Western Pennsylvania / West Virginia
ACRL Chapter

Chapter Newsletter

Chapter Elections in April

Elections for WPWVC ACRL will be held April 1-8. Enthusiastic candidates are needed for the following positions.

Vice President/President Elect: This is a two year appointment [2011-2013]. Candidates must be from West Virginia.

Treasurer: This is a two year appointment [2011-2013]. Candidates can be from either Pennsylvania or West Virginia.

Member at Large: This is a two year appointment [2011-2013]. Candidates must be from West Virginia.

If you are interested in any of these offices or want to nominate a colleague, please contact John Barnett , Chair of the Nominations Committee.

Special points of interest:

- *Learn about Chapter Goals and how to get involved*
- *Discover new services and programs at other Universities*

Inside this issue:

Focus on Mobility & Access at Chapter Meeting

Joe Murphy

The spring meeting of the WPWVC ACRL will be held on Friday, May 6th at the Mountainside Conference Center on the Bethany College campus. The theme of the program "Meeting User's Needs for Mobility, Access, and Discovery, will feature keynote speaker Joe Murphy's address, "Mobility in Access & Discovery.

Murphy serves as Science Librarian and Coordinator of Instruction and Technology for Yale's six science libraries. He has been at the forefront of the discussion about increasing access to library resources and services through mobile devices. Working with both libraries and the publishing industry, Murphy is passionate about identifying new trends in mobile and social technology and helping libraries implement them. For more information about Murphy, please visit his website .

Information on the full program, including registration and a detailed schedule will be available on the WPWVC-ACRL website by April 1st.

Image Credits: Joe Murphy, Bethany College

Mountainside Conference Center

Hunt Library Dressed Up for the Next 50 Years

The Roy A. Hunt Foundation celebrated the 50th anniversary of Carnegie Mellon University's Hunt Library last November with a gift of programmable LED lighting for the library façade and main entrance canopy. CMU professor Cindy Limauro and Christopher Popowich (C&C Lighting) designed the lighting, which truly transforms the library at night and brings a dynamic new look to campus.

In addition to a slowly shifting color display that is the default "every-night look," the lighting can be programmed for special events. Eight preset color shows can be initiated at the touch of a button. Additional lighting designs can be linked to a calendar program. In January and February, students were surveyed about what holidays or events could be showcased through lighting. Working with student government, a final list of those observances will soon be available. The library home page will include small write-ups about events and holidays as they are celebrated. For example, in early February when the library was illuminated in red, we posted a blurb about the Lunar New Year at www.search.library.cmu.edu.

Point Park goes Mobile

Point Park University Library has recently introduced several exciting new initiatives.

A mobile version of the catalog, called *Point Cat Mobile,* was released and allows students access from their smart phones. Students can search for anything in the catalog as well as renew items, place holds, make requests and check the status of their library accounts.

The library has also introduced EBSCO Mobile and rebranded it *Search Mobile.* Students will now be able to search and access full text content from all of the EBSCO databases from their smart phones.

Library Staff has implemented an *Embedded Librarian* program in the Blackboard course management system. "Ask a Librarian" discussion board sections are set up in 20 classes where students post questions about their assignments and related research that are checked each day. Librarians also work with the instructors in each class to ensure that their needs are being met, which often leads to supplemental Library Instruction sessions as well as students from these classes coming to the library for research consultations.

Associated Press / Kristin Murphy

Library Staff has begun a *Personal Librarian* program this semester. Each staff member has been assigned several incoming graduate and undergraduate students to conduct personalized outreach and research assistance throughout the semester. This program is aimed at assisting students with all phases of the transiti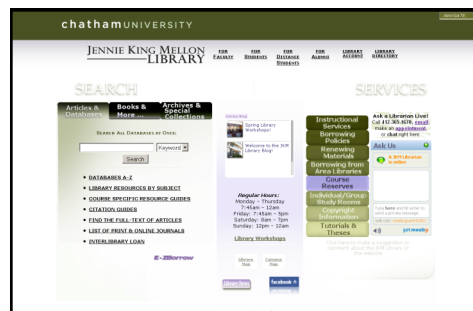on to Point Park and making Library Staff available and accessible for any questions they may have regarding library services, academic questions, or general information on Point Park University.

Jennie King Mellon Library's New Look

Chatham University's Jennie King Mellon library has a new website located at http://library.chatham.edu. Developed over the course of six months and released in August 2010, the website went through one round of focus groups and three rounds of usability testing to make it as user-friendly as possible.

One of the main goals was to make the site freely available instead of hidden within an intranet. In addition, the number of clicks that it takes to get to various resources was reduced, so the most-used resources are all on the homepage.

Tabs provide access to articles and databases, books, and Archives and Special Collections, each with its own quick search box for immediate access to information. Across the top of the page is information for faculty, students, distance students, and alumni. Much of the information available here is duplicated within the rest of the website, but the effort was made to pull out those resources most useful to each of these population groups.

The addition of an instant messaging search box on the homepage using the MeeboMe widget has tripled the number of IM questions that the library receives. Recently a Blidget was also added to display the titles of posts from the library's new blog, located at: http://blogs.chatham.edu/library/.

Duquesne's Gumberg Library Launches 24 hour Study Pilot

In response to overwhelming requests, students had the opportunity to pull all-nighters in the library this past fall. The library was open continuously from 7 a.m. Monday Dec. 6 through 9 p.m. Wednesday Dec. 15. The Student Government Association (SGA) co-sponsored the 24 hour study trial and played an important role in getting the word out to students.

Public Safety officers manned the building between 1 and 7 a.m. Joe Nelson, Circulation Manager, stated,

"It was important for students to have a safe place to go on campus to study all night for final exams. The building was only accessible through swipe-card access of current Duquesne students."

According to Diana Sasso, Director, Information Services, over 2,400 people used the library between 1 and 7 a.m. during the entire 24 hour study period. Comments collected from students described their preference to study in the library for a variety

of reasons including quiet space, convenient group meeting spaces, safety, and the need to have a continuous block of time without interruptions.

To evaluate the success of 24 hour study, library staff considered use of the building, student reaction, and support from campus stakeholders. As a result of the positive student comments, significant building use, and the continuing support of SGA, Public Safety, and University administration, the library will be open 24 hours during finals again in spring 2011.

WVU Librarians participating in RAILS Project

Several librarians at West Virginia University are participating in the RAILS project, spearheaded by Dr. Megan Oakleaf of Syracuse University's iSchool. RAILS stands for Rubric Assessment of Information Literacy Skills, and is focused on studying the use of values-based rubrics in the assessment of information literacy learning. Please visit http://railsontrack.info/ for an overview of the study.

After completing the ACRL Assessment Immersion program in 2010,

Carroll Wilkinson applied for participation in the RAILS grant, for which WVU was selected.

Wilkinson selected nine librarians who have participated in the Information Literacy Course Enhancement Project (ILCEP) at WVU to serve as raters of student work as well as WVU's new Director of Assessment and Retention, Dr. Bernadette Jungblut. Susan Arnold, Virginia Bender, Grace Gmeindl from the Health Sciences Library; Noel Kopriva, Beth Royall, and Barbara

LaGodna from the Evansdale Library; Linda Blake, Kevin Fredette, and Jessica Tapia from the Downtown Campus Library all participated in the rating session.

On February 25, Dr. Oakleaf visited WVU to work with the librarians on adapting previously designed rubrics and applying student work to the new rubrics. For those interested in more details about RAILS, please contact Carroll Wilkinson .

New Collections in Historic Pittsburgh

On March 1st two new image collections on Historic Pittsburgh were contributed by project partner the Heinz History Center. The Dorsey-Turfley Family Photographs (221 images) document several generations of the Dorsey and Turfley families as well as African American sports teams from the beginning decades of the twentieth century. The Seder Family Photographs (22

images) primarily depict the Frank and Seder clothing store, business associates, and Isaac Seder's family from 1910 through the late 1960s. These additions mark our 49th and 50th Historic Pittsburgh image collections.

A few weeks ago we added another 349 images

from the Pittsburgh City Photographer collection to Historic Pittsburgh. There are now over 11,000 images from this single collection available online, which represents almost half of the total 23,000 images on the site as a whole.
Image contributed by the Heinz History Center

Chapter Mission

This Chapter is to be a forum for and an advocate of academic and research librarians and library personnel and all other information professionals that serve academic and research libraries who live or work in the region of western Pennsylvania and all of West Virginia. The purpose of the Chapter is to:

1) provide opportunities for the professional growth of its members by conducting workshops, conferences, programs, etc.

2) encourage the exchange of ideas and information relating to library development and issues.

3) disseminate educational information oriented to academic and research librarians.

4) support and participate in, where appropriate, other regional and local organizations in the region.

The chapter has also set annual goals in support of its mission and ACRL's strategic plan, viewable at

http://sites.google.com/site/wpwvcacrlorg/home/about

ACRL Women's and Gender Studies Section 2011 Poster Session Call for Proposals

The Women's and Gender Studies Section will hold its fourth annual Research Poster Session during our General Membership Meeting at the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans on Saturday, June 25, 2011, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. The forum seeks to provide an opportunity to present newly completed research or work in progress.

The potential scope of the topics includes, but is not limited to, teaching methods, instruction, information technology, collection development, interdisciplinarity, and collaboration with academic faculty. For research ideas, see the *Research Agenda for Women's Studies Librarianship*.

Applicants chosen to present their work at the poster session are expected to supply presentation mate-rials, including poster boards. Tables for presentation materials will be provided.

The committee will use a blind review process.

Selection criteria:

1. Significance of the topic. Priority will be given to Women's Studies Section members and/or women's studies topics.

2. Originality of the project.

Proposal submission instructions:

1. Proposals should include:

- Title of the proposal

- Proposal narrative (no more than 2 pages, double spaced, 12 pt. font)

- Name of applicant(s)

- Affiliation (s)

- Applicant Email address(es), Phone number(s)

2. NOTE: Submission deadline: March 31, 2011

3. Proposals should be emailed to: Jennifer Gilley, Chair, Research Committee (jrg15@psu.edu)

4. The chair will notify the applicants by April 29, 2011.

If you would like to become a member, go to: http://www.libr.org/wss/join.html