From The Director’s Desk

Welcome to the latest issue of *The Library Link*!

**How do you use the Library? Do you call on our expert staff?**

Librarians are experts at helping you find the information you need. If you think a librarian’s job is simple, think again. Librarians teach in a variety of settings and in a wide variety of subject areas. Librarians steer patrons to the information they are searching for and teach patrons how to access materials and information. Librarians can offer help developing search skills and help narrow down searches to a few authoritative resources.

Library assistants help patrons check items in and out, process materials, locate materials, and issue library cards. Library assistants also facilitate interlibrary loans from within our network, our state, and throughout the country.

Need some assistance? All you have to do is ask.

**How do you use the Library? Do you use our variety of collections?**

Your Library is more than just books. A look at our web page shows you that we offer access to information in many formats: books, e-books, audiobooks, streaming videos, online reference books, LibGuides, NOBLE digital collection, magazines, newspapers, and other periodicals.

Technical Services staff process all of our new materials and the Technical Services Librarian keeps our online products up-to-date.

The Assistant to the Library Director orders new materials and works with the library budget.

Don’t forget your library staff—they’re your ticket to all of our resources!

**How do you use the Library? Do you come to the library for enrichment?**

The NSCC Library is a place that many people come for quiet or small group study. For some people, however, the library is more than just a place. Some people find inspiration and enlightenment at the library. Others use the library for its convenience, especially for the online resources. Using the library’s resources is extremely economical, especially for students. With our constantly changing displays, our patrons are always learning or seeing something new.

Even with the onslaught of technology and its constant changes, people are seeking help and resources available in our library more than ever before.

The library offers so much…please take advantage of all that is out there for you!

— Karen Pangallo
From the Circulation Desk

**MLS Massachusetts Library System**  NOBLE uses a delivery service through the Massachusetts Library System (MLS) to send and receive interlibrary loan materials. The MLS delivery service conducted a recent survey to find out how many items are being delivered. So far, 416 libraries have responded and almost 238,000 items were delivered weekly. So please keep requesting items…we would love to see this statistic grow!

— Edie Saranteas

From the Reference Desk

**See the Library (and You!) on Flickr**

- Would you like to see a picture of President Burton with a plastic chicken on his shoulder holding a book about eggs?
- Maybe you would like to view professional photographs taken of students in the library for our new website?
- Did you or your friend pose for a Library READ poster?
- You can now find yourself, NSCC students, and NSCC staff and faculty on the Library’s Flickr site.

Follow us through the school year as we showcase the NSCC Library and chronicle the library’s happenings in pictures!

— Christine Goodchild

Just Arrived on DVD!

**Alternative Agriculture: Food for Life**

A nice complement to the DVD *Food, Inc*! “This program asserts that ecological, organic, and ethical farming is a viable alternative to industrial agriculture, and offers a tremendous benefit to the environment while helping to preserve traditional rural life. Interviews with these modern farmers focus on the process and effects of raising animals, grains, fruits, and vegetables in a natural environment. In addition, scholars criticize what they call academic and government support of large scale agriculture, arguing that the only true sustainable method of farming is nature-based and that more consumers are demanding food produced without the use of chemicals, pesticides, hormones, or antibiotics.” (46 minutes) © 2004 CC

(Description from Films for the Humanities & Sciences)

— Christine Goodchild
The Library Link

Faculty: Hand this out to your students!

Impress Your Professor by Creating Dazzling Bibliographies This Holiday Season. Here’s how:

1.) **Request a personal shopper:** make an appointment to consult with a research librarian about your topic

2.) **Try something different:** use the Library’s research databases to find authoritative sources along with search engines

3.) **Bargain hunt:** throw in an encyclopedia entry or other reference source to show you have done background research on your topic (the best place to start your research)

4.) **Be well versed:** include sources that add new information about your topic and multiple, objective viewpoints

5.) **Be wise:** select articles that are scholarly and academic, not popular and trendy

6.) **Brand name quality:** be sure to research the author’s credentials (what is their educational and professional background? What other publications have they written for in the field?)

7.) **Buy an assortment:** use a variety of sources in your bibliography – books, articles and web documents

8.) **Naughty or nice:** understand the author’s/publisher’s intent/purpose (is it to inform, educate, persuade, push an agenda, sell/market, entertain?)

9.) **Check your dates, twice:** does currency matter with your topic? (typically in rapidly changing fields like the sciences, health and technology results prior to the past 5 years should be discarded)

10.) **Can’t find the right size?** Can’t find what you need? Use the library’s interlibrary loan service to find specific articles and books that may be more relevant to your topic

11.) **Look svelte:** use NoodleBib, the Library’s online citation generator, to create polished and perfectly formatted bibliographies that can be imported into Word

12.) **Be charitable:** create an annotated (descriptive and evaluative summaries of your sources) bibliography

13.) **Give the gift that keeps on giving:** sign up for the Library’s Research Methods Course: LSC 101 - learn how to improve your bibliographies, impress your professors, and much, much more

— Christine Goodchild

Do you assign literature readings of authors, like Shakespeare or Mark Twain, whose works may no longer be protected by copyright? Then point your students to Project Gutenberg, where they can download over 33,000 free ebooks (some audiobooks) to their PC, iPad, Kindle, Nook, Sony Reader, iPhone, iPod Touch, Android or other mobile devices.

Happy Holidays from the Library Staff

During the last school year, librarians taught 291 classes on library and information literacy, seeing a total 5189 students.
The Library Link

Library Display Areas
Libraries aren’t just for printed information!

One aspect of the NSCC libraries is our ability to mount displays of artwork and other materials. On both campuses we have a secure glass display case used for anything from seashells to museum items. Presently in Lynn, we have a display of materials dealing with holiday themes, and have just finished an exhibition of Japanese puppets. Danvers has a display of President Burton’s collection of V-mails from World War II, along with several antique typewriters.

In our larger display areas we often show examples of student and faculty art. One of our favorite contributors is Professor Jim Chisholm, who always manages to get the best out of his students, whether they are working in charcoal, collage, or other media. Professor Chisholm says, “Placing art and design work in the NSCC Library exhibition spaces from active classes in drawing and visual design can afford students a new milieu from which to gauge their art work. The art and design work is shown mixed so that a new viewing context is achieved. It’s similar to viewing one's art work in a mirror; it refreshes one's eyes.” In view of Professor Chisholm’s enthusiasm we encourage other teachers to bring students’ work for exhibit.

Month to month we try to highlight groups that are honored that month. For example, in November we highlight Native American heritage; in February, Black History; and in March, Women’s History. Posters and materials dealing with these groups are usually featured on our display shelves during these special times. In honor of 2011 Women’s History Month, Matthew Woods, of the Cultural Arts Department, will lead his students in a dramatic production to be held in the Lynn Library.

If you have interesting art or objects that you’d like us to exhibit, contact Carolyn Johnson, X6245, or Bill Meunier, X5540.
— Carolyn Johnson

“I have to write a research paper!”

Many of the conversations we have with students begin this way. Each day we see several students who are panicking because they don’t know how to begin their assignments. Recently Project Information Literacy released a report (How College Students Evaluate and Use Information in the Digital Age) that reinforces our experiences. Project Information Literacy surveyed 8,353 students from 25 colleges and found that 84% of these students had the most trouble getting started. Over 60% noted problems with defining and focusing their topics, and understanding their results.

Our students certainly fit this trend. The Information Literacy skills librarians teach in our instruction sessions, one credit LSC101 course, and in the library each day address the problems these students encounter. Our instruction sessions are designed to address the assignments and course requirements, and help students develop Information Literacy skills. Many of the students we teach in these classes will follow up with us individually for help with their assignments.

Our LSC101 course is an intensive Information Literacy 10-week class that takes students through the research process, one step at a time. Students who have taken this course in the past have found it essential to their academic success.

We also help students individually at the Reference desk. Each day we answer over 40 reference questions covering every stage of the research process. Many of these questions come from students we've taught in our instruction sessions. Anecdotal evidence shows that students who do not have an instruction session in the library are less likely to ask for help. When we do encounter these students we find them less prepared and more overwhelmed. (continued pg 5)
Impress your friends with these Boolean search tricks!

Next time you’re searching one of the library’s many databases, try Boolean logic! Boolean logic is a way to construct your search by defining the relationships between your search terms. Boolean logic is a term borrowed from mathematics, and uses the words and, or and not to build your search. Here’s how to use it:

The word “And” combines search terms so that each search result contains all of the terms. For example, travel and Europe finds articles that contain both travel and Europe. The search Global warming and icebergs finds articles that contain both global warming and icebergs.

The word “Or” combines search terms so that each search result contains at least one of the terms. For example, college or university finds results that contain either college or university.

The word “Not” excludes terms so that each search result does not contain any of the terms that follow it. For example, television not cable finds results that contain television but not cable; cats not dogs finds results that contain the word cats, but not dogs. Using Boolean logic saves your searches from resulting in too many results or no results at all.

— John Koza

What is everyone doing in the Library?

- coming in for information literacy classes
- asking for circulation help
- activating college IDs
- learning something new from a display
- looking for answers to questions
- looking for a quiet place to study
- reading a newspaper
- reading a book
- looking for help with their assignments
- doing research
- watching a DVD
- listening to CDs
- reading a magazine
- doing small group work
- working on a computer to type a paper
- looking for a computer to check their email
**Staff Favorites —**

Need to step out of your routine? Take a few moments to browse the library’s oversize book collection, where you’ll discover large, illustrated books on art, jewelry, photography, cooking, maps, nature, and more. Recently, I came across *Planet Earth As You've Never Seen It Before* (Alastair Fothergill; University of California Press, c2006), the companion book to the Discovery Channel/BBC 11-part television series. After looking through it, during my lunch break one rainy day, I came away feeling in awe of nature and ready to get back to work. — Karen Pangallo

In *The Kennedy Detail* by Gerald Blaine with Lisa McCubbin, Blaine, a secret service agent assigned to President Kennedy, recounts his and his fellow agent’s experiences protecting the President and his family. Blaine writes how the agents were underpaid and understaffed and faced the near impossible task of protecting a president who loved to mingle directly with people. In riveting detail, Blaine describes the events preceding and immediately following the assassination of President Kennedy. This is one of the first accounts of the Kennedy assassination from the Secret Service point of view. At times a difficult book to read, I thoroughly enjoyed the new perspective on a very sad chapter in our history. — Bill Meunier

In the movie *Morning Glory*, Rachel McAdams stars as an energetic TV producer, who is hired to produce a last place morning show. She is given the near impossible task of raising the ratings of a show that has been in last place for years. Diane Keaton plays a newscaster who manages to smile through almost everything. Harrison Ford portrays an award winning newsman who hates morning news shows and what has happened to broadcast news. How McAdams transforms the show and gets Ford and Keaton to work together is a joy to watch. It is a fun little movie I think you will enjoy. — Bill Meunier

I’m an avid reader of detective stories, and one of my favorite series is Martha Grimes’ Inspector Jury series. Set in England, Grimes’ books feature a wonderful collection of eccentric characters, including Richard Jury, a genuine Scotland Yard inspector, and Melrose Plant, his aristocratic friend who has resigned his titles. Other characters include Melrose’s humorously intrusive aunt Agatha, who hovers about expecting favors, and Vivian, who may or may not be engaged to an Italian duke. Each of the books is named after an oddly named English pub, i.e., The Man with a Load of Mischief. There’s a minimum of blood, but lots of interesting happenings as Inspector Jury solves each murder. — Carolyn Johnson

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**LIBRARY facts** BE SMART! LOG ONTO OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION!

- NSCC CAMPUS LIBRARIES in Danvers and Lynn are free and open to the public
- Community residents and alumni can use public library cards to borrow materials and access databases
- Current NSCC students can use student photo IDs to borrow materials and access databases

**FALL & SPRING HOURS OF OPERATION**

Monday - Thursday 8 am – 8 pm  
Friday: 8 am – 4 pm  
Saturday: 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

TELEPHONE: Danvers (978) 739-5526  
Lynn (781) 477-2133

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