



Trinity College
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NEWS from the Libraries at Trinity College

Director's Column

Dr. Richard S. Ross,
College Librarian

As you can see from the articles in this newsletter, the Library continues to reach out to students in creative ways and engages them in opportunities to interact with our staff, resources and spaces. This spring, we are inaugurating two new programs: the Research Associates Program to develop peer-mentors for library research, and the Watkinson Creative Fellowships to support the production of creative projects based on materials held in the Watkinson Library. For both of these programs, applications were solicited and reviewed during the fall semester and eight students were accepted into the research associates course co-taught this spring by a team of librarians, while five students have been awarded fellowships in the Watkinson Library and have started their projects.

Students have also been involved in creating several recent exhibits, both in the Watkinson and the main library. In spring 2010, the Watkinson Library sponsored an exhibition entitled "Book Matters: Studying and Making Books at Trinity", showcasing final projects from two courses taught by Trinity faculty members (one in history and the other in studio arts). This past fall, an American Studies graduate course taught by Rick Ring, the Watkinson curator and librarian, culminated in a student-curated exhibition, "Seven Wonders". Along with creating the displays, the students wrote, designed, and raised money for the production of a full-color 16-page illustrated catalog of the exhibit. Also in the fall, a First Year seminar on photography books collaborated with library staff on a reception and display of student-created photo-

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Research Education in Numbers

by Doris Kammradt, Head Librarian for Collections, Research & Instruction

The time to gather and analyze our library statistics usually falls at the end of the academic or fiscal year, in June or July, when we begin to prepare our annual reports. However, with the inauguration of the Library's new service point in September 2011, we decided to take a numerical snapshot of our activity level for the past fall semester. It proved what anecdotal evidence had suggested: our business of working with students was booming.

The chart below shows the total count of our interactions for academic year 2011 (9/2010-5/2011) compared to the 4 months of the past fall semester (9/2011-12/2011). Some of its numbers almost equal the entire previous year:

	AY 2011 (9/2010-5/2011)	Fall Semester 2011
Walk-up Interactions	2,149	1,926
Individual Appointments	601	437
IM Chat Sessions	280	163
In-class Instruction	109	98

What conclusions can we draw from this? First, the location of our new service point right at the entrance to the Library helps to attract questions, particularly about directions (34% of the walk-up total) and access to library materials (25% of all walk-ups).

Second, students have taken to scheduling individual research appointments that give them the flexibility to choose a particular time and the librarian they want to meet with. The appointments also allow for a more focused, in-depth consultation than was possible under the previous reference model.

In addition, our IM chat service is in demand for spontaneous, immediate contact from anywhere on campus and beyond. Finally, professors continue to recognize the value of library instruction for their classes and the requests to schedule one (or more) sessions have been increasing.

Contrary to the doomsayers about the future of academic libraries, the richness and complexities of the current information environment are such that even digital natives benefit from and often outright need the help of library research professionals. We continue to invite these interactions and are working on expanding the reach of our library research education.

This spring, the eight Trinity students accepted into the new Library Research Associates program are taking a course that will give them the foundation to become peer-mentors for library research in the fall. By engaging and collaborating with students, we hope to create a broader outreach program and to facilitate even more student interaction with the Library's collections, services and spaces.

Director's Column... *continued from page 1*

books.

As evident from our statistics, students are continuing to find their way into the Library, and are seeking the help of librarians, be it in brief interactions at our new service desk, scheduled appointments with a research librarian, or IM chats from anywhere on campus and beyond. Also, the number of our in-class instructions last fall almost equaled that for the entire previous academic year. More student work has been recently added to the new Trinity College Library Repository, including the First-Year Papers that began in 1996/97 and The Trinity Papers, an annual journal that showcases outstanding undergraduate scholarship.

What does it take to make all this happen? First: an engaged and creative staff, able to take ideas from initial planning stages through phases of review and revision to the implementation of a new program or service and its ongoing assessment. All our projects are team efforts and require the collaboration of staff members with different skill sets and specialties. The Trinity College Library is fortunate to benefit from the vision, energy and dedication that shape its staff's outreach to students and faculty, and drive the multitude of daily tasks that make the Library a center of high activity on campus.

Second, for the Library to develop and maintain its services and programs, we require continued financial support. While we have been able to stretch our acquisitions funds by introducing new ways of access to content – such as the pay-per-view services for journal articles and the demand-driven acquisitions for e-books – there are costs connected to the infrastructure of our digital collections that were not previously part of our budget. Examples of this include the publishing program for the very successful Trinity College Digital Repository, the hosting fees for our digital image collections, and a variety of services that make our online resources both more accessible and secure. Last fall, I submitted a request for additional funding to the College's Planning and Budget Committee with more detailed information about future funding needs.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the importance of our endowed book funds. The Trinity College Library is grateful to the families and individuals who have given money for this purpose over the years. The first endowed book funds date back to 1845. Over the years the program has grown to include over 145 different funds that support a variety of subjects across the curriculum. Endowed book funds are unique gifts that continue to enrich our students, faculty, and our academic programs long after the donor(s) has made this important commitment. The Library has designed a commemorative plaque listing the names of the funds and the years they were founded. The plaque will be installed this spring in the atrium of the Raether Library and Information Technology Center, a prominent place where all who enter and exit the building have an opportunity to see it.

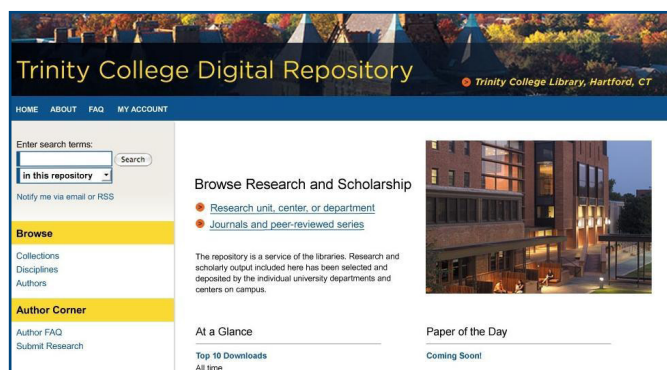
In closing I want to thank faculty, students and staff for their continued support of the Library and its programs and wish everyone a productive spring semester!

New Resource in Demand!



Last semester, we had 774 films watched on our new streaming video database, Films on Demand.

This resource adds about 8,000 titles to the over 8,500 videos and DVDs we own as part of the Library's media collection.



Trinity College Digital Repository

by Amy Harrell, Digital Projects Librarian

The Trinity College Digital Repository is steadily growing. It now contains over 50 faculty-authored papers, and 115 student theses, representing a wide range of disciplines. In addition, the following collections have recently been added:

Cities, Suburbs, and Schools Project: (<http://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/cssp/>) Materials in this collection help scholars explore the changing relationship between public schooling and private housing in the metropolitan Hartford region of central Connecticut, from the early twentieth century to the present. Under the direction of Educational Studies Professor Jack Dougherty, the collection contains oral history interviews, videos, research papers, and historical documents.

Trinity College Chapel Construction Photographs, 1930-32: (<http://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/chapel/>) This collection of 109 images chronicles the construction of the College's Chapel, designed by architectural firm Frohman, Robb, and Little. The images were digitized by our own Image Collections & Services department, and can be viewed in a variety of sizes.

Science Symposia Abstract books: (http://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/sci_symposia/) Trinity's Science Center has provided abstract books of student science projects for each year since 2005. The books can be browsed by year, and their contents are full-text searchable.

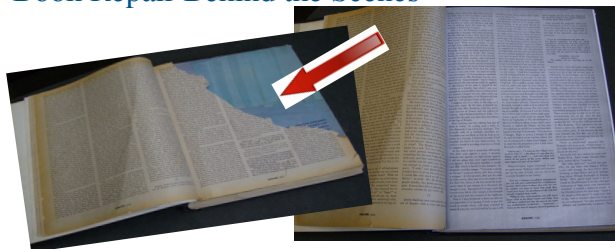
Spring 2012 Watkinson Creative Fellows!

by Rick Ring, Head Curator and Librarian, Watkinson Library

The Watkinson Library is pleased to announce its first cohort of Creative Fellows: Perin Adams ('13), Leslie Ahlstrand ('12), John Bower ('12), Chloe Miller ('14), and Francis Russo ('13). Each Fellowship comes with a stipend of \$1,500, and requires a weekly journal and an end product. The vision for this program is to create support for self-directed students to explore the collections in the Watkinson, encounter an item or a group of items that spark inspiration, and engage with that material to produce something new. The final projects will be presented at an event on May 3rd (5:30pm in the Watkinson).

We encourage any sophomore, junior, or senior who will be enrolled full-time next year to submit an application for a Fellowship for the 2012-13 academic year. Projects may take any form: drawing, painting, sculpture, writing, music, video, virtual (digital), performance, or any other medium you can think of. A proposal must demonstrate that the project can be accomplished in one semester, that it is clearly based on or inspired by an item or collection in the Watkinson, and why the project is significant enough to merit support. The deadline for applications is June 1, 2012, and a PDF of the application form is available on our website (www.watkinsonlibrary.org).

Book Repair Behind the Scenes



For years, several of our periodicals had pages ripped and torn from their bindings. In 2012, members of our Technical Services staff collaborated with the Campus' Central Services Department to find a creative solution to restore the volumes. (See right pages above.)

QR Codes and the Library

by Rob Walsh, Social Sciences Librarian



QR (an acronym for Quick Response) codes represent a means of harnessing mobile technology to get useful information to people at the point of need. They allow users to avoid the hassle of remembering or manually reproducing long, precise strings of data. Users simply scan a QR code with a scanning device (typically, the camera on a smart phone), and then are automatically directed to a website or the application specialized to handle the code's data. No longer is it necessary to scrawl long URLs, directions or contact information on a piece of paper.

Originally developed for shipment tracking, QR codes were quickly adopted by the marketing industry. More recently, they have piqued the interest of academic libraries, where sophisticated mobile devices are ubiquitous. Over the past semester, the Trinity College Library has implemented QR codes in several innovative ways. Fliers that advertise our services and programs often include a QR code, which, when scanned, links students and faculty to additional information. Students and faculty can scan QR codes located on signs throughout the Library to connect to the Library's mobile website or instant message with a librarian from their cell phones. Yuksel Serindag, our Acquisitions Librarian, implemented QR codes in the Periodical Reading Room, so that users can connect with online editions of publications – online editions often have enhanced content, made specifically for mobile devices. In the near future, we plan to post QR codes in the stacks, so that students and faculty can easily access supplemental resources. For example, a person browsing books in the sociology section of our collection will be able to scan a QR code on the shelf and immediately be linked to relevant online journal databases, reference sources, data files and electronic books, all from his or her mobile device.

With the evolution of mobile technology, library users expect to be able to connect with resources at anytime and anyplace. The implementation of QR codes in the Trinity College Library represents our commitment to embrace new technologies and to adapt library services to mediums of information delivery popular among our users.

The Brave New World of E-Books, Continued

by Doris Kamradt, Head Librarian for Collections, Research & Instruction

Over the past few years, the Trinity College Library has gradually expanded the number of e-books available in our catalog. We have also explored different approaches to share e-books across the CTW consortium and have achieved cost-savings by delaying the actual purchase of an e-book until it gets used – a process referred to in library jargon as demand-driven acquisitions. Most recently, we have collaborated with our CTW partners on developing yet another model that offers short-term loans before an e-book is purchased.

Why all these layers and delays? E-book prices continue to be based on the cost of the hard-cover edition and often run well over \$100. Frequently, books get used only once or twice, maybe to verify a citation, sample a chapter or article, or briefly assess if it is relevant for a particular topic. All these uses can be cost-effectively covered by a short-term seven-day loan at 10-15% of the purchase price. After a set number of loans (we opted for three), the next use will automatically trigger a purchase.

The new model, about to be launched this spring, builds on the experience gained from the recently concluded CTW Mellon Grant for Collaborative Collection Projects. One of the grant-funded collaborations was the development of a shared e-book project that added about 6,500 records of new e-book titles to the CTW catalog. The usage statistics for those titles across the three CTW libraries over the course of two years gave us a good indication of what to take into account as we move further into the e-book world.

Our catalog now contains about 100,000 e-book records. Another roughly 440,000 e-book titles are accessible as part of the large historical online collections such as ECCO (Eighteenth Century Collections Online) and EEBO (Early English Books Online). In aggregate, the number of e-book titles available through purchase, subscriptions and pre-purchase record-loads rapidly approaches that of our entire monographic print collection.

To conclude: E-books are here to stay. They complement and co-exist with our still growing print collection. Their access and pricing models continue to develop, along with their acceptance by users and compatibility with mobile devices. And the Trinity College Library, in cooperation with its CTW partners, will keep working on affordable models to offer a maximum of scholarly content to our students and faculty.



Collaborating with First Year Seminar on Photo Book Display

As the culminating project of the FYS Photo/Books, each student in the class created their own photography book. At a reception in the Library's Phelan Room, the students displayed their work and discussed it with a record crowd of invited staff and fellow students. The reception was coordinated with course instructor Drew Sanborn, who also helped in assembling the display of photography books by established artists that has been on view at the entrance to the Library since early December. The student's creations were on display for a week following the reception on December 8th.

The creation of this publication is due, in part, to the support the Library receives from the Library Associates, a vital group of alumni, parents, and friends who share their love of learning by supporting the Library. Comments or questions about this publication or the Library Associates may be directed to the College Librarian's office at (860) 297-2255.



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Spring 2012 Exhibitions in the Watkinson Library



The current exhibition in the Watkinson (which runs through February 29th) is "Seven Wonders," an array of mini-exhibits curated by the students who took the Museum Studies course on Exhibitions (AMST 835/435) in the fall. Each student filled two glass cases with items from the Watkinson, with the following titles: "Free Masons and American Politics," "Images of Alice," "Evolution of Etiquette," "Suggested Reading: Artist's Books," "A Pirate's Life for Me: The Romanticized Life of Buccaneers," "A Princess with a Past: Cinderella Before Disney," and "From Costume to Couture: Displaying Fashion from the 1820s to the 1930s." The opening of the exhibition on December 6th was a great success. Nearly fifty people braved a dark and rainy Tuesday night to look at the show. Many were also in attendance to pay their respects to Paul Lauter, who spoke movingly about his wife, Ann Fitzgerald (the original instructor of the course, who died tragically in mid-October). The students wrote, designed, and raised money for the production of a full-color, 16-page illustrated catalog of the collection, which was printed in 100 copies. These were sold for a pay-what-you-can donation to Ann's charities (Doctors without Borders and Amnesty International), for which we collected

over \$200. Faculty, staff, students, parents, and other members of the community mingled and chatted as local talent Romulus Perez played classical piano on one of the portable keyboards we have in the library. After Paul spoke, we visited each exhibit, and its curator said a few words about why she chose her topic, and what items in particular were fascinating or compelling to her.

March 5th we will open an exhibition entitled "Shaped by Books: The 42-Letter Name, a Print Folio and Its Sources." It will be on display in the Watkinson March 5-April 13, 2012. The 42-Letter Name, an artist's book by Trinity Fine Arts Professor Robert Kirschbaum, is a visual commentary on concepts found in early Jewish mysticism relating to The Creation. The exhibition explores early influences on Kirschbaum's work, including family prayer books and drafting manuals, and material from the broader spheres of modern art and ancient cosmogonic imagery. The show is curated by Sally Dickinson, our Associate Curator. For those who wish to see it before it comes to Trinity, the show will be on display at the Dodd Gallery, University of Connecticut from January 3rd to March 2nd.

April 16th to June 15th we will display the artwork of Devin Dougherty's Studio Arts class (Drawing I), who visited the Watkinson twice in the fall to sketch from some of our amazing books on birds. The Enders Ornithology collection is one of the finest of its kind in America, and we are delighted to see some of the more visual books used as inspiration for artists. When possible, the sketches will be placed alongside the originals, with comments from the artists on the labels.