ePortfolio Pilot Project

The Library is pleased to support Manhattanville’s ePortfolio Pilot Project. Ken Eilen, Library Tech Help Manager, and Emerging Technologies Librarian, Kate Todd, will conduct a series of ePortfolio workshops for a pilot group of faculty and students. Training will highlight the basics of building an ePortfolio, incorporating a body of work, such as essays, projects, and assessments into a platform provided by Digication. The pilot program launches in Spring 2011 and will eventually include the whole campus.

Ken, who graduated from Manhattanville in 2007 under the “hard copy” portfolio system, was asked about the benefits of having an electronic portfolio: “If I had this as a student, it would have changed things. Visually working with the material would have made it easier for me personally. In creating my ePortfolio, I can show it to a prospective company a second after publishing and say ‘my resume is attached to this website and here is my college portfolio of work.’ Then, they can go directly to that link and get the information instantly”, which might give a person a competitive edge in terms of timeliness and professionalism. “They expect you to have the technology they have”, Ken continued. “Computers are too much a part of our daily life not to expect it.”

Ken stressed the importance of students understanding the concept of ePortfolio, emphasizing that the framework of the website must be created before the content can be input. The set up of ePortfolio allows for greater individual customization. Once the user creates his page, the placement of images and text can easily be incorporated into the overall design. Ken believes there is another advantage to Digication which will please technophobic users: “Users do not need to know HTML. The Digication design of ePortfolio does it for you.” To view a sample ePortfolio go to: http://mville.digication.com/home_guest.digi?sid=3848&cid=0&tid=0&pid=0.

Ongoing assistance will be available from Ken, at the Library Tech Tips Desk, and Library student workers trained in the Digication features will also be on hand, Sundays through Thursdays, 4pm-8pm. Students may also schedule an appointment using the Library Tech Tips Consultation request form at: http://www.mville.edu/Library/LibraryTechTips/Default.aspx or place an IT Support Center request at: http://s5.parature.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=15204.

Ebrary Education Collection

Last month the library added a wonderful new resource to its collection, the Ebrary Education subject set, featuring nearly 3000 electronic books on education, study guides and social science books. The titles are available to search as a single database or through CastleCat, the library catalog. The electronic books or eBooks are wonderful because they are available 24/7, never get lost or damaged and are always available to you. You can print pages, bookmark, annotate, and export bibliographic information to a citation manager like RefWorks. To give you an idea of the range of books available, here are our top 10 most looked at titles:

- GRE Prep Course eBook
- Understanding by Design (Expanded Second Edition)
- McGraw-Hill’s LSAT
- The Good Research Guide, Teaching with the Brain in Mind (2nd Edition)
- Inclusion: The Dynamic of School Development
- 400 Must-Have Words for the TOEFL
- What Works in Schools: Translating Research into Action
- Doing Quantitative Research in Education with SPSS

We are excited to make these books available to the Manhattanville community. Please have a look and let us know what you think of our new collection of electronic books. If you need more information on how to find out how to incorporate ebooks into your coursework or use them in your research please contact the reference desk at x5282.
A Note From The Director

How do you want to use the Library?
In the building, working one-on-one with a reference librarian? By email? By chat? By text? Or by a mobile app? Within the next few weeks, all will be possible. The Library is creating a mobile app where you will be able to check if an item is in the building, or order it on interlibrary loan. You can renew materials, find out the Library’s hours, or download some of our resources such as *Gale*, *NetLibrary*, *EbscoHost*, and *ArtStor* on your smart phone.

If you would like to help us create this mobile app and/or want to give us some feedback about what you would like included, please let me know.

Are you using our new texting service? You can now text the Library every day from 10 until 6 at 914 288-6288 or type a question from the Library’s website. If you ask a question after 6, we will get back to you the next morning. For more information about texting go to: [http://www.mville.edu/library](http://www.mville.edu/library).

**What if?** It is three o’clock in the morning, and you need help? Click on ASK A LIBRARIAN 24/7, a chat service hosted by librarians from across the United States. They will “grab” your computer remotely and help you with research. Manhattanville College librarians go over your chat every day, and if we feel that you need more help, we will email you.

**What if?** You are home for the weekend, you have to write a history paper and don’t know where to begin? From the Library’s website, click on *CastleCat Community*, then click on “history”. You will find a comprehensive guide to history research – using many of the Library’s resources. If you need more help, you can also directly contact the librarian who created the page. There is a CastleCat Community page for all Manhattanville subjects.

**What if?** You have done preliminary research and are still unsure of where to go. Make an appointment with a librarian for an in-depth consultation. On the Library’s home page, go to “How Do I use the Library as a Student”, click on “getting help with my research”, and fill out the online appointment form.

**What if?** You don’t remember any of this, but need help? CALL THE REFERENCE DESK (x5282) and we will help you. I promise.

Have a great semester.

Rhonna Goodman
Director, Manhattanville College Library
goodmanr@mville.edu
914 323-5277

New For You

Did you know that you can now scan books, documents and photos into pdf, Word or Excel files and save them to your USB drive? Our new book scanners have been very popular since they arrived last Fall. Students find the touch screens quick and easy to use, with excellent results.

Do you need to film your work? Flip cameras are now available for three-day loan periods. Coming soon…a document feeder to help ease the input of documents into larger projects such as ePortfolio. Check them out next time you are in the Library.

*Barbara Gonzalez working with one of the new scanners.*
Spring Events

February 9, 7:00 pm
Paul Levitz, Adjunct Professor, English
*Seventy-five Years of DC Comics: The Art of Modern Mythmaking*

February 16, 4:30 pm
Irene Whelan, Ph.D., Professor, History; Director of Irish Studies
*The Rise and Fall of Ireland's "Celtic Tiger" Economy*

February 23, 4:30 pm
Christine Dehne, M.F.A., Professor, Studio Art; Communication Studies
*Year One: Art Made from Motherhood*

March 2, 4:30 pm
Juliette Wells, Ph.D., Associate Professor, English
*Jane Austen and Literary Tourism*

March 9, 4:30 pm
Theresa Kelleher, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Asian Studies Chair; World Religions
*Mirroring the Role of Confucius as Moral Teacher in Late Imperial China: The Case of Wu Yubi of the Ming Dynasty*

March 23, 4:30 pm
Nicholas Zoffell, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Communication Studies
*Grappling with Critical Turns: Engaging Uncertainties of Pedagogy, Assessment, and Educational Relationships*

March 30, 4:30 pm
Robin Cautin, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Psychology Chair
*David Shakow at the Intersection of Psychoanalysis, Psychology, and Psychiatry*

April 6, 4:30 pm
Elizabeth Cherry, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Sociology and Anthropology
*From Pets to Politics: Animal Advocasy in France and the United States*

April 11 - May 15
Closing Reception May 13, 5:00 - 7:00 pm
*Biennial Manhattanville Alumni Art Show*

April 13, 4:30 pm
James E. Jones, D.Min., Associate Professor, World Religions Chair; African Studies
*Terror and God? Important Questions for Abraham's Children*

April 20, 7:00 pm
Alice Quinn, Alumna, Executive Director, Poetry Society of America; former Poetry Editor, *The New Yorker*
*Special Presentation in honor of National Poetry Month*

All lectures take place in the Current Periodicals Room at the Library.
Music, Art, and Poetry

Midday Music in the Café begins its Spring season on February 18, with Gail Simmons, voice and guitar, performing a selection of folk music. Flautist Heather Breen follows on March 4, accompanied by Dr. Francis Brancaleone on piano. Both performances are from 1:00 to 1:30 pm in the Library Café.

Manhattanville College Library, the Studio Art Department, and the Alumni Association will sponsor a biennial Manhattanville College Alumni Art Exhibit of fine or commercial art. The non-juried exhibit will be held in the Library, from April 11-May 15. Please stop by and view the creative works of our alumni or join us for the closing reception on May 13, from 5:00-7:00 pm. For Library hours, please call Elaine Provenzano @914-323-5207.

In honor of National Poetry Month, Alice Quinn, Alumna, will give a special presentation on April 20. Alice Quinn is Executive Director of the Poetry Society of America and an adjunct professor at Columbia University’s graduate School of the Arts. She was poetry editor at The New Yorker from 1987-2007 and at Alfred A. Knopf, Publishers, from 1976-1986, and she is the editor of Edgar Allan Poe & The Juke-Box: Uncollected Poems, Drafts, and Fragments by Elizabeth Bishop. Her articles on and interviews with writers, poets, and artists have appeared in Artforum, the Canadian National Post, The Forward, Poetry Ireland, The New Yorker, and The New Yorker Online, and she is currently at work editing the journals and notebooks of Elizabeth Bishop.

Library Receives NEH Grant

The Manhattanville College Library has been named a recipient of the 2010 National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) Preservation Assistance Grant. The award will fund a Preservation Survey of the Library’s Special Collections, particularly its Humanities Collections. An expert consultant in preservation will work with library staff to evaluate the current condition of the Library’s rare book, manuscript, and archival resources. The grant will also allow the Library to strategically plan for the future of its Special Collections and incorporate new technologies in the preservation of its distinct and unique materials.

Super-Heroes Meet At The Library

On February 9, Paul Levitz spoke at the Library about his long and varied career at DC Comics. It was a very rewarding and successful start to the Spring Events season.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Levitz entered the comics industry in 1971 as editor/publisher of The Comic Reader, the first mass-circulation fanzine devoted to comics news. He continued to publish TCR for three years, winning two consecutive annual Comic Art Fan Awards for Best Fanzine. Other fan activities included editing the program books for several of Phil Seuling’s legendary New York Comic Art Conventions. He received Comic-con International’s Inkpot Award in 2002, the prestigious Bob Clampett Humanitarian Award in 2008, and the Comics Industry Appreciation Award from ComicsPro in 2010. Levitz also serves on the board of the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund.

Primarily known for his work for DC Comics, he has written most of their classic characters including the Justice Society, Superman, in both comics and the newspaper strip, and an acclaimed run on The Legion of Super-Heroes, a series he’s recently returned to write. Readers of The Buyers’ Guide voted his Legion: The Great Darkness Saga one of the 20 best comic stories of the last century. DC Comics has just issued a new hardcover edition of Legion: The Great Darkness Saga, which made the New York Times’ Graphic Books Best Seller List.

Cumulatively, Levitz has written over 300 stories with sales of over 25 million copies, and translations into over 20 languages. As a DC staffer since 1973, Levitz has been an assistant editor, the company’s youngest editor ever, Executive Vice President & Publisher (1989), and President & Publisher (2002-2009). He continues as a Contributing Editor, but is now concentrating on his writing. Current projects include Taschen’s 75 Years of DC Comics: The Art of Modern Mythmaking, published in 2010.

He has been teaching Writing for Media at Manhattanville College since last fall.
Meet New Staff

Christina Ostroff has joined the Manhattanville College Library as the Digital Resources Librarian. She grew up in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area and graduated from the University of North Texas in Denton, TX with her BA in English and her Master’s in Library Science. Before becoming a librarian, Christina taught English and worked in publishing. For her, being a librarian combines what she loves most from both of her previous jobs—teaching and sharing information. In her free time, she enjoys cooking and growing her own organic vegetables.

Betty Gallagher Retires

Beginning the new year on a wistful note, Betty Gallagher, the Library’s longtime Coordinator of Reference Services, retired. At a recent tea celebrating her retirement, Betty was presented with a thick scrapbook of memorabilia of her accomplishments at the Library. Turning the pages, one is amazed at how much work and how many activities Betty was involved with daily, multi-tasking before the word was coined. While working on her MLS, Betty honed her skills first at the Westchester County Archives and then at Lyndhurst. She arrived at the Manhattanville College Library in 1995, with a love of history and historic preservation. The Library is now a very different place than when she got here, in many ways because of her work.

When Betty started, there were about 10 computers in the Library, with access to only a small selection of databases, the only equipment in the electronic classroom was an overhead projector, and there was NO café. Over fifteen years, she greatly expanded the role and resources of Reference Services, which now include a vast array of materials, in both print and electronic format, and reference help is now both face-to-face and virtual. Betty taught for many years in the LIS program, working with students to develop valuable research skills. At the end of each semester, she spearheaded Citation Station, a popular service that helps students with last-minute bibliographic citation. (She even brought the balloons.)

For some time, Betty also oversaw the Library’s exhibits and outreach efforts. Some memorable shows included: 5 Women Artists of the New Century, held in 2000 as the 21st century began; Australian Aboriginal Art: A Quest for Sovereignty, featuring a type of art rarely seen in this area, and The Art of Illumination: Medieval to Modern, an exhibit of medieval and contemporary artists working on parchment, using the techniques of medieval illumination in a modern way. Of all the many fascinating objects displayed during the exhibit, the most splendid was the diminutive Book of Hours, an illuminated manuscript from the 14th century, that is part of the Library’s rare book collection.

Betty is returning to her Connecticut roots, moving soon to a lovely spot on the Long Island Sound. We wish her well and thank her for her dedication to the Manhattanville College Library.