

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
**SUNYLA**  
LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER

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**FEBRUARY 2007**

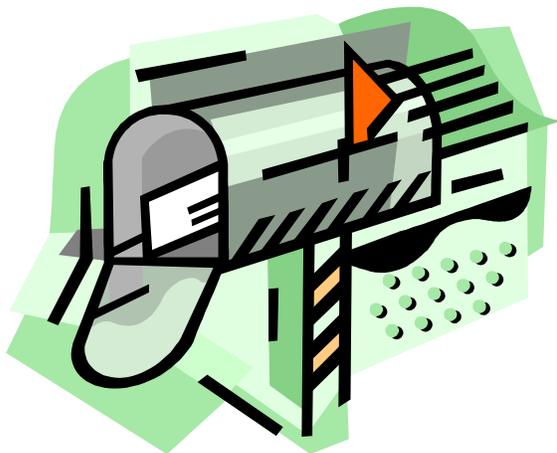
Volume 37, number 2

## **SUNYLA President's Message**

**Marc Wildman**

I hope everyone was blessed with joyous holidays and a happy new year. My holiday experience entailed moving into a new house the week of Christmas. Although this was a daunting task, I was able to gather my family around my new dining room table to celebrate Christmas Eve together. This was accomplished largely with the assistance of my family all pitching in to bring a part of the meal that we shared. I would have never have been able to do this on my own, and it was a true example of how, sharing the workload, we were able to accomplish our goal to gather as a family and celebrate together.

Sharing our gifts and talents with each other has been an important practice in my life. I have been encouraged to live by giving of the "three T's;" Time, Talent, and Treasures. Give of your time, share your talents with others, and do not withhold your treasures when others are in need. SUNYLA has many opportunities for you to practice these basic principles. Here are a few ways you can help.



Our Vice-President **Joe Petrick** has posted the call for nominations for the 1st Vice-President, Secretary, 2nd Vice President/Conference Chair, and Treasurer. Each of these duties is vital for the successful operation of our organization.

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Please nominate a colleague for a position, or, of course, a self-nomination is enthusiastically welcome. You can email Joe at [petricja@alfredstate.edu](mailto:petricja@alfredstate.edu).

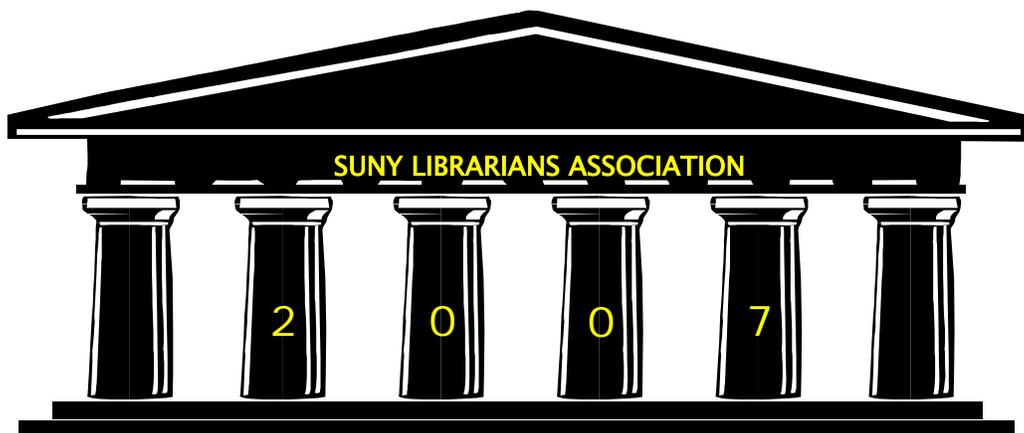
We are looking for a host for our 2008 annual conference. Having been on the planning committee for one of these conferences myself, I found it to be a great experience. Don't feel that all the organizing falls on you or your campus; you will work with a wonderful team of people and the conference planning committee, who will each carry out the planning of a specific aspect of the event. I don't think you will find anyone who has been on a planning committee that has not enjoyed the rewards when they reach the end of those three days.

Don't forget to mark your calendar to attend the 2007 conference at Maritime June 13th-15th. It is sure to be a memorable experience for everyone who attends.

SUNYLA members are needed to lobby in Albany on behalf of SUNY and all of our New York State Libraries for adequate funding. March 13th is "Library Lobby Day." One issue that is important to all of our state libraries is the Coordinated Collection Development (CCD) aid. NYLA is proposing a 100% increase for these funds. Many of our libraries rely heavily on our CCD money. Contact your local 3R's council to inquire about bus transportation being offered in your area. SUNYLA will provide a handout with talking points.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our two latest volunteers for agreeing to chair two of our standing committees. **Darryl Coleman** has agreed to chair the Professional Development Committee, replacing **Alice Harrington** after her many years of dedicated service. **Emily Hart** of Oswego has accepted the duties as chair of the Membership Committee, replacing **Nancy Greco** who has left the SUNY system for other endeavors.

I hope that you will find one (or ALL) of these opportunities inviting. I have enjoyed the privilege of participating in each of these activities and have learned many new and exciting things and made many new friends and connections along the way. SUNYLA is a wonderful organization that relies on its members to keep it robust and on the leading edge. Please share some of your 3T's with us!



## Get involved in SUNYLA!

SUNYLA is now accepting nominations for the offices of 1st Vice President, Secretary, 2nd Vice President/Conference Chair, and Treasurer.

Each of these offices are vital to the operation of our great organization. Please forward nominations for a colleague to **Joe Petrick** at [petricja@alfredstate.edu](mailto:petricja@alfredstate.edu).

Self nominations are most welcome.

For full descriptions of the duties of each position, see the SUNYLA web site at <http://www.sunyla.org/admin/duties.html>

Please feel free to contact **Joe Petrick** for further information.

### \*\*\*\*\*39th Annual\*\*\*\*\* SUNYLA Conference



The Program Planning Committee invites applications for conference session participation at the 39th Annual SUNYLA Conference, June 13-15, 2007, at SUNY Maritime. Presentations, panels and roundtables may be on any topic addressing the conference theme:



### Expanding our Horizons: Reaching for the Limits

SUNY library professionals have a long and rich tradition of sharing their knowledge, experience, and expertise. It seems only fitting that the 2007 SUNYLA conference should take place at the historic Fort Schuyler- home of SUNY Maritime - the first maritime school in the United States. Maritime College, set at the scenic crossroads of the Long Island Sound and the East River, provides a wonderful venue where we can once again come together to share current ideas, strategies and practices and explore, expand, and build upon new possibilities and opportunities.

We invite presentations on topics such as: preventing staff mutiny through effective leadership and management techniques, "swabbing the decks" of a library's collection, charting the course for Information Literacy assessment and program development, aligning the stars with successful staffing patterns and professional development initiatives, releasing the anchors and steering toward more productive collaboration with non-library faculty, hoisting the sails of Aleph data extraction, launching innovative marketing plans, and many, many more concerning the sharing of ideas that we librarians do so well.

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There will be both 45-minute and 90-minute slots. Please select the time slot that would be most appropriate to your presentation. If you are suggesting a panel discussion, please include the names and SUNY affiliation of all participants.

Session presenters are eligible for a waiver of the registration fee. For details, please refer to the [Guidelines for SUNYLA Annual Conference Expenses](#).

**Deadline for Presentation Proposals is February 16, 2007.  
Candidates will be notified by or on March 16, 2007.**

**You can submit your presentation proposal at  
<http://www.buffalostate.edu/library/SUNYLA2007/conference.htm>**

For further information about session participation, please contact:

April Davies  
Van Wagenen Library,  
SUNY Cobleskill  
Schenectady Avenue  
Cobleskill, NY 12043  
phone: (518) 255-5841,  
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[daviesac@cobleskill.edu](mailto:daviesac@cobleskill.edu)



## [Call for Pre-Conference Sessions](#)

The Program Planning Committee invites applications for pre-conference participation at the 39th Annual SUNYLA Conference, June 13 to 15, 2007, at SUNY Maritime. Pre-conference workshops may be on any topic addressing the conference theme: Expanding our Horizons: Reaching for the Limits.

This year, all presenters will be entered to win a surprise raffle drawing. They are also eligible for a waiver of the registration fee. For details, please refer to the [Guidelines for the SUNYLA Annual Conference Expenses](#) -

<http://www.sunyla.org/admin/confexpen.html>.

Deadline for pre-conference presentation proposals is February 16, 2007. Candidates will be notified by March 16, 2007. Go to the SUNYLA Conference website to submit your proposal: <http://www.buffalostate.edu/library/SUNYLA2007/preconference.htm>.

For more information about pre-conference participation, please contact:



Lisa Forrest  
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and/or

Alice Harrington  
LeRoy V. Good Library  
Monroe Community College  
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Rochester, NY 14623  
Phone: (585) 292-2304  
Email: [aharrington@monroecc.edu](mailto:aharrington@monroecc.edu)

## [Call For SUNYLA 2007 Conference Bloggers!](#)

Are you going to the SUNYLA 2007 Conference in SUNY Maritime in June? Want to try your hand at blogging a conference? The SUNYLA 2007 Conference Blog is looking for people to share their experiences through blog posts, photos, and even podcasts. If you're interested, please drop **Ken Fujiuchi** an email at [fujjuck@buffalostate.edu](mailto:fujjuck@buffalostate.edu) with your NAME, TITLE, your LIBRARY'S NAME, the URL of your blog (if you have one - it's not a requirement), and your EMAIL ADDRESS, and we'll get you set up. No experience required!

SUNYLA 2007 Conference Blog – <http://sunyla2007.blogspot.com>

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We'd love to see your **POSTER SESSION** on our conference theme  
this year!

*Expanding our Horizons: Reaching for the Limits*

Visit the conference website for more information  
and to submit your proposal:

<http://www.buffalostate.edu/library/SUNYLA2007/postersession.htm>



# CAMPUS NEWS, NOTES, & INFORMATION

## ALBANY

**Gregory Bobish**  
[GBobish@uamail.albany.edu](mailto:GBobish@uamail.albany.edu)

**Laura Cohen** traveled to London in November to speak at the Ingenta Publisher Forum on "Library 2.0 and Scholarly Portals."

**Laura Cohen** is maintaining the blog "Library 2.0: An Academic's Perspective" at <http://liblogs.albany.edu/library20/>.

**Laura Cohen** has been invited by ACRL to edit a hybrid book/wiki publication on Library 2.0 initiatives in academic libraries. The wiki part was Laura's idea and ACRL accepted it. The book will be published in the fall, and subsequent updates to its contents will be published on a wiki hosted by ALA.

**Trudi Jacobson's** book, [Information Literacy Collaborations that Work](#), co-edited with **Thomas Mackey** of the Department of Information Studies at the University at Albany, was published in January by Neal-Schuman. Each chapter was co-authored by a librarian and a faculty member, and the book provides a range of models for information literacy instruction for a number of different disciplines.

The University at Albany's Libraries have added a varied collection of political papers to its important archive, New York State Modern Political Archive. The collection, received from Syracuse University Libraries, includes the papers from 22 former New York Congressional members and 41 legislators who served in the New York State Legislature. This acquisition was completed to strengthen scholarly research and to support the long-term preservation and access to New York's political history by placing the materials at the University at Albany Libraries' premier political archive, which in-

cludes more than 300 collections from advocacy groups, political activists, and legislators integral to New York State's public policy.

In addition to the collection described above, the University at Albany's Libraries have acquired the papers of two important U.S. lawmakers from New York State: U.S. Congressman **Sherwood Boehlert** (R-24th District) and **Ronald B. Stafford**. Mr. Boehlert recently retired, after serving in the U.S. Congress since first elected in 1982. Stafford represented the North Country for a 37-year State Senate career which included membership on several committees. He ended his career as Chairman of the powerful Finance Committee.

**Irina Holden** was appointed to the Outreach and Instructional Librarian position in the Science Library at the Senior Assistant Librarian position.

**Heather Shalhoub** was appointed to the Half-time Reference/User Ed position in the Dewey Graduate Library at the Senior Assistant Librarian position.

As of January 15, 2007, **Gerald Burke** is now a tenured Associate Librarian.

**Edmee Hernandez** was appointed as Assistant Head of Circulation and Media Services on November 2, 2006.

**Carol A. Slater**, Monograph Clerk, has contributed a seasonal haiku:

Fields with thin frosting  
Softening the greens and browns  
January morn.

## ALFRED CERAMICS

**Elizabeth Gulascy**  
gulascy@alfred.edu

**Mark McBride** was appointed as Public Services Librarian and Head of Media Services in Fall 2006. Mark's previous positions included a stint as a reference librarian at Erie Community College. Mark received his MLS from SUNY Buffalo in 2006 and also received a BA in Media Study, with a concentration in Video, from Buffalo in 2004. His professional interests include looking at how students access and assimilate information in their digital environments. This semester Mark is co-teaching a course with a colleague in the Expanded Media Division of the College's School of Art and Design; the course is entitled "Network Practices and Interactive Media."

**Pat LaCourse**, Engineering and Science Librarian and Head of Information Delivery Services, has been granted tenure and promoted to Associate Librarian.

**Mark Smith** and **Carla Johnson** were nominated for inclusion in the 2007 edition of Marquis Who's Who in America, and their biographies were accepted for publication. Carla is also a biographee in the Silver Anniversary Edition (2006-07) of Marquis Who's Who of American Women and the 2007 edition of Who's Who in the World.

## BINGHAMTON

**Jill D. Yaples**  
Jyaples@binghamton.edu

At the 2006 NYLA Conference in November, **Susan Currie** and **Dave Vose** gave a presentation on "Information Commons: 21st Century Collaboration in Academic Libraries" and **Sarah Maximiek** and **Erin Rushton** gave a presentation on "IM at the Reference Desk."

The article, "Connecting to Students: Launching Instant Messaging Reference at Binghamton University," by **Elizabeth Brown**, **Sarah Maximiek** and **Erin Rushton**, will appear in

vol. 13, no. 4 of College and Undergraduate Libraries.

**Julie Wang** is the new Area Studies Librarian for Asian & Asian-American Studies.

**Martha Kelehan**, formerly with Hispanic American Periodicals Index (HAPI), is the new Area Studies Librarian for Africana, Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

**Janet Hogan** and **Jeanne Eichelberger** retired in December.

## BUFFALO

**Kathleen Quinlivan**  
kquin@buffalo.edu

**Barbara von Wahlde**, Associate Vice President for University Libraries, retired in January, 2007 after 20 years of service. Barbara provided leadership for the UB Libraries during an impressive period of growth and change, promoting scholarly communication initiatives and providing direction as the Libraries entered the digital environment of the 21st century. For the past 15 months, Barbara served as a UB Exchange Scholar, working with library administrators at Istanbul Technical University and Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey.

The University Libraries celebrated completion of the new Libraries Annex with a grand opening reception and ceremonial ribbon-cutting on November 16, 2006. The Annex, a specially designed, 16,000 square foot facility, is located adjacent to the UB North campus. This new building, which has a capacity of 1.5 million volumes and features 30-foot tall, high-density shelving, was constructed to help alleviate a serious lack of storage space within the libraries. The Annex will house low-use research materials, enabling the Libraries to repurpose and renovate library space to meet current and future library needs.

**Jill Hackenberg** and **Laura Taddeo**, Arts & Sciences Libraries, authored "The Nuts, Bolts, and Teaching Opportunities of Real-Time Reference," an article published in the August 2006 issue of College and Undergraduate Libraries, 13(3), 63-85. The article describes the UB Li-

braries' Instant Librarian chat reference service and outlines ways in which UB librarians utilize the online environment to promote self-directed learning.

**Stewart Brower**, Health Sciences Library, has launched PubDrug, <http://www.pubdrug.org>, an open-access drug resource in wiki format. PubDrug was founded in an effort to develop a copyright-free, royalty-free, full-text drug resource, and Stewart envisions that it will double as a drug education aid for information literacy efforts. Contact Stewart at [sbrower@buffalo.edu](mailto:sbrower@buffalo.edu) if you have any questions about PubDrug or would like to volunteer to provide assistance with this project.

**Fred Stoss**, Arts & Sciences Libraries, served as Biology editor for [Resources for College Libraries](#), a reference work developed by Choice as a successor to Books for College Libraries, 3rd edition (1988). Fred was responsible for selecting the most important and representative works to support undergraduate education in biology.

The UB Law Library welcomed **Beth Adelman** as Head of Collection Management in July 2006. Beth received her B.A. and M.L.S. degrees from UB, and her J.D. degree from Albany Law School. Her primary focus at the Law Library will be on budget issues and collection assessment.

**Jason Parker** joined the Libraries' Access Services staff as Course Reserve Supervisor in August 2006. Jason oversees instructors' reserve requests and is responsible for tracking print and electronic reserve materials.

**Jean Decker**, Central Technical Services, retired in December, 2006 after 34 years in the UB Libraries. Jean began working in the Serials department in 1973 and served as Head of Serials Cataloging since 1975.



## CAYUGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Margaret Devereaux**  
[Deverema@cayuga-cc.edu](mailto:Deverema@cayuga-cc.edu)

Good news for Cayuga's newly minted Fulton campus: **Kathy Sipling** formally joined the college as Public Services Librarian in September 2006. Kathy received her M.S. in Library and Information Science from Syracuse University in 2004, and has worked half-time at the Fulton campus since 2005. In addition to providing reference, teaching information literacy classes, and otherwise helping to provide equal access to services and collections for students and staff at the Auburn and Fulton locations and online, Kathy now coordinates collection development for the Library. Her appointment doubles the professional library staff working on the Fulton campus.

Attending the 2006-2007 NY3Rs-sponsored Continuous Assessment Continuous Improvement for Libraries workshops are adjunct reference librarian **Shannon Pritting**, instructional assistant **Diane Holbert**, technical services clerk **Cindy Maloney**, and interlibrary loan clerk **Sharon Farrar**. This is Cayuga's third group of library staff to attend the annual series. Conveniently for this group, the workshops are being held at Cayuga Community College's Auburn campus.

The successful efforts to restructure an outdated bibliographic instruction program continue. Librarians **Margaret Devereaux**, **Martha Lollis**, **Sara Davenport**, **Judy Campanella**, and **Kathy Sipling** are developing and implementing a module-based information literacy instruction program. Classroom faculty requesting instruction from a librarian may select among ten modules, each of which is designed to address ACRL and SUNY information literacy competencies. Averaging 20 minutes each, the modules may be mixed and matched to best suit the needs of individual classes. This new program will also be an integral component in the Library's plan to assess student learning outcomes.

## CLINTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Catherine M. Figlioli**  
[Catherine.Figlioli@clinton.edu](mailto:Catherine.Figlioli@clinton.edu)

**Catherine Figlioli** was promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor.

## COBLESKILL

**April Davies**  
[Daviesac@cobleskill.edu](mailto:Daviesac@cobleskill.edu)

All of our web pages have new urls! The powers that be brought up a new College website last semester. An unintended consequence of this was that all of the url's on the Library's site had to change. Any links you may have to our site need to have "cobyweb" instead of "www" in the url. So, our homepage is now at: <http://cobyweb.cobleskill.edu/library>. Links to the College's site may have changed as well but you don't have to do the "cobyweb" thing.

The Van Wagenen Library hosted a successful visit by author/illustrator (and Cobleskill alum, Class of 1975) **Dorothy McPartland** in December. Dorothy read from and signed copies of *Wishing Stars*. She also donated a copy of this delightful children's book for the collection as well as giving us one of the original paintings she created to go along with the book. The painting is hanging in the Children's Area on the lower level.

Another author visit is in the works for Spring 2007, by a team this time. **Mark Graber** (writer) and his brother **Jack Graber** (illustrator) have created [The Legend of Moon County](#). This beautiful children's book is a story about young animals getting to know a part of New York State that many of us know well. Announcements will be forthcoming as the details are worked out. Contact Fran Apollo at [apollof@cobleskill.edu](mailto:apollof@cobleskill.edu) or 518-255-5858 if you have any questions.

**Fran Apollo** flew to Seattle in January to attend the ALA 2007 Midwinter Conference as part of her duties as Vice President/President-elect of ENYACRL, and, of course, to represent us. She will also attend ALA's Annual Conference in June in Washington, D.C.

**April Davies** is serving as co-coordinator of presentations for the upcoming SUNYLA Annual Conference to be held at SUNY Maritime.

**Gregg Kiehl** presented a session at the Capital District Library Council (CDLC) workshop "Methods Not Madness: Evaluating Collections" in November. He will be presenting a session entitled "Mass Registration and the ILLiad Institutional Lending Web Interface" at the 2007 OCLC ILLiad Annual meeting in Virginia Beach, VA in March.

**Julie Nark** has joined the Library's staff as an Instructional Support Associate in Circulation and Interlibrary Loan.

**Nancy Van Deusen** and **Gregg Kiehl** will both be appearing in the Tri-County Arts Council's production of Aristophanes' play, "Lysistrata" on January 27-28 at the Golding Park Community Center in Cobleskill. A suggested donation of \$10 will go to benefit the Head Start Program in Cobleskill.

## CORTLAND

**Dan Harms**  
[harmsd@cortland.edu](mailto:harmsd@cortland.edu)

**Dan Harms** had his article, "Plagiarism, Publishing, and the Academy" published in the [Journal of Academic Publishing](#).



## DELHI

**Steve Dixon**  
dixonsg@delhi.edu

**Amy Schleigh**, our electronic resources and web librarian left for love and a new job in October. We hope to fill her position soon.

On October 25, a standing-room-only crowd of students, faculty, staff and friends attended the unveiling of the Merrill Family Foundation Veterinary Science Technology Special Collections Room. Through a private grant from the Merrills, we are adding hundreds of new books, media and journals in Veterinary Technology Management over the next three years. Unique in this collection is a half-scale anatomical model of a breeding pig named Hamlette (and yes, she has an item record in Aleph). Complete with computers and a whiteboard, this room is heavily used by peer mentors for group study and tutoring.

Last year we began what we hope will become a new tradition. All faculty and staff who received continuing or permanent appointment last year (nine people) were asked to identify books or other materials significant in their field to be added to the Resnick Library permanent collection. We then unveiled the selected items at a campus gathering in our Library Café, hosted by the Provost. Each item bears a special bookplate recognizing the faculty and staff member.

## ERIE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Celeste Neyerlin**  
neyerlin@ecc.edu

**Jill Barrille** and **Bob Kushin**, long-time librarians at South Campus and SUNYLA members, have retired. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Replacing them is **Margaret Lew**, a former part-time librarian from City Campus. Joining her are **Taheera Sonubi-Shaheed** and **Melissa Peterson**.

Filling Margaret's place at City Campus is **Jamie Smith**.



## ESF

**Linda M. Galloway**  
lmgalloway@esf.edu

We are pleased to once again welcome an intern from Syracuse University's School of Information Studies. **Charles Bush**, graduating May 2007 with an MLIS degree, will join us this semester. Charlie will work with **Jane Verostek** in her Information Literacy class, perform reference duties and will have the opportunity to engage in other library duties.

**Linda Galloway** has been appointed Assistant Librarian. She had previously been a Part-Time Temporary Visiting Assistant Librarian. Linda also works with ESF's Office of Research Programs as a funding specialist.

## FARMINGDALE

**Azadeh Mirzadeh**  
mirzadab@farmingdale.edu

**Judi Bird**, Head of the Acquisitions in Greenley Library retired after 38 years of working at Farmingdale College. **Karen Gelles** replaced her as the head of Acquisitions. Judy will continue to work part-time. Best wishes!

The new name for the college is "Farmingdale College."

# GENESEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Cindy Francis**  
[Cafreancis@genesee.edu](mailto:Cafreancis@genesee.edu)

**Michele Asmus** recently completed two Web Design classes to help with her new responsibility as webmaster for "A Tale for Three Counties" reading project. Presented by GCC and the twenty public libraries of Genesee, Orleans and Wyoming Counties, this year's program selection is An Unfinished Life by **Mark Spragg**. Michele is a member of the committee responsible for this community project in which local residents are encouraged to read and discuss a selected book and then meet the author during a series of visits. The author will speak at GCC on March 8th.

Part-time Library Clerk **Janet Rossman** completed her M.L.S. at the University of Buffalo in December 2006.

**Nicki Lerczak** recently completed EDF 211 – Instructional Design at Genesee. EDF 211 is offered most semesters at Genesee to help faculty create online course components or an online version of a traditional course. Nicki's final project involved the creation of learning modules that faculty can place into their WebCT courses to help students understand the research process. Nicki will be presenting a session during the college's Professional Activity Days to promote the modules.

With record breaking international student enrollment at Genesee, the Alfred C. O'Connell



Library established an International Students Committee. Chaired by Reference Librarian **Erin Clarke**, the committee plans to provide outreach and interaction programs to assist in acclimating the international students to Genesee. The first activity will be a "Tex-

Mex" Welcome Luncheon on Feb 1st for all returning and new international students

# GENESEO

**Katherine Pitcher**  
[pitcher@geneseo.edu](mailto:pitcher@geneseo.edu)

Geneseo's Milne Library has 3 new part-time reference librarians: **Justina Elmore** recently completed her coursework toward an MLS from the University at Buffalo and will receive her degree in February 2007. Justina formerly worked as a development officer at SUNY Brockport. **Theresa Mastrodonato** is also completing her MLS at UB in February, and comes to Geneseo from a recent internship at St. John Fisher's Lavery Library and part-time work as a Circulation Aide at the Brighton Memorial Library in Rochester. Theresa's background is in computer science and anthropology. **Jennifer Potter** will also complete her MLS at the University at Buffalo in February 2007 and SUNYLA members will recall she is the first-ever recipient of the **Daniel F. Kisansane** Memorial Scholarship at last summer's Annual SUNYLA conference. Jennifer recently completed an internship as a library instruction assistant at Niagara University.

**Jennifer Potter** will be the delegate to SUNYLA while **Kate Pitcher** is on maternity leave. Jennifer is one of three new part-time reference librarians in Milne Library.

**Kate Pitcher** recently presented at Brick & Click Libraries: An Academic Library Symposium on November 3, 2006 at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO. Her presentation was entitled, "Putting It All Together: Designing a Library Website Using Project Management Techniques."

Milne Library hosted an all-day library school reunion on September 30, 2006 for alumni, family and friends. Over 100 guests came from as far away as Wisconsin and Kentucky to attend the event, which featured campus tours, the Geneseo Homecoming Parade, a buffet luncheon, and guest speaker **Chris Dodge**, formerly Street Librarian at the magazine Utne Reader. More photos and information may be found on the Friends of Milne Library Reunion website at <http://library.geneseo.edu/Friends/Reunion/index.shtml>.

**Nancy Greco**, Reference/Instruction Librarian & Evening Access Services Librarian, left SUNY

Geneseo for the position of Head of Circulation at St. John Fisher's Lavery Library. Her last day at Geneseo was January 5th. Nancy will be missed!

**Kim Davies** and **Jeff Liles** (former Instruction Coordinator at Milne Library) presented a full-day "librarian as teacher" workshop at St. John Fisher's Lavery Library for new librarians from both Lavery and SUNY Geneseo's Milne Library. Twelve participants from both libraries were immersed in a full-day of activities designed to model pedagogy and active learning and develop instructional outcomes for the library classroom.

## [HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE](#)

**Valerie Prescott**  
[Prescotvh@herkimer.edu](mailto:Prescotvh@herkimer.edu)

During the HCCC Library renovation project beginning January 2, 2007, access to the circulating book collection will be limited because the books will be temporarily housed in East Herkimer. Books will be retrieved from the off-campus site on a regular basis. The Library will be open for use during the renovation; however, environmental conditions may vary depending on the work underway. Librarians will continue to be available to meet with students and faculty in classrooms as well as in the Library. The renovation project details and updates will be available on the HCCC Library Web site.



## [HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE](#)

**Robert Matthews**  
[matthrob@hvcc.edu](mailto:matthrob@hvcc.edu)

Welcome to **Charlotte DeJesus**, a new part-time Reference Librarian.

The Circulation Department completed a successful "Food for Fines Program." Students were encouraged to donate non-perishable food items in exchange for the removal of late book fees. Over 450 items were donated to the campus food pantry.

The library hosted three quilt exhibitions. The first one was in October containing five "Quilts as Codes on the Underground Railroad." The second one in November was a display of eleven quilts associated with the documentary "Until the Violence Stops." Both of these were a part of "Voices: A Library Lecture Series" presentations. The last was an exhibition of three AIDS Memorial Quilt panels.

## [JEFFERSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE](#)

**Celia Livingston**  
[Clivingston@sunyjefferson.edu](mailto:Clivingston@sunyjefferson.edu)

The Library, in conjunction with the College's Writer's Club, Human Services students and Women's Organization, collected 800 children's books which were distributed by Literacy Volunteers at the annual Salvation Army Christmas gift giving event.

We are in the process of launching Central Search from Serials Solutions, which will enable students to search multiple databases simultaneously (federated searching.)

New soft furniture provides students with comfortable seating upstairs in the Library.

A regional program, "North Country Reads," which started last year, encourages the entire region to read a book and discuss it, with an invitation to the author to visit the community and college for the purpose of facilitating discussion groups. The Library takes part in this program and will be hosting a reception for the author in April. This year's book is The Ha Ha, by **Dave King**.



## MARITIME

**Lori Gluckman**  
[lgluckman@sunymaritime.edu](mailto:lgluckman@sunymaritime.edu)

The staff of SUNY Maritime's Stephen B. Luce Library looks forward to hosting the 2007 SUNYLA Conference in June 2007. We can't wait to show you our beautiful campus.

Work continued on the METRO grant funded project "Digitizing the Sailors' Snug Harbor Archival Records." The Sailors' Snug Harbor, a Staten Island-based institution for retired sailors, was founded in 1801 and is considered the most unique and interesting organization in the maritime community. In 1976, Luce Library acquired the information archives of this institution. To date more than 400 pages of documents dating as far back as 1797 have been scanned and associated metadata created. Final tasks currently in progress include creating an open access web interface, developing a CONTENTdm site, and publishing a promotional brochure. Once completed the Sailors' Snug Harbor digital collection will launch Luce Library's digital archives and preparation is already underway to upload this collection to SUNY's digital repository in DSpace.

This past semester has brought to us some exciting events and visitors, including a library-sponsored leadership lecture and presentation of "Shipping Out," a documentary detailing the little-known history of women and seafaring in America. The event was attended by approximately 150 students, during which time Captain **Ann Sanborn**, who is featured in the PBS documentary, spoke about her experiences as a Captain of the largest US flag vessels.

Several international visitors were received at the Stephen B. Luce Library. Representatives of the Russian Ministry of Education visited our campus from the Samara State Aerospace University. Our own Cataloging Librarian, **Elizabeth Leschinsky**, made our visitors feel right at home by translating from English to her native Russian. Also visiting this past semester were delegates of the Bahamian Merchant Mariners, the Bahamian Ministers of Transportation and Education. Representatives from Senator Clinton's office visited the library's archives and historic collections.

Rare collections acquired by the library include: the Charter and Bylaws of the Marine Society of New York (1770), predating the establishment of the United States and signed by King George III; items of **Felix Riesenber**, a graduate of the Class of 1897 and Superintendent of the College (1917-19; 1923-24) including photographs of the Wellman expedition; the John R. Farnell Collection of 19th Century Maritime Documents, which include rare maritime insurance policies.

**Lori Gluckman**, Technical Services and Collection Development, takes on the role of SUNYLA delegate. Thanks to **Elizabeth Leschinsky**, Cataloging Librarian, for serving as the previous delegate. Additionally, we welcome **Felicia Berke** as Library Coordinator for Administrative Services and Collections. Felicia's responsibilities include promotion of the Luce Library's collections and services, event planning, and serving as the library's public relations spokesperson. Formerly with the University of Miami Richter Library and the Miami-Dade Public Library System, Felicia's experience also includes a background in film/advertising production. With a BA in Film from Vassar College, Felicia has taken several credits towards her MLS at the University of South Florida.

## MONROE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Michael McCullough  
mmccullough@monroecc.edu

**Rick Squires**, Collection Development Librarian, was one of the authors featured when the Rochester Regional Library Council and the University of Rochester River Campus Libraries presented "Celebrating Our Authors! A book launch reception." The event was being held on January 18, 2007 at the Rush Rhees Library on the University of Rochester campus. Squires' biography, *Stern fathers 'neath the mould: the Lovecraft family in Rochester*, was published in 1995.

Each author spoke about their experiences with writing and getting published. The event was sponsored by the RRLC, the University of Rochester River Campus Libraries, and supported by LSTA and Regional Bibliographic Databases funds, granted by the New York State Library.

## NASSAU COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Linda Gorman  
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The Nassau Community College Librarians, in conjunction with **Richard Conway** from Student Activities, have once again put together a very successful interdisciplinary program that was presented to large audiences on October 31, 2006. The Library faculty consisted of **Ken Bellafiore**, **Richard Delbango**, **Linda Gorman**, **Gerry Leibowitz**, and **Sharon Russin**. The program was entitled "HOWL"OWEEN and it was a 50th anniversary celebration of Allen Ginsberg's epic protest poem Howl!. We were very pleased to be able to garner interesting presentations from our renowned faculty from

English, Theater, History, Music, and Reading. In addition to their presentations, we held a very lively poetry slam contest which included prizes for the winners. The day was filled with film clips, music selections, dramatic readings, historical perspectives, student participation, personal anecdotes, literary analysis, and original poetry. What fun!

## NEW PALTZ

Susan Kraats  
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WebFeat is now the library's federated searching tool. Last summer a task force reviewed a number of products and decided to replace the previous multiple-source search tool with something faster and more intuitive. This committee focused its research on user expectations, usage levels in general, cost, and ease of use and recommended WebFeat as the tool most appropriate for our current needs.

All SUNY New Paltz faculty and students have subscriptions to EndNote software for publishing and managing bibliographies. What will be the implications for reference and library instruction? Stay tuned...

**Morgan Gwenwald** has been hired for the new position of Outreach Librarian. Morgan was a Reference Librarian at STL, and also has a background working in media and marketing.

**Andy Perry** is our new Information Systems Librarian. Andy received his M.L.S. from SUNY University at Albany. His library career began as a graduate assistant in circulation services there. After working as Catalog Librarian and Head Cataloger at Middlebury College and positions at both Baker & Taylor and Brodart involving library automation products, he again joined SUNY at SUNY Binghamton as Assistant Director of Libraries for Systems in 1988. During his time at Binghamton he was project leader for the implementation of the NOTIS integrated library system and later in 2002 with the Aleph 500 system. He was active in various collaborative projects such as PACLink (with SUNY Buffalo, Stony Brook, and CUNY), and later with SUNYConnect. He served on the

SUNY committee that selected the new system for SUNYConnect. In 2003, he was appointed to the SUNYConnect Advisory Committee as the SUNYLA representative and served as the Chair during 2004-2005. Most recently he has been working with OLIS in providing technical support for Aleph and with the SUNY University at Buffalo with the implementation of Aleph version 17.01 which was successfully concluded July 17, 2006, with the switch to production.

**Heather C. Whalen** joined the Sojourner Truth Library as Assistant Reference Librarian in November 2006. While completing her graduate degree at the University at Albany, which she earned in 2005, Heather interned at the Sojourner Truth Library. She returns to us from DeSales University in Center Valley, PA with a year's experience as a Public Services Librarian. Heather earned her BA in English from Muhlenberg College in 2002; is owned by the prettiest kitty in the world, Susanna; and is to be married June 2, to **Matthew Smith**, Library Director at Manor College in Jenkintown, PA.

## OLD WESTBURY

**Joanne Spadaro**  
[Spadaroj@oldwestbury.edu](mailto:Spadaroj@oldwestbury.edu)

**Kathie Flynn** has joined the SUNY Old Westbury Library as the Reference/Instruction Coordinator in December 2006. Kathie comes to us from the New York Institute of Technology, where she worked as a Serials/Reference Librarian. Welcome Kathy!

We are happy to announce that our new Curriculum Materials Center (CMC) at the SUNY Old Westbury Library opened in October 2006. The CMC is a collection of library resources and services that mainly support the P-12 instructional needs of students and faculty in the School of Education. **Joanne Spadaro** is the director of the CMC development project and serves as the CMC librarian.

## ONEONTA

**Heather Heyduk**  
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In October, **Michelle Hendley** presented a poster session entitled "Tackling Tough Assignments: Research Consultations at Milne Library" at the College at Oneonta's 3rd Annual Celebration of Teaching.

**Sally Goodwin**, Associate Librarian, retired from full time at the end of January, 2007. She began at Milne Library in 1989 as a Reference & Instruction Librarian. She has served as Head of Cataloging and Head of Access Services. Sally will continue part-time as a Reference & Instruction Librarian during the Spring 2007 semester.

## ONONDOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Pauline Shostack**  
[shostacp@sunyocc.edu](mailto:shostacp@sunyocc.edu)

**Pauline Lynch Shostack** was granted tenure and promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor.

## OSWEGO

**Karen Shockey**  
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We are sorry to report that **Drew Urbanek**, Coordinator of Access Services, will be leaving Penfield Library to pursue a career in writing. We wish Drew all the best in his new endeavor.

**Emily Hart** has agreed to chair the Membership Committee for SUNYLA. Keep those membership applications coming! If you're reading

this newsletter and haven't joined, why not?  
Send that application in now!

**Jim Nichols** had an article recently published in the Journal of Library Administration: "Monthly Check-Up: Using a Monthly Survey to Monitor and Assess Library and Information Services for Distance Learners." The Penfield Library Instruction Team wrote and received a grant for \$1000.00 from the College's Office of the Provost. The grant will be used to fund initiatives to promote student success.

## POTSDAM

**Marianne Hebert**  
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**Jenica Rogers** published "Changing the Way Libraries and Faculty Assess Periodical Collections in the Electronic Age" in AGAINST THE GRAIN v.18 # 5, November 2006.

### **Finals Week StressBusters**

Crumb Library launched a pilot project at the end of Fall semester to try and take some of the angst out of finals week. **Jenica Rogers** and **Keith Compeau** spearheaded the project to provide stress reducing activities, such as coloring books, jacks and barrels of monkeys, crossword, sudoku and jigsaw puzzles, a zen sandbox, labyrinth posters, and even a small putting range. StressBusters was a smashing success with students. At a budget of about three hours of staff time and less than thirty dollars for supplies, it will be back next finals week!

### **Information Technology Fair**

On Jan. 19th, the College Libraries co-hosted the 5th Annual IT Fair with Computing and Technology Services. The Fair showcases new campus technologies and resources for faculty and staff. **Jenica Rogers** and **Marianne Hebert** presented on "Facebook, Flickr, and YouTube: Social Networking Can Be Educational!" Library faculty also did poster sessions on historical sources online, online reference services and resources, and new Google products.

## PURCHASE

**Leah Massar**  
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In December, **Carrie Eastman** joined the Purchase College Library as the Information Services / Interlibrary Loan Librarian. She comes to us from Wheelock College in Boston, where she was the Serials Specialist. Carrie earned her MLIS from Simmons College in 2006 and has an M.A. in English from the University of Rhode Island and a B.A. in English from the University of Connecticut. In addition to her Interlibrary Loan responsibilities, Carrie will provide reference and instructional services and will have collection development responsibilities. We are very excited to have her here!

**Christine Persche** joined the Purchase College Library as the Visual Resources Associate on January 16th. Christine recently completed her MLS and Archives Certificate from Pratt Institute and has a BA from Douglass College, Rutgers University. She has experience in photography and visual collections, archives and libraries. Working with **Joy Kestenbaum**, our Art Librarian, Christine will maintain the daily operations of the slide collection and assist with the implementation of special digital projects and in the development of long-range planning for the Visual Resources Collection and its services.

Welcome Christine!

## SCHENECTADY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Carrie Laier**  
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After years of having to answer "no" to the reference query "do you have any books to read for fun," Begley Librarians decided it was time

for a change. The Library introduced its new Leisure Reading collection in November. Key players in the success of this project include part-time Reference Librarian **Tina Kiernan**, who researched vendors and plans, and has the ongoing responsibility for selecting titles and advertising the collection. Technical Services/Systems Librarian **David Moore** and Technical Services staff members **Dennis Mott** and **Marilyn van Steenburg** deserve credit for getting the collection ready to use in a timely fashion. The new collection was welcomed by a "Bagels & Books" reception, held in the library in November. Members of the college community were invited to enjoy a bagel, a cup of coffee, and check out the library's new collection.

The Hudson Valley Community College - Schenectady County Community College virtual reference cooperative has grown, with the addition of The Sage Colleges (Albany and Troy, NY) this past fall semester. Because of Sage's participation, the cooperative is now able to offer chat service on Sundays.

The Instructional Technology Center's service desk has been combined with the library's Circulation desk, to create one main service desk in the library. Patrons are now able to check out all library materials (print, audio, video, etc.) at one place. Library and ITC staff are currently in the process of moving the media collections to open, browseable shelving on the main floor of the library.

Begley Library & ITC welcomes **Amanda Haggan**, Assistant for Online Learning.

Begley Library & ITC welcomes **Tracy Salvage** back in the position of part-time Reference Librarian. Tracy re-joined the reference team in the fall semester. Tracy has a background in Fine Arts, and in addition to providing reference services, Tracy will be working with the art book collection.

Stony Brook University now owns Long Island University Southampton College. This includes the library. The library is open to Stony Brook University students who may use the building and the collections in-house.

**Richard Feinberg**, Preservation Librarian attended the New York State Comprehensive Research Preservation Administrators fall meeting in Albany. The group is also planning a publicity campaign for the twenty-fifth anniversary. The group is the only one of its kind in the country.

**Andrews Toulas**, of the Music Library has resigned.

**Dianne Cyrus**, a Senior Periodical Receiver in the Serials Department has been hired.

Stony Brook University has acquired a secret wartime letter from General George Washington to his chief spymaster for \$96,000 at auction at Christie's in Manhattan. The purchase was made possible through private and public funding. Written from "Head Quarters West-point" on September 24, 1779, the missive to Major Benjamin Tallmadge, the Revolutionary Army's spymaster, focuses on the activities of Robert Townsend, another secret agent, from Oyster Bay, Long Island. The letter, signed as Commander in Chief by Washington, refers to Townsend by his code name, Culper Jr., and refers to techniques used in the spying, including invisible ink.

Special Collections of the University Libraries is the custodian of the letter. The document was transferred in December to the Center for Conservation for Art and Historic Artifacts in Philadelphia for preservation treatment. A committee comprised of university faculty and community members is planning a scholarly conference (to be held in October 2007) and programs for primary and secondary school students to highlight Long Island's significance during the Revolutionary War. Additional information about this important acquisition is available at: <http://www.stonybrook.edu/libspecial>.

## **STONY BROOK**

**Elizabeth M. Geoghegan**  
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## STONY BROOK HEALTH SCIENCES

**Jeanne L. Galbraith**  
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Dr. **Andrew White**, Associate Director and Head of Systems, leaves SUNY at the end of January for a new position as Associate Dean of Libraries for Technical and Automated Services at Adelphi University, where he will be responsible for technical services, interlibrary loan, digitization of archives and special collections, and library systems. Andrew has made a significant impact on the Health Sciences Library during his 6 ½ years tenure and will be missed greatly by his colleagues here as well as those in the Melville Library on campus where he worked for the prior thirteen years. Andrew also served on the SUNY Collections and Access Council. A new Associate Director will not be named at present, but a Head of Systems will be hired to cover Andrew's information technology responsibilities.

**Joseph Balsamo** has been appointed the Acting Head of Library Systems during the search for an Assistant Director for Library Systems. Joseph has been with the library for over ten years and has a broad background in programming, information technology, and systems, in addition to experience teaching medical informatics.

**Mary Carmen Chimato** departed in December for a new position as Head of Access and Delivery Services at North Carolina State University Libraries in Raleigh, North Carolina. While Mary regretted leaving a medical library setting, she was excited about the opportunity to lead efforts to develop new library service models and enhance services through emerging technologies for NCSU.

**Kevin Collins** has joined the library staff as Senior Programmer/Analyst. Kevin will be working on projects including an in-house database that, together with Aleph, will provide better management of the library's electronic and print resources. Formerly, Kevin was employed by Keane Inc. where he wrote software for hospitals.

**Jeanne Galbraith**, Assistant Director for Resource Management Services, is serving during

2007 as President of the Board for the Long Island Library Resources Council, one of New York's nine regional library Reference and Research Resource Councils. Jeanne also will replace **Andrew White** on the SUNY Collections and Access Council.

**Darren Chase** authored the lead article, "Transformative Sharing with Instant Messaging, Wikis, Interactive Maps, and Flickr," in the January 2007 issue of Computers in Libraries (v. 27: no. 1, 6-9). Prior to publication, Darren did presentations at the 2006 Internet Librarian Conference and 2006 Computers in Libraries Conference about the work discussed in his article.

**Michael Bailou Huang** co-published with Ying Xing and Haipeng Li the article "Information Literacy in Vocational Education: A Course Model" in Chinese Librarianship: An International Electronic Journal, June 2007, issue #23, URL: <http://www.iclc.us/cliej/cl23XLH.htm>.

The Health Sciences Library completed its migration to Aleph version 17 and is testing the patch that will enable downloading of OCLC records with the new 13-digit International Standard Book Numbers (ISBNs). Staff assisted with multiple rounds of testing in each module as the migration progressed.

**Susan Opisso**, Bibliographic and Acquisitions Manager, was appointed to the SUNY-wide Aleph Shared Services Task Force by the SUNYConnect Advisory Council (SAC). The Task Force is charged with examining the current shared Aleph environment plus an Ex Libris proposal on the shared systems environment to then make recommendations to SAC.

## SUFFOLK COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Rebecca Turner**  
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**Ammerman Campus:**

During the spring 2007 semester, Professor

**Lisa Meléndez** will be on sabbatical to create an archive of oral histories and photographs that give voice to Latino/a immigrants in our surrounding community. Once transcribed and translated, the interviews will be housed and made available in the Ammerman Campus library's Long Island Room. An edited compilation will also be made available through the library's homepage. Recently, Professor Meléndez also participated in the third annual International Know How Conference in Mexico City. Held in the beautiful Palacio de Minería, the conference brought together librarians, journalists, academics, and other information activists around the theme of advancing access to and promoting use of information and communication technologies, particularly for women and indigenous populations.

**Deborah Provenzano**, Associate Professor of Library Services, organized and moderated, "Are Today's Students Prepared For College?", a panel discussion which provided attendees the opportunity to learn and share details regarding the trend of underprepared college freshmen. Causes of the problem, as well as ways that faculty and staff can assist in remediation were discussed.

At the American Library Association's annual conference in June, the Library Instruction Roundtable appointed **Marya Shepherd**, Associate Professor of Library Services, as chair of the Adult Learners Committee (ALC). The ALC maintains the Adult Learners Resource Center webpage, which provides library professionals with teaching and training resources to accommodate the needs of adult learners.

#### Eastern Campus:

**Penny Bealle**, Assistant Professor of Library Services and **Dr. Susan Fanning**, Assistant Professor of English, are looking forward to sharing information regarding their collaboration at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in New York City in March 2007. They will co-present a paper titled, "Infused Library Instruction in First-Year Writing Courses."

**Penny Bealle**, Assistant Professor of Library Services and **Kathleen Cash-McConnell**, Associate Professor of English as a Foreign Language, were awarded a grant from the SCC Foundation in May 2006. The grant provided

funding for a faculty development program entitled, "Information Literacy Prepares Developmental Studies Students for Academic Success." The program provided participants the opportunity to explore how innovative library and classroom faculty collaborations can improve student learning.

#### Grant Campus:

**Gerald Reminick**, Professor of Library Services, will be a presenter at the May 2007 National Maritime Historical Society/North American Society for Oceanic History Joint Conference at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, NY. The presentation will focus on Professor Reminick's latest book entitled, Action in the South Atlantic: the Sinking of the German Raider Stier by the Liberty Stephen Hopkins.

#### Central Media Services:

**Shaun Gerien**, Specialist – Central Library Media Services, has written and is producing a TV public service announcement for the NYS Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services. Prof. Diane Fabian, Chair of Health Careers – Grant, wrote the winning grant application, which garnered \$20,000 for the production: *Underage Drinking: Not A Minor Problem*. Students from the Chemical Dependency curriculum, the Theatre Arts Program, and the Dept. of Radio, TV and Film are involved in the project, which will be completed before the end of the spring, 2007 semester. The program will be available on DVD for instructors of the Freshman Seminar and other courses.

We welcome **James McHugh** to his new position as College-Wide Coordinator of Instructional Media. His duties include documenting College events, managing the Distance Education classrooms and coordinating telecourses. James holds an M.S. in Library Science and is working on a second Master's degree in Communication Arts.



# SULLIVAN COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**Richard Arnold**  
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**Phyllis Jones**, Technical Services and Systems Librarian, has retired this past December after many years of service to the library. Phyllis helped to enable our first Internet connection in the Library and the college in the early 90s, pioneered our first online public catalog, introduced MultiLis, and later Aleph as our library management system. In addition she has ordered, catalogued and processed many thousands of books. Her deep, lifelong interest in Ornithology, and her involvement in bird watching and her professional service in ornithological organizations, have also greatly enriched us at this college. She will be greatly missed.

**Jon Grennan**, Director of Library Services, has recently been awarded the status of continuing appointment.

Our library was proud to have ranked very highly among SUNY community colleges in the 2006 SUNY Student Opinion Survey in all three categories of library resources, library services and library facilities. We have all worked hard to achieve this distinction.

# UPSTATE

**Wendi Ackerman**  
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The year 2006 was one of both good news and bad for the Health Sciences Library with regard to staff changes.

In August, we said good bye to **Eric Luft**, Curator of Historical Collections who retired after 19 years with us. In September, we likewise bid adieu to **Peter Uva**, Head of Access Services who retired after over 40 years at the SUNY Upstate library. Sadly, we lost **Godfrey Belleh**, Head of Technical Services, who passed away in May following a long illness. Godfrey had been part of our staff since 1992.

The good news is that in the last six months we welcomed four new staff members. **Michelle Melia**, is our new Electronic Resources Librarian; she comes to us from Manhattanville College in Purchase, NY. **Virginia Young**, started over the summer as a part-time Reference Librarian; she previously worked for a Syracuse law firm. Hired in December were both **Michael Mulligan**, Web Applications Programmer, and **Bradley Long**, our new Head of Reference. Mike is coming to us from another department at Upstate and Brad from Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, PA.

**Diane Luft** recently moved from her former position as Head of Reference to that of Assistant Director for Customer Service. We are currently searching for a Curator of Special Collections and hope to fill the position shortly.

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## SUNYLA Professional Development Grants Program

SUNYLA has a small grants program that is used to reimburse members for expenses associated with professional growth activities when other funding sources (e.g., campus tuition reimbursement or Individual Development Grants) are only partially or not available. Administered by the Association's Professional Development Committee, the program aims to reward the professional growth of individual members, while giving special consideration to those applicants who demonstrate how their own exposure to an activity will have broad impact on enhancing the development of other colleagues as well. In general, the more colleagues who tangibly benefit from an applicant's activity, the more weight that application will receive. See <http://www.sunyla.org/profdev/> for a full description of the program.

Submitted by **Marianne D. Muha** Buffalo State College

# SUNYLA PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT REPORT

ACRL Immersion Institute  
Chevy Chase, Maryland  
November 29-December 3, 2006  
by **Susan Kraat**

## *The Intentional Teacher: Renewal through Informed Reflection*

For seven years, the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) Immersion Institute programs have addressed various challenges inherent in library instruction, particularly the concept of "Information Literacy." The Intentional Teacher: Renewal through Informed Reflection is a new addition to this series. With the support of a SUNYLA Professional Development Grant, I was "immersed" in this first-time offering. Led by veteran ACRL instructors Randy Hensley (University of Hawaii), and Beth Woodard (University of Illinois), 31 participants from colleges and universities throughout the United States, spent an intense few days together in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Pre-Immersion assignments included:

- Introduce ourselves on the course web page.
- Read Parker Palmer's The Courage to Teach.
- Read selected chapters from Stephen D. Brookfield's Becoming a Critically Reflective Teacher.
- Take the Teaching Perspectives Inventory (<http://teachingperspectives.com>) and bring results to share.
- Share an "artifact" of our teaching (assignment, assessment instrument, user guide).
- Research a topic relevant to student learning, pedagogy, classroom environment, then write a summary, and bring the article.
- Write a one-page summary of a teaching concern.
- Prepare a one-page summary of a teaching "innovation" you have tried.



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Leaders led participants in examining their teaching practices and assumptions through the four “lenses” described by Stephen Brookfield in Becoming a Critically Reflective Teacher. Brookfield states that we can learn from viewing our teaching through the lenses of:

1. autobiographies as learners and teachers: looking from both sides.
2. student perspective: do students get what we intend for them to get?
3. colleague as resource: have a colleague watch you teach, or simply compare notes about common teaching experiences.
4. professional literature (theoretical): helps us to name our experiences.

By looking at our work from both sides we become aware of our “assumptions.” These are described more exactly in the book, but participants worked in groups to create a list of some of assumptions connected to teaching and learning: e.g., “lecturing is bad”, “group discussion is always a good way for students to learn”, “students understand their assignment at the time of library instruction”, etc.

In addition to shared stories related to the materials that we had read, the “artifacts” and research articles that we shared, Randy and Beth used interactive exercises and discussion to guide participants toward the creation of a personal teaching philosophy. (They used pipe cleaners and clay, too, but that would be another report.) The goal was to have our philosophy document at least partially completed by the end of the “immersion,” and to post on the course web site by the end of the following week.

The “Palmer Circle Activity” proved to be one of the best times, spent with just a few immersion colleagues. Groups of five or six met in separate spaces to address a particular teaching concern. Each person described in detail her concern. Others in the group listened and could respond only by asking questions. Comments and advice were not allowed, which required additional focus on the topic at hand. Members of our group acted as scribe and wrote down the questions for the person at the center of each “circle” session. Randy and Beth looked in, but did not offer advice unless asked. All those in my group felt free to talk about their issue or other concerns in a non-threatening environment. More importantly, they actually were taking home concrete ideas for change.

Keeping up with a busy teaching schedule, preparations, desk shifts, and committee work often limits the time that we have to reflect on our teaching, and our students’ learning. The Intentional Teacher Immersion Institute was a welcome opportunity for learning and sharing and renewal.

How will Renewal through Reflection inform my teaching? What can I do to improve student learning? Here are some possibilities:

- Make the “great thing”, described by Parker Palmer, the center of the class. Find out

what that is and make it the subject or focus of learning.

- Pose an assignment-related question on the board as students enter the room.
- Ask students to describe their assignment.
- Ask students to design or outline what they would like to learn during the session.
- Have a student teach other students how to use a database.
- Raise expectations: challenge students.
- Ask students to describe class requirements for success to another student (advice).
- In addition to the assignment requirements and topics, ask the instructor about class dynamic: quiet, energetic, non-traditional, motivated, etc.
- Ask for an evaluation a few weeks after the session.
- Ask for an evaluation even if it was not the most successful session (and there is reason to believe there may be some negative comments). What am I afraid of?
- Don't direct teaching (anger) to the student who is Instant-Messaging or snoozing.
- Do teachers have a responsibility for the growth of a "civil society?"  
(Courage as described by Parker Palmer) Model that behavior.

Participants in my own Palmer Circle are planning for a Roundtable at ACRL in Baltimore. This was a unique experience and I am deeply grateful to SUNYLA for this particular opportunity for professional development.

#### From the Editor:

I hope you like the new look of the Newsletter. Thanks to a suggestion, three-column pages have been eliminated to improve readability. Now, each page will have either one or two columns. I think it was a great suggestion and welcome any and all others.

I learned a good lesson last issue when too many photographs in the Newsletter almost caused some computers to crash! Oops! I felt terrible. Sorry!

We really do need your suggestions to help us improve SUNYLA's newsletter. Keep us posted. One more thing: can we get something from every campus???

