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The Libraries have a new service which is designed to make your latest scholarship more accessible. The Selected Works page (http://digitalcommons.colby.edu/sw_gallery.html) is a part of DigitalCommons@Colby which is constructed to collect, present, and preserve Colby scholarship and publicize it to the wider community.

Selected Works will allow you to post citations, links, and/or PDFs for downloading of your work. You can provide connections to your full CV and use the Selected Works page to feature your most recent material. You can establish mailing lists to send notifications of new works to your personal community of scholars. You receive monthly reports on how many downloads occurred for each document on your page. Best of all, your material is guaranteed to appear as one of the top 10 links on any Google search of relevant terms. This is why we think of Selected Works as “visible scholarship.”

To see what a fully developed Selected Works site can look like, visit the University of Massachusetts, Amherst Selected Works Gallery: http://scholarworks.umass.edu/. This will give you an idea of the variety of options available to you with this service. This is a new program, still in pilot mode, and we’re looking for a few interested faculty to participate. To set up your page, contact Marilyn R. Pukkila (mrpukkil@colby.edu, X5145) to schedule an appointment.

Selected Works Offers More Visible Scholarship

Honors Theses Go Digital

Clem Guthro, Library Director

In spring 2009, Colby Libraries, together with some academic departments, is moving honors theses into the digital age. Colby Libraries has implemented a digital publishing platform, DigitalCommons@Colby at http://digitalcommons.colby.edu. Students can submit the final copy of their honors thesis in digital form once they and their advisor have jointly submitted a Copyright and Distribution Permission Form. Once submitted, honors theses will be available to the Colby campus community and, if the student chooses the Open Access option, they will be also searchable and available via Google.
The campus has seen an interesting variety of world music performances this spring, such as Korean music performed on the komungo, and Sufi singing accompanied by the harmonium and tabla. Bixler Art and Music Library has a rich collection of music from world cultures...come visit us in person or on the web at http://www.colby.edu/academics_ca/library/artmu to find a wealth of music to listen to online. The home page of the Art and Music Library at Colby College lists great streaming music services for your listening enjoyment, such as Contemporary World Music Online, Smithsonian Global Sound, Naxos Music Library, and Naxos Jazz. The library has all compact discs from the Music Rough Guide series, everything from African Rap to Cuban Street Party to Indian Lounge. We purchased many new African pop and traditional music recordings this year. Students can borrow music CDs for 3 days. Expand the music party in your mind...visit the Art and Music Library in Bixler! Margaret Ericson, head of the Art and Music Library, will be happy to assist you with our streaming music databases, or with finding music CDs in our collections -- mericson@colby.edu, x5662.

**RUBÁIYÁT COLLECTION ON DISPLAY**

2009 marks the 150th anniversary of Edward Fitzgerald’s landmark translation of the *Rubáiyát* of Omar Khayyám. Omar Khayyám was an 11th century Persian mathematician, astronomer and poet. Fitzgerald’s translation created an unprecedented popular phenomenon in England and America. By the 1930s, the *Rubáiyát* was among the most popular books in English after Shakespeare and the Bible. Special Collections has over 200 editions of the *Rubáiyát*. They are ornate volumes, richly illustrated. Included are the first four editions published under Fitzgerald’s direction. The *Rubáiyát* Collection is on permanent display in the Robinson Room of Special Collections. Please stop by and take a look!

**Overdrive Audio Books,** Peggy Menchen, Assistant Director for Public Service

Colby now has access to a growing collection of audio books downloadable via the internet for free. Burn to a CD (where permitted by the publisher) and/or transfer to supported audio devices such as MP3 players, IPods, or Zune players. More than 1000 titles are available via Maine InfoNet: fiction and non-fiction, best sellers, classics, foreign language study, and biography. Use the link below to peruse the collection; check out items using your Colby ID. Two items may be checked out for one week. Find instructions for downloading the DRM (digital rights management) at http://download.maineinfonet.org
Greener Printing in the Libraries

How much printer paper is wasted in the Colby Libraries? We all see stacks of scrap paper piled high beside printers, but what are the actual costs associated with this misuse?

Sarah Stevens ('09) is doing an independent studies project (ES492) on green libraries this semester. Her experiment in the Science Library is to determine the quantity of wasted paper and identify solutions to the problem. The first phase started March 9, gathering baseline data on paper usage by counting paper going into printers and collecting wasted paper. So far, almost an entire ream (500 sheets) of paper was discarded in just twelve days!

There are a few strategies to reduce waste. Sarah is working with Larry Brown, Library IT Administrator, testing default settings for two-sided printing (Phase II of the experiment), and a print-release station (Phase III). Print-release stations allow users to release jobs on a monitor next to the printers, making it easier to cancel incorrect print jobs or jobs sent to the wrong printer. They also provide a level of privacy that is not possible in our current printer locations.

Sarah’s hypothesis is that each initiative will help to reduce the amount of wasted paper. She hopes to provide the libraries with data we can use to eliminate printing waste.

From the Library Sandbox, Sara Prah, Reference and Instruction Librarian

Maintaining an engaging and effective online presence is critical to a library’s success. But what makes an online information environment work? Simplicity? Social engagement? Point-of-need assistance? Seamless integration with other online services? When the vast majority of undergraduate students choose to begin their research from Google, how do we create library sites that students and faculty will turn to first and often?

The Colby Libraries Web group actively explores these questions through research, experimentation, and user feedback. The Library Sandbox is a page we developed to share some of the ideas we are currently working on: http://www.colby.edu/academics_cs/library/lab.cfm. Projects include short video tips (LibTips) on topics like finding new DVDs, using Interlibrary Loan services, renewing library materials online, searching databases, and selecting citation formats; a Facebook app for LibGuides that allows users to search Colby’s subject guides without leaving Facebook; updated maps of Miller Library; and library news on Twitter.

In the next few months, we will also be developing a new Libraries’ Web site which aims to reach an audience comfortable with a more graphic, participatory Web experience. We encourage you to visit frequently, share these resources with your students, and let us know what you think!

Federal Depository Library, Darylyne Provost, Reference and Instruction Librarian

In 1884, the cornerstone for the Statue of Liberty was laid, Mark Twain wrote The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, and Miller Library became a Federal Depository Library.

Since 1813, depository libraries have safeguarded the public’s right to know by collecting, organizing, maintaining, preserving, and assisting users with information from the Federal Government. We will officially celebrate our 125th anniversary as a selective depository library on Constitution Day, September 17, 2009. Look for details in an upcoming edition of Top o’ the Hill.
Colby Library Mission Statement

The mission of the Colby Libraries is to provide resources and services to support the teaching and research needs of Colby faculty and the information and research needs of Colby students.

Libraries are changing. The quiet library with students studying in individual carrels and everyone talking in hushed tones is gone. Libraries have become busy, sometimes noisy centers of intellectual and social engagement.

Libraries are also staying the same. We collect, steward, and make accessible credible information in all formats (print, digital, film, sound). We provide research assistance to faculty and students and teach skills in research and information evaluation.

One term used to describe these transformed college libraries is “learning commons.” The learning commons model is collaborative, social, and intellectually engaging. Students work alone or in groups, ideally with assistance from faculty, librarians, educational technologists, writing consultants, and computational experts. The learning commons has computers, scanners, printers, wireless, tables, and carrels, seating. But unlike the rigid furniture structure of the past, the learning commons emphasizes flexibility. Furniture and chairs are clustered for group access. Wireless networks, laptops, and moderately movable furniture allow for instant collaboration. Because collaboration is inherently social, ambiance and creature comforts contribute to the success of the learning commons.

College libraries often encompass centers for teaching and learning as another part of the learning commons model.Locating the center for teaching and learning in the library allows additional opportunities for student-faculty engagement and for the library to be truly an intellectual hub of the campus. Could this be Colby?