Library Instruction Standards: Beyond Teaching ‘Point & Click’

As the information landscape continues to evolve, so must our library instruction. In recognition of this reality, the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) has recently developed a new Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education. The Framework encourages librarians to provide more robust instruction about how information is created, how to determine its authority, and how it is used ethically as part of the scholarly conversation. In addition, the new framework outlines how students need to become more reflective about the research process and understand that research is an iterative process. Of course students must also learn how to use the research tools available to them.

While the Framework provides flexibility in how we approach our current ‘one-shot’ classes, this aspirational document is meant to provide a theoretical underpinning to conversations between librarians and faculty which will result in them working together more closely to develop students’ abilities to evaluate, use and create information during college and beyond. We will be sharing more information about this initiative on the Faculty Blog and look forward to the ensuing discussions.

If you would like to know more, please contact Phil Waterman.
Nancy O’Sullivan and Phil Waterman recently attended the Association of College & Research Libraries conference in Portland, OR. The theme of this year’s conference, **Creating Sustainable Community**, was described as a showcase of how libraries are adapting, changing and innovating to remain relevant to their users, their institutions, and the broader environment of higher education.

Over 3,000 librarians from academic institutions in the United States and 24 foreign countries attended this four-day professional development conference. The conference included over 300 educational programs to help librarians stay at the forefront of learning in their profession.

Nancy and Phil attended workshops, panel discussions, and contributed papers, such as, *Exploring the Student E-Book Experience; Faculty Perceptions of a Library; Integrating Information Literacy into the Core Curriculum; Patterns in Information Literacy Instruction; and Promoting Transferable Research Skills.*

Nancy and Phil also found time to explore some of Portland’s most popular attractions, such as Powell’s City of Books (the world’s largest independent book store), the Oregon State Museum of Science & Industry, and Voodoo Donut!

**Summer in the Library: Book Buddy Bag**

Bringing your little ones to the Library and need something to occupy them while you work?

Come to the circulation desk and we will fill a “book buddy bag” with books that your children can read while they are in the Library with you.

We now have a fine selection of children’s classics to entertain our younger patrons.
Red Sox Schedule

Summer Library Hours

**May 12 - May 25**
Mon - Fri: 8am – 4:30pm  
Sat - Sun: CLOSED

**Summer Session Hours**
**Tues, May 26 – Fri, Aug 14**
Mon – Thurs: 8:30am – 7pm  
Fri: 8:30am – 4:30pm  
Sat and Sun: CLOSED

**August 15 – August 30**
Mon – Fri: 8:30am – 4:30pm  
Sat and Sun: CLOSED

**Exceptions**

*Memorial Day,*  
Mon, May 25: CLOSED

*Independence Day,*  
Fri, July 3: CLOSED

*Feast of the Assumption,*  
Fri, Aug 14  
8:30am - 2pm  
(usually announced during the summer)
Summer Reading Book Recommendations

**The Girl on the Train**, by Paula Hawkins
— Recommended by Joan O’Rourke

This novel takes the term unreliable narrator to a whole new level. The complex characters and cleverly constructed plot of unexpected twists and turns had me immersed from the start. Although the suspense kept me on the edge of my seat, there were also times I laughed out loud. *The Girl on the Train* is the perfect blend of everything I hope for in this type of novel. There is not too much I can say without a spoiler alert, but if you are looking for a page-turner, I highly recommend this psychological thriller. I could not put it down and read it over two evenings.

**The Hare with Amber Eyes**, by Edmund de Waal
— Recommended by Julie O’Shea

*I just finished reading this book with my AC book club. I really enjoyed it. I think this review from Amazon is a very good summary.*

Amazon Best of the Month, September 2010: At the heart of Edmund de Waal’s strange and graceful family memoir, *The Hare with Amber Eyes*, is a one-of-a-kind inherited collection of ornamental Japanese carvings known as netsuke. The netsuke are tiny and tactile—they sit in the palm of your hand—and de Waal is drawn to them as "small, tough explosions of exactitude." He’s also drawn to the story behind them, and for years he put aside his own work as a world-renowned potter and curator to uncover the rich and tragic family history of which the carvings are one of the few concrete legacies. De Waal’s family was the Ephrussis, wealthy Jewish grain traders who branched out from Russia across the capitals of Europe before seeing their empire destroyed by the Nazis. Beginning with his art connoisseur ancestor Charles (a model for Proust’s Swann), who acquired the netsuke during the European rage for Japonisme, de Waal traces the collection from Japan to Europe--where they were saved from the brutal bureaucracy of the Nazi Anschluss in the pockets of a family servant--and back to Japan and Europe again. Throughout, he writes with a tough, funny, and elegant attention to detail and personality that does full justice to the exactitude of the little carvings that first roused his curiosity. --Tom Nissley

**Open Mind, Open Heart**, by Thomas Keating, OSB
— Recommended by Nancy O’Sullivan

Summer is a good time for slowing down, so it may be a good time to try a slower style of prayer, Centering Prayer. Trappist monks Thomas Keating, Basil Pennington and William Menniger of St. Joseph’s Abbey, just up the road in Spencer, began promoting the practice of contemplative prayer back in the 1970s. By that time the modern Western Church had largely lost touch with its contemplative roots, apart from those who lived a cloistered life. Keating et al. started to teach this style of prayer to lay people at the same time Buddhist and Hindu contemplation became popular in the West. In this book, considered a spiritual classic, Keating presents some simple instructions for entering into deeper communion with God through Centering Prayer. Thousands of people now make the recommended 20-minutes per day of just being in God’s presence a part of their lives. Maybe God is calling you to do the same.
Graduating Student Workers

Carola Y. Bermudez-Arocho

I have worked at the Emmanuel d’Alzon Library since September 2013. It has been an awesome experience! I love how friendly the staff members are, meeting new people at each shift and getting to know one another. I also worked in the Stacks, which helps maintain the organization of books in the library. By working at the library, I improved my customer service and communication skills. I also learned valuable library research skills that will help me in the future. I am truly going to miss working at the library!

Michaela Connors

My name is Michaela Connors and I have been working in the library since I was a freshman. My time here has been an unforgettable experience filled with new friendships, a wealth of knowledge from sophisticated staff, and an invaluable facet of my time here at Assumption College. The environment that the library offers is that of respect, hard work, connection, learning, and fun. I have found that being a face of the library has many perks as I am asked questions by a variety of students and faculty. I have become a reliable source who people turn to for information. The research skills I have developed over the years have proven to be an absolutely vital tool in all areas of my college career. I feel confident that this job has taught me a great deal about the workings of a collegiate system, financial budgeting, interpersonal communication, customer service and how to use the skills I have learned to advance in the professional world. I am excited to continue to use the skills I have acquired here in my job this summer in customer service and in grad school in a research position.

Brandon Dombrowski

I have worked at the library since my freshman year and I have enjoyed every second of it. Working at the library was a wonderful experience and I was able to meet a lot of people, both students and staff members. What I remember most from my experience at the library was a project I helped with over the summer two years ago that involved removing journals from the second floor and shifting those that remained. What I will take with me when I leave are the memories of all the good times spent with the library staff and everything I learned from them.

Meghan Dougherty

My name is Meghan Dougherty and I have worked in the library for three years now. It has been such a pleasure working in the library and I can honestly say I am going to miss it next year! My favorite memory from working in the library would be listening to Larry’s jokes and just interacting with the Assumption Community at the front desk! (Although, sometimes I talked a little too much to friends passing by!) I have definitely learned vital communication skills that will help me in the future with whatever path I choose. The positive atmosphere from co-workers and staff at the library was truly a blessing and I am thankful to have called d’Alzon library my second home at Assumption!
Graduating Student Workers

Ricky Gonzalez

Working at the library has been a blessing from the second I started. It wasn’t just a job; it was salvation when I was in need. At the time, my father had lost his job and the little I could get from him was gone. The library staff provided me a job almost instantly and even though I was the immediate beneficiary of the job, my parents were the most grateful. That was one less worry for them and it taught me about time management skills. The various groups and time commitments that I had before getting a job didn’t stop, so balance was the key. I also learned some of the frustrations and methods of problem solving when it came to the patrons in the library. All in all, the library won’t ever be forgotten because of the people I’ve met and the experiences that I’ve gone through while working here.

Rachel Gostkowski

I started working here my sophomore year, and was immediately drawn to the night shifts. In my time working, the closers have formed a very tight knit group of genuine people. Maybe it is the late hours and the fact that our group has stayed fairly consistent, but I feel as if the library is responsible for me getting to know students I wouldn’t have otherwise. I have so many amazing memories of working with my fellow closers over the years, filled with a lot of laughter and various shenanigans that make staying until 1:00 in the morning worth it! I had a great experience working at the library and it is all because of the people I got to know, so thank you. I will miss everyone so much!

Brittany Grozik

I have worked in the library for two years and it has been the best job I’ve had on campus! My favorite part about working at the library was getting to know the staff. I feel like the staff really cares about its workers from goody bags during finals to pizza parties. I also loved working in the back with everyone and learning all about Julie’s interesting life! (She is definitely by far the most interesting person I’ve met at AC.) I learned a lot of things from roman numerals and how to balance many things at the front desk. Overall it has been a very enjoyable experience!

Lauren Hannon

I have worked in the library for three years, since my sophomore year. When I first started working at the library, I worked many weekends with Larry. He always made my day with the puns and jokes that he told us. I will also remember all the weekend shifts that I worked with Renee. We always had discussions about the latest shows and movies that we saw or needed to see. I have loved working at the library and will miss working with everyone.
Graduating Student Workers

Meagan Kullberg

I have been working at the library for 3 years. I would definitely call the library my second home, so much so, that I refer to the library as Club Lib. I spend my snow days, winter break, and some holidays working at the library. While working at the library I have learned a lot more about time management, collaborating with coworkers, and customer service, which will all help me succeed in the professional world. I have met some amazing people and some of my lifelong friends by working here. Club Lib will always be an unforgettable part of my Assumption College memories.

Ted McCarty

I am very lucky; I worked in the Library since first semester freshman year, and nearly always at night. To say that it has been a bit wild would be an understatement; it gets a bit weird after dark. From losing power and falling trees to very, very annoyed patrons not truly understanding the concept of "closing time" it can be an adventure. Luckily the people I have worked with have earned my complete trust a thousand times over. Through all the computer jury-rigging, last minute researcher and creative machine repair, I can honestly say we have become a resourceful bunch.

Georgia Moore

I have been working at the library since September 2011 when I was a freshman. I will probably most remember working at the library on Saturday nights when I worked with Larry, a junior (at the time) Matt, and Ted McCarty. I think I learned some pretty basic college survival lessons during those nights, as well as how not to have "I am a freshman, please take my unlimited meal plan and use it" plastered across my forehead. Plus, Larry shared pizza with us and that made everything that much better. I definitely learned how to be more patient with research, and that will be helpful knowledge for the future. Working at the library has been such a great advantage for my college experience, because researching for papers is a no-brainer. I'm also known as the girl who works at the library, so I do get library related texts and questions quite frequently.

Sarah Provost

I started working at the library when I was a sophomore. I’ve done morning shifts, closing shifts, snow day shifts, even summer shifts. There’s always something happening at the library: game nights, art shows, Banned Book Week, student tours. I can honestly say that I’ve never had a job like this, where the atmosphere was so friendly, where my supervisors were so generous, and where I’ve been so eager to do my best. I will always be grateful for this experience.
Graduating Student Workers

Tamara Salman

I have worked in the library since my junior year. There are many things I will always remember about working in the library: closing late with great people, opening the library and seeing wonderful people first thing in the morning (which always makes my day), getting to know a lot of students, and many other things. Even though my chosen profession will be different from this job, the skills I learned in the library will help me in the long run—working with people as a team and interacting with them like a family, customer service, and most of all communicating with people. I believe that all the skills I learned in the library were life changing and have made a different person of me.

Dylan Scotina

I have worked at the library since the beginning of my sophomore year (3 years). My most memorable moments at the library consist of having the opportunity to work with such a great staff. The library wasn’t work to me; it was a time to gain experience working in customer service while getting to be around such a welcoming and friendly group of individuals – both students and librarians. I learned many skills at the library that will help with my career. I will be working in sales or recruiting after graduation, so getting the chance to work around my peers as well as staff members around campus helped me gauge how to interact with many kinds of personalities. The experience I have gained in my three years working at the library was priceless, and I am grateful for all I have learned in my time here.

Pablo Sierra-Carmona

I've worked at the library for three summers and three academic years. The thought of graduating is thrilling yet sad. Thrilling because I'll be heading into the real world filled with jobs, ties, and never-ending emails. Sad, because I'll have to say goodbye to the dear librarians who have been so vital in my growth. Time flies way too fast. But I know that’s a good thing, because it means that I learned a lot. But, most important of all, it means that I had fun, and for that I am eternally grateful. Thank you everyone.

Michael Triana

I started working at the library sophomore year of college, and let me tell you it has been quite a fun experience. I’ve mostly worked closing shifts throughout my three years at the lib. My coworkers have always been great enthusiastic people to work with, and I share many good memories with them. When working a closing shift it is easy to experience the joy of closing on time. Just kidding, that rarely happened. Nevertheless, it was always an interesting experience which taught me many valuable skills, like patience when closing! But, on a more serious note, working at the library developed my customer service skills, teamwork skills, and research skills. I truly enjoyed working at the library. I’m very thankful to every one of my coworkers. Special thanks to Robin, Vivienne, and Paul who gave me the opportunity to work at the library. You guys are awesome!