



- IN THIS ISSUE:**
- From the Director
 - Artist's Death Touches Library
 - ILLiad
 - Community Publications
 - Library Services Staff News
 - What's Happening in Instructional Media
 - Archives Exhibit
 - The Final Word: Did You Know?

FROM THE DIRECTOR: eBooks and Oesterle Library



There are many different kinds of eBooks available on the market today. Most people think of an eBook as something they must download to a device like a Kindle, a Nook, or an iPad. When we talk about eBooks from a library perspective, however, we are typically talking about a much more generic idea, a book delivered in electronic format and NOT tied to a specific device.

An Oesterle Library eBook can be delivered via a number of different platforms, but all are accessed in much the same way. You locate them via CardinalCat, the online catalog, and the content is then viewed via your web browser. Each of the platforms has a slightly different set of options and restrictions, but all allow for the user to read the entirety of the book online. The majority of the titles we own also allow the user to save them as a local computer file in PDF format, print, or upload to a reading device (though to reinforce the point, no such device is required).

Oesterle Library currently owns more than 30,000 books in electronic formats. The Library collects eBooks using the same guidelines used to collect print books: to make information broadly accessible to our readers, striving for a balance between formats and expenditures, and among different publishers and license agreements. eBooks offer virtually instant access by anyone with a valid NCC network account from any connected computer or device in the world. Searching within an eBook is much more powerful than searching a table of contents or an index. Depending on the type of book and the agreement with the publisher, many of the titles can be updated on the fly. Primarily used for reference titles, this option ensures that information is always current. With some eBooks, when a 3rd edition supersedes a 2nd, it is immediately updated, saving the expense of adding a new volume and withdrawing the older work.

One way to consider the eBook is to think about the way electronic access has radically altered the landscape of the scholarly journal. Not very long ago, indexes and the journals they indexed were in paper. Then indexes became electronic, searchable, and accessible from many locations. Finally, the vast majority of the periodical and journal literature we use at NCC is accessed electronically, a system that allows us to have long term access to far more titles and articles than the physical envelope of Oesterle Library could ever have contained.

eBooks are somewhat different. One of the limitations comes from the publishers themselves. There are many titles, indeed the entire works of some publishers, that are not available to libraries in electronic formats. In some cases, it is out of fear of piracy; in others it is because the publishers may not have negotiated for the rights to sell the publications in electronic formats. Still other publishers seem to be particularly concerned that they would sell far fewer titles in e-formats and are not yet prepared to make that move.

Oesterle Library is not even remotely ready to move to an entirely electronic collection of books, even if all the works we sought were available in that format. In addition to the need for balance, there are some disciplines where paper is still the preferred format - books on art and architecture, for example, and large format books are not easily adapted to the screen. Other books, however, are being published with additional digital content, and those are the titles of the future. They are still few in number, but will continue to be more common. Imagine a work on 20th century history with video included in the 'pages' of the eBook, or an economics eBook with charts that adjust according to current market conditions or when the reader adjusts the inputs on a spreadsheet. eBooks are beginning to pick up interactivity that may change the dynamic.

On a different, yet related topic, it has been noted in these pages that the library has three Kindle Fire and three Kindle Touch devices for circulation. This project is about making the technology of an eBook reader available to the Campus Community, not about the eBook collections per se. Each of the Kindle eReaders contains a preloaded set of titles following a theme, such as books that have recently been made into movies or recent political titles inspired by the election season. We'll shortly also be circulating a small number of iPad Mini's for many of the same reasons: to allow for use and exploration of a technology that can be used for research and reading, and to enable our users to try the tools out to see how they fit into their own needs.

eBooks and eReaders are compliments to the longstanding collections of books, journals and media titles that Oesterle Library has always made available, and not replacements for those items. We'll continue to add eBooks that are appropriate for our collection; in other cases we'll add the print title. Every year, we'll evaluate our options, and monitor the balance of the materials we make available, working with our colleagues across campus, and our students.

John J. Small
Clare and Lucy Oesterle Director of Library Services

ARTIST'S DEATH TOUCHES LIBRARY

Painter and printmaker Will Barnett died November 12 at his home in Manhattan at the age of 101. Mr. Barnett's work was featured in a show in the Schoenherr Gallery November, 2010 through January, 2011. After the show, the artist donated one of his pieces to North Central College. *Twilight* follows one of Barnett's major themes, elegantly stylized portraits of beautiful women and children, specifically the artist's daughter reading a book to her son while a family cat lounges in the foreground. President Wilde thought the subject matter was particularly appropriate to the library setting, so *Twilight* now hangs in the Dr. Laura L. Tyson Education Curriculum Resource Center. *Twilight* is a limited edition serigraph, signed and dated by Mr. Barnett.



ILLIAD by Aimee Walker

Oesterle Library has implemented a new interlibrary loan system, ILLiad, for requesting and receiving articles or non-I-Share books. Interlibrary loan is a service that provides students, faculty, and staff with a way to gain access to materials that are not available through Oesterle Library. More than a thousand libraries across the United States already use the ILLiad system to deliver interlibrary loan items to their patrons.

The implementation of this system will allow students, faculty, and staff to track the status of their article and non-I-Share book requests, a capability that was not possible with the previous interlibrary loan process. The system uses the North Central College network username and password to authenticate users and allow them to access their request history, access requests that have been delivered electronically, and see the status of outstanding requests. The first time users log in to the system they will be asked to provide some basic information about themselves including their 7-digit North Central College ID number and North Central College email address. After they have completed this they will be registered in the system and can begin placing requests by filling out the request form manually or through library databases.

In addition to improved functionality for our users, the new system streamlines the workflow for library staff when filling requests and can even speed up the amount of time it takes to receive a requested item. If you have any questions about this new system please feel free to stop by the library and we would be more than happy to work with you.

It should be noted that the implementation of ILLiad in no way affects the use of I-Share as the first choice for requesting books via interlibrary loan. Any book not available through I-Share may be requested from ILLiad. The form can be found on the library website at Books, Movies and More/More/Request Books from non-I-Share libraries.

THIRD ANNUAL SNOW BOWL

The third annual Snow Bowl to benefit the Dr. Lora L. Tyson Curriculum Center is scheduled for Friday, February 1, 6:00 – 9:30 p.m. at Brunswick Zone XL, 1515 W. Aurora Ave. in Naperville. Registration is \$20 to socialize and enjoy snacks or \$30 including 2 hours of bowling. A portion of each entrance fee goes directly toward the purchase of materials and resources for the Tyson Center.

COMMUNITY PUBLICATIONS

Each term Oesterle Library's Community Publications exhibit highlights the scholarship of the North Central Community. With Dr. Troy Hammond beginning his tenure as the college's tenth president in January, it seemed appropriate to include his scholarship as well. Thus, this term there are two Community Publication exhibits. The traditional display features the work of: Sara Eaton, Jerry Gems, Perry Hamalis, Ann Keating, Matthew Kirkpatrick, Gregory Ruthig, and Gregory Wolf. What is normally the themed exhibit showcases the work of Dr. Hammond throughout his career, including his thesis. Stop in and test your ability to comprehend the work of an experimental atomic physicist on such topics as "Atom Interferometry: Dispersive Index of Refraction and Rotation Induced Phase Shifts for Matter-Waves."

LIBRARY SERVICES STAFF NEWS

The library staff recently welcomed its newest member, Mary O'Dea, Co-coordinator of Technical Services. Mary comes to North Central College after spending the past two years as Acquisitions and Serials Librarian at Lewis University and the previous ten years at the Newberry Library. She earned her master of library and information science degree at Dominican University. She also holds a BA from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and a MA in Germanics from the University of Washington at Seattle. Among her professional interests, Mary counts E-resource technology and problem-solving, process flow and sustainability of systems, and intellectual freedom. Her personal interests include bicycling, hiking, swimming, and working with her hands. Please join us in welcoming Mary to the North Central College Community.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA by Tom Gill



We've updated the Instructional Media web page. Step by step instructions for most every piece of audiovisual equipment we loan out can be found at http://library.noctrl.edu/instructional_media/instructions.htm. In addition to quick, easy to follow instructions on individual pieces of equipment, we also offer step by step directions for using the equipment in most classrooms and meeting spaces on campus - such as Smith Hall, White Activities Center, and Heininger Auditorium. Included on the web page is a "how to" section detailing the steps to perform a number of multimedia processes such as adding multimedia to PowerPoint presentations, and converting cassette tapes and records to MP3s. Additional directions will be added in the near future.

Do you have a CD or DVD that jumps or fails to play due to scratches on the playing surface? Don't throw them away! Instructional Media can repair them to factory condition. Our resurfacing machine uses a series of specialized wet-sanding discs and polish to completely remove the scratches from any standard DVD or CD, allowing them to once again play perfectly. Bring your scratched college related discs to the Instructional Media office to determine if they can be repaired. Cracked or chipped discs cannot be fixed.

Have you ever accidentally hit delete on your camera when you were viewing your photos? There's a good chance that photo can be recovered! Providing you didn't over-write the data on the memory card, we may be able to recover the deleted photo using software from Sandisk. Stop by and we'll give it a try.

ARCHIVES EXHIBIT:

With the arrival of the College's 10th President, Dr. Troy Hammond, the winter archives exhibit case will feature photographs and summaries highlighting accomplishments of the previous nine presidents of the College. From the first President A. A. Smith's vision for a co-educational Christian college in Plainfield, Illinois to President Hal Wilde's impact in creating new College spaces and places in Naperville, Illinois, its presidents have kept North Central relevant throughout its more than 150 years.

Presidents of North Central College: A. A. Smith (1861-1883); H. H. Rassweiler (1883-1888); H. J. Kiekhoefer (1889-1910); L. H. Seager (1911-1915); E. E. Rall (1916-1946); C. Harve Geiger (1946-1960); Arlo L. Schilling (1961-1975); Gael D. Swing (1975-1990); Harold R. Wilde (1991-2012); Troy D. Hammond (2013-).

THE FINAL WORD: DID YOU KNOW.....?

Everyone knows that Oesterle Library has books, journals, and databases, but our readers may not be aware of the array of other materials and services the Library offers. Did you know that...

- ❖ Reproductions of dozens of pieces from Oesterle Library's Special Collections and the North Central College Archives, which were featured in a Schoenherr Gallery sesquicentennial exhibit, have now been returned to Oesterle Library and are on display in the lower level lobby. The majority of those pieces are from the Sang Collection of Presidential Signatures, which begins with George Washington and ranges through 31 of the first 37 presidents of the United States. Signatures from later presidents were taken from other collections.
- ❖ Instructional Media (IM) circulates digital cameras, digital recorders, and digital video cameras (among many other things) to students, faculty, and staff. These items must be reserved ahead of time: http://library.noctrl.edu/instructional_media/request.htm. They must be picked up and returned at the Information Services Desk. IM also has the capability of repairing scratched DVDs and CDs.
- ❖ The arrival of new library materials is announced in several ways. Faculty receive regular email notifications as new materials are processed and displayed on the "New" shelf in the Reference Room. Selected new materials are also highlighted by discipline on the "Books" page of each "Research by Subject" guide on the library website.
- ❖ The library's current news publications are all displayed in the lower level lounge, which is furnished with comfy chairs perfect for a brief reading break. Or, if you prefer a little quieter atmosphere, right next door is the library's Quiet Zone, where you can take a break from the distractions of the world while enjoying your reading.
- ❖ If you are fascinated by all things Chicago, the Tholin Chicagoana collection, housed in Haven Hubbard, is for you. The 1,200 volumes, a donation from rare book collectors Richard '49 and Phyllis '49 Tholin and their daughters, deal with every aspect of Chicago and its history, and contain many unique items, some of which may only be found at The Newberry Library. The items in the collection are visible in the online catalog, CardinalCat, and are available for browsing in the Library. Faculty may check items out for three days.
- ❖ The North Central College Archives are open for research, whether you are working on a class research project or you just want to come in and look at photos or diaries or ask questions related to Archives materials.
- ❖ Each term the Community Publications Exhibit features the most recent publications by the North Central College Community. Stop in and take a look at your colleagues' work.
- ❖ Many of us routinely turn to Google when in need of a quick fact, but often the situation calls for just a little bit more reliable information than is commonly retrieved by googling. That's when it's helpful to know about Oesterle Library's [online reference sources](#). Whether you need the current population of the Gaza Strip or background information on domestic violence, these sources provide quick, trustworthy information to the researcher or casual inquirer alike.
- ❖ As announced in the Fall 2012 *EX LIBRIS*, the Library has purchased 6 Kindle e-Book readers that are available for check-out to North Central College students, faculty, and staff. The three Kindle Fires and three Kindle Touches, each loaded with a different themed reading list, will circulate for two weeks, and may not be renewed.
- ❖ Those colorful flags hanging in the library lobby each represent either the native country of one of our current international students, or a country where one of our students is currently studying. This colorful display represents North Central's deep commitment to an education that includes a global dimension.

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