Renovation Updates and New Services

By Chris McHale, Access Services & Silvia Lu, Reference and Social Media Librarian

New York City Council Majority Leader Jimmy Van Bramer joined President Mellow and the LaGuardia Community College community on December 11, 2014 to commemorate the groundbreaking of the Library's renovation. When complete the project will add 21,000 square feet of space including 312 new seats, a reading room, updated media lab and group study rooms. Although this expansion will serve students at a future date, the faculty and staff at the Library Media Resource Center have adjusted to maintain services for current students.

Chief Librarian Jane Devine Retires

By Louise Fluk, Collection Development Librarian

After 20 years of service to the LaGuardia Library and College community, Professor Jane Devine is retiring. She leaves a Library that has greatly benefitted from her professional wisdom and principled leadership.

Jane came to LaGuardia armed with Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in English and a Master’s degree in Library Science, all from St. John's University in Queens. She had spent 15 years at the New York Public Library’s Donnell and Mid-Manhattan branches in increasingly responsible policy-making and supervisory positions. For seven years, she had been in charge of four collections (literature & language, art, picture, and popular reading) and their respective professional and non-professional staffs. She made a seamless transition to academic librarianship and served in many capacities, formal and informal, at the LaGuardia Library.

Indeed, Jane is a “librarian’s librarian,” an exemplar of the best qualities required of librarians in their multifarious roles. She has the unflappability and detail-
Welcome to New Library Staff

Liz Jardine
Metadata Librarian

Liz is honored to join the LAGCC Library staff full-time as a Metadata Librarian, Assistant Professor, after working one year as an adjunct. She will continue to work on knowledge sharing and the Ask LaGuardia knowledge base while adding instruction and other duties. Previous work includes indexing and editing for the MLA International Bibliography, cataloging for the New York Historical Society, constructing and designing theatrical costumes, and accounting. Liz holds a B.S. in Hotel Administration from Cornell University and an M.F.A. in Drama from the University of Houston along with her Masters in Library and Information Science from Long Island University. She enjoys science fiction and would like to learn to make jewelry.

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Comments may be sent by email to: cmchale@lagcc.cuny.edu or slu@lagcc.cuny.edu.
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The following is a summary of new services the Library has implemented to support our current users:

**Physical adjustments**
The Library will remain open throughout the construction process but certain resources have been adjusted to accommodate the project. Staff shifted the entire Reference Collection to make room for a small Stacks area. This collection will contain popular and new print titles for regular loan to current users. Students will find the same number of computer workstations in the library as before construction began although the majority have been moved to a temporary IT Lab. The Library Media Lab has been relocated to room E-101E but will transition to a new, renovated space once construction is completed.

**Storage retrievals**
To accommodate these renovations most library books and magazines were relocated to a storage site in the C Building. With the help of the CUNY Office of Library Services, these materials remain available to the LaGuardia and greater CUNY community by request through the library catalog. Staff in the Circulation Department make daily trips to the C-Building to retrieve and return books for library patrons.

**E-111**
A temporary Library Annex has opened in room E-111 and will remain available for the Spring 2015 semester. The Library Annex provides LaGuardia students, faculty and staff with research and information services, extra seating, and access to a small bank of computers. Students are also able to use their wireless devices. Current hours are: Monday-Thursday, 9AM-7PM and Fridays, 9AM-5PM.

**Research Chat**
If you can't come to the Library or the Annex, you can still chat with a Librarian. Just click the Research Chat button on any page of our site and you'll be instantly connected to a LaGuardia Librarian—whether you're on or off-campus.
orientation of the Periodicals librarian; the precision of the Government Documents librarian; the nose for value, both intellectual and budgetary, of the Acquisitions librarian; the broad view of the Collection Development librarian integrating collections, curricula, and patron information needs; the Reference librarian’s ability to zero in on the patron’s real question; the Research librarian’s instinct for finding the right resource in the haystack of available information; the Electronic Services librarian’s creativity and willingness to embrace change; the flexibility of the Instruction librarian whose pedagogical styles must accommodate many teaching situations; the psychological insight and motivational abilities of a library supervisor of professional, clerical, and student staffers; and the ability to see and convey the big picture, the vision of library potential, that is the hallmark of the best library leaders. She has worn all of those hats at LaGuardia, often more than one at a time.

After ten years of demonstrating her qualities as a calm, conscientious, people-savvy, and innovative member of the Library faculty, Jane was tapped for the role of Chief Librarian upon the retirement of Chief Librarian Professor Ngozi Agbim in 2004. In her new role, she managed the many services offered by the Library, always with a view toward how they could be improved. She motivated Library faculty and support staff to give their best efforts, always focused on meeting student information needs effectively. She protected Library budgets, lobbied for sufficient Library staffing, represented the Library to College faculty and administration, other CUNY libraries, professional associations, and outside stakeholders, always staying “on message” about the value of libraries in general and the LaGuardia Library in particular. She eagerly seized the opportunity to plan the Library’s expansion which is currently under way, drawing on her profound understanding of the information world and of the
service orientation of academic libraries.

Beyond the specifics of her multiple assignments, Jane’s research and evaluative skills have, over the years, helped LaGuardians from the classroom to the President’s Office. She has compiled research guides for students on several topics and bibliographies of LaGuardia faculty publications. She has published several articles and pathfinders, and helped update Arlene R. Quaratiello’s *The College Student’s Research Companion* (5th ed., Neal-Schuman, 2011). With colleague Professor Francine Egger-Sider, she co-authored two books about the Invisible Web: *Going beyond Google* (Neal-Schuman, 2009) and *Going beyond Google Again* (American Library Association, 2014). Asked for her view of the future of the library profession in the age of Google, information overload, open access, and self-publishing, Jane noted that, while the librarian’s role will change, people’s need for valid, useful information is not going away and therefore, the librarian’s evaluative skills will always be needed “to sort it all out.”

Jane leaves a Library that is consistently crowded with students, well-thought of throughout the College, a satisfying place to learn, and a dynamic place at which to work. We will miss Jane’s strength and her smile, but we will not begrudge her the well-earned opportunity to enjoy the other aspects of her life: her family, her interest in science fiction (perhaps she will finish a manuscript started long ago), her three cats, gardening, painting, and spending more time in her Vermont getaway. We will welcome her visits to the Library she has done so much to build and hope to successfully further her innovative and ethical legacy.

[With thanks to Francine Egger-Sider for her help in assembling information for this appreciation and to Marie Cimino Spina for making available her interview of Professor Devine on the eve of her departure.]
Exhibits

By Silvia Lu, Reference and Social Media Librarian

Library exhibits created by staff for the Fall 2014 semester address animal conservation, online privacy, and Black History Month. Stop by the Library to see more.

Media for the Mind

By Terry Parker, Coordinator, Media Services

The programs listed below are recent acquisitions to the Library’s video collection and support the Library’s Research Guide on Slavery and Film (See page 8). All titles are available for off/on campus loan for faculty, and on campus only use for students. Viewing of selected titles is also available on campus via the Library’s Streaming Service. For information on purchases and loans, please contact Terry Parker, x5433, or terry@lagcc.cuny.edu.

C.S.A.: The Confederate States of America (89 min.)
"What would happen now if the South had won the Civil War? Told through the lens of a faux British documentary, [the film] provides a bracing and provocative look at a very different America that might have been"--Container. (DVD 766)

Django Unchained (166 min.)
"Django, a former slave turned hired gun, heads back to the plantation to free his wife, Broomhilda, from the tyrannical plantation owner Calvin Candie, with the help of a German bounty hunter, Dr. King Schultz."-OCLC WorldCat; Review: http://libweb.lib.buffalo.edu/emro/emroDetail.asp?Number=5012 (DVD 763)
By Clementine Lewis, Coordinator of Extended Day & Interlibrary Loan Services

The Research Review Competition continues to attract students who are active participants in library and classroom research activities. Research papers entered into the 2013-14 Competition reflected competency in the students’ information literacy and research skills and their zeal and passion for their topic. The papers provided an excellent overview of the vast range of topics being explored by students on campus. Research topics ranging from the role of social media in politics, global citizen journalism, identity and reputation issues in technology, challenges in recession generation, stop and frisk and civil liberties policies, mental health issues and medical procedures, death and the funeral industry and water quality in New York City were included.

During the first week of October, the winners received their prizes and attended a special photo session for a group picture. Throughout the photo session, their excitement about winning a Kindle prize and receiving a Certificate of Participation was clearly evident. Recently, one of the winners commented that she “carries her Kindle tablet everywhere.” It motivates her to read more and it provides convenient access to reading materials such as ebooks and articles from library databases.

Of course for her classroom research, one big plus is cheaper access to books from the world’s largest bookstore. As always, we congratulate the winners for their outstanding achievements and salute the classroom instructors who helped them achieve this success. We also encourage students to submit their “A” papers into the 2014-15 Competition and wish everyone continued academic success!

Library Research Review Competition Winners and Classroom Instructors:

**First Place:** Marie Brewer  
ENG 102 – Prof. Benita Noveno

**Second Place:** Christian Genao, Isabel Becerra  
ENG 103 – Prof. Sandra Wozniak  
SCG 250 – Dr. Holly Porter-Morgan

**Third Place:** Matthew Eichelberger, Asif Ibrahim, Alecia Medley  
ENG 295 – Dr. Phyllis E. van Slyck  
ENG 270 – Prof. Elliot Hearst  
ENG 101 – Prof. Elliot Hearst

For additional information about the Research Review Competition, please visit the website located at [http://library.laguardia.edu/researchreview](http://library.laguardia.edu/researchreview).
The continuing lack of Academy Award recognition for African American filmmakers and films who choose themes unrelated to slavery, servitude and poverty points to an enduring problem of representation and a lack of diversity in American popular culture. An analysis of the historical presentation of slavery and racial stereotypes is necessary to better understand the faults in American memory. “From the earliest film versions of the “happy plantation” slaves of Uncle Tom’s Cabin in 1903 to Gone with the Wind (1939) and its romanticism of slavery, to The Foxes of Harrow (1947), the first film based on a novel by an African-American writer, Frank Yerby, to Haile Gerima’s haunting independent film Sankofa (1993) and Steve McQueen’s Academy Award-winning historically accurate remake of Twelve Years a Slave (2013), based on Solomon Northrup’s best-selling memoir, first beautifully adapted by Gordon Parks for PBS in 1984 and released as Solomon Northrup’s Odyssey, the “peculiar institution” of slavery has been the focus and/or backdrop of numerous feature and television miniseries film adaptations. LaGuardia Community College is building a collection of slavery-themed films many based on historically significant books to help support studies in American history and misrepresentations in popular culture.

Additional relevant titles already in the media services collection such as the TV series Roots can be investigated in this Library Research Guide created to support research and teaching:

http://guides.laguardia.edu/slaveryandfilm

More titles and new media collections will be made available by the Library. Please contact us if you would like to find out more or if you have suggestions for new films and collections.

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**Beulah Land (281 min.)**

This mini-series centers around the Kendrick family, owners of Beulah Land, and those connected to the plantation by history and fate. It follows Beulah Land from its height of splendor through its destruction in the Civil War and to its rebuilding. (DVD 761)

**Goodbye Uncle Tom (Addio Zio To) (123 min.)**

A feature film in which two documentary filmmakers go back in time to the pre-Civil War American South. There, they make a very graphic documentary about slavery and the slave trade. (DVD 764)
Twenty-five new audiobooks in Playaway format have been added to the collection. Each of these small devices contains one book in its entirety: just plug in earbuds and listen. See what is available by checking the shelf near the browsing collection or searching Playaway in the library catalog. New additions include: The Signature of All Things by Elizabeth Gilbert, The Virgin Way: Everything I Know About Leadership by Richard Branson and Origins: Fourteen Billion Years of Cosmic Evolution by Neil deGrasse Tyson and Donald Goldsmith. Playaways can be checked out at the media desk.

Ethnographic Video Online, volumes 1 and 2, are now part of our streaming video collection from Alexander Street Press. These videos, which are accompanied by transcripts, can be viewed on or off campus. Users can embed links, create playlists and clips and share them with students. Make sure to check out VAST: Academic Video Online Alexander Street’s largest collection, with something for everyone. Go to the library’s database page and select Videos.

General Laboratory Techniques and Basic Methods in Cellular and Molecular Biology from JOVE are new video collections that will help support the science curriculum.

Hospitality and Tourism Complete, another EBSCOhost database, is available again after a hiatus of a few years.

Spread the word to your colleagues and encourage your students to sign up. Questions? Ask at the Library or email castern@lagcc.cuny.edu.
• Scott White has been appointed Acting Chief Librarian.
• Nasrin Rahman was promoted to Level II CUNY Administrative Assistant.
• Francine Egger-Sider and Eileen Goldberg were honored for 25 years of service and Jane Devine was honored for 20 years of service at the Professional Staff Meeting in December.
• Catherine Stern and Steven Ovadia were awarded a mini grant on a PPR and Center for Teaching and Learning project.
• Hong Cheng and Silvia Lu were accepted to a Center for Teaching and Learning Design for Social Pedagogy seminar.
• Hong Cheng presented “Turn a disaster into a research opportunity: Assessing one-hour library sessions after Hurricane Sandy” at the Library Assessment Conference in Seattle, WA on August 4, 2014.
• Galina Letnikova was accepted in the Writing in the Disciplines (WID) program.
• Ann Matsuuchi conducted a successful Wikipedia project with Professor Ximena Gallardo C. (English) that was highlighted in a College press release: http://www.lagcc.cuny.edu/Home/News/LaGuardia-Students-Pay-Wikipedia-Tribute-to-Science-Fiction-Icon/.
• Hong Cheng, Charles Keyes, Galina Letnikova and Alexandra Rojas presented “Pushing Out the Boundaries and Establishing New Frontiers: An Active Information Literacy Program at Work” at the SUNYLA 2014 conference in Albany, NY on June 12, 2014.
• Alexandra Rojas, Charles Keyes and Chris McHale presented “At the Forefront of Information Literacy” at the Faculty of the Future Conference 2014 in Bucks County, PA on May 30, 2014.
• Hong Cheng won an EDIT Grant
• The Library was awarded an IMLS Sparks! Ignition Grant for a project entitled Designing Information Assignments for Literacy. Steven Ovadia (PI), Scott White, Marie Spina, Charles Keyes, Chris McHale, Hong Cheng and Riya Mitha worked on this proposal with the help of the Grants Office. The Grant will be for $25,000 and will involve collaboration with the Center for Teaching and Learning.
• Ann Matsuuchi and Naomi Stubbs (English) organized a 2014-2015 NEH grant-funded faculty seminar about technology and identity with the Center for Teaching and Learning: http://techselfsociety.commons.gc.cuny.edu/
• Ann Matsuuchi served on a panel on Critical Library Instruction at Pratt SILS on November 24, 2014.
• Charles Keyes was elected chairperson of the 2014-2015 College Senate.
• Ann Matsuuchi participated in a METRO webcast on Wikipedia and Education on November 24, 2014: http://metro.org/events/568/
• Steven Ovadia published an article: “Automate the Internet With ‘If This Then That’ (IFTTT)” in Behavioral & Social Sciences Librarian, Vol. 33, No. 4. (2 October 2014), pp. 208-211, doi:10.1080/01639269.2014.964593.
• Galina Letnikova, Alexandra Rojas, Charles Keyes, Chris McHale and Terry Parker presented “Foundations for a 3-D Printing Enhanced Curriculum” with engineering faculty at this year’s CUNY IT Conference on December 4, 2014.
• Galina Letnikova presented “Summarizing and Paraphrasing to Avoid Plagiarism” and Dianne Gordon Conyers presented “Creating Teaching Partnerships” for the English Language Center Professional Development Day on November 6, 2014.

Library Faculty were well represented at LaGuardia’s 2014 Fall Opening Sessions on September 3, 2014:

• Galina Letnikova, Alex Rojas, Chris McHale and Charles Keyes conducted a 3D printer presentation with MEC faculty Hendrick Delcham and Paul West.
• Ann Matsuuchi and Ximena Gallardo C. (English) presented on a semester-long Wikipedia class project: “Wikifying Octavia E. Butler’s Kindred: Using Wikipedia in the Classroom.”
• Silvia Lu and Karen Miller (History) collaborated on a panel discussion titled "Interrogating Research in the Classroom: Discovery, Collaboration and Innovation."
• Hong Cheng presented with the Digital Communication Rubric Committee: “Rubrics R Us: Developing the Digital Communication Rubric – Collaboration in Motion.”