

Library Introduces New E-Book Collection

Electronic resources represent a popular format for the dissemination of scholarly information, and e-books are just one facet of this type of resource. E-book publishing has increased markedly over the past few years, and nearly every publisher now offers books electronically.

Library users are also eager to access more materials in electronic format — a trend that has been increasing annually. As a result, academic and public libraries seek to balance their collections with both print and electronic resources. This trend, supplemented with the appeal of remote access, led to the Cheng Library's decision to dedicate a portion of its materials budget to the purchase of additional books in electronic format.

To satisfy this interest in e-books, the Cheng Library recently acquired a new collection of nearly 500 electronic books from the Ebrary E-Book Service. Ebrary provides content from hundreds of different publishers, including many well-known academic publishers. When combined with the Library's existing collection of more than 4,000 e-books available from NetLibrary, the total number of e-books is more than 4,700.

The Library purchased "starter packs" of 40 titles in seven subject areas available from Ebrary: nursing, sports, education, special education, and interdisciplinary studies among others. Selected titles were included from other disciplines as well. More than 100 titles from the Choice Outstanding Academic Titles list are also part of the Library's Ebrary collection.

But it is not just the content that is attractive about this new collection. The Ebrary company has developed software that enables readers to utilize many advanced features of their "InfoTools" menu.

Especially noteworthy is the ability to highlight text and add notes to the e-books. Users are permitted to create individual accounts in Ebrary which will save their personal notations and will show a list of the books in a personal "bookshelf."

Additional features include the ability to:

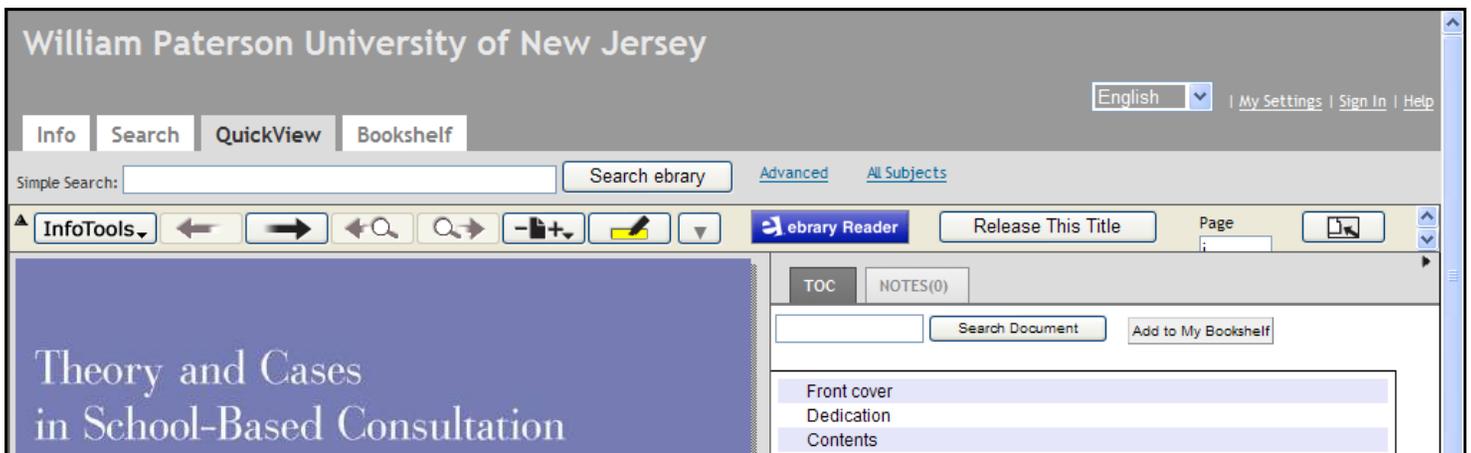
- Navigate using the table of contents.
- Flip through pages, or jump to specific page numbers.
- Search for occurrences of a specific word throughout the book.
- Add a hyperlink to selected text.

- Copy and print with automatic citations.
- Use "InfoTools" to expand your search to information on the web.

Below is a small selection of titles in the Ebrary collection.

- *Essentials of Nursing Leadership and Management*
- *Young Women in Japan: Transitions to Adulthood*
- *From Immigrants to Americans: The Rise and Fall of Fitting In*
- *Fair Play: The Ethics of Sport*
- *New Urban Sociology*
- *Role of the Father in Child Development*
- *Dyslexia: Students in Need*
- *Media, Markets and Democracy*
- *Health Promotion Programs: From Theory to Practice*
- *Women in Early Imperial China*
- *Language and Literacy Development*
- *Ancient Maya: New Perspectives*
- *Children's Speech Sound Disorders*
- *Global Tectonics*

To access these and other e-books in this collection, simply type "ebrary" in the Library's online catalog and click on the hypertext link.



A view of Ebrary's electronic book screen showing the InfoTools link and some of the features for searching and navigating.

The Friends of the Cheng Library: Recent and Forthcoming Events

The Friends of the Cheng Library has had a busy calendar this academic year, with two programs completed and one scheduled for next fall.

Last fall, on October 31, the Friends sponsored a panel discussion on the Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park. The program, entitled “The Future of Paterson’s Past: What Can a National Park Do?” reviewed events of the history of Paterson and the role played by the Great Falls in the development of the City. The speakers also explored the many ways the city will be transformed by the development of this area.

The Great Falls of the Passaic River and the immediate surrounding area received the designation by the Federal government of a national historical park. The bill, sponsored by Rep. Bill Pascrell, was signed by Pres. Obama on March 30, 2009.

The featured speakers of the event were Leonard A. Zax and Bill Bolger. Mr. Zax is President of the Hamilton Partnership for Paterson, and Mr. Bolger was named project manager for Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park by the National Park Service.

In introducing the speakers, Associate Provost, Stephen Hahn, commented “A city is in large part bricks and mortar, but also people, and the people in relation with one another.”

Mr. Zax, a lawyer and a city planner with experience in community development and historic preservation, was born in Paterson and grew up there attending local schools. He has deep ties to the city and established the Hamilton Partnership for Paterson, a new non-profit organization, to help organize a plan for citizen participation in the design of the park and its educational content.

As Mr. Zax noted, the City of Paterson enjoys the designation of having produced many of America’s “firsts”: the first hydropower system, the first motorized submarines, the first sail cloth, the first Colt revolvers, and the first American silk fabric production.



A recent photograph of the Great Falls of the Passaic River, Paterson, New Jersey.

In 1791, Alexander Hamilton, founded America’s first planned industrial center by harnessing the energy inherent in the Great Falls and creating water raceways to power the factories. The center, now the City of Paterson, was named after William Paterson who was governor of New Jersey at that time.

Mr. Bolger, said of this project, “Every park is unique. The site needs to speak to the users, and to pursue the best use with respect to the mission.” He expressed his vision that this project will use the environment around the park to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Paterson.

The mission of the National Park Service is to preserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects while developing the land. Their role will be to interpret the land and to develop the park.

Additional partners of the park project include the City of Paterson, New Jersey Historic Commission, Passaic valley Water Commission, Passaic County Planning Commission, and the Passaic River Coalition, among others. In a project of this

magnitude, all partners bring strategic roles and fundamental knowledge to the venture.

The Friends of the Library also sponsored a lecture by Dr. David Gilley, Assistant Professor, WPUNJ Biology Dept. on May 1, 2011. The lecture, “Honey Bee Foraging Communication: Its Importance and New Research Findings,” focused on the latest discoveries regarding honeybee communication. Dr. Gilley reported that after returning to the hive, honeybees do a “waggle dance” in a figure-eight formation to communicate the location and quality of good nectar as well as its distance from the hive.

Next fall, the Friends will sponsor a lecture by Dr. Jim Tsiamtsiouris, Assistant Professor, WPUNJ Communication Disorders Dept., titled “The King’s Speech: Facts and Myths about Stuttering in Children and Adults.”

The Friends of the Cheng Library welcomes your attendance at this event. You may also consider becoming an active member of the Friends. Additional information is available on the Friends’ web site, www.wpunj.edu/friends.



THE FRIENDS OF THE CHENG LIBRARY

The cover of the March 2011 issue of *Architectural Record* features a photograph of the new museum and library at Musashino Art University in Toyko. It is a beautiful building with light and space and acres of empty shelves, which has the capacity to house 300,000 volumes. The empty shelves are meant to speak to the library's potential to house these volumes, although there is also a sense that the future of library architecture must grapple with the fast-moving pace of electronic media. Indeed, the lead article for this feature talks about this need and gives us a history of library design and its relationship to knowledge, power, and community engagement.

The lead article is written by James Murdock, who is a video producer for the New York Public Library, and the article is titled, "Beauty and the Book: Libraries in the digital age raise questions about the place of books." Murdock insists that architecture must help libraries transition from a space where books were used historically as symbols of power and wealth to "comfortable space where people come together to tell their own stories and discover new ones." He traces for us the rise of libraries during the middle ages where monks controlled the flow of information by controlling the use of books, to the grand libraries of Renaissance Italy where families like the Medicis built elaborately decorated libraries, like the Laurentian Library designed by Michelangelo, which was meant to announce the arrival of the Medici family into the ruling class. After the Enlightenment, Murdock shows us, libraries transformed into spaces where the working class could go to learn and better themselves but which still relied upon the presence of the physical book read in cavernous spaces. Today, however, the evolution of the book and its place in society, and the evolution of e-media, have again transformed the space in which these products of knowledge exist to structures that are filled with light and open space meant to encourage community gathering and knowledge production that is less solitary and more interactive.

Following Murdock's introductory essay, the magazine looks at a handful of new library construction that attempts to address this often conflicting need to provide space to house books, to make room for electronic media, and to create gathering spaces for communities. The libraries featured in this issue are stunning: the exterior walls of the Musashino library that consist of empty bookshelves wrapped in glass; the glass and concrete library in Peoria, Arizona that sweeps across the desert floor; the juxtaposition of the new and the old in the Westmeath County Library in Mullingar, Ireland where stone remnants of a 19th-century prison are incorporated into the ultramodern lines of the library; and, the green metal canopy that drapes over the 17-foot-high glass wall in the Anacostia Library in Washington, D.C.

These examples of contemporary libraries are beautiful, but they also cause us to think of what libraries will look like in twenty or thirty or forty years. I envision a space where the walls are made up of enormous screens that constantly flow information. A library where the community gathers to discuss and to discover but also a place where someone can tap into these information-laden walls and link to an infinite array of information, where we can create intimate spaces to search endlessly for the information we need but where we can also find places where interaction with our communities enhance this knowledge and enrich it and us. And the books which once populated the space we once visited? Murdock comforts us and writes that, "rest assured, books will always be there in both paper and digital form," but perhaps the place for the printed book will no longer hold center stage but be an object of study as an artifact of an ever-changing system of knowledge production and knowledge transmittal.

Andrew W. Barnes
Chair, The Friends of the Cheng Library
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“Life, the Great Challenge” Puzzle Completed by Library Staff

It was the last piece, irregular in shape and measuring less than one inch square; and when Jill placed it in its proper location, the jigsaw puzzle was finally finished. So ended the nearly year-long quest of several library staff to complete what has officially been recognized by Guinness World Records as the world’s largest commercial jigsaw puzzle.

Life, the Great Challenge is the puzzle’s title and it was designed by artist Royce B. McClure. At the Cheng Library, the puzzle was started on March 27, 2010 and the final piece was added by Jill Pruden on February 28, 2011. Excluding weekends and days the University was closed, it took 213 days of breaks and lunchtimes to put it together. The finished puzzle contains 24,000 pieces and measures approximately 14’ x 5’.

After the puzzle was completed, Gary Marks and Maurice Vacca, who work in Lending Services, designed and constructed a frame for it. The puzzle sections were then glued to the frame, and clear epoxy was applied to the entire puzzle. Finally, on March 16, 2011, the puzzle was hung in the Amy Job Classroom – a location chosen mainly because it had a wall large enough to accommodate the puzzle!

The puzzle was purchased by the library staff, and several staff members participated in assembling it: Pam Vovchuk, Jill Pruden, Mark Sandford, Sherri Tucker, Pat Moore, Yvonne Roux, Anne Ciliberti, Megan Ruzsala and Barbara Smith.



A detail of the puzzle, *Life, the Great Challenge*, in the Amy Job Classroom.

If you haven’t yet seen the finished product, stop by the Amy Job Classroom and take a look. It is a welcomed addition to the wall at the

back of the room where viewers marvel at its dimensions, and where its colorful presence inspires thoughts of the complexity of life to daydreamers.

Two Library Student Assistants Receive Awards

Every year, the Cheng Library staff recognizes the special support provided by the student assistants who work in the Library. Their amiable assistance is appreciated in many areas of the Library.

The Annual Student Assistants’ Recognition and Awards Reception is held in April, and special students are selected to receive the Library’s Outstanding Student Assistant Awards.

To be eligible for the award, students must have worked in the Library for a minimum of three semesters and have excellent attendance records.

This year, the ceremony was held in the Paterson Room on April 21, 2011, to recognize and honor these dedicated student workers. Krystle Frederick and Kate Thompson, two students who work in the Lending

Services Department, were selected to receive awards this year.

Krystle will graduate this May with a degree in Biology and has aspirations to attend optometry school. Krystle has worked in Lending Services since the fall of 2009. During that time she has shelved 8,420 books on the second floor, and has monitored nearly a half mile of the collection for shelving errors.

Kate will graduate in December, 2011 with a degree in Elementary Education and English. She will continue working during the fall semester as she participates in her student teaching requirement. Kate has worked in Lending Services since the fall of 2008 and she has shelved 10,420 books during that time.

Congratulations to Krystal and Kate, and a big “thank-you” to all of the Library’s student assistants!



CONNECTIONS

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