Gould Library

Unpublished Library Papers and Presentations

Carleton College

Year 2004

Point of Reference - Spring 2004

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A New Collaboration: Carleton and St. Olaf
Merging Integrated Library Systems

This fall a merged integrated library system will be in place at the Carleton and St. Olaf college libraries, enabling patrons to view simultaneously the collections of both colleges. Essentially, Carleton and St. Olaf will share one catalog—the now separate MUSE and SAGE will be merged. The merger is the first project of a new consortium between the two colleges’ libraries and lays the groundwork for future collaborations and interaction.

Both Carleton and St. Olaf have been using integrated library systems from Innovative Interfaces to manage data used for such library functions as ordering, cataloging, and circulation. When St. Olaf recently sought to upgrade its system, talk of merging with Carleton arose, and a taskforce was formed to consider the benefits. After much discussion, the staffs of both libraries agreed that a merger made sense and began planning for it in spring 2003.

The merger combines all of the data from two separate systems into one. It is by no means a merging of the two libraries, says Carol Eyler, head of technical services at Gould Library and co-coordinator for shared system implementation. “Our number-one purpose is to make the resources of both colleges more immediately available to patrons. This merger will enrich our collections—from a simple search, patrons will see the holdings available to them at either college.”

Merging the two colleges’ databases is not a simple task, but to patrons the change will be seamless. Only a small portion of the data in the library’s integrated system is visible to patrons—that related to the bibliographic record (such as title, author, publisher, date, subjects, and call number) and to each individual’s borrowing record (titles of books checked out and due dates, etc.). Library staffers use the system to manage data for ongoing work in acquisitions, circulation, cataloging, and periodicals control. Data related to the ordering of, receipt of, and payment for all materials is interconnected within the system, which provides an historical record of every item in each library.

To accomplish the merger, Library Technologies, an independent consulting firm, is preparing both colleges’ data for transfer to a single new server, which will be housed in Carleton’s Center for Mathematics and Computing and maintained by staff members in information technology services. Preparation includes creating new codes for the bibliographic data, which will enable the merged database to tell patrons the physical location and status of each item; eliminating duplicate records; and verifying an authority record for each item to eliminate ambiguity and provide patrons with the most thorough search results. For example, an author search for Samuel Clemens will refer patrons to items by Mark Twain, Clemens’s pseudonym.

According to Eyler, a sample batch of merged data will be tested on the new server this spring. Once that test has been deemed successful by each library, the complete set of data will be transferred in stages: ordering, financial, and periodicals data in early summer, and the remaining data in late summer.

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Art in the Library:
Showcasing Carls’ Creativity

As an informal cultural center with interesting, even quirky display spaces and great hours (what museum is open seven days a week, as many as 17 hours a day?), Gould Library complements more formal exhibit spaces such as the Carleton Art Gallery and Boliou Hall. Best of all, it has a built-in audience: the entire Carleton community.

Library exhibits offer an open-ended alternative for the presentation of students’ class work. Art professor Jeff Rathermel’s papermaking classes created “books made to be touched,” where the reader’s role in unfolding, arranging, and handling an artist’s book is key to the project’s success. Students in English professor Susan Jaret McKinstry’s Pre-Raphaelite seminar selected and interpreted rare books from the library’s special collections to exemplify that 19th-century British movement, and an environmental and technology studies colloquium in sustainable design produced an exhibit explaining principles and materials of green thinking in action.

The library has hosted individual student projects, too. Josh Wolcott ’02 populated the library with life-size plaster figures: He invited friends to pick a favorite spot in the library, made full-body casts of them in chosen poses, and exhibited the resulting sculptures walking through the stacks or peering between floors. Amanda Mabbitt ’03 designed and installed a midair, multilevel sculpture of ropes and rubber membranes in the sunlit east stairwell. Molly Bruder ’03 displayed a colorful tivaevae, or appliqué bedcover, with photographs explaining her studies on a Larson Fellowship in the Cook Islands.

These presentations involve more than show and tell. A student can propose an exhibit idea to the library’s curator and, with his guidance, shape the project for the library’s public audience. This process gives the student practical experience with preparing a proposal (possibly with timelines, drawings, or program statements), considering logistical issues (safety, durability, and legibility, as well as visual impact), and sometimes delivering a public program about his or her work in the Athenæum.

Library renovations planned for this summer will provide more spaces for potential student exhibits and installations next year. Interested students can contact curator Tom O’Sullivan at tosulliv@carleton.edu for more information.

Tom O’Sullivan is curator of art and exhibitions at Gould Library.
Electronic Reserves: Moving Toward Paperless

Gould Library recently began an electronic reserves pilot project that may eventually make obsolete all photocopied materials kept on reserve at the circulation desk. The program, known as ERes, makes those materials available online, giving students the ability to read reserved articles from any computer at any time, on or off campus. “We’ve been looking at this for a long time. It came out of requests from faculty members for the library to provide a service that uses the Web as a base for getting materials,” says Veronica Otte, reserves coordinator for the library.

The pilot project involves four departments and eight professors, who began testing the new ERes system during winter term. Results from a recent survey of the project offered praise for the program. “The student responses were overwhelmingly positive—they’re excited about it and they love that they can access reserves at any time and at any location,” Otte says. “They also like that they don’t have to worry about fines, time restrictions, or standing in line.” Students also said they were more apt to complete assignments on or off campus. “We’ve been looking on for a long time. It came out of a need for ways to make the library an academic center for the College and we want to foster a connection between the older forms of scholarship and learning, and new forms of technology,” explains College Librarian Sam Demas.

To this end, additions to the reference area will include an enhanced reference/help desk, and the inclusion of more data ports and wireless access points throughout the library. New lower shelving will house the reference materials, making the collection more accessible, and providing an open air feel to the room.

Technology will be updated by doubling the number of computers and adding workstations designed for students studying in groups. The reference and instruction area will be adding student information associates who can facilitate peer to peer information services.

One especially interesting addition will be the installation of the Nancy Gast Riss ’77 Cabinet of Wonders. The library commissioned book artist Jody Williams ’78 to create the memorial cabinet, which reflects the liberal arts experience at Carleton. The Cabinet of Wonders harkens back to collections assembled in the 17th and 18th centuries and showcases the importance and connection to older scholarly technologies like manuscripts and rare artifacts.

“Essentially [the purposes of] the fourth floor renovation are to update our information services and to see what works,” says Demas, “so when we sit down in a few years to start planning an addition, we’ll have some data and experience to work from.”

**Renovation Update: Fourth Floor Gets a Facelift**

Students returning to campus next fall will notice some welcome changes to the fourth floor of Gould Library, as the third and final phase of the library’s three-year renovation takes place this summer. These changes include redesigning the reference area, moving the periodicals collection, and converting the computer lab into a reading room, where students can study and congregate in a relaxed space.

The redesign of the reference area will be the most significant change on fourth floor. Plans focus on creating a space that is more in tune with current students’ research needs and skills. “We’re looking for ways to make the library an academic center for the College and we want to foster a connection between the older forms of scholarship and learning, and new forms of technology,” explains College Librarian Sam Demas.

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**Book Notes:**

*Under the Perfect Sun*

The week after I returned from a short vacation in southern California I discovered Under the Perfect Sun: the San Diego Tourists Never See (The New Press, 2003) on the library’s “new books” shelf. It seemed auspicious sitting there. I had to read it.

Motivated by a desire to write an alternative history of the region, the three authors, Mike Davis, Kelly Mayhew, and Jim Miller, each present a version of 20th-century history and social conditions in San Diego. Using dry facts and severe statements, Davis concentrates on the influence of “powerful groups of capitalist insiders” to present his harsh view of business entrepreneurs and government officials.

Mayhew, on the other hand, paraphrases a group of interviews that took place over a six-month period in 2002–03 portraying ordinary people taking action on their political convictions. Miller’s approach is a mix of the two. Subtitled “An Episodic History of Rebellion and Repression in America’s Finest City,” his writing expands on historic references made by Mayhew’s interviewees while filling in gaps about the human side of Davis’s stark facts and figures. All three writers present a view of San Diego unlike anything I read in either standard tourist guidebooks or other literature I picked up while I was there.

Before going to San Diego again, I’ll map out the places I’d like to visit based on some of the sites mentioned in this book. Once there, I’ll look for different versions of local news and events.

Terry Kissner is a library assistant in collection development at Gould Library.
Take a Look at ARTstor!
We need your help in testing a beta version of ARTstor—a soon-to-be extensive digital library of art images. It will offer coherent collections of art images and descriptive information, as well as the software tools to enable active use of the collections for research and teaching.

During spring term 2004, Carleton is one of 25 national test sites for ARTstor, a sister project to ISTOR (a digital archive of more than 500 core academic journals). Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, ARTstor will eventually provide access to millions of images in architecture, painting, photography, sculpture, decorative arts and design, and archaeological and anthropological objects. Visit the library’s Web page at www.carleton.edu/campus/library and look for the ARTstor link for further information.

How Are We Doing?
This spring you can evaluate the library’s performance by filling out a Web-based survey. In cooperation with hundreds of colleges and universities nationwide, Gould Library is administering the LibQUAL+ survey from April 19 through May 5. Your responses will provide data that we can use in assessing service quality and planning for ongoing development of our resources and services. When you receive an e-mail requesting your participation, please take the 10 to 15 minutes necessary to complete the survey. Participants are eligible for prizes!

Marla Holt is a staff writer and editor at Carleton.

New Staff Profile:
Eric Hinsdale
Library Technology Coordinator
ehinsdal@carleton.edu • x4265

Prior to coming to Carleton, Eric Hinsdale was the technology coordinator for the Metropolitan Library Service Agency. He holds a BA degree in sociology and anthropology from Trinity University and an MLS degree from Simmons College.

What are your technology goals for the library?
We just got wireless access and I’d like to see that expanded and publicized. We’ve started an electronic reserves project, so I’d like to see all the print articles on reserve go away someday—it would save a lot of space. I think we can more efficiently use technology to streamline our daily tasks, making processes simpler and faster.

What do you enjoy about working in the library?
People in libraries tend to really think through what they are doing and not just rush out and do it. There are a lot of innovative technologies in libraries right now like radio frequency identification systems and unified search tools. It’s nice to take time to think about just how a new tool will fit into the library instead of deploying every new thing that comes along without understanding its impact.

Have you read any good books lately?

New Staff Profile:
Ann Zawistoski
Reference and Instruction Librarian for sciences and mathematics
azawisto@carleton.edu • x7671

Ann Zawistoski is a 1997 Carleton graduate with a BA degree in geology. She was a project manager at a software company prior to returning to Carleton. She earned a master’s of library science degree from Dominican University.

Why did you decide to become a librarian?
When I worked in customer support at Retek, I liked researching the answers to a person’s question rather than having to fix a bug. I also got into a little bit of knowledge management, which is getting information and organizing it—a little like cataloging. Librarianship seemed like a logical next step.

What do you like about working in the library?
I love finding answers for people. I love the idea that knowledge and information is available for anyone who wants it. As librarians, we’re not trying to hide information from people—we believe it’s better for them to have as much information as possible.

How will you work with faculty members and students?
We’re working on getting information literacy—the idea of how to do research and how to evaluate sources—integrated into the curriculum. I want people to feel like they can come and talk to me about whatever questions they have.
New Staff Profile: Kristin Partlo
Reference and Instruction Librarian for the social sciences
kpartlo@carleton.edu • x7668

Prior to coming to Carleton, Kristin Partlo was a reference and instruction librarian and a GIS/map librarian at Ball State University Libraries. She received a BA degree from St. Olaf College and an MA degree in library and information studies from the University of Wisconsin.

What attracted you to Carleton?

Working in larger universities has reinforced my appreciation of the small, close-knit campus and the advantages of a liberal arts environment. I wanted to be in a setting ripe with curiosity, where learning and asking questions are valued; I knew I would find that at Carleton.

Do you have goals for your position?

I want students to know that they can approach me right away—some of the most rewarding work of being a librarian is working with students when they’re in the exploratory stages of research.

Jonathan Kayes is a senior psychology major from Naperville, Illinois.

Navigating Carleton’s Resources

New items in reference and instruction include the following:

Clase and Periódica

This new offering from OCLC FirstSearch gives access to scholarly literature published in Latin America in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. Languages include Spanish, Portuguese, French, and English. This resource is actually two databases in one: Periódica indexes scientific literature and Clase indexes humanities and social sciences literature. The user can choose to search only one of the databases by limiting the search with the “Database Name Phrase” dropdown menu. Clase indexes more than 1,200 journals and Periódica indexes more than 1,400 titles. Both databases index materials back to the mid-1970s. The familiar FirstSearch interface makes the database easy to use. Although there is no full text in this database, there are links to MUSE and to SAGE within the citations, so users can quickly find out if Carleton or St. Olaf subscribes to the cited periodical. If we don’t, the InteLibrary Loan form has been log in to ILLiad before requesting something in Clase and Periódica.

LexisNexis Environmental

This resource provides access to a wide range of information about the environment through several smaller databases: Environment Abstracts; News, Journals & Commentary; Codes & Regulations; Case Law & Agency Actions; and Waste & Materials. Environment Abstracts provides citations and abstracts from environmental journals, conference papers, and federal government reports, with links to full text when available; News, Journals & Commentary indexes and provides access to the full text of environmental news from major daily newspapers, consumer magazines, trade magazines, newsletters, and law reviews; Codes & Regulations provides access to federal and state environmental codes and federal agency regulations, including public laws, the United States Code, the Code of Federal Regulations, the Federal Register, and the state codes from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands; Case Law & Agency Actions allows searching of and access to federal and state environmental case law as well as decisions from selected federal regulatory agencies and departments; and Waste & Materials provides access to federal and state waste site data and hazardous materials information, including superfund records, federal and state site records, and state waste records on leaking underground storage tanks, solid waste sites, state priority lists, storage tank site records, and material safety data sheets.

Profile: Heather Tompkins
htompkin@carleton.edu • x7172

Liaison librarian to archaeology, African/African American studies, Classical languages, Hebrew, history, Judaic studies, literary and cultural studies, Medieval and Renaissance studies, philosophy, and religion.

To contact the liaison librarian who specializes in your area of interest or to arrange for classroom instruction in the use of reference materials, visit www.library.carleton.edu/reference/liaisons.html
Second Annual First-Year Student Information Literacy Survey

In September 2003, librarians surveyed 274 first-year students about their experiences with libraries and conducting research. Questions ranged from how often they used different types of resources to ranking the importance of those resources. The complete survey results for the first two surveys (Fall 2002 and Fall 2003) are available at www.carleton.edu/campus/library/reference/InfoLit.

Question: How confident are you in your ability to use academic library resources to conduct college-level research?

67% somewhat confident

7% very confident

26% not confident

Note: Results from 2002 were 17% (not confident); 68% (somewhat confident); 15% (very confident).

Question: If you needed to find a journal article on Baroque architecture, which would you search?

60% database

24% Web search engine

16% library catalog

Question: What is the best way to find a scholarly journal article on a given topic?

42% print index or periodical database

3% print volumes of academic journals

32% general Web search engine

23% online catalog

42%

3%

32%

23%

54%

22%

24%

only the direct quote

would correctly cite both excerpts

only the paraphrase

Students read two excerpts from papers on Sigmund Freud. One contained a direct quotation from *The Interpretation of Dreams*, the other a paraphrase of the same quotation.

Question: Which excerpt requires a citation to Freud’s work?

Note: This varies slightly from 2002 survey—55% (direct quote); 26% (paraphrase); 19% (both).

Athenæum Events

The following list of events is just a sampling of what’s available through the Athenæum. For an up-to-date listing, visit www.library.carleton.edu/Athenaeum.

The Prelude and the French Revolution
George Soule, professor emeritus of English, will speak on Wordsworth’s poem.
Tuesday, April 13  • 4:00 p.m.

Faculty Reflections with Anne Patrick
Thursday, April 15 • 12 noon

Taking Jim Crow Out of the Constitution
A talk by Jim Chen of the University of Minnesota Law School, sponsored by the Program in Ethical Reflection at Carleton (PERC)
Tuesday, April 20 • 12 noon

Jonathan Paradise
Paradise is an associate professor in the Classical and Near Eastern studies department at the University of Minnesota. His talk is sponsored by Judaic studies at Carleton.
Wednesday, April 21 • 4:30 p.m.

Latin American Forum: City of Lights, City of Lead: Criminal Networks and Governance in Rio de Janeiro
Professor Desmond Arias, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York
Friday, April 23 • 4:00 p.m.

Latin American Forum: Filming City of God
A dialogue with Professor Paulo Lins, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, and Professor Maria Elisa Cevasco, Universidade de Sao Paulo. Andrew Williams, director of multicultural affairs, will moderate.
Friday, April 23 • 7:00 p.m.

Latin American Forum: Reading City of God
A roundtable discussion with Paulo Lins, together with Professors Fernanda Arenas, Jorge Brioso, Maria Elisa Cevasco, and Silvia Lopez. Al Montero, assistant professor of political science, will moderate.
Saturday, April 24 • 10:00 a.m.

Faculty Scholarship Celebration Party
Dean Shelby Boardman and College Librarian Sam Demas will host a reception for Carleton faculty and staff members who have published books, major peer-reviewed journal articles, or produced significant creative work.
Tuesday, May 11 • 4:30 p.m.

French Laïcité and the Secularization of Education: The Historical Record
A talk by Pierre Gervais, professor of history at the University of Paris VIII.
Friday, May 14 • 4:30 p.m.

Exhibits • March 29–June 2, 2004

To learn more about exhibits in Gould Library, visit www.library.carleton.edu/admin/exhibits.

The Civil Rights Project
Portrait photographs and interviews by Del Bey, in observance of the 50th anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision

Treasured Gifts
Fine books and collections given by alumni, faculty, and friends of Carleton

18th Annual Off-Campus Studies Photography Contest
Photographs taken by students on study programs in Africa, Europe, and Australia/New Zealand

Faculty Authors
This year’s publications by Carleton faculty members

George II vs. Napoleon: Caricatures from the Collection of Grant Webster ’54
A sampling of prints from the collection of Grant Webster ’54, professor emeritus at Binghamton University

Point of Reference
is available online at www.library.carleton.edu

Gould Library
spring term hours:

Weekdays 8 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Saturdays 8 a.m. to midnight

Sundays 10 a.m. to 1 a.m.