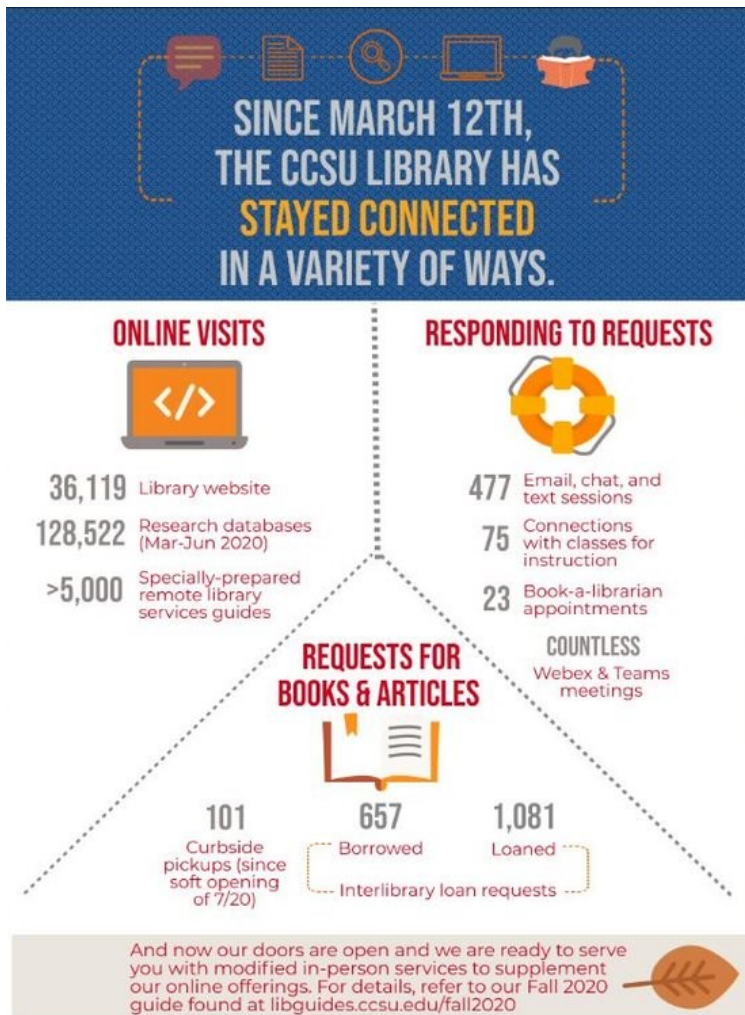




THE BURRITT *CONNECTION*



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Newsletter Editors:

Nicole Rioux & Joy Hansen

Please send any comments or suggestions to
nicoler@ccsu.edu or jhansen@ccsu.edu

From the Desk of the Library Director: Responding to the Needs of the Campus Community in the Face of a Pandemic

The mission statement of the library is as follows: *The Elihu Burritt Library at Central CT State University satisfies the 21st century learning and research needs of its community of learners by facilitating knowledge creation and inspiring intellectual curiosity and lifelong learning.* Fulfilling this mission in the face of a pandemic requires a special blend of teamwork, adaptation, and innovation. The entire library staff pulled together to swiftly transition from an on-ground to fully online environment when the campus closed on March 12, 2020.

By Dr. Carl Antonucci, Jr.

I invited the entire team to our first Webex meeting within 24 hours of closing, and work began immediately on our *Guide for Remote Library Services*. Staff from every area of the library collaborated

Continued on pg. 4

Library Services for Fall 2020

By Nicole Rioux

Welcome back! The Elihu Burritt Library has made several changes this semester to support the needs of our community while ensuring the health and safety of CCSU students, faculty, staff, and the public. These changes are outlined below. For the most up-to-date information, please check our Library Services 2020 Guide (libguides.ccsu.edu/fall2020).

Safety precautions: Hand sanitizer is available at the library entrance. Masks are required at all times and must cover the mouth and nose. Food and drink are not permitted.

Building access: The building is open with reduced hours and modified services. View open hours for the semester here: libguides.ccsu.edu/fall2020

Computers/printers/scanners: A scanner is available on the 2nd floor. There will be no computers or printers available in the library this semester. Personal devices can be used to access campus Wi-Fi. B&W printing is available in the Student Center.

Getting books: All stacks are closed. Books should be requested through the online library catalog and a library staff member will retrieve them for you. You will be notified when they are available for pickup.

Returning books: Books can be returned during open hours at the table in the 1st floor lobby area or the cart in the curbside pickup area. Books can also be returned in the outside book drop 24/7.

Accessing online databases: Database access is available from home for CCSU students, faculty, and staff. Your login information is your CCSU email and password.

Course reserves: Reserves are not circulating and will not be checked out. Materials will be scanned upon request. If you need materials being held in Reserves, please fill out an ILL request here: ccsu.illiad.oclc.org/illiad/logon.html



Setting up one-way traffic directions and providing hand sanitizer are some of the changes we've made to protect the health of our patrons.



For health and safety reasons, browsing is not allowed until further notice – materials can be requested online.

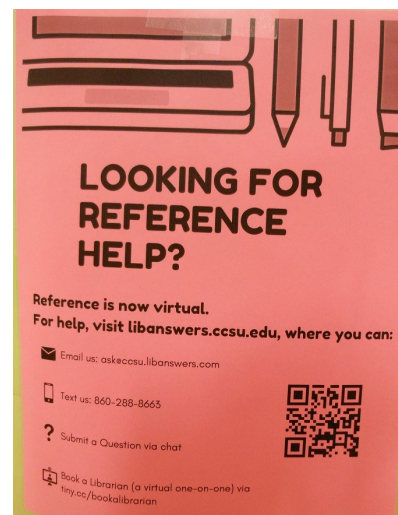
See more photos of the changes to the library on pgs. 9 & 10!

Need Help with Research? Contact Elihu Burritt Library's Reference and Instruction Department

By Susan Slaga-Metivier

Just like many others, the Elihu Burritt Library Reference and Instruction Department had to make some changes and move our services online during the Covid-19 pandemic. We are working from home providing reference services for research via chat and email as we always have, but these services are now used more often. We also have a service called 'Book a Librarian' where students and faculty meet with a librarian via Webex or Teams for one-on-one research help. We have helped freshman students doing research for a Writing 110 class as well as faculty who need help with research they are doing for an article.

In addition, our information literacy instruction and embedded librarian sessions have also moved online via Webex and Teams. Though we prefer to provide these services in person, we can still provide what the students need online. Faculty can request instruction services via our new online form found at library.ccsu.edu/services/instruction. We can provide a synchronous virtual session at a specific time (this could include flipped classroom activities if needed) or we can record a video or tutorial ahead of time that a professor can show at any time. We can also develop lessons for professors whether it is searching the library's databases, the difference between popular and scholarly sources, evaluating websites (or any information source), and more. Lastly, we can put these items along with other information into a course guide that can be made available any time. A couple of examples are libguides.ccsu.edu/jarviswrt110 or libguides.ccsu.edu/MKT373.



Sign on Reference Desk directing patrons to online services

Ask-A-Librarian online chat

The Reference and Instruction Department also continues to offer its online course LSC 150—Library Research in the Digital Age. This is a one credit course that fulfills Skill Area IV. It is available to all students, but we think it is best if freshmen and sophomores take it. The LSC 150 course introduces students to the process of finding, evaluating, and using information resources that facilitate undergraduate research. Some examples of the units covered are developing thesis statements, searching for reliable and authoritative sources, evaluating and citing sources, and creating annotated bibliographies. Many students who take this course as a senior often say they wish they had taken it when they were a freshman.

Anyone who has questions about any of the services Burritt Library offers can contact Susan Slaga-Metivier directly at slagas@ccsu.edu or contact other librarians via chat or appointments through the library website (library.ccsu.edu).

"From the Desk of the Library Director," continued from pg. 1

on this guide and dedicated themselves to the common goal of providing as many library services as possible to users in this new remote environment.

With the closing of the physical library and the temporary discontinuation of interlibrary loan of physical materials across the system and beyond, Access Services staff worked diligently to provide access to digital content for our users and to other libraries around the world. The Information, Systems, and Resources Department continued their mission remotely, providing library services such as cataloging and digital and technical support during the campus shutdown. In addition to the usual tasks in this department, some priorities were shifted, and some new roles were created in order to support the fully online environment.

During this time, many vendors provided free access to additional electronic resources and textbooks that were helpful to faculty as they transitioned to online instruction. Acquisitions and Serials staff members ensured that these free resources were quickly activated, and links made accessible from the library homepage.

The closing of the library building also provided many new opportunities to collaborate with departments that shared our physical space, the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development (CTFD) and the Instructional Design and Technology Resource Center (IDTRC). Before shutdown, the Reference and Instruction Department had worked closely with IDTRC to build an online presence in Blackboard courses. The rapid shift to remote teaching across campus spurred library instructors to take advantage of additional technology training offered by the IDTRC to further expand their support of faculty online teaching. Librarians volunteered to respond to Blackboard chat and email questions from faculty alongside their IDTRC colleagues. Pre-Covid efforts to spread the word about the benefits of Open Educational Resources (OER) were re-energized during this period through the delivery of a CTFD Lunch and Learn by the library OER team.

Our newly created *Library Services Fall 2020 Guide* states: "in order to ensure the health and safety of CCSU students, faculty, staff, and the public, the Elihu Burritt Library will be operating under modified procedures for Fall 2020". Many laborious tasks were undertaken to prepare the physical library for a safe reopening including creating new signage, installing stanchions to close the stacks, setting up tables to quarantine returned books, and establishing new lending and other procedures. Currently, the library has limited on-ground hours, provides digital course reserves and "curbside checkout" of library materials, and answers questions from patrons both in-person and remotely.

The Reference and Instruction team continues to respond to requests from faculty to deliver synchronous instruction sessions via the screensharing options in Webex, Teams, and Collaborate. Our menu of online instruction support includes the creation of customized research guides and other aids, topic-specific videos and lessons based on course assignments, and more. Reference librarians continue to respond to information requests from students, faculty, and community members via chat, email, phone, and virtual appointments.

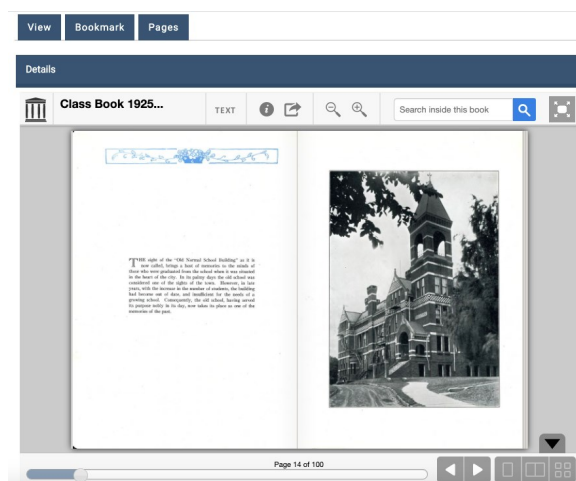
In closing, let me take this opportunity to thank every member of the Burritt Library team for their patience, positivity, and their great work during the shutdown to present day as we continue to fulfill our mission during these very challenging times.



Moving our Digital Collections and Creating New Ones

By Brian Matzke

This summer, after much planning and preparation, the library began to move its digital collections to the Connecticut Digital Archive. Managed by librarians at the University of Connecticut, the CTDA partners with universities, public libraries, and museums to ensure the preservation and accessibility of cultural heritage materials from around the state. Items from our collections, such as the library's Polish movie posters, CCSU's student yearbooks, and Elihu Burritt's papers, will soon be available alongside historical treasures from other member institutions, from Governors' speeches to Maurice Sendak's sketches to pictures of P.T. Barnum's clothes.



Digitized yearbook from the class of 1925.

By working with the CTDA, we are ensuring that our digital historical archives can be preserved for the long haul and can be discovered by students and researchers all over the world. The CTDA is a partner with the Digital Public Library of America, meaning that CCSU's digital collections will soon be findable via the DPLA. And visitors to CCSU's collection on the CTDA will find that the navigation and display features make it easy to find and interact with the artifacts in the collections. It's a pleasant user experience whether you are a seasoned scholar or a first-year student.

Continued on pg. 7

Updates from the Veterans History Project

By Jillian Maynard

Despite the pandemic, the Veterans History Project has been busy! In order to increase engagement with the online collection, the VHP created Instagram and Twitter accounts to work alongside the existing Facebook account. The process of developing a social media campaign began in earnest at the end of 2019.



Dr. Leah Glaser speaks at the Iwo Jima Survivors Group 75th Anniversary Celebration while Jillian Maynard looks on.

In early fall 2019, Dr. Leah Glaser of the Public History Department approached the VHP regarding a project in which her students had researched and created a poster for each name listed on the Iwo Jima Memorial by campus. Through this collaboration, she permitted the VHP to upload the digitized images of the posters to the collection.

On February 23, 2020, the VHP participated in the Iwo Jima Survivors Group of Connecticut's 75th Anniversary celebration of the flag raising at Iwo Jima. During a brief presentation, Dr. Glaser and two of her students who worked on the Iwo Jima project spoke to the veterans and shared the collection. Brian Matzke and Jillian Maynard, co-project coordinators for VHP, also spoke, and were joined by Carl Antonucci

Continued on pg. 8

Digitization Project - GLBTQ Archives and the Gale Group

By Renata Vickrey

The GLBTQ Archive in the Burritt Library at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) holds primary materials related to the struggle for gay rights nationwide from the 1970s to today, but particularly in Connecticut. The various collections that comprise the Archive document the experiences of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and queer (GLBTQ) people.

The Archive includes records of lobbying efforts to overcome discrimination and achieve equal rights for all gay and transgender people, records of organized self-help programs during the AIDS epidemic, records of cultural activities including parades and festivals, and records pertaining to the fight for inclusion of gay people in organized churches. The Archive also includes the personal papers, correspondence, and, in some cases, the oral histories of many local activists. In addition, a large collection of ephemera are included, e.g., photographs, books, buttons, t-shirts, videos, postcards, and flyers. The Archive, by virtue of its large collection of periodicals ranging from newsletters, society bulletins, literary and topical quarterlies, and articles in major newspapers and magazine, presents a solid historical perspective of GLBTQ issues.



Artifacts from the GLBTQ Archive

Continued on pg. 9

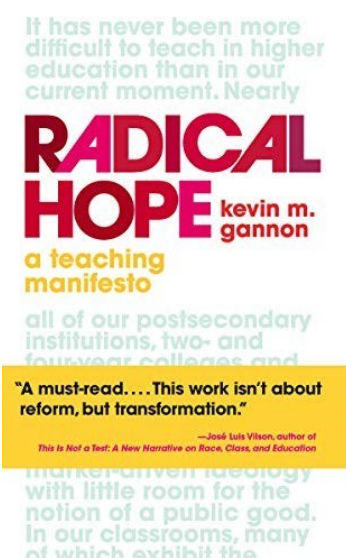
Book Discussion Group Continues

By Joy Hansen

The Elihu Burritt Library has continued to collaborate with the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development (CTFD) in order to facilitate a series of campus-wide discussions centered around various books of interest. Our spring selection was Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? And Other Conversations About Race by Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum. Meetings were moved online after March. Participants were also able to continue the discussion and share resources asynchronously as part of the book group organization in Blackboard.

Events over the summer involving civil unrest and racial divide sparked the group to select White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism by Robin DiAngelo as its second book for discussion. The consensus across the large group of participants drawn by this selection was that conversations involving race are difficult but crucial if we are to move forward, promote healing, and continue growth in our mindset.

The Fall selection is Radical Hope: A Teaching Manifesto by Kevin M. Gannon. Online discussions will take place on September 29, October 20, and November 10, 2020. For more information, contact Joy Hansen at jhansen@ccsu.edu



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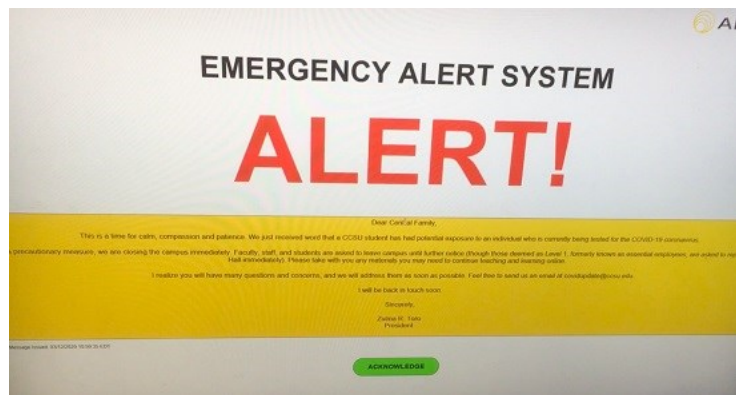


The challenges of this past year have brought about the necessity to find new ways of doing just about everything. To our benefit, many strictly on-ground professional development opportunities that had previously been available for a fee have moved to freely accessible online offerings.

Learning Revolution is a “community hub” geared for educators that provides access to topic-specific forum discussions, online conferences, book groups, and other options. The site was kicked off earlier this spring with a two-month daily online conference which included over 150 sessions. Presentations were recorded and are available for asynchronous viewing here: learningrevolution.com. Register for a free account first and then log in. While you are there, you can check out the May 14, 2020 entry entitled “Student-Centered Pedagogy in a Virtual World: Redesigning Instruction Tools and Techniques that Build Online Connections” conducted by CCSU librarians, Jillian Maynard and Joy Hansen.

“Moving Our Digital Collections and Creating New Ones” continued from pg. 5

Currently, librarians are at work transforming our metadata records to conform to the CTDA’s standards and uploading our materials to their servers. We are also working on developing new digital collections to preserve our current historical moment. We are collecting digital artifacts related to the CCSU community’s experience of the COVID-19 pandemic. We are working with the student newspaper and literary magazine to catalog and preserve their publications related to the pandemic, as well as articles from the Hartford Courant and New Britain Herald and posts on CCSU’s social media accounts.



Emergency Alert screenshot from campus computer during initial shut-down

We are also accepting submissions of artifacts from students, faculty, staff, and anyone else who is a member of the CCSU community. Those artifacts may include photographs, videos, written accounts, signs, artworks, social media posts —anything and everything that documents Blue Devils’ experience of the pandemic. Those artifacts can be submitted via an online form that can be accessed from this address:

library.ccsu.edu/pandemicarchive.php.



Artifact submitted to the Collection

Eventually, this COVID-19 archive will be uploaded to the CTDA so that future historians will know what it meant to be Blue Devil Strong during the 2020 pandemic.

Any questions about either the CTDA or the COVID-19 archive can be directed to Brian Matzke at bmatzke@ccsu.edu.

What's New with Open Educational Resources (OER)?

By Joy Hansen

This past spring, faculty who had previously transitioned to openly-available, low cost resources in their classrooms found the transition to a fully online learning environment a little less painful than if they had been using traditional print textbooks. During this period, the Library OER team continued to respond to faculty requests for assistance with locating and integrating open educational resources into their courses. In addition, the team – Sharon Clapp, Joy Hansen, and Jillian Maynard - presented a virtual Lunch and Learn in July entitled “OER: I’m Ready to Dive In, Now What?” Hosted by the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development (CTFD), the presentation addressed the concept of free versus open and a review of open licenses; included search demonstrations in “best bet” OER repositories, provided resources for copyright-free images and videos as well as suggestions on how to evaluate OER; and reviewed the mechanics of adopting, adapting, creating, and converting OER for use in courses.



In other news, Jillian has successfully completed an intensive Creative Commons Certification Course demonstrating mastery in open licensing. CCSU continues to be represented on the OER Statewide Advisory Board and librarians are involved in planning the Virtual OER Summit to be held the week of October 5th. The Summit will offer opportunities to explore effective practices in discipline-specific adoption and adaptations, implementation mechanics and strategies, and available OER partners. The Summit is, of course, free and open to all. For more information, visit: events.eventzilla.net/e/cscu-oer-summit-2138799686

“Updates from the Veterans History Project” continued from pg. 5

(Library Director) and Steve Kliger (Executive Director of the Center for Public Policy and Social Research).

Thanks to help from Steve Kliger and the Center for Public Policy and Social Research, the VHP hired CCSU student Martin Reyna to work on needed projects. Martin spent much of the fall and spring semester inventorying the collections, correcting errors in metadata, and ensuring consistency between servers. His project was unfortunately put on hold due to the campus closure in March, but there is a lot of hope for his continued work in the future.

Jillian Maynard also wrote a feature article for the Fall 2020 issue of CT Explored, based on three World War II oral history interviews in the collection. The article was published on August 21, 2020 and can be found here: ctexplored.org/connecticut-veterans-tell-their-stories



"Digitization Project - GLBTQ Archives and the Gale Group" continued from pg. 6

Most of the Archive materials are available in physical form in the library. A limited number of records and papers have also been digitized. Because of the increasing demand for electronic access to these collections, the library staff, campus community, and outside scholars have been discussing various digitization options for the collections. Digitization is costly and time-consuming. The constantly shrinking budget at our Connecticut state universities, particularly, in this case, at CCSU, has allowed for only a limited amount of material in the Archive to be digitized to date.

It has become apparent that the demand by our patrons for electronic access to these materials via the library's website has exceeded our capabilities. In response, Dr. Carl Antonucci, Director of the Elihu Burritt Library, has been searching for no-cost assistance by a contractor who could also benefit from having GLBTQ collections digitized.

After almost two years of discussions and negotiations on the terms of agreement, CCSU signed a contract with The Gale Group, Inc., a part of Cengage Learning Inc., to digitize selected materials in the GLBTQ Archive. Under the agreement, digitized materials will be available to the campus community and will be a part of the Archives of Sexuality & Gender of Cengage Learning Inc. which consists of monographs, manuscripts, periodicals, and ephemera related to gender and sexuality. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the project will most likely commence Summer 2021.

Photos of the Re-Opened Library



During Fall Semester 2020, the shelves are closed to browsing, and computers and printers are unavailable.

Continued on pg. 10

THE BURRITT CONNECTION

Fall 2020 Volume 25, Number 1

"Photos of the Re-Opened Library" continued from pg. 9



Socially distant seating on the 4th floor



Curbside pickup and book return area



Physical copies of newspapers are unavailable – digital versions are accessible through our online resources.



Arrows directing patrons to form a socially-distant line for help at the Circulation Desk



HyFlex classroom on the 3rd floor with hand sanitizer and instructor area marked on floor

Thank you to our donors!

A special Thank You to the supporters and donors of the Elihu Burritt Library.

The generosity of many loyal CCSU alumni, scholars and patrons of the Burritt Library allows us to continue to provide access to Library resources during these times of limited social contact. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have significantly increased online access to electronic resources that continue to be needed by everyone. It is our hope that these measures will help ensure that we all have a successful academic year.

Your donations help greatly - they do make a difference!

If you plan to donate, you may do so online: ccsu.networkforgood.com and select Library.

Or by contacting Renata Vickrey at vickreyr@ccsu.edu.

Donors to Friends of the Library from : November 15, 2019 to September 15, 2020

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Information on library hours and other changes for Fall 2020 is available here:

libguides.ccsu.edu/fall2020

Reference services are available online only.

Text: (860) 288-8663

Email/Chat: libanswers.ccsu.edu

Book a Librarian: library.ccsu.edu