The New Library and Information Technology Center: The Future in Progress

This past year has seen significant progress on both the new addition and the renovation of the Trinity College Library. For this, we have to thank a dedicated construction crew, good weather, and the superb cooperation of our library staff. Now with the outlines of the completed structure beginning to appear, we have a much better idea what the building is going to look like.

Let me explain a bit what you can see already. The two gray metal poles towering over the structure will support the glass wall for the new Atrium, and facing Mather quad, one can now see where the main entrance to the Library will be located. I can already envision groups of students passing through the Atrium to attend classes in the new Library Learning Center, consulting with the Reference staff, using the new computer laboratory classrooms, or stopping by the Cappuccino bar.

The renovation work in the older buildings is just as impressive. The new Library Learning Center has been framed on the A level, new data closets have been added on each floor, and extensive infrastructure work has been introduced to upgrade the technological capabilities of the buildings. The greatest immediate impact for those who currently use the collection are notable changes in lighting, re-configured stacks, and a new wide central aisle on the third floor.

Besides the renovation work during the winter break, bound periodicals previously housed on the third floor (LC classifications A-GV) were moved to the C floor and are currently retrievable only by Library staff. Books in the A-GV classifications were rearranged and are now newly spaced and more easily accessible. When the project is completed, nearly all books in the collection will have been moved to new locations and will be arranged in a clear A-Z sequence throughout the three buildings. Also at that point, the C-floor as the permanent location for government documents and bound periodicals will become publicly accessible.

While the construction and renovation continue, Library staff will develop plans to improve access to resources, offer new programs, and continue to provide the core services that Trinity students and faculty have relied on in the past. Our overall goal is to minimize the disruption of our services to students and faculty. However, as in the past year, the construction schedule will occasionally require us to make unexpected changes in our operations. We thank all of you for your understanding and cooperation. Please remember to check the Library home page for the latest updates.

To all of you, best wishes for the remaining weeks of this academic year!

-Dick Ross, College Librarian
New Colleagues in the Library

We are pleased to report the following new appointments to the Library staff:

Patricia Lord Clark has been appointed Reference Librarian/Bibliographic Instruction Coordinator. Ms. Clark comes to the College with extensive teaching and administrative experience, having served as the Director of Library Services at Miss Porter’s School in Farmington, Connecticut for 15 years. In 1999, she was awarded the Warren S. Hance Teaching Chair in recognition of her excellence in and dedication to teaching. She holds the MLS degree from the University of Michigan. Ms. Clark will serve as the contact person and coordinator for all instructional services provided by the College Library. She joined the staff of the Library on February 1, 2002.

Lynn Fahy has been appointed Bibliographic Services Librarian. She comes to the College from St. Francis Medical Hospital and Medical Center where she served as Technical Services Librarian/Archivist for 12 years. While at St. Francis, she was responsible for the coordination of all library technical services. She has extensive cataloging experience and holds the MLS degree from Simmons College. Ms. Fahy’s position as Bibliographic Services Librarian includes participation in a broad range of cataloging activities. Ms. Fahy joined the staff of the Library on February 1, 2002.

Alice-Jennifer Groome has been appointed Reference Librarian/Government Documents Coordinator. Ms. Groome, a graduate of Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science, has extensive experience with Government Documents, having worked with the Government Documents collection at the Charles E. Shain Library at Connecticut College for 13 years. Most recently, she has been a temporary Reference Librarian at Wesleyan University’s Science Library. Ms. Groome joined the staff of the Library on March 1, 2002.

On-line to Rare: Recent Acquisitions in the Life Sciences

The wide spectrum of study and research opportunities at the Trinity College Library with regard to the life sciences is exemplified by the expansion of the College Library’s electronic resources and some recent acquisitions for the Watkinson Library’s Enders Ornithology Collection.

One of the most significant purchases this past year is the complete on-line backfile of BIOSIS Previews®, the premier database for the Life Sciences. It contains indexes and abstracts for biological research worldwide and is updated with approximately 545,000 records per year. Backfiles are now available from 1969 to the present. With its recent subscription to BioOne, the Library offers on-line access to an expanding collection of research journals in the biological, environmental, and ecological sciences, currently numbering 40 titles. Coverage begins with the year 2000. The Encyclopedia of Life Sciences (London: Nature Publishing Group, 2002), a major reference work in the life and biomedical sciences, has been purchased, both in print (20 volumes) and on-line. The on-line edition is expanded and updated regularly.

Among new highlights in the Enders Collection is Louis Jean Pierre Vieillot’s Histoire naturelle des oiseaux de l’Amérique Septentrionale ... (A Paris: Chez Desray, Libraire, 1807-) in two volumes. It is, along with Alexander Wilson’s well-known American Ornithology (1801-1814), the earliest illustrated treatise devoted exclusively to North American birds and a fine example of French book illustration. Another recently purchased rarity is Keinen Imao’s Keinen gafu [A book of pictures of flowers and birds] (Kyoto: Tanaka, Jihei, Meiji 24-25 [1891-92]) in four volumes. The set is described by Jack Hillier in his Art of the Japanese Book as “one of the most splendid productions of the Meiji period.” An outstanding contemporary addition is Joseph M. Forshaw and William T. Cooper’s large-scale Cockatoos: a portfolio of all species ([Melbourne, Victoria]: Nokomis Editions, [2001]), which includes 21 spectacular plates.

We invite you to explore these outstanding resources for your assignments and research. For assistance, please contact one of our reference librarians in the Main or Watkinson Library.
Shortcut to Text: TCLinker

Great, so you've found a citation for a journal article article.... Now, which of Trinity's full-text databases might contain that article? Or does the Library have a subscription to the journal? In the past, answering these questions required a series of steps.

No longer. After reviewing several commercial products that provide a link from a citation to a library resource, the Library created a local mechanism for such linking: TCLinker. In many of our citation databases, you can click on the green TCL button to get a list of which resources the Library provides that may contain your article. If your citation is for a book, TCLinker will connect you to the Library catalog.

The information standard upon which TCLinker is based is brand-new. As more of our vendors adopt the new standard, the Library will be able to provide deeper and even more comprehensive linking services.

Hartford Images On-line

The Visual Resources Collection has collaborated with the Hartford Studies Project to make 250 photographs from their collection available as digital images at http://www.trincoll.edu/depts/slide. They are available to the Trinity community for research and teaching purposes.

The images, whose originals are in the Hartford Public Library's Hartford Collection, document everyday life and important changes in the city, such as the demolition of Front Street and the riots of the 1960s. Many of the photographs are drawn from the Hartford Times and focus on the city's 20th-century history, while older photographs offer glimpses into 19th-century Hartford's streets, parks, and people. The topics into which the images are grouped include housing, leisure, shopping, churches, workplaces, people, views of the city, the 1960s, Hartford in wartime, and disasters.

New Preservation Scanner in the Watkinson Library

The Watkinson Library recently replaced its old Xerox photocopier with a state-of-the-art Minolta PS3000 copy scanner. The new machine is much easier on rare and fragile books, because copying is now done face-up, avoiding the abrasions and mechanical damage incurred during traditional photocopying. The large copy surface, 11 x 17, and the wide range of programmable settings make the machine particularly flexible and efficient.
Spring/Winter Series on the Book Arts:
FROM PICTOGRAPH TO PRIVATE PRESS
The series is presented by the Trinity Library/Watkinson Library Associates.
All three lectures are held in McCook Auditorium
on the Trinity College campus. The programs are:

"Letters from the East: The Origins of the Roman Alphabet."

Jeffrey H. Kaimowitz, Ph.D.
(Classics), Head Librarian of
the Watkinson Library, will trace
the development of the Roman
alphabet from its beginnings
as a pictographic script in the
Middle East.
Tuesday, February 26
7:30 p.m.

"The Legacy and Joy of
Medieval Calligraphy: A
Lecture Demonstration."

Noted calligrapher
William J. Hildebrandt will
demonstrate the writing of scripts
used in the period between
Classical Antiquity and the Italian
Renaissance and along the way
discuss factors that influenced
their development.
Monday, March 25
7:30 p.m.

"Bird & Bull Incunabula:
The Beginnings of a Private
Press Printer."

Henry Morris, 1992 winner
of the prestigious Frederic W.
Goudy Award for his many
contributions to the book world,
will discuss the early days of his
famed Bird & Bull Press.
Tuesday, April 23
7:30 p.m.