

NEWS *at* YOUR LIBRARY

The Saint Michael's College Library & Information Services Newsletter

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THE TRUE CROSS

By Elizabeth Scott, Archivist

"A notable fragment of the True cross, kept at Tonerre in the Family of Joseph Gilles but now lacking the qualification required by the Holy Canons for exposition to public veneration, is of the highest concern to the piety of its possessor. . ."

So begins a letter describing the search for authentication of the piece of the True Cross now housed in the Archives. An associated packet of letters offers insight not only into this one relic and its storied past, but also into the tradition of relics as a whole.

A relic is the remains of a saint or something that is sanctified by its physical association with the saint. The True Cross is a relic of the cross at Golgotha, retrieved around 326 by Saint Helena, mother of Emperor Constantine the Great.

Housed in the Archives of the Society of Saint Edmund, the relic of the True Cross was retrieved in the 1800's from a private party which had held it for some time. As noted above, it was lacking the official church documentation needed for it to be considered an official relic—one that could be used in an altar, or accorded an official position by the Church. Without the paperwork, the value of the relic was negligible apart from the reliquary in which it had been held.

The series of correspondence which accompanies the relic adds significant research value to the relic—not only because it now includes an official authentication. The letters document the appeal to the church for authentication of the relic, finally granted in 1861 by Archbishop Mellon-Jolly, of the Diocese of Sens (in which Pontigny is located). The letters also describe the creation of the reliquary.

The combination of the relic of the True Cross with the associated correspondence provides an excellent example of how the three-dimensional objects in archives can be important additions to archival collections. Not only can one examine the object itself, but an interested party can also delve into the "why" of the object. Using the relic as the starting point, research into French history, religious devotion, and relics takes on another dimension.

To learn more, or to view the object, please make an appointment with the Archivist (escott@smcvt.edu).



"If we were to collect all these pieces of the True Cross exhibited in various parts, they would form a whole ship's cargo."

—John Calvin

SCHEDULING REFERENCE

By Michele McCaffrey, Reference Coordinator

Beginning this semester, students can easily schedule a research appointment online from the library's website. Research questions have become increasingly complex as library and freely available resources expand at a meteoric rate, making it possible for students to do more sophisticated research, but also more challenging for students to find high quality, reliable information and

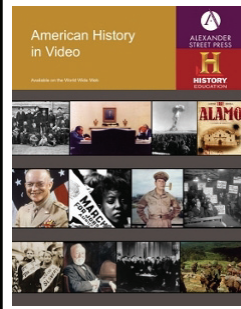
to weed out the less important and irrelevant material. Across the disciplines, upper-level students often need more, rather than less, help navigating the universe of information. In response to student need for longer, more specialized research assistance, Saint Michael's librarians have added "Schedule a Research Appointment" as one more service for students seeking research assistance. Please encourage students to take advantage of the library's new online service. Your endorsement is key to instilling the reference collaboration habit into students' research process.



BARBIE GOES TO THE LIBRARY

During the month of April, Barbie will be showcasing an exhibit of library books, including *The Good, the Bad, and the Barbie* by Tanya Lee Stone. Barbie dolls from the collection of Saint Michael's fine arts professor Peter Harrigan (pictured) will be on display in the Durick Library along with an impressive selection of books about the most famous doll in the world.

Photo courtesy of Karen Pike Photography



Everyone should take a look at *American History in Video*, a rich collection of some 4200 streaming videos from PBS, Bullfrog, the History Channel and more. Not just for history buffs, topics include business, economics, education, family, politics, religion, science... Transcripts are fully searchable. Email lcrain@smcvt.edu for help making custom clips and links.

Coming to Durick Library are two new magazines:

¡BIENVENIDOS!

Hispanic: articles on pop culture, education, business, sports, the arts, literature, and politics that impact U.S. Hispanics. *Latina*: an entertainment, fashion and lifestyle magazine highlighting musicians, artists, dancers, authors, and actors. Recent cover stories include Sonia Sotomayor, Paulina Rubio & Catalina Sandino Moreno.

LIBRARY 2015

By John Payne, *Director of Library & Information Services*

ebooks, and online journals have soared from 20,000 to over 60,000. Search technologies that were cutting edge in 2005 are now used on the library website everyday. The library has longer hours and does 50 percent more research instruction.

To chart the library's course for the next five years, the library staff has developed a new strategic plan. They have researched current trends, reviewed college surveys and plans, interviewed faculty and staff, and consulted with librarians at more than a dozen other colleges and universities. Both the Library Committee and the Academics Committee pondered library issues, consulted with their constituencies, and provided ideas and guidance on priorities.

So what will the library be like in 2015?

Resources The print collection will continue to grow, but the virtual collection will grow more quickly. Access to primary sources—data sets, historical documents, audio and video files—will be expanded. Acquisitions will increasingly be driven by on demand purchasing. The Archives will become a provider of online information as historical collections are digitized.

Technology Searching will become even easier with a discovery tool that searches all library collections in all formats at once. Library systems will be better integrated with other campus technology. New interfaces will make accessing the library on mobile devices a snap.

Information Literacy Library instruction will continue to expand, aligned with the new curriculum. A new collaboration with the FYS program will provide all students with basic search skills that will serve as a jumping off point for more advanced research in their majors.

Services Patrons will be able to schedule library services for themselves online. Partnerships with Peer Tutoring and the Writing Center will be expanded, and the library will work with IT to enhance technology support and training.

Building Dramatic changes to the library building may be beyond the five-year horizon, but in the meantime, mini-renovations will continue. Plans include a new children's literature room, an archives research room, and a refurbished reference area. New furniture will appear year by year, and group study rooms will be carved out of existing spaces. In a recent student survey, the number-one wish for the library was a café. Stay tuned.

The complete Library Strategic Plan 2015 will be available on the library website. A strategic plan is always a work in progress, so if you have any suggestions, we want to hear them. Ideas are always welcome.

A lot changes in five years.

Five years ago the library spent most of its budget on print materials; now 60 percent goes to online resources. Since then 40,000 print volumes have been added, but so have 10,000

News at your library

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MEET VALERIE

Valerie Carzello is our newest evening and weekend circulation supervisor who joins Jillyan James in covering these shifts. Valerie is a graduate of Johnson State College with a degree in psychology. She is currently pursuing a graduate degree in clinical mental health through the Union Institute and University. Valerie's experience in bookstore management, law enforcement, and stress reduction provide her the tools to successfully assist our library users. If you happen to be in the library on weekends, please welcome Valerie to the Saint Michael's College community.



RESOURCE HIGHLIGHTS

New database offerings this academic year include:

Anthropological Literature

The go-to index for anthropology. Covers articles published from the early 19th century to the present in more than 50 languages.

Biography in Context

Along with searching by name, this resource helps you find famous people by profession (and not just your run of the mill colonizer, dictator or basketball player). You can find people famous for being an abbess, cattle rustler or alien contactee. Also handy is searching by country. Includes over one million people throughout history, around the world.

Art & Architecture Complete

Replacing Art Abstracts, this database provides indexing and abstracts for art publications plus full-text coverage of 380 periodicals and more than 220 books.

Career Transitions

Online career guidance center that walks users through the job-search process from beginning to end.

Dictionary of Irish Biography

Besides being an excellent source for baby names, this biographical dictionary for Ireland has gotten numerous awards for outstanding scholarship.

Horn Book Guide Online

Short, critical reviews of children's literature published in the United States.

JSTOR collections added:

Arts & Sciences V, VI, VIII

With these 3 new JSTOR collections, we've widened journal coverage in arts, humanities, and social sciences. Saint Michael's now has full text access to 1720 journals available in our JSTOR subscriptions.

Oxford International

Encyclopedia of Peace

Peace studies in encyclopedia format written by a slew of smart, peaceful people.

Political Handbook of the World

Extensive information about the systems of government and the political parties for all countries of the world.

Small Business Resource Center

Covers all major areas of starting, operating and maintaining a business from business plans, financing, marketing, accounting, taxes and more.

Women's Studies International

A wave of feminist research at your fingertips. This index raises the bar on access to scholarly research in women's studies.

World at War: Understanding Conflict and Society

No, this isn't *Call of Duty*.

This academic resource overviews 27 wars, with causes and consequences, illuminating the global impact of these conflicts.

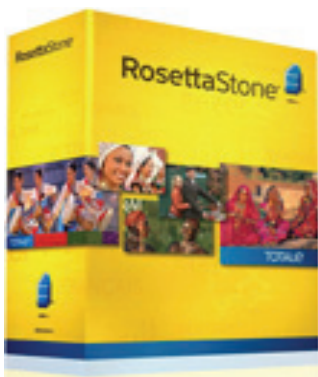
-Laura Crain



GOOD CAUSE BOOKS

Along with the annual M.O.V.E. Book Sale, which was held in February and raised \$1450, the Library maintains an ongoing book sale near the front entry of Durick Library. So far the lobby sale has raised \$600 to support M.O.V.E. partner organizations in Kolkata, India and the Dominican Republic.

ROSETTA STONE ON THE NETWORK AT SMC



Rosetta Stone Version 3 is now available over the network as a service for students. The software is securely streamed from Saint Michael's servers and offers a personalized experience for students in Arabic, French, German, Italian, Japanese,

Russian and Spanish. Students interested in using the software should email ithelp@smcvt.edu with "Rosetta Stone" as the subject line, and tell us what language you'd like to learn.

If you're interested in learning other languages, visit Powerspeak Languages, which offers self-paced language instruction on the web for Spanish, French, German, Mandarin Chinese and English for Spanish speakers. Available through the Language Learning Resource Center <http://www2.smcvt.edu/llrc>, or the Library web site.

Please visit the LLRC in St. Ed's to use other software, books, DVD's and technologies.

Kellie Campbell, LLRC Manager

LONGER CHECK OUTS FOR DVDS

The Godfather, Part II. Really long movie. So is *Doctor Zhivago*. But now students can check out and keep Library DVDs for a full seven days. Why the change? When the three-day loan period was put in place, the library had 500 DVDs; now it has over 3,000, so there are plenty of options to choose from. A friendly reminder--\$1-a-day fines now start on Day 8.

Library Staff

ADMINISTRATION

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Elizabeth Scott, Archivist

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Sandra Roy, Cataloging Specialist

Michele Shea, Cataloging Senior Specialist

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INTERLIBRARY LOAN

Kristen Hindes, Interlibrary Loan & Instruction Librarian

Naomi King, Interlibrary Loan & Circulation Specialist

REFERENCE AND INSTRUCTION

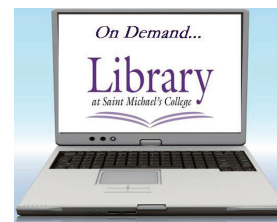
Steven Burks, Web Developer

Michele McCaffrey, Reference Coordinator

Marilyn Scoville, Instruction Coordinator

THE FUTURE IS ON DEMAND

By **Laura Crain**, Associate Director for Collection Services



One of the more exciting developments in academic library collection management is the shift away from “just-in case” purchasing toward “just-in-time” access to library resources. Through pay-per-article purchasing, the Library provides thousands of journals which look like regular subscriptions in our Journal Finder, but we pay only when a user clicks on the article. These programs have allowed us to provide journal literature that would be cost-prohibitive in the traditional subscription model.

Similar efforts are happening with e-book purchases, where we have implemented patron-driven purchases of electronic books for the library collection. The Library “populates” our library catalog with titles in relevant academic disciplines. Even though these titles have not actually been purchased, users can view the content immediately. If a certain amount of content is viewed, the e-book is automatically purchased for the collection. As far as the user can tell, the book is already part of the library collection. In this way, we are building an e-book collection based on the academic interests of our students and faculty.

There is still demand for physical materials, and Saint Michael’s students still resoundingly prefer their books in paper format. The Library continues to maintain its role in collecting physical materials when these formats best fit student needs and preferences.

So what’s changing? For years librarians and faculty at Saint Michael’s took pride in building a library of books which offered a range of works representing scholarship in all relevant academic areas. This philosophy took us well past the year 2000 without much consideration for whether those materials are

actually used.

With improved tools and the staff to analyze data, we have become better stewards of the money allocated to spend on content. Statistics, along with advancements in discovery tools (the library catalog, journal finder, integrated search engines) enable the Library to shape the collection to formats and subjects that students and faculty are using, and to provide access to content at the point of need, through seamless on-demand services.

Should a college library have a representative core collection of scholarly monographs in every discipline we teach? That depends. If there are books on our shelves, often geared toward more specialized research in disciplines where book demand is low (and which have never and will never be used) we have to question why we continue to buy them. For disciplines in which scholarly content is produced predominantly in journal literature and demand for books is low, our focus is on meeting the need for journal content, and implementing on-demand book purchasing at the point of use. We can ensure that we have access to recent monograph literature, without spending unnecessarily on books that won’t be used. This is a significant shift away from habitually selecting books on topics for which there is no student interest and toward buying books where evidence points to student use.

Student demand for scholarly information is tied specifically to course assignments and research papers that require the use of library resources. The actual use of academic content by students is driven almost entirely by levels of expectation required by Saint Michael’s faculty members. As we work with faculty to improve the collection, we welcome feedback and guidance in the shape and direction of the library collection.



NOOK FOR KIDS

Children’s books are among the highest circulating books in Durick Library so it was just a matter of time before we offered an e-book reader for children’s literature. With a selection of 15 children’s books the touchscreen NOOK Color is now available for check out from the Durick Library. Barnes & Noble hosts the NOOK Kids site featuring picture books for download, some enhanced with audio (“read to me”). Although the offerings are slim for books with the “read to me” feature, those books that include it give kids a chance to scroll through the pages of a book with a built in audio feature that reads the pages to them. The NOOK may interest education majors seeking ways to make children’s literature enticing, particularly for reading-resistant children who may find technology and the “gadget aspect” appealing. --*Laura Crain*

Children’s books are among the highest circulating books in Durick Library so it was just a matter of time before we offered