

FALL / WINTER 2022
VOL. 27, NO. 1

THE BURRITT CONNECTION



CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
ELIHU BURRITT LIBRARY

The Burritt Connection

- 3** Measuring Library Impact:
The Burritt Library Impact Dashboard
- 4** Meet You in Special
Collections / Archives
- 5** Class Visits / Book Talk
- 6** Selections from the
Elihu Burritt Library
Rare Book Room
- 7** Welcome New Blue Devils!
- 8** Burritt Library Scholars
- 10** Building Experience
through Library Work
- 11** Going Digital
- 12** Thank you to our
Supporters and Donors
- 13** List of Donors to the
Friends of the Library

CONTENTS

Measuring Library Impact: The Burritt Library Impact Dashboard

By Dr. Carl Antonucci, Jr., Sharon Clapp, and Martha Kruy

While many people would argue that any library's value is immeasurable, quantifying user impact can help everyone better understand the value of services and resources that a 21st-century academic library provides. Loosely modeled on the work of peer institutions, the Elihu Burritt Library is piloting a "Library Impact Dashboard" that will serve regularly to publish key metrics of library usage, in-person and online, and communicate how librarian-driven services and resources are impacting CCSU's students, faculty, and staff. Carl Antonucci, Sharon Clapp, and Martha Kruy have been working on this pilot and now will start the process of gathering feedback from library staff and campus administrators on the pilot project. We want to thank the entire library staff for sharing all the data they have collected so that it can be part of the dashboard. The "Burritt Library Impact Dashboard" is a true library-wide team effort.

This fall, for example, there were close to 146,000 pageviews of the library's website and guide pages across nearly 78,000 users (using industry-standard website analytics). Our gate count recorded more than 132,000 instances of people walking through the library's public entrance and, when manual counts were made by library staff, we found that close to 29,000 people were present in library-specific public spaces (i.e., study and research spaces, not including classrooms, conference rooms, offices, or non-library centers) for Fall '22 (08/22/22 to 12/22/22).

Library services, such as reference, instruction, and consultations, are also beginning to return to pre-pandemic degrees. Librarians and staff

answered 3,899 questions and instructed 1,688 students this fall. This data is comparable to that of the fall 2019 semester, when we answered 4,501 questions and instructed approximately 1,880 students. The reference appointment service, "Book a Librarian," began in spring of 2020, and therefore has no comparison point prior to that term. However, the number of reference appointments conducted in the fall of 2019 were a sparse 3, compared to the 59 consultations through Book a Librarian in the fall of 2022.

While these data are showing a positive trend, it is important to understand that the instructional program has been evolving to include a FYE component, an evidence-based information literacy assessment program, and new teaching modes and resources that will help us serve more students in the near future. CCSU's information literacy outcomes are assessed within the General Education assessment process for the entire school. It provides the instructional and reference librarians with an evidence-based portrayal of how our students are developing their levels of information literacy through research projects throughout the curriculum. These data will be accessible in the library's Information Literacy Assessment Reports on the library's home page.

This is just a sampling of the information that will be available to you at the Library Impact Dashboard. A full suite of data recorded for the 2021-22 academic year is already published there. Please take a peek at <https://libguides.ccsu.edu/libraryimpactdashboard> and let us know what you think.

Meet You in Special Collections/Archives

By Renata Vickrey

International scholars visit the Connecticut Polish American Archives (CPAA)

Sylwia Kuzma-Markowska, PhD, Director for Students' Affairs in the Institute of the Americas and Europe American Studies Center at the University of Warsaw, visited CPAA in September to research Polish-American periodicals, rare books, and archival collections as well as scholarly literature on Polish and Polish-American history and culture. She said, "These collections are of great value for any researcher specializing in the topics of migration or Polish heritage and are greatly important for scholars of Polish and Polish-American history."



Sylwia Kuzma-Markowska

Iwona Flis, PhD candidate in the History Department, University of Gdansk, visited CPAA with the grant funds from the Kościuszko Foundation in NYC. She conducted research on Polish American organizations and émigré intellectuals, in the broader context of the Polish World War II diaspora in the U.S. She said, "The richness of archival collections not only enabled me to collect valuable, abundant archival material for my PhD dissertation, but also to reach out to the Polish American community in New Britain, and, last but not least, to learn about Connecticut's rich historical and cultural heritage."



Iwona Flis

Karina Garsztecka, M.A. is an archivist and librarian in the Archives Department of East Central Europe and Library of Polish Literature, The Research Centre for East European Studies at the University of Bremen, Germany. She came to CPAA to conduct research funded by the Kosciuszko Foundation. She is preparing a preliminary inventory of a recent archival donation. She says, "[The] personal archive of Richard Kosinski, consists of materials of two major organizations: Polish American Congress and Solidarity International. The establishment of the independent trade union, Solidarity, the related mass movement of the 1980s, and the Polish transformation of the 1990s were supported by a worldwide network of organizations. Solidarity International and its Connecticut chapter played a special role in this network. Materials from this collection and from related collections already in CPAA make [it] possible to research not only American support, but also the worldwide network. I am glad to be able to contribute my archival skills and knowledge to that."



Karina Garsztecka

Meet You in Special Collections/Archives cont.

Class Visits

Prof. Camesha Scruggs and her students from Introduction to Public History class (HIST 302) visited the archives to learn about archival work, and about creating, collecting, describing, and accessing personal papers, records, photographs and other historical ephemera.



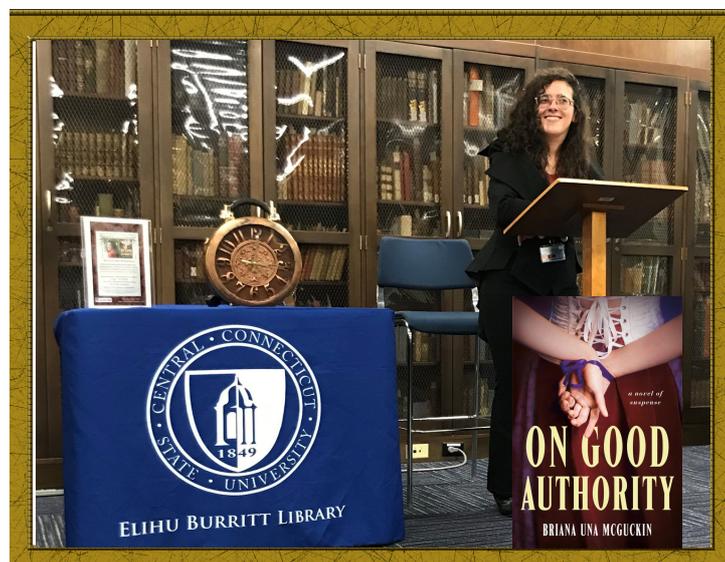
Prof. Jeanne Criscola and students from Design class (DES439) investigated the library's archival materials and various publications related to the historical change of the school's logo.



Book Talk: On Good Authority

Briana Una McGuckin, CCSU alumna and librarian, read pages from her debut novel, On Good Authority, published in October 2022. The book is described as a kinky, below-stairs Victorian, Romantic Suspense/Gothic Romance. Briana discussed her writing process and her path from first draft to publication. Aspiring writers and other students, faculty, and staff in the audience were captivated by Briana's honest and witty recounts of the writer's life and what inspires her.

Congratulations Briana!



Selections from the Elihu Burritt Library Rare Book Room

By Erika Gilleran and Harry Schmitt

On Saturday, October 29th, at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of Connecticut held at the CCSU Student Center, we presented the results of our research gathered on five rare Latin books from the Burritt Library Rare Book Room, dating as early as the 15th century. These books included *Nugae Venales* (1689), *De Rerum Natura* (1583), *Panegyrici Veteres* (1779), *Hincmari Archiepiscopi Remensis Opera* (1645), and *Liber Chronicon* (1493).

With some assistance from University Archivist Renata Vickrey, we were able to find information regarding the publication, the authors, and the books themselves, each illuminating the culture and the connections between citizens of the era.

Two of the highlights were *Nugae Venales*, a joke book which contains the famous *Pugna Porcorum*, “The Pig War”, a 248-line poem in which every word starts with the letter P by Jean Placentius, and one of the Library’s oldest volumes, *Liber Chronicon*, a chronicle detailing the history of the universe, starting with the Genesis, moving through its present day, and ending with Judgement Day, complete with woodcut images.

About the authors: Harry Schmitt is a Computer Science major and a Latin and Public History double minor, graduating in December 2022, and Erika Gilleran is an English major and Latin minor, graduating in May 2023.



Renata Vickrey,
University Archivist;
Dr. Gil Gigliotti,
Professor of English;
and students Harry
Schmitt and Erika
Gilleran at the Classical
Association of
Connecticut's annual
meeting.



Welcome New Blue Devils!

By Joy Hansen

First-Year Experience Course (FYE-C) & Guide

As reported in the Fall 2021 newsletter, instruction librarians were assigned to seven FYE-C pilot sections to collaborate with faculty and provide information literacy instruction through classroom visits as well as supplemental asynchronous learning materials.

What a difference a year makes! In Fall 2022, over thirty sections of FYE-C were offered and librarians visited twenty-one classes to meet students, provide an overview of library resources, facilitate active learning activities such as scavenger hunts, and more.

To supplement class visits, the First-Year Experience Guide offers pathfinders, tipsheets, and short tutorials with assessment that are used to “flip classroom instruction” and assigned by faculty to facilitate student learning. This semester, the guide found at <https://libguides.ccsu.edu/firstyear> was viewed 366 times.

Research on the Run Events

Under the brand of “Research on the Run”, librarians offered various afternoon “runs” (i.e., short workshops) on topics such as basic research skills, creating citations, and Zotero, a citation manager tool. New this year, database “dashes” provided quick overviews of popular library databases such as JSTOR, Scopus, and ABI/Inform. Twenty-one attendees brushed up on their research skills - either in person or online - and were entered into a drawing for two Amazon gift cards.

About half of the students were referred by faculty – the best referrals! When asked what they found most helpful about the workshop they attended, one student responded: “honing in on getting started and ways in which it could be useful without drowning in details of tech terms”. Check out <https://libguides.ccsu.edu/ResearchOnTheRun> for recorded workshops, videos on how to evaluate sources, and database tutorials.



New to the Library Brochure

The popular and colorful trifold brochure geared towards anyone new to library services has been reprinted multiple times. Used in first-year experience courses, new student tours and orientations, and as a resource handout at the Access Services and Reference desks, the brochure provides the answers to the most frequently asked questions the library receives.

New and Transfer Student Orientations & Prospective Student Open Houses

With renewed energy and expectation, the number of new student orientations - including one- and two-day events as well as prospective student open houses - surged over the summer and fall. The Library was represented at eleven (11) of these events, rolling out a new look for the library booth and fun giveaways. It felt great to welcome new students in person once again (and without masks!) and provide information on our services as well as persuade undecided students that CCSU is the place to be!



New Library trifold display for Open House events



"Satisfy your thirst for knowledge by visiting the CCSU Library" insert card with water bottle

Burritt Library Scholars

Recent Publications, Presentations, and Projects by CCSU Librarians

Antonucci, C.A. (2022, November 12). *Italian Americans in Connecticut during World War II* [Presentation]. The Association for the Study of Connecticut History (ASCH) Conference, Virtual.



Dr. Carl Antonucci and Dr. Felice Beneduce
at the IASA Conference in Pittsburgh, PA

Antonucci, C. A. & Beneduce, F. I. (2022, October 27-30). The forgotten tomb of Monsignor Anthony Bove. In R. Calabretta-Sajder (Chair), *Material Culture of the Italian Diaspora* [Panel presentation]. The 54th Annual IASA (Italian American Studies Association) Conference, Pittsburgh, PA.

Clapp, S. (2022, July 17). Adaptive strategies for successful librarianship in an AI-driven world. *IDEA Institute on Artificial Intelligence*. <https://idea.infosci.utk.edu/2022/07/17/adaptive-strategies-successful-librarianship-in-ai-driven-world/>

Clapp, S. (2022, October 18-20). *Podcasts & online photography: Photographic inventory database / website integration* [Google slides]. Internet Librarian 2022 Conference, Monterey, California. <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1xLc45HCFQIVQsDvhTiOdlOibrufFrC4tWTfXb2aJqA/edit?usp=sharing>

Hansen, J. I. (2022). As You Like It: Building, Executing, and Assessing an Adaptable Library Instruction Program for First-Year Experience Courses. *Communications in Information Literacy*, 16(2), 182–203. <https://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/comminfolit/vol16/iss2/6>

Hansen, J. I. (2022, August 12). *Research pathfinders* [MS powerpoint presentation]. Connecticut Info Lit Show-n-Tell, Middletown, CT.

Burritt Library Scholars

Recent Publications, Presentations, Projects by CCSU Librarians (cont.)

Matzke, B. (2022). "A hidden race of monstrous beings": Richard Wright's revision of H.P. Lovecraft's ecological horror. *Americana: The Journal of American Popular Culture 1900 to Present*, 21(1). https://americanpopularculture.com/journal/articles/spring_2022/matzke.htm

Maynard, J., & Matzke, B. (2022, November 12). *The Veterans History Project at Central Connecticut State University* [Pre-recorded presentation]. The Association for the Study of Connecticut History (ASCH) Conference, Virtual. https://mediaspace.ccsu.edu/media/VHP+Presentation-ASCH+Conference/1_4p8s1ou7

Ruhs, T. & Slaga-Metivier, S. (2022, Nov. 3). *Is it true? Evaluating misinformation* [Workshop presentation]. Speakers For Life! Series, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, Connecticut.

Vickrey, R.C. (2022, October 19). Determinants of Polish identity: A comparative study of Polish immigrants to the United States and New Zealand. In P. Sekowski & F. Wolff (Chairs), *From Poland into The World: Cultural Encounters between Migrants / Refugees and Local Populations* [Panel presentation] The 4th International Congress of Polish History, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland. <https://coph2022.pl/en/home/>



Renata Vickrey at the The 4th International Congress of Polish History in Krakow, Poland

Vickrey, R.C. (2022, November 12). *Connecticut Poles and World War II* [Presentation]. The Association for the Study of Connecticut History (ASCH) Conference, Virtual.

Building Experience Through Library Work

Tyler Denault, a freshman, is the student worker for the Information Systems and Resources department. He provides valuable assistance with locating and pulling books from the collection that are in need of attention. He also makes spine label repairs for books and process status changes to book records in the library's database.

The Reference & Instruction department welcomed Emily Cocco this fall. She is a freshman at CCSU, majoring in Exercise Sciences. She helps answer basic, student printing and direction questions, works on small projects, and helps gather data for the library impact dashboard. She hopes to work in the library throughout her studies at CCSU!



Emily Cocco

These students currently work at the Circulation desk, reshelve and shift materials and are currently working on our RFID tagging project, among other duties:

- Ashley Carter
- Lilly Fenelon
- Paige Gray*
- Taylor Knupp
- Gregory Moore
- Klever Pita
- Zoe Prevost
- Giselle Rodriguez
- Alexis Smith-Gomes
- Kaitlyn Stevens
- Helena Torres Diaz
- Aesha Wali

Grad student Dan MacNeil continues work on the digital archive of muralist & CCSU Emeritus Professor Mike Alewitz: "Working on this project has been a great experience. I've always been drawn to the arts and to history, and now I've had the opportunity to bring those two passions together at the Burritt Library. One piece of advice for future student workers - when opportunity presents itself, jump on it!"



Dan MacNeil



*Paige Gray is our whiteboard artist!

Your Digital Library

By Brian Matzke

The Burritt Library continues to expand and improve its digital archives, which are offered on the Connecticut Digital Archive (CTDA) at <http://hdl.handle.net/11134/530002:CCSU>:

Treasures of the Special Collections holds a variety of valuable photographs and documents that have been scanned from our archives, including the letters of our library's namesake, Elihu Burritt.

Student Publications offers a glimpse into CCSU's history with scanned copies of the university's yearbook and its literary magazine, The Helix.

Veterans History Project collects photographs and documents related to the experiences of over 800 Connecticut veterans who served in conflicts from World War I up to the present day. These materials supplement the recordings of oral history interviews that have been collected by CCSU's Veterans History Project.

Polish American Pamphlets preserves documents related to the history of the Polish American community, with special emphasis on the history of Polish Americans in Connecticut.

Polish Posters features high resolution scans of historic Polish movie posters from the mid-20th century.

COVID-19 Archive is an ongoing collection of photographs and texts submitted by students and employees that document the CCSU community's experience of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mike Alewitz collection exhibits materials related to the work of muralist and CCSU Emeritus Professor Mike Alewitz. For 17 years, Professor Alewitz directed the CCSU Art Department's one-of-a-kind mural program, and his students painted over 100 murals on the CCSU campus, as well as murals in downtown New Britain and several internationally. Thanks to a generous grant from Connecticut Humanities, the library was able to purchase a scanner and hire a student worker so that they could digitize thousands of photographs and documents showing Professor Alewitz's work and the work of his students.

These collections comprise over 65,000 items, and have been viewed nearly 37,000 times.

(right) Part of "Onelandia", a large mural celebrating Latin American Culture that was painted by the Mural Class of 2005 and removed in 2006. Many of the artworks created by the mural program have since been removed, and the photographs of the murals in CCSU's digital archives help to preserve these lost artworks.



(above) Professor Mike Alewitz with student Haley Marie Jones at her 2017 Capstone Exhibition featuring her award-winning painting.

We plan on continuing to expand and improve upon these collections in 2023. We will continue to add items to our existing collections, including Professor Alewitz's teaching materials, his news clippings, and photographs from mural slams and other events that his students participated in. We are also focused on improving the discoverability and usability of our collections, and are exploring how to make our digital archives accessible through our library catalog as well as through the CTDA's website.

We will also be pursuing funding for a new digital lab space. This space will feature digitization and computing equipment that will enable the Library to partner with faculty, students, and the community to create new digital archives and support other digital projects. In the coming months, we will be assessing the community's needs and exploring options to fund the creation of this new lab.

Thank You



**THANK YOU TO THE
SUPPORTERS AND DONORS OF THE
ELIHU BURRITT LIBRARY!**

By Renata Vickrey

It is the time of year when we are grateful for so many things.

We, in the Burritt Library, are especially grateful for your amazing generosity. You remember the Library every year and you help us to provide necessary materials for our students, faculty, and staff. With your donations, we have purchased subscriptions to additional scholarly databases, textbooks to be placed on reserve, and other resources.

Elihu Burritt Library is fortunate to serve such a wonderful community. We work hard to support that community and that community supports us right back. Thank you!

The Elihu Burritt Library staff wish you Happy Holidays!

If you plan to make an end-of-the year donation, you may do so online: <https://ccsu.networkforgood.com/causes/4010-elihu-burritt-library>. You may also contact Renata Vickrey at vickreyr@ccsu.edu

DONORS TO THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY FROM APRIL 20 TO DECEMBER 5, 2022

**MR. PAUL A. AMELOTTE
AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR POLISH CULTURE
MRS. CAROL A. ANDREWS
MR. ANDREW G. BARD
MRS. KAREN A. BARD
MR. W. FRAZIER BRINLEY
MRS. BARBARA E. CARROLL
MR. MARIO R. CAVALLO
MS. SHARON B. CLAPP
MRS. SANDRA S. COELHO
MRS. JUDITH L. COWELL
MR. WILLIAM J. COWELL
MR. DAVID M. DEPASTINO
MRS. RENEE M. DEPASTINO
MR. THOMAS C. DOLAN
MRS. PAMELA A. FALCONE
MR. PAUL J. FALCONE
MS. MICHELE A. FARIERI
MRS. KIMBERLY A. FARRINGTON
MRS. BETTY FEIGENBAUM
ATTY. SETH D. FEIGENBAUM
MISS NANCY FINCH
MR. HENRY FITZGERALD
MRS. JOAN W. FITZGERALD
MRS. LUCY M. FITZPATRICK
MS. BARBARA G. FOLEY
MRS. PATRICIA D. FREDERICK
MRS. JANNIE FRITSCH
MR. ROBERT W. FRITSCH II
MRS. FRANCES F. GALLAGHER
MR. PATRICK J. GALLAGHER
MR. DONALD R. GARCZEWSKI
DR. GILBERT L. GIGLIOTTI
MR. MYRON V. GOULD
MS. RITA D. GOULD
MS. DANA M. HANFORD
MS. JOY I. HANSEN
MR. THOMAS E. HEMSTOCK, JR.
MS. CHERYL A. HOLTHAM
CAPT. ROBERT J. IANUCCI
MS. DOREEN JONES
MRS. CATHERINE H. JOST
MR. JAMES F. JOST
MRS. SHEILA P. KAHN
MR. LOREN B. KAHN*
MRS. KAREN KOSCAK
MR. PAUL P. KOSCAK
MRS. NANCY P. KOSKIE
DR. ADRIENNE W. KOZLOWSKI
MR. JOHN A. KOZLOWSKI, JR.**

**MS. JACQUELINE C. LEWIS
MR. RICHARD B. LEWIS
MRS. SUSANNE B. LEWIS
DR. V. EVERETT LYONS, JR.
MRS. DONNA MAGNER
MR. FRANKLIN H. MAGNER
MRS. MARGARET A. MAHLAND
MR. JOSEPH P. MASCOLO
MRS. DIANNE V. MCHUGH
MR. ANDRE MORISSEAU
MS. SANDY MORISSEAU
MS. FRANCES A. NADEAU
MRS. JANE R. PALLOKAT
MRS. MICHELE S. PANCALLO
MR. FRANCIS T. PASCUAL
MS. MARTHA M. PERRY
MRS. ELAINE M. PILVER
MS. JESSICA L. REID
MRS. CLAIRE D. REILLY
MS. DIANE S. SATTON
MRS. SUSAN E. SEARLE
DR. JASON L. SYNDER
MS. JOAN R. SONDERGAARD
MRS. BARBARA A. SOREL
MR. JOHN D. SOREL
MR. FRED STILLMAN
MRS. PAMELA F. SUTKAITIS
MR. WILLIAM F. SUTTON
MRS. LORRAINE A. TANTORSKI
MR. DAVID B. THERRIAULT
MRS. LINDA B. THERRIAULT
MS. JULIE V. URBAN
MS. RENATA C. VICKREY
DR. JEREMY D. VISONE
MS. KERRY F. VISONE
MRS. MARYANN C. VON PATERNOS
MR. SANDFORD VON PATERNOS
MRS. BARBARA A. WAITE
MRS. DONNA M. WALLACE
MR. WILLIAM P. WALLACE
MRS. HELEN L. WELCH
MS. SARAH E. WHITE
MS. MARY PATRICIA WNUK
MS. DEBORAH M. WOODSOME
MR. RICHARD J. ZESK
MRS. TRINA H. ZESK
MRS. MARY ANN ZIEGER
DR. ROGER T. ZIEGER**

***DECEASED**



CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
ELIHU BURRITT LIBRARY

EDITOR: JOY HANSEN
PLEASE SEND ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS
TO JHANSEN@CCSU.EDU

LIBRARY WEBSITE: LIBRARY.CCSU.EDU

TEXT: (860) 288-8663
EMAIL/CHAT: LIBANSWERS.CCSU.EDU
BOOK A LIBRARIAN: TINY.CC/BOOKALIBRARIAN

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:
FACEBOOK.COM/BURRITTLIBRARY
TWITTER.COM/CCSU_LIBRARY