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Faculty Research and Open Access at Connecticut College  
by Carrie Kent and Ben Panciera

On Wednesday, March 6, 2013, the Connecticut College faculty voted to accept a policy on open access publishing. With this vote, faculty agreed to archive their published research articles in our institutional repository, Digital Commons (digitalcommons.conncoll.edu). Once an article is housed in Digital Commons, it becomes available on the Internet for use by any researcher or student, anywhere in the world. Details of this policy, along with the policy itself, can be found at http://www.conncoll.edu/libraries-and-technology/about-is/open-access/open-access-policy.

Research articles are only included in Digital Commons when the original publisher agrees to have it archived, and for any reason, a faculty author may opt out of having an article included.

Meanwhile, Shain Library staff are hard at work populating Digital Commons with research articles. In particular, part-time reference librarians Madhu Gupta and Kim Belair have worked on this project under the supervision of Ben Panciera, the director of special collections and archives.

Much of the staff’s time is spent on creating lists of faculty research publications, and then investigating copyright issues for those publications. Asking for permission to republish this research may sound simple, but it has proven to be a time-consuming, arduous process. It is difficult primarily because many academic publishing houses do not have a simple, unified answer for us. Some publishers allow us to upload a PDF of the original article, while some only allow the PDFs to be placed in Digital Commons after a specified time period. Some allow publication of the author’s final edited manuscript with linking to the published version; some just allow the linking to that published version.

Some publishers representing particular disciplines, such as those in the sciences, can afford to be more liberal in their permissions because older research is often less valuable to researchers than newer. But publishers in other disciplines, particularly in the humanities, see their published research as rarely losing its importance with age, and the publisher may therefore be more restrictive about any republishing.

As publishers struggle to develop new pricing models in the face of increasing pressure for opening access to our faculty’s research, policies frequently shift and change. This complicates our work, but slowly and surely more and more

Consultation Room Augments Research Assistance Services  
by Ashley Hanson

Among the latest enhancements at Shain Library is a new Consultation Room, located on the library’s main floor. The new service area was created so that librarians could accommodate the changing needs of Connecticut College students in a more personalized way. The room is intended not only for one-on-one instruction but also for small groups that might wish to meet with a librarian. To make space for the Consultation Room, library staff moved and consolidated some of the nearby offices.

One advantage of the new space is that consultations can now be more easily tailored to the needs of the
I've been at Connecticut College for over 13 years now, and the passage of the Open Access Policy at the faculty meeting on March 6 was a clear highlight of my experience here. Indeed, it's not an overstatement to say it was a highlight of my nearly 40-year career as a librarian! I'm enormously proud of my faculty colleagues and enormously proud of our College. We did the right thing … absolutely the right thing.

When we voted to adopt the Open Access Policy, we struck a blow for free access to information, a core value and principle of librarianship. Our policy states: “The Faculty of Connecticut College is committed to disseminating the results of its research and scholarship as widely as possible.” They will do this by “making … peer-reviewed scholarly articles openly accessible in the institutional repository ….” This means that research heretofore only available to those who could afford access will now be discoverable on the Web … and thus potentially available to anyone who is interested.

The scholarly publishing model has been in crisis for many years. With steep increases in journal subscription costs—far above inflation rates and without other reasonable justification—publishers take the content created by the faculties of colleges and universities, and then resell that research back, at an often exorbitant cost, to the institutions’ libraries. Access comes at a steep price, even for our own students—not to mention researchers without an academic library affiliation. In fact, at Connecticut College, as much as 30 percent of the scholarly publications of our own faculty are unavailable on campus due to the high cost of the journals in which the research is published. The model is not without merit, and it has served the scholarly community in the pre-Internet age. But it is a model that can be increasingly challenged as one based on profit or corporate interest rather than on providing information to benefit society. Adopting the Open Access Policy will not change the model immediately, but by taking action at Connecticut College and passing this policy, we join many other colleges and universities in the Coalition of Open Access Policy Institutions who are taking the same stand for open access to information.

So … be loud and be proud! Three cheers and a rebel yell for the faculty at Connecticut College!

W. Lee Hisle, Ph.D.
Vice President for Information Services and Librarian of the College

Final note: Thanks to Fred Paxton, the chair of the IS Committee, for shepherding the policy through to passage, and for the work of Ben Panciera and Carrie Kent, both in Information Services, for researching and preparing the policy.
As academic libraries move beyond their traditional role as a repository for physical materials, one of their emerging charges is to become a “connector”: that is, connecting users not only to physical and electronic resources but also to one another. At Shain Library, this role has been augmented in the 2012-13 academic year by the addition of the Recent Faculty Publication Area.

This collection, located in front of the stairwell landing of Shain Library’s lower level, provides quick and easy access to faculty books and articles that have been published in the past four years. Library users can browse the area and find a book or an article that interests them; they can check out a book just as they would any other in the library, or they can simply take a copy of an article. Folders containing articles are arranged alphabetically by author. To help further one’s reading pleasure, there’s a sitting area with couches that’s just adjacent to the faculty publication shelves.

According to Carrie Kent, director of research support and instruction, the library decided to undertake the project to showcase the current work of the faculty, and to supplement the Office of the Dean of Faculty’s work in making College community members more aware of faculty research and writing. While Connecticut College’s liberal arts mission certainly highlights faculty teaching, Kent says it’s also true that the College’s faculty members are constantly doing research and publishing books and articles, and that this aspect of faculty’s professional lives might be overshadowed by the teaching emphasis. “Undergraduates don’t necessarily know what research faculty members are doing,” she says, adding that the project has also been helpful for increasing faculty members’ knowledge of their colleagues’ work, particularly across departmental lines. All in all, the project appears to be having just the “connector” effect that had been intended. “I have seen students just pull up chairs and start reading,” says Kent. “And I have seen faculty look at their colleagues’ work.”

Kent adds that the project was also important to undertake from an admissions perspective, given the significance that faculty research holds in attracting top students to the College. Interested parties—whether faculty members, students, donors, admissions staff, prospective students or prospectives’ parents—now have a central point where they can quickly gain an overview of recent faculty work.

Shain’s librarians had been thinking about initiating such a project for more than two years, but the project really came together in 2012, when Madhu Gupta, a part-time reference librarian, began researching and collecting the articles. Gupta’s work on the project was continued by another part-time reference librarian, Kim Belair, who set about searching not only faculty curriculum vitae that had been posted online but also online databases and even Google in order to cull as many publications as possible. The project was complicated, Kent says, by the fact that not all faculty members have a current CV online, and by the fact that many are publishing in languages other than English.

Because of the intensive labor involved, such an undertaking would likely be highly problematic at a large research university, which might have thousands of faculty members spread over numerous schools and campuses. But at Connecticut College, not only has the publication area been successfully developed, it’s also flourished into a space that’s allowed library users to enrich their connection to the College community. And because it’s intended to display recent faculty work, the project is ongoing. Updates will take place twice a year, and faculty are invited to submit their work to the library to ensure its inclusion. To submit an article or find out more information on the project, contact Carrie Kent at extension 2444 or ckent@conncoll.edu.
Consultation Room Augments Services

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Librarian Ashley Hanson works with student Aleksandr Chandra in the new Consultation Room.

individual student, who may feel more comfortable asking questions in a one-to-one setting rather than in a regular classroom research session. Also, the student can set the pace of the meeting: Some sessions may last just a few minutes, while others may last more than an hour. The space also offers some advantages over walking up to the Reference Desk, because if the meeting has been prescheduled, the librarian has time to prepare for the meeting and can therefore offer more specific and in-depth assistance. We are hoping, then, that the new space will help us better meet the diverse research needs of our students in a more effective manner, and save students’ time.

There are lots of reasons why students might wish to meet with a librarian. Students might be seeking to receive help with starting their research, instruction on various databases, pinpointed information or just general library help. Students or small groups can make an appointment with a librarian of their choice; they can visit http://www.conncoll.edu/libraries-and-technology/research-resources to learn more about research assistance services.

Please encourage your students to make an appointment, and remember that librarians are happy to meet with faculty and staff as well.

CamelWeb Renewal Planned

It’s been more than 10 years since CamelWeb made its debut on campus as the College’s intranet portal. It has undergone four iterations over the years and served the College well. Nevertheless, needs, expectations and technology have evolved, and it’s time once again to modernize and revamp the College’s main online connection hub for our internal campus community: students, faculty and staff. In April, Information Services and College Relations will kick off an effort to renew CamelWeb, with an emphasis on providing an engaging and invaluable resource for information, campus services and collaboration. The intention is to make it an online virtual center essential to life and learning at the College. Stay tuned for further details as the plans develop.

Moodle Upgrade in the Works by Kathy Gehring

After five years with Connecticut College’s current version of Moodle, an upgrade to the course management system is in the works. After classes end this spring, Information Services will upgrade to Moodle 2. This decision comes after a great deal of research and consultation with faculty, including the input of seven professors who are piloting the new Moodle in their classes this spring.

The upgrade will bring an updated look and feel to the software. In addition, Moodle 2 offers a more streamlined file structure that allows the same file to be used in multiple classes without having to upload it each time. The upgraded system also provides the ability to drag and drop files into class sites, improved tools for resizing and editing images within Moodle, and full support for mobile devices.

Moodle 2 will be rolled out in time for the Tempel Summer Institute in early June, and all fall 2013 classes will use Moodle 2. To facilitate this transition, the Instructional Technology Team will be hosting demonstrations of Moodle 2 in April for interested faculty, including a demonstration at the upcoming Faculty Town Hall Meeting on May 1 (see related item, p. 7). There will be additional hands-on workshops in late summer. Look for information on the faculty listserv later this spring about demonstrations and workshops, and feel free to contact Diane Creede (extension 5145 or diane.creede@conncoll.edu) with any questions or concerns.
Information Security Update: Taking Responsibility
by Bruce Carpenter

Information Services has installed a number of high-technology, oddly named security systems to protect the College network, electronic data and you. But in spite of FireEye, Qualys, Logrhythm, Postini and all the other security technology at the College, you and I are not completely safe from cyber attacks or information security lapses. There are, therefore, a number of steps you can and should take in order to help increase your own, and everyone’s, information security.

Connecticut College’s systems and data are well protected by technology, but the majority of security breaches in the United States occur when computer users inadvertently disclose account names and passwords to cyber criminals. Criminals are also able to gain access to electronic files by infecting computers with viruses that take over computers, or by installing key-logging software that sends the criminal everything that is typed into the computer.

Your first security strategy, then, should be to protect your password access to accounts and personal information. Create a strong password that is not easy to guess and is not written down for others to see. If your password is compromised, a cyber criminal may use it on other common applications, such as Facebook or Amazon, so don’t use the same password on other sites. The Internal Revenue Service, credit card companies and banks never ask for your password in an email or by phone, so never give your password out to anyone.

It’s also important to protect your computer. Take time every week to make sure that your computer software, including your operating system and antivirus software, is up to date. There is a “check for updates” choice under the software application “Help” tab, and there is also a browser check available at https://browsercheck.qualys.com. Also, avoid installing tool bars and special fonts from unknown sources; these are sometimes used to install spyware that slows computers down and tracks what you do on the Internet. Finally, don’t click on links in messages that you did not expect to receive, or click on links in suspicious messages. Your computer could be infected if you click on the link.

Cyber criminals focus their attacks on the computer’s human operator, who can be fooled into giving up a password or tricked into visiting a fake website that infects computers. You and I—the humans behind the computer keyboards—must be aware of information security risks and always take easy, but essential, steps to protect our computers, our electronic data and our identity. Information security is everyone’s responsibility.

New IS Staff Member: Fred Folmer

I am honored to join the staff of Shain Library as Research and Instruction Librarian/Special Projects Coordinator. What particularly excites me about the position is that it combines a number of my interests, including providing research assistance and instruction as well as writing and editing. In fact, one of my major responsibilities will be to serve as editor of this newsletter.

I graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pa., in 1993, with a double major in English and drama. In my twenties and thirties I spent a lot of time working in various capacities in the theater: acting, directing and writing plays, a few of which received stagings in New York City. At the same time, I developed a career in publishing. I worked in various capacities (as a writer/reporter, section editor and copy editor) for a New York–based travel trade publisher, and I later worked as an editor for various educational publishers.

In 2008 I decided to pursue a career in academic librarianship. In making this move, I sought to combine my writing and editing skills with service and teaching, and to pursue a growing interest in scholarship in multiple areas of the humanities and social sciences. To that end, I enrolled in a co-operative dual master’s program at New York University and Long Island University, through which I pursued degrees in religious studies (at NYU) and library science (at LIU). I received my master’s degrees in 2011; along the way, I did internships at NYU, Barnard College and the Brooklyn Historical Society. I was hired as an adjunct reference and instruction librarian at NYU in March 2011, and held that position until just before arriving in New London in February. So while I’ve held library positions and I’ve held publishing positions, I am particularly excited that the two can be combined, and I very much look forward to service as librarian, writer, editor and teacher—and of course to getting to know many Connecticut College students, staff and faculty.
This issue of Inside Information features introductions from two graduating seniors, Brian Stambaugh and Arnab Bhattacharjee, who serve as supervisors at the IT Service Desk.

Brian Stambaugh
My name is Brian Stambaugh, and in May I will graduate from Connecticut College. I am majoring in computer science and minoring in Japanese. I have been working at the IT Service Desk since my sophomore year, when it was still known as the Help Desk. During the second semester of my freshman year, Gary Tiller, the College’s senior computer and network technician, had suggested that I join the Help Desk team.

I met John Schaeffer, the manager of network systems, during the second semester of my junior year and began working as one of his student network administrators last semester. At the beginning of the 2012-13 school year, I became one of the IT Service Desk supervisors, working under Amy Narducci, the IT Service Desk manager. After my graduation this year, I will begin work at Amazon in Seattle.

Arnab Bhattacharjee
My name is Arnab Bhattacharjee, and I am a graduating senior at Connecticut College. I am majoring in economics and minoring in computer science. Throughout my four years at the College, I have had the opportunity to play many roles within Information Services. In my freshman year, I started working in Media Services, where I was a student audio/video technician. During my sophomore year, I started working for the Help Desk (as it was then known), where I joined a team of student technicians who service student computers and help resolve issues with network connectivity and malware. I met John Schaeffer during my junior year. John offered me the opportunity to become a student network administrator; in this role, I helped to maintain the campus network infrastructure and facilitate upgrades during summer and winter breaks. This past year, I was offered the opportunity to serve as an IT Service Desk student supervisor. Today, as a graduating senior, I feel as if I have seen many faces of Information Services, and I am very glad to have been a part of it.

In addition to my work with Information Services, I have taken part in several other activities. I am a member of the Connecticut College Asian Student Association (CCASA), and I served as co-chair during my sophomore year. Every fall, CCASA puts on a variety show that illustrates Asian culture through song and dance. For the past four years, I have been a part of the technical committee, facilitating the construction of a stage and the installation of theatrical lighting and sound. In addition to live sound and theatrical lighting, my hobbies include electronic music and Web design. My plan for the upcoming year is to secure a job in IT consulting or a similar field, and my eventual goal is to obtain work experience in a corporate environment for a few years and then pursue a master’s degree in information technology. I hope to be able to apply all of the skills I have learned at Connecticut College in my future endeavors.

New Web Content Management System
Information Services and College Relations have implemented a new Web content management system, Terminal-four (t4). The new CMS—which replaces the previous system, RedDot—makes the College’s website friendlier and uses current technology for features, design and functionality. The t4 system provides content owners with the ability to make their own Web updates easily. Following a brief training, departments, centers, clubs and organizations can update their own Web pages, and faculty will be able to update their own faculty profile pages. The expanded access and easy-to-use updates should provide more dynamic and current information to visitors of the College’s website. More than 100 people, including faculty, staff and students, have already been trained to update their Web pages. College Relations will continue to provide training throughout the spring semester.
My name is Jenny Lee, and I am a graduating senior in the class of 2013. I am a Chinese language and literature major, and a government minor. Here at Connecticut College I participate in the East Asian Studies Student Advisory Board (EASSAB) and volunteer my time at the local Regional Multicultural Magnet School, where I teach Chinese to second- and third-graders. I am also a member of the CISLA program. As many Connecticut College students do, I studied abroad, spending six months of my junior year in Beijing. I also spent the summer before my senior year completing my CISLA internship in Shanghai.

I love to read and am a permanent fixture in my hometown’s library. My friends from back home would always joke that I should work in a library because I spend so much time in them anyway! Once I arrived for my freshman year and realized that the Circulation Desk at the library hired students, I thought, “What better place to work than the place that I have always loved?” In the minds of many students, our library is the heart of the body of our academic experience. The library exists as an information hub where one can find not only the research that will make a paper stand out but also a place where, during finals, students can take a break with their friends and color with the crayons and coloring books that the library generously provides.

I graduate in May, and I hope to return to China to continue my studies. I am very fortunate to have been a part of the process that keeps the library up and running, and I will take away much from my experience at the library. My greatest thanks go to Carol Strang, who is always up for a chat about the latest books, and James Gelarden, who I know will continue to make the library great. Working at the Circulation Desk has been an integral part of my time at Connecticut College, and I will graduate knowing that I have gained a wealth of experience in the process.

It is exciting to know that the research produced by our faculty can now be easily found on the Internet—not just by our own students but also by researchers across the globe. This benefits our faculty authors because studies show that research that is openly accessible is more highly sighted. Further, having Connecticut College research openly available helps elevate the College's profile in the research community.

Faculty research is appearing in Digital Commons. If a faculty author has not yet been contacted, or if he or she has had a new article accepted for publication, there is no need to wait for a call from the library staff. Interested faculty can always directly contact Ben Panciera (bpancier@conncoll.edu), Kim Belair (kbelair@conncoll.edu) or Carrie Kent (ckent@conncoll.edu).

Information Services To Hold Faculty Town Hall Meeting

Wednesday, May 1, 2013

Faculty are invited to hear about some of the latest Information Services initiatives at an upcoming Faculty Town Hall Meeting to be held May 1 in New London Hall, Room 101, from 11:50 a.m. to 1 p.m. One important highlight will be a demonstration of the new Moodle 2 features (see related article, p. 4). There will also be a discussion about Teaching with Technology, an update on the library’s ongoing Collection Management Project, information about the IT Service Desk, and a discussion of possible new CamelWeb features. Information Services staff are hoping not only to share information with you but also to hear your thoughts about our latest initiatives, so we look forward to seeing you there. Refreshments will be served.
LIBRARY EXHIBITS

Moments of Freedom: Revolutionary Art from China, South Africa and Tunisia

March 25-May 19

This exhibit features artworks from internationally acclaimed artists, revolutionary posters and archives, as well as an initiative to sponsor a photography competition for emerging artists from Tunisia to support their fight against violence and in favor of freedom of expression. It is curated by Ikram Lakhdhar ’13, a CISLA scholar with a self-designed major in global aesthetic democracy, as an honors thesis research project. The project’s aim is to conduct a comparative analysis of the Chinese Cultural Revolution, South Africa’s anti-apartheid struggle and Tunisia’s ongoing revolutionary artistic movement.

For Love of Camels:
The Anne B. McLean Camel Collection

May 24-August 16

Anne McLean’s lifelong love of camels led to an extraordinary collection of camels of all sorts. Following her death last summer, her husband Norman researched a proper home for the camels and found a willing repository at Connecticut College. The Anne B. McLean Camel Collection now makes its home in Shain Library. During the summer of 2013 we will be exhibiting a small fraction of the collection, which ranges from the realistic to the whimsical. Included are camels made of wood, ceramic, plaster and fabric. There are camel bells, camel jewelry, camel candles and camel cookie cutters. Almost every possible permutation of Connecticut College’s beloved mascot will be on display.

Upcoming Library Events

April 24, 2013

Bernard Murstein, May Buckley Sadowski ’19 Professor Emeritus of Psychology and author of more than 150 publications, will give a talk that offers reflections on growing up in his neighborhood in the Bronx. The talk, entitled “How I Became the World’s Youngest Traitor to the Working Class,” will take place at 4:15 p.m. in the Chu Room. The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Connecticut College Plans Mobile Future

Droids, iPhones, tablets, iPods, Kindles, iPads: Mobile devices are seen all over campus. Accordingly, a team from Information Services and College Relations has begun an effort to implement a cohesive mobile strategy for the College. Mobile technology, mobile applications and mobile websites will make it easy and convenient to conduct College business. Once the strategy is implemented, faculty, staff, students and visitors of the College will be able to use mobile devices to view the most current campus information, events and news. The mobile project will also enable improved communications and services by utilizing dynamic interfaces such as Banner and My Housing.