New and Noteworthy

The Library is a continuously changing mosaic of numerous resources, services, and programs. As a physical facility, the Library is a familiar campus building and it serves as a frequent venue for the William Paterson University community. However, under this stable façade, the programs, resources, and services of the Library are in a nearly constant state of development and revision.

In an effort to provide a wide selection of academic resources and to maintain a high standard of service, the Library staff continuously acquires new resources and enhances services. Sometimes driven by technological advances, sometimes the result of thoughtful selection, these alterations are all intended to better serve the Library’s users. Often, however, modifications to well-known Library resources and services may not be apparent to the casual observer. Many of these changes and improvements go largely unnoticed until one utilizes a traditional database or utility.

Herewith, then, a selection of new or newly revised services and resources of the Library is reviewed. Among the revisions you will find recurring programs, changing exhibits, exemplary services, and exceptional resources. We hope you will stop by the Library to see or sample some of these new and noteworthy changes.

The Library has purchased access to the Arts and Sciences II Collection of JSTOR thereby increasing the journals accessible in this electronic collection to 182. The new collection includes additional journals for such disciplines as history, economics, and Asian and Latin American studies.

Science Direct, an electronic journal collection for the sciences, now includes many titles in the social sciences. More than 150 journals in the social sciences may now be accessed using the Science Direct web site. Searches may be conducted in specific titles or across subject areas. Journals in the social sciences encompass women’s studies, politics, languages, government studies and other subjects.

The Philosopher’s Index is one of the Library’s newest electronic resources. This international database corresponds to the index published by Bowling Green University and provides multiple avenues for searching. Coverage begins in 1940 and continues to the present with quarterly updates.

The Oxford English Dictionary is now available on CD-ROM. The entire text of the 1989 edition of the dictionary (20 volumes in print) plus three supplements are included. This format provides access to the extensive definitions and etymologies traditionally associated with this dictionary and offers options for several types of searches.

The Library’s Electronic Reserves service continues to be popular with both faculty and students who appreciate the ease of remote access to these materials. Articles and books chapters may be read online or printed for later reference. Currently, 33 faculty use electronic reserves, and the recent purchase of a new software program will facilitate the maintenance of this service.

Another popular service is the electronic acquisition form used to request materials for the Library’s collection. The service includes recommendation forms for books, media, and journals. Many faculty now use these forms and requests have also been submitted by students. All requests are forwarded to the appropriate library selector.

The Library regularly schedules workshops during the fall and spring semesters. This series of librarian-directed workshops introduces users to the extensive electronic resources of the Library.

The Library’s electronic book collection, accessed through NetLibrary, now comprises more than 4000 titles covering all disciplines. These books may be browsed online or downloaded using special software.

The Exhibits Committee is responsible for organizing and creating the many exhibits on view throughout the Library. These exhibits are planned to coincide with current or seasonal events and are designed to highlight portions of the collection.
Pamela Theus Appointed Assistant Director of Resource Management

Following a national search, Pamela Theus was selected as Assistant Director for Collections and Resource Management, effective July 1, 2002. The Library’s division of Resource Management includes acquisitions, cataloging, serials, document delivery, and interlibrary loan. In addition, Pamela is responsible for collection development.

Pamela earned an M.L.S. from Drexel University and an M.A. in Psychology from City College.

Pamela joined the William Paterson University community in 1988 as Acquisitions Librarian. Since that time she has managed the department through two system migrations, and led the Library’s effort to purchase a collection of electronic books.

Along with colleagues, she has coordinated the Library’s annual Author Reception, and now heads a committee developing a new faculty lecture series.

Pamela looks forward to providing leadership for this division and exploring new procedures for the bibliographic management of electronic and web-based resources.

About her new position, Pamela said, “I am excited about working with the staff in Resource Management to develop a division that will serve as a model for the future in this growing area of the Library.”

Nancy Weiner Appointed Reference / Distance Education Librarian

Nancy Weiner joined the library’s professional staff on September 3, 2002. In her new position, Nancy serves as a reference librarian with responsibility for the Library’s distance education services. Nancy will be working to promote existing library services to students taking online courses, as well as implementing new ideas for this growing segment of the student body.

Prior to her appointment, Nancy worked as a reference/instruction librarian at Berkeley College in West Paterson and most recently served as director of the campus library. Nancy earned her M.L.S. degree from Rutgers University in 1998 and started out as a law librarian, working at a large New Jersey law firm. She has also worked part time as a reference librarian at Seton Hall’s School of Law library.

Nancy is excited about her new duties and responsibilities in the Library and looks forward to becoming an active member of the William Paterson University community.

On a personal note, Nancy resides in Lincoln Park with her husband, Bob, and their Jack Russell terrier, Holly.

Professional Activities

Anne Ciliberti, Amy Job, Deborah Pluss, and Bob Wolk attended a metadata workshop, Building Digital New Jersey, sponsored by the Metadata Foundation on November 18, 2002 in New Brunswick, NJ.

Amy Job was elected chair of the VALE Bibliographic Control and Metadata Subcommittee for the 2003-2005 term. Amy also participated in a panel discussion at the Educational Media Association of New Jersey Conference on October 29, 2002 in Cherry Hill, NJ.

Richard Kearney attended a workshop, XML and Libraries, on November 15, 2002 in Albany, NY.

Yvonne Roux attended the American Library Association’s Annual Conference from June 14-18, 2002 in San Francisco, CA. Yvonne also attended Immersion ’02, an Institute for Information Literacy sponsored by the Association of College and Research Libraries from July 26-31, 2002 in Colorado Springs, CO.

Susan Sabatino attended the Documents Association of New Jersey Annual Conference on November 1, 2002 in New Brunswick, NJ.

Pamela Theus attended the PALINET Annual Conference from October 28-29, 2002 in Harrisburg, PA. Pamela also attended the Charleston Conference on Acquisitions and Collection Development from October 30-November 2, 2002 in Charleston, SC.

Kurt W. Wagner attended LITA 2002, the Library & Information Technology Association’s Annual Meeting from October 11-13 in Houston, TX.
A Letter from the Chair

When the historian Shelby Foote first noted that “a university is just a group of buildings gathered around a library,” he surely earned the undying gratitude of generations of librarians. One must hasten to add, however, that a library is not just a group of books gathered upon some shelves. Indeed, it is arguably the place where the spirit of inquiry, which animates all great universities, takes its most visible form. Just ask any librarian.

Or ask any Friend. The Friends of the David and Lorraine Cheng Library was organized to aid and expand our own library’s mission. Now in our fourth year, we have sponsored a number of public events to extend its reach. We continue our efforts this year. Because we believe that the faculty of William Paterson University is among its greatest strengths, we have sought to find ways to bring them into the broader community, and we are especially pleased to have an opportunity to sponsor two faculty lectures at the James A. McFaul Wildlife Center of Bergen County in neighboring Wyckoff this spring.

We also eagerly await our Fall lecturer, Richard Bernstein, who will come to our campus on Friday, December 6, 2002, at 7:30 PM, to speak about William Paterson, a New Jersey statesman of great importance not only to our university but to this nation’s founding. At a time when Founding Fathers (and Brothers and Mothers) are receiving renewed attention, he remains little known and appreciated. We hope to change this. We anticipate that Richard’s lecture will begin a fresh discussion, reacquainting us with our namesake, William Paterson. We also hope that it will inaugurate a series of explorations of other important figures in the history of New Jersey.

We enthusiastically invite you to join us for this important event.

And we respectfully invite you to join us in all of our future endeavors as well. Membership is easy. The cost is minimal. Need a form? Just ask our librarians.

John P. Koontz
Chair, Executive Committee

William Paterson’s Laws of the State of New Jersey Is Added to Library’s Archive

The Library recently received a copy of the Laws of the State of New Jersey written and compiled by William Paterson and published in 1800. The folio volume was donated to the Library by Walter J. Hunziker, Jr., grandson of Gustav A. Hunziker, for whom the University building was named.

William Paterson was elected governor of New Jersey in 1790 and undertook the task of compiling and codifying all existing New Jersey laws including English statutes and acts adopted by the legislature after the War for Independence. Then Governor Paterson also revised the rules and practices of the State’s courts and continued work on this codification after his appointment as associate justice of the US Supreme Court. The resulting folio was the first volume of published laws for the state of New Jersey.

This book will complement the Library’s existing archive of the personal papers of William Paterson, a collection of more than 1000 letters, legal opinions, case notes, and other materials.

IN MEMORIAM

David Cheng, former trustee and benefactor of William Paterson University, died on September 14, 2002. He was 83.

David Cheng served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the University from 1990 to 1999. In 2001, in recognition of a major donation to the University, the library was renamed for David Cheng and his wife, Lorraine.

Before the dedication of the Library, the Chengs had bestowed a gift to the Library to strengthen the existing Chinese-language collection.

Dr. Cheng, who earned a doctoral degree in structural mechanics at Columbia University, began his academic career at Rutgers. He also served as executive officer and dean of the School of Engineering at the City College of New York.

Among other accomplishments at CCNY, Dr. Cheng helped establish the CUNY Center for Large-Scale Computation.

Dr. Cheng also wrote two books on the philosopher, Lao Tzu, and numerous articles on structural engineering processes.

In addition to his wife, Dr. Cheng is survived by a son, Kenneth, of Valley Cottage, NY, a daughter, Gloria, of Los Angeles, and a granddaughter, Michelle.
Library Installs Wireless Network for Laptop Use

Have you ever wished you could do the computer work you need to do, but not be elbow-to-elbow with others in a computer lab? In the coming months, you will be able to borrow a laptop computer equipped with a wireless network card for use within the Library.

These laptops will enable you to use Microsoft Office applications such as Word, Excel, and Access. The computers are also equipped with a web browser to permit access to e-mail, library databases, and the worldwide web.

Currently enrolled students, faculty and staff will be eligible to borrow these laptop computers from Media Services for three-hour periods and use them in designated areas of the Library, mainly on the second floor. The laptops will be able to print to the Electronic Resource Center on the first floor.

Consider the advantage of being able to look up books in the Library’s online catalog while working at a location just steps from the book stacks. Consider the convenience of being able to access a full-text article from a scholarly journal while seated comfortably in a reading chair in a quiet corner of the Library. Consider the comfort of reading or sending e-mail while studying quietly on the Library’s second floor.

The David and Lorraine Cheng Library continues to offer new technologies to make access to information more convenient. We hope you will take advantage of the wireless laptop program, and let us know what you think. For more information, inquire at the Reference Desk or at Media Services or connect to http://www.wpunj.edu/library/wirelesslaptops.shtml.

PsycArticles: Library Acquires New Electronic Journal Collection

In November, the Cheng Library acquired subscription access to PsycArticles, the American Psychological Association’s full-text database. PsycArticles is the electronic repository of many APA publications and contains articles from forty APA journals, chapters from selected APA books, and articles from psychology journals published by the Canadian Psychological Association and Hogrefe & Huber. The database currently contains over 28,000 articles, with backfiles to 1988 for 18 journals and more recent full-text coverage for the other titles.

The acquisition of PsycArticles represents a significant step in the Library’s effort to provide improved access to research materials. The database provides 32 new titles and online access to 18 journals previously available at the Cheng Library in paper. PsycArticles offers convenient access to current articles from these journals at any time, and as a result, the Library and the Psychology Department have agreed to exchange the paper subscriptions for the database. The Library’s license with the APA ensures that archival rights to the journals will be retained.

Access to PsycArticles is available both on and off campus through the Library’s web pages. Students and faculty who use the APA’s comprehensive database, PsycInfo, to search for psychology literature will now find links to the PsycArticles collection when the text of an item is available. Most articles in the database are available in both HTML and PDF formats.

To access PsycArticles, click on the “Find an article” link on the Library’s web site.

Library Receives Alumni Association Award

A recent grant from the Alumni Association has enabled the Library to purchase Docutek software for Electronic Reserves and Copyright management.

This software will assist the staff members of the Lending Services department as they continue to improve and maintain this popular academic support service. Docutek software will facilitate the digitizing of faculty’s reserve materials, and will enable students to easily access these materials from the Library’s web site.

Many thanks to the Alumni Association for this generous grant!

Visit the Library’s Webpage at www.wpunj.edu/library for more information about the Library’s services and resources.