Introducing Library Guides

New for Spring Semester, many research guides in the Library Guides format are now available on the library’s homepage (www.oswego.edu/library), using the link to Research Guides by Subject (beta) or go directly to libraryguides.oswego.edu to see what research guides and course guides have already been published. They contain all of the high quality research information you’ve come to expect from our research guides with improved functionality, including search boxes, user-friendly layout and more graphics. During the spring semester more subject guides will be added and many course specific guides will be created.

Expect more interactive features in the near future. We hope you will take a look at the new Guides and enjoy the new features. Course guides offer access to reliable library resources in addition to instructional material geared for research in your specific course or major. Librarians will be able to easily repurpose resources and instructional content to create course guides that meet the unique needs of specific courses and assignments, and are currently working on creating content and integrating resources such as video and other instructional objects into library guides. If you would like a guide developed for a specific course, contact the library liaison for your department. —Kathryn Johns-Masten

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Penfield’s *Food for Fines* is an annual event connecting the campus and community. In 1997, Penfield started the now annual tradition of Food for Fines. During the weeks leading up to Thanksgiving, those with overdue fees can donate one item of food to eliminate one dollar of fines. Overdue fines are forgiven when patrons bring in boxed or canned items to be donated to our local food pantry. Families in the Oswego community benefit from the generosity and donations of our campus. The current iteration of Food for Fines brought in over 900 food items to Human Concerns. Two deliveries were made, one to fill the Thanksgiving baskets and one to replenish the shelves before the Christmas season. —Carol Carter

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**Family and Friends Weekend Booksale is a Success**

During *Friends and Family Weekend* in October, Penfield once again held a booksale to welcome visitors to the campus and to offer affordable books to students and community members. Penfield raised over $750 from the booksale, which will go to buy textbooks to be placed on reserve to help make college more affordable for students. Many students, staff, family, friends, and community members left with boxes or bags of books, records, cds, videotapes, and other materials. —Shannon Pritting

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Two SUNY Oswego students show off the bags of books they purchased at the booksale.

Students and visitors browse the Science and Math books at the book sale.
Penfield Creates Archive of Great Lake Review

Penfield Library recently created an archive of SUNY Oswego’s student-edited Literary and Visual Arts magazine, Great Lake Review. Issues in the archive range from 1974 to current, and comprise over 60 issues. The archive was created using SUNY’s digital repository, Dspace. The main page for the Great Lake Review is http://www.oswego.edu/library/archives/Great_Lake_Review.html. The issues were scanned into fully searchable color, high quality PDFs, and the entire archive is full text searchable. Amanda Nargi, Great Lake Review managing editor, was instrumental in putting the archive together, and provided many copies of back issues and other assistance to archives project manager Shannon Pritting. The scanning of the project was completed solely by student assistants Sean McNamara and Mary Hesler. Please take a look at the archive, and see how student art and creative writing at SUNY Oswego has changed in the past 35 years.

—Shannon Pritting

Great Lake Review Archive
www.oswego.edu/library/archives/Great_Lake_Review.html

Text a Librarian

We know that students are always texting, so why not text a librarian? In November we added this new option to our range of Ask A Librarian services. Anyone with a question about their research, citations, source evaluation or other information needs can now contact reference librarians by sending a text message to 315-878-8237. Why not put us in your phone’s contact list right now? This service is in addition to our ongoing walk-up, phone (312-4267), email and chat services. For detailed contact and schedule information click on the Ask A Librarian link on our homepage.

—Barbara Shaffer
For the past 22 years, SUNY Oswego staff have donated copies of their scholarly and creative works that are put on display in Penfield’s lobby, and then placed in our archives. The display this year features the work of 60 faculty, representing 22 departments across the college. The Display to Archives Program also has an annual reception, which is usually a great time for Faculty to gather, talk about their research, and make connections.

This year, Damian Schofield, Director of the Human Computer Interaction Program and Associate Professor of Computer Science, was the invited speaker. In addition to speeches by President Deborah Stanley, Interim Provost Lorrie Clemo, and others, Dr. Schofield’s speech embodied what the Display to Archives Program is all about: celebrating research and scholarship.

Dr. Schofield, a prolific scholar with many publications and presentations, offered his advice on how to be successful in academic publishing: “Be nice, Be known, and Be nebulous.” This advice concisely sums up how Dr. Schofield has been successful in academic publishing, by engaging in interdisciplinary research, connecting his research to other relevant research and researchers, and taking advantage of opportunities to communicate his expertise and research in diverse ways. In addition to Dr. Schofield’s general advice on how to become successful in academic publishing, he offered specific advice on how titles, including punctuation and wording of titles, can help researchers publish their work. This analysis included the reading of many entertaining titles to academic articles and books.

Scholarly and creative work is now being accepted until April 30th for the Spring display.

--Shannon Pritting
Late Night Coffee and Stress Relief for Finals

During the week before Finals Penfield gets very busy, and often students work up until the last minute of our extended midnight hours. For the last few years, Penfield, in cooperation with other departments on campus, has offered “Coffee for Finals,” giving away coffee and treats on two nights in the Lake Effect Café. This year, Penfield teamed with the Provost’s Office, Extended Learning, and Auxiliary Services to offer this event. Lines for coffee typically wind from the café throughout much of the lobby. We’ve found that students make great connections while waiting in line, and are grateful for the brief break from studying. And, the pick me up from the coffee doesn’t hurt either.

Also during Finals Week, Penfield hosted a variety of stress relief activities for students. The Counseling Services Center provided stress relief counseling and the always popular massage therapy sessions. In addition, Penfield also gave out 250 copies of study break activity pages with games on them.

—Shannon Pritting

Penfield to Administer National Information Literacy Assessment

This spring the Instruction and Assessment Teams at Penfield Library will be administering the Information Literacy Test (ILT) from James Madison University to sophomores and second semester freshmen. The ILT will provide us with an external measure of how proficient SUNY Oswego students are in information literacy as they begin their upper division work. This will serve as a benchmark and external validation of other assessments of information literacy learning outcomes that we have conducted and will conduct in the future. Our most successful assessment to date focuses on first semester students using a rubric and worksheet developed by Penfield librarians and based on the Lake Effect Research Challenge, our basic level information literacy tutorial.

Our primary aim is to gain an opportunity to see areas of strength within our library instruction program and Oswego’s information literacy requirement, and note areas in which improvements might be made.

For more information on SUNY Oswego’s information literacy requirement you can enroll yourself in the Information Literacy Center ANGEL Community Group, or send a request to join to Jim Nichols at jim.nichols@oswego.edu. —James T. Nichols
Portraits Exhibit

For the past two months, portraits created by students in Professor Barbara Stout’s ART 334 Portraiture class have been hanging in the exhibit space near the Lake Effect Café and Penfield’s first floor lobby. This is part of Penfield’s ongoing program of student and educational exhibits. Stop by the library to see the exhibit, or view our online album of the portraits on Penfield’s Facebook page. —Shannon Pritting

Roving Librarians in the Campus Center

In a pilot program during the Fall semester, Penfield Librarians staffed a reference desk at the Green Kiosk near the Auditorium in the Campus Center. In an effort to extend service outside of the library and to continue its outreach efforts, librarians spent an hour a day in the campus center answering reference questions and interacting with students and faculty. Penfield will again staff a desk during the spring semester for about an hour per day in the Campus Center.

—Shannon Pritting
Congratulations to our Library Director, Mary Beth Bell, who is easing into retirement during the spring semester after almost 12 years at Penfield Library! Although officially retired as of December 31, we are glad she will be with us most days until May as we search for our new director.

—Barbara Shaffer

Deale Hutton – retired and loving it

Deale Hutton worked at Penfield Library for over seven years. She received her BA in Political Science and Sociology in 1982, her MLS from SU in 1990, BA in Fine Art from Oswego in 2001 and her MFA in 2004 from RIT. Deale retired December 10 and will be greatly missed.

She is painting at least three days per week. “It is amazing to go back in the studio and it’s like I never left. I feel wonderful in the studio” She spends her non-painting time reading in the new addition to her home and on lunch dates with friends and former colleagues.

Before retiring, you may have seen her teaching Museum Studies and Figure Drawing, Native American and Modern Art, or Renaissance Art. She taught library instruction classes for ENG 102. You may have spotted her curating the art in Penfield, most recently the student portraits from Barbara Stout’s class. Maybe you met her at the annual Faculty Display to Archives reception that she hosted for several years. Deale was also a dedicated figure at the Information desk, a facilitator to all for research needs.

She recently served on Penfield’s Pedagogy Interest Group and Customer Service Task Force.

Deale comments that, “I will miss everyone at Penfield, and the students and faculty, but it is not goodbye. I will be back to harass people.”

—Carol Carter
Penfield Library recently purchased Flip cameras for loan to students, faculty, and staff. Also, the library now has a Blu Ray player for students to use in the library. Flip cams can be borrowed for 14 days from the Periodicals-Media Desk. Also, in the near future, Penfield will be purchasing ebook readers to lend to students and use for collection development initiatives. For a list of technology that is currently available to borrow, please visit: http://www.oswego.edu/library/circ/technology.html

—Shannon Pritting