2015 Fall Library News

DeWitt Wallace Library

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Macalester Joins the Center for Research Libraries

Access to unique collections and primary resources now available to campus researchers

The library is pleased to announce that we have joined the Center for Research Libraries. Membership to CRL will broaden access to research materials that would have previously been difficult to obtain. CRL is an international consortium of over 200 university, college, and independent research libraries across the globe. CRL supports original research and inspired teaching in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences by preserving and making available to scholars a wealth of rare and uncommon primary source materials from all world regions.

The Director’s Corner

Terri Fiskel, Library Director

Reading in a Digital Age of Distractions

This summer, a printed copy of Hope Against Hope: Three Schools, One City, and the Struggle to Educate America’s Children by Sarah Carr was shipped to over 600 new students, including transfer and exchange students. Copies were also shared with all first year course faculty, student orientation leaders, and members of the President's Council. Sharing print copies of books is the basic foundation of our MacReads common reading program, now in its sixth year.

The topic of the book is the educational reform that took place in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. The book was selected based on the International Roundtable theme this year: disparities in education. While the MacReads program is now in its sixth year, this is only second time the MacReads selection was connected to the Roundtable theme.

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A CLOSER LOOK AT SOME OF THE CRL COLLECTIONS...
The Center for Research Libraries provides access to vast collections and electronic resources including a shared collection of five million books, journals, documents, and newspapers to supplement member libraries' holdings in the humanities, science, and social sciences.

These materials are now freely available to our faculty, staff, and students primarily through interlibrary loan; they are discoverable via searches in Macalester's Worldcat Discovery.

In addition to the wide ranging collections, CRL offers unique services to researchers associated with its member libraries. These services include:

- No-cost document delivery of articles from the Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering and Technology's extensive collection of serials.
- Online access to the LLMC-Digital database of over 51 million pages and 100,000 volumes of at-risk primary legal and government publications.
- Demand purchases: CRL purchases materials at no charge on request for researchers (maximum of $2,000/researcher per year) in three areas: foreign dissertations, newspapers, and archival materials.
- Individualized consultations on research materials available through CRL's User Services Liaison.

Please contact your liaison librarian if you have questions about this new and exciting resource. If you'd like to keep up-to-date with the latest CRL news, resources and events, sign up for their email newsletter.

**NEWSPAPER COLLECTIONS**
The largest circulating collection of newspapers in North America -- 6,500 international newspapers; 2,500 U.S. newspapers (many dating to the colonial era); 2,000 U.S. ethnic newspapers.

**AREA STUDIES**
Major journal, monograph and document collections from Sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America, Middle East, as well as South and Southeast Asia.

**ARCHIVAL RESOURCES**
Millions of pages of documents, including major sets from the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and National Archives of the UK, as well as many special collections of primary source material from around the world (such as the 100,000-plus-page archive of Cambodia's notorious Khmer Rouge regime).

**FOREIGN DISSERTATIONS**
Collection of 800,000+ non-US, non-Canadian doctoral dissertations; with about 5,000 dissertations being added to its collection each year.

**Collection Management Project Ending Soon**
The Library's collection management project is moving into the final stretch with the two-year project scheduled to end in January 2016. The areas of the collection focused on this fall will be literature, mathematics and computer science, and the natural sciences.

Even if your discipline isn't in the literature or mathematics/natural sciences...
integrity policy to create a new online resource faculty and students can use prior to any issues arising.

The Macalester College Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity will continue to offer instruction and support on traditional plagiarism issues, we are looking to expand our resources to provide students with guidance on topics that often are considered in the less obvious ‘gray’ areas of academic integrity - using online translation tools to complete assignments in a language course or code sharing sites for a computer science course, re-use of a previous assignment for a different class without consulting the current instructor, falsifying or manipulating data in an experiment to get desired results, and the like.

We hope this new resource will be a starting point for great classroom conversations, helping our students understand what our expectations are in the various disciplines, and how choosing ethical academic practices now will influence their growth as individuals. If there are situations you have encountered and you would like to see them represented in this online student guide, let us know.

Once completed, the Guide will be shared with faculty for feedback and suggested improvements. Contact Ginny Moran (vmoran@macalester.edu) with questions.

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Data Literacy Modules Pilot Project Underway

Fall semester 2015, the library launched the first in a series of online instruction modules on data literacy and data management and is working with faculty and students in selected courses to gather feedback. The development of these modules is a collaboration over the past year with staff members from the library and ITS. Modules are being created covering the following topics: Finding and Collecting, sciences, though, there are still titles of interest to other disciplines on these lists. It can be useful to look over each list as the deadlines approach. We will also continue to contact faculty who we know have research and teaching interests that overlap with the titles on these lists.

LC subject areas that will be reviewed during the remainder of Fall Semester 2015 include:

**PS 3511 - PS 9999 [view list]**
American literature through 1960 *(continued)*; American literature 1961-21st century

**Deadline: October 1, 2015**

**PT - PZ [view list]**
German and Scandinavian literature; Juvenile literature

**Deadline: October 15, 2015**

**Q - QB [view list]**
General Science, Mathematics, Astronomy

**Deadline: October 29, 2015**

**QC - QD [view list]**
Physics, Chemistry

**Deadline: November 12, 2015**

**QE - QR [view list]**
Geology, Natural History/Biology, Botany, Zoology, Human Anatomy, Physiology, Microbiology

**Deadline: December 3, 2015**

**R - S [view list]**
Intellectual Property and Ethics, Organization, Preservation and Archiving, Protecting and Storing, Metadata and Record Keeping, Sharing and Using, as well as a general overview.

This effort is part of the library's ongoing efforts to support student information literacy and research skills. The modules are intended to provide students with basic data management skills as they complete data-related research projects in their courses. This fall, the library is piloting the first few modules in partnership with faculty and students in two courses (political science and statistics courses) with a plan for another course in the spring (geology). Feedback gathered during this pilot will be used to make changes and improve the modules before they are generally released.

If you have an interest in learning more about this project, please contact Aaron Albertson (albertson@macalester.edu).

Assessment of Library Instruction Impact Completed

Yes, librarian-led information fluency instruction does improve student learning related to critical thinking and communication!

Over this past year, Macalester librarians completed a study of Fall 2014 student senior capstone projects from students in History, International Studies, Political Science, Theatre, and Physics and Astronomy. We used a rubric to score student competencies in three information fluency skill areas: attribution, evaluation of sources, and communication of evidence. These skill areas connect to the critical thinking and communication goal areas of the campus Statement of Student Learning. We then linked the student scores to attendance data from librarian-led course integrated instruction and individual research consultations.

Our results indicated that students who participated in more instruction

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sessions and research consultations scored higher in those three information fluency areas than those who participated in fewer sessions. Students who had five or more instruction sessions or consultations had an average total mean score of 9.3 points out of 12; students with one instruction session or consultation had an average total mean score of 6.1.

This study, led by librarian Ginny Moran, is part of the program, "Assessment in Action: Academic Libraries and Student Success" which is undertaken by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) in partnership with the Association for Institutional Research and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities. Ginny presented the results of this assessment as a poster at the national American Library Association conference in June 2015.