

# *In the Stacks*

Volume 3, Issue 1

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## Library Hours

Monday—Thursday

8:00am—1:00am

Friday

8:00am—8:00pm

Saturday

9:00am—4:00pm

Sunday

1:00pm—1:00am

Please check the Library's homepage for holiday hours at [www.cabrini.edu/library/](http://www.cabrini.edu/library/) or contact the Circulation Desk at 610.902.8538



## LOCATING JOURNALS—AS EASY AS A TO Z

Rosemarie DeMaio, Coordinator of Technical Services

This semester, the Electronic Journals link on the Library's webpage will bring users to a new online destination – *A to Z* – our new electronic listing and linking service for periodicals.

*A to Z*, a product of EBSCO Information Services, replaces a similar service the Library has been using for the last three years from TDNet. Our decision to migrate to the new service was prompted by the integration of EBSCO's *LinkSource* with *A to Z*. *LinkSource* is the service we use that provides the capability to search in one database and locate available full-text in any of our other databases.

Adding information about our databases and our print and electronic periodical subscriptions to *A to Z* provides the knowledge base for *LinkSource* to function. The *A to Z* service continually monitors databases for changes in their coverage; information on our print holdings is input and maintained by Library staff. *A to Z* also provides a more user friendly interface, with larger print and a more accessible listing of sources and coverage beneath each title.

Students, faculty, and staff can use *A to Z* to search for full text availability for a particular journal, magazine or newspaper. The "Find" box on the right hand side of the search page searches for words entered as keywords, retrieving

any record containing those words. For a more precise search, users should click on the "Search" tab and search by title, publisher, or ISSN. Results are listed with the source(s), if full text is available electronically or in print.

Users can also browse for periodicals alphabetically or by subject. To search or browse by subject, use the "Subject" tab. A drop down menu of subjects based on Library of Congress subject headings appears. After selecting one of the main subject headings, users can choose from a list of sub-headings. For example, "Education" is broken down into 32 sub-headings. Each subject heading and sub-heading lists the number of titles on that topic. Clicking on a heading displays the titles, sources and coverage available.

To see a list of the databases included in *A to Z*, click on the "Index" tab. Databases are arranged alphabetically with a list of their available full text periodicals. Each database title links directly to the search screen of that resource.

At last count, the Cabrini College community has access to over 20,000 periodicals electronically. Given the numbers, a listing and linking service like *A to Z* has become a necessity in today's libraries, and a convenient and valuable resource for their users.

**The *A to Z* service continually monitors databases for changes in their coverage...**

# CREATING AN INFORMATION COMMONS

Bobbi Jacquet, Library Director

The first time you come to the Library this semester, we hope you notice a big change on the first floor. No, the books have not disappeared and the circulation desk is the same as it was in May. But the computers have been moved and spread out to give you more room to work in the information commons.

Information Commons. It's what we're calling the computer area: a collection of computers dedicated to online research in an open access environment with room to work collaboratively.

In order to increase space for people, we had to decrease space for books. We have reduced the size of the print reference collection significantly (See Michael's article on page 6). Some of the reference books were withdrawn from the collection because the information they contain is available on the web or in the databases to which we subscribe. Those volumes that were withdrawn were offered to other academic libraries in the area and were eagerly accepted by members of SEPICHE, one of the consortia the College belongs to. Most of the reference books that are used infrequently were reshelved in the circulating collection shelves. By reducing the number of reference books, we were able to remove three ranges of shelves.

We moved the computers towards the front of the building so that researchers can better enjoy the

beauty of the campus visible from the front windows. You'll also find some comfortable chairs by the windows so that you can appreciate the trees while reading or browsing a book or journal.

You might also notice a new newspaper rack by the front doors. We've moved several newspapers out of the stacks for easier perusal. You'll now find *The New York Times* (Sunday and daily), *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Education Week*, *Barron's*, *The Catholic Standard and Times*, *Main Line Times*, and *The Suburban and Wayne Times* in the newspaper rack to the left of the front doors as you enter. Feel free to sit and catch up on the news or the scores.

As a result of the moves on the first floor, the second floor is feeling the pinch. The stacks were already tight and we've had to add two additional ranges of shelving on the second floor. Because of the overcrowding of our shelves, we'll be undertaking a project to examine the collection title by title. Books that are in poor physical condition and books that are so old as to contain incorrect or irrelevant information will be withdrawn from the collection. All of this work will help to get the collection in good shape for the laboratory.

We'll keep you apprised of our efforts!

# UTILIZING ELECTRONIC COURSE RESERVES

Sherry Becht, Circulation and Reserves IAUS Associate

The need for information is not limited to the hours the Library is physically open—instead students need twenty-four hour access to information, especially to course materials. This was why the Library began using an electronic reserves system. Course reserve materials include, but are not limited to, portions of books, (up to 15% of total pages), text of journal articles, links to articles in the Library's databases, links to Internet sites, student-created materials, and graphic materials, including images and photos. Our new flat bed scanner provides excellent quality images.

We encourage faculty to make use of this service. Simply submit the materials to the library and our staff will do all the rest. Items may be sent to the Library electronically via email to [sherry.becht@cabrini.edu](mailto:sherry.becht@cabrini.edu) or in print format via campus mail. These materials are accessible 24/7 to all registered students, whereas, print reserves, are limited to copies available at any given time. A specific course page will be created in ERes with links to the reserve materials. Materials submitted to the Library are available within 1-2 business days.

The library ensures that all materials put on electronic reserves meet the "fair use" provisions set forth in the United States Copyright Act of 1976 (Section 107). This may require obtaining permission from the copyright holder. In the case of a student-created work, we must have a signed consent form. Course material is password protected and is removed at the end of each semester.

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## BETTER THAN GOOGLE ANSWERS

**Holy Spirit Library** offers Reference and Research Services to the Cabrini College community in a number of ways:

Starting September 6, 2006 Holy Spirit Library will be participating with other Pennsylvania Academic and Public Libraries in *Ask Here PA*

This is a 24/7 virtual reference service. Students will be able to access a link from the Library's homepage which will direct them to the *Ask Here PA* virtual reference service.

The Library is always looking for ways to improve its reference and research services and is currently planning a new virtual service that will be available in the near future.

Other ways to contact the Reference Staff

By phone:  
Anne Schwelm-  
610.902.8536

Michael LaMagna-  
610.902.8568

By email:  
Anne Schwelm-  
aschwelm@cabrini.edu

Michael LaMagna-  
mlamagna@cabrini.edu

General-  
library@cabrini.edu

Have you used Google Answers (<http://answers.google.com/answers>) yet? That would be the for-fee, human-based reference service that picks up when your own googling doesn't quite make it. Perhaps you've gotten nothing with your keywords, or your eyeballs are going blank wading through thousands of Web pages.

Google Answers has gathered virtually hundreds of expert researchers who will do the background work so that you can, as it says on its home page, "Ask a question. Set your price. Get your answer." Fast and easy. You can get answers in 24 hours or less to questions such as:

- How do you indicate verb tense in American Sign Language?
- Where can I find a copy of the 1986 Immigration Reform and

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**With today's library technology and services, it is just as easy to ask a librarian and get a prompt answer...**

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Control Act (IRCA)?

- I need tables or graphs showing the obesity rate in the US from 1900 to the present.
- How did Post Traumatic Stress Disorder become a recognized condition?
- In Act II, Scene IV of Shakespeare's Measure for Measure, what does the term "false prints" mean?

Questions are posted publicly. A researcher who "adopts" a question may email the questioner to clarify what's

needed, or simply deliver an answer within a few hours. Google arranges online payment. Although some research services charge as much as \$100 or more, the majority of answers cost no more than a visit to Starbucks. Google Answers says it will not answer homework questions (<http://answers.google.com/answers/faq.html>), but it acknowledges that it can't always tell whether a question is part of a coursework assignment or not. So, why not pay Google researchers when you get stuck on a question and the deadline is rolling around, like, tomorrow?

### Ask a Librarian

For starters, you've already paid for that service, and it's closer than you may think. Reference librarians at Holy Spirit Library can provide service equal to what you can get from Google Answers—in fact, some reference librarians we know moonlight as Google Answers researchers. With today's library technology and services, it is just as easy to ask a librarian and get a prompt answer, as to query through Google Answers. You may also get a more context-sensitive answer from an expert who knows your academic institution and many of your professors.

You don't have to walk to the library or pick up a phone to ask a librarian a question. Most likely, you can just pop over to your library Web site and find a link labeled something like Ask a Librarian, Live Help, or, as in the case of Hampshire College, Ask Us Anything! (<http://library.hampshire.edu/>).

*Continued on page 5...*

# LIBRARY STAFF SUMMER READING SELECTIONS

Cindy Ross, Serials and Acquisitions Associate

*Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America*,  
by Barbara Ehrenreich  
(HD4918 .E375 2001)

In the wake of welfare reform, the author embarked on a personal quest to investigate the plight of low wage workers. Leaving the trappings of her own lifestyle, Ehrenreich was employed as a waitress, housecleaner, and retail clerk in three different cities, while attempting to support herself on the wages she earned. The book provides an eye opening account of the lives of those who work for poverty-level wages, and the trials they face both on and off the job.

—Rosemarie DeMaio

*My FBI: Bringing Down the Mafia, Investigating Bill Clinton, and Fighting the War on Terror*

by Louis J. Freeh  
(HV7911 .F75 A3 2005)

This work recalls Freeh's rise from a street agent to agency director. The story of Freeh's youth, his success as a prosecutor and district justice in New York are a success story. The book reveals the inner workings of the FBI as the agency moved toward a focus on international terrorism. Politics within the District in general and the Clinton administration in particular, make for a quick if not interesting read.

—Anne Schwelm

CBS SportsLine.com  
(<http://cbs.sportsline.com>)

I like to keep up with the current happenings in Fantasy Football. For all the Fantasy Football managers I recommend that you draft Peyton Manning with the #1 pick. I don't think you can go wrong with my first five picks. The front runners for fantasy MVP this year are: Larry Johnson, Shaun Alexander, Ladainian Tomlinson, Peyton Manning, and Tom Brady. It should be a fun and exciting fantasy football year. **Go Literati!**

—Corey Salazar

*Marley and Me: Life and Love with the World's Worst Dog*,  
by John Grogan  
(SF429 .L3 G76 2005)

This is a great book for all of you who are animal lovers especially dog lovers. This book captures the trials and tribulations of sharing your life with a dog. Being a dog owner myself I found this book to be full of laughter as well as tears. I could truly relate to some of the mischie-

vous things that Marley got himself into.

—Cindy Ross

*Kiss the Girls*, by James Patterson

I was a fan of Patterson since his first book *Kiss the Girls* and have faithfully followed the series. I was able to read his last two novels this summer, *London Bridges* and *Mary, Mary*. Although it is not necessary to read the books in order, I recommend it because some characters return during plot twists. In Patterson's first 9 novels, which combine murder, adventure and thrills, Alex Cross is a psychiatrist and a detective in the Washington, DC Police Department. His last two adventures now have Alex working for the FBI. Other James Patterson titles recommended: *Cat and Mouse* (PS3566 .A822 C3 1997), *Four Blind Mice* (PS3566 .A822 F68 2002), *Big Bad Wolf* (PS3566 .A822 B54 2003), *London Bridges* (PS3566 .A822 L665 2004), *Mary, Mary* (PS3566 .A822 M37 2005)

—Sherry Becht

*Almost French*

by Sarah Turnbull

For those of us who have tried to live among the French, to understand their society and to engage in French society, this book is an entertaining reminder of how different the French really are from Americans. Despite being famous for their heritage of elegance, and great style, the French continue to indulge in rudeness to Anglo-Saxons in general, and to radical Anglo Saxon feminists in particular. Sarah Turnbull, a journalist from Australia, moves to Paris to be with the man she loves. In *Almost French*, she reports with humor and warmth her first year living among the French and dealing with the bureaucracy that is ubiquitous. "It's a bittersweet thing, knowing two cultures." Recommended for Francophiles who have known despair at trying to fit in.

—Bobbi Jacquet

*The Prince of Providence: The Rise and Fall of Buddy Cianci, America's Most Notorious Mayor*

by Mike Stanton

Traces the rise and ultimate fall of Buddy Cianci, the charismatic mayor of Providence, Rhode Island. An enjoyable read regardless of one's familiarity with Rhode Island politics.

—Michael LaMagna



In an informal survey of 15 academic libraries and their reference services in April, there were only three instances where we couldn't easily find a link to ask questions, either on their main library page or under tabs such as Services or Help.

You may have to prove your affiliation with the academic institution whose librarians you are using, either with a library card number or IP-authentication. On the other hand, some institutions' virtual reference service is integrated with a state-wide or consortial service, such as in Florida (<http://www.askalibrarian.org/aal.asp>) and the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (<http://www.askalibrarian.org/>), so the service may be open to a broader community.

### **Virtual Reference**

Virtual reference services, as these are commonly called, may be available by email (as Google Answers works), but increasingly, you are able to do live chat or IM when asking a librarian. North Carolina State University (<http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/libref/>) has a good page showing all their options: phone, live Web service or Instant Messaging, email, or face-to-face consultation.

Virtual reference via the Web is powered by software such as QuestionPoint (<http://www.oclc.org/questionpoint/>), Docutek's VRLplus (<http://www.docutek.com/products/>

[vrlplus/index.html](http://vrlplus/index.html)), and LivePerson (<http://www.liveperson.com/sb/libraries.asp>), but the real power behind the answers is library service and reference librarians. For that reason, it's still not a good idea to wait until the last minute. Human librarians, who can provide the expert search help, are not usually on call 24/7. Late evening and weekend questions may not get answered until the next business day. Nevada Virtual Reference ([http://vrlplus.cb.docutek.com/lvccld/vrl\\_entry.asp](http://vrlplus.cb.docutek.com/lvccld/vrl_entry.asp)) offered the broadest hours of coverage of those libraries we checked (Live Chat until 9:00 p.m. M-Th, until 6:00 p.m. Fri-Sun--though you can leave email 24/7).

Nevertheless, speed and quality of service usually meets and may even exceed what is available on the Net--some of the questions at Google Answers never do get answers. And you don't have to set a price--it's all been taken care of with that tuition check that you or someone who loves you wrote earlier this year.

So the next time you need help cutting through a Web search, using resources beyond the open Internet, or even finding the missing footnote reference for a quote that perfectly sums up your point, don't forget -- ask a librarian.

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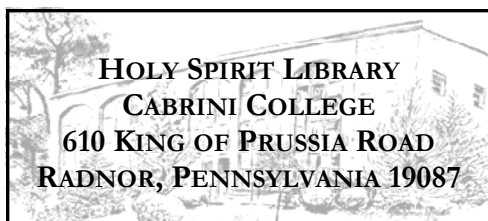
## MANAGING THE BUILDING

Corey Salazar, Interlibrary Loan IAUS Associate

Every May when the spring semester ends, the seniors graduate, and the students leave for summer jobs, the Library staff reevaluates the Library's space allocation. The Library staff tries to make the Library more attractive and welcoming for the next year's students. In consultation with the administration, the Library staff decides if the building needs new furniture, carpeting, etc.

The Library works in conjunction with other Cabrini departments, mainly Facilities, Housekeeping, and ITR. Keeping the Library in running order requires a daily walk through of the building. After the walk through, the data is shared with the Library staff. The Library staff then decides on an appropriate plan of action. Sometimes it's simply replacing a light bulb, but sometimes it's a matter of safety, like replacing broken floor tiles.

This summer the Library made a number of changes to the first floor design. Some of the new additions to the Library are new carpeting in the Library Conference Room. The College acquired new desks for the IAUS staff and some furniture for library patrons, placed throughout the main floor. The staff at the Holy Spirit Library hopes the new additions and changes to the Library are convenient and welcoming. Please feel free to comment on the new design or leave a suggestion in the Suggestion Box on the front desk. Let the Library know how we can better your experience. Enjoy the new look to the Holy Spirit Library and good luck with the upcoming school year!



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## EVALUATING THE REFERENCE COLLECTION

Michael LaMagna, Reference Librarian

During the summer months the Library made significant changes to the main level of the building. These changes involved moving computers, reference shelving, withdrawing and relocating reference titles, and adding new furniture to create an information commons for collaborative research. During the past year the Library conducted a usage study of the Reference Collection to determine which titles to relocate to the circulating collection, which titles to withdraw from the collection, and which titles remain important to our users' research.

Every user of the Reference Collection assisted the Library in collecting valuable usage statistics. Each time you placed a reference book on the cart located in the Reference Collection you helped the Library staff determine which titles, in which subject area were being used. This data was recorded in Microsoft Excel and compiled throughout the fall and spring semesters. This data offered the Library staff useful information that helped identify trends in the material being used.

From this data the Library staff determined that only 7% of the Reference Collection was used. History, Political Science and Business titles were used at the highest percentage of total titles in those subject areas.

The staff used this data to determine what materials should remain active in the Reference Collection. Every title used during the last academic year remains in the Reference Collection along with titles that are of value in students' research. Titles that the staff believe are of value but may receive more use if students were able to check-out the material were moved to the circulating collection. Titles that were out-dated and contain inaccurate information, duplicated in our growing electronic resources collection, or have been updated with a newer edition were offered to local academic libraries.

This project has yielded useful data that the Library will use to ensure our resources and services are not only up-to-date but cutting edge.