LaGuardia Brings Information Literacy to France

By Francine Egger-Sider, Coordinator of Technical Services

In June 2008, I was invited to the annual conference of the Association des Bibliothécaires de France, the equivalent of the American Library Association in the United States. The conference was held in Reims, the capital of the Champagne Ardenne region of France. I had been invited to attend by Carine El Bekri-Dinoird, Director of the Library of the University of Reims Champagne Ardenne, in reciprocation for her participation in group visit by seventeen French librarians to New York in October 2007. I had coordinated the LaGuardia portion of their visit and gave them an overview of the Library’s information literacy program. She was so impressed with the caliber and variety of our programs for students that she asked me to be a panelist at this conference held in her home town.

Before the conference started, I was fortunate to climb up 249 steps to the top of the Cathedral of Reims which was damaged during the First World War and survey the beauty of the town and countryside. The Cathedral remains a landmark of great significance and an important cultural landmark of the Champagne region. Joan of Arc, Woodrow Wilson and Marc Chagall all figured prominently in the history of this poigniant site and, with the aid of funding from the Rockefeller foundation, much of the Cathedral has been restored to its former, pre-First World War, glory.

The three-day conference was entitled “Parcours en bibliothèques: des adonaissants aux jeunes adultes,” which translates as “Journeys in Libraries: From Adolescents to Young Adults.” Attendees included academic, public, and special librarians, many from other French-speaking countries such as Belgium, Morocco, Algeria, Lebanon, and Haiti.

I was part of a panel on the role of academic librarians in student success; the panel included Georges Bellon, the Vice-President of Academic Affairs and Student Life of the University of Reims, and Richard Dupuis, Professor of Communications, University of Reims. The panel was moderated by the Library Director, Carine El Bekri-Dinoird. My presentation started with a slide of the Number 7 train

(Continued on page 9)

Inside this issue:
- Finding Sights and Sounds Online
- A New Faculty Laptop Loan Program
- Email Alerts Help You Stay Informed
- Streaming Media
and much, much more ...
Faculty and Staff Highlights

LaGuardia Brings Information Literacy to France
By Francine Egger-Sider

Online Subscription Sources For Digital Sounds and Images
By Catherine Stern

Media Streaming
by Eric Moy

Faculty Laptop Loan Program
By Albert Neal

Articles

LaGuardia Brings Information Literacy to France
By Francine Egger-Sider

2008 Honors Night Awards
By Clementine Lewis

Internet Archive
By Alex de Laszlo

Getting Out the Vote
By Terry Parker

Review: Ryan Adams & the Cardinals
By Alexandra Rojas

Meet the Staff: Circulation

Au Revoir, Remi

The Library sadly said goodbye to Remi Castonguay, who left LaGuardia for a position in the Yale University Library. LaGuardia’s loss is New Haven’s gain.

Photo by Kaywan Chan

Francine Egger-Sider presented at Les Bibliothèques Universitaires, Partenaires de la Réussite Etudiante sponsored by Le Congrès de l’Association des Bibliothécaires de France 2008 June 12 (see page 1).

Scott White’s chapter “Surveillance and Governance: Crime Control and Beyond” was published in the series Sociology of Crime, Law and Deviance.

Web Services Librarian Steven Ovadia was promoted to Assistant Professor.

Electronic Resources Librarian Catherine Stern published “Prisoner Reentry Resources: An Annotated Guide” in Behavioral & Social Sciences Librarian (vol. 26, no. 3, 2008), with Barbara Carrel.

library Notes
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Editor
Alex de Laszlo
Steven Ovadia

This newsletter is 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: alaszlo@lagcc.cuny.edu or sovadia@lagcc.cuny.edu
A Guide to Web and Online Subscription Sources for Digital Sounds and Images

By Catherine Stern, Electronic Resources Librarian

Available through the Web...

The web is full of sounds and images which can be used to enhance classes, presentations and papers. Library users tend to be most familiar with Google Image Search. This standard Google feature is easy to use, and often gets the job done. The easiest way to get to Google Image is to go to google.com and select Images from the menu on top of the search box. Yahoo has an Image Search as well. Options on the results page include “wallpaper,” black & white or color and suggestions for additional search terms.

The web offers access to many other lesser known but equally useful electronic media oriented websites.

Some of the more substantial sites include:

American Memory (http://memory.loc.gov) is a behemoth collection from The Library of Congress which offers “free and open access through the Internet to written and spoken words, sound recordings, still and moving images, prints, maps, and sheet music that document the American experience. It is a digital record of American history and creativity.” The millions of items are divided into over 100 collections, which can be searched by keyword or browsed by topic, time period, item type or place. It is definitively worth exploring.

Anyone who knows New York Public Library’s picture collection will be delighted with the NYPL Digital Gallery (http://digitalgallery.nypl.org), and those who don’t know it will have a chance to discover it. NYPL Digital Gallery provides “free and open access to over 640,000 images digitized from The New York Public Library’s vast collections, including illuminated manuscripts, historical maps, vintage posters, rare prints, photographs and more.”

Freeplay Music Library (http://freeplaymusic.com/) is a broadcast production library of music and sounds for use on websites, podcasts and presentations. It is possible to search by feeling, style or instrument. Many uses require signed license agreements and a license fee payment, but there is some limited free use described in their terms of use section. Doggile.com has an audio search feature as well. Blinkx (http://www.blinkx.com/home) is a search engine for video content.

Available through LaGuardia Subscription Databases...

Many of the Library’s subscription databases also contain features which provide images and sound, however, it is often hard to know how to access this valuable material. Here is a brief rundown of the more useful site available through the LaGuardia Library homepage...

Among the Library’s subscription databases is the AP Photo Archive. These images are licensed for academic use. This is a tremendous collection of news photos from the Associated Press. Its recently revamped interface is visually appealing and in the advance search option users can limit searches in a variety of ways including photographer and image... (Continued on page 8)
Media Services Report

Introducing the Library’s New Media Streaming Service
By Eric Moy, College Laboratory Technician

As video streaming technology advances, many major web sites are making use of it to deliver media content to their customers. While the application of this technology varies from one institution to another, the common goal is to provide easier access to media content by enabling the users to play it on their desktop.

The Library staff recognized the importance of easy accessibility and decided to explore the video streaming options. During the research process, we identified some problems and some durable options. In the end, the Library purchased a Dell PowerEdge server and set up a video streaming system consisting of Darwin Streaming Server, Apache web server with Sphider search engine, and MySQL database engine. Housed in the Library, the system enables the Library to deliver its media collection over the network.

We understand the importance of video quality and how that can have an effect on the user’s learning interest and ability. We encode media in MP4 format. The MP4 format is one of the most popular video formats for high quality video and sound. One advantage of using this format is that it is supported in various platforms (Mac, Windows and Linux). Closed-captioning is a very important feature to the hard-of-hearing users, but is often overlooked in video streaming due to high cost and its complex processing procedures. However, with Apple’s QuickTime Player, adding a closed-caption track to an MP4 video is relatively easy.

Users can search for media content using the internal search engine at http://media.laguardia.edu/search. The user can easily play any video by clicking a link on the result page. The system also works flawlessly with ERes, the Library's documents reservation server, making it possible for instructors to provide media materials to students.

Playing the video has never been easier in Smart

(Continued on page 9)

Faculty Laptop Loan Program
By Albert Neal, Media Services Coordinator

The Library Media Resources Center is pleased to announce a new service for our faculty. Five laptop computers will be available in the Media Services department for personal and professional use. These laptops will have CD burning, DVD playback, and wireless capabilities. Preloaded software includes Microsoft Office 2007 (Word, Excel, and Powerpoint), Adobe PDF reader, and QuickTime. Laptop circulation is limited to seven days with one renewal to insure that the laptops are available to all faculty members.

We have initiated this program primarily to assist our faculty who are making presentations at conferences and similar events. As a result, these laptops will be unlocked which will allow the loading of personal software.

In addition to this new service, the Library has acquired 75 new laptop computers for the Student Laptop Loan program. This additional equipment will provide mobile computer access to more of our students than ever before.

Please contact Albert Neal, Media Services Coordinator (x5432) if you have any questions about any of these services.

The Library's streaming video server at work.
Email Alerts: Keeping Up with Publications
By Elizabeth Namei, Reference Consultant

Did you know that a free e-mail alert service is available from many of the library’s subscription databases? By subscribing to this service, you can select publications that are of interest to you and have the table of contents sent directly to your inbox. You will be notified as new issues are available and links to the full-text of articles are provided when available. This is a quick and easy way to keep up with the scholarship in your discipline.

In EBSCOhost databases it is pretty simple to set up an alert:

1. Click the Publications link at the top left hand corner of the screen.
2. Enter the journal title in the Browse Publications field and click Browse, or use the A - Z links to browse through the list of titles.
3. Click on the Journal Title from the list of results. From the journal’s Publication Details Screen, click the Alert/Save/Share link, and then click the Create an Alert link from the pop-up box. 
   *If you have not signed in to or created your My EBSCOhost account, you will be prompted to do so before moving on to the next step.*
4. The Journal Alert Screen appears next. You will need to select the length of time you want the alert to run for, the format of the alert and then your email address. Once you’ve saved the alert you will automatically begin receiving the table of contents for the next issue of the publication once it is available.

If you have any questions about this service please contact Elizabeth Namei, enamei@lagcc.cuny.edu or x6019.

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2008 Honors Night Awards
By Clementine Lewis, Interlibrary Loan Librarian

On September 11, 2008, Ms. Alexandra Rojas and Mr. Charles Keyes presented the Library awards at the Honors Night Program to ten students for outstanding academic achievement in library and classroom research.

Library Research Review Award

The four students listed below received the Library Research Review Award for the Research Review Competition. In addition to this award, the students received a U. S. Savings Bond donated by Faculty Council and other prizes. The first place winner received an iPod Nano, and the second and third place winners received an iPod Shuffle.

**First Place:** Max E. Zampieri  
ENG 103, Prof. Christopher Alexander

**Second Place:** Pablo Cesar Avila  
ENG 103, Dr. J. Elizabeth Clark and SSS 102, Dr. Lorraine Cohen

**Rachelle Noel**  
ENG 101, Prof. William Weydig

**Third Place:** Sandra Yee  
ENG 220, Dr. Marian Arkin

For additional information, please visit the website for the Library’s Research Review Competition located at

(Continued on page 8)
The Internet Archive is a non-profit organization dedicated to maintaining an online library and archive of web and multimedia sources. The organization is headquartered in the Presidio, the grounds of a former U.S. military base, located on the shores of San Francisco Bay in the shadow of the Golden Gate Bridge.

The not-for-profit organization was founded in 1996 as the brainchild of Brewster Kahle, a Silicon Valley software engineer and systems developer responsible for developing the WAIS search engine. In 1995 he sold his interest to AOL for 15 million dollars and founded the Internet Archive. Recently, the efficacy of the Internet Archive was given a major boost when the Biblioteca Alexandrina in Egypt agreed to “Mirror” it’s archival holdings, ensuring that all data stored at the Archive is duplicated in another location as a means of assuring preservation.

The librarian’s initial phone query about a fact finding visit was cheerfully greeted with an invitation to lunch at their weekly staff meeting! Upon arrival, I learned that the Archive makes a point of including professionals, staff and members of the public in their meetings as a way of fostering organizational transparency.

As we lunched on burritos, a staff member shared information on a new affiliation with NASA Images, an online site that makes images from space available in high resolution form. A public relations staff member/web mistress shared over-the-top email complaints associated with some of the more controversial links to the Archive website. An elderly radical activist expressed concern about digitizing and archiving her extensive collection of leftist ephemera and political documents. The group shared concerns about digital archiving techniques and the staff was eager to share their knowledge and standards of practice.

The Internet Archive has two primary agendas; first, the archiving of web sites and digital information for posterity. The second is the digitization and dissemination of existing print materials on a free, non-proprietary basis.

The archiving of websites is handled in two ways. The Wayback Machine (a reference from an episode of the Rocky and Bullwinkle Show) is a digital time capsule created by the Internet Archive, which allows users to see snapshots of websites as they have evolved over time. The Archives describes this as a “three dimensional” index.

Another system, called Archive-It, makes it possible to permanently and immediately cite an archived version of a website as needed. Archive-It is available through subscription for clients in need of archiving and access to past websites. Snapshots of Archive-It data collected through the Internet Archive are periodically loaded into the general Wayback machine. Individuals and institutions producing and maintaining websites make use of this service. Archive-It partners can harvest, catalogue, manage, and browse their archived collections. Major partners include governmental, educational and non-profit organizations.

Internet Archive is also involved in a number of smaller projects, most notably, a media collection, encompassing moving image, audio and text, etc, from a wide range of sources. The media collection also features an “Open Source” sub-collection where general contributions by the public can be stored.
Getting Out the Vote
By Terry Parker, Assistant Coordinator of Media Services

Senator Barack Obama will be our President for the next four years. The faculty and staff would like to extend their congratulations to both candidates and their supporters who fought a long and hard campaign. More importantly, we would like to thank the many faculty, staff and students who participated in LaGuardia’s own non-partisan voter registration drive that resulted in over 700 students participating in this landmark election.

Long before the voting registration drive officially kicked off September 17th, a group of committed faculty and staff were meeting often to insure that this year’s election would be a teaching opportunity in civics and citizenship for our students and faculty. A major concern, how might we help our students in addition to getting them to vote?, remained at the core of the discussion. Headed by Professors Richard Lieberman, Lorraine Cohen, and Tara Hickman, as well as Eneida Rivas, Irene Sosa, Gregory Faulkner, Linda Croson, Stephen Weinstein, Steven Levine, Jeffrey Batts, and myself, the committee compiled an assortment of possible election program scenarios, each offering excitement and enthusiasm, while understanding that each would present challenges as well.

Finally we settled on an opening day event entitled: Student Vote! The event would offer a marketplace of ideas and an opportunity for our students to engage community and political leaders. We began the day with voting registration. The atmosphere was full of excitement and energy not often present for political events on campus. Moving the morning along was the screening of a film entitled “Journeys through the Red, White and Blue” followed by an in-depth discussion by the filmmakers, a team of NYC youth of color that surveyed the issues of local and national politics, immigrant participation in the political process, and African American voting rights. Up next was an assortment of speakers and panel discussion moderated by Tara Hickman and Lorraine Cohen. Speakers representing such diverse groups as the Queens County Republican Party, The Working Family Party, NYPIRG, Jobs For Justice, Vets For Peace, PSC/CUNY and others. The day’s event was a quite a success, with several instructors attending with their entire class. Many of the speakers and panel members stayed late into the afternoon to chat and network with our students and faculty.

Leading up to this event, the Library played a major role daily by providing a home for Senator Obama and Senator McCain’s two life size cutout replicas of the candidates, which drew numerous students and staff, many jockeying to take pictures next to their favorite candidate. The two images provided an initial hum of anticipation, curiosity and electricity about the upcoming election. Along with the replicas, the library provided an information table, which was complete with voter registration applications, candidate profiles and other pertinent information.

As we look back on those days leading up to the election, we can’t help but be grateful for the many offers of support and generous donations of time given by LaGuardia staff and faculty to register our students. In the beginning, we intended to only register students for two days; the response was so overwhelming that the registration was expanded into a second week. Linda Croson of the Writing Center probably expressed the events best when she said that “Special times brings out the best in all of us.”

Need a book from a CUNY Library?
Use CLICS to get it for you:
Details are here:
www.lagcc.cuny.edu/library/clics/
Ryan Adams & The Cardinals

Cardinology
Lost Highway

By Alexandra Rojas, Reference Librarian

The most prolific singer-songwriter of his generation, Ryan Adams, 33 has done it again! “Cardinology” is a masterstroke from a brilliant artist who deserves more recognition than presently given. After last year’s slight misstep, 2007 album “Easy Tiger” Mr. Adams returns to form.

An immense amount of material is being released by this artist and there is rumored to be a five-disc box set of unheard material in the mix. Despite the quantity of output, a breakthrough album does appear on occasion. “Cardinology” is certainly a substantial effort and a cut above most current releases. The compositions are tight-knit, with many stand-out tracks. On “Cobwebs,” a mid to quick tempo number, Mr. Adams is subdued with an underlying feeling of wanting to breakout. On “Magick,” where radio and vinyl records are mentioned, a total breakout quotient is achieved. “Natural Ghost” is a track about introspection that chills to the bone.

This is music that deserves to be heard sonically correct, so get up, get out and go to a music store and buy “Cardinology.” Ryan Adams is currently on tour with Oasis.

(Continued from page 3)

http://www.lagcc.cuny.edu/library/researchreview/.

LRC Incentive Award

Six students received the LRC Incentive Award for the Library’s three-credit course, LRC 102: Information Strategies, and one-credit course, LRC 103: Internet Research Strategies. This award is given to students who excel academically in these courses and serve as a role model for other students in the class:

Jemaine A. Boothe, Manju R. Dubey, Daisy Bugarin, Irippuge H. Perera, Anthony Colon and Nicole N. Speirs

Additional information about these courses can be found on the Library’s website at http://www.lagcc.cuny.edu/library/lrc/lrc.htm.

Bookstore Humanitarian Award

Cherub A. Ruiz was the recipient of the LaGuardia Community College Bookstore Humanitarian Award for outstanding service to the Library during the extended day hours. This monetary award was donated by the Barnes & Noble Bookstore.

(Continued from page 3)

orientation. A slightly quirkier part of this database is the collection of “sound bites.” And sound bites they are. Hear Mayor Bloomberg intone, “mass transit would be a very good idea once again” on February 13, 2006, or Joe Torre, “he has informed me that I will be here as his manager next year.” Choose the Audio tab at the top of the page.

*Academic Search Premier from EBSCOhost also has a specialized Images search. If you don’t see the Images tab at the top, click on “More” in the blue bar menu and it should appear there. Here you can refine your search by type: photos of people or places, natural science photos, historical photos, maps, or flags. *Science Reference Center and *History Reference Center, also from EBSCOhost, have this feature.

*ARTstor is the premier source of digital art images for academic use. It contains “nearly one million images in the areas of art, architecture, the humanities, and social sciences with a set of tools to view, present, and manage images for research and pedagogical purposes.” *Oxford Art Online also has an image search function.

Happy hunting.
approaching the 33rd Street-Rawston Street station with the skyline of Manhattan in the background. I then provided some statistics regarding the student body of LaGuardia before focusing on the information literacy program of the LaGuardia Library as well as an overview of our other services.

My presentation on the various elements of the library’s information literacy program was received very positively. In France, libraries do not offer credit courses nor do they have Research Review Competitions to reward “good” research. Surprisingly, however, what received the most attention was the number of hours that the LaGuardia Library Media Resources Center is open to students and faculty.

In Paris, a new academic library, Bibliothèque Centrale de l’Université Paris Diderot 7 (also known as Paris 7), was scheduled to be open 60 hours a week, which was considered a great success in France. It is actually open only 50 hours per week. This schedule compares with the 88 ½ hours that the LaGuardia Library is open. It is a rarity in France for an academic library to open at 7:30AM or for a professional librarian to be available at that hour. There does not seem to be much flexibility in librarians’ schedules in France. The idea of staggering schedules to provide services early in the morning and into the night seemed a foreign concept.

The audience was also intrigued by the description of our college in general and the workload of librarians. The details about our student body - ethnicity, languages spoken, and the ability to study full-time, part-time, during the day or at night - amazed the audience. The concept of a “second chance college” was something entirely new. I depicted the various functions of academic librarians at LaGuardia and used myself as an example: As the Coordinator of Technical Services, I also teach credit classes, take the reference desk every week, and teach one-shot library instruction classes. Librarians in France adhere to a more rigid job structure and do not, as a rule, share duties between public and behind-the-scenes library operations. The number of hours we open per week as well as the flexibility of our duties had the audience entranced. Most of the questions at the end of the panel were directed to me regarding these aspects of our services.

One of the great benefits of such conferences is meeting counterparts from various regions of the world. There were presentations from many different countries, including one by the director of the Seattle Public Library. Such a conference, although regional and national in its focus, allowed for a healthy global dialogue between francophone librarians from every part of the world.

Francine Egger-Sider presents at a conference of French Librarians.

Classrooms or on the 75 circulating Library laptops. In fact, the user can play the video on any computer with QuickTime Player. The free QuickTime player is required to be installed only once on the user’s computer.

The Library abides by copyright laws and honors copyright agreements. For that reason (and the bandwidth limitations of the network), media streaming is restricted to on-campus use only and the content is available only to LaGuardia users.

The Library’s goal is to better serve the College community. By streaming the media, we are making it more accessible. We hope to gradually build a well rounded collection of streaming content. We will start with materials already placed on Reserve. In response to the needs of instructional staff, faculty can request to have a particular title from the Media collection added to the streaming collection. We look forward to working with everyone to make video streaming a success. You are encouraged to use the service. If you have any questions, please contact Eric Moy at x5435 or emoy@lagcc.cuny.edu.
Text collections include digitized books from various libraries and special collections from around the world. As of May of this year, Internet Archive operated 13 scanning centers in great libraries, scanning up to 1,000 books per day. The New York Public Library recently became an institutional affiliate. I was able to view a Print-on-Demand machine, which is capable of accepting digital text and converting it to print text. The finished product is a complete facsimile of a book, bound as a library quality paperback. This process takes about 10 minutes and costs 10 dollars plus one cent per page.

The Archive is also a member of the not-for-profit Open Content Alliance, and operates the Open Library where more than 200,000 scanned public domain books are made browsable in an easily printable format. Internet Archive uses their Scribe Imaging System to digitize most of these books. Scribe software is free/open source software, available for public use.

The Internet Archive poses a direct alternative to the Google Corporation, which maintains the potential to claim a proprietary relationship to intellectual property and information access at any point in the future. The search engine giant’s unwillingness to maintain full transparency about the nature of its methods and practices is also a concern for both the Internet Archive and the Open Content Alliance. Google’s informal corporate motto “Don’t Be Evil,” must be measured against this lack of transparency. The not-for-Profit Internet Archive and the Open Content Alliance seek to counter this by maintaining information access as a matter of public trust.

The URL for the Internet Archive homepage is: http://www.archive.org/index.php.

The URL for the Open Content Alliance homepage is http://opencontentalliance.org.

(Continued from page 6)

Meet the Staff: Circulation

The hard-working circulation staff does more than check-out books. They keep the collection organized and help Library faculty make sure patrons have what they need for their research. The daytime circulation staff is (left to right): Tanya Smith, DeShawn Stumpo-West, Linda Sofia, Raquel Rossello, Tobias Echebiri, and Catherine Schwarha. Not pictured: Tambra Harper and Jose Laboy.