



# Library Link

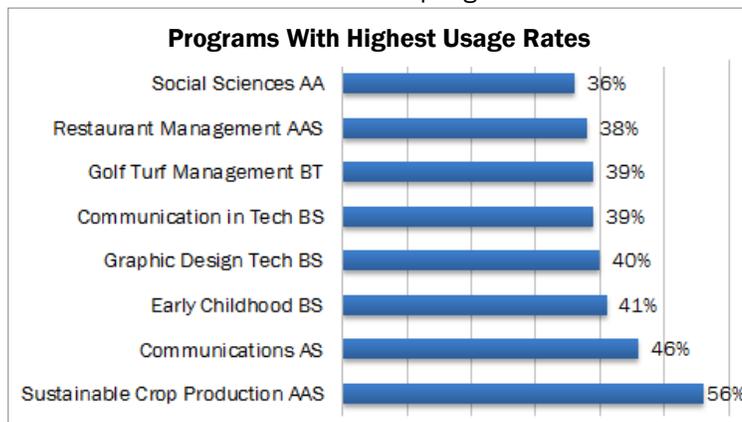
Spring 2015

Van Wagenen Library, State University of New York College of Agriculture & Technology at Cobleskill

## Library Use Leads To Higher Student Retention

The Library gathers all sorts of statistics on a regular basis, for a variety of reasons and using a variety of methods. We recently did a full review of all our statistics— what we track, how we track it and, most importantly, why we track it. One of the things we discovered is that we could make better use of our data. We shared the numbers with campus administration and others but didn't always explain why they should care about them. As a first step in fixing this, we decided to see if Library usage had a demonstrable impact on student retention. Various studies in the field, along with our own experiences, indicated that there was a positive correlation but we didn't know if we could prove it. Thanks to a cooperative project with the Office of Institutional Research, we can say with confidence that Library use is indeed associated with a greater probability of students returning in the spring semester.

Circulation & Interlibrary Loan Librarian Katherine Brent used our check-out system to extract the 800-numbers of every SUNY Cobleskill student that borrowed something from the Library in Fall 2013. Then Victor Sensening in IR used them to see if those students returned in Spring 2014 and how the rate compared to the overall student population. A logistic regression model was used to estimate the relationship between Library use and fall-spring retention. The results show that students who used Library materials were 1.5 times more likely to return in the spring than students who did not use the Library, a statistically significant result.



IR was also able to tell us how many students in each academic program used Library materials. The chart at left shows our biggest 'customer' groups. We'll be using the information on those with the lowest usage rates to target some of our outreach efforts. We plan to repeat this study periodically to see how the numbers change over time and we'll also expand it to examine the impact of Information Literacy instruction.

IR was also able to tell us how many students in each academic program used Library materials. The chart at left shows our biggest 'customer' groups. We'll be using the information on those with the lowest usage rates to target some of our outreach efforts. We plan to repeat this study periodically to see how the numbers change over time and we'll also expand it to examine the impact of Information Literacy instruction.

## It's Like A Bulletin Board— But Better

The Library now has a shiny new flatscreen in the lobby for displaying electronic posters, flyers, ads, etc. Want to get the word out about your event? Use an e-poster! SUNY Cobleskill faculty, staff and recognized student organizations will receive first consideration for posting in Van Wagenen Library.

E-posters need to be submitted as a single JPG image. No other file formats will work— including ppt, pdf, png, etc. If your poster is in a different format, simply use the Save As feature to change it to JPEG File Interchange Format (\*.jpg) before you submit the file.

### Design recommendations:

- Keep the wording simple, your e-poster will be circulating along with other submissions.
- Be sure the text is large enough to be read from a distance.
- The screen is sized for 16:9, keep that in mind when formatting your design.

### To submit e-posters:

- Send your JPG file as an email attachment to [Library@cobleskill.edu](mailto:Library@cobleskill.edu).
- Tell us who you are, what the e-poster is for, when it should go up and for how long.
- Tell us how to get in touch with you.

All submissions of electronic posters for display in the Library are handled by Pat Larkin. Confirmation of your submission will be made via email. Please do not assume your poster has been accepted until you receive an e-mail confirmation. Posters are usually added each Friday for the following week, sometime between the hours of 8:00am and 3:00pm. The Library reserves the right to request changes to e-posters or to reject submissions if we feel they are inappropriate.

Please let us know if you have any questions about this new service, you know we love to answer questions. ([Library@cobleskill.edu](mailto:Library@cobleskill.edu); 518-255-5841; text to 518-444-5485; or [online chat](#)).

You waited til the last minute to start your research paper?!

Now THAT is funny!

BOOKS → MOVIES

DIVERGENT  
VERONICA ROTH

INSURGENT  
VERONICA ROTH

ALLEGIAN'T  
VERONICA ROTH

CHECK OUT A KINDLE & READ THEM NOW

## Explore Caves @ The Library



The Spring 2015 showcase display is Caves— focusing on the many caves of the local karst, including Schoharie County's two show caves, Howe Caverns and Secret Caverns. The world's longest cave system, Mammoth Cave located in central Kentucky, is also highlighted. Both the geological features and their biological ecosystems are included. Bats and white-nose syndrome are a particular concern for current cave conservation. Many of the Library's

books on caves and cave life are located conveniently by the display.

Other spring displays include:

- February – Black History Month; the Adirondacks & the High Peaks
- March – Women's History Month; Maple Sugaring
- April – National Poetry Month; New York Poets

## Library & Moodle Hours in CANR

We will be offering several drop in help hours during the spring semester in the new Center for Agriculture & Natural Resources: Thursdays, 2:00pm-4:00pm; Fridays, 10:00am-12:00pm.

Stop by the Farm Fresh Café and look for the Van Wagenen Library sign— chances are you'll find Katie DeRusso and Brendan Aucoin waiting to help with whatever Library and/or Moodle thing you may need.

## Information Literacy Recap: Fall 2014

During the fall semester the Information Literacy Program put on 34 different workshops, trainings and classroom presentations. These sessions added up to over thirty hours of instruction time and resulted in 565 students working face-to-face with a librarian on developing their research skills. Faculty, don't let your students miss out— get in touch with Katie DeRusso to set up sessions for your classes today ([derusske@cobleskill.edu](mailto:derusske@cobleskill.edu); 255-5858).



## 3D Printing Is Coming To SUNY Cobleskill!

The Library has made progress on selecting and acquiring a 3D printer, or two. Joe Von Stengel, who teaches 3D printing at Hartwick College in Oneonta and uses it extensively in his own work, gave two presentations on campus in January. He detailed examples of teaching with 3D and also provided a general overview of the 3D printing movement. There was good turnout for both sessions.

We also got some very useful feedback from faculty via an online survey. We heard from people in Biology, Graphic Design, Ag Engineering, Chemistry and others. Some respondents even suggested specific printer models. It's not too late to share your thoughts on 3D printing and what uses/projects you foresee using the technology for in your areas; the survey is still open: [www.surveymonkey.com/s/36BC6Z8](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/36BC6Z8).

There are so many ways to utilize 3D printing at a college like SUNY Cobleskill. Models of amino acids or anatomical structures (like the hand pictured below),



reproductions of animal skulls or other bones, prototypes of packaging or landscape designs— the list could go on and on. If you have any questions about 3D printing at the Library, please contact Elizabeth Orgeron (255-5841;

## Recommended Reading

*The Boston Girl*  
by Anita Diamant

*Some Luck*  
by Jane Smiley

*Respect: The Life Of Aretha Franklin*  
by David Ritz

*Golden Son*  
by Pierce Brown

*Saving Grace*  
by Jane Green

*You*  
by Caroline Kepnes

*Revival*  
by Stephen King

*Cold, Cold Heart*  
by Tami Hoag

*Hush*  
by Karen Robards

*Serenity Firefly Class 03-K64.*

*Leaves On The Wind*  
by Zack Whedon

*Enough: Our Fight To Keep America Safe From Gun Violence*  
by Gabrielle Giffords & Mark Kelly

*Hope To Die*  
by James Patterson

*Yes, Please*  
by Amy Poehler

*Trust No One*  
by Jayne Ann Krentz

*The Escape*  
by David Baldacci

*Silver Shadows*  
by Richelle Mead

*Not That Kind Of Girl: A Young Woman Tells You What She's "Learned"*  
by Lena Dunham

*Rose Gold*  
by Walter Mosley

*Betrayed*  
by Lisa Scottoline

*Blood Magick*  
by Nora Roberts

*Beautiful You*  
by Chuck Palahniuk

*The Job*  
by Janet Evanovich

*Closer To Home*  
by Mercedes Lackey

*Insatiable Appetites*  
by Stuart Woods

*Money: Master The Game*  
by Tony Robbins

## We Need More Student Employees!

The Library has several Work Study positions open in the Circulation department. These jobs require strong customer service skills and attention to detail. Students can apply at: [www.collegecentral/cobleskill](http://www.collegecentral/cobleskill). If you know someone who might be a good fit, please send them our way. They should talk with either Gina Brady ([bradygk@cobleskill.edu](mailto:bradygk@cobleskill.edu); 255-5841) or Katherine Brent ([brentke@cobleskill.edu](mailto:brentke@cobleskill.edu); 255-5851) if they have any questions about working in the Library. Students who aren't sure of their Work Study status need to contact the Financial Aid Office (118B Knapp Hall; 255-5623); the office is open 8:00am-4:15pm, Monday-Friday.



## Online Journals— Now Easier To Find

We recently changed our website ([www.cobleskill.edu/library](http://www.cobleskill.edu/library)) to make online journals (a.k.a. e-journals) easier to find and thus use. There are thousands of journals in our various research databases and they've always been easy to get to; individual online subscriptions to this journal or that, not so much. Now, both the Find Articles and Find a Journal tabs on the front page have an Online Journals link.

No more hunting around the website looking for that online journal we subscribe to. The new [Online Journals page](#) brings ALL our electronic journals together into one quick, easy location; you even have your choice of using it as either an A-Z list or by subject area. Titles include *Journal of Food, Agriculture & Environment*, *Journal of Wildlife Rehabilitation*, *Monographs of the Society for Research in Child Development*, *Crop Science*, *American Journal of Veterinary Research*, *Gastronomica*, and many more.

### Online Journals

A to Z list
Listed by areas of study

#### Alphabetical list of all our online journals

- [AgBio Forum](#)
- [Agweb](#)
- [Multiple journals](#)
- [American Bee Journal](#)

You'll still find them listed on the subject specific database pages too. For example, the [Early Childhood page](#) links to several databases recommended for research in this subject area, as well as eight individual online journals like *Child Development* and *Early Childhood Education Journal*.

If you have any questions about online journals, or any of the other resources we provide, just let us know ([Library@cobleskill.edu](mailto:Library@cobleskill.edu); 518-255-5841; text to 518-444-5485; or [online chat](#)). We're pretty easy to get hold of.

## Moodle News

Over the break Cobleskill Moodle was updated from the old version 2.5, which was released in 2013, to the cutting edge of Moodle— 2.8. By making this massive (in software terms) jump we should be able to maintain a consistent look and feel for at least two semesters, and hopefully as long as two years. Most of the noticeable changes in 2.8 will only effect faculty and staff teaching with Moodle, however everyone will be able to benefit from the new theme. This theme has been chosen with two key points in mind: first, it is built directly into Moodle so it has the greatest level of system compatibility; second, it's built on a scalable architecture allowing for viewing on multiple devices and at a wide range of screen resolutions, meaning it works well with smaller screens. As with all system updates, there are a few kinks that must be worked on. In light of these few issues, the update itself was completed 31 hours ahead of schedule and was as trouble-free as could be hoped for.

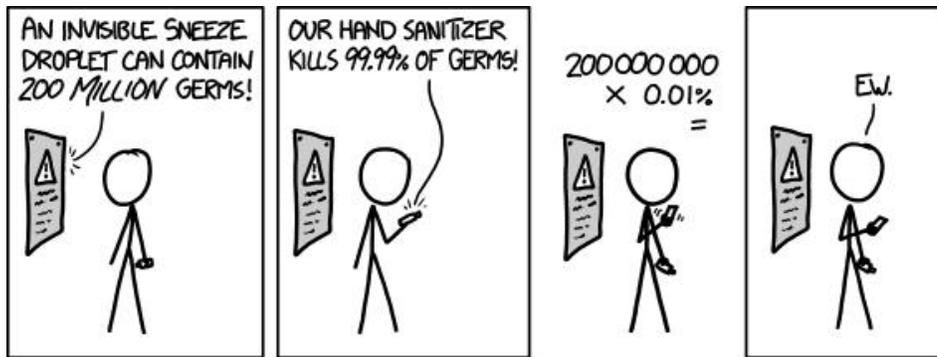
The upgrade also brought improvements to the grade book, something that should be popular with faculty. The look and feel of the grade book is now closer to Excel. In addition, several commonly used settings were made defaults and many frivolous and un-used options were removed. Most of the major grade book changes are highlighted in this [online video](#).



In other news, Brendan Aucoin (our local Moodle guru) is developing a series of short thematic instruction sheets. These will each explain a specific function in Moodle and include detailed instructions for set up and use of that function. Attendance and META courses will be the first of these and will be available on the faculty Sharepoint and Moodle Orientation for Faculty pages soon. If you would like to see a specific function highlighted, or have any questions about Moodle please contact Brendan (255-5100; [aucoinbd@cobleskill.edu](mailto:aucoinbd@cobleskill.edu)).

Looking back at last semester, there were 343 cases logged for Moodle through the tech support system and 596 received via email. Considering that it was the first semester fully on Moodle and that, on average, there were more than 2,300 unique logins to Moodle every week, it's surprising that there weren't more support issues reported. Perhaps the 282 one-on-one consultations that Brendan did in that same time made a difference. Faculty having Moodle problems, or just questions, can get in touch with Brendan directly (255-5100; [aucoinbd@cobleskill.edu](mailto:aucoinbd@cobleskill.edu)) or log a case online through the ITS [Helpdesk](#) system. All student Moodle questions should be directed to ITS (255-5800; [helpdesk@cobleskill.edu](mailto:helpdesk@cobleskill.edu); [online helpdesk](#)); the staff has been trained to know when to handle a case themselves, and when to send it up the line.

Cobleskill Moodle



from xkcd.com, used with permission

**LIBRARY HOURS\***

Mon.-Thurs.	7:00am-10:00pm
Friday	7:00am-5:00pm
Saturday	12:00pm-6:00pm
Sunday	2:00pm-10:00pm

**\*LATE NIGHT hours FINAL 2 WEEKS, watch for announcements**

**From The Dean**



The Library reopens to a busy spring semester. We have a number of large-scale projects underway that will have long lasting impacts to the services we provide and will enhance the Library's mission.

The Library will soon launch its digital repository. This is an online platform for preserving the innovative research of our students and faculty. Coby faculty provide rich research experiences for students and our goal is to preserve and promote this research.

Thanks to the generous support of the community, the Library will soon add 3D printing services. We're very excited to bring this technology to SUNY Cobleskill.

And, finally, the Library begins renovating the former SCHOPEG space as the expanded, improved Van Wagenen Archives & Special Collections. The current space is too small to properly house what we currently own, let alone allowing for growth. This is especially important given that we hope to announce a significant new donation to the Special Collections in the near future.

As always, the Library appreciates great ideas and creative input— so, please let us know if there is any way we can assist you.

**Staff News**



Peter Barvoets attended an Open Access Across SUNY event at UAlbany in October. The event included discussions and presentations designed to encourage a wider participation in making Open Access a new norm in scholarship and research.

This March, Katherine Brent will travel to Virginia Beach, Virginia for the 2015 ILLiad International Conference which focuses on Access Services and Resource Sharing in academic libraries.

April Davies will attend the 2015 ACRL (Association of College & Research



Libraries) conference in Portland, Oregon in late March.

Katie DeRusso plans to attend the 43rd Annual LOEX Conference in Denver this spring. LOEX is an outstanding Information Literacy and Instruction conference so this promises to be very useful.

Nancy Goldblatt recently joined the Library team as an Adjunct Reference Librarian, working primarily nights and weekends. She is also the School Library Media Specialist at Cobleskill-Richmondville High School. Nancy is a graduate of SUNY New Paltz and received her MSIS from UAlbany.



Text Us!

Van Wagenen Library  
SUNY Cobleskill  
142 Schenectady Ave.  
Cobleskill, NY 12043-1702

[library@cobleskill.edu](mailto:library@cobleskill.edu)  
[www.cobleskill.edu/library](http://www.cobleskill.edu/library)  
T: 518-255-5841  
F: 518-255-5843

