Summer Construction Projects and Beyond

Dr. Laverna Saunders, University Librarian

Over the summer, the Gumberg Library became a construction zone. The $1.1 million plaza project started with the closure of the front entrance and demolition of the structurally unsound bridge that connected the library to Locust Street. WTW Architects designed the plaza with pleasing open space on the top and an effective retaining wall and drainage system beneath. The hillside was sprayed with tinted concrete for added holding power.

Every book and shelf on the library’s first floor was moved in a coordinated sequence of renovations. By the time that the floor reopened in mid-October, there was new paint on all walls, new carpet tiles throughout the floor, new compact shelving with the capacity to hold thousands of bound print journals, and new configurations of study carrels and tables. The project took longer than anticipated due to the patching of cracks in the cement floor.

There are new open areas on fourth and fifth floors that now provide more study spaces. Three ranges of reference shelving and seven ranges of journal shelving were dismantled and placed in storage as print volumes were moved into compact shelving or the stacks. The library purchased 100

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lightweight chairs and three trolleys to fill in seats where needed and to move for special events. The next major purchase is casual study seating which was funded by President Dougherty. Clusters of this new furniture will provide a contemporary look.

What’s next? Safety! A comprehensive security system will be installed throughout the library by the end of fall semester. Every study carrel, restroom and service area will have panic buttons that connect to campus Public Safety. Video cameras will record activity at the loading dock and front entrance.

Planning is ongoing for replacing the front doors and book security system, expanding the Music Center on the fifth floor, and revamping the Circulation/Reference service area. We estimate that we have updated about half of the library in the past five years, but there are many projects left to do.

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Gumberg’s Strategic Successes 2003/04-2007/08

University Strategic Plan, Section 3.9: The library will become an improved academic resource. The library will be maintained and will perform at the level of peer institutions. The physical environment will be enhanced.

Collections increased and resources realigned to strengthen support of curricular and research needs:

The library worked to more closely align the collection to curricular and research needs by:

• Funding 214 faculty-written proposals totaling $602,867.
• Using faculty fellows to review and update collections in Biology, Chemistry, Education, Music, Theology, Qualitative Research, Fiction, Business, Computer Science and Nursing.
• Emphasizing collection development in forensics, ethics, service learning, Core Curriculum, graduate studies and research, Rome campus and teaching excellence.
• Creating a new popular reading collection to enhance student recreational reading.
• Acquiring numerous electronic collections supporting the humanities, health sciences, natural sciences, business, education, music and social sciences.
• Adding specialized collections including: Duquesne Authors, Holy Spirit, Charles Owen Rice, Jim Snyder, Ransil, World Phenomenology Institute and Paul Hindemith collections.

The library dramatically increased the quantity and accessibility of scholarly and scientific journals:

• Journal titles available increased 365% during the strategic plan, and most are now available electronically.
• Made electronic journals available in Google Scholar, PubMed and other tools used by researchers.

The library continued to provide excellent patron-centered services to enhance academic excellence:

Use of key library facilities and services has grown between fiscal years 2003-04 and 2007-08:
• Foot traffic in the building has grown 30%.
• Total items circulated increased 10%.
• Laptops borrowed jumped by 163%.
• Student and faculty use of research carrels increased 94%.
• Electronic reserves accessed by students grew 28%.
• Books and articles obtained (ILL & E-ZBorrow) for Duquesne students and faculty have grown 97%.
• Book and articles provided by the library to other university libraries have grown 83%.

The library increased its contributions to student and faculty learning:
• The library is involved in University-wide efforts to improve education and curricula. Librarians:
  • Lead the Academic Integrity Committee.
  • Co-lead the Information Literacy Steering Committee.
  • Co-led the committee that created the Dimensions of a Duquesne Education.
  • Serve on the Academic Learning Outcomes Assessment Committee.
  • Serve on the Core Curriculum Committee.
• Introduced First Fridays, a series focusing on using library resources to support research and learning.
• Librarians collaborated with CTE and CTS to present campus workshops.
• Librarians taught 841 students in 23 sections of the one-credit Research and Information Skills Lab in Fiscal Year 2007-2008

The overall appearance and functionality of the library building and furnishings were enhanced:
Approximately $2.3 million spent to date:
• Replaced carpeting in Special Collections, first, second and third floor study areas.
• Reupholstered chairs on all floors and repainted study carrels.

The library made innovative use of technology to increases access to and delivery of quality information content by:
• Digitizing Pittsburgh Catholic and supporting Spiritan Digital Library.
• Initiating online reference service with new 24 x 7 component.
• Hosting Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs).
• Obtaining state grants for wireless and laptops ($50,000) and PDA initiative ($50,000).
• Collaborating with CTS for student computing needs.

The library used assessment initiatives to support of continuous improvement:
• LibQUAL+ survey in 2006 provided evidence resulting in improved facilities and customer service.
• Project SAILS student information literacy assessment provided baseline data for longitudinal comparison.
• Library-wide self-study and user surveys provided information for needs assessment.
• Adopted required assessment of instruction sessions to provide formative feedback to instructors.
• Redefinition and refinement of data collection for library productivity statistics (outputs).
• Implemented Collection Fellows program to obtain faculty input on collection improvements needed.
• Created New Faculty Startup and Collection Enhancement Proposal procedures designed to foster faculty evaluation of collections and provide funding to act upon recommendations.

Excerpted from “Board 3.9 Report (2008)”
New Resources @ Gumberg Library!

Marnie G. Argerich, Technical Services Assistant

The Library has acquired new online resources. These resources provide electronic access to faculty and students campus-wide as well as remotely with a Duquesne ID.

The 19th Century U.S. Newspapers Digital Archive is a valuable, full-text database for researching actual nineteenth century newspapers. The archive has digitized contents from microfilm holdings of some of the largest and most impressive collections including The Library of Congress and other various, well-known libraries and historical societies.

Migne’s Patrologiae Graecae is a brand new indispensable resource for any kind of theological study. It has a new table of contents which enables the user to search for full-text articles as well as titles and authors in English and Latin.

The Oxford Digital Reference Shelf is a platform that enables users to access Oxford’s award-winning scholarly reference titles online. We now have access to 19 of these titles.

We are pleased to offer access to SAGE Premier, an online collection of 452 SAGE journals that cover a wide array of interdisciplinary subject areas including business, humanities, social science, and science, technology and medicine.

Project Muse is a resource that provides full-text access to high quality journals in the humanities and social sciences. Our access to Project Muse has been upgraded from the Standard Collection (306 journals) to the Premiere Collection (353 journals).

Without spending extra monies, the library was able to add access to 20 new electronic journals on The ScienceDirect platform. Through analyzing usage statistics, rarely used journals were dropped and highly desired journals were added at no additional cost.

We have expanded the coverage of a trusted index, the Reader’s Guide to Periodical Literature. The basic version provides indexing of periodicals back to 1983. We have added the Reader’s Guide Retrospective to our online offerings. The Retrospective provides indexing and article citations of leading magazines from 1890-1982. Also, we’ve added the Reader’s Guide Abstracts, which can be very useful when developing or narrowing research topics.

With thanks to Dr. Paul Pugliese, retired University librarian, the Gumberg Library has acquired 40 audio books. This donated collection includes classic works that can be read along with hardback and/or paperback formats. We are hoping to add to this collection in the future. Some titles include: Crime and Punishment, The Poetry of Walt Whitman and I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings to name only a few. If you would like to make recommendations for audio-books please contact Tracie Ballock at 412.396.4560.

Digital Collections Close to the Mission of Duquesne

Robert Behary, Systems Librarian

With collections that touch the heart of Duquesne, the ongoing digital initiatives at Gumberg Library both highlight the history of the University and share the works of Duquesne students with scholars around the world. Some of the treasures once available only in restricted
areas of the Library come to light in new collections of documents from the University’s archives. Scholars may view the writings of a Spiritan founder or consult the first-rate theses and dissertations from Duquesne graduate students. Alumni will find a collection of images from Duquesne’s past.

The collections, described in detail below, highlight only a few of the resources available at http://digital.library.duq.edu.

You can help grow the Library’s digital collections with a financial contribution to the Library’s digital initiatives fund. The Library is actively seeking donations to digitize every issue of the *Duquesne Duke*, the student newspaper. For more information, please contact the Library’s administration office at 412.396.6136.

**Spiritan Writings**

The Spiritan Writings collection includes works by the Venerable Francis Mary Paul Libermann, co-founder of the Spiritan Order, and a host of other documents from the Spiritans. The collection will soon include the General Bulletin, a chronicle of the history of the Spiritans from 1857 to modern times.

**Pittsburgh Catholic**

What better record of Catholicism in Pittsburgh is there than the diocesan newspaper *The Pittsburgh Catholic*? From the library’s microfilm copy, a professional scanning company digitized the earliest years of the Pittsburgh Catholic from 1844-1854. With plans to digitize the next 10 years of the Pittsburgh Catholic well underway, the early record of Catholicism in Pittsburgh will be accessible as never before.

**Electronic Theses and Dissertations**

*Spiritus est qui vivificat* is exemplified in the scholarship produced by Duquesne’s graduate students. Out of the tradition of Spiritan education, the theses and dissertations available to scholars around the world demonstrate the first-rate work produced by the students at Duquesne.

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**Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center Announces New Director**

Dr. Jeffrey McCurry began as new Director of the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center on August 1, 2008. Dr. McCurry majored in Philosophy at Johns Hopkins and earned his Ph.D. in Religious Studies at Duke University in 2006. He has interests in the history of philosophy, philosophy of religion, contemporary continental philosophy (including phenomenology), and psychoanalysis. He will have adjunct faculty status in the Philosophy Department, teaching two courses a year. He is also working on his first book, a study of conceptual creativity in continental philosophy in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries that engages figures such as Kierkegaard, Marx, Derrida, Levinas, and Deleuze. On a more personal note, Dr. McCurry is married to a Lutheran minister, owns a pug named Oliver, and is happy to be in Pittsburgh and working for Duquesne University.

**Center hours:**

Monday through Friday
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
*with evening hours by appointment only.*

Contact Dr. McCurry at 412.396.6038 or mccurryj@duq.edu.
Holiday Happenings @ Gumberg

Take a break and get into the holiday spirit!

The Mary Pappert School of Music’s Music Therapy guitar class will be holding a holiday sing-a-long at the Gumberg Library.

When: Wednesday, December 3, 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.
Where: Curriculum Center, 5th floor, Gumberg Library

Light refreshments will be served.

Mark Your Calendars for the Scholastic Book Fair!

The Gumberg Library will hold its Scholastic Book Fair just in time for the holiday shopping season.

Monday — Thursday, December 1 through December 4
10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Popular Reading Room, 4th floor

Choose from a wide selection of the most popular titles in children’s and young adult literature, board books for young children, multicultural literature, Spanish books, adult interest books, software, games and posters.

Cash and credit cards will be accepted. Purchases benefit the Maureen P. Sullivan Curriculum Center. For more information call 412.396.1858.

You are invited to...

Jane Austen’s Birthday Tea Party

Join Austen enthusiasts for an afternoon of readings, scrumptious scones and tempting teas on December 3, 2008.

Tea time is 3:00 in the Curriculum Center on the 5th floor of the Gumberg Library.

It simply makes sense to attend!
Give a Gift, Create a Legacy

*Adopt-A-Book* is a way to purchase a book for the Gumberg Library as a tribute or memorial for a friend or loved one. It is the perfect way to thank a favorite professor, celebrate a birthday or life event, or honor a classmate or family member. The demand for academic books exceeds the budget, and the Gumberg Library depends upon gifts to close this gap. A book is a lasting legacy that will help current and future Duquesne scholars. For more information contact Tracie Ballock, Collection Management Librarian, at 412.396.4560. See *Adopt-A-Book* form on pages 10 and 11.

One Book, One Community

The winner of the spring 2008 student essay contest on *I'm Proud of You* by Time-Madigan was Maria Rocio Fernandez from McAnulty College. She received a Bookstore gift card from manager John Kachur, Store Manager, on April 18. Dr. Greg Barnhisel, English Department, served as the judge for the essay contest. We appreciate the support of Barnes & Noble @ Duquesne and Dr. Barnhisel.

Looking ahead, the 2009 One Book, One Community title selected by the Allegheny County Library Association and Duquesne University is *The Giver* by Lois Lowry. Plan to join or form a book discussion group and explore the author’s visions of the future. For more information, contact Dr. Laverna Saunders at lsaunders@duq.edu.

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Gumberg Final and Holiday Hours

**Final Exam Hours, December 1 - December 23**

Monday - Friday, December 1 - 5
7:00 AM - 1:00 AM

Saturday, December 6
10:00 AM - 1:00 AM

Sunday, December 7
11:00 AM - 1:00 AM

Monday - Friday, December 8 - 12
7:00 AM - 1:00 AM

Saturday, December 13
10:00 AM - 1:00 AM

Sunday, December 14
11:00 AM - 1:00 AM

Monday - Tuesday, December 15 - 16
7:00 AM - 1:00 AM

Wednesday, December 17
7:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Thursday - Friday, December 18 - 19
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Saturday, December 20
Closed

Sunday, December 21
Closed

Monday - Tuesday, December 22 - 23
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

**Christmas Break Hours**

Wednesday - Monday,
December 24 - January 5, 2009
Closed

Tuesday, January 6, 2009
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Wednesday, January 7, 2009
8:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Thursday, January 8, 2009
Begin Spring Semester Hours
Your Input is Needed! LibQUAL+ Survey in 2009

David Nolfi, Health Sciences Librarian

The Gumberg Library is seeking your input to learn how well its collections, services, and spaces are meeting your expectations. In order to accurately track and analyze responses, the Library will participate in the Association of Research Libraries’ LibQUAL+ survey in the spring 2009 semester. More than 400 institutions in the US, UK, Canada, and Europe use this rigorously tested survey to assess their libraries’ quality and performance.

After conducting LibQUAL+ in 2006, the Library implemented several measures intended to address concerns raised and improve services including: zoned group and quiet study areas, improved seating, and website changes. Conducting the survey in 2009 affords the opportunity to measure improvement and identify emerging needs. Reflecting the importance of obtaining student, faculty, and staff input, the library will offer incentives for participation. Watch campus publications and your email for more details in January!

Here is what was said about...

Gumberg for Graduate Students orientation sessions held in September informed graduate students at Duquesne University about library resources and services that can benefit them in their research.

“A great overview of all the wonderful sources and help offered at our library.”

“There are lots of services I didn’t know about.”

“It helped me meet other graduate students.”

“Thanks for the treats and food, very nice touch.”

“Salt of the Earth” is a real-life tale of human courage against adversity. A semi-documentary, it retells the story of a 1950 strike by miners and their families in New Mexico. Film showing and panel discussion was held in September. Sponsored by the Center for Catholic Social Thought and the Gumberg Library.

When asked about what the attendees liked most about the event, they responded:

“Chance to discuss relevant issues raised by an entertaining film.”

“Movie was good, discussion was excellent.”

“Opportunity to see rare film, plus discussion with knowledgeable faculty after.”

Would they recommend an event like this to students or faculty?

“Yes, it was something new and different from what a class provides.”

“Absolutely, my students are attending this as an extra credit opportunity.”

“Yes, great learning event.”

Watch for more opportunities to attend Library information sessions and interesting collaborative efforts!
You May Have Seen Us!

Dr. Laverna Saunders, University librarian, greets potential students and their parents at the fall Open House.

You May Have Seen Us!

Kathy Liermann, assistant to the University librarian, makes a yummy PB&J sandwich for commuter students.

You May Have Seen Us!

Sydney Walden, reference librarian, encourages students to READ at the Connections Support Fair.

You May Have Seen Us!

Danielle Buck, curriculum center coordinator, displays multicultural materials from the Curriculum Center at the first Diversity Fair.

You May Have Seen Us!

Kathryn Fowler, instruction librarian, answers questions at the spring Benefits Fair.

You May Have Seen Us!

Tom White, University archivist, brings Duquesne history to life at the Alumni Luncheon downtown.
The Maureen P. Sullivan Curriculum Center was rededicated on April 17, 2008