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Top of the Hill

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We know from our annual spring survey of first-year students that the Libraries’ physical layout, familiarity with the Web site, and access to e-reserves are on their minds as they first set foot on campus, and we’ll be offering tours in September to address these issues. But did you know that the most popular method (and the strongest pedagogically) for in-depth learning about the Libraries has always been course-integrated instruction? We’ve also found that the most popular method (and the strongest pedagogically) for in-depth learning about the Libraries has always been course-integrated instruction? We’ve also found that “using library resources to write a research paper” is students’ biggest concern at the end of their first year. Many students indicate that they had some library instruction from faculty, so we know you are working with them on this; did you know that we can help? Librarians can visit your classroom to do quick overviews of the Web site and basic research tools, or, better yet, offer an on-site session for your class, to give your first years hands-on experience with expert direction. In addition, we’ll meet with any student who makes an appointment, and they usually do so when a faculty member suggests it. Each year our Web sites, databases, and services change: why not have us give your students the most up-to-date information on doing library research at the college level? For more information, or to schedule a session, contact: Suzi Cole (swcole@colby.edu, X5791) for the Sciences, Margaret Ericson (mericson@colby.edu, X5662) for Art & Music, or Marilyn R. Pukkila (mrpukkil@colby.edu, X5145) for all other subjects.

Are your First Years “Library-ready”?

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NEW Library Web site, Sara Prahl

This fall the Colby College libraries have a new Web interface. Designed around feedback collected from students, faculty, and other librarians over the past couple of years, the new site promises greater ease of access to resources by academic discipline and by subject areas within each discipline. There are also two sections of the site specifically targeted toward the interests of Colby faculty: Faculty services, where you will be able to find information on library instruction, reserve forms and policies, and advice on detecting plagiarism among other things; and Information Literacy, which will expand over the coming months to offer a forum and suggested resources for promoting this important set of competencies across the curriculum. I hope you will enjoy using the new site! Please send any feedback to Sara Prahl at slprahl@colby.edu.
NEW SPECIAL COLLECTION OUTREACH PLANS

This past summer, Special Collections staff and student workers completed a series of marketing/outreach meetings in order to better connect Colby faculty and staff, among other constituent groups, with our special materials. These discussions affirmed current initiatives and also gave us new ideas.

Current initiatives include working one-on-one with faculty members who’d like to incorporate Colby history material into their courses, creating and posting finding aids for our literary collections, hosting faculty or staff-sponsored events, and scanning Colbiana and other images from our collections for use in online presentations.

Some of our new ideas are: taking primary source material “on the road” (to classrooms); collaborating more extensively with the art museum, alumni relations, admissions and other campus departments; and creating online teaching tools using items from our collections. We welcome additional outreach ideas so please give us a call!

CBBcat, Beta Test

You may have noticed a link to CBBcat, the Beta test of the new CBB library catalog. Why use CBBcat, you may ask? You can quickly see what books are held by the three schools and request a title that isn’t available at Colby. CBBcat searches more fields than our classic catalog (more records contain table of contents and summaries) so a search will result in more extensive results with more sophisticated options to narrow those results. When fully functional, the My-Discoveries tab will allow you to create your own account and tag records to create and save personalized lists. We invite you to explore CBBcat and welcome your feedback.

Pat Burdick, Special Collections Librarian

Over the summer, Bixler Art and Music Library enhanced the visual imaging technologies available to students in the computer lab in our library. Adobe Photoshop (full version) is now available in the Apple Computer Lab. A color printing workstation, metered for pay as you print usage, has been installed in the lab. A new, high quality 11 x 17 inch flatbed scanner has replaced our old scanner. These improvements were made due to the feedback received from a library technology survey which was distributed to students last fall. I’m very pleased that we’ve received support from the library administration, ITS, and the faculty to bring these enhancements to fruition. New Sibelius and Photoshop Client Service in Bixler Library’s Lab. To support new art and music learning technologies available in our lab, Bixler Library has hired two students to provide help for Sibelius music composition software and Adobe Photoshop. Please welcome Kevin Baier (Sibelius) and Noah VanValkenburg (Photoshop) as our new client service assistants in Bixler Library.

New look in our book stacks: As many of you know, Bixler Library has no space left for growth of our print collections. In summer 2009, Bixler Library began a collection management project to remove superseded print collections to make room for new books. Approximately 10% of the pre-1980 music book collection has been deaccessioned. Journal microfilm collections replicated with electronic content have been pulled, and all remaining art and music microfilm have been shifted to Miller Library, where users can find the necessary reader/printer technologies. Print collections out of the scope of art or music which had resided in Bixler, have been moved to Miller Library. Likewise, the photography books which resided in Miller Library were moved down to Bixler Art and Music Library.

You’ll notice our stacks look quite spiffy and more coordinated. Thanks to our summer students Emily Cook and Jackson Clark, the stacks have been cleaned and shifted. Unfortunately, space remains a critical problem.
**CHANGES IN SCIENCE LIBRARY STAFF and WEB PRESENCE**

Our new Library Assistant is Amy Heggie. Amy comes to Colby with more than ten years experience at both Bowdoin’s Science Library and in their Circulation Department. After leaving Bowdoin, Amy worked for four years as manager for a horse farm in New Hampshire. She has now happily returned to academia. Amy’s responsibilities include course reserves as well as training and supervision of our student staff.

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More than half of our student assistants are new this semester; your patience is appreciated as we shepherd them through training. Please visit the new Science Library home page at [http://libguides.colby.edu/olin](http://libguides.colby.edu/olin).

Topics under **INFO FOR SCIENCE FACULTY** include:
- Book ordering and reserves.
- Explanations for new faculty.
- Troubleshooting journal access, on and off campus.
- Integration of library information and/or instruction into classes.

In addition, the science SUBJECT GUIDES are readily visible. Students have positive reactions when they find these pages, but are slow to use them unless encouraged by faculty. Please point your students to our resources when appropriate. Thanks!

Suggestions for ways to improve our service through the new web pages are welcome.

Talking About Teaching in Miller Library

The reports from the various committees on curricular planning have started many conversations around campus. Here’s a chance to continue them! The Dean of Faculty’s Office will be your host for a lunchtime series entitled "Talking about Teaching". These lunches will be held in the Wormser Room of Miller Library (just outside the Davis classroom and the Art and Music Lab in Bixler).

**Wednesday, October 21, 2009 - Oral communication skills**

**Tuesday, November 17, 2009 - Information Literacy**

These lunches will be subsidized by the Dean’s office at a cost to you of $3 and will include sandwiches and salads. Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to share teaching pedagogy and learn about curricular innovations from our colleagues and invited guests.

Green Computing in the Libraries

We have inaugurated metered color printing in the Davis classroom and the Art and Music Lab in Bixler. Coming soon to Olin.

Students will receive an allotment of **50 free sheets** and will be **charged 20 cents per** after they use up their allotment. Staff and Faculty are not being charged at this time. Any number of print jobs can be queued up and printed later on, but they will time out and are deleted after 12 hours. Print jobs can be deleted at any time without charge. To print to a color laser one is asked to enter one’s Colby ID and password. After that one must go to a print release station, a dedicated computer, and login again to see their queued print jobs. Select and hit Print to release a job.
Colby Library Mission Statement

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

Top O’ the Hill

Clem’s Corner

Welcome to the Colby Libraries! We are here to provide information resources, help with finding and evaluating information, and an environment conducive to academic engagement.

As the new school year starts we hope that you will find time to visit one of the three libraries, talk to your liaison librarian, and make student assignments that engage them with the academic resources that are readily available.

Our goals are to provide faculty with the resources they need for teaching and for scholarship and to work with faculty to help students use information effectively and ethically.

Our resource goal is being aided by our cooperative work with Bates and Bowdoin, which cuts down on duplication while expanding the breadth of materials that faculty and students have to use. A beta version of the new CBBcat joint catalog is available from the library homepage. CBBcat enables faculty to see the three college libraries as one and easily request materials they need.

To meet our goal of helping students use information effectively and ethically in their course work and personal lives we are working with classroom faculty to provide library instruction specifically geared to each course or assignment and also are working with students individually at the reference desk or in research appointments.

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