From the Desk of the Library Director

By Dr. Carl Antonucci, Jr.

As I have discussed in earlier newsletters, one of the goals of the Elihu Burritt Library Strategic Plan is to “Expand the Library’s reach through broader engagement with the campus community and beyond.” Connecting with faculty, staff, students, and the outside community is something that happens on a daily basis here at the Elihu Burritt Library. I am pleased to announce that from now on the title of our newsletter will be “The Burritt Connection”. The Fall 2019 newsletter will highlight some of the many connections that we have made during the last few months. The connections that we have established include connecting with our students at the annual Trick or Treat event, connecting with our donors at the Friends of the Library Recognition Reception, and establishing international connections during a special visit to the library by the President and First Lady of Poland.

I would like to highlight a special connection that we have made as result of our Friends of the Library event. Dr. Roger T. and Mary Ann Zieger have generously supported

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Elihu Burritt Library Recognizes Donors in First-Ever ‘Huey Awards

By Dr. Gilbert Gigliotti, President of the Friends of the Library Advisory Board

More than 80 people gathered at Elihu Burritt Library on the evening of Friday, September 27, to celebrate the first-ever Friends of the Library Awards Ceremony. Nicknamed “The ‘Hueys” (a play on the library’s namesake), the awards were created to honor exceptional library donors.

“The Library has so many selfless donors whose support augments our work,” said Dr. Carl Antonucci, Director of Library Services. “The Friends of the Library decided it was time to acknowledge their generosity publicly.”

Three awards were presented at the ceremony.

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President of The Republic of Poland visits CCSU, the Burritt Library, and the Polish Studies Program

By Renata Vickrey

The President of Poland, Andrzej Duda, and first lady, Agata Kornhauser-Duda, visited New Britain on Sunday, September 22, to meet the local Polish community. The President and First Lady stopped at Central Connecticut State University’s Elihu Burritt Library to tour the Connecticut Polish-American archives and book collection and learn about the Polish Studies Program.

While at CCSU, the President and his wife were hosted by Dr. Zulma Toro, CCSU President, Dr. M.B. Biskupski, the Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish American Studies, and Dr. Carl Antonucci, Director of Library Services. They were joined by some Polish faculty and students from the CCSU Polish Club.

Their visit revolved around a large display that Ms. Renata Vickrey, University Archivist and Special Collections librarian, constructed illustrating the history of the local Polish community and CCSU’s Polish Studies Program. President Duda was motivated enough to offer to send books and materials related to Polish history to CCSU to augment the collection when he returned to Poland.

It was a proud day for CCSU and the local Polish community – an opportunity to share our accomplishments and heritage with a sitting Head of State. It was indeed an historic visit for all of us.
Faculty Book Discussion Group Forms

By Joy Hansen

This fall, the Elihu Burritt Library has teamed up with the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development (CTFD) to facilitate a series of faculty discussions around Dr. Jean Twenge’s book, *iGen: Why Today’s Super-Connected Kids Are Growing Up Less Rebellious, More Tolerant, Less Happy— and Completely Unprepared for Adulthood* (*and What That Means for the Rest of Us*). This is a research-based examination of the generation born between 1995 and 2012. Lively conversation has focused on how faculty - and the university - might better understand this generation’s shared experiences, including ways to engage students both inside and outside the classroom.

From the Desk of the Library Director,” continued from page 1

our library for many years. They were recently honored at the Friends of the Library event and I had the great pleasure of meeting them. They were also generous enough to donate 5 special books that were in their family for three generations. The donation included three first edition Mark Twain books. Mary Ann Camp Zieger donated these books in memory of her parents, D. William and Frances A. Camp. Mary Ann and Roger presented us the books along with a nice note from Mary Ann. In the note, Mary Ann wrote the following:

“Selling the Twain’s was not an option for me. CCSU had always been a possibility and that became a reality the night of the Friends Recognition Reception. Warm friendships renewed, learning much more about Elihu Burritt the man and meeting the Friends and library staff confirmed earlier thoughts – The Elihu Burritt Library is the place for the Twains. I want to share these wonderful books with the CCSU community to enjoy.”

These books have now found a new welcoming home in the Special Collections department and we have made a wonderful new connection with Roger and Mary Ann Zieger. On behalf of the entire staff, I want to thank them for their thoughtful gifts and continuous support of the Elihu Burritt Library.

The list of the donated books by Mark Twain are as follows:

- *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, 1876
- *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court*, 1889
- *The Mysterious Stranger: A Romance*, 1916
- *The 1,000,000 Bank-Note and Other New Stories*, 1893

The donation also included a book by William Cullen Bryant:

- *The Song of the Sower*, 1871
THE BURRITT CONNECTION

New Semester, New Beginnings: Meet Our New Librarians

Having just arrived in Reference & Instruction, Jillian Maynard and Joy Hansen sat down one Fall day to learn a little bit more about each other:

What is your educational background and work history?
JM: I graduated from the University of Rhode Island with a B.A. in History in May 2011, with an M.L.I.S. in December 2014, and an M.A. in History in May 2015. After that, I started working at the University of Hartford, where I was a Reference Librarian for the past four years. I also have a few shifts a month at the Cora J. Belden Library in Rocky Hill, my hometown!

JH: Graduating with a B.A. in Secondary Education from UCONN (minor: French) led me to work at LIMRA International, ultimately leading a team of analysts conducting research for the Canadian financial services industry. While there, I earned a M.S. in Management (RPI) and made the decision to transition from primary to secondary research. I earned my M.L.S. from Southern and worked as an instructional librarian at Middlesex Community College for twelve years.

What is your favorite part of being a librarian?
JM: I love working with students, especially when I can help them find what they need or explain an aspect of research that has been giving them trouble. I also love being a part of a team committed to helping students succeed.

JH: The opportunity to help others reach their goals, if even in a small way; working in an environment where I am inspired by talented professionals who love learning and teaching; and the fact that no two work days are ever the same.

What is your teaching philosophy?
JM: Learning is not just something that happens in the classroom. What I strive for is to help students build the tools they need to interpret the world around them, specifically through information literacy. I want to show them how the things they learn here in our library transcend the college campus and will serve them well in their future careers and everyday life.

JH: My philosophy is very similar to Jillian’s. Building rapport and relationships with others helps to create teachable moments both inside and outside the classroom. Hearing about other’s life experiences, backgrounds, and perspectives informs my teaching every day.

Do you have a favorite phrase or quote?
JM: “Be the person you needed in the beginning.” I’m not sure who said it originally, but wouldn’t it be nice to be the person for someone else that we needed in any of our own beginnings?

JH: “Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.”

– Maya Angelou
This Fall marked the first offering of DH100, a new course providing students with an introduction to digital humanities. In the course, students created their own websites using WordPress and designed their own multi-media research projects using digital tools. Students’ projects covered a range of topics, including:

- How Middle Eastern nations’ borders changed after World War II
- Depictions of dissociative identity disorder in film
- The relative popularity of Lionel Messi and Christian Ronaldo
- Mapping homelessness in Los Angeles
- The history of physical education curricula
- Adaptations of Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol
- The language used to describe capital punishment
- Media representations of Lewis Carroll’s Jabberwocky

For their projects, students had to find primary sources online and create exhibits of those sources on their sites. They wrote metadata records to describe their sources and marked up documents in XML. They extracted data from their sources, such as topics using topic modeling software and word frequencies using programs like Voyant. They then visualized that data in the form of graphs or word clouds, and created maps and timelines using StoryMaps. They exhibited these visualizations on their websites as well. Finally, they wrote short research papers describing their findings.

Students came to the course from a wide variety of backgrounds and with diverse interests. Some were majoring in computer science or a related field, and were familiar with programming or building websites, but most had no prior experience with the technical concepts that were introduced in the course, and no prior experience was needed. This mix of skills created an environment where students could provide each other with advice and assistance during in-class workshops and discussions, and several developed working groups to help each other complete assignments outside of class as well.

Through their work on these research projects, students learned the basics of web design, research, and analysis using both quantitative and qualitative methods. It is the goal of the class that students leave with an awareness of a large number of digital humanities tools and concepts, which they can then apply to other projects in the future. They will also leave with a polished website that they may serve as a portfolio item that can be shown to professors and future employers.

DH100 is being offered again in the Spring 2020 semester.
Open and Accessible for All

By Jillian Maynard

During the last week of October Reference & Instruction Librarian Jillian Maynard traveled to the very dry and very warm Glendale, Arizona for OpenEd19, the national OER conference. OER - Open Educational Resources - are defined as any educational material that carries an open license, allowing the user to remix, reuse, redistribute, retain, and revise the material. The open license also makes the content low-to-no cost to students, as a way to combat increasingly high textbook prices. It was an intense three days of networking, conferencing, and presenting! As part of a panel, Jillian presented on the capstone project she completed for the SPARC (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) Open Education Leadership Program. The capstone was a re-imagined OER LibGuide (LibGuides is a content management platform common to libraries for subject and course guides) found here: http://libguides.hartford.edu/gettingstartedwithOER, pieces of which will eventually be incorporated into the OER Guide here at CCSU. Jillian was also a part of a poster session on the leadership program, sharing insights and advice to the 2019-2020 cohort and any prospective participants for the future.

Over the past couple of years, the focus of the Open movement has shifted from affordability to equity, access, and sustainability. The overall theme of the conference this year ended up focusing on the ways in which OER and “open” can potentially create a space for everyone, if we make it that way. Is everyone included in this discussion? In what ways are we leaving voices out that need to be represented and accounted for? How will we continue this momentum? There were robust discussions during sessions and in the hallways in between about how to sustain the Open movement, and include everyone who wants to be at the table.

This past summer, two CCSU librarians, Sharon Clapp and Joy Hansen, successfully completed an intensive Creative Commons Certification Course demonstrating mastery in open licensing. CCSU continues to participate in the ground-breaking OpenCSCU project, and is also represented on the OER Statewide Advisory Board. There are also plans to work with the Student Government Association’s Academic Advisory Committee.

It should be a very interesting year ahead for OER globally, nationally, and here at CCSU. Stay tuned!

The OpenCSCU website, available at: https://cscu.libguides.com/
Trick or Treat at the Library!  

By Nicole Rioux

This year our Trick or Treat event took place on Tuesday, October 29th. About 90 students went from table to table to learn about some of the e-resources available at the library while collecting candy and stamps to enter a raffle prize drawing. This year, we showcased PsycINFO, JSTOR, Scopus, the Gale Archives, and RefWorks. Our grand prize raffle winner, Nyaire Simpkins Jones, took home an iPad and a Burritt Library mug and hoodie. Other raffle prizes included Barnes and Noble gift cards, Starbucks gift cards, and Burritt Library t-shirts.

CCSU’s Open House  

By Joy Hansen

Librarians Jillian Maynard and Joy Hansen represented the Library at CCSU’s Open House for Undergraduates on Sunday, October 27, 2019. Despite the torrential rains, a fabulous turnout of prospective students, families, and friends were welcomed by President Toro, and connected with faculty, student support services staff, and student groups and clubs. Hardy souls were also provided campus tours.
New Features Added to CentralSearch!  
By Sarah Lawson

In an effort to maximize the efficiency of the library catalog, some new features have been implemented this semester. Our new Resource Recommender feature in CentralSearch makes searching recommendations based on keywords and other tags so researchers and students can see what other online resources might be valuable to them.

For example, if a student searches “literature criticism” in the catalog, in addition to the traditional listings, a bar at the top of the page will display direct links to databases that specialize in their topic. In addition to directing users to tools to expand their research they will also be able to search the library website for pertinent information such as hours the library is open, or directions on how to request an interlibrary loan.

Upgrades and new features are being added all the time so keep your eyes peeled for all the developments!

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The New Stack 7  
By Nicole Rioux

Stack 7 recently got an upgrade with a brand new layout, new furniture, and new carpeting. Library patrons can utilize the individual study desks nestled between the bookshelves or relax on the S-shaped couch or desks and chairs in the main area. Stack 7 is a quiet area in the library and a great place to study for upcoming exams and finals!
“First-Ever ‘Huey Awards,’ continued from page 1

The winner of the Consul Award (Most Generous Support of the Library) was the Skinner Family—brothers David C. Skinner, Jr. and Sherrod E. Skinner III, and cousin Susann C. Bradley. The family established the Burritt Family Scholarship to recognize students who use resources from the Elihu Burritt Collection in their studies. Five undergraduate students have received Burritt Family scholarships to date, including two in 2019.

The winner of the Activist Award (Donor to a Specific Cause) was Francis J. Gagliardi, for his donation to the Gender Equity Fund. A former associate director of Burritt Library, Frank was instrumental in establishing and curating the library’s GLBTQ Archives, the largest and most comprehensive collection of GLBTQ materials in the State of Connecticut.

The winner of the Linguist Award (Faculty Support to the Library) was Dr. Roger T. and Mary Ann Zieger. Dr. Zieger, a former professor and associate dean in the CCSU School of Education, and his wife have been steadfast donors to the library since his retirement in 2000. During his tenure, Dr. Zieger was regarded as a visionary leader who was adept at bringing people together.

The Friends are key in fundraising for the Library and are just $25,000 short of the $1 million mark. The funds raised are used to fund student scholarships, to purchase books and other materials, as well as to expand access to electronic databases and enhance computer and technological resources.

It’s never too late to add your name to the long list of donors.

To make a donation go to: https://ccsu.networkforgood.com/causes/4010-elihu-burritt-library

“We are so grateful to everyone who helped make this event such a big success, and especially to the donors who help the Library and its staff make a difference in the lives and academic pursuits of all CCSU students.” said Renata Vickrey, University Archivist and Community Outreach Librarian.

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See even more pictures here: https://www.flickr.com/photos/ccsuphotocollection/albums/72157711133203113
“First-Ever ‘Huey Awards,” continued from page 9

(L to R) Dr. Carmela Pesca and Dr. Carl Antonucci

(L to R) Mary Ann Zieger, Dr. Roger T. Zieger, and Dr. Paulette Lemma

(L to R) Carol Carter Lowery, Dr. Roger T. Zieger, and Mary Ann Zieger

(L to R) Jillian Maynard, Martha Kruy, and Dr. Charles Menoche

(L to R) Terry Reid, Francis J. Gagliardi and William Mann

(L to R) Patty Foley and Martha Perry

(L to R) Patty Foley and Dr. Michael D. Leahy

(L to R) Ed Centano, Dr. Gilbert Gigliotti, and Ken Smith
We in the Burritt Library are very grateful for your generosity. Thanks to 2,062 individual donors and organizations the Friends of the Library fund is close to reaching the one million mark! We are just short by $25,000. Will you help Elihu Burritt to complete the journey to reach One Million?

If you plan to make a donation you can do it online at: https://ccsu.networkforgood.com/causes/4010-elihu-burritt-library, or by contacting Renata Vickrey at vickreyr@ccsu.edu

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