New Seminar Space: Crumb 205

Occasional use limited-projection classroom

Some spaces struggle to find an identity, and Crumb 205 has been one of those: it’s been our backup classroom for information literacy, a meeting room for library staff, a tutoring room, and a study space for students. Now we’re going to try something different.

Faculty have asked many times if there is a place they can use as a “home base” at times when they bring their classes to Crumb for in-class library research, and now the answer is “yes”. Crumb 205 has 16 movable student seats to accommodate any teaching or work style, a 55” tv on the wall that can be plugged into our DVD/Blu-ray player, a laptop, or campus cable tv, and chalk and white boards on the walls. It is adjacent to the libraries’ collections on the 2nd floor, and we hope this will help our faculty who want to do one-on-one work with students in the library or simply lecture for the day in the place most suited to continuing the research after class.

This seminar room will not be part of the Registrar’s scheduling template, but will be available for one-shot or limited instruction periods. Please contact Jenica Rogers, rogersjp@potsdam.edu or x3328, for more details on reserving this room.

Fact Check

The 2010-2011 SUNY Library Acquisition and Retirement Survey shows that among the SUNY comprehensive colleges, SUNY Potsdam:

- Spent more than the average on books
- Spent less than the average on print periodicals
- Spent the least of all of our peers on online resources

The data also show that while the comprehensives account for only 20% of print periodicals purchased, we buy 41% of the books purchased throughout the SUNY system!
Our entry in the Campus History Series published
January 2012

The SUNY Potsdam entry in the Campus History Series from Arcadia Publishing is now on bookshelves all over the region. Authored by SUNY Potsdam alumnae Jane M. Subramanian ’72 and Virginia Rose Cayley ’60, the book boasts more than 200 vintage images and memories of days gone by, all pulled from the collections housed in the College Archives.

Jane and Ginny spent hundreds of hours looking through photos, choosing representative and interesting images, and captioning each to capture the spirit and identity of SUNY Potsdam. The work includes chapters dedicated to:

- The early years as the St. Lawrence Academy
- Academics, places, athletics, recreation and student life
- Moving forward as Potsdam State Teachers College and SUNY
- The birthplace of American music education
- The new campus and its expansion
- Traditions of teacher education

Jane and Ginny dedicated the book, “With heartfelt appreciation, we dedicate this work to all past, present, and future students, administrators, faculty, staff, and alumni. Each and every one of our college community over the years has together made this college all that it is.”

Publication of this work was made possible through the generosity of Dorothy Albrecht Gregory ’61. Copies of this fascinating visual tour of our history are available in Crumb Library or for purchase at the Campus Store.

Welcoming Elizabeth Andrews

The College Libraries are pleased to welcome Elizabeth Andrews, the newest member of our librarian team. Elizabeth comes to us from Cudahy Library at Loyola University Chicago and holds an MA in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Elizabeth has also earned an MA in Humanities, focused on Cinema and Media Studies, from the University of Chicago.

Elizabeth will be joining Carol Franck and Nancy Alzo as a key member of our Information Literacy Instruction team, will be liaison to several departments, and will be working with Jenica Rogers on outreach projects to connect the Libraries and our users. Please join us in welcoming her to our community!

Elizabeth may be contacted at andrewec@potsdam.edu, or x3309.

David Trithart retiring

David Trithart will be retiring from his position in the College Libraries in May of 2012. David earned his MLS at Syracuse University, and joined the SUNY Potsdam staff in 1973. After committing 39 years to serving our users and our libraries, this is a well-earned transition for David. His colleagues will sorely miss his humor, quiet energy, and amazing work ethic, to say nothing of the often-shared products of his kitchen. Details of a retirement celebration in honor of David’s long commitment to our community will be shared later in the semester. For now, please take the opportunity to reach out to David before he disappears into a summer of hiking, biking, building, and enjoying a life unencumbered by 9-5 obligations.
The new College Libraries website has launched

The first version of our new website launched in late January 2012.

Key features:

- Stable left-hand navigation. Your options for accessing additional content are always on the left-hand side of the screen, and change very little between pages.

- Fast access to the most popular features of the site – searching – are in the tabbed central content box on the front page. Our most-used resources are front-and-center for student users.

- Consistency of naming and linking. No more “that thing I used for articles where you...” – now all of our named services are labeled and linked by name.

- Streamlining, consolidation, and reorganization of our policies and procedures, all gathered under About Us.

This website is intended to be a dynamic access point, so more changes will occur over the course of the semester. But don’t let that frustrate you – if you’ve begun to learn the site and its structure, these changes will not dramatically change your experience. The “bones” of the site are firm, and no changes are likely to occur to the information architecture and how things are placed and arranged on the site. Initial upcoming changes will be cosmetic changes, fixing identified bugs, and adding in any missing content we (can’t!) find.

If you have questions, thoughts, or ideas about the Libraries’ new website, please contact:

**Patrick Patterson**, Web Services Librarian, patterpj@potsdam.edu, x2328

or **Jenica Rogers**, Director of Libraries, rogersjp@potsdam.edu, x3328

---

Publication models are shifting. Everyone’s research behaviors are changing. Copyright grows more restrictive, and scholarship becomes more expensive to access even as it expands seemingly exponentially. Information piracy and intellectual property are hot legislative topics as politicians and corporations try to find a new way forward in a changed economy. The information environment – legally, academically, economically – is shifting constantly.

Three recent bills from the 2011 legislative session are worth being aware of.

1. The Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) is a United States bill to expand the ability of U.S. law enforcement to fight online trafficking in copyrighted intellectual property and counterfeit goods. Provisions include the requesting of court orders to bar advertising networks and payment facilities from conducting business with infringing websites, and search engines from linking to the sites, and court orders requiring Internet service providers to block access to the sites.

   Opponents say the proposed legislation threatens free speech and innovation, and enables law enforcement to block access to entire internet domains due to infringing material posted on a single blog or webpage.

   The bill’s counterpart in the Senate is The PROTECT IP Act (Preventing Real Online Threats to Economic Creativity and Theft of Intellectual Property Act, or PIPA).

2. The Research Works Act is a bill that was introduced in the House containing provisions to prohibit open access mandates for federally funded research and effectively revert the NIH’s Public Access Policy that allows taxpayer-funded research to be freely accessible online. It was co-sponsored by Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-NY.

   All three bills were effectively stopped in this session, but we can expect to see more like them. As you consider these and similar issues, please consider the implications of closing off easy and affordable access to information on the work we all do to educate our students, and on our respective fields of research.
Reserves 101: A crash course!

- Both Crumb and Crane Libraries have reserves services; Alex Gomez in Crane and Rita Bridgen in Crumb can answer any questions about reserves.
- We require 3-5 business days to process materials for reserve use.
- Books and articles borrowed via Interlibrary Loan cannot be put on reserve.
- All items put on reserve must meet the College Libraries’ copyright guidelines, and faculty are responsible for confirming items’ copyright status.
- No more than 20 books or musical items may be put on reserve for a single course. Exceptions may be made; speak with Jenica Rogers to discuss options.

In Spring Semester 2012, the staff of the College Libraries will undertake four major projects. Each project is designed to serve two goals:

1. Build, curate, and maintain a collection of print materials that supports the needs of our current curriculum.
2. Ensure that the physical collections of Crumb Library are well-balanced against the available space and programmatic needs of the College Libraries.

For more information about these projects, please consult our weeding webpage:

http://potsdam.libguides.com/weeding

Or contact Jenica Rogers at rogersjp@potsdam.edu or x3328.