Betsey Barefoot Comes to LaGuardia to Discuss The Role of Information Literacy Across the Disciplines

By Elizabeth Namei, Reference Consultation Librarian

Dr. Betsey Barefoot, Co-Director for the Policy Center on the First Year of College, visited LaGuardia Community College March 16, 2007 to speak about the role of Information Literacy in the first year of college. This event was sponsored by the LaGuardia Community College Library Media Resource Center, the LACUNY Instruction Committee and the CUNY Office of Library Services. Dr. Barefoot’s presentation was followed by a roundtable discussion featuring Dr. Edward Owusu-Ansah, Chief Librarian, Kingsborough Community College; Dr. Andrew A. Beveridge, Chair, Sociology, Queens College; and Dr. Bret Eynon, Assistant Dean, Center for Teaching & Learning, LaGuardia Community College. Nearly one hundred people, representing a wide range of CUNY institutions, attended this half-day session.

Kenneth Schlesinger Named Acting Chair of York College Library

January 23, 2007, Library faculty and staff gathered to wish Media Services Director Kenneth Schlesinger well in his new endeavor as the Acting Chair of the York College Library. The following speech was College Lab Technician Eric Moy’s tribute to Kenneth, his supervisor of two years.

By Eric Moy, Library College Laboratory Technician

You’ve been a great supervisor, a brilliant colleague and a wonderful neighbor. I am sorry to see you leave. Since you will leave us soon and may not return, I want to ask you this before it’s too late: “Can I still e-mail you with all the laptop problems?”

I had the privilege to be a member of your staff for two years. In those years, I respected you for your high expectation of the services Media provided and for your determination to bring the quality of services to a higher level.

As Media Director, you always had a vision, and always could turn it into reality. Under your direction, Media expanded many of its services and created programs such as Student Circulating Laptops and Portable Laptop Wireless Classroom.

You have always been a good listener and you always found solutions to your staff’s problems. You encouraged me to be more forthcoming and stand up for what I believed in. I learned that well.

After moving on to another unit in the Library, I still had the privilege to work with you, and even be your neighbor. I enjoyed working with you. The video streaming project could have been another exciting and challenging project for us. In my years of

Inside this issue:

- Research Review Contest Winners
- How to Conquer Journals with Serials Solutions
- Knitting Day Comes to the Atrium
- Jesse Malin Does Whitestone Proud
- and much, much more …

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### NYLA Comes to LaGuardia

New York Library Association President Rachel Baum visited the Library April 27, 2007 as part of a tour of New York City libraries. During her visit she met with Library faculty to discuss issues. Baum is seen here with Alexandra Rojas, Charles Keyes, Jean Boggs, Alex de Laszlo, Ken Peeples, Remi Castonguay (back row), Marie Spina and Jane Devine (front row).

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This newsletter is a published once each semester by LaGuardia Community College's Library Media Resources Center. Opinions expressed in the content do not necessarily represent those of the Library Media Resources Center or LaGuardia Community College.

Comments may be sent by email to: sovadia@lagcc.cuny.edu
Faculty and Staff Highlights

Group Work


Francine-Egger-Sider, Alexandra Rojas and Charles Keyes will represent the Library, along with Cecilia Marchesi, with a presentation on Information Literacy Assessment for the Workshop In Library Use (WILU) Conference in Toronto on May 16, 2007.


Remi Castonguay, Steven Ovadia, and Alexandra Rojas are all members of the organizing committee for Technology with a Face: High Tech Meets High Touch, the 2007 LACUNY Institute.

Solo

Remi Castonguay had a presentation accepted for the Georgia Conference on Information Literacy. The conference will be held in October and Remi will be speaking on Circulation is Abstract! Web Usability as a Tool for Information Literacy Assessment. He will also present Circulation is Abstract at the May 18 LACUNY Institute.

Eric Moy received a grant from the CUNY/Professional Staff Congress-sponsored Professional Development Funds to attend a conference on streaming media that will take place in May 2007.

Charles Keyes is now the proud father of Emma Keyes who was born in November 2006; he also presented on information literacy assessment at the WILU (Workshop in Library Use) 2007 conference at Toronto on May 16, 2007; has been invited by the State Department’s Institute for International Education to sit on the 2007 Gilman International Scholarship selection panel in Houston, Texas May 22, 2007.

Prof. Clementine Lewis presented, Promoting Library Research: A Collaboration Across the Disciplines, at the Association of College and Research Libraries’ (ACRL) 13th National Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. This presentation was made for one of the poster sessions March 31, 2007.

Steven Ovadia presented Must Play Well with Others: How to Work in the Library of the Moment at the January 19, 2007 LA-CUNY Dialogues Town Hall meeting. He also received the Paul Neurath Memorial Graduate Award Scholarship from the Queens College Sociology department May 8. He is presenting (with Anamika Dasgupta, York College) Who Moved My Desk? The Future Reference Platforms at the May 18 LACUNY Institute.

Marie Cimino Spina presented Going Beyond Find and Click: True Critical Thinking Skills for our Future World Citizens at the Third Annual CUNY General Education Conference May 4, 2007, with LaGuardia’s Iona Thomas-Connor; Alexandra de Luise, Queens College; and Tess Tobin, New York City College of Technology.

Scott White was invited to write a chapter to be included in a new volume in the series Sociology of Crime, Law and Deviance, with a title “Surveillance and Governance: Crime Control and Beyond.”

Library adjunct Martin Zimerman has been promoted to Assistant Professor Adjunct Librarian.

Do your students struggle with research?

Tell them about LRC102 and LRC103, the Library’s transferable Liberal Arts electives!

- LRC102 is a three-credit course that focuses on the research process and the use of library and Web resources.
- LRC103 is a one-credit course designed to help students with Internet-based research.

For more information on how these classes can help your students succeed, contact:
Charles Keyes, Instructional Services Librarian
718-482-6018 or ckeyes@lagec.cuny.edu.
Marching Toward Tenure
A Guide to Finding Periodicals with Serials Solutions

By Jean Boggs, Periodicals/Government Documents Librarian

When you click the Online Research Journals and Articles icon on the Library website, you’ll notice a folder tab that says, Find a specific journal or magazine above the subject guides to the databases. This is a link to a useful service called the Serials Solutions E-Journal Portal that indexes all of the online journals held in the collective CUNY and LaGuardia databases. Once you know how the portal functions, you’ll find it comes in handy in all kinds of research situations.

The Serials Solutions E-Journal portal offers you several ways to access journals online. First, you can use the title or ISSN browse. An ISSN is a unique identifying number for a serial, much like a social security number functions as a unique number for identifying a particular person. The ISSN can help you verify a particular title in case there are several journals that use the same or similar titles. You can also type the title of the journal in the “find” box. For example, I was curious if we had Print magazine, an important title in graphic design. I typed “Print” in the Find box for the title browse, and I got ten records that started with the word “print.”

The first entry is Print magazine, and now I know I can access the full text in PDF format online in four different databases. The date ranges available are listed for each title.

What journals are included in the Serials Solutions E-Journal portal? All of the full-text journals in the CUNY-wide and LaGuardia databases are indexed in Serials Solutions. Many library users access online journals through keyword searches in databases, but with the E-Journal portal we can use the title browse to flip through multiple years of a particular title. Keep in mind, the features I’ve mentioned function best when you know a particular title, words in a title or ISSN. The Serials Solutions E-Journal Portal doesn’t search the content of the journal like a database, but rather the titles and subjects of the journals and magazines. When you use Serials Solutions, it presents you with the content of an issue of a journal assembled as it was for publication.

Online journals frequently limit online access to articles published since the internet was created. This is a result of legal issues involving copyright. Authors who published before the internet explosion didn’t sign agreements permitting the publishers to print their article in different formats (i.e., electronically). If you are looking for an older title, it’s a good idea to search our catalog, CUNY+, to see if the Library owns a paper copy of that issue of the journal. Sometimes you’ll notice that the full text of an article takes three years or so to appear online, which is called an embargo. Again, you could search in CUNY+ to see if there is a print copy for access to those articles.

My favorite feature in Serials Solutions is the Subject Search. I can think of many uses for this feature, including developing an idea for a research paper. Journals represent cutting edge information in a field and browsing your subject can help you identify trends and subtle information, such as emerging vocabulary, in a given field. So let’s say a student is interested in Vet Tech as a topic of study and maybe a career, or perhaps you are a faculty member in the discipline who wants to get a pulse on emerging ideas in your field.

Just select a subject from the Browse E-Journals by Discipline box. In this case, we would choose Health & Biological Sciences. Voila! You get a list that shows many different subtopics within the field and the number of e-journals available in each.

The A-Z list gives you ways to find the full-text of specific issues of journals, view a whole run of journals online, explore new titles in your field, or read a favorite title from any internet connection. Databases allow us to keyword search journals, to fish out an article that pertains to a specific topic. The E-Portal Journal enables title and subject searching while maintaining the integrity the wholeness of a journals (the gestalt of the individual issue and the series of issues) in the virtual setting.
The 2006 Library Awards

By Clementine Lewis, Extended Day Librarian

At Honors Night Tuesday, September 12, 2006, 23 students received awards in recognition of their academic achievements in research, classroom mentoring and leadership, and service to the Library.

Seven of the students who were winners in the Research Review Competition received the Library Research Review Award for outstanding academic achievement. The LaGuardia Faculty Council donated U. S. Savings Bonds for the First, Second and Third Pace Winners. The Council also donated Barnes and Noble Gift Certificates for students who received an Honorable Mention. Additional awards from the Library included an iPod Shuffle for the First Place Winner and a USB 256 MB Flash Drive for the Second and Third Place Winners.

LRC Incentive Award

The Library offers a three-credit course, LRC 102: Information Strategies, and a one-credit course, LRC 103: Internet Research Strategies during Fall Session I and II, and Spring Session I and II. Students who excel in these course and serve as a role model for other students in the class receive the LRC Incentive Award.

For additional information about the Library’s three-credit course, LRC 102: Information Strategies, and one-credit course, LRC 103: Internet Research Strategies, please visit the Library’s web site at http://www.lagcc.cuny.edu/library/lrc/lrc.htm.

Bookstore Humanitarian Award

Muhammad S. Yousaf was presented the Bookstore Humanitarian Award by Mr. Mark Adelson of Barnes & Noble Bookstore for his outstanding service in the Library’s open labs.

Want to Know More About the Research Review Award?

Contact one of the following members of the Research Review Panel: Terence Julien, Clementine Lewis, Sally Mettler, Marie Spina, or Zhang Yu.

You may also review the flier at: http://laguardia.edu/library/competition/

The deadline for the 2006-07 Research Review Competition is July 9, 2007.

Left to right: Prof. Clementine Lewis (Chair, Research Review Panel), Ms. Annette Velella (2006 First Place Winner holding her Research Review Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement), and Prof. Neddy McMills (Classroom Instructor for First Place Winner).

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<td>Joseph Carson</td>
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<td>Honorable Mention: Jinnye Ching ENG 101 – Prof. Ellen Czuchlewski</td>
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<td>Catherine Deane ENG 101 – Prof.</td>
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<td>Marta Walinska ENG 101 – Prof.</td>
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<td>Agnieszka Zuber ENG 101 – Prof.</td>
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Knitting Day
February 7, 2007
Atrium
Nassrin Rahman, participant (pictured above)
Francine Egger-Sider, co-organizer

Model UN
New York City
March 22, 2007
Charles Keyes, Faculty Advisor (pictured left)
New Faces in the Library

Bokul Bahar is our new Instruction Assistant. If you schedule a bibliographic instruction class, you’ll get to meet her. Bokul comes to us from Media, where she was a College Assistant in the Media Lab.

Alex de Laszlo is our new Collection Development Librarian. He has a BA in European History from Columbia University and an M.L.S. from Pratt Institute. He was raised in New York City. Prior to earning his Master Degree, Alex worked as a film editor and film archivist while living in Long Island City. After earning his M.L.S., he worked for U.C.S.F, Medical School for the Tobacco Control Archive, a special project under the auspices of Social Medicine and Special Collections. For the past 7 years, he has worked as a reference librarian for both the San Francisco Public Library and Queens Library.

Elizabeth Namei is our new Reference Advisory Librarian. She holds a Master's degree in Library & Information Science from Simmons College in Boston, and a BA in English from Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts. She recently moved to New York from North Carolina, where she was the Instruction Librarian at Winston-Salem State University. Prior to that she held a similar job at the University of New Orleans. Elizabeth has over 7 years of experience working in academic libraries, in cities including Boston and Chicago, before (finally) settling down in Brooklyn.

Michael Chan is our new Information Systems Aid. He comes to us from Queens College. Michael also studies telecommunications here at LaGuardia.
working with you and being your neighbor, I have learned these things about you:

   Not only do you want Media to provide the best service, you are also a perfectionist. It is almost impossible to find errors made by you. The only error I have ever found was on the postcard you sent to the Library from Vietnam – on it you had written 11106 instead of 11101 for the zip code.

You are usually late...working. When I would leave work at 5:30, 6:30, or sometimes 7:30, I could still hear you tapping away at the keyboard next door in your office.

   You have the neatest office, and I think you were joking when you told me that my office is neater than yours. You have been a wonderful neighbor, and I say this back to you: “I couldn’t have been more pleased to have you as my neighbor.”

You will be missed.

I hope everything will work out for you. It may take you more than a year to shape up your library at York College.

   With a good vision, you can do it.

Good luck to you!

The rest of the LaGuardia Media Resources Center joins Eric in wishing Kenneth the best of luck at York College. Our loss is certainly their gain.

(Barefoot continued from page 1)

Dr. Barefoot’s presentation centered on why the first year is both a unique and pivotal time for college students. During the first year students will either confirm or adapt their expectations of what it takes to be successful in college. Long lasting patterns of behavior and attitudes—both positive and negative—are beginning to take hold in the first year. It is also a time when students are the most impressionable and open to suggestions. Dr. Barefoot also described the characteristics of typical first year students, or Millennials (often described as persistent, close to their parents, scheduled, confident, conventional, pressured, optimistic, competitive, and sheltered), which many in the audience later pointed out do not always typify the majority of CUNY first year students.

Discussion of the first year of college and the first year student segued into a description of four common characteristics of today’s first year students which showcase their need for information literacy instruction: 1) students are overwhelmed by information; 2) they tend to have an over reliance on the internet for information; 3) they lack experience in deciphering truth from fiction, since are not skilled at critically evaluating information; and 4) they have an insufficient understanding of what plagiarism is and how to avoid it.

Dr. Barefoot highlighted the fact that many colleges and universities have begun to establish First Year Librarian positions charged with focusing on the needs and success of new students. She also listed several institutions that have incorporated information literacy and research skills into their first year curriculum. Her discussion of the library’s role in the first year of college aligned with the underlying emphasis of presentation, that “building a better first year” requires collaboration across disciplines.

(Barefoot continued from page 1)

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Books Reviews
By Alex deLazslo, Collection Librarian

*My face is black is true: Callie House and the struggle for ex-slave reparations*
By Mary Frances Berry.
STACKS E185.97 .H825 B47 2005

*My Face is Black is True*, examines the life of Callie House, a black woman born into slavery during the Civil War. This formidable figure spent her life advocating monetary reparation for slaves, their children and grandchildren. House founded the National Ex-Slave Mutual Relief, Bounty and Pension Association, an organization that had strong popular support among poor ex-slaves.

As leader of this organization, House took on the Union army and fought off government agencies such as the Justice Department. Her struggle placed her at odds with everyone from the U.S. Postal Service to the African American establishment. The movement she founded found support well into the 20th century, her cause taken up by later movement figures such as Marcus Garvey and Malcolm X.

Berry identifies House as more than the first among many to advocate monetary reparation for slavery. In this very readable account, the author effectively characterizes her as the under acknowledged leader of the first grassroots African-American civil rights movement.

Music Review: Jesse Malin
By Alexandra Rojas, Reference Librarian

*Glitter in the Gutter*
Jesse Malin
Artemis Records

It’s been almost three years since the last Jesse Malin record and it was worth the wait. This disc is more rock n’ roll oriented than his two previous solo efforts. The set opens with “Don’t Let Them Take You Down (Beautiful Day!),” a song with a definite catchy hook sure to be pushed as the lead song for radio, video and more. Guests abound: Bruce Springsteen, Jakob Dylan, Ryan Adams, and Josh Homme appear, just to name a few. Bruce appears on the heartfelt ballad titled “Broken Radio.” Jesse does not like to be pigeonholed as a singer-songwriter, probably because he transcends the genre. He certainly does not fall into the mainstream, which is a good thing. Do your ears justice and pick up this disc!
Book Reviews
New Titles on the African American Experience

by Alex deLazslo, Collection Development Librarian

A wide variety of new titles covering many aspects of the African American Experience have arrived here at the LaGuardia Library. Many of these books reflect fresh perspectives and new ground for scholarship in the field.

Zora Neale Hurston and A History of Southern Life
By Tiffany Ruby Patterson
STACKS PS3515.U789 Z797 2005

Zora Neale Hurston and a History of Southern Life presents the familiar Harlem Renaissance literary figure in the context of historical analysis, evaluating her personal impressions as folklorist and journalist with those of a rural and small town life as reconstructed through recently recovered sources. Historian Tiffany Ruby Patterson evaluates what is currently understood about Hurston’s fiction work by contrasting it with new historical insight.

Food Choice and Obesity in Black America: Creating a New Cultural Diet
By Eric J. Bailey
STACKS RC628 .B282 2006

Medical anthropologist Eric J. Bailey has taken a broad approach to the subject including everything from a cultural history of black American cuisine to a critique of corporate America’s failure to market health and fitness to the black community. Along the way he includes reviews of soul food cookbooks and inspirational stories of African-American celebrities who have battled weight problems.

The author evaluates how black Americans perceive health, body image, food, physical fitness, and exercise. Bailey proposes a new “cultural” diet as an effective response to pandemic obesity and associated health problems.

In Search of the Black Panther Party: New Perspectives on a Revolutionary Movement
By Jama Lazrow and Yohuru Williams, editors
STACKS E185.615 I453 2006

In Search of the Black Panther Party offers a collection of essays providing new perspectives on this often misunderstood organization. The trajectory of the Panthers is often perceived in hindsight as being the ephemeral and the glamorous side of the Black Power movement associated with the radical politics of the late 1960’s. Editors Lazrow and Williams provide rich historical detail and varied analysis of this complex movement that was as much about polemic as it was about image and media manipulation.

AfroAsian Encounters: Culture, History, Politics
By Heike Raphael-Hernandez and Shannon Stern
STACKS E185.615 .A5935 2006

AfroAsian Encounters provides a global survey of the interrelationship between Asian and African diaspora as it has manifested in various geographic settings. Editors Raphael-Hernandez and Steen have compiled a volume that could be described as a one-of-a-kind survey, exploring the historical, cultural and political manifestation of cross culturalism.

Topics covered include the absorption of hip-hop culture by Asian youths and Paul Robeson’s support of Asian Americans as persecuted minorities. A 1930’s “yellow face” productions of the Swing Mikado by an all black cast provide a new twist on the controversial topic of minstrelsy. An interesting query into two cultures often thought to have opposing cultural and political positions.

(more reviews on page 9)