

ELIHU BURRITT LIBRARY NEWSLETTER



Need Help with the New CentralSearch?

By Mary Jo El-Hachem

The new library CentralSearch tool launched earlier this semester, connecting all the state universities, the community colleges, and the Connecticut State Library. It allows students and faculty to search, and request items from, electronic, print and media collections across these institutions.

In addition to this expanded catalog search, the new discovery layer allows users to perform a search that brings back results from CCSU's print and media holdings and from the available electronic databases at the same time. The change is meant to give students and faculty a better user experience while making research a little bit easier.

The change users will encounter immediately, especially when trying to access materials from off-campus, is the login process. From the library homepage (library.ccsu.edu), users should click the "Sign In to CentralSearch" link halfway down the page. This will redirect the user to a new page, prompting them to login as either a

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

Embracing OERs to Save Students Money on Textbooks

By Sharon Clapp

On March 7, 2017 Burritt Library ran "Lunch & Learn with OERs (Open Educational Resources)." This workshop featured speakers from a variety of backgrounds discussing the textbook affordability crisis, how it affects CCSU students, and faculty efforts to use low- or no-cost resources in courses. Funds for the lunch were underwritten by the Student Government Association and the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development, partners in the library-led OER Learning Community Group.

After introductory remarks from Elihu Burritt Library Director Dr. Carl Antonucci and others, Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium Director Kevin Corcoran (a representative on the state's OER taskforce) explained what OERs are – openly-licensed textbooks that cost far less than textbooks offered by traditional publishers – and why they are important. He shared a graph of the dramatic rise (over 1000 percent) in textbook prices in the past four decades, triple the rate of inflation in the same time period (*Inside Higher Ed*: <http://bit.ly/1hhmwkR>).

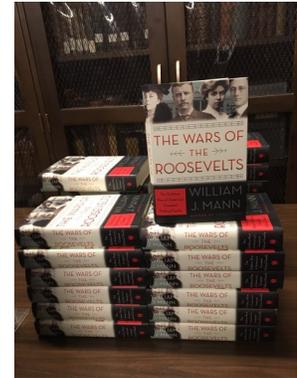
Corcoran then offered information on the robust ecosystem of open educational resources available (including open textbooks), research results that correlate both positive learning

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Guest Lecturer: William J. Mann, Author of *War of the Roosevelts*

By Renata Vickrey

William J. Mann is not a stranger to CCSU or the Burritt Library. He graduated from CCSU in 1984 with a B.A. in History, donated archival materials to the GLBTQ Archives, and in 2014 gave a talk about his career, writing about Hollywood celebrities. Mr. Mann is a historian and award-winning author and biographer. During his recent talk at the Burritt Library in March, he spoke about his latest book, *The Wars of the Roosevelts: The Ruthless Rise of America's Greatest Political Family*. It is not a typical biography. Instead of concentrating on the political accomplishments of the Roosevelts, Mann writes about the dynamics between the Roosevelt families of Oyster Bay and Hyde Park. He develops a psychological portrait of the rivalries, mental illnesses, grudges, and battles between these two branches of the family.



The War of the Roosevelts



William J. Mann

Mann focuses a lot of his book on the strong Roosevelt women, Alice and Eleanor. Alice Lee Roosevelt Longworth was a writer, prominent socialite, and the eldest child of U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt. She represents the Oyster Bay branch of the family. Anna Eleanor Roosevelt was Theodore's niece, his brother's daughter, and eventually President Franklin D. Roosevelt's wife and first lady. She was independent and energetic, a role model for women everywhere. She represents the Hyde Park branch of the family. President Truman called her the "First Lady of the World" for her human rights advocacy.

During his talk at the library, Mann offered the opinion that Eleanor would have made a great first woman president. Mann's book was published in the fall of 2016, when there was some hope that the U.S. would soon see its first woman president, anticipated to resonate well in that political climate.



L to R: Renata Vickrey, William J. Mann, Ewa Wolynska

For Mann, writing the book was an excursion into many archival collections, family correspondence, and photos. Many of these documents were being shared with the public for the first time. He also interviewed the "illegitimate" half-brother of Eleanor, Elliot Roosevelt Mann, who — despite being shunned by the Roosevelts — created a fine life for himself and his family.



L to R: Frank Gagliardi, William J. Mann, Ed Centeno

Like all Mann's books, this biography is very well researched and gives readers a window into the very private, sometimes secret, life of a prominent American family — aristocrats who cultivated power amidst strong, sometimes ruthless, inter-family relations.

The book is an excellent read and is available in print and electronic formats. Enjoy reading!

"Need Help," continued from page 1

CCSU User or Guest User. Faculty and currently enrolled students will login as a CCSU User. The required username is the user's BlueNet ID with "@ccsu.edu" appended to the end. The password is the same password that is usually used with the BlueNet ID.

The library is providing three new video tutorials for faculty and students to use and share, covering logging in as well as how to find articles and books using the new CentralSearch. Also available are written instructions on logging in, renewing materials, requesting materials, and reviewing material requests. These resources can be found at <http://libguides.ccsu.edu/centralsearch>. Contact librarians for further assistance, by phone (860-832-2060) or online (libanswers.ccsu.edu).

"Embracing OERs," continued from page 1

outcomes and improved student retention with OER use, and the latest news about the OER movement developing statewide and nationally. Corcoran drew attention to the savings: CSCU students have saved over a half million dollars thanks to professors using OERs.

Student Government Association representatives Wyatt Bosworth and Brian Nwafor spoke about the experiences of students struggling to afford textbooks required for courses at CCSU, encouraging faculty members to seek lower-cost alternatives (e.g., OpenStax, with print textbooks for \$35-50, and free digital materials). In the meantime, the SGA provides a website to help students find the best prices for their textbooks (ccsu.texts.com). The SGA wants to further its collaboration with faculty and the library, to incentivize switching to OERs for faculty.

Digital Resources Librarian Sharon Clapp and Reference, Instruction, & Assessment Librarian Martha Kruy discussed the use of the OpenSUNY textbook in LSC-150 at CCSU, and promoted the OER Learning Community Group (LCG). This LCG is supported by a grant, and began meeting on March 30th. This group also shares resources and holds discussions in Blackboard, to augment conversations and to allow participation from faculty members who are unavailable for in-person meetings.

CCSU faculty, staff, and students can join the LCG, or get more information on this initiative, by emailing sclapp@ccsu.edu or mkruy@ccsu.edu. A mini-grant will be awarded to a faculty applicant who participates in the LCG to help support the conversion of all or part of a course to OERs, or to underwrite faculty time and efforts to assess previously converted OER-based courses.

Meet the Newest Member of Our Reference Department!

By Sarah Lawson

The most recent addition to our Reference team at Burritt is one of our fantastic former interns, Nicole Rioux. Nicole comes to us via Simmons School of Information and Library Science, where she took on two internships to further her skills in information dissemination and organization.

Libraries have been a permanent fixture in Nicole's life since childhood, sparking her future career, although she was not immediately aware of it. As an undergraduate at Earlham College in Indiana, Nicole majored in Japanese Studies, and minored in Teaching English as a Second Language. She went on to teach English in Japan for two years. Although she wanted to teach in some capacity, she felt that a non-traditional teaching role might be a better fit. Nicole discovered that librarianship was a perfect mesh of all of these skills.



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Staggering CCSU Support on Library Snapshot Day

By Alberto Cifuentes, Jr.



Alberto Cifuentes, Jr., and Dana Hanford, staffing the welcome table

As part of National Library Week, our community celebrated the invaluable services, programs, and resources offered by Elihu Burritt Library, participating on April 11th in our third Library Snapshot Day.

Students and faculty posed for pictures, holding up signs explaining why they loved Elihu Burritt Library. Popular laminated signs highlighted free WiFi, quiet study areas, Starbucks, 3-D printing, and “amazing staff.” Many participants opted to make their own signs, one of which claimed that, without the quiet study floor in the library, the writer’s grades would suffer.

Free cookies and other treats were offered to all, as thanks for such enthusiastic support. For more pictures, watch our blog (<http://library.ccsu.edu/wp/>). Share your photo on social media! #librariestransform



Student Worker Appreciation Day Spotlight: Cecilia Gutiérrez

By Alberto Cifuentes, Jr.

For National Library Week, Burritt Library held Student Worker Appreciation Day on April 10th, highlighting the contributions of student workers to the everyday functions and activities across library departments. I am delighted to recognize one of our great student workers, Cecilia Gutiérrez, a Biomolecular Science major and student athlete. Cecilia is from Torreón, Mexico and has worked in the Access Services Department for two years.

What made you decide to enroll at CCSU? I really like New Britain, and they have a great program for biomolecular science majors. I also received a scholarship for golfing.

Why major in biomolecular science? I wanted to be a doctor before I started at CCSU, but I discovered that I liked research more than practice. I’m a science geek and have always loved questioning and interacting with nature and technology.

3. Any dreams of playing golf professionally? Golfing has given me the wonderful opportunity to travel to many interesting places and meet different people. I love that golfing is a lifetime sport, but I don’t want to go pro. I just like doing it for fun.

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LSC-150: A One-Credit Course Worth a Second Look

By Briana McGuckin

Elihu Burritt Library's Reference & Instruction Department librarians provide a one-credit course for students on library research skills and information literacy: LSC-150, *Library Resources and Skills*. The course title has now changed to *Library Research in the Digital Age*, and the course description has been updated. With these changes, it felt timely to raise awareness about this vital course.

LSC-150 is not about library instruction alone (e.g., how to read a call number, or how to use a research database), but aims higher. This course is about information literacy. Information literacy is defined by the Association for College and Research Libraries as the ability to "recognize when information is needed and.... to locate, evaluate, and use [information] effectively..." Put simply, an information literate person has more than the skills to access and search an academic database; he or she knows when an academic database is and is not needed to find information, how to evaluate materials to determine their credibility, and what purpose a given piece of information might serve in an academic argument. LSC-150 aims to improve student information literacy.

This course deals with current research issues. The rapid spread of information on social media, and the way that search engine algorithms curate the content to which we are exposed, makes information literacy all the more important. Considerable class time is spent addressing these challenges.

LSC-150 is useful for students looking to sharpen their academic research skills, but the lessons speak to a lifetime of meeting one's own information needs: seeking reliable medical advice, forming political opinions, performing professional research, or finding information of personal interest. If you are thinking of recommending this course to someone, or of taking it yourself, look for the new course listing in the Fall 2017 catalog!

Government Documents Go Digital

By Kristina Edwards

Burritt Library has been a designated partial repository for government documents since 1973. As such, CCSU has received countless government documents from the Government Printing Office throughout the years, providing access to government information for students, staff, and faculty as well as the general public. With this essential resource for those studying government, policymaking, and politics, Burritt Library is a place for CCSU community members to do government research and become informed citizens.

In the days before the Internet, endless rows of thin pamphlets and brochures were the best way for citizens to get information about federal regulations and policies. With the increased availability of government information online, we are no longer in need of the paper government documents that we currently house. Over the coming months, we will be updating CentralSearch to link to the online versions of the paper government documents we currently have on Stack 6. If you should need any assistance locating government information, please stop by the Reference desk on the 2nd floor of the Burritt Library. Once completed, the space will be cleared to provide additional student workspace.

If you need government information, also try our LibGuide (<http://libguides.ccsu.com/govdocs>). This guide is maintained by reference librarians so that students, staff, and faculty may find the most current resources available on government information for their class assignments and other research needs.

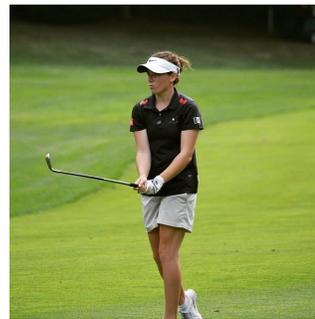
"Student Worker Appreciation," continued from page 4

What motivated you to work at the library? I've loved reading ever since I was a kid. In Mexico, I didn't have access to a public library, so it's such a privilege to discover all these amazing books.

What do you like about working here? My co-workers and supervisors are very kind and want to help patrons any way they can. I love the great sense of community.

How do you use the Burritt Library as a student? I check out a lot of books. I meet my friends here to study on the quiet floor, and use the printers all the time. My favorite program is dog therapy; playing with the dogs always makes me happier.

The Burritt Library thanks Cecilia, and all of our student workers, for making the library valuable to patrons!



It's Devil Double Dare Time Again! *By Renata Vickrey*

From May 1-5, 2017, the CCSU Alumni Association will match gifts between \$25 and \$1,000. Please consider Burritt Library and the Textbook Fund! We are grateful for your support and the role it plays in the teaching, learning and research at CCSU. To learn more and make a donation go to: <https://ccsu.networkforgood.com/causes/4010-elihu-burritt-library>



Donors to Friends of the Library from November 15, 2016 to April 17, 2017 – we thank you!

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"Meet the Newest Member," continued from page 3

Nicole's internships were formative in creating her view of libraries. Her internship at Burritt allowed her to explore academia, assessing and evaluating information, and imparting knowledge to students. Her other internship, at the Connecticut Historical Society, helped her learn about archival procedures, including finding aid creation. This gave her a broader understanding of the actual materials libraries collect, which she says was her favorite part of that internship. You can check out her work on the Horace Sellers Collection at the CHS website: <http://chs.waldo.kohalibrary.com/app/work/39133>.

Single-Session Library Instruction at Elihu Burritt

By Nicole Rioux

Whether you need assignment-specific instruction, an overview of library resources, or something in between, our instruction librarians can work with you to make the best of students' time.

What we can do:

Information Literacy Instruction

In the constantly connected world of smartphones and tablets, information is just a click away. But how do we find accurate, authoritative and unbiased material among all that's available? The library can help! Our Instruction Librarians can teach your students how to evaluate their sources and become critical information users.

Assignment-based or General Research Instruction

Do you have a research project in mind and despair of your students using Wikipedia and Google to find scholarly sources? Do they need an introduction to the library catalog or databases? Do you want them to better understand the differences between scholarly and popular literature, or primary and secondary sources? We can help design active learning exercises and assignments.

Library Orientation & Tour

The layout of libraries can be confusing for students at first, and we use an organizational system for physical materials that they may not be used to interpreting. We can provide a walkthrough of the building, show them how to locate items in the stacks and explain basic library policies.

How you can help:

Provide us with a copy of your assignment and/or syllabus. When we know what you're asking your students to do in their own research, we can show them relevant strategies and resources. When you request a session with a specific assignment in mind, we can customize lessons to the field or topic.

Your input both before and during library sessions is crucial to their effectiveness. Many students are intimidated by the university-level library at first. Most have never done in-depth research or used library databases. Your engagement with the instructing librarian highlights the value of research skills, contextualizes the lesson, and helps students feel more comfortable asking their own questions.

Tell us what your students need, and what you want them to gain from the session. Communicating with us about your objectives beforehand enables us to focus on the skills you want your students to develop and the resources you want your students to utilize.

Book instruction using our web form: <http://library.ccsu.edu/services/instruction/> Contact us early to secure the date you need (a minimum of two weeks in advance preferred). The start of the semester is popular, so plan accordingly. We hope to see you and your students at the library soon!

1615 Stanley Street - P.O. Box 4010 - New Britain, CT 06050-4010

Central Connecticut State University



CCSU
ELIHU BURRITT LIBRARY

Upcoming Friends of the Library Event:

**MEET NYT AND WSJ BESTSELLING AUTHOR
ANTHONY M. AMORE!**

Mr. Amore, Director of Security at the Isabella Gardner Museum, will deliver a talk titled *The Art of the Con*
Friday, April 28 at 7PM in the Burritt Library, 1st floor.

Books will be available for purchase. Refreshments will be served. Free parking on campus.



Spring Semester Hours:

Mon-Thurs: 8 a.m. – 10:45 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.
Sunday: 3 p.m. – 10:45 p.m.

Reference services are available when the library is open.

Call: (860) 832-2060

Text: (860) 288-8663

Summer Break Hours:

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.
Sat-Sun: CLOSED

Tweet: @askccsulib

Or, come see us in-person, on the **2nd floor!**