

College of Staten Island Library Annual Report, June 2008

At the beginning of the 2007-2008 academic year, several goals were set to improve the monograph collection, the facility, and to review some of the library services offered to faculty and students. With additional allocation of funding and the success of recruiting new faculty and staff, the department was able to achieve many of the goals. I am pleased to present this report that shows significant improvement to the resources, services, and the facility to better serve CSI's academic and research community.

➤ **Collection Development**

The CSI library's collection was strengthened significantly by the additional allocation of \$140,000.00 from the Chancellor's Compact to strengthening electronic resources, library instruction, and academic priority areas along with a special allocation of \$100,000.00 from the new President, Dr. Morales, to strengthen the monograph collection. Faculty from all disciplines enthusiastically participated with librarians in collection development to identify materials that support research and enhance instruction in the classroom. Areas strengthened with this special allocation include CSI's academic priorities, programs up for review and accreditation in 2008 and 2009, and basic needs for various disciplines of the undergraduate curriculum.

A total of **5219** volumes were acquired in the following areas: Adolescent Education/Social Studies, Astronomy, Biology, Computer Science, Environmental Sciences, French, Gender/Women's Studies, Geology, Engineering Science, Information Systems, Local Policy, Modern China, Music, Neuroscience, Physical Therapy, and Physics. In addition, five (**5**) new databases to strengthen the electronic research collection; **194** DVD titles were added to the audiovisual collection; and two new library technology utilities to facilitate access to materials within and outside of the CSI Library.

Total expenditures of materials to date amount to **\$765,182.82**, and include the following:

○ Monographs (circulating)	\$ 176,625.14
○ Monographs (reference)	\$ 69,753.69
○ Electronic Resources	\$ 310,720.96
○ Periodicals	\$ 163,725.94
○ Microforms	\$ 4,783.80
○ Videos	\$ 4,548.76
○ Supplies & Contracts	\$ 35,024.53

In November 2007 and again in May 2008, the Chief Librarian submitted a budget request for 2008/2009 which called for a substantial increase in the Library's base budget over the next three years in order to meet the required standards for Middle States Accreditation in 2010. It is hoped that this request will be seriously considered in order to maintain subscriptions to the electronic resources to which we currently subscribe, without diminishing other resources. Budget request for 2008/2009 is attached.

➤ **Improved Access to the Collections**

- While there was a marked increase in resources acquired, inroads were also made to improve access to these research materials. During the months of October and November 2007, many students were found to be standing in line waiting for available computer workstations. A detailed memorandum was sent to the Provost, who responded immediately with the provision of eighteen (18) additional computer workstations.*These PCs have also been equipped with access to Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. In addition, media viewing stations were upgraded with six 19" wide screen high definition LCD monitors connected to DVD/VHS combo players. Each viewing station has four headphones attached to facilitate group viewing of media materials.

Outreach to students and faculty is a growing concern for librarians and, this year, two new programs were designed to bring to library into the spaces of others. The first is the "Roving Librarian"* program which was launched in fall 2007 and offers reference service at the Campus Center twice a week. The second is the "Database-of-the-Month" program which was launched in spring 2008 to promote new e-resources to the college community. Both programs have received resounding support and applause. The database-of-the-month appears on the library's homepage, in the college bulletin, and is also e-mailed to various constituents such as WSIA, The Banner, and faculty of the identified discipline. At the same time there was increased outreach efforts by library liaisons to engage faculty in collection development and library instruction activities.

➤ **Improved Library Infrastructure**

With the ever increasing student body, the size of the library facility is becoming more and more inadequate. As a result, several plans to renovate and improve certain spaces were accomplished. We were successful in renovating four (4) alcoves on the second floor into group study rooms,* all of which were fully occupied daily ever since completion during fall and spring semesters. Through constant requests for access to business technologies, we transformed the ante-room of the Microform Storage Room into a Student Document/Business Center.* This room provides students with a fax machine, a scanner, a typewriter, laptops for loan, as well as access to the microform materials and machines. In additions, our campaign over the last two years for new lamps* for study tables was heard and eighty-four (84) new lamps were installed on study tables on all three floors of the Library.

It is hoped that our input with the consultants for the Master Plan will be acknowledged and become a reality as soon as possible. Priorities include:

- Doubling the amount of study tables and seats (~ 500), including graduate group study rooms;
- Additional public restrooms (especially on the 3rd Floor where there currently is none);
- The creation of more office spaces that include worktable space and flexible, moveable, and more lightweight furniture;
- Additional space and shelves for a growing book collection;
- The creation of a dedicated Network Server Room; and
- The creation of a permanent Gallery/Exhibit area in the Volpe Rotunda area on the 1st Floor that can be used by all departments of the College.

➤ **Status of Library Faculty and Staff**

To the department's gain, we successfully recruited five new positions this academic year, four of whom were able to start this academic year and the fifth who will begin in 2008/2009.

They include the following:

- Coordinator of Library Instruction who will provide effective team leadership in information literacy and comes armed with knowledge of assessment in library instruction.
- Three Instruction/Reference Librarians who are strong in teaching--critical to support a successful expansion of the library program.
- College Laboratory Technician (sponsored by the Chancellor's Compact monies). This position supports technology systems in the Library, in particular those in the Virtual Learning Classroom, the Digital Learning Lab, and the Visual Culture Project.

Meanwhile, library faculty continue to pursue scholarly activities and are also active in seeking grants, thanks to the encouragement and mentoring of senior members. This year, three librarians were the authors of scholarly articles published in refereed journals and chapters in books; three librarians were the recipients of three PSC-CUNY grants, and two other librarians received two NY State grants.