Electronic Resources Continue to Expand in the Library

The Queens College Libraries are continuing to expand their electronic resources. Yes, we're casting our net even wider this year. This Spring, the libraries of the City University of New York, through the Office of Library Services, will be evaluating four full-text periodical products for possible addition to the electronic holdings of the University:

- AIC Expanded Academic Index
  **February–March**
  Offered by Information Access Corporation; abstracts and indexing of 1,600 journals, 550 of which are full-text, with 200 additional full-text titles soon to be added. Covers 1980-date.

- EBSCO Host
  **March–April**
  Abstracts and indexing for 3,100 journals; 1,000 titles available in full-text. Covers 1994-date.

- UMI’s RESEARCH
  **April–May**
  Abstracts and indexing for 1,650 journals. From 1990-date, with backfiles available to 1986.

- Ovid Technologies
  **May–June**
  Ovid databases in allied health, biomedical, business, general reference, humanities, science, and technology. Ovid offers a series of full-text journals in the biomedical and mental health fields.

Since these services will be available from all CUNYIP addresses, you will be able to access these databases from any point on campus, but not from home. Each CUNYIP campus will evaluate the products; their content is similar, but the interface changes with each vendor. Questionnaires for each vendor will be distributed by CUNY’s Electronic Resources Advisory Committee. We hope to achieve a consensus on which vendor would be best suited for our Libraries and plan to offer that service in the 1997–98 academic year.

Our evolving library homepage (http://www.qc.edu) offers the following databases: GaleNet (Encyclopedia of Associations and Biography and Genealogy Master Index); Britannica Online; and Health Reference Center. By the time of this printing, our selected virtual library should be operational.

We also continue to offer OCLC FirstSearch, an assortment of more than 30 scholarly and general interest databases. Library faculty will be glad to conduct any workshops your department may request. Please direct comments or questions on products to Rolf Swensen (977-3675; rswences@qcvm.cuny.edu).

Rolf Swensen
Reference Department

Professor Anna Brady assisting a student with C-UNY+.

Library Offers Students Web Access

Over the course of the last two semesters, we have installed several computers in the reference area of Rosemont Library to give students access to information resources on the World Wide Web. These workstations allow library users to search for information which complements that available through other library resources.

We plan to add public workstations in Rosemont, Art, Music, and replace several of the "dumb" terminals used for searching CUNY+ on Level 3 with networked PCs that will give faster access to CUNY+ and to the Internet.

Rosemont Library's policy for using public access equipment differs from the policies of the Office of Information Technology and other computer labs:

- Public Internet workstations are to be used for information search and retrieval only.

- Workstations are not for e-mail, games, programming, word processing, and other software packages available over the campus network.

- Users are asked to limit their searching to 30 minutes.

- Users must provide their own paper or diskette to download searches. Searches are not to be downloaded to the hard disks. Hard disks are routinely restored, and no attempt is made to retain work consciously or intentionally downloaded.

- Queens College and CUNY students have priority in using equipment. Our classrooms are equipped to access CUNY+, the CD-ROM network databases, and the Internet. Librarians use these resources to teach library research skills. Please contact Prof. Anna Brady (977-3747; annb@qcvm.cuny.edu) to schedule a class or workshop.

Sharon Bonk, Chief Librarian
An Art Center with a View

B
t the Queens College Art Center and Art Library are the
tion picture camera. Derived from the
Greek words for turning and life, we see
objects on the inside of a spinning wheel
from slots on its outside. Persistence of
visions creates phantasmagoria of motion.

Similarly, the circular movement of
people around the atrium’s rim as well as
their reflections through the glass be-
come movies within themselves. The best
seats are grouped un-
derneath the hat of
the atrium’s spiked-
glass cupola, leading
to the spiral-ramped
gallery.
Like Frank Lloyd
Wright’s Guggen-
heim Museum, our Art Center is a wrap-
around gallery. Its circular track
incorporates our viewpoints so that we
see art in tandem with the fluidity of
time and space.
Up here in the Queens College Art
Center, reverie, serenity, and wonder-
ment reign supreme.

Lisa Franzenich
Reference Department

Shown above: Zoetrope
Welcome to the Queens College Art Center

For nearly thirty-five years, Queens College's Art Library has attracted art lovers from all walks of life with its art collections and exhibition programs. An outgrowth of the Art Library, the Queens College Art Center opened in 1988, along with the new Benjamin S. Rosenthal Library. Each year, the Center presents about ten exhibitions in the gallery, and one or more exhibitions in the Library's second and third floor lobbies.

Frequently, the Center also sponsors thematic exhibitions in the Library, such as National Library Week observances. More than one hundred exhibitions have been brought to the College community by the Art Center since 1988. Works of emerging and established artists from all cultures, in diverse media—paintings, drawings, prints, photography, sculpture, textiles, ceramics, mixed media—have been shown. We are pleased to promote artists who reflect the cultural richness of New York City and the College. New talent has included local artists and a few of the College's own MFA graduates. Some of our artists have gone on to significant success.

Usually one exhibit per season represents faculty work, typically by an active or emeritus colleague from the Art Department, generating additional interest among the College's alumni. The Center has also introduced several faculty from other departments in uncustomized roles. At least one other exhibit a year presents an artists' organization such as the Alliance of Queens Artists or the Women in the Arts Foundation.

The Art Center is run entirely by the staff of the Art Library. The Head of the Art Library is the Center's Director; the Art Librarian is its Curator. Drawing on collegial input and assisted by volunteers, they plan and schedule exhibits, prepare and distribute promotional information, oversee installations, and organize public events. When possible, exhibitions are guest curated.

The College supports the Art Center through the services of several of its departments: Photographic Services, Publications, Reprographics, College Relations, Mailroom, Security. Outside funding is sometimes available for production of catalogs and posters, and a re...

From Aachen to Zygiouries: The Dictionary of Art

This landmark resource (Art Ref N31 D5 1996) was received by the Library soon after it was published in Fall 1996. Valuable to specialist and general reader alike, this 34-volume comprehensive art reference work offers information on all aspects of the visual arts of every civilization from prehistory to the 1990s. The result of 15 years of work by more than 6,700 scholars, including Queens College faculty, its comprehensive figures—41,000 articles, 15,000 illustrations—are matched by a singular breadth and depth of coverage and by a high intellectual standards. The Dictionary of Art recognizes new scholarly approaches by examining works of art within the social, cultural, historical, and economic contexts in which they were created. The Library is grateful to the benefactors who aided this important purchase.

Samdamn Simon, Art Library

CLIQ Increases Freshman Interest in Library

For the past year, freshmen at Queens College have had to meet a six-credit College Life Introduction to Queens (CLIQ) requirement for participation in campus activities and events. Library tours and workshops are available for CLIQ points this Spring. Sign-up sheets for tours and workshops are located at the Information Booth of the Library. In addition, the Queens College Art Center dispenses CLIQ points for the slide lectures and gallery talks it sponsors in conjunction with exhibits, so do the Friends of the Queens College Library for their Spring lectures. For more information on these events, see the Calendar of Events on page 8.

Alexandra de Lisle, Art Library

Continued on page 4
Queens College Art Center

strictly fund is used for incidental exp-
enses and paid publicity.

The Art Center enjoys excellent rela-
tions with the Queens Council for the
Arts and the Flushing Council for the
Arts and Culture, the Borough Presi-
dent’s Office, a variety of agencies, and
individual benefactors. The retrospective
of the art work by the late Italian film-
maker and cultural activist Pietro Pa-
solini was one such important

With Friends like These...

T
he Friends of the Queens College Library have graciously made a
$5,000 donation for two major gifts that will add to the aesthetics and
functionality of the Library. The funds were used to purchase a lighted display
case measuring four feet wide by six feet high that will be used to showcase exhi-
bitions in the Library’s rotunda, and for the purchase and installation of an infor-
mation kiosk. Equipped with touchscreen capability, the kiosk will provide infor-
mation about library collections, ser-
vices, and upcoming events. The kiosk
acts much like an ATM machine in that it
allows users to touch different sections of a screen to reach an area of interest.
The Friends have also organized ex-

A message from the Queens College Art Center.

With Friends like These...

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allows users to touch different sections of a screen to reach an area of interest.
The Friends have also organized ex-
citing programs this Spring. For details of
upcoming events, please refer to
the Calendar of Events in PageDown for fur-
ther information. The Friends also con-
tinue their support of libraries by taking part in National Library Week, April
13–19.

One of the Friends’ projects, selecting a
poet laureate from Queens, is a first for the Borough. Contact David Cohen at
997–3260 or William Green of the Eng-
lish Department if you are interested in
nominating an individual worthy of dis-
tinction.

Your financial and personal support of the Friends organization is critical to its
continued success. Should you like to
donate your time and energy to a good cause, please contact David Cohen at
the number listed above for information on how to get involved with the Friends of
the Queens College Library.

David Orsonai
Coordinator of Access Services
WE NEED YOUR INPUT: Assessment/Performance Measures in the Library

Performance assessment has gained importance throughout academia in recent years as a result of changing economic conditions, new academic programs, and distance learning. Governing and funding agencies and educational reviewing bodies now require greater accountability and attention to student learning outcomes. In 1995, the Five-Year Planning Committee identified outcomes assessment as one of five top priorities for the College.

In the Library, some assessment of services and collections has been performed since the 1980 Middle States Review. As part of the planning process for the Self-Study in 1995, the Chief Librarian appointed an Assessment/Performance Measures Committee whose work includes the following:

ASSESSMENT OF DATA COLLECTION IN THE LIBRARY

The Committee's work has streamlined much of the data collection, replacement of ongoing collection with periodic sampling, centralizing data collection in the Chief Librarian's office, where it is used for analytic information, for reports required by State and CUNY agencies, and as a library management tool.

IDENTIFICATION OF COMPARABLE PEER INSTITUTIONS

Peer institutions were identified through the Carnegie classification. Library data from the U. S. Department of Education National Center for Education Statistics were compared to Queens College. Several problem areas were identified: overall low staffing level in relation to student body; number of serials subscriptions; size of monograph collections in relation to student body; public service hours; and preservation expenditures.

IDENTIFICATION OF KEY AREAS FOR ASSESSMENT

Library faculty have studied a number of services and collections using various assessment techniques, including questionnaires, focus groups, and faculty surveys, and have made the following improvements as a result:

- Enhanced Learning Program
- Instruction Program: Assessment confirmed positive impact on students' ability to do research and increased need for library instruction.
- Since Fall '96, workshops have been offered during free hour and bibliographers have encouraged faculty to bring their classes for library instruction.

- Improvement of Process for Reserve Library Materials
- Timeliness is essential for Reserve Library Materials. The order process has been further streamlined and notices to teaching faculty are mailed and returned to the library earlier, so that materials are available when assigned.

- Evaluation of ESL Students' Needs
- We learned from our assessment that the needs of ESL students in the Library were not very different from those who were educated in the United States. ESL students, too, asked for longer hours, more library materials, and additional instruction. In Spring '97, we extended library hours to 10 pm, opened on weekends earlier in the semester, and introduced library workshops.

- Extension of Hours in the Art and Music Libraries for Evening Students
- A survey conducted among Art and Music evening students indicated a need for additional hours, especially in the evenings. We extended hours in the Music Library on Tuesdays and offer two additional evening hours a week in the Art Library.

- Improvement of Periodical Collection Service
- A user survey indicated a need for increased staff assistance at the service desk and better signage. Both issues have been addressed.

Library Collections

Although many of the articles in this issue of PageDown focus on electronic resources and technology, they are not the sole focus of the library faculty and staff program support activities. The library faculty is involved in identifying gaps created by the severe budget restrictions of the last several years and developing a strategy for addressing these curricular and research-related needs as funds become available.

The Collection Development Committee (Shoshana Knauff, Chair; Nancy Macomber, Richard Wall, Subash Gandhi) has collected and analyzed quantitative College data about student enrollments and reviewed College bulletins for new and dropped courses in order to ensure that we use acquisitions funds appropriately for the campus' changing academic programs. Among initial findings are the lack of support for new courses and programs introduced during this period, and the need for an appropriate campus mechanism to ensure consideration of the adequacy of library resources.

Continued on page 5
Performance Measures

Enhancement of Gift Tracking

Gifts have become an increasingly important source for augmenting library collections. As a result of our study, we have streamlined the processing of gift materials and have increased efforts to acquire gifts which can be added to the collection.

Among areas identified for future assessment are: Interlibrary loan requests for articles from cancelled periodicals; a faculty survey regarding collections; and an Access Services survey.

The Library is committed to ongoing assessment of its services and collections. We are interested in feedback on the adequacy and quality of our performance. Let us hear from you!

Shoshana Koffmann, Associate Librarian

TLA Books Build Arts and Humanities Collections

This summer over 200 books from some 80 publishers, including many of the most distinguished titles of 1996, will be added to the shelves of the Queens College Libraries. Studies in drama and theatre, film, and broadcasting predominate, but many of the works represent contributions to other disciplines, such as art and music, and history, ethnic, and gender studies.

The donation of these books to the Library comes via the two annual book awards of the Theatre Library Association and the Association’s Chair for these awards, Richard Wall.

Having offered awards to Libraries was established as a means of providing library equipment to qualified libraries. This year, the Association’s George Freedley Award (given for a book related to live performance) was participated. Professor Wall has donated to the Queens College Libraries his copy of the book received in nomination for the awards. Especially during the years of lean library budgets, the addition of these books has helped keep strong areas of the collection used by faculty and students of the Department of Drama and Communications as well as having enhanced the Library’s holdings relevant to courses across the curriculum.

The competition for this year’s competition is a pleasure to announce that four members of the Queens College faculty have been nominated by their respective publishers for the 1996 George Freedley Award. They are from the Drama Department: Harry Carlin for Out of Inferno: Strindberg’s Requiemization as an Artist (University of Washington Press); Jacques Martin, for Stop in on the Blues: The Visible Rhythms of African American Dance (University of Illinois Press); and S. Peet, for Opening Nights: 25 Years of the Manhattan Theatre Club (Peter Lang Publishing); and from the Art Department: James Saboe for The Medieval Wedding of 1589 (Yale University Press).

Richard Wall
Bibliographer for Communication Arts & Sciences and Drama/Theatre/Dance
Calendar of Events 1997

April 13-19
National Library Week
A “triple concerto” of celebrations honoring the 200th anniversary of the birth of Franz Schubert, the 100th anniversary of the death of Johannes Brahms, and the 100th anniversary of the birth of William Faulkner. Sponsored by the Friends of the QC Library.
Sunday, April 13, 2 pm
Faculty Concert
LeFrick Concert Hall, Queens College
April 13-May 31
“A William Faulkner Centennial”
on continuous display, 3rd Floor Rotunda, Rosenthal Library. Curated by Barbara Gogel.
April 14-17
Annual Library Book Sale
Sponsored by the Friends of the Library Entrance Lobby, 3rd Floor
Monday, April 14, 12:30–2 pm
“Schubert and His Vienna”
Dean Raymond Erickson
Rosenthal Library, Room 230.

Wednesday, April 16, 12:30-2 pm
“William Faulkner and the Thriving Modern Novel”
Ms. Virginia Hjerva
Rosenthal Library, Room 230.
Thursday, April 17, 5:15 pm
Second Annual Donors/Friends’ Reception
By invitation
April 28–June 6
Jolyon Holsted: 30 Years at Queens College—Selected Work
ceramic and mixed media
Gallery talk, Tuesday, April 29, 4–5 pm, worth 1 CUQ point; Reception: Tuesday, April 29, 5–7 pm, Art Center, 6th Floor
June 12–August 7
Eduardo Gil:
Photographs of Argentina
Spanish and Latin American Art Center, 6th Floor

Exhibits in the Queens College Art Center, located on the 4th floor of the Rosenthal Library, can be visited Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 7 pm; Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 am to 8 pm; and Friday, 9 am to 5 pm. During Spring Break and other fixed holidays, hours are Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

Exhibits in the 3rdFloor display cases can be visited during scheduled library hours, usually 9 am to 10 pm on Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 5 pm on Friday, and 12 noon to 5 pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Preview of the Art Center 1997/1998 Season
September 2–October 6
Gamir: It Happened in New York in the Borough of Queens
(Works on Paper & Mixed Media)
October 10–November 14
Ramón Zabala: Photography
Spanish and Latin American Art
November 19–December 23
Angel Aragón: Drawings and Mixed Media
Spanish and Latin American Art
January 28–March 12, 1998
Jane Culp: Landscape Paintings
March 17–April 24, 1998
Francisco Catalá-Roca: Photography
Spanish and Latin American Art
April 30–July 13, 1998
Ellen Mandelbaum: Painting and Glass Art

Queens College, CUNY
Benjamin S. Rosenthal Library
Flushing, New York 11367-1597