



Dust & Noise Give Way to Fresh & Shiny

We are finally done with construction! Mostly. There are a few items here and there that still need attention but, otherwise, the construction project that was initially sparked by a problem with the lower level's ventilation system in October of 2008 really is done—nearly 3 years later.

Here's a brief list of improvements that these three years of noise and mess have brought: a new public elevator; new handicapped-accessible restrooms on all three floors; a new front desk; replacement of damaged windows; UV-filtering film on all the windows; updated wiring; a new energy-efficient lighting system; two new conference/classrooms on the top floor; upgraded fire alarm system; asbestos abatement on all three floors; and total removal of the 38-year-old orange carpet. This list could go on and on but you get the idea.

Most recently, the Library closed down for the summer to allow completion of the final stages of construction. The biggest aspect of this was moving 80,000+ books, magazines, videos, etc. out of the way. Specialized jacks were brought in that could brace and lift an entire row of shelving—with the books still in place! Since the jacks also had wheels, each row could be rolled safely away from the work zone. Once that section was done, they were jacked up again and rolled back into place.

It would be a rather large understatement to say that the last three years have been an interesting time here at the Library. However, despite the noise, the inconvenience, and the mess, we hope that everyone will agree that it was worth it in the end. Come on over and see for yourself. You can also get a glimpse of the construction process in our Construction Scrapbook (p. 2-3).



Keep That Book a Little Bit Longer

We're experimenting with a new book loan period this semester. Books that were previously 30 day loans will now be 90 days for faculty and due the last day of the semester for students. All other loan periods (popular reading, juvenile books, DVDs, laptops and cameras, etc.) are unchanged. We noticed that more people, especially students, were having their books go overdue during crunch times like midterms and finals. Now, if a student needs a book for two months, it's no problem—as long as it gets back by the end of the semester. Overdue fines have not changed and will still apply. Please contact Circulation Librarian Katherine Brent if you have any questions (brentke@cobleskill.edu or x5851).

Budget Cuts Force Earlier Closing Time

Due to significant cuts to the Library's staff budget, we have to start closing at 10pm instead of midnight. We know there are many students that will not be happy about this. We're not happy about it either. It is not a decision we wanted to make but we simply don't have enough money to keep the place open for so many hours.

While it won't make up for it entirely, the Library Café will remain open until midnight 7 days a week while classes are in session. The Café has full wireless access plus outlets to keep those laptops powered up. Ethernet ports are also provided for people who prefer to connect to the campus network directly. And, of course, there are vending machines to satisfy your caffeine and snack needs.

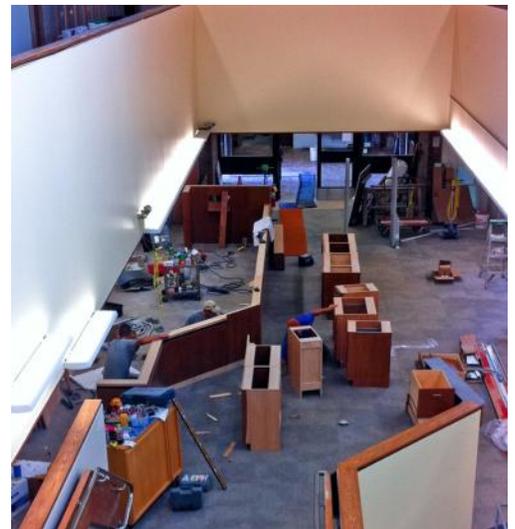
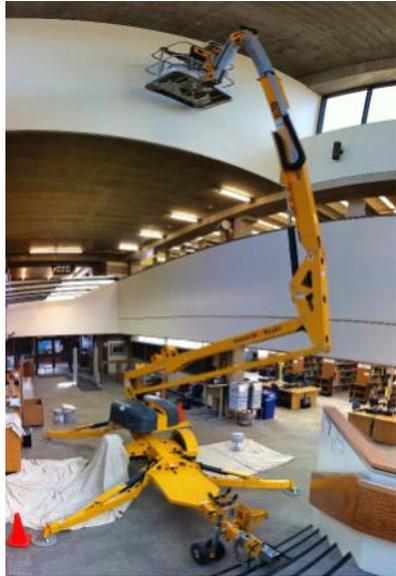
Average Gate Counts, Fall 2010			
	Daily	10pm-12am	% of Daily
Sept.	991.65	25.38	2.6%
Oct.	1283.69	30.09	2.3%
Nov.	676.25	28.28	4.2%
Dec.	450.67	67.88	15.1%

If you're wondering why we chose this particular move, the table at left shows the main reason—there aren't a lot of people coming in from 10pm to midnight. This time slot accounts for a tiny percentage of activity during the majority of the semester. It's only during the last couple of weeks, right before finals, that traffic really picks up. With that in mind, we're looking for ways to extend hours during peak times such as right before finals and maybe the week of midterms as well.

Even though the building will be closing earlier, the Library's research databases, ebooks, and other online resources remain available 24/7 via our website (www.cobleskill.edu/library).

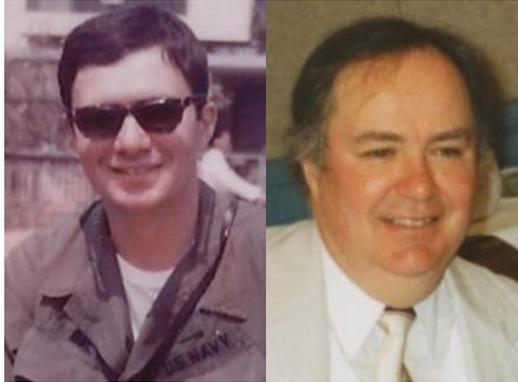
Construction Scrapbook





Celebrating a Cobleskill Treasure

Chef William J. Daly taught in SUNY Cobleskill's culinary program for 30 years and those of us who were fortunate to be his students, colleagues, and friends know that he made this college and our lives better. Before Bill passed away in September 2010, he asked that his extensive book collection be given to the Library. Now, we ask that you join us on the evening of October 28th, 2011 [rescheduled for March 2012 due to changes in centennial events calendar] here at Van Wagenen Library for a reception honoring Chef Daly's contributions to the Library and to SUNY Cobleskill.



Sorting through Bill's books these last few months has been a bittersweet process. Numerous books on the history and proper preparation of tea brought a smile (Bill valued a good cup of tea). Items of philosophy and literature brought memories of conversations where Bill was so far ahead of you that you just nodded and tried to catch up. The shelves and shelves of cookbooks brought back conversations about the wonders of a properly cooked pork chop or the spicy-sweet chewiness of a favorite cookie. And they brought hunger (for future reference, don't handle cookbooks just before lunch).

While we all miss Bill, we are so pleased that this donation will allow him to continue to enrich the education of SUNY Cobleskill students, as well as the lives of all who will use these materials in the years to come. The Chef Daly Reception is being organized as part of SUNY Cobleskill's centennial celebration. Also on Oct. 28th [also rescheduled], during the day, the College will be holding a Culinary Extravaganza in Bouck Hall Ballroom. We'd like to think that Bill would have approved.

Research Workshop Series

Instruction Librarian Fran Apollo will be offering a 9-part Library Research Workshop Series beginning in Week 3 of the semester. All workshops are presented in VW213. Mondays and Wednesdays at 10am and Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3pm; each workshop will last about 30 minutes.

Workshop topics run the gamut from a basic how-to on finding books in the Library to understanding the difference between primary and secondary resources to using information wisely and legally. Sessions on internet privacy and doing research remotely are also planned.

Attendance will be taken and reported back to instructors who may be granting extra credit for this activity. Classes are welcome but we ask that you please contact Fran in advance (x5858 or apollof@cobleskill.edu) since seating is limited, Keep an eye on Sharepoint for the official workshop schedule.

Library Café Gets an Update

Last year, SUNY Cobleskill's Student Government Association (SGA) came to us with an idea. They wanted to update the Library Café. The paint job was getting pretty tired and as furniture broke over time (which it *will* do) it was replaced with whatever was available and no longer had any sense of style. SGA had the money and desire to fix this situation. They chose (and paid for) new carpet, paint, chairs, and light fixtures and all were replaced. SGA also purchased a couple of comfy sofas and several beanbag chairs for a more lounge-like feel. It's looking pretty spiffy so, please, thank your friendly neighborhood SGA rep when you get the chance.

Recommended Reading

Idea Man: a Memoir by the Cofounder of Microsoft
by Paul Allen

Darkness, My Old Friend
by Lisa Unger

A Dance with Dragons
by George R.R. Martin

The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris
by David McCullough

Second Grave on the Left
by Darynda Jones

State of Wonder
by Ann Patchett

Don't Kill the Birthday Girl: Tales from an Allergic Life
by Sandra Beasley

We All Fall Down
by Michael Harvey

Robocalypse
by Daniel Wilson

Back of Beyond
by C.J. Box

The Secret Mistress
by Mary Balogh

Tomatoland: How Modern Industrial Agriculture Destroyed Our Most Alluring Fruit
by Barry Estabrook

Cold Vengeance
by Douglas Preston & Lincoln Child

Born to Die
by Lisa Jackson

Lions of Kandahar: the Story of a Fight Against All Odds
by Rusty Bradley & Kevin Mauer

Burnt Mountain
by Anne Rivers Siddons

Dreams of the Dead
by Perri O'Shaughnessy

Citadels of the Lost
by Tracy Hickman

The Last Werewolf
by Glen Duncan

The Silent Girl
by Tess Gerritsen

In major universities in the US, academics and students log on to their computers in their offices or at home and a whole world opens up to them. That's not some kind of accident. The prime goal of university libraries is to make good on "seek and ye shall find." The proof of the success of these libraries is that researchers are oblivious to the complexity of the system that serves them.

—Karen Coyle

Let the Games Begin

The Library will be hosting its annual afternoon of games on Saturday, November 12th from 3-6pm in honor of National Gaming Day. We'll have a variety of board and video games on hand, or you can bring some of your favorites. Snacks will also be provided.

We're still deciding which games to have that day but there are some that we'll definitely have such as Scrabble, Settlers of Catan, Wits & Wagers, Monopoly, Bananagrams, and Munchkin. We're also bringing in a Wii console.

Grab some friends, corral a couple of strangers, or just come by yourself— all are welcome. This is your chance to make a lot of noise and eat junk food *in the Library* without getting in trouble for it. Sounds like a good time!



From the Dean



We are ready for a great semester! We have extended our book check out period, purchased iPads for teaching and learning in our two new instructional spaces AND of course, we are done with all our significant construction. While the budget is a bit of a bummer, we are building up our arsenal of good ideas—we are ready to partner with other services—so, if you have any ideas or projects in mind that will enhance the student experience, let's work together! To help ensure the Library is making the most of its resources, two advisory boards comprised of student representatives and faculty representatives will be established this fall. The boards will work with the librarians to share ideas, endorse innovative projects, and to communicate back to respective departments and student organizations on the status of Library budgets, projects underway, and other issues. It is important to remember: everyone on campus has a stake in the Library.

Staff News

Lynn Abarno retired from her role as Coordinator of Disability Support Services in June. While we miss her greatly, we are pleased to welcome Elizabeth “Betsy” Briggs as the new DSS Coordinator. Betsy comes to Cobleskill from SUNYIT in Utica. Betsy is a graduate of SUNYIT and she did her MSW at Syracuse University.



Fran Apollo will travel to Monmouth, NJ in September to present at the Atlantic Coast Teaching of Psychology (ACToP) Conference along with Dr. Amy Corbett. Fran will be teaching one section of FFCS this fall, along with a 9-part Research Workshop Series beginning in week 3.

Katherine Brent was part of a panel presentation entitled “Collaboration Across Disciplines—Second Masters for Librarians” at the 43rd Annual SUNYLA (SUNY Librarians Association) Conference held in Plattsburgh in June. She then took a shorter trip to Albany in August for the Information Delivery Services Conference.

April Davies began her term as President of the SUNY Librarians Association in June. Beyond SUNY, April also serves on both the Leadership and Communications Committees of the College Libraries Section of ACRL

(Association of College & Research Libraries).

Margaret Liberti took over for Jennifer Morgenstein as MERITS Coordinator back in April. Margaret will also be teaching BIOL101 and some FFCS courses this fall. Jen has moved on to run Disability Support Services for Hartwick College in Oneonta.

Wendi Richards recently joined the staff down in CASE as Assistant to the Coordinator of Disability Support Services. Wendi has her MS degree from Johnson & Wales University and 5+ years of working with high school special education students.



Chris Tacea has joined CASE as the coordinator of SUNY Cobleskill's new Veteran's Affairs Office. He'll also be working on other projects for CASE. Chris is a familiar face at Cobleskill since he used to work in Admissions.

Jiang Tan's title has changed. She is now the Director of the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT), formerly known as the Instructional Technology Center. The name change indicates the expanded role of the center which is taking on online pedagogical support.



Library Hours for Fall 2011*

Mon.-Thurs.	7:00am-10:00pm
Friday	7:00am-5:00pm
Saturday	10:00am-4:00pm
Sunday	2:00pm-10:00pm

* **Library Café open until midnight—every night!**

Calendar

- Aug. 29
First Day of Classes
- Sept. 5
Labor Day
- Sept. 28-30
Rosh Hashanah
- Oct. 8-11
Fall Break
- Oct. 14-16
Homecoming Weekend
- Oct. 28 **[rescheduled, March 2012]**
Chef Bill Daly Reception
- Nov. 6
Daylight Saving Time ends
- Nov. 11
Veteran's Day
- Nov. 12
National Gaming Day
- Nov. 23-27
Thanksgiving Break
- Dec. 16
Last Day of Classes