



TRINITY COLLEGE LIBRARY CONNECTIONS

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Trinity College • 300 Summit Street • Hartford, Connecticut 06106

RENOVATION AND BEYOND

Welcome to the newly renovated Trinity College Library! As you can already see from the outside, the 1978 addition has been completely reclad in brownstone and provided with new windows. On the south side, you will also observe that our large new addition is fast approaching completion.

This has been a challenging summer, which saw accelerated construction at the same time that the Library maintained internal operations and offered modified public services. As of the first day of classes, we are again fully operational and are providing our range of services and open-stack access to the collections, with the exception of periodicals, government documents, and the Dewey collection. These are located on Level C and need to be requested through the Library Catalog. With the completion of the project, C Level with its holdings will become publicly accessible.

From the Long Walk you now enter through a new set of doors into a vestibule with built-in seating situated along a new divider that will eventually define part of the 24-hour zone. For the present, this is the main entrance to the Library, and it is here that you encounter the new Current Periodicals Reading Room with periodicals and newspapers displayed on new shelving around the perimeter of the room. Temporarily, while construction is still in progress, the Library's Circulation and Reference Desks have been located in the center of this Reading Room. To the south of the Circulation and Reference Desks is the Reference Collection. When the new addition is completed in late winter of 2003, Circulation, Reference Services and the Reference Collection will be moved one floor below onto Level A.

For those of you who have been active users of the stacks in the past, you will be surprised by how much they have been transformed, especially, the 3rd, 2nd, and A Levels. New lighting, new tile and carpeting, wider aisles, and a fresh coat of paint have made these floors much more inviting. The books cataloged in the Library of Congress classification have been arranged in a more logical order in newly installed stacks. The



sequence begins on Level 3 with the A's and finishes with the Z's on Level A (bottom floor). There are study spaces throughout the building on Levels A, 1, 2, and 3.

The new Library Instruction Room is located on Level A. The majority of the Library Instruction sessions scheduled for the fall will take place in this new facility. Adjacent to the Library Instruction Room are the microform collections and readers. With the opening of the new addition, Level A will become the main entrance and the central hub for the whole Library and Information Technology Center.

Since we are in a dynamic situation with ongoing construction, I want to remind you to consult the Library homepage for updates: <http://www.trincoll.edu/depts/library/>. Our goal is to keep the campus community informed as the work continues. There will be times through the year when construction will necessitate an abrupt change in our anticipated operations. Please keep informed by checking the homepage.

I want to close by thanking all of you for your patience and understanding during this challenging time and invite you to experience our newly renovated Library.

—Dick Ross, College Librarian

A New Position and New Colleagues in the Library

Faculty in the Social Sciences had for some time articulated the need for a new position to assist students and faculty with obtaining and using data resources. Individual faculty members are using a variety of datasets in their classes and for their research, but there is no centralized inventory of all the resources available at Trinity. Support is also needed to identify appropriate data resources for classes and research projects and to help students to work with them.

To provide these services, the Social Sciences Chairs and the College Librarian have collaborated over the past year on defining **the new position of a Social Sciences Data Specialist**. The position reports within the administrative structure of the Library and is guided by an advisory committee of Social Sciences faculty, the College Librarian, and a Library Department Head.

Early in the summer, a committee of Social Sciences faculty, librarians and academic computing staff conducted a national search to fill this new position, and we are happy to report the appointment of **Linda Duffy** as our first Social Sciences Data Specialist. Linda has just completed a Master's Degree in Information Management Systems at the University of California, Berkeley. She also holds a Ph.D. in Demography from the University of Pennsylvania and a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Chicago.

Linda has an office in the Library, currently on the 3rd floor, and she will be working closely with Social Sciences faculty, and colleagues from the Library as well as Academic Computing to establish this new program. Please stop by or contact Linda by phone (ext. 4114) or e-mail if you have any question for her.

Also new to our staff is **Kevin Gilbertson**, who joined the Trinity College Library in March as the Shelving and Technical Support Manager. Kevin holds a B.A. in English from the University of South Carolina, and has previously worked as Library Assistant with South Carolina's largest circulating newspaper. Kevin can be reached in Access Services (ext. 4216) on the 1st floor of the Library, but more often you will find him working in the stacks.

New Full-Text Databases in the Humanities and Social Sciences

During the past six months, the Library has significantly expanded its access to full-text databases in the Humanities and Social Sciences by adding three major on-line collections:

1. **Literature Online (LION)** is a full text database that includes about 326,000 works of English and American poetry from the 8th century to the present, about 4,600 works of English and American drama from 1280 to 1915, and about 1,100 works of English and American prose from 1500 to 1903. In addition, it contains secondary literature of some 782,000 articles, monographs and dissertations from 1920 onward, the full text of 67 literature journals, and 8 leading literary reference works. LION also links to more than 16,000 Web sites and provides biographies for 1,550 of the most widely studied authors.

2. The **Religion and Philosophy Collection (RPC)** is a rich interdisciplinary resource for faculty and students in the Humanities. It contains full-text articles from 282 journals covering a broad range of subjects, including world religions, biblical studies, religious history, political philosophy, philosophy of language, moral philosophy, and history of philosophy. A list of titles included in the collection is available at http://www.epnet.com/TitleLists/html/rl_h1.htm. With the purchase of this collection we just about doubled our access to online Humanities journals.

3. The **Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection (PBSC)** is an excellent database with a broad social sciences focus. It contains over 500 journals, the majority peer-reviewed. About half of the journal titles are not in CTW or part of other databases. Most of the coverage is from the 1990s to current. For some titles, full text goes back to the mid-1970s. A list of titles included in the collection is available at http://www.epnet.com/TitleLists/html/pb_h1.htm. Both PBSC and the PsycInfo online index use the same EBSCO host interface and researchers can link from citations in PsycInfo to the full text articles within PBSC.

The Library has arranged for **demonstrations of these databases** on the following dates:

Psychology and Behavioral Sciences Collection

— Monday, October 7th, 10am

Religion and Philosophy Collection

— Monday, October 7th, 11am

Literature Online — Tuesday, October 8th, 10am

They will be held in the new Library Instruction Room on the A-floor of the Library. For more information, please contact Lorri Huddy at ext. 5211.

Information at All Speeds

It has been estimated that human information doubles at least once every five years. It has also been estimated that by 2020, new information coming to us will double every 73 days! A scientist at the Food and Drug Administration reports, in the new world of gene mapping, that over 75 percent of the medical information about disease treatment will last no longer than five years. Life in the 21st century has become multi-tasking, fast-forwarding, and information bombarding by phone, fax, and the Internet.

Along with this fast track of information, there is a vast body of knowledge recorded by writers and thinkers from previous centuries and other cultures. This knowledge is only accessible through a slow process of research and study. To examine and evaluate new and diverse concepts with an awareness of their origins and history are essential ingredients of the critical thinking skills of a strong liberal arts education.

The overwhelming accumulation of knowledge and the evolution of ideas are at the heart of **Information Literacy**. It is a set of skills that lead you to analyze, find, retrieve, interpret, and use information as it expands and evolves. In the next few years, you will hear a great deal about Information Literacy as we create the programs that develop these skills for lifelong learning and inquiry.

Trinity College, together with Connecticut College and Wesleyan University, is the recipient of a **three-year grant** from the **Mellon Foundation** to introduce Information Literacy skills throughout the curriculum. Faculty and librarians, along with colleagues from Academic Computing and the Writing Center, will be working together to create the programs and assignments that reinforce the five competencies of Information Literacy. This fall, all First Year students are being introduced to the Library and the basic competencies of Information Literacy through their First-year Seminars. Upper-level students will acquire advanced competencies through discipline-specific instruction. Online tutorials and guides are underway. We are very excited about the opportunities that this grant presents to Trinity for collaboration on many levels!

The Five Core Competencies of Information Literacy

1. Analyze: What do you need to know and why?

This first, most important step requires you to understand your information needs. That, in turn, will determine where and how you begin your information search.

2. Locate: Can you find what you need efficiently?

Where ARE the best places to find your resources? In the library stacks? Using an online database? With an interview? Searching archives or manuscripts? Do you have the skills to locate your information in a variety of places and ways?

3. Evaluate: Have you found the best and most appropriate information?

Whether searching online or in print for your information, are you sure of the quality of what you have found? Or are you just using what was the most expedient?

4. Present: Are you using the most effective means to communicate?

Is your information best presented written or visually? In a graph or an outline? In a Power Point presentation or a Web page? Can you use/create the appropriate presentation method?

5. Use Ethically: Are you presenting your information honestly?

Have you given proper credit when using ideas found in print, on the Web, in a film? Are you manipulating the facts with your statistics, your words, or your data?

Merchants, Bibliophiles, and Libraries: An Entrepreneurial Legacy

A Fall 2002 Series Sponsored by the Trinity College and Watkinson Library Associates

Tuesday, September 24: Merchants

A book talk, signing, and reception for Janet Siskind, author of *Rum and Axes: The Rise of a Connecticut Merchant Family*, which focuses on the fortunes of the Watkinson Family.

**Gallows Hill Book Store
Trinity College
5:00 p.m.**
Free and open to the public.

Saturday, October 26: Libraries

A bus trip to Boston to visit the Boston Atheneum and Special Collections at the Boston Public Library. Leaving Trinity College at 7:30 a.m. and returning by 6:30 p.m.

For details on times and cost, call Mary LaPorte at the Trinity College Library, (860) 297-2256.

Tuesday, October 29: Bibliophiles

A lecture by Nicholas Basbanes, book collector and well-known chronicler of the book world in *A Gentle Madness: Bibliophiles, Bibliomanes, and the Eternal Passion for Books* and *Patience and Fortitude: A Roving Chronicle of Book People, Book Places, and Book Culture*.

**McCook Auditorium
Trinity College
7:30 p.m.**
Free and open to the public.



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