Recipes for Real Life: d’Alzon Library Celebrates National Library Week

By Mary Brunelle

In recognition of National Library Week 2007 (April 15–21), the Library staff cooked up a program full of food and fun. From the unveiling of its original cookbook to a professional chef’s live cooking demonstration to a large display of books on dining and entertainment, the staff blended together the two themes of cooking and reading in one eventful week.

All spring, the staff worked on creating a cookbook, Recipes for Real Life, stuffed with recipes submitted by Assumption faculty, staff, and students. To begin, the Library staff sent out a call for recipes for easy and delicious dishes that would appeal to graduating seniors—young men and women who may not have much cooking experience under their belt but who will need to don aprons and get cooking as they venture out into the “real world.” The AC community responded to the call with over 120 recipes for quick, easy and mouthwatering dishes—from appetizers and soups to main entrées and desserts. With tips for formal dining and substitution and measurement lists, Recipes for Real Life has all the ingredients for any cook to make a great meal, regardless of his/her skill level.

The National Library Week festivities also included a cooking demonstration from Chef Ellie Deaner, called Let’s Get Cooking™. Ellie prepared four dishes from start to finish and offered helpful hints for the new cooks in the audience. As a tasty treat, the evening concluded with a sampling of Ellie’s meals and a potluck of dishes from Recipes for Real Life. (That’s right—librarians ignored the “No Food in the Library” rule for one exciting evening.)

As a farewell gift, the Library staff is offering a free copy of Recipes for Real Life to each member of the Class of 2007. All other friends and members of the AC community may purchase a copy at the Library for $7.

Thank you to all those who submitted recipes and especially to those who participated in our potluck. We would have been fried without your support!
From the Director’s Desk:

**Space—The Eternal Frontier**
By Dawn Thistle

Not quite nine years ago when I started working at Assumption, we celebrated the 10th anniversary of the dedication of the Emmanuel d’Alzon Library. On that occasion, I gave brief remarks on “Space: The Eternal Frontier” (with appropriate sound clips from various sci-fi TV shows). In that presentation I reminded the audience that, prior to the opening of the d’Alzon Library in 1988, the library collection was crammed into 15,000 sq. ft. in La Maison Française. The new library (today almost 20 years old) is 43,743 sq. ft. and was expected to hold up to 330,000 volumes. It was spacious and filled with light, and located next to the stream and forest. According to then Director of Library Services, Philippe Poisson, “the library [was to] blend modern technology with architecture, raising hopes nearly as high as the three-story structure…” There were a typing room, a few microcomputers for student use, and a couple of CD-ROM databases, but no online catalog or Internet.

In 1998 I reported that the library still had adequate space for its collections, even though much of the square footage was allocated to the Academic Support Center, French Institute and the College Archives. Today, the library holds close to 220,000 volumes and there is little space left for growth. In 1998 I also reported that students were beginning to use the space differently, due to the Internet and electronic availability of resources. They were doing more group work, they were starting to access the Internet from their dorm rooms, and the library was becoming more of a social gathering space. Since then, usage has continued to change. For much of their research, students don’t need to be in the library. However, our gate count has risen over the last three years, our circulation statistics are stable, and our library computers are almost always in use.

Last year we conducted the LibQUAL+ survey, and the results included many requests for more technology, a café, more group study rooms, more quiet areas, more comfortable seating, and a 24/7 study space (among other things). While we have been quite creative with our space and often experiment with new arrangements, we are running out of ideas for ways to meet these needs. In order to get new ideas and develop a plan for our space, we have been talking to architectural consulting firms that can assist us. Over the next few months, together with the selected consultants, we will be soliciting your input about what you would like the library to be, about the kinds of spaces you would like for studying and research, for gathering and socializing, for lectures and programming, and anything else that is on your minds.

Please be on the lookout for our announcements about focus group discussions, and help us by participating and sharing your opinions. The Emmanuel d’Alzon Library is a terrific college library, and we’re always trying to make it better. We need your input in order “to boldly go…” (cue up the Star Trek sound clip) where the library has not gone before!
**Staff News**

Carol Myles, Head of Reference & Instructional Services, was recently elected Member-at-Large for the Association of College and Research Libraries New England Chapter (ACRL/NEC). In this role, she will be working as liaison to the region’s library schools and state library chapters. Congratulations to Carole on this achievement!

Larry Spongberg, Reference Librarian, may be even more well-known around campus than usual after his recent cameo in the play Damn Yankees. Along with a few other recognizable faces from among the faculty and administration, Larry took the stage as the Postmaster in this spring’s production.

Larry greatly enjoyed the opportunity to get involved and work with the rest of the cast.

“It was the first time in forty years that I have been on stage,” he said, remembering his experience with plays back in high school. We wouldn’t be surprised to see him in the spotlight again soon.

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**Library Instruction Increases in 2006-07 Academic Year**

By Callie Curran Morrell

Over the last academic year, the five librarians sharing library instruction duties taught 97 one-session classes. This is just over a 9% increase from the previous year and almost a 30% increase over 2004-05.

As you may know, we welcome professors to come talk with us about setting up an instruction session for one of their class periods. We can tailor a session to the needs of the individual class, whether it be an introduction to the Library and its resources, a guide to conducting research in the discipline, or tips for attacking the class’s big assignment. Over the last year, we’ve put together sessions for all types of classes, ranging from English Composition to Organic Chemistry to Modern Chinese History.

As the chart illustrates, several departments have taken advantage of this service. If you would like to schedule a session for your fall course, contact Callie Curran Morrell at ccurran@assumption.edu or x7375.
Search Alert: the Silent Database Tool
By Carole Myles

A search alert is a powerful feature offered in many databases as a means of keeping up-to-date in a field of research. The alert option requires the researcher to select a database and set up a search string that will self-execute on a predetermined schedule. The search results, if there are any, will then be emailed to the researcher, saving time and enabling the researcher to incorporate the latest findings in their research publications and classroom lectures. The following steps will cover setting up search alerts in the EBSCO databases.

D’Alzon Library subscribes to over 15 databases through EBSCO, many of which offer the alert feature. To begin setting up alerts in one of these databases, execute a search that you will want to run automatically over a period of time. Create the search under the advanced search tab, using a keyword or subject search. Once you have your results, go to the “Search History/Alerts” tab and then to “Select Save Searches/Alerts.” At this point, if you have not already done so, you will be prompted to set up a private account that will store your alerts. (Remember to make a note of your user name and password for future reference.) On the “Saved Search/Alert” screen, you will be asked to assign a name to your alert and a description. In the “Save Search As” box, select “alert.” You will notice that once you select “alert,” the screen changes and you will be asked to choose a “Frequency” (how often you want to run the alert). You will also be asked to select a time period for “Articles published within the last,” and then you will choose a specific time period to “Run Alert for.”

Cont. on next page
Your next two settings are “Alert Options” and “E-mail Properties.” “Alert Options” can be set to either brief or detailed format. You now have a choice to “limit EBSCOhost access to only the articles sent.” The checkbox is set to default as checked so that when you receive your alerts, you will only have access to those particular articles. If, instead, you would like to receive your alerts and have immediate access to the full EBSCOhost database to perform additional searching, deselect this box.

The “E-mail Properties” setup option allows you to determine how you want to be notified. The first option is the default, “Email all alerts and notices,” which will send all alerts and links to articles or table of contents. The second option is to “Email only creation notice.” This will only send a notification message about the alerts but not include the links to the articles. The third option is the latest technology, an RSS feed. Really Simple Syndication (RSS) allows researchers to feed their search alerts into their RSS readers and aggregators such as Bloglines or My Yahoo! If you select the “No email (RSS only)” option, you will receive a confirmation message after you create your alert. The message will contain a URL that you will copy into your RSS reader and aggregator. If you delete the alert at some point in the future, you will be notified by email to change your feed. In the email address box, remember to use a semi-colon between email addresses. Continue filling out the remaining settings according to your preferences.

For more information on setting up alerts in EBSCO databases, go to the Help option, which can be found at the top right-hand corner of any page, or contact Carole Myles (cmyles@assumption.edu, x7020)
Library Student Workers to Graduate
By Janice Wilbur

The d’Alzon Library Staff is proud to announce the graduation of five members of its Student Staff. Graduating this year are Jackie Carriereau, Doug Jasset, Rod Payva, Laura Thomas, and Bill Zdanis.

After working at the Library for three years, Jackie, who has been busy this last semester student teaching, plans to find a place for herself teaching high school English next year. Doug, who has worked for us throughout his time at Assumption, has been interviewing. Rod, also with us for a full four years, including a summer, will be off to find fame and fortune in California after completing his studies this summer. After graduation, Laura, who has been with us all four years, including summer work, will be working for the Sherwin Williams Company. Hopefully, Laura will find the work colorful!! Bill plans to recuperate from his active life at Assumption while looking for the next step in his life’s path. Bill has worked at the Library for two years, after switching from the Plourde Recreation Center.

We know that all five of our graduating students will do well after they leave, and we look forward to their return visits as alumni.

New Library Catalog Search Tool Available
By Laurie Welling

Do you frequently search amazon.com? Do you often wonder if the Library owns the titles you discover here? If so, you may be interested in a new search tool that allows you to instantly search the library catalog for any titles you find in amazon.com. Once this search tool is added to your Web browser, you can simply click on the d’Alzon Library link (see arrow below) to automatically search the library catalog:

To add this search tool to your Web browser, go to: http://weblog.infoworld.com/udell/stories/2002/12/11/librarylookupGenerator.html
(Note: This URL does not fit on one line. If you have a problem accessing the site, check to see if the entire address has appeared in your browser’s address bar. If not, manually type the 2nd line onto the end of the URL.)

For the Base URL, enter: http://houndcat.assumption.edu
For the Library Name, enter: d’Alzon Library.
Select Voyager from the Vendor list.
Click on Build your own LibraryLookup bookmarklet!

If you have any questions please don’t hesitate to contact me at lwelling@assumption.edu or x7136.
USJB Archives Come to Assumption

In March, the Library received the papers of l’Union de St. Jean-Baptiste d’Amérique. These archives include a vertical file collection of papers and articles related to Franco-Americans and French Canadians, a collection of scrapbooks (éphémérides) from the 1920s-40s, a large number of framed photographs and prints of famous French Canadians, and several newspaper runs in print and on microfilm.

Due to space constraints, these materials are not yet accessible to the public, but we hope to organize and create a general listing over the summer.

Tips to Get You Hired

On April 17, d’Alzon Library and the Office of Career Services co-sponsored an open workshop called, “Quick Tips for Your Online Job Search.” The goal of the session was to get students, especially seniors, prepared for the dreaded job search.

Participants learned how to organize themselves, where to look for job postings, and what free resources are out there to help them. All too often, job searchers can become overwhelmed with the process of seeking employment, yet a few simple hints can help immensely. We hope the students will able to use our tips to land the job of their dreams!

Project Gutenberg Expands to Include Free Audio Books

By Callie Curran Morrell

Project Gutenberg is generally known for its vast collection of free electronic books, or eBooks. Founded by Michael Hart in 1971, the Web-based project is the first and largest collection of free eBooks and the world’s oldest digital library. Volunteers choose texts that are in the public domain, scan them into a digital format that can be read by computers and other portable devices, then archive them on the Gutenberg Web site where anyone can download copies.

Now, through its Audio Books Project, Project Gutenberg has added audio eBooks to its catalog of free materials. These are basically like books-on-tape or CD’s, except that they are saved to a digital file and are downloadable.

The selection is primarily works of literature from the Western cultural tradition, including novels, poetry, short stories and drama. For example, one can find Conrad’s Heart of Darkness, Austen’s Pride and Prejudice, Montgomery’s Anne of Green Gables and Aesop’s Fables. However, a quick browse through the listings also turns up lesser-known literary works, as well as philosophical writings (samplings of Plato and Nietzsche, among others). In addition to English, some audio eBooks may be available in other languages, including Chinese, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Tagalog.

Unless you have a high tolerance for robotic voices, you’ll want to avoid those titles listed under computer-generated audio books. Instead, stick to the selections read by humans.

Conveniently, many audio eBooks are available as Apple iTunes Audiobook files that open in iTunes and can be played on an iPod. Other formats are also available. However, patrons who have computers with dial-up or low-speed Internet connections may find themselves frustrated by long download times for these large files.

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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 on our New Books Display at the front of the Reference Room.

Nicaea and Its Legacy: an Approach to Fourth-Century Trinitarian Theology
By Lewis Ayres

“Ayres provides detailed introductions to the Trinitarian theology of Basil of Caesarea, Gregory of Nyssa, and Augustine of Hippo. Throughout the first two parts of the book a constant concern is to show that the common acceptance of a basic division between eastern and western Trinitarian theologies is unsustainable.” – Book jacket

Infamous Scribblers: the Founding Fathers and the Rowdy Beginnings of American Journalism
By Eric Burns

“The journalism of the era—with its feuds, lies, and passions—was often partisan, fabricated, overheated, scandalous, sensationalistic and sometimes stirring, brilliant, and indispensable. Despite the flaws in the process, the participants publicly aired the issues that would lead America to declare its independence and, after the war, determine what sort of nation it would be.” – Book jacket

Treating Trauma and Traumatic Grief in Children and Adolescents
By Judith A. Cohen, Anthony P. Mannarino, and Esther Deblinger

“Clearly organized and accessible, the book provides a comprehensive framework for assessing posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety, and other trauma-related symptoms, and for devising a flexible, individualized treatment plan.” – Book jacket

The Moral Imagination: From Edmund Burke to Lionel Trilling
By Gertrude Himmelfarb

“[The author] explores the minds and lives of some of the most brilliant and provocative thinkers of modern times: Edmund Burke and John Stuart Mill, Benjamin Disraeli and Winston Churchill, Jane Austen and George Eliot, Charles Dickens and John Buchan . . . In their distinctive ways, Ms. Himmelfarb argues, they exemplify what Burke two centuries ago and Trilling most recently have called the ‘moral imagination.’” – Book jacket

Understanding Affirmative Action: Politics, Discrimination, and the Search for Justice
By J. Edward Kellough

“In this concise and up-to-date introduction, J. Edward Kellough brings together historical, philosophical, and legal analysis to fully inform participants and observers of the debate surrounding affirmative action policy.” – Book jacket

Innocents Lost: When Child Soldiers Go to War
By Jimmie Briggs

“The phenomenon of child soldiers is not a new one, but the last several decades have seen a marked and tragic increase in their use, particularly in civil wars . . . Cogent, passionate, impeccably researched, and compellingly told, Innocents Lost is one of the most personal and powerful examinations yet of the lives of child soldiers and war-affected children.” – Book jacket