



Emmanuel d'Alzon LibraryLink

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The Newsletter of the Emmanuel d'Alzon Library
Assumption College, Worcester, Massachusetts USA

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Hours:

Summer Sessions I and II

Monday–Thursday, 8 AM–7 PM

Friday, 8 AM–4:30 PM

Saturday, CLOSED

Sunday, 1 PM–7 PM

Longtime Librarian and Friend to Retire

By Carol Pappas



For the past 29 years, “Larry the Librarian” Spongberg has been a fixture at the d’Alzon Library, at Charlie’s, at Taylor Dining Hall, and at athletics events on the Assumption campus. Over the years he has become one of the most well-known and popular staff members at Assumption. Sadly, at the end of this semester, Larry will be retiring and leaving the world of the College and the Library.

Larry originally planned to become a history teacher after receiving both a Bachelor’s and a Master’s degree in history from the University of New Hampshire. But after his aunt, a librarian, introduced him to libraries, he became very interested and went back to school at the University of Rhode Island to earn a second Master’s in library science. In 1979, he was hired as the evening reference librarian at d’Alzon Library and has been here ever since. He loves his work as a Reference and Inter-library Loan Librarian. Larry also teaches library research sessions.

In case you haven’t noticed, Larry has a bit of the ham in him. During his years here, he appeared as a guest performer in one lip sync contest and as an MC in another. On two separate occasions, he appeared as Felix Unger in *Odd Couple* skits. Last year, he made a cameo appearance in AC Upstage’s production of *Damn Yankees*. In a more serious vein, Larry was the Chairman of the Affirmative Action Committee that created the school’s policy on affirmative action during the 1980’s.

In 1999, Larry not only published a book of his renowned puns, entitled *Enjoying My Shelf*, he also was given the prestigious Honorary Alumnus award for his dedication to the Library and to the school.

Since Larry doesn’t cook much he can be seen joking and giving encouraging words to students while getting his lunch and/or dinner at either Charlie’s or Taylor. He enjoys sports, especially baseball and basketball. He’s a faithful fan of the Assumption basketball teams and attends all the

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games, where he can be seen cheering on the students, many of whom he knows from the Library. His friendly personality has enabled him to help countless students over the years—many who still remember him and ask about him 10 or 20 years after graduation. He wants each and every student to do well and does whatever he can to help them. His “greatest joy remains his frequent interaction with students over the years.”

After he retires, Larry will have more time to spend enjoying his hobbies of reading, yard work and gardening, and stamp collecting, which he has not had enough time for during his Assumption career. He'd like to reconnect with some relatives and friends from his college days and to volunteer for his church in Paxton. He also plans to travel around New England. Despite his retirement, he will continue to visit Assumption for events and hopes to have the opportunity to fill in within various departments.

Larry says he will definitely miss the daily interaction with his colleagues and the students. He will be greatly missed in return.

Join us in saying goodbye at the “Luau for Larry” on Monday, May 5th, from 3:00–5:00pm in the Library.

Thank you and good luck, Larry!



From the Director's Desk

By Dawn Thistle

On April 1st we received a very large donation of books from the estate of Fr. Georges Tavard, A.A. Fr. Tavard passed away last August, leaving a marvelous collection of more than 5200 volumes. The collection focuses on theology, generally, but more specifically ecumenism, world religions, spirituality, Vatican II, the Bible, Mariology, Martin Luther, John Calvin, St. Bonaventure, and other topics. He was a lover of poetry, especially the French poets, and also collected works of literature, cookbooks, and even field guides to plants. While the vast majority of the collection is in French and English, Fr. Tavard also collected books in German, Dutch, Spanish, Italian, Latin, Portuguese, and Hebrew.

A prolific writer, Fr. Tavard wrote more than 50 books (many of which have been translated into multiple languages), about 300 journal articles, encyclopedia entries and book chapters, and about 60 newspaper articles, particularly for *The Catholic Times* and *The Catholic Reporter*. He also edited many books and journals. If these numbers are not exact, it is because I kept losing count!



Fr. Tavard's collection is currently being stored in the Library circulation area, waiting to be cataloged. Although these volumes will not be able to be housed as a separate, discrete collection, each catalog record will include a note indicating that the book is part of the Tavard Collection.

Several years ago Fr. Tavard presented the library with a sculpture of his head created for him by a friend, Sheila Frances Quinn. It is on display in the library near the Reference Desk. More information about Fr. Tavard can be found on the Assumptionist Web site at <http://www.assumption.us/Tavard/biography.htm>.





Final Exam Extended Hours

By Larry Sponberg

The d'Alzon Library will be open during final exams as follows:

Monday, May 5
8 AM–1 AM [normal hours]

Tuesday–Thursday, May 6–8
8 AM–2 AM

Friday–Saturday, May 9–10
8 AM–Midnight

Sunday, May 11
11 AM–2 AM

Monday, May 12
8 AM – 4:30 PM

As a reminder, no finals are scheduled for Tuesday, May 13, although the academic calendar originally had announced May 13 as an exam day.

The Library's summer hours are listed on the newsletter's cover page.

Good luck with finals and have a great summer.



A Retirement Message from Larry Sponberg



I have enjoyed my 29-year span at the college. It has been challenging and fun to connect many students and other patrons with needed information. As you can guess, I also have had a great time including one or more of my puns in the process.

As I look forward to the next phase of my life, I plan to visit the Assumption campus frequently to see sporting and other events. If the need arises, I also hope to be available to fill in for various departments.

When I am not on campus, I look forward to catching up with various hobbies and other projects and taking trips around New England. Wherever I am, I plan to continue to “enjoy my shelf.”

Thanks to all of you for a tremendous number of memorable and enjoyable experiences.

—Larry the Librarian



Stats Corner

Here's a quick look at some Library statistics from the past year.

Library instruction: Our information literacy program continues to post strong numbers, with 92 instruction sessions and 1465 students taught over the past year (as of 4/18/08).

Interlibrary loan: It has been a record-breaking year for interlibrary loan activity. In terms of items Assumption patrons have requested to borrow from other libraries, we have already broken the previous annual records for the number of books requested, the number of copies (typically articles or book chapters) requested, and the number of requests overall. We're very happy that each year more and more patrons use this service.

Other libraries take advantage of our holdings as well. Our circulation department keeps very busy filling loan requests from other libraries.

ILL Activity for FY07–08 (as of 4/18/08)	
# of requests borrowed by Assumption	1929
# of requests lent by Assumption	2391

Print Management System a Success

By Laurie Welling

Since introducing GoPrint, the library's Print Management System (the touch screen next to our main printer) in the spring of 2006, we have saved 140,000 sheets of paper. At 500 sheets per ream, that is almost 300 reams of paper or 30 boxes of paper. Assuming 1 tree makes 16.67 reams of copy paper, we've saved approximately 17 trees!

How have we managed to save so much paper? When library users send print jobs to the printer, they stop at the GoPrint Station to release their print jobs to the printer. This intermediary step allows users to delete unintended or unwanted print jobs. Print jobs not released at the Print Station are automatically deleted from the system after a set period of time.

The library continues to offer free printing, and it is our intention that, through ongoing print management, paper waste will remain at a minimum, thereby lowering our costs of providing free printing and doing our part for the environment.



D'Alzon Chronicles Debuts at Library

By Carole Myles

D'Alzon Chronicles, a series of three library "instructor-commercials" (instructional commercials), premiered to a standing-room-only audience on April 15th at the Library in honor of National Library Week 2008. In order to promote *D'Alzon Chronicles* to the Assumption community, Library staff channeled Hollywood glamour with a well-publicized "World Premiere," complete with a red carpet and a popcorn machine. The student directors, along with Library staff, spoke about the year-long project and then screened



the first two episodes for an audience of 65 people. The third, and final, episode will be finished soon, and all will be made available on our Library Web site and YouTube.

The first instructor-commercial features student actor Mike Lepore and "Larry the Librarian." The segment focuses on Mike, a procrastinating college student, who begins work on his research paper late at night, despite his disruptive roommates. Mike eventually falls asleep at his desk. A ghost-like Larry appears by his side and wakes Mike, offering to guide him to the Library and assist him with the beginning of the research process. At the Library, Mike learns about the Library's late night hours, laptop borrowing, and online catalog for finding books. Mike eventually wakes in his dorm room and finds a library book next to him.

In the second segment, Mike continues his research lesson with "Carole the Princess Librarian," who teaches him how to find scholarly articles



from an online database. Both actors are miniaturized so they appear within a computer screen. At the end of this segment, Mike is pleased that he has all this information for his paper. However, he contemplates plagiarizing a paragraph from an article that's perfect for his paper, and he believes no one will notice. The third segment, which is still in the works, will focus on how bleak Mike's future will look if he plagiarizes.

Filming for this series was made possible by a \$5000 grant, awarded by the

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Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. This past academic year (07-08) the project was undertaken as an independent study in advanced television production by several students and overseen by John Hoover, an adjunct professor in the Theater and Television Arts Department, all in conjunction with Library staff. The most experienced students acted as directors/producers while the newer students filled in as crew. Students were involved in every step of the project, from scripting and acting to filming and editing.

We'd like to thank Bridget Carr, Lisa Keeney, Tom Sleeper, Mike O'Connor, and Brittany Ford for their tremendous efforts on this project. Thanks is also due to Mike Lepore for such generosity with his time and excellent acting.

Keep an eye on our Web site for the finished product!



Staff News

Callie Curran Morrell and **Carole Myles** presented a virtual poster session entitled "Instructo-mercials: Teaching Students on Their Turf" at the Association of College and Research Libraries, New England Chapter's annual conference. This year's conference theme was "Media and Popular Culture: Effects on Academic Libraries" and was held at the University of Connecticut.

Anne Fescharek, former late-night supervisor, has resigned. We thank her for her service and wish her well.



Recent d'Alzon Arts Exhibits

By Joan O'Rourke



Graphite rubbings on tracing paper lined the walls of the first floor of the Library last month. The rubbings were the works of Judith Leemann, artist, writer, educator, and Lecturer in Art at Assumption College. Leemann's work was on display March 10th–April 18th. At the Opening Reception, Leemann spoke eloquently about her exhibit of over one hundred rubbings, part of her series on "the use and abuse of ornamental outlines," which takes its title from a chapter in Jill Fell's *Alfred Jarry: An Imagination in Revolt*. The graphite rubbings were made at the Catwalk artist residency in Catskill, N.Y. Leemann explains her technique as, "photographs of local gravestones transformed into cut paper silhouettes. These become plates from which to take a rubbing." This unique exhibit was enjoyed by all.

Our current art exhibit, the *Senior Seminar Art Show*, highlights works by Assumption students Tara Fountain, Angela Gaulke, Jess Kingston, and Lauren Padula, and is on display April 21st–May 9th. The Opening Reception on April 23rd featured student gallery talks. Thanks to Jess Kingston for her colorful poster promoting the event.

Please stop by before May 9th to see the masterpieces created by our own students.

Farewell and Good Luck to our 2008 Senior Student Staff

By Janice Wilbur

This year the Library must say goodbye to eight graduating students who have been among the most dedicated workers the Library has had. We asked the students to tell us about their time at the Library and their plans for the future.



Jenn Greenwood — I am graduating with a degree in Organizational Communication and am currently looking for a job in the business field, preferably in Massachusetts. Working at the Library was a great experience and very beneficial. I have met many great people, and learned to work alongside other students. Not only did I get to help students and faculty and assist with borrowing, I had fun while working as well, especially enjoying Larry's jokes. Janice was the best supervisor and made sure all the students were comfortable doing their jobs (and even invited us over for dinner for a homecooked meal!). It has been a great experience and I will miss it!

Lee Maleno — I plan on becoming a youth minister at a church after I graduate. My library experience for the past two years has been great, and I have learned a lot from it. I would recommend working at the Library, especially if you have an interest in working on campus.



Allissa Tatro — After graduation, I will work as a Client Support Specialist at Meditech in Framingham. The Library has been a great experience throughout my four years here. It was great to work with many of the other students who also have a work-study job at the Library. I learned many things throughout my time, such as sending ILL's (inter-library loans), shelving books, and helping students and faculty with research. Although my time wouldn't have been complete without Larry's daily puns....

Amy Trombatore — After graduation, I have accepted a job to be a kindergarten teacher at a private school in Peabody, Mass. In my two years as a work-study student at the Library, I worked at the front desk assisting patrons with individual needs and occasionally as an assistant for the reference librarians. I enjoyed working with Larry, Carole, Callie, and Mary in the reference section the most. I also spent one summer working full time at the Library, helping with inventory and getting to know all of the activity that goes on behind the scenes. During my summer work I helped prepare the Library for the upcoming fall semester by cleaning, making new signs and posters, and preparing for the annual book sale. I hope to stay in touch with all of the Library staff after graduation.



Lauren Miller — My library experience has been great over the past four years as I have come to know the staff and students well. I will miss everyone so much and want to thank you all for being so friendly and making it a nice environment to work in. I love how the READ poster of Craig and me from freshman year is still hanging up around the library. This past semester I've been busy working part time at a biotech company, as well as for the Library. After graduation, I will continue to work at Blue Sky Biotech, Monday through Friday. I'll be graduating with a major in Biology, a Biotech concentration, and a minor in Human Services. Over the summer, I'll continue to job search to see what else is out there for me, particularly around the Boston area. Thank you so much for my experiences here at Assumption College. I have met many great people that I won't forget!

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Jon Ricciarelli — Hopefully after graduation, I will be in the Rhode Island Municipal Police Academy. As an evening worker, I haven't worked with everyone too much over the past four years here, but it was a pleasure the few times that I was able to. Closing for Paul was a great experience as he was an excellent supervisor, making sure I always had something good to do! As for Larry, what else can be said about him? Larry Spongberg is the d'Alzon Library!!! His jokes always filled the room with laughter and I will miss him greatly after I leave Assumption.



Craig Devaney — Upon graduation I will be spending one last summer down the Cape where I will relax and work at my summer job one more time. In the fall, I'll be starting a job in sales, probably/hopefully at Tech Target, an IT Media company based out of Needham. My time here at Assumption has been great and leaving will be tough, but I do feel prepared to go out into the "real world" now. Working at the Library helped me manage my time, and I attribute part of my success here to the whole work-study experience. Thanks to everyone at the Library and the faculty/staff of Assumption.

Ross Dubuc — First of all I want to thank everyone at d'Alzon for being so nice and supportive over my four years working here. I'm going to miss opening with Janice, closing with Paul, and hearing great Larry jokes every time I work. I wish him the best of luck in his retirement, I'm sure he will be missed by everyone. I am not fully sure what the future holds for me, as I have been interviewing with several companies but nothing is certain at this point. No matter what I end up doing, my experiences here will help me be successful in the business world.



Google-ing Your Way to Scholarly Research

By Nancy Friedrichs O'Sullivan

On April 9th Library intern Nancy Friedrichs O'Sullivan presented a workshop on Google and Google Scholar to fourteen participants, made up of faculty, staff, and students. The session began with demonstrations of some tricks using the basic Google interface. Did you know that you can convert Celsius into Fahrenheit by typing "120C in F"? Or meters into feet with "520 meters in feet"? Or Curt Schilling's baseball statistics by typing "Curt Schilling statistics 2000...2007"?

The workshop also highlighted Google Scholar (www.scholar.google.com), which uses Google's interface but retrieves only scholarly results. Think of Scholar as just another tool in your research toolkit, to be used like a broom that sweeps up the loose ends of your research after you have used the Library catalog and databases.

If you are using it on campus, Google Scholar will recognize that you are an Assumption patron. If off campus, select "Scholar Preferences" (to the right of the search box) and enter "Assumption College" under Library Links; then check the box that appears. The results of Google Scholar searches will now be linked to resources available through d'Alzon Library.

Once you search, look in your results for items tagged "Full-Text @ My Library." Clicking this link will lead you to our Library Web site, where you can find the full text of the article. If there is no tag, click on the article title. If the full text of the entire article is not available online for free, remember: NEVER pay for an article. We almost always can acquire it for you for free through interlibrary loan instead!

Become a Google Power User and give Google Scholar a try!

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.

A Brief History of Modern Psychology

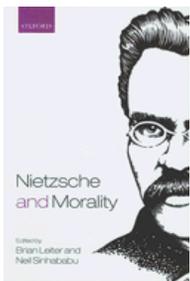
By Ludy T. Benjamin, Jr.

"In *A Brief History of Modern Psychology*, Ludy Benjamin, a leading historian in the field, discusses the history of both the science and the practice of psychology since the establishment of the first experimental psychology laboratory in 1879. In an engaging prose, this book weaves together the historical and disciplinary context that will help readers to better understand the richness and complexity of contemporary psychology." —Book jacket

Brokenness and Blessing: Towards a Biblical Spirituality

By Frances M. Young

"Personal and profound, this work of Frances M. Young brings to life a deeply traditional and immediately relevant way of reading the Scriptures. We are given the privilege of seeing the transforming effect of the encounter with the Word of God as she allows the scriptural narratives, as they have been read by the Fathers, to bear upon her own life and experience—from brokenness to blessing." —John Behr, Dean of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary



Nietzsche and Morality

Edited by Brian Leiter and Neil Sinhababu

"Nietzsche was surprisingly neglected by most English-language moral philosophers until recently. This volume capitalizes on a growth of interest in Nietzsche's work on morality from two sides—from scholars of the history of philosophy and from contributors to current debates on ethical theory." —Book jacket

The Jews in Mussolini's Italy: From Equality to Persecution

By Michele Sarfatti, translated by John and Anne C. Tedeschi

"No reader of this book can henceforth contend that there was no anti-Semitism in Italy before 1938, or that Mussolini's anti-Jewish policies after 1938 were mild and rarely enforced. With its profusion of statistical data and bibliographic references, this work is indispensable for students of the Holocaust in Italy." —Susan Zuccotti, author of *The Italians and the Holocaust*

Historical Archaeology: Why the Past Matters

By Barbara J. Little

"You couldn't ask for a more engaging and interesting guide. Using clear and fascinating examples, Barbara Little explains how historical archaeologists carry out their work. She convincingly demonstrates that knowledge of the American past sheds light on our current circumstances and helps us move forward to a better future." —Elizabeth Brumfiel, Northwestern University