With the expansion of online information sources, libraries have been changing rapidly over the past 10 years, and so have the traditional tasks of library staff. A common theme of these changes is the increased complexity that comes from having to manage, describe, and navigate an unprecedented amount of available content. While access to an online book or streaming video may be as easy as clicking on a link in the catalog, the work that goes into that simple click requires levels of technical expertise unknown to previous generations of library staff.

But we are not only curators of content—we are also contributors. For instance, we make images from the Library’s collections publicly available in ARTstor’s Shared Shelf and the Trinity Digital Repository. Doing so also requires the development of new skills and collaborations, and Trinity College Library is proud that we are able to participate in the creation of online collections for public discovery and research.

Our work in providing new content is unending. We are particularly pleased to announce the recent expansion of our online newspaper archives, offering broader regional representation of the country. Another new resource we are currently exploring in a shared CTW consortium trial is a video service called Kanopy Streaming. This platform offers a catalog of over 7,000 films that can be licensed a la carte, as part of collections, or through a patron-driven access model. To contract such a service would add yet another layer to our content management, but it would

Dr. Richard S. Ross, College Librarian
Complexity and Change

Trinity College Library is a hub of connections, not only between students and ideas, but also across our campus. By embracing partnerships and collaborations with other campus departments and student groups, we help to ensure that students and faculty receive coordinated support in their scholarly and professional pursuits.

Research and writing are interconnected processes, and with writing the Center promotes a holistic understanding of the production and use of information. During the regular semester, student Writing Associates run a satellite location in the Library, providing individual consultations for their peers in a convenient setting (see above picture). The Library has also worked with the Writing Center on workshops about using sources and avoiding plagiarism, and our popular online guide, Cite Source, features common citation styles and examples of how to use them for a variety of information formats.

In today’s complex information environment, research skills are increasingly essential to professional work, and partnerships with the Career Development Center help to reinforce this connection. In last year’s inaugural Entrepreneurship Competition, research librarians worked with the Career Development Center to provide two research sessions to student competitors: one on market research methods, and one on intellectual property rights. As students developed their proposals, they learned tools and strategies for investigating marketplaces and competitors. We have also developed a digital repository, the Trinity Digital Repository, which was established in partnership with the Office of Study Away to help ensure that students are receiving targeted support for their needs. The Library regularly connects with these students, and offers special tours and information sessions for them. Ambassadors for the Office of Study Away also hold office hours at the former Reference Desk in the Library, bringing first-hand experience and information to students about their study abroad options. Additionally, by regularly reaching out to groups such as the Office of International Students and Scholars, the Library helps to welcome international students to our campus and facilitates academic connections.

Partnerships with members of the faculty abound, from the creation of assignments to classroom instruction and other collaborations. As a specific example, the Research Education and Advisory Group, comprised of librarians, faculty members, and students, offers an opportunity for shared discussion on issues of changing research methods, collections, and access. Another group of valued partners are our colleagues in Education—Al, Technology, with whom we share not only a building but also many common goals.

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As much as our building serves as a hub for learning and exploration, it is through our collaborations and diverse partnerships that the Library connects beyond its walls with the College’s educational mission and shared campus goals.
also be an exciting expansion of our video collections. More news on this will be forthcoming shortly.

Just as the Library’s material extends far beyond the walls of our building, so does the work of our library staff, stretching both across campus and into various venues of professional activity. Over the past couple of years, we have strengthened our collaboration with several campus offices and programs and are an active partner in the network of services that supports Trinity students’ academic success. This summer, several of Trinity’s librarians delivered presentations at professional conferences, and it is a tribute to them that their work was more widely recognized.

Sadly, I have to share the loss of Trinity’s long-time College Archivist and member of the Watkinson staff, Peter Knapp, who died unexpectedly from an illness only two weeks after his retirement at the end of August. None of us were prepared never to see Peter again, and we extend our deep sympathy to his family. A Trinity alum of 1965, Peter was a trusted and respected colleague and friend to many of us. His contributions to Trinity are numerous, but particularly notable are his tireless efforts to ensure the best possible care and preservation of Trinity’s rich and diverse archival holdings, and his active engagement in the professional community.

Music and Media: New Web Services

Jeff Lascha, Circulation Librarian

The Library conducted two major relocations of our media collections this past summer. Our DVD collection was moved to the Englehardt Periodical Reading Room on Level 1, and our CD collection was moved to Room A27, right near the circulation desk on Level A. All material may be checked out at the circulation desk, and any service questions may be addressed to circulation staff.

On the Virtual Shelf: Digitizing Our Image Archives

Nancy Smith, Image Collections Librarian

In 2007 Trinity College Library signed on as an early participant in ARTstor’s pilot hosting project, resulting in a current total of nearly 54,000 Trinity Library images hosted by ARTstor. A great benefit of this relationship has been that our local image archives can be searched concurrently with ARTstor’s own 1.5 million images, now used here in nearly 100 course-related folders created by Trinity faculty for teaching and sharing with their students.

Most recently, Trinity Library has been participating in the development of Shared Shelf, an ARTstor initiative that provides institutions the means to directly catalog and upload image materials to hosted collections in ARTstor – for campus use or broader dissemination. As a result, over 3,000 archival photos, postcards, architectural drawings, medieval manuscript illuminations, and lantern slides from the Watkinson Library and Trinity College Archives are now publicly accessible in Shared Shelf Commons, ARTstor’s public interface. Our collections join those of other colleges and universities such as Bowdoin, Wellesley and Cornell, along with museums including Middlebury’s, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art, all of which share images with a broader audience via Shared Shelf Commons.

Please visit www.sasmommons.org and explore Trinity’s image collections on Shared Shelf Commons. Click “Browse” and “Collections” to see Trinity’s materials.

Presenting at Professional Conferences

Doris Kammradt, Head Librarian for Collections, Research, and Instruction

Keeping up-to-date with our evolving information environment and the changing library profession requires a dedication to professional development. As part of this engagement, librarians and staff at Trinity College Library regularly attend regional and national conferences; participate in workshops and webinars; cultivate contacts with our colleagues at other libraries; and follow professional literature, blogs, and listservs.

While our work is anchored in the context of our campus, it is equally informed and shaped by trends and developments in the wider academic, publishing, and information technology markets.

Earlier this year, our research education program’s efforts were recognized by the acceptance of presentation proposals at two highly-regarded professional conferences:


Although preparations for these conferences added another layer to our already stretched schedules, it was very rewarding to present our work and share perspectives with our peers in the profession. Special thanks to Research Education Librarian Erin Valentino, who worked tirelessly to coordinate our collaboration for both conferences. We look forward to further opportunities for professional participation and exchanges, enriching our work here at Trinity.

Expansion of Newspaper Holdings

Jennifer van Sickle, Science, Librarian and E-Resources Coordinator

For the fall semester, the Library is pleased to announce the purchase of the following newspaper archives:

Boston Globe 1872-1982 with yearly updates (ProQuest)
Dallas Morning News 1923-1982 (Readex)
Times-Picayune 1923-1988 (Readex)

The Boston Globe Archive enhances our northeastern U.S. coverage, while the purchase of the Readex newspapers helps to fill a gap in the Library’s southern U.S. newspaper collection. These archives provide students with valuable regional sources to research critical events and time periods in American history.

New Arrivals Search in Catalog

Kelly Dagan, Outreach & Instruction Librarian

The Library catalog has an additional search feature specifically for new materials, called New Arrivals. Users can now search within the past 4 weeks of arrivals, and specify format as print, media, reference, online, or Watkinson. There is also a keyword search function, allowing for more targeted searching. Feedback on this new navigation feature is welcomed!
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Presentation title: Assessment as Engagement, Assessment as Outreach: Understanding Student Learning about Research at the Trinity College Library; presenters: Kelly Dagan and Erin Valentin


Presentation title: From Standards to Framework: Information Literacy at Trinity College; presenters: Kelly Dagan, Doris Kammradt, Erin Valentin, and Rob Walsh

Although preparations for these conferences added another layer to our already stretched schedules, it was very rewarding to present our work and share perspectives with our peers in the profession. Special thanks to Research Education Librarian Erin Valentin, who worked tirelessly to coordinate our collaboration for both conferences. We look forward to further opportunities for professional participation and exchanges, enriching our work here at Trinity.

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An Evolving Process: Cataloging eBooks for the Library
Todd Failkowski, Catalog Librarian

Library cataloging work used to be synonymous with physicality and permanence; librarians sitting with book in hand in front of typewriters producing index cards that were filed into large stained oak card catalogs. With the entire college’s collection contained within the library’s walls, there was a tangible connection between the actual volumes and the catalog records describing them. In recent years, the focus has shifted from physical immediacy to instant access. A scholar today is now quite familiar with searching the library’s collection using records that link directly to a monograph’s full-text, stored in a licensed repository a thousand miles away. Currently, the Trinity College Library has cataloged electronic holdings number close to 350,000 eBooks; 90,000 serials, and tens-of-thousands more electronic images, music, and video formats. These online collections enhance the library’s already impressive physical collection and help to serve the evolving research needs of students and faculty.

The influx of eBooks has required adaptation and creativity, as many of the tools and processes used for print must be repurposed to handle digital content. Cataloging eBooks is not a piece-by-piece proposition but requires the use of new text editors that can simultaneously edit thousands of raw catalog records (known as bulk editing) before compiling the data into a file that is then imported into the library’s online catalog. This process results in library catalog users being able to discover eBook titles alongside print works. A close look at the eBook record management is also largely characterized by a degree of impermanence. Catalog records are frequently edited, refined, and replaced, with ongoing efforts to improve ease of discovery. Last year we implemented a third-party knowledge base that acts as an intermediary layer between the source of e-book records and the library catalog itself, helping to manage the import and presentation of large record sets. The tools and methodology of library cataloging have changed a lot – even in the last decade – but the end goal remains the same: facilitating content discovery in a complex research environment.

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NEWS

Rick Ring, Head Curator and Watkinson Librarian

from the Libraries at Trinity College

Raether Library and

Information Technology Center

300 Summit Street

Hartford, CT 06106-3100

Watkinson News: Peter J. Knapp, In Memoriam

Rick Ring, Head Curator and Watkinson Librarian

The Watkinson Library (and Trinity College) mourns the loss of Peter J. Knapp, College Archivist. Peter was the go-to person for anyone with a question about Trinity and its history—no matter how obscure the question. He was the College’s expert on past presidents, the construction of the Long Walk, the symbols and traditions of the College, faculty emeriti, and dates of academic changes and construction of new buildings—to name but a few. He was of enormous help to people from all parts of Trinity as they sought to understand their College’s historic past and the genesis of elements of our current campus life.

Peter attended Trinity from 1961 to 1965, majoring in history and serving as a student assistant in the Watkinson Library during all four years as an undergraduate. While at Trinity, he was the recipient of the Ferguson Prize and the Jerome P. Webster Student Book Prize. He graduated in 1965 and joined the library as Head of Reference in 1968, after earning master’s degrees in history from the University of Rochester and library science from Columbia University. He began working with the College’s archives in 1972, and in 1974 he was named Head of Reference & College Archivist. In 1994, Peter moved from the Reference Department to the Watkinson Library as the College Archivist, and he (in collaboration with his wife, Anne) immediately began working on Trinity College in the Twentieth Century, which was published in 2000 as the “second volume” of Glen Weaver’s History of Trinity College, published in 1967.

Peter will be missed enormously by all of us—including his many friends at Trinity, our alumni, and people throughout the Hartford community.

Fall Exhibitions:

• Artists’ Books & Prints in the Watkinson Library, curated by Sally Dickinson (Watkinson Library, September 2–November 25, 2014)

• “Bound to Maintain Them”: Prisoners of War and Humane Captivity in the German Empire, 1916-1917, curated by Jillian M. Hinderliter (Atrium, Raether Library & Information Technology Center)

Fall Events:

• Talk and book signing by Michael Blanding, author of The Map Thief (2014), September 18, in the Joslin Family 1823 Room, 4:30 pm.

• Hands-on workshops guided by book artists Daniel Kelm (October 9, 4:30 pm, in the Watkinson Library) and Pauletta Rosen (October 29, 5:30 pm, in the Watkinson Library).

• Opening of “Six Pack,” an exhibition curated by the students of Richard Ring’s course, AMST 835: Museum & Library Exhibitions, on December 10 (Watkinson Library), 6:00 pm.

Directors’ Column

Dr. Richard S. Ross, College Librarian

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