

SPRING 2016

LIBRARY LINK

SUNY Cobleskill
VAN WAGENEN LIBRARY

New Faces @ The Library — Cat and Lynn

We are pleased to welcome two new people to the Library staff: Cathy Wise in the Circulation Department and Lynn Jozifek as Library Secretary. They haven't been here very long yet but they are both proving to be great additions to our team. We asked Cat and Lynn a few questions to help everyone on campus get acquainted with them.



LL: What excites you about your new position here at SUNY Cobleskill?

CW: Working with the students, meeting new people and seeing how Cobleskill differs from other SUNY's I have worked at.

LJ: Meeting and working with new co-workers and students (new challenges).

LL: What is the last book you read for fun, not for work?

CW: The last book I read for fun was *Cell* by Stephen King.

LJ: *Game of Thrones*.

LL: The final question is the most important—do you like to cook and do you have any specialties?

CW: Yes, I like to bake and cook when I am in the mood. I've shared chocolate chip cookies, cupcakes, and Christmas cookies with my new co-workers [editor's note: they were delicious!]. My family's favorite is my Chicken Parmigiana.

LJ: Yes. My son loves my Ritz Chicken Casserole.

Many thanks to Cat and Lynn for this quick peek into their lives. We're all looking forward to working with them for many years to come. Stop by and say hello next time you're in the building, we're sure you'll like them, too!

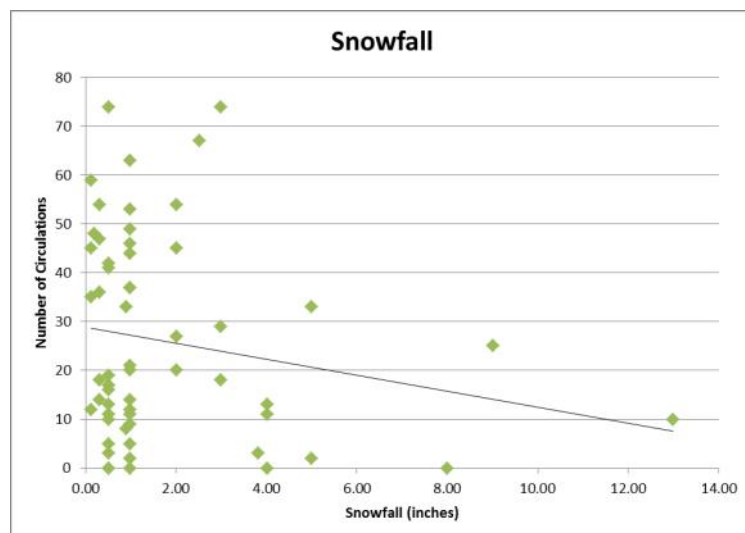
Does Weather Impact Library Usage?

SUNY Cobleskill has experienced several extreme weather events unusual to our region in recent years: Tropical Storms Irene & Lee; 20+ inches of snow in February; polar vortices. We wondered, does anyone show up when the weather's so bad—or when it's really nice?

Weather data were acquired from the National Centers for Environmental Information (www.ncdc.noaa.gov). Data were available from 1948 onward from the Cobleskill station. Circulation data from our integrated library system and the reference shift headcounts have been tallied for several years. Data were available for both from 2011 onward. Comparisons were made both through straight plotting and using statistical analysis to look for outliers in all sets of data and to see if there were any intersections in the anomalies.

Initial comparisons of circulation, headcounts, and the weather turned up only one intersection of anomalies greater than 2 standard deviations: the day after Tropical Storm Lee. Looking at deviations from the average, however, didn't get at overall trends. Comparing circulation and the weather directly was more revealing.

Excluding snow, higher amounts of precipitation in a day corresponds to a lower number of items circulated. This trend



is less marked if days of tropical storm data are excluded, but still present. Days when the snow is falling have a more noticeable correlation with days of lower circulation, but the trend is much stronger on days we get four or more inches of new snow. Once the snow is on the ground, its effect on use of the library is actually positive; there is a slight upward trend in circulation the more snow is on the ground. Temperature has no noticeable effect on library use—heat wave, polar vortex, nothing.

While this is all fascinating, what does it mean for the Library? We now have data to support our anecdotes that people are less likely to show up when it's raining or snowing; really that's good news, because heavier precipitation may mean it's unsafe to be out and about. Good job staying safe! But once the snowstorms are done, people want to be here, so it's important for us to be accessible. This winter's mild weather should make an interesting addition to the data for future analysis!

Moving, Moving, Moving—EOP & Student Success



The Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) has relocated. They are still in the Library but they've moved their operations down to the lower level to be closer to CASE. This puts the EOP counselors in closer proximity to the tutoring center and such so that students and staff aren't having to go up and down three flights of stairs several times a day.

At the same time, the Student Success Center has moved from Knapp Hall to the Main Floor of the Library. President Terenzio has stated that the move "provides state-of-the-art facilities in a centrally located, easily accessible location to better serve students."

Phone numbers for everyone involved have not changed so at least there's no need to update your contacts list.

All Of SUNY Is Coming To Cobleskill!

On April 15th, SUNY Cobleskill will host the annual SUNY Undergraduate Research Conference (SURC). We anticipate around 400 attendees from every part SUNY for the all day conference. There will be over 200 research presentations which span the disciplines and will range from paper presentations, research illustrated by posters, and visual and musical performances. All of the presented research will be published in a conference proceeding and preserved on the Library's Digital Repository.

SURC 2016 will also feature a keynote address from renowned cancer researcher, Dr. Jill Bargonetti, Professor of Biological Sciences at Hunter College. [More about SURC 2016](#) is available online.

The week prior, on April 4th, the Library is pleased to host its 2nd Annual Student Research Showcase. The students' posters will remain on display all week in celebration of President Terenzio's inauguration. We will host a celebratory luncheon for all the presenting students and their faculty advisors. The students can consider the Research Showcase a warm up to the big show, SURC 2016 the following week! If you'd like to take a look at some of the significant research presented last year, check out the [Student Publications area](#) on our Digital Repository.

Contact Beth Orgeron (orgeroed@cobleskill.edu, 518-255-5841) if you want to get involved with the local and/or SUNY-wide events.



Back To S.C.H.O.O.L.

The Library is pleased to coordinate with the folks of the Schoharie County Home of Ongoing Learning (SCHOOL). This spring they will utilize our classrooms to host their robust offerings of continuing education classes. The SCHOOL program is a lifelong learning collective that is affiliated with the ElderHostel Network. Their members describe themselves as "Third Age" adults, post-family and career people who are actively enjoying their lives. SCHOOL members are inquisitive, energetic and creative.

Their courses range from learning about technology to scholarly historical lectures. Libraries are the key resource in lifelong learning and we welcome our new "roomies!" You can learn more about this program on the [SCHOOL website](#).

AccessABILITY Equipment



Did you know that the Library has several types of accessibility equipment that can be borrowed for two weeks at a time? Well, we do!

Thanks to the cooperation of the AccessABILITY Resources office, you can now borrow Echo SmartPens (notebook not included, but available from the bookstore), pocket amplifiers, Blaze OCR audio book converters, dictation headsets, pocket video magnifiers, pocket digital audio recorders, reading pens, and other pieces of technology designed to help students with special needs.

Contact AccessABILITY Resources (518-255-5282; bergcj@cobleskill.edu) to find out what equipment will work best for you. Then just stop by the Library's front desk to check out what you need.

A library is like an island in the middle of a vast sea of ignorance, particularly if the library is very tall and the surrounding area has been flooded.

—Lemony Snicket, *Horsersadish*

Website Gets A Makeover

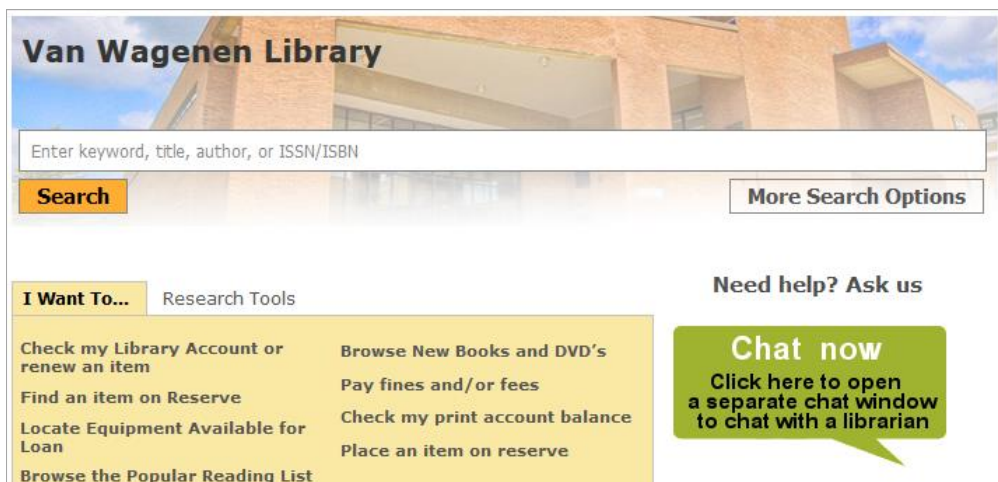
The Van Wagenen Library website has a new look. Searching for books and articles has never been simpler! Simply type in what you are looking for to find a book, article, or that DVD you need to watch for class. Limiting your results can be achieved by selecting the options listed on the left of the results page.

"I Want To..." and "Research Tools" are new features. If you want to find out how to pay a fine, simply select "Pay fines and/or fees". Research tools include links to searching all SUNY libraries at once, a link to the Classic Catalog, and the alphabetic list of research databases, among others.

You can also open a chat with a librarian from here, as well as find announcements and links to Library news and events.

Selecting "More Search Options" takes you to search options for finding just books, just articles, or a specific journal title. You can also check and see if a certain resource has been put on reserve in the Library. Simply select the type of search you want to do from the dropdown menu and type in your search terms.

If you ever find any problems with our website or just have questions, please get in touch with Peter Barvoets (barvoepd@cobleskill.edu; 518-255-5894).



On Display: Ag History, Poetry, & More

"The Golden Age of Homespun and the Rise of Scientific Agriculture" features agricultural history from both angles; Jared Van Wagenen Jr., wrote about the "golden age" when America's homesteaders carved farms and towns out of wilderness. At the same time, his personal library contained many volumes related to scientific agriculture and progress on that front.

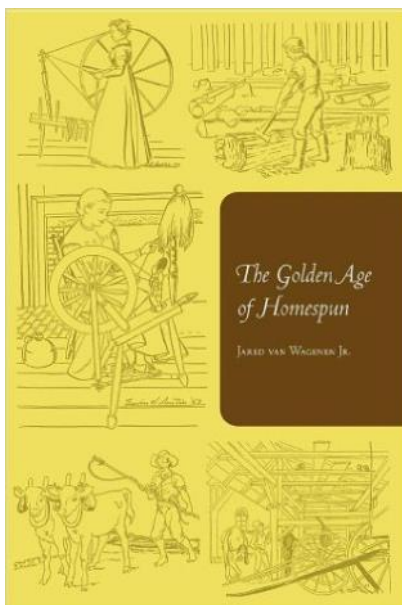
After spring break, the showcase display area will switch topics to gardens and gardening.

The display area by the LP record collection will feature African-American History Month for February, Women's History Month for March, and National Poetry Month for April.

The book display by the Popular Reading Collection rotates every two weeks; topics are available in the [Library Displays Guide](#).

March Madness Brackets will be available by mid-February—but for books, not basketball. Fill one out for a chance to win a gift card. Details will be announced when the event goes live.

If you have any questions about the various displays in the Library you can contact Katherine Brent (brentke@cobleskill.edu; 518-255-5851) for answers.



Recommended Reading

Purity

by Jonathan Franzen

Born Of Betrayal

by Sherrilyn Kenyon

Tricky Twenty-Two

by Janet Evanovich

Above The Waterfall

by Ron Rash

SPQR: A History Of Ancient Rome

by Mary Beard

The Aeronaut's Windlass

by Jim Butcher

Two Years Eight Months And

Twenty-Eight Nights

by Salman Rushdie

Words Onscreen: The Fate Of

Reading In A Digital World

by Naomi Baron

Golden Age

by Jane Smiley

The Dead Student

by John Katzenbach

Written In My Own Heart's Blood

by Diana Gabaldon

The Witches: Salem, 1692

by Stacy Schiff

A Knight Of The Seven Kingdoms

by George R.R. Martin

All Dressed In White

by Mary Higgins Clark

The Bazaar Of Bad Dreams

by Stephen King

Come Rain Or Come Shine

by Jan Karon

Silent Creed

by Alex Kava

Zeroes

by Scott Westerfeld

Never Enough: Donald Trump &

The Pursuit Of Success

by Michael D'Antonio

Avenue Of Mysteries

by John Irving

The Sandman. Overture

by Neil Gaiman

That's How I Roll

by Andrew Vacchs

Career Of Evil

by Robert Galbraith

Playing With Fire

by Tess Gerritsen

Pax Technica: How The Internet Of

Things May Set Us Free Or Lock

Us Up

by Philip Howard

New Library Learning Lab Opens

A new Library Learning Lab opened for business at the beginning of the Spring 2016 semester in the former Writing Center space on the second floor of Van Wagenen Library. Concurrent with the numerous changes recently made to office spaces on the Library's ground floor and first floor over the winter break, the Writing Center was moved to LIB 209, the former CELT space, making room for a new library instruction classroom in LIB 213.

Library Dean Beth Orgeron and Instructional Design Librarian Don LaPlant oversaw the reconfiguration and outfitting of the new Library Learning Lab, equipped with flexible seating, computers for up to 28 students, a whiteboard, a data projector, an AppleTV device, and new wireless access points. Students attending Library instruction sessions in the new space will be able to work on desktop computers, Dell laptops, or one of 15 new Macbook Air laptops recently acquired for use in the Lab.

Since 2013, Information Literacy sessions presented by SUNY Cobleskill librarians have served approximately 2,500 students in classrooms and computer labs across campus. The new Library Learning Lab makes it possible for faculty to bring their classes into the Library for Information Literacy instruction, limiting the need for computer lab spaces to be closed to other students during these sessions. The Lab's location in Van Wagenen Library also makes it possible for instruction sessions to include Library tours and a range of hands-on, interactive activities using the Library's print collections and other physical resources.

The new space has already been used for a Professional Development Workshop led by Don LaPlant in the week before spring classes began, a training session for Library faculty, and multiple Library instruction sessions. A dozen other instruction sessions are already scheduled for the space in the month of February alone, with additional classes, workshops, and special events planned for the coming months. When not reserved for Library-related events, the Library Learning Lab will be opened as a silent study room for students needing a safe, quiet environment for uninterrupted, focused work. This exciting new space will help the Library meet its on-going educational mission of "providing relevant information sources, guiding and challenging intellectual growth, and teaching research skills for life."

Faculty interested in learning more about Library instruction options are encouraged to visit the [Information Literacy guide](#) for more information. The guide includes information about the types of topics typically covered in Information Literacy sessions as well as contact information for those interested in scheduling a session. Other tabs on this guide provide links to faculty resources, helpful videos and tutorials, and feedback from students and faculty who have attended Library instruction sessions in previous semesters.

Study Rooms Are Back!

The Library is happy to announce the return of group study rooms! The three rooms, located upstairs (where EOP used to be) can be checked out for 3 hours at a time. While the rooms are sparsely furnished at the time, they will eventually all have a table, several chairs, and a large dry erase maker board (marker packs will also be available for check out). The rooms are Wi-Fi equipped and are the perfect place to meet with classmates to work on projects.

Digital Repository Continues To Grow



The [Digital Repository](#), which is under the leadership of the Van Wagenen Library, is growing fast. Many items from the Library Archives are now viewable there and lots of them are also searchable. Find old yearbooks, student and alumni newspapers and newsletters, college catalogs dating back to 1918, and old photographs to name just some of the treasures available.

Also included in the repository are student and faculty publications. There are many submissions from the Student Research Showcase that was held last spring. Keep an eye on this area as we expect many more submissions from students in the coming months. There are a few faculty publications that will be added soon. You may even find yourself using one of these publications in some of your classes.

If you have questions or want more information about publishing your work in the digital repository, contact Peter Barvoets (barvoepd@cobleskill.edu, 518-255-5894).



A Grand Beginning For Archives & Special Collections

The new Van Wagenen Archives & Special Collections room had its grand opening at Homecoming this past fall and it was a wonderful event! Several members of the Van Wagenen family were in attendance, including Jared Van Wagenen IV, pictured below with the portrait of his illustrious grandfather and the Library's namesake, Jared Van Wagenen Jr.



Since that time, much of our historical collection has been moved into the new space. Items not needing any immediate conservation work are now housed there, including both historical books and periodicals.

The college archives need substantial work to make the collection usable as more than just a static repository of items. The collection needs to be inventoried, described, arranged, and evaluated for conservation to make its contents accessible for research. The college archives include not just items like the yearbooks and college catalogs (most which have been scanned and uploaded to our [Digital Repository](#), see p. 4), but photographs, scrapbooks, news clippings, and minutes from a variety of college-related meetings. Some of these items are quite fragile and will require stabilization or reformatting before they can be used for research.

Katherine Brent is now in charge of Archives & Special Collections and has begun taking classes at the University of Albany towards an archives certificate to help improve our curation of these collections. If you have any questions about Archives & Special Collections or the different resources available, please get in touch with Katherine (brentke@cobleskill.edu, 518-255-5851).



New & Improved Library Guides

SUNY Cobleskill librarians make a significant amount of information available to our patrons through the Library Guides platform. In these guides—accessible through the Library's website at libraryguides.cobleskill.edu—users can find research and citation tips, curated lists of sources for course assignments, descriptions of Library policies and services, and information about Library displays and events.

Since the beginning of the 2015-2016 academic year, librarians have created 20 new guides and made major revisions to nearly 30 others. Students working on research projects are encouraged to explore the discipline-specific resources recommended on the course guides. Faculty interested in having a Library Guide created for their students are invited to contact Instructional Design Librarian Don LaPlant to discuss options (laplandd@cobleskill.edu; 518-255-5858).



Advertising Made Easy

Want the flyer for that special class you're teaching or the poster for a student event to be seen by well over 1,000 people every weekday? Use an e-poster at the Library! No paper, no ink—just a JPG file and a big audience.

How do you get your stuff advertised in the Library? Email the JPG file to Library@cobleskill.edu. That's pretty much all there is to it. Take a look at our Digital Signs/ePosters guidelines for more details: libraryguides.cobleskill.edu/digitalsigns.

As always, please let us know if you have any questions (518-255-5841; text to 518-444-5485; or [online chat](#)).



Editor's Note

We'd like to apologize for the tardiness of this semester's newsletter. We know that some of you look forward to reading this publication every semester and have probably been suffering extreme distress waiting and waiting for it to arrive. We feel your pain and are deeply saddened by it.

Seriously though, as you may have guessed from some of the articles in this issue, life in the Library has been rather interesting for the last couple of months. Between new staff, moving offices (sometimes more than once), construction, and all the other stuff that seemed to sprout like particularly robust weeds, the newsletter just had to wait. It's calmer over here now and we shouldn't experience any major disruptions for at least a month or two, hopefully.



From The Dean



I am pleased to welcome the Student Success Center into the Library. The services provided by the Student Success Center mesh well with the other offerings located in the Van Wagenen Library and I look forward to partnering in smart ways to promote the wealth of services that are housed within the building.

We have several new collaborations that were begun over the summer. We will house a good deal of the Iroquois Museum's library holdings. They have several unique titles that will be of interest to researchers and enhance our students' research experience. We have also invited the members of the Schoharie County Home of Ongoing Learning (SCHOOL) to use our classrooms and resources to support their continuing education program. Working with SCHOOL is a great fit for us, and I look forward to our future programming.

On a related note, the Library will once again be able to offer our students group study rooms for checkout! These rooms were formerly occupied by EOP, and now EOP has relocated into its brand-new digs down in CASE. The rooms are wired and equipped with white boards and tables that allow for collaborative learning. One of the rooms will be dedicated for use by our retired Cobleskill faculty. We are working on the details on how the Emeriti room will be appointed, so stay tuned!

Lastly, on April 4th, as part of the inauguration celebration, the Library will host its 2nd annual Student Research Showcase. The showcase last year was a big success and I was so pleased by the scholarship of our faculty led student research—Cobleskill really gives students a rich experience. Of course, our Showcase will be a nice rehearsal for SURC 2016 the next week. That conference will have over 200 presentations! It is going to be a zany two weeks!!!

All the best—have a productive semester,
-Beth

Staff News

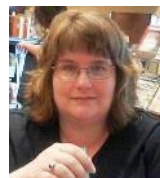
Brendan Aucoin is now our Circulation Manager. He is in the final semester of his MSIS program at UAlbany.



Peter Barvoets will attend the VRAF Regional Workshop, "Exhibit, Instruct, Promote: An Introduction to Omeka for Digital Scholarship" in February, at Hunter College down in New York City. He's also going to be teaching a two part class on Digital Photography Basics as part of the Senior Citizen Education (SCHOOL) program in late March or early April.



Katherine Brent has taken charge of Archives & Special Collections in addition to running Interlibrary Loan. She's also in charge of this year's March Madness Book Battle!



April Davies is overseeing most of day to day Library operations as the new Head of Technical & Public Services.

Lynn Jozifek recently started as the Library's new Secretary. She'll also be spending time down in CASE so you can find her there as well.



Don LaPlant's article "Challenges of Building Digital Collections of Theatre Materials" was published in the 2015 issue of *Performing Arts Resources*, the journal of the Theatre Library Association.



Cathy Wise joined the Circulation department in November. We stole her from the registrar's office at SUNY Oneonta.



LIBRARY HOURS*

Mon.-Thurs. 7:00am-10:00pm
Friday 7:00am-5:00pm
Saturday 12:00pm-6:00pm
Sunday 2:00pm-10:00pm

***OPEN LATE FOR FINALS
watch for announcements**

Calendar

Jan. 29
Add/Drop Ends
Feb. 14
Ferris Wheel Day
Feb. 15
Presidents' Day
March 6
National Frozen Foods Day
March 13
Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 16
Freedom of Information Day
March 20-25
Spring Break
April 2
International Children's Book Day
April 19
NY Presidential Primary
April 22
Earth Day
April 30
Fish & Wildlife Festival
May 4
Star Wars Day
May 14
Graduation



Text Us!

Van Wagenen Library
SUNY Cobleskill
142 Schenectady Ave.
Cobleskill, NY 12043-1702

Library@cobleskill.edu
www.cobleskill.edu/library
T: 518-255-5841
F: 518-255-5843

