D’ALZON LIBRARY CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

On September 30 we will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of the dedication of the Emmanuel d’Alzon Library. At the time it was constructed, it was a huge improvement over the cramped library space in La Maison Française, almost tripling the available space and providing shelving for twice the number of books. Hard wooden chairs were replaced with “padded furniture,” a couple of computers and typewriters were provided for student use, and windows everywhere provided natural lighting and campus views. By all accounts, students were thrilled with the new library. Librarian Philippe Poisson enthused, “It is nice to see the students’ faces light up when they first see the library.”

Our 20th Anniversary program celebrates this Library building. Today colleges and librarians are providing more and more information and resources online, yet the library building remains an important locus for intellectual inquiry, individual study and collaborative learning. Here at the d’Alzon Library, students continually remind us of the importance of having a place to go on campus that is reserved for non-classroom study and learning. One Assumption student commented in our 2006 LibQUAL+ survey, “I go to the Library when I really need to get something done...[and] the environment is nice enough to keep me disciplined academically, which I enjoy.”

The d’Alzon Library anniversary celebration will feature two special speakers. Scott Bennett is Yale University Librarian Emeritus and also worked at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Northwestern University, and Johns Hopkins University. Mr. Bennett’s current projects now focus on library space planning, and he is a much sought-after speaker and consultant on that topic. His talk, “Libraries and Learning: A History of Paradigm Change” will describe “three paradigms in the design of library space that have been driven by the transformation of information from a scarce to a superabundant commodity. These are the reader-centered, book-centered, and learning-centered paradigms.”

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Our second speaker is R. Drayton Fair, a Partner at Lerner | Ladds + Bartels, Inc. of Providence, Rhode Island. His design career has focused primarily in public sector work, including many significant multi-million dollar public library and school projects. Most recently Mr. Fair was Principal-in-Charge of the Maynard and Watertown Public Library projects and is currently working on the Bolton Public Library and the Walpole Public Library projects. He has been working with d’Alzon Library staff on plans for new and/or renovated library space and will be speaking on “The Emmanuel d’Alzon Library: a Visioning Study for the Future.”

In addition to the speaking program, we will be introducing a new publication titled, *An Assumption Library: Essays Presented in Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Emmanuel d’Alzon Library*. The essays, solicited, edited and compiled by a “best books” committee led by Professor Patrick Corrigan, are about books “worth reading and re-reading.” The committee, which also included Jeanne McNett, Linda Ammons, Ann Murphy, Julie O’Shea, Landy Johnson, and David Crowley, has lovingly created a booklet featuring essays written by 48 faculty and staff members. I want to thank the committee and all the contributors for so generously giving their time and talent and sharing their love of books.

I invite everyone to join us on September 30th at 4:00 pm in the d’Alzon Library as we celebrate our library and libraries generally. It will be a great afternoon!

The 20th anniversary of the dedication of the Emmanuel d’Alzon Library reminds us that at the time it was constructed, it was a huge improvement over the cramped library space in La Maison Française, as seen below.
Inventory at the Library
By Liz Maisey

This summer the Library continued its annual inventorying of the library collection. A library inventory gives us a chance to discover many things and solve problems. For example:

- Find books that are in the wrong place on the shelf and put them in their right place
- Find books that we thought were missing
- Find and resolve problems in the Library’s online catalog
- Find multiple copies of books (and then offer the duplicates in the Book Sale)
- Find damaged books on the shelf to repair or replace

We inventoried 44,721 books, which represents approximately one third of the Library collection. The Library staff hopes to inventory one third every summer. The process of the inventory was done by a team of Library staff and Library student workers who worked in one hour long shifts. We hope that the work we do through this library inventory will make your library experience more productive, pleasant, and efficient.

5th Annual Book Sale
By Julie O’Shea

Mother Nature cooperated by providing two lovely days for the 5th Annual Library Book Sale on September 10 and 11. A wide selection of books, mainly donated by faculty and staff, were available at rock bottom prices. Happy smiles were the norm as satisfied patrons carried off their treasures. Some had to make more than one trip to carry all their purchases home!

A well organized event like this could not happen without careful planning. Kudos to Liz Maisey and her committee for working hard in advance to ensure a successful sale.

Fall Holiday Hours
2008 Columbus Day Weekend
Friday, October 10
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Saturday - Sunday, October 11-12
Closed
Monday, October 13
1:00 PM - 7:00 PM

2008 Thanksgiving Recess
Tuesday, November 25
8:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Wednesday, November 26
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Thursday - Saturday, November 27 - 29
Closed
Sunday, November 30
4:00 PM - 1:00 AM
Emmanuel d’Alzon
Library Celebrates the Writer
By Mary Brunelle

If it is fall, it is time for the Library’s Annual Faculty Publication Reception. On Wednesday, November 5, at 4:00 p.m., d’Alzon Library will honor faculty members who have published an article, essay, or book within the past twelve months. This event is a fantastic way for Assumption to celebrate the scholarship and research of its faculty members, as well as for faculty members to share their own work and learn about their colleagues’ creative endeavors.

If you have published material recently, please check that your work is cited on the Library’s Faculty Publication List at http://www.assumption.edu/dept/library/faculty/facpubs.html. If you do not see your material listed, or if you see the need for any changes/corrections, please contact Mary Brunelle at mbrunelle@assumption.edu as soon as possible. We do not want to overlook anyone.

We look forward to seeing you on November 5!

Instructional Services 2007-2008
By Carole Myles

The Library continues to promote its instructional services and add on new services. This past year staff offered a Library Resources component within Blackboard for individual classes. The goal was to incorporate a library module within 15 courses. Far exceeding expectations, Library Resources was implemented within 28 courses, with 40 separate sections and reached 526 students. Over 3100 hits to the various sections were recorded, though the real number was much higher, since we relied on self-reporting from professors the first semester.

To incorporate an assessment component into the instruction program, the staff administered a pre- and post-test to almost all of the English 130 classes. Students were quizzed on their knowledge of the online catalog, database searching, limiting search results, scholarly versus popular journals, location of bound journals, and remote access. Approximately 218 students took the test.

Students’ average quiz score increased from a 42.38% BEFORE the session to 64.50% AFTER the session. This is a 22.12 point improvement.

![Pre- and Post-test Scores](chart.png)

The two concepts most students learned are that databases are the place to search for scholarly articles and that the online catalog is the place to search for books.
Visit the World Development Indicator (WDI) Database!
By Barrie Mooney

World Development Indicator, or WDI, is a valuable database that deserves examining. According to the World Bank Group, which developed the database, WDI “includes more than 800 indicators in over 80 tables organized in 6 sections: World View, People, Environment, Economy, States and Markets, and Global Links,” with the goal to provide national and international statistics related to the country’s economy and development. The World Bank is a highly respected and trusted source for this information.

To customize a search, one needs to select from each of the three variables: country, series (indicator), and time (year). The first step is to select one or more countries from an alphabetical list, click on the select button, and then the next button. Continue to select the other variables in this manner until you complete the inquiry. The information is then presented in a report, chart, or map, given your chosen inputs.

The visual option of instantly creating a chart or map of the given information is a plus in any report or presentation. Should you need assistance with this database, please feel free to ask us in the Reference Department!

Staff News
EXTRA!
Congratulations to
Katelyn O’Malley ’10

on the design of the front cover
for the new 2008-2009
Assumption College
Student Handbook.
Katelyn is in her fourth year as a student worker at the d’Alzon library.
Nice work!

Recent d’Alzon Arts Exhibits
By Joan O’Rourke

On September 9, the first floor of the Library was the setting for the Opening Reception of the Faculty Art Show, the first show of our 2008-2009 d’Alzon Arts season. The show features works by our extremely talented Assumption College faculty: Scott Glushien, Tom Grady, Carrie Nixon, Edie Read, Gary Orlinsky, and Lynn Simmons. Please stop by and view this exhibit, which will be on display through October 19.

The d’Alzon Arts Series continues its season with a Poetry Reading on Friday, September 19th, at 7:00 p.m., featuring readers Kate Chadbourne and Philip Hasouris, along with an open mic. Our next art exhibit will showcase works by artists A.J. Juarez and David Heyse. An Opening Reception will be held on October 21, at 4:30 p.m.

Please note: Beginning this season, all Art Show Opening Receptions will be held on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m.

To learn more about the d’Alzon Arts Series, please visit the web site at: http://www.assumption.edu/dept/library/events/dalzonartssched.html.
Over the summer, EBSCO released their new search engine, **EBSCOhost® 2.0**. This new interface offers a crisper look and feel, yet the search experience is similar to their previous version. As with the previous interface, the Library has set the Advanced Search screen as the default for all EBSCO databases. When you click on the Advanced Search link, all of the advanced research tools that you are accustomed to will appear, with a striking new look. The screen redesign now shows most limiters without the need to scroll down the page.

There are several built-in customization options that provide users with the ability to create their own EBSCOhost experience. Branded as **My EBSCOhost**, the customization option allows users to store items for future sessions, items such as search results, images, videos, search alerts, journal alerts, saved searches, and persistent links to searches. The personalized **My EBSCOhost** folder is accessible from the **Sign in to My EBSCOhost** link, along the toolbar found at the top of each page. Users can also organize content among multiple folders, and eventually will be able to share with other EBSCOhost users. **My EBSCOhost** is free of charge, and any EBSCOhost user may create an account.

**Newspapers from 1690!**

By Barrie Mooney

The Library is happy to announce a new database provided by the Department of History and the Moggio Foundation called Early American Newspapers. Featuring PDF images of original newspapers, this database provides access to 23 individual states’ and the District of Columbia’s papers from 1690-1876.

Published by Newsbank/Readex, this database provides coverage of “Early American newspapers, often printed by small-town printers, [which] documented the daily life of hundreds of diverse American communities, supported different political parties and recorded both majority and minority views.” Users can limit searches to such things as news and opinion, election returns, letters, poetry, legislative information, prices, advertisements, matrimony notices and death notices. In addition to searching by article type and/or date, you can search by state of publication, name of newspaper, or select from English, German, or French language documents.
New Reference Librarians Join Staff
By Carole Myles

We are pleased to announce the addition of two reference and instructional librarians to the d’Alzon staff. Larry Spongberg’s retirement in the spring and Callie Curran Morrell’s departure in August created two open positions in the Reference Department. (Congratulations to Callie on her new position at MIT as a Senior Research Analyst.)

Joining the Reference Department as a Reference and Instructional Services Librarian is Barrie Mooney from Pawtucket, RI. Barrie is a recent graduate of the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Rhode Island. She holds an undergraduate degree in Community Development and Applied Economics from the University of Vermont. Barrie has worked at the Attleboro Public Library and the Plainville Public Library as a circulation assistant. She has also worked for Colgate Palmolive as an inside sales and customer service representative. Formerly from central New York, Barrie is married and has two small children. She likes to read, cook, and enjoy the outdoors.

Philip Waterman has also joined the department as a Reference and Instructional Services Librarian. Phil is finishing up his last class at the Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science and will graduate in December. He holds an undergraduate degree in Political Science from the University of New Hampshire. Phil formerly worked for Bank of America for 20 years as a real estate appraiser. He is married, has two children and lives in Holliston. Phil has served on the Board of Assessors in Holliston for the past 10 years. In his spare time he likes to vacation at his condo in Waterville Valley.

Student Workers at the Library
By Janice Wilbur

21 Student Library Staff members came back to their dorm rooms on campus early this year to participate in a training session. This four-hour training included a presentation where students utilized the “Clicker” technology to test their memory on facts about the Library and their duties.

At the start of the presentation we listened to Carole Myles and Dawn Thistle as they talked to the group about staffing changes that occurred in the Library during the summer. I think everyone was surprised to learn that Larry Spongberg, who retired in May, will be with us a few hours each week and that Callie Curran-Morrell, a well-known reference librarian on staff for two years, has left the Library.

Our Director, Dawn Thistle, announced that she would continue her position as interim IT Director and split her time between the library and the IT building. Dawn also emphasized how important the student staff is to the functioning of the Library. This point was reiterated when Dr. Francesco Cesareo, the College President, stopped in to speak to students at the training.

Training Day included time to socialize in the morning and enjoy a few slices of pizza for lunch. Students participated in a Scavenger Hunt around the library as they refamiliarized themselves with the library. During the first weeks of class, the remaining student staff will be trained as we start our 2008/2009 academic year.
From the Back Cover
By Liz Maisey

Here are some highlights of new books we’ve recently added to the collection.
Check out other recent additions in our New Books Display at the front of the Reference Room.

Religion and American Politics: From the Colonial Period to the Present
edited by Mark A. Noll and Luke E. Harlow

“Religion and American Politics [...] offers a comprehensive overview of the interaction between religion and politics in America, from the colonial period to our own times. This book shows that the intertwining of religion and politics in the last few decades is nothing new.” – back cover

The Portable MBA (4th ed.)
by Robert F. Bruner et al.

“The Portable MBA delivers the cutting-edge business theory and practice now being taught at today’s top MBA programs. New material and timely revisions give the book a focus on the challenges facing the twenty-first-century business manager.” – book jacket

Empires of Islam in Renaissance Historical Thought
by Margaret Meserve

“Renaissance humanists believed that the origins of peoples could reveal crucial facts about their modern political character. Margaret Meserve explores what happened when European historians turned to study the political history of a faith other than their own.” – book jacket

Bipolar Disorder: a Family-Focused Treatment Approach
by David J. Miklowitz

“Now in this revised and updated second edition, this influential book details an evidenced-based approach for educating patients and their family members about bipolar disorder, teaching effective coping strategies, reducing the risk and severity of relapse, and enhancing day-to-day functioning.” – book jacket

A Natural History of North American Trees
by Donald Culross Peattie

“Here you’ll learn about everything from how a species was discovered to the part it played in our country’s history. The information is always interesting, though often heartbreaking. While Peattie looks for the better side of man’s nature, he reports sorrowfully on the greed and waste that have doomed so much of America’s virgin forest.” – book jacket