Rhonna Goodman Retires

On September 30, 2011, after 14 years of inspired and inspiring leadership, Rhonna Goodman retired as the Director of the Manhattanville College Library.

Among Rhonna’s first projects at Manhattanville was to transform the Library staff, which was nearly all part-time when she arrived. She put her vision and energy to work instantly by improving the appearance and functionality of the library building. Rhonna acquired the Library’s first digital content and presided over its first online exhibit. At her initiative, the Library hosted numerous lectures by faculty, discussion panels and invited luminaries in Library and Information Science. She advocated that Manhattanville librarians and staff continue their education and become active in professional development. At least a dozen student workers and staff members became librarians during the time she served as Library Director. Step by step, Rhonna has created a library that is welcoming, responsive to students and faculty, scholarly, and technologically adept.

Prior to her tenure at Manhattanville, Rhonna served as Library Director of the New York Academy of Medicine, the Assistant Coordinator of Programs and Services for the Metropolitan New York Library Council, and for the New York Public Library in a variety of positions. She is a past-president of the New York Library Association and WALDO (the Westchester Library Academic Directors Organization), and has served on the Board of the New York State Higher Education Initiative and New Yorkers for Better Libraries PAC.

Rhonna also chaired many committees for the American Library Association. She has published articles on administration of academic libraries, cooperative collection development, and teenage reading, and has been a frequent speaker at library meetings and conferences. Rhonna has a Masters degree in Leadership and Strategic Management from Manhattanville College, a Masters of Library Science from Pratt Institute, and a BA in Political Science from Boston University.

On September 7, 2011, Rhonna was honored by faculty and staff at a reception in Reid Castle. A week later, she relaxed and reminisced with library staff at an informal dinner in the Education Resource Center at the library, a room she and Susan Jacobs, Associate Dean of the School of Education, were instrumental in creating. On her last day at work, there was an Open House for well-wishers that was so crowded and upbeat that it seemed more like a Bon Voyage party.

In recognition of Rhonna’s dedication and vision, Manhattanville College has established the Rhonna A. Goodman Library Enrichment Fund to continue her legacy of library service and professionalism. This fund will bring scholars and lecturers to the College, enable professional development, and advance the leading status of the Manhattanville College Library. For more information, or to make a contribution, please contact Elaine Provenzano at Elaine.Provenzano@mville.edu or Nancy Kingston at Nancy.Kingston@mville.edu.

Rhonna Goodman has made a lasting impact on the Library, and will be remembered and missed by the library staff and the whole Manhattanville Community. We wish her well in all of her pursuits.
A Farewell From Rhonna Goodman

From the most avoided place on campus – to the heart of the intellectual life of the College, the Library has come a very long way in the past fourteen years.

When I arrived here there was one computer (for the librarians only) that was connected to the Internet, and only one full-time librarian. Information Literacy was a required course, but it was taught from mimeographed sheets and was pretty boring. The Library closed each weekday at 10 o'clock, and if you even THOUGHT about bringing in coffee or food, you were asked to leave.

Now we think about the entire community when we plan new library services. We try to reach you "just in time" and not make you wait for help. We have become a showcase for the incredibly talented faculty, and our wonderful student body.

We have as many databases and electronic resources as major research universities. The Information Literacy classes are right on target, and most of you have a librarian visit one of your classes at least twice before you graduate. The café is a meeting place for the whole community - a place where we study and learn together (as well as have great conversations). The entire staff is here to help you – to make your time at Manhattanville as pleasant as possible.

I will miss all of you and I will miss the College. With your help, the library can evolve in ways it will serve you as both a physical place, and as an important virtual presence in your academic life.

Rhonna Goodman

Library Launches New Website

The Library has redesigned its website, matching the new-look Manhattanville College pages. We’ve made information easier to find with less clicks, and the simple, uncluttered pages are much more readable. Plus, we are introducing some new features!

Our bigger, better catalog, IDS Search, combines local and regional holdings information with Google Book Search results. Google Scholar provides access to high-quality articles right from the library home page. Journals@Mville is a flexible, powerful tool set to drill down into our digital holdings.

And we’ve joined the blogosphere: Now you can keep up with news and events in the Library all at once by following the Library News Blog. Library Guides (formerly CastleCat Community) make research projects in every subject a snap. There are special guides for students in the First Year Program, citation guides, and much, much more.

The new library website is a work-in-progress and content is being added daily. A digital exhibit from Special Collections about the development of the present Manhattanville College campus, featuring text and photographs will be up shortly. So put on your hard hat and explore the site!

Rhonna A. Goodman Library Enrichment Fund

The fund was established to bring scholars and lecturers to the College, support professional development, and advance the leading status of the Manhattanville College Library.

For more information, or to make a contribution, please contact Elaine Provenzano at Elaine.Provenzano@mville.edu or Nancy Kingston at Nancy.Kingston@mville.edu.
Fall Events at the Library

September 14, 4:30pm
Michael Posnick, M.F.A., Director, Dance and Theatre
A Serendipitous Sabbatical at Yale

September 23, 1:00pm
Midday Music
Library Café

October 19, 4:30pm
Carolee Berg, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Sociology
Silence, Summer, and Sabbatical

October 26, 4:30pm
Geoffrey Kidde, D.M.A., Associate Professor, Music
The Machine Stops: a work in progress

October 28, 1:00pm
Midday Music
Library Café

November 2, 7:00pm
Creative Writing Faculty and Student Reading, featuring new books from Greg Olear and Jeff Pearlman

November 4, 1:00pm
Midday Music
Library Café

November 9, 4:30pm
George E. Schreer, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Psychology
“Most Students at Your College Recycle”: Using Social Norms to Increase Students’ Intentions to Recycle

November 16, 4:30pm
Francis Brancaleone, Ph.D., Chair, Music
Wagnerian Influence in the Work of Edward MacDowell

December 2, 1:00pm
Midday Music
Library Café

Special Library Event

November 9, 12:00-4:00pm
Films on Demand Showcase and Open House
Library Reference Area
Come and see a demonstration of our enhanced Films on Demand Collection of almost 7000 quality films. Librarians will show you how to take advantage of this great new resource.

All faculty lectures take place in the Current Periodicals Room at the Library. Light refreshments will be served.
Ethnographic Research

In mid-September, Jeff Rosedale, Acting Library Director, and Lynda Hanley, Education Librarian, attended a workshop on Undergraduate Research Behavior entitled “Leadership through New Communities of Knowledge.” The workshop was led by Nancy Fried Foster, Director of Anthropological Research at the River Campus Libraries of the University of Rochester. Under the direction of Dr. Foster, the libraries at the University of Rochester have conducted a number of ethnographic research projects; the most comprehensive of these is *Studying Students: The Undergraduate Research Project at the University of Rochester*, edited by Nancy Fried Foster and Susan Gibbons. The workshop was hosted by Westminster College, in Salt Lake City, UT, which provided both space and student research subjects. In addition to Manhattanville, representatives from five other college libraries were also in attendance.

Funded by the federal government’s Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), these workshops provide a venue for small college libraries to learn ethnographic research methods. Using these methods can help libraries plan and design spaces and services with a better understanding of students’ work practices (see [http://www.clir.org/activities/leadershipclircic/Rollins2010.html](http://www.clir.org/activities/leadershipclircic/Rollins2010.html)). Through a combination of hands on practice and group discussion, attendees gained first-hand experience in various research methods used in studies conducted at the University of Rochester. The broader context in which these research methods are used is called participatory design, which means asking, “What do the participants need to do and where do the participants go to get what they need?”

Three methods reviewed at the workshop included:

- Ethnographic observation: Attendees were divided into four groups, observing anything of significance, such as observable characteristics of the space, how many people were there, demographic characteristics, and what people were doing.
- Mapping diaries: Westminster college students were asked to map their movement around campus on one particular day. The four workshop groups conducted interviews with students to elicit each student’s personal story in regards to their particular map.
- Photo interviews: Students were provided with a camera and asked to photograph twenty different types of spaces, places, and objects they used in specific instances. The four workshop groups again interviewed certain students to elicit the student’s personal relationship to each photograph.

At the conclusion of each work session, Dr. Foster led a discussion with the workshop participants on what had transpired as well as identifying the types of information gathered during the observations and interviews. She further discussed how to tabulate the information into qualitative or quantitative data.

The representatives from Manhattanville College discussed three possible Library projects:

- Understanding student needs for a 24/7 campus study space: For the first time in many years, the Library is no longer open 24/7, closing at 6pm on Friday and Saturday. The Berman Students’ Center remains open 24/7. The Manhattanville College Library will conduct an ethnographic study to determine what students do academically during overnight hours and what they need to accomplish their work. This will be done by using data from a survey and mapping interviews.
- The Education Librarian conducts library workshops for the SOE EDU 5550 classes – Research in Special Education and Literacy. This involves creating a research paper as the capstone assignment in both programs. The Education Librarian would like to know how these students do their research, including which sources and tools are the most useful. This information will be obtained using data from research journal logs and retrospective interviews.
- The Manhattanville College Library is now providing virtual reference services in addition to traditional, in-library reference. The librarians would like to understand users’ expectations and experiences in using the virtual services. This will be done using data from a survey, ethnographic observations, and photo elicitation interviews.

More information about these projects will be forthcoming this academic year.
Get Your App Together!

The Manhattanville College Library has launched its Mobile App.

The app lets you find books, articles, media, hours, and contact information quickly and easily. Searching the catalog is a cinch: just type the first few letters of your search. For example: Ja au for Jane Austen.

Like many library projects, development of the app was a collaborative effort over several months. Beginning with a survey of patrons to get their input, the library app team worked closely with Boopsie, a mobile app developer. Special attention was paid to every detail, right down to the customized graphics.

And if you have questions, we have answers! Through the app you can text, email, or phone the library. We can help you: on the run and just in time. Point your mobile browser to mville.boopsie.com, or Android and iPhone users can check their app stores.

Of course, if you need to see us in person – just stop in.

Films On Demand- Master Academic Collection

With the step up to the Master Academic Collection, our Films on Demand video platform now includes the following subject sets:

- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Business and Economics (new)
- Science and Math (new)
- Health and Medicine (new)
- Archival News Footage and Films (new)

We now have on-demand access to almost 7000 quality films from producers like the BBC, PBS, CBS, A&E, Cambridge Educational and National Geographic. Every month new titles are added to the collection keeping the material timely and relevant.

Films on Demand is easily customized for teaching and learning. Both full titles and segments can be shared via email, embedded into courses using course management software like Blackboard, or added to library subject guides like LibGuides.


Films on Demand Showcase and Open House

Wednesday, November 9, 2011
12:00-4:00 pm
Library Reference Area

Come see a demonstration of our enhanced Films on Demand collection. Librarians will show you how to take advantage of this great new resource. For more information, please contact Mary-Elizabeth Schaub at MaryElizabeth.Schaub@mville.edu. Light refreshments will be served.
Catherine Medeot Promoted

The Library is proud to announce the promotion of Catherine Medeot to Academic Technology Librarian, as of July 1, 2011. A member of the Library staff since September of 2008, Catherine is a familiar face to many who frequent the Library. She has managed serials and e-journal collections in her role as a Collections Services Assistant, and worked out front as both a Circulation Supervisor and Reference Librarian. While still a graduate student, Catherine served on the Reference Committee, which explored best practices and emerging trends in the field. She was part of the test pilot group that became our Ask Us service and was instrumental in the coordination and creation of the new mobile app. Catherine started the Library’s Twitter account and is involved with revamping and streamlining our social media presence. One of her new roles will be serving as point person for library ePortfolio support.

Catherine graduated in May 2011 with an MSLIS degree from the prestigious School of Information Studies at Syracuse University. She began to think about a career in librarianship as an Art History graduate student at Hunter College after a life-changing visit to MOMA’s library.

When asked about her new role, Catherine responded enthusiastically about new opportunities: “I’m really excited to be in this position – to have a hand in how technology can be thoughtfully and creatively implemented to support teaching and learning in an academic library.”

Patricia Bommicino Retires

On September 22, the Library staff bid a fond farewell to Patricia Bommicino, who for nine years provided meticulous cataloging services for the Library. Actually, this was Patricia’s second retirement from the workforce. Before coming to the Library, she had a long career with the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

During her tenure, the Library substantially increased its book purchasing and expanded its collection to include DVDs, faculty lectures, masters theses, and new media. Patricia calmly and quietly improved and extended the library catalog, helping the Manhattanville community benefit from all of our collections.

Patricia has been an enthusiastic supporter of Library events and attended almost every faculty lecture (before cataloging them) during her time at the Library. She has travel plans, but in between trips we suspect she might turn up at a future event or two.

For now, we will miss her good company and superb cataloging skills.