



Volume 4: Issue 1

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### From the Editor:

## Your Library: More, More Often, and better

The library staff and the new library director, Stephen Kirkpatrick, renew their commitment to offer quality resources and services throughout longer hours and in a more pleasant facility. We know that you want more electronic resources which you can access from anywhere, not just in the library. You also want a library that is available when you need it and that provides suitable space for work: computers, of course, but also quiet study space as well as group study space. The following changes and additions have been made. Watch for more in the near future.

### 1. Increasing the Library operating hours:

During the last four weeks of the semester, the Library operating hours are extended to Midnight, Monday through Thursday, and to 8:00 PM on Friday and Saturday. We now open on Sunday of Thanksgiving recess. We have, in the past, closed for holiday weekends but **you can help** change this: if we were to open part or all of, for example, President's weekend, which of the three days are most important to you?

### 2. Adding new online databases:

Online resources have been added, and more are coming. Keep in mind that you can use them, usually, from anywhere in the world so long as you have a campus computer account. Here are some of the new databases.

#### **ARTstor**

*ARTstor* is a digital library of art images, associated information, and software tools designed to enhance teaching, learning and scholarship, not only in art but also in cross cultural studies. *ARTstor* contains approximately 300,000 images from a wide range of cultures and time periods. Click on the "Search and Browse for Images" link on the *ARTstor* website to enter the Digital Library.

#### **CQ Researcher**

The *CQ Researcher* offers in-depth, non-biased coverage of today's most important issues. Each report is on a single topic, with more than 12,000 words in text and extensive bibliographies and provides up-to-date information on controversial subjects reported by *CQ's* staff of experienced reporters. The *CQ Researcher* covers a wide range of social, economic, political, and environmental issues such as *War on Terrorism*, and *Grade Inflation*. Each report is broken down into specific sections for easy access to the information you need.

#### **SciFinder Scholar**

*SciFinder Scholar* provides accurate and comprehensive chemical and related scientific information. This desktop research tool for students and faculty requires no special training, provides

easy access to the rich and diverse scientific information offered by the CAS databases such as patent and journal references, substance information, regulated chemicals, chemical reactions, etc. The database is provided in Natural Sciences computer lab only.

### ***Encyclopedia Britannica Online***

This is the famous encyclopedia, plus a world atlas, the Merriam Webster Collegiate Dictionary, and encyclopedias for K-12, etc.

### ***Gale Virtual Reference Library***

*Gale Virtual Reference Library* is a database of encyclopedias, almanacs, and specialized reference sources for multidisciplinary research.

### ***Kraus Curriculum Development Library***

This searchable database of curricula, frameworks, and standards brings together educational objectives, content, instructional strategies, and evaluative techniques for all subjects covered in Pre K-12 and Adult Basic Education. Coverage dates: 1983 to present.

### ***Women and Social Movements in the United States***

This database of primary sources brings together books, images, documents, scholarly essays, commentaries, and bibliographies, documenting the multiplicity of women's reform activities from colonial times to the present.

### ***World Data Analyst***

This is a collection of statistical information from around the world.

## **3. Acquiring new print and electronic resources to support graduate studies.**

It is exciting to participate in the growth of the College. Graduate programs in business and education will provide better resources and services for *all* students and faculty. Some business resources will be useful for politics and economics

students while some education resources will benefit psychology, sociology and higher education planning.

## **4. Enhancing the effective use of the Library**

Librarians involved in providing library instruction sessions in the use of library resources have also produced handouts with instructions for using many of our databases. In addition, they have developed handouts with instructions to follow certain style rules specified in different style manuals for citing reference materials in research papers. Such handouts are available to students at the Reference Desk.

## **5. Renovating the physical Appearance and use of the Library**

Library Director Stephen Kirkpatrick has begun removing antiquated furnishings, equipment and material. A small yet very useful change: make seating align with electrical service so that students can readily use their laptops. A big change: weed and shift the whole collection so that students will have more space for reading, more group study rooms, etc.

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### **How to find electronic books**

There are three ways to find the Library's electronic books. Start by choosing Online Catalogs on the homepage, then:

- When you search *OWLCat*, our catalog, you may see "Electronic book" instead of a call number. Click on the book title, and then on the "external link" in the catalog record.
- When you search *WorldCat* you may see "[Full Text]" adjacent to the title. Click on that spot.
- When you search *Netlibrary* you will only get electronic books – sounds good but note that its search capabilities are not robust.

## From the Director's Desk:

### Aleph: The Online Library System

The Old Westbury community has been using the new library catalog since July, as often as not without assistance or even the help screens. A library catalog seems obvious to a nation that googles; and that is the problem. The searcher is likely to accept what turns up when the catalog is used like a search engine. The searcher never knows what the catalog's features could have done. Let's consider some of these features so that you will want to explore it further.

The Old Westbury Library Catalog (OWLCat in our website's list of online catalogs) is part of a library management system called Aleph which all SUNY libraries will soon have. This is important to you for several reasons. For one, if you can search OWLCat you can search all of them. More importantly, there will be a union catalog that brings together all SUNY library holdings so that with one search you will find all that SUNY has and you will be able to place a request for rapid delivery from other campuses.

On the library's homepage ([www.oldwestbury.edu/library](http://www.oldwestbury.edu/library)) click on "online catalogs" (you'll see that on the left) and then click on OWLCat at the top of the list in the center. It opens as a separate window. The default is a basic search screen, which often may be all you need. First, though, there are ten choices listed across the top of the screen. One is "help" – check it out before you have a problem. A useful feature among the ten is "Basket". It works like a shopping basket in online shopping: just select library material that interests you, click "Add to basket," and then when you finish click "Basket" to see and print (or email) all your selections at once. When you enter words to search don't just hit enter as you do with a search engine. Instead, use the "Fields" box to tell it how

to search the words (author, title, subject, etc). If you want books about New York, tell it to search the subject field because if you accept the default "all fields" you will get umpteen-thousand books published *in* New York! When you view search results don't just note the call number in the brief display but, rather, click "Availability" which will tell you if the item is on reserve or checked-out, etc.

Students looking for Reserve materials should applaud the Reserve Library part of OWLCat. Not sure of the author or title? Well, you can also search by instructor, course number, course title and department. Can't spell the instructor's name? Just browse on the first letter of the last name. Better yet, it searches for instructors' personal material placed on reserve, not just library material. Click on "Databases," top center, in order to switch between the main catalog and the Reserve catalog.

You can now elect to pay individual fines and lost item charges, not just lump sums. We can print a detailed receipt. We can also print for you a complete list of all your current loans, in case you need to know what to look for beneath the bed or in the car trunk.

The Aleph library management system does cost the College, but much of the funding and training has been provided by SUNY-wide organizations such as the Provost's Office of Library and Information Services. If you have ever wondered about the benefits of being part of a larger system, this is one: a small college would be hard-pressed to do this on its own. Thanks to librarian Barbara Walsh for her good (and difficult!) work on this project.

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## Library News:

### The Library Hosts Income Tax Preparation Service

Each Friday until April 15 the Library hosts a service offered by the School of Business and the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program. Such service is provided by supervised accounting student volunteers in order to assist with basic individual income tax preparation. The service is offered on Fridays between 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM in the Library room L-115.

### ...Hosts the Film Festival

During the spring semester, the Department of Humanities and Languages has organized screenings of a number of movies on the theme of post colonial discourses. Such viewing will take place in the Library room L-107. There is a faculty-led discussion following the screening. Watch for announcements from Prof. Zenaida Madurka.

### ...And Displays UN Exhibit

Professor Diana Papademas, Sociology, and other faculty have mounted an exhibit of United Nations posters and reports. The exhibit, which runs from March 1 to mid May on the library's entrance floor, focuses on women, children, peace and development, and the role of UN agencies.

## Do you know this person?



Joanne Spadaro is our recently-appointed Education Librarian. I am sure you must have met her, because she is always at the Reference Desk helping students. She also provides formal instruction in the use of the Library resources to classes in all disciplines.

You may be surprised to learn that she was once a student at Old Westbury. She graduated from PES before going to SUNY Albany and earning Master's degree in Latin American and Caribbean Studies and another Master's in Information Science.

Currently, Ms. Spadaro is developing the Library's Curriculum Materials Center. She has energetically acquired donated material from publishers and school districts. She is also identifying the electronic and printed material that will be needed to support the anticipated graduate program in Teacher Education.

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