

Meet Mandy Babirad

We are excited to announce that Amanda (Mandy) Babirad is joining the Library team as Public Services & Outreach Librarian. As we're all getting to know this new person in our midst, we asked her a few questions to help everyone on campus get acquainted with her as well.



LL: What made you become a librarian, Mandy?

MB: I became a librarian because I wanted to be everything, which is impossible, so I chose a path where I could do a little of a lot and I still learn something new every day.

LL: We know it's a bit early to ask this but, what excites you about your new position at SUNY Cobleskill?

MB: My new position excites me because I will get to have more public facing time with students which is the biggest perk of any library job in my opinion. I also am looking forward to being in a position that gets to help shape the library's mission. I also love working with student assistants.

LL: On to the more important stuff— do you like to cook?

MB: I love to cook. No specialties but I love preserved lemons, olives, anything acid or fermented. I also make my own kombucha. Baking is my real specialty though. Everyone deserves a three tiered cake for their birthday.

LL: What's your favorite movie?

MB: My favorite movie is *Practical Magic*. My fashion icon is 90s Sandra Bullock and I watch this movie probably ten times a year, sometimes at times that annoy other people. Having a dinner party? Hey, let's just pop in *Practical Magic* real quick.

LL: What was the last book you read, for fun not for work?

MB: The last two books I read for fun I read simultaneously; *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee and the second book of the *A Court of Rose and Thorns* series by Sarah Maas.

LL: So, is there anything you might like to share that we haven't asked about?

MB: I can't think of much else. I'm an avid hiker of the Adirondacks and have been working on the 46 high peaks for a while. I'll probably be 85 by the time I finish. I also love dogs, which is pretty basic, but essential to my daily life.

We'd like to thank Mandy for this peek into her life and hope this gives everyone a starting point for when they meet her in the weeks and months to come. We're sure that, when you do, you'll be just as excited about her coming to SUNY Cobleskill as we are.

EXPANDED Weekend Hours



In response to requests from students and faculty, the Van Wageningen Library will stay open longer on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. This should better accommodate commuter and non-traditional students, or anyone who just wants more Library time.

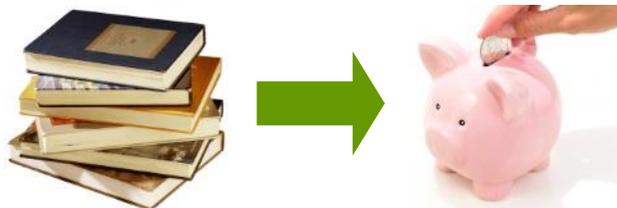
Our new weekend schedule is: Friday 7:00am-6:00pm, Saturday 10:00am-6:00pm, and Sunday 11:00am-10:00pm.

Book Sale Time!

The Library's Fall Book Sale begins Friday, September 28th on Homecoming Weekend and will run through the whole month of October (or until we run out of things to sell). This annual sale helps the Library raise a little money to pay for things like specialized equipment, supplies for preserving rare materials, or whatever else comes up.

We want you to buy stuff, but don't stop there! We also welcome your donations to help us stock the sale carts. It allows us to offer a wider selection while making room on *your* shelves for new stuff. Simply drop items off at the front desk and we'll take it from there. Try to get donations to us before September 24th so we have time to sort through things.

As ever, the prices are more than reasonable: \$1 for hardcovers, 50¢ for paperbacks. Any multi-volume sets, non-book items, or other special items will have their prices posted. Please contact April Davies (daviesac@cobleskill.edu, 518-255-5887) if you have any questions.



24/7 Chat: Library Help When & Where You Need It

You can get help from a Reference librarian 24/7 by using our chat service. Seriously. Any time, any day, anywhere you happen to be (as long as there's internet access). It is even easy to use:

1. go to our website: www.cobleskill.edu/library
2. click on the big 'Chat Now' icon
3. ask your question



Whether you want to know what time the Library opens tomorrow, how to get to JSTOR, where to find critical articles on Ira Levin's *The Stepford Wives*, whether we have access to a particular ebook, or need help finding articles about Gulabi gang violence in India—24/7 chat reference is there to help! (Yes, those are all actual questions we have received and answered via chat.)

Don't freak out if you use the service and the person helping you is from Texas. SUNY Cobleskill librarians are usually on chat duty during the Library's normal business hours and we're part of an international consortium that covers the rest. We answer questions for other libraries when they don't have someone on duty and they do the same for us. The participating libraries all share information behind the scenes to help make the service work.

You can also text us (518-444-5485), but unlike chat, text hours are not 24/7. Old-fashioned methods like coming to the Library in person, email, and calling are okay too (LibraryResearch@cobleskill.edu; 518-255-5866).

Research Consultations Have A Positive Impact

In addition to library instruction sessions for classes and research assistance at the main desk, Van Wagenen Library offers students the opportunity to sign up for extended one-on-one research consultations with faculty librarians. Student and faculty feedback has been positive and the consultation program has grown steadily since its implementation in Fall 2015. These appointments have traditionally addressed research topic selection or refinement, source evaluation, database navigation, search strategies, query syntax, and proper citation. In previous semesters these limited appointment slots have been reserved for students enrolled in certain research-intensive courses. This semester, however, we're expanding the service and allowing any student to sign-up for an appointment time.

These one-on-one appointments aren't meant to replace the basic library instruction offered in our course-related sessions. Faculty are still encouraged to contact Don LaPlant (laplandd@cobleskill.edu) to arrange for traditional in-class instruction sessions. Likewise, the reference desk just inside the Library's front door is still the best place to get quick help on common issue like finding a book, accessing scholarly articles, or checking a citation format. The consultation appointments are intended to provide more detailed guidance on research papers or projects.



An online interface will allow students to review available times, select a librarian, and schedule an appointment. Look for the "schedule appointment" icon on the Library's [Tutorials page](#).

For a more detailed look at the effectiveness of research consultations, check out this [research poster](#) from the recent SUNYLA conference. Preliminary research indicates students who attended research consultations consistently outperformed students who did not.

Closed-Captioning Service

The Van Wagenen Library and AccessABILITY Resources have established a contract with CaptionSync to ensure that all the video and audio material used in teaching is captioned and understandable to all in the course. Generally, most videos and audio material has a captioned version as a setting option but sometimes with older videos or small sound bytes that is not the case. If you have something that requires captioning, please contact Beth Orgeron (orgeroed@cobleskill.edu) about getting the material captioned. The service has a very quick turn around time.



Don Recommends...



Sunburn
by Laura Lippman
Green
by Sam Graham-Felsen

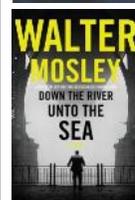


Scythe
by Neal Shusterman
The Shadow Land
by Elizabeth Kostova
Everybody's Fool
by Richard Russo

April Recommends...



Iron Gold
by Pierce Brown
Ghosted
by Rosie Walsh
Wired
by Julie Garwood



Down The River Unto The Sea
by Walter Mosely
The Ultimatum
by Karen Robards

Recent Arrivals...

Social Creature
by Tara Isabella Burton

The Outsider
by Stephen King

Vox
by Christina Dalcher

The Real Michael Swann
by Bryan Reardon

A Higher Loyalty: Truth, Lies, & Leadership
by James Comey

The Mars Room
by Rachel Kushner

Leah On The Offbeat
by Becky Albertalli

The President Is Missing
by Bill Clinton & James Patterson

Every Note Played
by Lisa Genova

Warlight
by Michael Ondaatje

An American Marriage
by Tayari Jones

Open Educational Resources & You



Open Educational Resources (OERs) are tools that educators can use to supplement or build a course. OERs are free for anyone to reuse, revise, remix, and redistribute and are a low-cost, tailored solution for faculty and students.

There are many reasons to adopt OERs in your teaching, but the one that receives the most attention is their potential to reduce costs for students. There is a lot of focus on the cost of higher education, and textbooks can add several thousand dollars per year to a student's bill.

Along with all of SUNY, Van Wagenen Library and SUNY Cobleskill are committed to promoting the use of OERs to all faculty. We have put together [guides](#) to help faculty understand and implement OERs in the classroom. You may contact

Peter Barvoets (barvoepd@cobleskill.edu; 518-255-5894) if you have any questions or need assistance setting up OERs in one or more of your courses.

Alternate Options For Online Resources

Did you know that you can get a New York Public Library card without living in New York City? It's true! "Any person who lives, works, attends school or pays property taxes in New York State is eligible to receive a New York Public Library card free of charge."

The NYPL card comes in handy living up here in Cobleskill since it allows access to over 250 research databases, many of which are out of the Van Wagenen Library's price range. Resources you can get from NYPL (but not us) include *Columbia Granger's World of Poetry*, *Contemporary Authors*, *Dead Sea Scrolls Electronic Library*, *Oxford Art Online*, and *Smithsonian Collections Online*. You can also use their *Kanopy* video streaming platform to view thousands of classic movies, documentaries, and educational programs, and their subscription to the *Lynda.com* online educational site that covers topics in fields like web design, media production, and business.

Don't think it's an online-only arrangement! If you're down in NYC in person, you can "visit any of NYPL's 92 locations in the Bronx, Manhattan, and Staten Island" to check-out materials and take advantage of their on-site services.

Visit the NYPL website to [apply online](#) and get your very own New York Public Library card.



Annual Chili Cook-Off



The Library's Annual Chili Cook-Off is scheduled for October 3rd. Stop by, try some tasty concoctions, and vote for your favorites! Categories for voting are Hottest, Best Tasting, and Most Unique.

We had over 120 people attend last year. The competition got a bit fiery (chili humor, couldn't resist it) so we're really looking forward to seeing what people come up with this time around.

The event runs from 11:00am to 1:00pm and will take place on the main floor of the Library. That's right; food in the Library and you won't get in trouble for it!

Are you interested in entering your favorite chili in the contest? The entry deadline is September 26th. Contact Cat Wise for details (wisec1@cobleskill.edu, 518-255-5847).

On Display

The showcase display at the top of the stairs is temporarily empty, but by Homecoming it will feature items related to the Iroquois Indian Museum research collection that the Library hosts in the archives. Watch for more details as we get closer to Homecoming. The collection is accessible when the archives are open or by appointment (contact Katherine Brent: 518-255-5851; brentke@cobleskill.edu).



If you're watching the *Great American Read* on PBS, you can visit the book display next to the popular reading collection to find many of the books on the reading list. A flyer with the full reading list is also available by the "New" book shelves if you want to keep track of how many you've read.

Other featured displays for the fall include the 200th anniversary of the publication of *Frankenstein* and the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. Additional information about all the various displays is available [online](#), or you can contact Katherine Brent here at the Library.

"...libraries are about freedom. Freedom to read, freedom of ideas, freedom of communication. They are about education (which is not a process that finishes the day we leave school or university), about entertainment, about making safe spaces, and about access to information."

—Neil Gaiman

As Seen On TV

Ads and e-posters on the large, flatscreen TVs in the Library are seen by more than 1,000 people every weekday! One thousand! More than! The feedback from people/groups using e-posters has been very positive and we've gotten lots of comments from students. Two examples are pictured at right (the zombie one has been particularly popular with lots of students stopping to take pictures). If you want to get the word out about your event (or whatever), an e-poster at the Library is the way to go.

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

To submit e-posters:

- Send in your JPG file as an email attachment to 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.

Design recommendations:

- Keep the wording simple; your e-poster will be displayed in rotation along with several others.
- 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 creating your e-poster.

SUNY Cobleskill faculty, staff and recognized student organizations receive first consideration for posting in Van Wagenen Library. Confirmation of your submission will be made via email. Please do not assume your e-poster has been accepted until you receive a 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 (Library@cobleskill.edu; 518-255-5841; text to 518-444-5485; or [online chat](#)).

Who Do I Talk To?

Every academic department has an official Library Liaison. They sign-off on course proposals, select library materials in your subject area, and can serve as your point person for anything library-related. If they're not the person who usually handles your particular question or problem, they'll hook you up with the person who is.

For the School of Business & Liberal Arts & Sciences:

- Business & Information Technology = Don LaPlant
- Early Childhood & Psychology = April Davies
- Liberal Studies = Don LaPlant
- Natural Sciences & Mathematics = Beth Orgeron

For the School of Agriculture & Natural Resources:

- Agricultural Engineering = Mandy Babirad
- Agriculture & Food Management = Katherine Brent
- Fisheries, Wildlife & Environmental Science = Mandy Babirad
- Plant & Animal Sciences = Pete Barvoets

You can also visit the Library's [Contact Us](#) page at anytime to see who is assigned to your area.



Van Wagenen Library • www.cobleskill.edu/library



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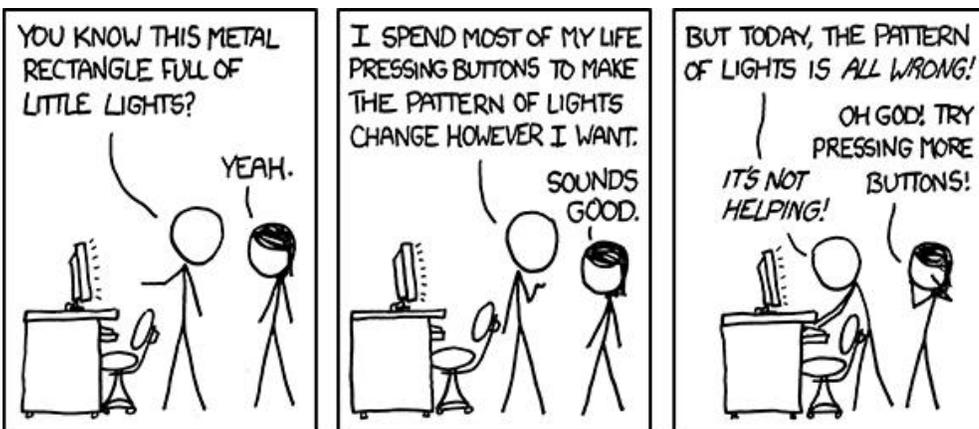
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from xkcd.com, used with permission

LIBRARY HOURS	
Mon.-Thurs.	7:00am - 10:00pm
Friday	7:00am - 6:00pm
Saturday	10:00am - 6:00pm
Sunday	11:00am - 10:00pm

From The Dean



For the past year, we have been partnering with the Iroquois Museum on two significant projects. First, we relocated a majority of the Museum’s library collection to our archive. The Museum’s collection is comprised of books, journals and newspapers of many different tribal establishments. This collaboration helps the Iroquois Museum preserve its unique collection, optimize Museum space, and broaden access to researchers and students. Second, we will now house an archeological collection of stone fragments and other small artifacts from the Haviland site (found in the 1990s) which was once owned by the College. The site is near the junction of the West and Cobleskill Creeks and is estimated at approximately 8,400 years old. I am very pleased to promote these new collections—I am excited that our students can have the opportunity for hands on learning by utilizing this unique research collection and to fully immerse themselves in the rich history of this area.

At Homecoming, the Iroquois Museum membership and the Van Wagenen Library will celebrate their partnership with a reception and a display of the artifacts. The reception is a great way to kick off the semester! Check the Homecoming calendar for details, and we hope that you will join us.



Calendar

- Aug. 27
First Day of Classes
- Aug. 31
Add/Drop Ends
- Sept. 3
Labor Day
- Sept. 9
Rosh Hashanah begins
- Sept. 19
Talk Like A Pirate Day
- Sept. 28-30
Homecoming
- Oct. 3
Chili Cook-Off
- Oct. 6-9
Fall Break
- Oct. 11
National Fossil Day
- Oct. 17
Wear Something Gaudy Day
- Nov. 11
Veterans Day
- Nov. 15
Great American Smokeout Day
- Nov. 21-25
Thanksgiving Break
- Nov. 28
Red Planet Day
- Dec. 14
Last Day of Classes

Faculty & Staff News



Mandy Babirad is our new Public Services & Outreach Librarian. She previously served as Instructional Services Librarian at SUNY Morrisville following stints at SUNY New Paltz, and Allegheny College. Mandy got her MSIS from SUNY Albany.



Peter Barvoets was recently promoted to the rank of Associate Librarian.



Katherine Brent did a poster session on assessing library displays for the 50th Annual SUNYLA (SUNY Librarians Association) Conference held this past June at Finger Lakes Community College in Canandaigua.

April Davies will travel to South Carolina in November to present on weighted allocation formulas for smaller academic libraries at the 38th Annual Charleston

Conference, a national gathering focused on library acquisitions and collection development.

Don LaPlant presented a poster at the SUNYLA conference on preliminary research into the effectiveness of one-on-one research consultations as a supplement to traditional library instruction approaches. He also recently had a chapter selected for inclusion in the forthcoming book *Hidden Architectures of Information Literacy Programs* to be published in 2019 by the Association of College and Research Libraries.

Cat Wise and Dawn Ladanye attended the annual conference of the New York State Library Assistants’ Association (NYSLAA) in Corning this June.



Text Us!

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