Penfield is Getting a Fresh New Look!

We are very pleased to report that plans for a new Writing Center have come to fruition, and other first floor renovations are nearly complete! Since the Writing Center moved to the library’s third floor three years ago, we’ve been talking about how to make it more accessible and meet the need for more space. In November, work began on building a new Writing Center, located within the library’s Reference Room.

A companion project has been the modernization of our first floor main area into an attractive and up-to-date core of the Learning and Innovation Center @ Penfield Library. The LINC brings together a variety of learning and innovation technologies, expert assistance, and spaces designed to facilitate scholarly and creative activities – all in one central location. We have greatly expanded access points for electrical power, created more collaborative work spaces, added sustainable lighting, and improved the accessibility and functionality of service points. Throughout Spring semester new furnishings will arrive to complete our updates.

We are very thankful to the staff and administration of Facilities Services and the college administration for the support and encouragement we have received throughout this project. Thanks also to Penfield Library faculty and staff for all the work that has been done to prepare for these renovations, and to provide high quality service despite the construction going on around us.

Thank you for your patience as we complete this project. We hope you will stop by to see the Writing Center and our other improvements in progress! – Barbara Shaffer and Marilyn Ochoa

Speakers’ Corner

Penfield Library is pleased to offer a new venue for occasional speakers, panels, or other academic or educational events. The Speakers’ Corner is in the southeast corner of the second floor, overlooking the quad and next to Tyler Art Gallery @ Penfield. There is plenty of space here for a large number of attendees to be seated for a presentation, or it can be transformed with tables and chairs for events such as last year’s Display to Archives celebration luncheon. Details and the reservation request form are available at the Speakers’ Corner webpage. – Barbara Shaffer
Oswego DL: A Digital Library at SUNY Oswego

This spring, the library will begin the first phase of building a SUNY Oswego digital library (OswegoDL) with collaborators from across the College. The searchable database will include historical resources held in Penfield Library’s Archives and Special Collections, along with the scholarly and creative work of SUNY Oswego faculty and students. Showcasing these resources that traditionally have had limited accessibility to the public, the OswegoDL is an opportunity to make access to resources more open and equitable. The initial launch is anticipated in late spring 2016. While we plan to start with a handful of collections, we expect the continuing development and growth of the OswegoDL. For additional information, please contact library.director@oswego.edu. – Marilyn Ochoa

eTexts Digital Learning Materials Pilot

Last fall, the Provost’s Office announced an exciting new opportunity for faculty to explore the use of eTexts, digital learning materials, and open educational resources in the classroom. The eTexts team, which consists of College faculty and staff from Campus Technology Services, the bookstore, the library, and academic departments, will pilot the use of these texts in six classes. As part of this spring pilot, the full payment of digital course materials for students was offered in exchange for assistance with evaluation from the student and faculty perspective.
– Dan Laird, Sean Moriarty, and Marilyn Ochoa

Website Updates

The past semester brought a plethora of updates to the library website. Thanks for bearing with us as the details of the site morphed into something new! A few highlights include:

- Updates to our room reservation system have made it easier to book the Lake Effect conference room or one of our multimedia production rooms.

- The Featured section of the library homepage includes more information about each link to help you decide whether you’re interested.

- You can click on librarians’ names on the library faculty page if you want to learn more about who we are and what we do at Penfield Library.

Do you have questions, comments, concerns, or ideas about the library website? Get in touch with me, Emily Mitchell, and let me know what you think! – Emily Mitchell

New Technology for Checkout

Starting in the spring semester, the library will begin loaning two new technologies: iPads and a Wacom drawing tablet. We have acquired two iPad Air tablets that will follow similar checkout policies to our iPod Touches: faculty, staff, and students may borrow them at the Second Floor Service Desk for up to a week at a time, and may install any apps they wish. The iPads will be wiped and reset to prepare them for the next patron.

The Wacom drawing tablet is a tool well-suited to creating digital artwork. Users can “draw” or “write” on the tablet with the included stylus pen, which is pressure-sensitive. It is compatible with most programs and software, and has very minimal setup. Watch our Facebook page for further announcements. – Sharona Ginsberg
Maker Events at Penfield

The maker movement celebrates learning through hands-on DIY projects and creative skills. This spring semester, the library will bolster the existing maker community on campus by hosting exciting events, where participants can tinker, explore, learn, and create. Through this fully collaborative effort, Penfield hopes to unify all Oswego makers and encourage a range of interests, from circuitry and electronics to textile arts to multimedia creation, crafting, robotics, and beyond.

These activities are made possible by a Technology Initiative Project (TIP) Grant, with which Penfield will purchase equipment such as a vinyl cutter, microcontrollers (Arduinos), circuitry kits (littleBits, Snap Circuits), conductive ink pens and thread, and more. These supplies will be supplemented with equipment such as knitting needles, yarn, glue guns, LEDs, a sewing machine, and more.

Be on the lookout for the event schedule, which will be posted on the library website! If you have any interest in collaborating or using your maker skills to help, please contact Sharona Ginsberg, Learning Technologies Librarian. – Sharona Ginsberg

Announcing Our Year-Round Book Sale!

Used books will soon return (in a few weeks), and be available for purchase whenever the library is open at our Year-Round Book Sale! You will find a wide variety of genres and titles on the sale shelves located on the library’s first floor, just to the right of the Administration Offices. All books are sold at prices sure to suit everyone, and new selections will be added regularly. Proceeds are used for purchasing new library resources and for student events in the library. Thanks in advance for your support of this important library activity! – Barbara Shaffer

Faculty Teaching and Research Collections Grant

Penfield Library will offer its Faculty Teaching and Research Collections Grants again this spring. These grants are funded through a NYS Coordinated Collection Development grant, and will allow us to award several faculty grants for 2016.

Grants will be awarded to faculty in the amount of $450 for selected materials to be purchased by Penfield Library for its collection. Each selected faculty member will request material that either supports his/her research interests or program/course curriculum needs.

The deadline for application submission is February 15 at 5:00 p.m. Applications sent after that time or that are incomplete will not be reviewed. If you have questions, please contact your librarian subject liaison. – Deborah Curry

New Databases

Penfield has two new databases: Hispanic American Periodical Index (HAPI) and Birds of North America. According to their website, HAPI “provides complete bibliographic citations to the contents of scholarly journals published around the world on Latin America and the Caribbean since 1970.” Search in English, Spanish, or Portuguese, with coverage of political, economic, and social issues, and the arts and humanities.

Birds of North America provides comprehensive life histories for over 700 species of birds breeding in the United States and Canada. Search for a particular species, browse species alphabetically by common name or scientific name, or browse by taxonomy. Information includes a bird’s distinguishing characteristics, habitat, and measurements, among others. The multimedia section includes photographs, videos, and audio. – Kathryn Johns-Masten and Tina Chan
Library Exhibitions

In the lobby gallery and Lake Effect Café hallway during the months of February and March, view the memorial exhibition of George O’Connell (1926-2015) and Thomas Seawell (1936-2015), emeriti professors of art. Professor O’Connell taught at SUNY Oswego from 1969 until his retirement in 1991. Professor Seawell taught at SUNY Oswego from 1963 until his retirement in 1992.

During the months of April and May, view the Dean’s Writing Awards inside the Lake Effect Café and café hallway. These awards are given to students in each major with the most outstanding written work. In the lobby gallery in April will be paintings from Professor Chris McEvoy’s students. In May graduating B.A. art students will show their work in the lobby gallery. – Tina Chan

From Tyler Art Gallery

Tyler Art Gallery begins its final semester on the second floor of the library, while looking back over a pleasurable stay in Penfield and anticipating returning to a renovated gallery in Tyler Hall in the fall 2016. The spring exhibition calendar similarly looks backward and forward. Each exhibition represents a continuation of a well-defined exhibition that is populated with new artists and new ideas each year. The 53rd Annual Juried Student Exhibition is a successful example of an exhibition that continues tradition while remaining fresh and exciting. Open to any Oswego student, it is a much anticipated annual event.

Presented in cooperation with Dr. Jacquelyn Kibbey, Coordinator, MAT Art Education Program, is the fifth version of the Generations series of exhibitions. This series presents the work of three generations of artists: SUNY Oswego Master of Art teaching students, their public school students, and their mentor teachers. Additionally, a host of graduating art students share their best works in a series of exhibitions before heading off into careers in the arts. – Michael Flanagan

The exhibition and reception schedule:

2/5-2/21: 53rd Annual Juried Student Exhibition, reception 2/12
4/1-4/10: BFA # 1, reception 4/8
4/16-4/24: BFA # 2, reception 4/22
4/30-5/11: BFA # 3/BA, reception 5/6

From the Archives and Special Collections

The 27th annual Display to Archives luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 13 at 12:00-1:30 in the Speakers’ Corner. Please join your colleagues in celebrating their scholarly and creative works donated to the library during the past year. (Watch for reservation details.)

If you’ve published anything lately (books, book chapters, articles, reviews, musical compositions, etc.), please consider donating a copy to the library archives, which will also ensure you are included in the Display to Archives Program. You will be honored at our spring luncheon. If you wish to contribute, please send items by May 31. Material may be sent to your librarian subject liaison, Special Collections librarian, or the library director. – Elizabeth Young
From the Writing Center

The new Writing Center is located on the first floor of Penfield Library in 112C. Here is the typical schedule for spring 2016 tutorial services: Mondays through Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Fridays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sundays 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., dependent on tutor availability. Students can view the complete schedule and make appointments by visiting the Writing Center Web site. In addition, tutors are available for walk-in assistance during the week; go to the Writing Center site to see walk-in availabilities, too. The tutors provide sensitive and constructive help with essay planning, organization, development, and revision. The Writing Center presently employs a tutoring staff of 14 undergraduates, 1 graduate student, and 1 professional. Instructors across the disciplines are encouraged to request a classroom visit by a tutor; tutors can share information about the Writing Center’s services and respond to any questions. Spring 2016 writing tutoring will begin on January 27.

In addition, online writing tutoring is available. SUNY Oswego is among many SUNY colleges that are part of the STAR-NY (Sharing Technology & Academic Resources) consortium. All students enrolled in participating institutions have free online access to tutors Sunday through Thursday, 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. Students with papers will go to the online tutoring website. Spring 2016 online tutoring begins on February 7 and ends on May 12.

The Writing Center will continue to sponsor its Write Ways Series of weekly workshops during the spring semester. These workshops are presented by staff and faculty from Penfield Library, the Writing Center, and various academic departments. They are free and open to all interested students, staff, and faculty. The workshops cover a variety of helpful topics, such as avoiding plagiarism, writing influential personal statements, using internal punctuation marks, writing for the biological sciences, writing effective emails, using APA style, using Chicago style, and writing tips and strategies for in-class essays. Workshops are scheduled Friday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:00 in Library Classroom 2. Detailed information for the workshops will circulate on flyers, posters, digital signage, and the oswegodaily-list Digest.

The campus community should contact Steven Smith with requests or questions about writing tutoring or the Write Ways Series. He can be reached at 312-3762 or steven.smith@oswego.edu. – Steven Smith

Library Student Club

Keep an eye out for a new library student club. If you have students with great ideas about the library and they want to be heard, consider referring them to join this new group. Contact Michelle Bishop to learn more. – Michelle Bishop

Rep Your Hall

Transitioning to college is stressful for most new students. The Rep Your Hall library orientation serves to lessen anxiety about using the college library. This fall, all Johnson Hall freshmen completed the orientation and learned critical basics about Penfield Library. Almost 300 students participated in a series of activities which introduced them to the librarians for their intended majors, library spaces like the 24 Hour Study Room, and free technology to borrow.

Thank you to Linda Lefevre, Johnson Hall’s resident mentors, and Dan Roberts for helping to fund prizes for the winners. – Michelle Bishop

Photo credit: T. Abdo & J. Gonzales

Photo credit: A. Grady & M. Pericozzi
Librarian and Staff News

Mike Paxton is Penfield Library’s new Coordinator of Resource Sharing. He and the Interlibrary Loan Department provide ILL and document delivery services to SUNY Oswego students, faculty, and staff. Mike arrived in August, bringing prior interlibrary loan experience from his time at Indiana University. Most recently, he was a supervisor for the Interlibrary Loan & Document Delivery Department at the University of Washington’s Seattle campus. Mike is a graduate of Indiana University’s School of Library and Information Science. His liaison responsibilities include library instruction and collection management for the Human Development and Psychology departments.

Laura Harris is the new Online Learning Librarian. Her main focus will be to create and enrich library services related to online instruction. She will work closely with the Curriculum & Instruction department in the School of Education to provide collection development and instruction. She will also be responsible for developing collections in support of Educational Administration, Technology Education, and Vocational Teacher Preparation programs, and for the library’s Teaching Resource Center.

Laura moved here from Michigan, where she lived for about 14 years, working at Eastern Michigan University, Grand Valley State University, and most recently at Springshare (a software company best known for LibGuides). She is a proud alumna of the School of Information at the University of Michigan. “Go Blue!”

Meghin Roberts started in August as a part-time reference librarian. She is an alumna of SUNY Oswego, and is glad to be back. Meghin completed her Master’s of Library and Information Science at Syracuse University in May 2015. She also works part-time at Salina Library in Syracuse.

Paula Fredette joined Access Services in September, and serves as our Evening Supervisor/Student Manager.

Making a gift to SUNY Oswego?
Consider designating Penfield Library as the recipient.

Thank you for donating 371 items of food to Food for Fines!
Spring 2016 Calendar of Events

- Fridays, 3 p.m.-4 p.m., February 5-April 29 — Write Way Series workshops, Classroom 2. See page 5 for more information.


- February 5-21: 53rd Annual Juried Student Exhibition, reception February 12. See page 4 for more information.

- February 9 — 3D Printing 101: Are you curious how the 3D printer works? Want to see it in action or learn how to design things that can be printed? All are welcome at this workshop! See page 3 for more information.

- February 12, 11 p.m.-2:30 p.m. — Penfield Loves You Day. Enjoy refreshments, make valentines, and learn about the latest library technology at the Technology Petting Zoo.

- February 12 — Penfield Loves You Day Pop-Up Makerspace: Tinker, explore, and create with our new technology! Create your own valentines that light up and other creative gifts! See page 3 for more information.

- February 15, 5 p.m. — Deadline to apply for the Faculty Teaching and Research Collections Grant. See page 3 for more information.

- February 29 — Leap Into Making Pop-Up Makerspace: Celebrate the leap year by building and creating in a laid back, collaborative environment. Take your crafts to the next level, or discover your inner engineer! See page 3 for more information.

- March 4-18: Generations V & Master of Arts, reception March 11. See page 4 for more information.

- March 8 — Crochet 101: Crochet is a good way to de-stress while creating at the same time, and is great for making gifts! Learn how to get started. See page 3 for more information.

- March 17 — St. Patrick’s Day Pop-Up Makerspace: Tinker and craft to create gifts and decorations or work on your own fun projects. See page 3 for more information.

- March 28 — Circuits 101: No prior knowledge required! Pick up the basics of circuitry and experiment with easy to use tools that will open a world of possibility. See page 3 for more information.

- March 31, 1 p.m.-5 p.m. — Success Fair, library lobby. Students meet key campus representatives and learn about the services available to support their academic and social success.

- Month of April — Paintings from Professor Chris McEvoy’s students, lobby gallery.

- Months of April and May — Dean’s Writing Awards, inside the Lake Effect Café and café hallway.

- April 1-10: BFA # 1, reception April 8. See page 4 for more information.

- April 13, 12 p.m.-1:30 p.m. — Display to Archives luncheon, Speakers’ Corner. See page 4 for more information.

- April 16-24: BFA # 2, reception April 22. See page 4 for more information.
Spring 2016 Calendar of Events (continued)

- Month of May — Work from graduating B.A. art students, lobby gallery.
- Finals week — Extended hours and free coffee for finals, Lake Effect Café.
- May 31 — Display to Archives spring deadline for faculty and staff to submit scholarly and creative works. See page 4 for more information.