Greetings from the Library Director

Thomas Gaughan
Director, Trexler Library

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back! We missed you while you’ve been writing, reading, traveling, and renewing yourselves for another year. Summer is a time for library renewal too, but libraries with few patrons quickly seem a bit forlorn. So, the Trexler staff is looking forward to seeing you again and serving you during another busy and successful academic year.

Forlorn or not, summer in the library has been busy. We made some significant changes and enhancements to library services; and many of these are described in this issue of Collection Connection. We hope you’ll read it with interest, visit the library, take advantage of our renewal efforts, and use the library for the benefit of your students!

New Faces At the Library

Joy LeFevre, Circulation/AV Assistant

After three years of service as reference librarian/building supervisor during our evening and weekend hours, Leon Santos left us to return to his home in Puerto Rico. We wish him well.

Replacing Leon is Lynne Kvinnesland. Having received her B.A. in German and Music from Moravian College and her M.A. in German Language and Literature from Ohio State University, Lynne is currently pursuing a M.A. in Library Science from the University of Pittsburgh. Between her three teens, school and work, Lynne claims she has no time for outside activities….maybe in 2008!

David Oldenkamp, reference librarian for social sciences, has joined the library staff at University of Indiana-Bloomington in a tenure track position. Good Luck Dave!

Joy Dlugosz has been hired to fill in for David while a search is conducted for his successor. Joy earned her B.A. in General Studies from Kutztown University and has recently received her M.A. in Library Science from the University of Pittsburgh. Now that Joy is no longer in study-mode, she enjoys reading for pleasure, sailing with her husband, doing counted cross-stitch and playing with the many animals in her home. She also shares conversation daily with her two college bound daughters via cell phone. Joy is also active with mission work in her church; right now knee deep in providing aid for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.
NEW DATABASES
Martha Stevenson, Head of Public Services

There have been three new additions to the library database list. Each offers different resources.

*Lexis-Nexis Statistical* is a collection of over 350,000 tables published by federal, state, regulatory, and intergovernmental agencies as well as by the private and non-profit sectors. Information dates back as far as 1973 for U.S. government information. The advanced PowerTables function allows you to search by data contained in the tables, assigned subject descriptors, or bibliographic information. Every table is linked to an abstract which in turn contains a link to the full-text source document. Lexis-Nexis keeps track of the birth, career, and retirement of statistics on web sites. New titles are added as they are published and noteworthy publications are digitally archived as they are removed from their originating source. This assures you comprehensive, up-to-date, and retrospective answers to all your statistical questions.

*JSTOR’s Arts & Sciences Collection II* is home to 124 full-text titles. It adds to the disciplines in the JSTOR collection the library already has (economics, history, and Asian studies). New disciplines have been added with this collection such as archaeology, classics, and African, Latin American, Middle Eastern, and Slavic studies.

*JSTOR’s Biological Sciences Collection* when complete will include at least 100 full-text titles. The completion date is set for the end of 2007. At this point this collection includes 29 journals with more than 70 new titles on the way. Coverage in this collection includes the fields of biodiversity, conservation, paleontology, plant science, cell biology and zoology.

PALCI and EZ Borrow
Kristin Harakal, Interlibrary Loan Manager

Through a grant the library received from LSTA (Library Services & Technology Act), which is administered by the Office of Commonwealth of Libraries, Muhlenberg has now joined PALCI. The Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortium, Inc. (PALCI) was formed in 1996 as a grassroots federation of 35 academic libraries. It now has over 55 members. Three of its current members are outside of Pennsylvania, but offer much with their catalog. They include Rutgers University, Seton Hall and University of West Virginia.

PALCI is a membership organization of private and public academic libraries. The primary mission of the group is to spur the development of library cooperation within the Commonwealth and surrounding area. Books can be borrowed from PALCI’s EZ Borrow program. A link can be found from the library home page allowing patrons to directly order books from other PALCI members. Once you type in the title, author, subject or ISBN of the book you require, the system will search the catalogue for a match. The book can be ordered once a match is made.

Another advantage of PALCI is that a number of member libraries have agreed to extend free reciprocal borrowing privileges to each other's faculty so they may have direct, personal access to materials that are not available at the home institution. I hope that you will find the time to take advantage of this new service.

If you have any questions concerning either privilege, please contact Kristin in the Interlibrary Loan office at ext. 3510 or email harakal@muhlenberg.edu.
WIRELESS NOW AVAILABLE IN TREXLER LIBRARY

Wireless computing has been operating in the library since April 2005.

Wireless connections are encrypted for privacy and to prevent unauthorized access to College information resources. You will need to get an encryption key and follow some simple steps in order to connect. You can find the instructions here:

http://www.muhlenberg.edu/mgt/oit/support/wireless.htm

The instructions are designed for Windows XP, but have been found to work with Windows2000 and Apple iBook and PowerBook (with a few adjustments).

ONLINE RENEWALS

During the summer, the library added software to permit users to renew loans of library materials online.

You can do this by logging into your library account. Your library account may be accessed from the Catalog main page, the library home page, or this link:

http://library.muhlenberg.edu/patroninfo

You can view your checked-out materials, inter-library loan requests, and any fines you may have accrued. To renew materials, check the box next to listed items, and selected “Renew Selected Items.”

The system will then indicate the new due date. As in the past, renewals on inter-library loan materials must still be made by contacting Kristin Harakal at ext. 3510 or harakal@muhlenberg.edu.

The system will allow online renewals only when no overdue fines are already due, no one else has placed a hold on the materials, and other conditions. If you cannot renew materials online, please call 484-664-3500 for help.

CATALOG NOW USES SECURE LOGINS

When you log into your library account, place an inter-library loan request, or authenticate your identity off-campus in order to use databases, you will now indicate your name and College ID number securely. The catalog now runs software to permit secure encrypted logins, the same level of security offered by banks and credit card companies. Certain older browsers and operating systems (such as Windows95), however, may have difficulty with this security, so be sure to run a current system and make sure your browser is up-to-date.

SUDOKU PUZZLE

RULES: Enter digits 1-9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

The answer can be found at::
http://www.muhlenberg.edu/library/Sudoku_Challenge_Answer.pdf
Audio-Visual Orders
Karen Gruber-Acquisitions Manager

Audio-visual orders are pouring in as we start the new school year. DVDs have quickly become the format of choice. Here are some tips and facts to keep in mind when placing an A-V order.

Some materials are still only available on VHS format. It is hard to believe that not everything has migrated to DVD, but some distributors are very small and are still selling stock from the VHS years. In these cases, there are no alternatives and we must purchase the VHS. Sometimes, both formats are available. If you see this is the case and you would prefer VHS instead of DVD, please let me know since DVDs are now always purchased if available.

It is important to remember that when a film plays on television it may take awhile for it to be released for sale. Although some films may be available right away, most take a few months to be distributed. Please let me know if you are planning to show a film as a public performance. It is usually cheaper to purchase the film with the rights included, versus purchasing the rights separately later on. We deal with so many vendors that it is hard to make generalizations but, the wider the distribution, usually the cheaper the film. Again, small, specialty vendors are able to call the shots on format and cost. Shipping may also take longer from them, so please take that into consideration when submitting orders. This is especially true for items coming from overseas.

We now have a universal (“region-free”) DVD player here in the library. It is in B02 and available for classes. This allows other regional formats to be played. Most DVDs are in Region 1, which includes the US and Canada. There are currently 6 regional divisions. Be aware though, that even though a film from another region may be for sale, sometimes it cannot be exported to the United States.

Old films, both VHS and DVD can also be found on the used market, if they were originally released for distribution. Renting or borrowing is also an option for films that may have limited use and do not need to be added to the permanent collection. If you have any questions regarding the purchase of A-V materials please contact me at ext. 3570 or gruber@muhlenberg.edu.

Fiction Anyone?
Linda Bowers, Head–Technical Services

One of the frequent questions students ask us is, “Don’t you have any fiction books?” Lest faculty reading this start beating their heads against the wall, this question is usually asked of us in early September, well before crunch time, and often by first year students. But yes, we do have fiction books, and because we are an academic library, we classify them as literature and tuck them away on Level B in Dewey numbers 813 and 823. But I digress. Another source of leisure reading available in the Library is the New York Times (NYT) Best Sellers Collection shelved in the Muhlenberg Room, to the left of the foyer, as you enter the building. This collection is for people who need Maeve Binchy or Stephen King in their lives. Those who want to know just what is with the Sion Priory and the latest Grail quest and think Dan Brown has the answers. Those who want to know who ate the cheese and who blinked.

This is a leased collection of ephemeral fiction and non-fiction books that is constantly being added to and taken away from. You can browse the current selections at:

http://library.muhlenberg.edu/search/ftlist^bib19s

Selections come right from the NYT best sellers list and suggestions from users. If you have a favorite, current, leisure time author, let Kelly Cannon (k cannon@muhlenberg.edu ) know about it. If the book is available, he’ll get it. Best sellers that have a permanent place in scholarship and our curriculum will be purchased and put into the library’s collections, but others, with a more fleeting shelf life will be acquired for the NYT collection. So take the time to browse this collection either electronically or in person, and try to find a stray moment to do some extra-curricular reading—just for the pure enjoyment of it.
New Periodicals: Come Inside the Library and Read!
Penny Lochner, Serials Librarian

We were able to make some exciting additions to our print and online periodicals collection, both for casual reading and serious study. During late Spring semester, we added several print scholarly journal subscriptions to Trexler. Each subscription begins with the first issue of 2005. For the English major, we now have *Modern Language Review* both print and online with online access going back 4 years. MLR covers medieval and modern European literature.

Students of biology will welcome the print version of *Animal Behaviour*, which was previously available at Muhlenberg only on microfiche. Users can also access the current 12 months of this journal online. Anthropology students now have available a major scholarly journal in the field: the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. We also purchased a 5-year print back file for this title. For psychology students, we added the title *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*. The print subscription is complemented by online access, 1999 to present. Finally, we selected a few interdisciplinary titles to help meet the changing needs of our curriculum: *Journal of Homosexuality* (2005 + 5 year print back file), *Family Relations, Journal of Divorce & Remarriage* (2005 + 5 year print back file) and *Behavioral & Brain Sciences*. A free e-print archive is available at:

http://www.bbsonline.org

To take advantage of online access, search for the journal’s title in the Trexler catalog, then click on the title for the “Online” record. You will find a link to connect to full text. But don’t let online access keep you out of the library; there’s so much more inside!

Stop by the Periodical Reading Lounge to check out our new magazines. If you look over to the end of the alphabet, you’ll see the newest issue of *Vanity Fair*. Known for its fantastic pictures and news-making stories, this is one for all tastes. Or, go right to the middle of the line-up and riffle through *Latina* for trend-setting as well as serious topics coming from Latin Americans. We’ve also brought out a few more magazines from the stacks and introduced them to the lounge. Perhaps they are titles you didn’t even know we had. The newest “blue sticker” titles are: *BioScience, CQ Weekly, Health, The Humanist, Mathematics Teacher, Ms., Physics Today, and Psychology Today*. As with other reading lounge titles, when a new issue comes in, the older issue moves in with the rest of the periodicals.

What’s new? Video, of Course
Penny Lochner, Serials Librarian

Need to brush up on…world religions, quantum physics, or biological anthropology? We have something new for you to try at Trexler. This summer we received a gift of 3 video courses published by The Teaching Company. If you’d like a kick-start introduction to major religions of the world, leading professors can give you a current overview of each of the world’s five major religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism. Or perhaps you’ve always wanted to understand relativity and quantum physics, but have been intimidated because you are not a science major. Why not let Professor Richard Wolfson from Dartmouth get you started. On the other hand, you may want to know more about how biology and culture interacted in prehistoric times to set the stage for who we are today. Barbara J. Kling from the College of William and Mary will give you an evolutionary view of biological anthropology. She will explore questions like, “why did language develop?” or “what happened to create the different races?” To learn more about any of these videos, look under these titles in the Trexler Library catalog:

- Biological Anthropology: An Evolutionary Perspective
- Einstein’s Relativity and the Quantum Revolution
- Great World Religions

Library User Tip
Have you ever picked up a magazine or journal off the shelf and noticed a blue sticker in the corner? Wonder what that means? Take a walk into Trexler’s Periodical Reading Lounge and you’ll see that all the issues have blue stickers. That’s right, you’ve got it: if a periodical has a blue sticker, the latest issue is shelved in the Reading Lounge.
Our Catalog Just Got a Lot Bigger
Penny Lochner, Serials Librarian

We have been changing things around here. The next time you click in to the Journal Locator, you will see something different. Instead of searching a segregated A-Z list of periodicals, you’ll find yourself looking at a search screen for the Trexler Catalog. That’s because we have added over 13,000 records to the catalog – one for each online periodical you have access to at Muhlenberg. All periodical titles, no matter whether available online, in print, in microform, or on CD-ROM are now listed in the catalog, right along with books, videos, and everything else.

This change brings us one step closer to one-stop shopping at the library. No more learning too late that we had a periodical you needed but didn’t find because you looked in the catalog instead of the Journal Locator. Records for online periodicals are complete with a hyperlink that shows available coverage dates and then takes you directly to the full text.

Please keep in mind that many online periodicals are only available through a database collection of titles. Sometimes the database provider will add to or remove a few titles from their online collection. To reflect these changes we will update the Trexler catalog every month. We expect about 60 online titles to be added and removed with each update. There is still some fine-tuning to be done, and for that, we ask your patience. But overall, we think you’ll like the change. Please let us know.

Periodical Search Tips:

When using the catalog, using either the Journal Locator or doing a search by “Journal Title” will bring up a list of all periodicals whose title begins with the words you typed. A search by “Title” or “Word” will pull up a variety of publications regardless of material type. You can limit the results of any search by selecting, “Refine search results” and limit “Material Type.” Limiting to “E-resource” in a Journal Title search will give you online titles only, and limiting to “Serial” in a Word or Title search will give you periodicals and other serials only.

The Sound of Music
Linda Bowers, Head of Technical Services

The library’s sound recording collection began as an ‘opening day’ collection of 700 CDs purchased from a vendor. It was advertised as containing all the basic selections one might expect to find in a well-chosen, eclectic music library, from the three Bs through Gershwin, the Rolling Stones, Simon and Garfunkle onto Verdi and Wagner. A little soul, a little rock ‘n’ roll. In the course of time, Mick and the Beatles have boogied out of the front door, and Swan Lake has jetted away too--for the second time.

But, thanks to a wonderful gift from Karl Peckman, an alum, a board member and friend to the library, we have added over 1500 CDs to our collection in the last year. We have received a truly wonderful collection of jazz and big band recordings, plus vintage American popular music sung and played by classic vocalists and instrumentalists of the 20th century. Come and hear the difference between New Orleans and Chicago jazz; have a good cry with Billie and Ella; thrill to the distinctive trumpet stylings of Louis, Bix and Miles; jam with Jelly Roll, Fats Waller, the Duke and the Count; and find romance with Hoagy, George Shearing, Mel Torme, and Sinatra. Remember, it don’t mean a thing, if it ain’t got that swing!

Trexler’s CD collection is shelved in the AV Alcove on Level A, to the left of General Pete, just off the Concourse. Browse the collection physically at the shelves or electronically by typing ‘recording’ as a word search in the OPAC. No matter what you choose, you’ll be “hearing the sweetest sounds this side of Heaven!”

New Feature Films

To date, more than 130 DVD and VHS videos have been received since July 2005. Additional titles continue to be ordered and received.

For an up-to-date listing of new feature films and documentaries, visit:

www.muhlenberg.edu/library/media/new_media.html.
One thing that can be counted on every fall as the new semester begins is an increase in requests for pieces from the Abram Samuels Sheet Music Collection. Students scour the index to the collection, looking for just the right piece with which to audition. Invariably they find it. Containing over 30,000 individual pieces of popular music from the 20th century, this collection is a true treasure of the College. The man who donated it to the College in 1991 was no less a treasure than the collection that bears his name.

Abram Samuels was born in Allentown in 1920, a fourth generation Allentownian. After attending Lehigh and Princeton Universities, he worked for many years as a director of Merchants Bank, also serving on countless boards and committees of various community organizations. While raising a family of six with his wife, he found time to actively pursue his passion—collecting sheet music.

Mr. Samuels frequently said his love of sheet music began when he started piano lessons at the age of 15. After months of learning scales and chords he was delighted when his teacher finally assigned him his first song, “I’m Gonna Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter.” From then on he saved every song sheet assigned to him. While Mr. Samuels was always an avid and inveterate collector of paper goods—he collected “Your Hit Parade” rankings, weekly football ratings, scrapbooks of movie stars, etc.—it was sheet music that especially appealed to him. He recalled that during the 1930s he would visit Woolworth’s 5 & 10 on Hamilton Street every week to peruse the songs for sale in the sheet music department, and listen to the pianist employed there play the latest releases. “Most of it sold for 35¢ a copy and I wanted it all!”

Mr. Samuels took piano for 3 years, and continued to play in college, even composing a melody for an amateur comedy production on campus. By 1938 he was writing both music and lyrics, though his dominant interest was the music itself. (During his life he composed over 400 songs.) He continued to collect music, buying new pieces, and tracking down older ones he wanted to own. Initially it was a relatively inexpensive hobby. He bought from flea markets, antique dealers, second-hand bookstores, thrift shops, and garage sales. Frequently people gave their sheet music away, glad to get it out of their basements and attics.

In 1975 Mr. Samuels acquired a huge sheet music collection from a second-hand dealer in Manhattan. With this, his collecting began in earnest. In order to keep track of his growing collection, he started to meticulously label and classify each sheet, initially keeping an index in a Rolodex, and eventually computerizing his list. Because he was primarily interested in the music, he collected composers, not lyricists, and organized his index accordingly. Though the collection spans from the late 1800s to the 1990s, the bulk of the music was published during what Mr. Samuels called the “golden era” of American popular music, the 1920s-1940s. “Socially and historically both the music and lyrics capture the essence of the flapper years (the 1920s), the Depression and years of swing (the 1930s), and World War II (the 1940s).”

There were several reasons Mr. Samuels was particularly interested in this era of popular music: 1) it’s the period in which he grew up, and many of the songs brought back wonderful memories of those days, 2) he felt the best songs of the 20th century were written during this thirty year period, and 3) the five “giants” of American popular music (Berlin, Gershwin, Kern, Porter and Rodgers) were at their artistic peak during this time.

Inevitably, when asked about his collection, Mr. Samuels was asked to name favorites. He always responded that “Easy to Love” by Cole Porter was his favorite song, as it took him back to 1936 and memories of events in his personal life. His favorite composer was Richard Rodgers when he collaborated with Lorenz Hart. As for lyric-writing, Samuels thought Hart and Porter were the best, with Ira Gershwin and Johnny Mercer a close second. Once, after presenting a course at Muhlenberg on American Popular Music, he polled the class for their favorite song out of the more than 100 studied; Porter’s “Night and Day” won hands down.

Along with the sheet music, Mr. Samuels collected anecdotes about the songwriters themselves. One of his favorites involved Cole Porter. During the 1935 Boston tryout of the musical, “Anything Goes,” the song “You’re the Top,” with it’s laundry-list lyrics, was such a hit that the star, Ethel Merman, phoned Porter in New York, who dictated entire choruses for the encore over the phone. Luckily Merman, a former stenographer, could jot it all down in shorthand!

The Abram Samuels Sheet Music Collection is an extensive, varied and valuable collection, as useful for scholarly inquiry as for entertainment. Through the lyrics, the artwork, and the music itself, social, historical, and theatrical trends of the 20th century can be traced. Dr. Sigmund Spaeth, a 20th century musicologist wrote: “The popular song has become a most revealing index to American life in general. It sums up the ethics, the habits, the slang, the intimate character of every generation, and it will tell as much to the future students of current civilization as any histories, biographies, or newspapers of the time.” Mr. Samuels completely agreed, but enjoyed the music for the pleasure it brought as well. Though the Library lost a true friend last May with his passing, the legacy Abram Samuels left is a joy shared with each use of the music from his collection.