

ELIHU BURRITT LIBRARY NEWSLETTER



From the Library Director's Desk: Elihu Burritt Library Partnering with Downtown Campus in Education and Innovation Center *By Carl Antonucci*

The mission statement of the Elihu Burritt Library states that the library satisfies the 21st century learning and research needs of its community of learners by facilitating knowledge creation and inspiring intellectual curiosity and lifelong learning. Goal 4 of the Elihu Burritt Library Strategic Plan is to expand the library's reach through broader engagement with the campus community and beyond. Our partnership with the University's Institute for Technology and Business Development (ITBD) is one way to help us to achieve this goal and bring library services outside our building.

In the past few years, the number of undergraduate and continuing education classes in the ITBD building has increased. At present, we are working to create an education and innovation center, forming a partnership between the Burritt Library, ITBD and its industry/incubation connections, and the TRiO Talent *Continued on page 3*

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Trick-or-Treat at the Burritt Library

By Kristin D'Amato

CCSU students got into the Halloween spirit early this year as the Burritt Library hosted its second Trick-or-Treat E-resources Fair on Tuesday, October 27th. Library staff from across departments came together, donned costumes, and transformed the first floor into a spooky scene where students could take a break, have a snack, and learn about research databases and tools provided by the library.

The festivities began at an information desk, where greeters handed out Trick-or-Treat bags, raffle participation cards and information about library services. They sent participants off to visit demo booths, where a costume-clad member of the library team provided a five minute demonstration of an e-resource. At the conclusion of each demo, the attendees were given a handout of information on the resource, candy and other giveaways including pens, flash-drives, mousepads, bookmarks and more. Participants received a stamp on a participation card, good for raffle tickets for prizes. This year's demos included Credo Reference, Academic Search Premier, JSTOR, ProQuest Newspapers, Scopus, CQ Researcher, EBSCO eBooks, and RefWorks. The library makerspace's 3D printer was also on display, where ghostly creations were printed and given away to visitors who were up on their Halloween trivia.



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Making Historians @CCSU: a Friends of the Library Event

By Renata Vickrey



L to R: Dr. Matthew Warshauer, Dr. John Tully, Prof. William J. Mann

The Friends of the Library group promotes the Elihu Burritt Library services to campus and to the outside community, and provides a platform to attract private donations which allow the library to offer extra services.

On October 1st, Making Historians @CCSU was organized by the Friends group to say thank you to our donors. It showcased achievements of our professors in teaching and writing, and the fact that librarians and library resources are essential in their academic research.

Prof. William J. Mann, Dr. John Tully and Dr. Matthew Warshauer are all CCSU alumni, history professors, and writers. In an informal conversation moderated by Susan Campbell they talked about their years at CCSU, the importance of mentors, and the role of libraries and archives in their college education and careers.

William J. Mann received a B.A from CCSU in 1984, and is best known for his studies of Hollywood and the American film industry. He is the author of several biographies and novels, for which he received numerous awards. For his latest publication, *Tinseltown: Madness, Morphine and Murder at the Dawn of Movies*, he received the prestigious *Edgar Award*. He is currently an adjunct in the History Department.

Dr. John J. Tully graduated with an M.A. from CCSU in 1995. He is an award-winning teacher, who won both the *Connecticut State University Board of Trustees Teaching Award* for CCSU and the *CSU System-Level Teaching Award* in 2009. His area of specialization is American Foreign Relations, recent U.S. History, and Social Studies Education. His recent publications include *Understanding and Teaching the Vietnam War* and *Understanding and Teaching U.S. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History*.

Dr. Matthew Warshauer received a B.A. in 1990 and an M.A. in 1993 from CCSU. He is a dedicated teacher who views every class as performance art and an opportunity to engage students. Dr. Warshauer's areas of specialization are Early Republic, 19th Century Political and Constitutional, Jacksonian Era, Civil War, American Studies, and Connecticut. He edited the recent publication, *Inside Connecticut and the Civil War: Essays on One State's Struggles*, which was written by current and former masters students in the CCSU History Department. This gave his students a professional opportunity to engage in real research and publication.

The discussion concentrated on the importance of teaching, especially teaching history and engaging students in a classroom and beyond, with special emphasis on research and writing. Historians do not design bridges or conduct medical experiments, but their teaching and research is indispensable in guiding students on their path to becoming informed and conscientious citizens. They help us to know who we are and what historical events shaped us, to understand people and societies. Learning history means gaining skill in sorting through various interpretations of our history, continuously revisiting and re-examining the past.

The Burritt Library is constantly striving to provide research assistance and materials, both print and electronic, to CCSU students and faculty. In *The Recorder*, it was recently



Susan Campbell, a well-known journalist and the Robert C. Vance Chair in Journalism and Mass Communication at CCSU was the moderator.

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Downtown Partnership continued from page 1

Search program (which supports over 500 students in the New Britain community). The goal of the partnership is to inspire product development, innovation and entrepreneurialism in CCSU students and targeted student audiences in order to increase enrollment in STEM related programs at CCSU.

This partnership will also show students that the Burritt Library is an additional business tool on campus for research and idea realization. Plans are going forward to set up a bank of computers for these students at the downtown campus, where they could access the library's online catalog and library databases, making access to our library resources more available for their research assignments and papers. Reference Librarians will also offer classes on research skills.

One such class is the "Be an Innovator" program currently being offered to TRiO and CCSU students. These students are developing a business plan, which includes researching existing niche markets and innovations, as well as competitors. Librarians are teaching the skills necessary to seek, access, evaluate, and interpret information like this as it pertains to business planning. Some emphasis is being placed upon patent-searching, copyright law, and the open-access resources movement. Finally, librarians are helping students to program Raspberry Pis, mini-computers that they can take with them when the course has ended. The classes began on September 24th, 2015. TRiO students who successfully complete the 15-week program are eligible for .5 elective credits. CCSU students who complete the program, which is abbreviated and in a pilot phase, will get an ITBD certificate.

The ITBD has purchased a 3D scanner and two 3D printers. The Library also has two 3D printers and a 3D scanner and we are having ongoing discussions on how to work together to provide students with opportunities to use this new technology. Both the Library and ITBD would offer different types of 3D printing options for our students. Some Librarians scheduled to work at the ITBD have an expertise in the use of the 3D printer and will assist students with this technology. This partnership would also enable us to have students and faculty skilled in 3D printing practices train student mentors through the Trio program. The student mentors would work with students on business and industry projects that generate revenue for supplies. The combination of collaborative learning and industry would inspire students to pursue careers in STEM related initiatives.

Having a presence downtown will raise awareness of the services provided at the Burritt Library and encourage students to visit the main library. These added services will benefit not only students attending classes but also the small businesses that have their incubators in ITBD and would further help to develop collaborative projects with the New Britain schools involved with the TRiO Program. A ribbon cutting ceremony for this Education and Innovation Center is planned for the near future.

Trick-or-Treat continued from page 1

Library crews ran food and raffle tables, ensuring that there was plenty of apple cider, cupcakes, cookies and pumpkin donuts, and collected raffle tickets and event surveys. At 4:15pm, Library Director Carl Antonucci drew the winners. Thirteen prizes were awarded, including Burritt Library gear, gift cards for Dunkin Donuts and Barnes & Noble, and a Kindle Fire HD grand prize. Over 100 students came to Trick-or-Treat in the library this year. Statistics show that 90% of both undergraduate and graduate student participants found the resource demonstrations to be useful, and all students who attended the demos indicated that they would likely use one or more of the resources shown to them. Students also wrote in ideas for future resources and topics they would like to learn about, providing valuable feedback for future events.

This fun and informational event has been a wonderful way for library staff to connect with students, and an effective way to generate awareness of the electronic resources the library provides. The members of the Burritt Library intend to hold it annually on the Tuesday before Halloween. CCSU students can look forward to taking the fright out of research again in 2016!

Better World Books & Burritt Library Partnered for Donations

By Kristina Edwards

Last year, we started using Better World Books (BWB) to sell, reuse, and recycle any donations that we are not adding to the library's collections, to ensure we are handling our donations in a respectful and environmentally-conscious way. Through BWB, we can track some of the environmental metrics associated with our shipments. For the two shipments we sent last year, BWB was able to reuse/sell 117 books and recycle 142 books, keeping all 259 books we sent out of local landfills. Other metrics include the amount of water saved, and the kwhs of electricity conserved, through the reuse or recycling of a book over the creation of a new book.

Last year, BWB made \$64.07 for the Burritt Library that will be added to the library endowment for use in purchasing library materials or putting together programming to benefit CCSU students. Also, the savings in staff time, by boxing books up and sending them to BWB instead of the continuous maintenance of the Book Sale Shelves, has allowed staff to work on other projects and programming for the CCSU community. My hope is that this year we will be able to make over \$100 in sales on donated books.

The partnership with Better World Books continues to help us when dealing with materials that are not of use to our students and faculty, or cannot be housed in our library because of lack of space. We appreciate each donation that we receive and do a full review of each one to make sure that we take advantage of any that can enrich our collections. Unfortunately, we are not able to add every donation. BWB makes sure that those we cannot keep find a new home or are recycled.

If you are interested in finding out more about Better World Books or how to setup a campus book drive, check out their website: <http://www.betterworldbooks.com>. If you have any questions about donating books to the Burritt Library, please contact Kristina Edwards (860-832-2073) or via email: kedwards@ccsu.edu. Also please review our gift policy before donating if you are unsure what kinds of items can be donated to the Burritt Library.

Push for Information Literacy Across CCSU *By Sharon Clapp and Martha Kruy*

Information literacy, a set of skills defining the discovery, evaluation and appropriate use of information in the digital age, is evolving into a full-scale academic process with its own pedagogical theory at the Elihu Burritt Library! The instructional librarians spent the summer developing tools for easier navigation in the information environment by CCSU students and faculty. A new FYE online information literacy tutorials subject guide has been promoted to all FYE professors to place in their Blackboard Learn shells; several ENG110/105 sections have embedded information literacy classes into their curricula during the Fall 2015 semester; and Briana McGuckin, our newest instructional librarian, is teaching her LSC-150 section in the new smart classroom in Vance Academic Center. To schedule a one-shot session for your class, please use the following link: <http://library.ccsu.edu/services/instruction/>

TRiO Program Visits United Nations *By Sharon Clapp*

As part of the library's innovative new partnership with CCSU's Institute of Technology and Business Development, Digital Resources Librarian Sharon Clapp connected with the TRiO program this past July to send New Britain area high school students to "NextGen Camp," a youth-oriented "open-source" software development event held at the United Nations on Saturday, July 18th. NextGen Camp took place as part of an annual web development conference called NYC Camp, which is organized by the Drupal open-source software community.

Open-source software allows any user to view and modify the code that makes up that software. In this way, people and organizations that share a common need, such as website content

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Elihu Burritt Website Redesign *By Sharon Clapp*

On August 31st, the library rolled out its responsively redesigned website. The redesign makes <http://library.ccsu.edu> friendly to mobile devices, automatically adapting to a variety of screen sizes. The redesign was informed by user research including surveys, focus groups of students and library staff, interviews with individuals, and testing and feedback on prototypes. The aim was to reduce the visual “clutter” that survey and focus group participants had identified in the old site’s design.



The new navigational menu remains at the top of the screen, even as users scroll down. On small screens, the navigation bar collapses into a so-called “hamburger menu,” a familiar design that eliminates the problem of shrunken versions of “drop-down menus.” Also, the tabbed search box transforms to an accordion interface on small screens. This makes it easy for users to touch any one of the vertically-stacked tab labels. Other features of the new homepage design include a slideshow that resizes for mobile devices and a theme-complementary set of linked social media icons.

The web pages’ readability improved with fonts and other style elements that add more white space to the design. Links and form elements are enlarged to make it easier for users to work with them via touch interfaces. These changes also improve pages’ load speed.

The library’s new logo is now the dominant image in the website’s header. The library held a logo redesign contest in the spring of 2014. The winning logo gave a streamlined look to the library’s “brand.” However, CCSU students who attended a focus group in Spring 2015 told librarians that they wanted alignment of the library’s branding with CCSU. So, the redesigned site incorporates the CCSU logo into its navigation bar. Page colors now conform to those in the www.ccsu.edu website.

The library’s Website Committee (Library Director Carl Antonucci, Outreach Librarian Renata Vickrey, Head of Acquisitions Kristin D’Amato, Head of Access Services Kim Farrington, Head of Information Systems and Resources Dana Hanford, Instructional and Assessment Librarian Martha Kruey) was key to conducting the user research and making final design choices, which were then translated into code by the group’s chair, Digital Resources Librarian Sharon Clapp.

Web work is an ongoing business need. The library is now prioritizing the building and maintenance of both skills and platforms needed to keep up. As the library shifts from a repository of print materials to one that serves remote users with access to digital content and services, it is trying to streamline online experiences to bolster learning outcomes and improve the library’s support of CCSU’s scholarly community.

The website continues to evolve in response to user feedback. If you’d like to add your opinion, feel free to fill out the feedback form at <http://bit.ly/ccsulibsitefeedback> or to email sclapp@ccsu.edu.

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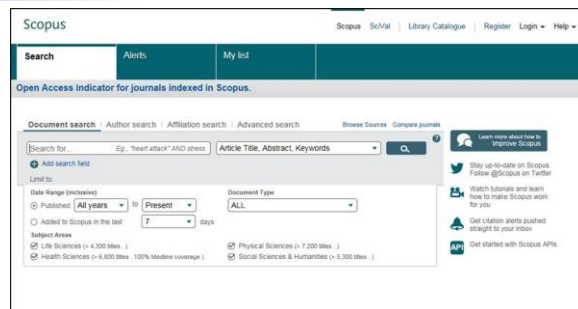
suggested that increased cost of textbooks affects student performance, and that students are trying to skip purchasing them in the hopes of finding them elsewhere. The obvious place to look is the library, but our limited budget hinders us in meeting this need.

According to data from the library’s Access Services department, use of textbooks on reserve increased significantly in the area of engineering and business, where they are the most expensive. For years we have supplemented our general library budget with funds from the Friends of the Library. However, we would like to have an annual injection of funds dedicated only to purchasing print and electronic versions of textbooks. By donating, you support

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Introducing Scopus *By Kristin D'Amato*

The Burritt Library is pleased to introduce our newest electronic resource, Scopus. Scopus is an abstract and Index (A&I) database of peer-reviewed literature including scientific journals, books and conference proceedings. Scopus contains over 22,000 titles from more than 5,000 publishers around the world, covering the sciences, technology, medicine, social sciences, and arts & humanities. Scopus also includes smart tools to aid researchers in tracking, analyzing and visualizing research. The Burritt Library will be providing training sessions on Scopus for students, faculty and staff members in the spring semester, dates to be announced.



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management, to collaborate as they build solutions.

At NextGen Camp, TRiO students learned about the opportunities available to students of any age to work as website developers. Young programmers who are already working in the field noted that “learning to learn” was the core competency for their success, regardless of whether they gained that capability through school, open-source communities, or by learning independently through readings and tutorials.



TRiO students also listened to keynote speaker Dr. Richard Stallman, who is considered the grandfather of the open-source software movement. He explained the vital importance of “free” (as in “freedom” to do with it whatever you want) software for giving users agency in the information age.

Stallman made provocative points about educators and tax-payer-funded projects being ethically bound to use free software, as well as offering up a critique that the “open-source software” crowd has relied on market-based arguments in favor of free software, instead of emphasizing the importance of open software to secure the users’ “essential freedoms:” the freedoms to run, study, change, and redistribute copies of that software.

Although there was not enough time to go deeply into the world of coding, students witnessed the beginnings of an “AngelHack” hackathon and tried their hand at coding HTML themselves. Overall, it was an exciting, eye-opening day that will hopefully lead many of this diverse group of New Britain and CCSU students back to the United Nations, CCSU, and/or software development in the future.

The TRiO Educational Talent Search program at CCSU is a Federally-funded program that offers support and guidance for students to complete high school and pursue a college education. The students are selected from populations traditionally underrepresented in postsecondary education.

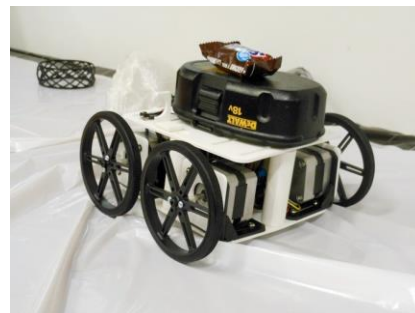
iPads for Student Borrowing *By Sharon Clapp*

With over half of all online usage occurring on mobile devices such as tablets in 2015, experience with these devices is a key aspect of digital literacy. The cost of purchasing those devices can be an obstacle to students, however. Starting this fall, the Elihu Burritt Library is addressing that concern by adding a small pool of iPad Airs to its lending collection. This pilot project includes just four iPads, but may be expanded depending on the project’s success. The iPads can be borrowed for up to two weeks but cannot be renewed.

There's a Robot in the Library *By Edward Iglesias*

In April 2015 the Makerspace in the library got one of its most useful acquisitions, not of equipment but of personnel. Cameron Douglas, a student in robotics agreed to do an internship here to work Edward Iglesias' (Systems Librarian) idea: a library robot. This project had been discussed between Iglesias and Thamma Rivendra (Cameron's faculty advisor) years before, and is now a reality.

The robot will eventually be able to lead users to a book on any stack, though that is a long way off. Douglas has prototyped the body using 3D printed parts and readily available electronics.



The prototype, delivering candy!

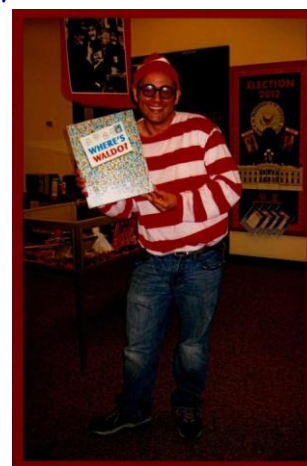
Better Know Library Support Staff *By Alberto Cifuentes, Jr.*

Similar to "Better Know a Librarian," this column features one of our library's support staff members. As I work with the Connecticut Library Association's Support Staff (CLASS) steering committee, including planning and coordinating the section's statewide professional development conference in October, I know that library support staff members in Connecticut work very hard to improve and sustain library programs and services.

I am proud and grateful to be a Support Staff member at the Burritt Library. I work in an environment that not only appreciates but cultivates my knowledge and skills as a professional. Since I started working here almost five years ago, I have gotten involved with library programming, and serve the public in ways that have strengthened my sense of dignity and character.

I enjoy working the "graveyard shift." It is rewarding to see some patrons come back in the evenings primarily because they know you will be there! Also, serving as the Stacks Maintenance Coordinator feeds my questionably healthy compulsion to put everything in order. Lastly, I have the pleasure of working with kind and supportive staff members of Access Services, which I feel is the nucleus of the library; it is the first and last place patrons see when they visit.

When I am not here, I serve as a community social worker for various non-profit and grassroots organizations in Connecticut, including the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network's Connecticut Chapter. I attained my Master of Social Work Degree from the UCONN in May 2015.



This is how I usually dress to work. Good luck trying to find me.

Connecticut's State Archeology Fair Held at CCSU *By Sharon Clapp*

Connecticut's archaeology fair took place at the Elihu Burritt Library on October 17th. The event is an annual, family-friendly day of speakers and activities. Local archaeology clubs, historical societies, museums, and universities provided displays and talks about past and current excavations and research. Archaeologists answered questions about the state's archaeological past. The day included tours of the Anthropology Department's library lab and the Africana Center. Children's activities and demonstrations continued throughout the day. The Archaeological Society of Connecticut held its annual Fall meeting in conjunction with the event, with talks on archaeological research projects from around the state. This year's event was sponsored by CCSU's Anthropology Department, coordinated by CCSU Graduate student Bonnie Plourde and her dedicated committee of organizers, including CCSU faculty members, the student Anthropology Club, representatives from the Friends of the State Archaeologist, the State Archaeologist Office, and the State Historic Preservation Office.

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not just one student but all students in a class! To learn more contact Renata Vickrey, University Archivist and Outreach Librarian at vickrey@ccsu.edu.

The Friends of Elihu Burritt Library Advisory Board is a volunteer committee composed of members of both the University and surrounding communities, whose charge it is to help direct and plan the Friends' activities in support of the Library's educational mission. The board's current members include Dr. Carl Antonucci (Burritt Library Director), Shane Engstrom (Executive Director of Out Film Connecticut), Patty Foley (CCSU Alumna and a Board Member of Lucy Robbins Wells Library in Newington), Dr. Gilbert Gigliotti (English), Peter Kilduff (Emeritus Director, CCSU Office of Communications), Dr. Paulette Lemma (Emeritus Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs), William J. Mann (renowned author, adjunct CCSU History faculty), Dr. Charles Menoche (Music), Barbara Miller (wife of CCSU's President Jack Miller), Rod Skinner (Director of College Counseling, Milton Academy, and descendant of Elihu Burritt), Ann Targonski Brown (Director, New Britain Memorial Funeral Home, local community activist), and Renata Vickrey (Burritt Library Special Collections Outreach Librarian).

Donations to the Friends of the Burritt Library

Thank you to all Burritt Library donors. Your support plays a vital role in the teaching, learning and research at CCSU. Thank you for your generous response to the Double Dare Campaign!

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L to R: Prof. Carlo Magno, Dr. Maria Passaro, Mario Grietti, Rep. Joseph Serra, Library Director Dr. Carl Antonucci, Provost Carl Lovitt, Rep. Claire Janowski, Dr. Carmela Pesca, Richard Balducci, Giuliana O'Connell, and students Rosy Pitruzzello and Simona Caruso.

Thank You to the Connecticut Italian Caucus!

By Renata Vickrey

The Connecticut Italian Caucus has been generous to Central Connecticut State University for decades, by promoting and supporting students in their quest for learning Italian history, language and culture.

The Elihu Burritt Library on the CCSU campus currently has a collection of materials supporting students' curriculum. The Library also houses the Italian Resource Center (IRC), curated by faculty from the Modern Language Department. To enrich the existing collection, and to underline the history and heritage of Italian Americans, members of the Italian Caucus made a donation that will benefit the Burritt Library and the Italian Resource Center and ultimately the entire campus community.

Members of the Italian Caucus, Representative Joseph Serra, Richard Balducci and Representative Claire Janowski visited the Elihu Burritt Library on November 17, 2015 and met with students, faculty, administrators and members of the community. Two students, Simona Caruso and Rosy Pitruzzello, shared their experience of studying Italian history and language, which was reinforced during study abroad in Italy. Faculty and librarians shared their experience in teaching and providing research assistance for such studies. Members of the Italian Caucus shared their personal history and pride of their Italian heritage.

A list of Italian-American publications, in print and electronic formats, is already compiled and materials are being purchased. The Library and IRC are planning promotional events, like bringing Italian-American authors to campus, for the Spring 2016 semester.

Thank you again to members of the Italian Caucus and special thanks to Mr. Richard Balducci and Representative Joseph Serra for initiating this generous and thoughtful donation.

For more information on the Italian Resource Center go to: <http://web.ccsu.edu/italian/>

To learn more about the Library and how to support us, please contact Renata Vickrey at vickreyr@ccsu.edu.