

ELIHU BURRITT LIBRARY NEWSLETTER



2015 Elihu Burritt Library Undergraduate Research Award Winners!

This semester, the Elihu Burritt Library is awarding two \$350 prizes recognizing two bright students for excellence in library research and use of library resources: **Mercedes D Mckelvie**, a junior and English major for her paper, *The Definition of Community: Race and its Place in "When Mr. Pirzada Came to Dine"*

and

Ethan M Sadoian, a senior and Music major for his thesis, *"The Warsaw Concerto: Analysis, Influences, and Influence"*

They did a great job, a tremendous amount of research and we are very proud of them. Electronic copies of both papers can be found in Burritt Library's library catalog at:

www.consuls.org.

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Newsletter Editors

Susan Slaga-Metivier and Naomi Toftness

Please send any comments or suggestions to slagas@ccsu.edu

From Book Sale Shelves to Better World Books

Several of our library patrons have come to know and love our Book Sale shelves on the second floor. Students, faculty, and CCSU community members continuously donate books and materials for the library collections throughout the academic year. Donated items that we are unable to add to our collections have allowed us to create and host the Book Sale Shelves on the second floor as a means of raising money for the Burritt Library. In the interest of trying to make better use of these donations and raise additional funding for the library and its services, we have started to send the donated materials we do not add to our library collections to Better World Books (<http://www.betterworldbooks.com/>), a company that works to help libraries sell their discarded library materials and donations for the betterment of our library, the environment, and literacy charities around the world. We are joining many other libraries from



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Leaping into the Dark: World AIDS Day Special Exhibit

By Alberto Cifuentes, Jr.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that 1.1 million people in the United States are living with HIV. However, nearly one in six of those living with HIV are not even aware that they are infected. Moreover, the largest number of HIV infections currently occurs among gay and bisexual men of all races and ethnicities, followed by African American heterosexual women. By race/ethnicity, African Americans and Latinos are the most disproportionately affected by this pandemic. Indeed, due to a number of social and economic challenges, such as lack of access to healthcare, discrimination, and poverty, people of color have higher rates of HIV infection than whites.

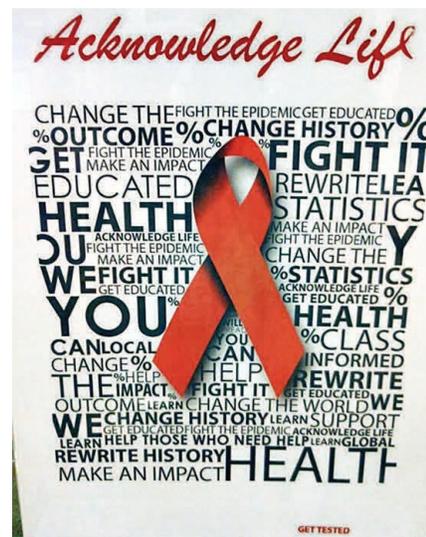
As a gay-identified Hispanic male and social justice educator, I find these statistics and realities particularly troubling and devastating. As a Master of Social Work student at the University of Connecticut's School of Social Work, I am committed to improving HIV prevention and educational programs for the most at-risk populations, including gay and bisexual men, people of color, and transgender women.

World AIDS Day is held annually on December 1. While it is a day to remember and honor those who have passed away due to AIDS, it is also a call for action to speak out against discriminatory and unfair policies and practices regarding HIV testing, intervention, and treatment. World AIDS Day puts a human face on the pandemic by highlighting the need to reduce fear and stigma aimed at people living with HIV/AIDS. It is an international consciousness-raising event that encourages people to reflect on both loved ones they have lost and those that are living happy, fulfilling lives regardless of their HIV status.

In December 2014, I curated a special World AIDS Day Exhibit on the second floor. It featured materials from Special Collections' GLBTQ Archives and the Equity Collection. Three pieces in the GLBTQ archives were highlighted in the exhibit:

- *Bill Bahlman Papers*: Bahlman was an activist with the Gay Activists Alliance (GAA) in the early 1970s and a founding member of ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power). ACT UP was one of the most vital and powerful organizations in bringing HIV/AIDS to the forefront of American politics in the late 1980s and continues to fight for the rights and dignity of all people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS.
- *Victor D' Lugin Collection*: A fierce and committed activist and teacher in both Connecticut and Provincetown, MA, D'Lugin served as a role model and prime example of an HIV-positive individual living life to the fullest. He was also instrumental in passing Connecticut's landmark gay civil rights bill in 1991.
- *CT AIDS Action Council*: This collection was donated by long-time GLBTQ rights activist and community organizer John Bonelli, MSW. Bonelli is currently the Field Education Placement Coordinator and part-time instructor at the University of Connecticut's School of Social Work.

On World AIDS Day this year, I not only remembered and honored lives lost to HIV/AIDS, I also celebrated those individuals that courageously continue to fight not only for their survival but



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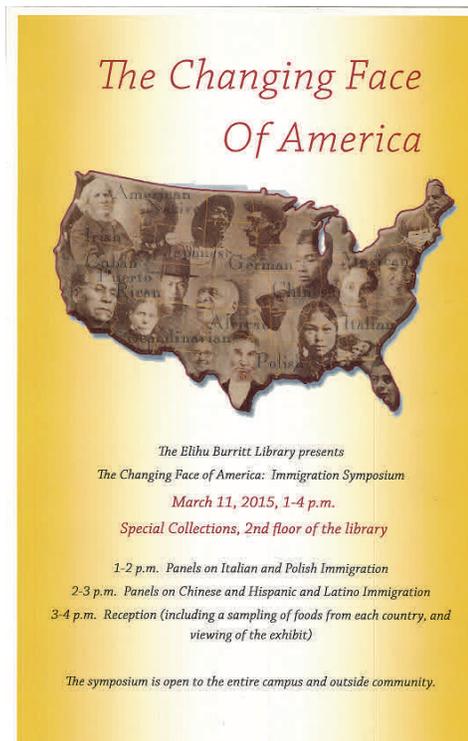
The Changing Face of America: Immigration Symposium

The Elihu Burritt Library held the Immigration Symposium on March 11, 2015 to popularize numerous resources, primary and secondary, on the topic of immigration, in electronic and print formats. The library houses four centers/resources: the Connecticut Polish American Archives; the Italian Resource Center; the Confucius Institute; the Latin American, Latino, and Caribbean Center; which provide information on additional sources and assistance for students. The Reference Department prepared a research guide (<http://libguides.ccsu.edu/immigration>), with materials related to immigration available in the library.

Faculty and students shared their research projects, papers related to immigration as well as personal experience.

Dr. Mieczyslaw B. Biskupski talked about history of Polish immigration and today's Polonia and her future. Librarians Ewa Wolynska and Renata Vickrey talked about the Polish Heritage Book Collection and archival resources in the University Library.

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across the country that already use Better World Books to handle their donations and discarded library materials.

Better World Books (BWB) sells and donates books to charities from all around the world. The process begins when the Burritt Library puts together a shipment of donated materials using packing materials that BWB supplies and then pays to have the boxes shipped to one of their facilities. Once at the facility, they tag the books as part of our shipments so that if any of them get sold, we get a part of the sale of that particular book/audio CD. Another great part of this program is that some of the money that generated goes to funding literacy programs across the world like Books for Africa and Room to Read. As of the date of writing this article, Better World Books has raised \$19,001,813.00 to fund libraries and literacy programs; and reused or recycled 153,041,324 books. Using Better World Books allows the Burritt Library to partner with a company that works for our mutual values of improving literacy and education in our communities and around the world. The added bonus is that they take care of all the hard work and all we need to do is pack up our books every few months and arrange for them to be picked up.

The current Book Sale Shelves currently located on the 2nd floor will no longer be available after the Spring 2015 semester since our current and future donations will be going to Better World Books. If you would like to donate materials to Burritt Library, please review our new gift policy on our library website (<http://libguides.ccsu.edu/policies/gift>).

I also wanted to take this opportunity to thank the University Mailroom for helping make sure that our donations get shipped to Better World Books. We would not be able to participate if not for your help!

Libraries as Centers of Creation: Exploring Makerspaces in Libraries

by Edward Iglesias

Recently I have had the good fortune to do a series of workshops for the Connecticut Library Consortium on Makerspaces in Libraries. This grew out of their Trendspotting event and a need for more in-depth exploration of the subject. My colleague Arianna Schlegel and I put together 3 workshops structured around the same theme of makerspaces in libraries. What follows are some general observations that come as a result of these workshops - but first, some background is necessary to put makerspaces in libraries into perspective.

The maker movement and maker culture have been part of the public sphere since at least 2006 when the first Maker Faire was held. Since then similar fairs and "Mini Maker Faires" have been held all over the world. A large part of this movement is concerned with artistic "making" of things that might not have any useful applications but are works of art. Other people in the movement are very concerned with dealing with day to day problems, such as, the many bio hackers who develop everything from cutting edge nano particle treatments, to simple automatic blood pressure machines that allow developing countries to cheaply perform routine testing, to developers of the dremelfuge: a 3D printed part that fits onto a dremel rotary tool and allows for centrifugal testing at a fraction of the price (http://www.indiebiotech.com/?page_id=16).

All of this was happening outside of libraries until the famous Fayetteville Public Library opened its makerspace in 2011. Since then, libraries of all sorts have been quick to em-

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also for their rights and dignity as human beings. As choreographer Agnes de Mille states in one of D'Lugin's favorite quotes, "Life is a form of not being sure, not knowing what next or how. The moment you know how, you begin to die a little. The artist never entirely knows. We guess. We may be wrong, but we take leap after leap in the dark."

To learn more about World AIDS Day, please visit <http://facing.aids.gov/wad/>. Many thanks to Sarah Lawson and Rolande Duprey for helping me select some of the items for the exhibit.

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The panel on Italian Immigration was presented by students Nicholas Allen, Denise Zarcone, Maria Manna, Floriana Manna, Zelvan Phillips and Frank Petraccone from Prof. Carmela Pesca's and Prof. Passaro's classes. Students' projects included interviews, video recording and poetry translation. Dr. Carl Antonucci talked about his current research project on Italian immigrant poet Pascal D'Angelo.

Prof. Yanan Ju talked about Challenges of Chinese Immigrants in the U.S. and his own immigrant experience. Dr. Steven Klinger shared the goals and mission of the Confucius Institute, located on the 4th floor of the Burritt Library.

Voices of Latino Immigration were presented by students Sarah Lindstrom and Kate Krotzer from Prof. Antonio Garcia-Lozada's class, students Rosly Hernandez and Isaac Rodriguez from Prof. Katherine Sugg's class, and Mariano Cardoso from Prof. Luis Recoder- Núñez's class. Students shared their experience from their recent travel to Cuba, research in Latino literature, and struggles with student visa status.

This event attracted more than seventy students, faculty, staff and people from the community. Further discussion continued during reception while sampling delicious food from each country!

Donations to the Friends of the Burritt Library

Thank you to all supporters and donors to the Friends of the Library. Your generosity is always appreciated by our students, faculty and staff. With the additional fund the library supplements its book budget and we can continue to provide additional outreach activities. Your donation makes a difference!

For more information, or to make a donation, please contact Renata Vickrey at 860 832-2085 or by email, vickreyr@ccsu.edu. You can also give online at <http://library.ccsu.edu/> and select the red button Support the Burritt Library.

Thank you to all the recent contributors to the Friends of the Burritt Library Fund!

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Bad Science on the Web: Potential Impact for Students and Faculty

by Nick Tomaiuolo

While at the Burritt Library reference desk, I was recently asked about the credibility of online journals at AcademicJournals.org. I discovered that AcademicJournals.org, which publishes 111 Open Access (OA) titles, has a very questionable reputation (e.g., “Pay big to publish,” *Journal for Critical Education Policy Studies*, 2012 and “All fake journals” <http://allfakejournals.blogspot.com/>).

Peter Suber is the director of Harvard’s Office for Scholarly Communication and author of *Open Access* (MIT Press, 2012; http://mitpress.mit.edu/sites/default/files/titles/content/9780262517638_Open_Access_PDF_Version.pdf). Suber offers this advice regarding the evaluation of OA journals:

- Have you heard of any of the editors? Are they respected in the field?
- Don't assume that unknown journals are weak. Low profile does not entail low quality, especially when journals are new. And all OA journals are new. Even new journals excellent from birth need time to develop a reputation for quality matching their actual quality.
- Is the publisher a member (see <http://oaspa.org/membership/members/>) of the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (<http://oaspa.org/>)? OASPA has a code of conduct requiring peer review, requiring disclosure of a journal's vetting process, fees, and ownership, and prohibiting spam to solicit papers or members of editorial boards.

If you’re concerned, visit Jeffrey Beall’s blog “Scholarly Open Access” (see <http://scholarlyoa.com/>). Beall, the Scholarly Initiatives Librarian at the University of Colorado, noticed the situation, which he says is “dire and worsening,” in 2009 when he received spam emails to review articles in these journals. Beall coined the term “predatory publishing,” and lists 242 publishers meeting his criteria:

- Demonstrates a lack of transparency in publishing operations.
- Has no policies or practices for digital preservation.

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- Depends on author fees as the sole and only means of operation with no alternative, long-term business plan for sustaining the journal through augmented income sources.
- Begins operations with a large fleet of journals often using a template to quickly create each journal's home page.

Evaluating Web content is challenging; OA publishing creates even trickier conditions. Some of Beall's predatory journals have even crept into Thomson Reuters' Web of Science. *The Journal of Parasitology and Vector Biology* (publication fee is \$550) and *The Journal of Animal and Plant Sciences* (publication fee is \$190) are tracked there.



Help finish the puzzle
on the 2nd floor!

Better Know a Librarian *By Sarah Lawson*

I'm pleased to introduce the most recent member of the Burritt Library team, our new Acquisitions Librarian, Kristina Edwards. Kristina comes to us via Bridgewater State University where she also worked as the Acquisitions Librarian. She arrived on the path of librarianship as many do, by working in the library as an undergraduate student. Kristina notes that it was a place of wonder, stating, "Look at all of the books!" Upon graduation, she continued to work in libraries and decided that in order to do all of the "fun" things that library jobs had to offer, she would have to get her library degree.



The next few years remained very busy; she moved to Connecticut, took on multiple library jobs, and attended Simmons to obtain her MLIS simultaneously. "I guess I didn't need to sleep", remarked Edwards when reflecting upon those years. It was during her time working at the University of Hartford's Mortensen Library that she was promoted to an acquisitions position and first decided it was her forte.

Kristina noted that her biggest challenge in acquisitions is money, saying that "Funding to keep up with trends and stay sustainable" is particularly difficult. However, one reason the job at CCSU was appealing was the opportunity to collaborate on joint collection development between campuses, something she feels is "immensely interesting". And in dealing with the challenges of acquisitions, Edwards feels she has a "good feel for the future and a realistic [outlook] when it comes to money".

That's all for this edition of "Better Know a Librarian", join us next time to learn more about Burritt Library's fantastic staff!

Libraries as Centers of Creation continued from page 4

brace this model for providing tools and a space to use them to patrons. This fit very well with the overall mission of libraries of democratizing information. Since at least the 1980s libraries have also been in the business of democratizing the means of production for certain categories of manufacturing. Desktop publishing took over typesetting and many people had their first exposure to computers at a library. In many colleges and universities the first building to get internet access was the library. Some libraries lend out baking pans, musical instruments, video production equipment, and many more tools. It is no stretch to add a place to use those tools and classes to help learn how to use them.

Another big development came with the addition of 3D printers to makerspaces. These tools of additive manufacturing had been around for a long time but as patents started to expire small companies could manufacture 3D printers cheaply for the consumer for the first time. When libraries started offering 3D printing it was an instant hit. All of a sudden users could create whatever they could design. The beautifully insidious learning experience was that users were gaining a new digital literacy in 3D CAD programs like Sketchup or Solid Works.

Meanwhile back in Connecticut

Our Makerspace workshops were very successful, having attendees who represented academic, school, special and public libraries. We saw a shift in the three months during which we held the workshops from those that were thinking about a makerspace to almost 100% having makerspaces. The response and growth throughout the state have been tremendous. Our workshops taught us some valuable lessons:

- Makerspaces are here. This is not an abstract concept. Nearly every public library in Connecticut is considering whether a makerspace is right for them or already has one.
- Makerspaces are quite varied. While in the academic library world we are used to “clean and quiet” makerspaces that are not disruptive many locations like “loud and dirty” activities such as welding or carpentry. The choice of what to offer is quite dependent on what people want and the demographics involved. Puppet-making may be appropriate at one library where robotics may be at another.
- Everyone is still learning but expertise is growing. Many of the people we met had good relationships in their communities for expert advice or had developed in-house expertise.

The overwhelming lesson of this experience has been one of joy at the collaborative effort applied by library professionals learning new concrete skills that revitalizes their libraries. Everyone we met was enthusiastic and hopeful. Compared to an average library conference where the news is all doom and gloom (budget reductions, unfilled positions, sky falling) the makerspace movement in libraries gives hope as well as skills to libraries and librarians.

Trick or Treat E-Resources Fair!



The masked librarian, Susan Slaga-Metivier, (left) and Rosie the Riveter, Sarah Lawson, (right) demonstrate e-resources to students during the Trick or Treat E-Resources Fair in October of 2014.

What a spooky treat!