened included: Teacher Education (namely social studies, early childhood, biology, English language, & language arts), Literary Criticism, Modern Popular Music Criticism, Art Criticism, Journalism, and Transportation Studies. Also, other supplementary materials identified for inclusion in the collection included books that won awards in the Nobel Prize in Literature, National Book Awards, the Pulitzer Prizes and a selection of non-fiction best sellers from the New York Times and The Chronicle of Higher Education. In addition,

**204** reference titles, **357** textbook titles, and **32** videos were added to the collection. To date, the CSI Library has a collection of approximately 229,000 monographs, 1,824 videos, 900 print periodicals, and 72 electronic databases, of which 15,000 journals are in full-text.

- Sought funds to support collection development.
  - Last academic year an appeal letter jointly signed by the Chief Librarian and Joan Hartman, Professor Emeritus, yielded over \$3500.00. The Library is grateful to the Office of Advancement for coordinating this fundraising effort. Donors were invited to identify curricular subjects of interest.
- Archives & Special Collections
  - The Archives & Special Collection acquired **three manuscript collections** (Diane McCourt Papers on the Willowbrook State School, Bernard Carabello Papers on the Willowbrook State School, and The John Sampson Papers), **two book collections** (344 volumes of The Fresh Kills Landfill material from the Borough President's Office and over 4000 books from The John Sampson Book Collection); and **two photographic collections** (Christina Osinski Harbor Island Photographs and 160,000 postcard collection donated by David Jeffer.
  - Accretions were made to The Senator John Marchi Papers, The Business and Professional Women's Club of Staten Island Records, The assemblywoman Elizabeth Connelly Papers, and the CSI Archives.

➤ **Library faculty**

- Recruitment of faculty
  - The Department of the Library was successful in recruiting three qualified librarians to begin the 2004/2005 academic year. They include: Tim Hasin for the Acquisitions Librarian position in the rank of Instructor and Catherine Perkins and Roman Santillán for the Reference/Instruction Librarian positions in the rank of Assistant Professor.
- Sought opportunities for library faculty to serve on campus-wide committees, other department searches, etc.
  - In order for librarians to accomplish many of the library goals, I believe that they must also be visible in the college community. With my encouragement, several members volunteered for campus-wide committees, or were accepting of recruitment to campus-wide or search committees. These include Allen Natowitz who was selected for the Faculty Facilities Planning Committee; Rebecca Adler who was elected by the department to the Graduate Studies Committee; and Judy Xiao was recruited to serve on a Business Department Search.
- Encouraged library faculty to participate in professional development activities.
  - It has become increasingly important for librarians to have a voice in local, regional, and national professional matters that affect library services. Hence I continue to encourage and support participation of CSI librarians in the above forums. This academic year, two librarians were

- elected to subcommittees of the American Library Association (Owusu-Ansah & Wang), five presented papers at regional and international conferences (Iloff, Kaser, Owusu-Ansah, Wang, & Xiao), and several attended local, regional, and national conferences.
- Encouraged library faculty to seek grants and awards to support their research and travel to meetings.
    - I am happy to report that this academic year was an exceptional and productive year for librarians concerning grants and awards. Three librarians received travel grants to attend library conferences (Owusu-Ansah, Perkins, & Wang); four librarians were the recipients of the PSC-CUNY grants (Kaser, Perkins, Santillán, & Wang); two librarians received external grants (Kaser (2) and Jones (1)); two librarians received fellowship grants (Kaser & Wang), and three librarians were the recipients of CELT mini-grants (Kaser, Roccas, & Xiao).
    - Library faculty members published articles or encyclopedic entries in refereed publications during the academic period 2004/2005. They include Owusu-Ansah (2), Perkins (1), Wang (1), and Xiao (1). Kaser was awarded a book contract by Scarecrow Press for his manuscript.

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