Digitization of library materials offers a great opportunity both to preserve the materials and to make them easily available to the public. D’Alzon Library is digitizing materials from our Mallet Collection and doing the necessary descriptive work toward making those items findable and usable on the Internet.

We are lucky in Massachusetts to have proximity to the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) in Andover, which is nationally recognized for its cutting edge preservation/conservation activities and capabilities. They have just completed the conservation and digitization work on our Mallet photos, and are continuing work on 300 Mallet documents.

In January, Library staff took a field trip to the facility in Andover and had the pleasure of visiting the paper conservation laboratories. We heard how decisions for treatment are made, viewed projects at the decision stage, and learned about the complexity of balancing the preservation principle of “do no harm” with treatment options, the nature of the expected use of the item, and ethical concerns. We were able to see and handle examples of various types of conserved items (special samples for visitors).

We also visited the digitizing lab and saw cameras and platforms that allow digitizing of varied sizes and types of original materials, from very large maps to tiny slides. The lab is also equipped to enhance images that have deteriorated.

Finally, we had a chance to see IRENE in operation. Irene is a new technology for sound preservation, through which the oldest forms of sound capture, such as wax cylinders, can be photographed, and then the photograph transformed via a computer program into sound. This is important because many of the early recording media are deteriorating at a rapid rate, and even putting a needle to a groove could destroy a cylinder or disc. There are only two IRENEs in existence—one at the Library of Congress and one at NEDCC. The name comes from the first item preserved by the technology—a recording of “Goodnight Irene.” Spoken recordings, music and other sound recordings can now be preserved with this technology. We saw a demonstration of a wax cylinder photographed, transformed to sound, and then extraneous crackling removed, all without any damage to the original cylinder. Another type of recording we saw was a small flexible disc that contained a greeting from a service member during World War II. The Red Cross made it possible for greetings to be conveyed to families in this manner, and now IRENE can preserve these greetings.

All in all, we were impressed to see first-hand the kind of expertise and lab resources that NEDCC staff employ in conserving and digitizing special materials such as those from our Mallet Collections.
Group Study Rooms

Reservations for Library group study rooms more than doubled after moving to an online booking system last semester. There were 173 confirmed bookings for December 2014 compared to 76 bookings for December 2013.

Group study rooms are located on the third floor of the Library. All three of the rooms have whiteboards, and one room is equipped with a TV and DVD player.

**To book one of the Library’s three group study rooms:**

- Go to the Library homepage [http://www.assumption.edu/library](http://www.assumption.edu/library).
- Click on **Reserve a Group Study Room** under *Quick Links* to the left of the library homepage or under *Students* on the top bar.
- On the Group Study Room page, use the calendar on the left hand side to select up to eight thirty-minute time slots (up to four hours).
- Complete and submit the form with full name, Assumption College email, cell phone # and the number in your group.
- You will receive a confirmation e-mail. **You must confirm reservation** within 1 hour (otherwise, your reservation will be lost).

**Reservations are limited to 4 hours per student group per day and may be made up to 2 weeks in advance.**

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Book a Research Appointment with a Librarian!

Members of the Assumption community are encouraged to schedule a research appointment with a librarian.

- We can help!
- Individual appointments: 4 hours notice

Click on a time slot to fill out a form. You will receive a confirmation email. Please give 24 hours for cancellations.

**Book a Personal Research Appointment from our Homepage.**

You will see available times in **Green**. Click on the best time for you and fill out a form. You will receive a confirmation email. Please give 24 hours for cancellations.

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Quick Links

- Reserve a Group Study Room
- Book a Research Appointment
- OED Online
Website Updates

Over the winter break, the Library’s Web Development team worked hard on some much-needed updates to the Library’s web presence. Although we migrated the website to Drupal last year, we waited to make changes to the webpages for services that live outside of Drupal—namely, Off Campus Access, ILLiad, the Find Journals tab (aka Print and Online Journal Locator, aka POJL), and Article Linker. These services are managed by other servers, and therefore always had their own look and feel. To bring these webpages in line with Drupal, we created a new look and feel for these services that closely resembles the Library website. Users will recognize the familiar blue background and Light the way logo featured on the College website and now on all Library services.

Another great change we implemented is a logo for the Article Linker service, which searches for articles at Assumption, whether online or in print. Previously, users had to hunt for a tiny blue link called Article Linker, which appears in various places in the various databases. Now, we have a colorful new logo for Article Linker, which matches our Get Help logo and hopefully draws the user’s attention to this important service.

As always, we welcome your feedback on these changes! Please let us know how we can continue to improve our site and services!
Wondering what books the Library recently purchased? Check out the new book display on the first floor of the Library!
We now put newly-acquired books on display for you to browse. Books on these shelves are new to the Library’s general collection. Feel free to check out any of the materials from the new book display.

Best Practices in the Library

⇒ Be courteous to all - Help maintain a productive work and study environment for everyone
⇒ Be quiet – Keep conversations discreet and to a minimum. Put cell phones on silent mode and take phone calls outside or in the lobby. Use headphones if watching videos or listening to music, and keep the volume low so that only you can hear it.
⇒ Be careful – Keep your belongings with you at all times. Protect books and resources by drinking from covered containers and throwing away all trash. Leave the space you use as good as it was or better than you found it.
⇒ Be respectful - of fellow students, of staff and faculty, and of anyone who is using our library.
⇒ Be aware that campus policies regarding use of tobacco apply while in the Library.
New Field Added to the Faculty Scholarly Achievement Form

You have probably seen the annual Faculty Publications display that goes up in the Library in November. This display features all of the AC faculty members who have had items – journal articles, books, chapters, etc. – published within the past year.

The way that the Library finds out about these publications is via an online form called the Faculty Scholarly Achievement form. Faculty members fill out the information pertaining to their latest published work, and a notice is sent to the Library, as well as a few other offices.

2014’s Faculty Publications display featured two articles by faculty members that also had AC student co-authors. One faculty member happened to convey this impressive and noteworthy information by way of a note she added into one of the fields in the form. The other article was discovered quite accidentally, as the copy of the article was being placed into a report cover for the display.

To emphasize the work AC students are undertaking in conjunction with their professors, the Library has begun marking the publications with AC student co-authors with a special tag in the annual Faculty Publications display.

Additionally, in order to make it easier for faculty members to call attention to their AC student co-authors, Ming Sun in the IT department has added a new field to highlight any AC student contributors to the work into the same Faculty Scholarly Achievement form AC faculty authors are already using.

So: in the future, be sure to look for the special AC Student Co-author tag (below) in the Faculty Publications display!

And, if you are a faculty member who occasionally (or frequently) collaborates with students, we hope that adding this new field (pictured below) to the submission form will be a convenient way for you to help us celebrate the contributions your students are also making to the field!
Library Receives Grant

In July the Library was awarded a Library Services and Technology Act Grant for Digitizing Historical Resources. The funds from the grant are being used to conserve and digitize a unique collection of photographs from the late 1880s of Native Americans who lived on Indian Agencies and at schools in the Oklahoma Territory, as well as the reports of Major Edmond Mallet, who, as Indian Inspector, visited many of the Agencies and schools featured in the photographs. His reports provide a unique description of life on the Agencies and in the schools; there are government reports that have not been seen for more than one hundred years. Through digitization and conservation of the 75 photographs and over 300 pages of documents, these materials will be made available to scholars, teachers, and surviving Native American Tribes who have ancestors pictured or documented in these materials. Through metadata and website creation, the Library plans to makes these unique materials available to the world.

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) in Andover will be doing the expert work to repair, conserve and digitize these sometimes fragile items. The NEDCC is a non-profit, regional conservation center specializing in the preservation of library and archival materials. The NEDCC has already completed the conservation and digitization of the photograph collection.

Below are a few examples of the photographs that have been digitized. They are all from the Rosebud, Tulalip and Pine Ridge Indian Agencies respectively.

Photo On Left:
Grant (continued)

Photo Below:
Portrait of American Indian school girl, identified as Minnie Bubby from the Pine Ridge Agency in Dakota Territory in 1888

Photo Above:
Standing Bear and Son, photograph taken at the Rosebud Agency in 1888
Blind Date With a Book

Nancy O’Sullivan

Tired of the same old stories? Want to spice up your reading life? Willing to take a chance on a new literary relationship? Then stop by the Library during the month of February and check out the options. We have selected books for every taste, wrapped them up, and labeled them with brief descriptions. Check one out, then take it home and unwrap it to see what you have chosen. Be sure to Rate Your Date on Twitter using #ACBookDate. Let us know what you think!

Professor Juan Carlos Grijalva of the Modern & Classical Languages Department has arranged for the exhibit, *Mural Ecuador (1952)*, a major work of art by Oswaldo Guayasamín, to be on display in the Library during the month of March. The exhibit will be installed in the back left corner of the first floor. Opening Reception is Tuesday, March 10, 5:30 pm.

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**Sue Lewandowski**
February 2 - April 22
Reception: Tuesday, February 3

**Scott Foster**
February 23 - March 19
Reception: March 19, 6pm-7pm *(note time change)*

**Senior Seminar Art Show**
April 23 - May 16
Reception: Thursday, April 23