Library cardboard canoe team accomplishes a three-peat

Three-peats are rare, but the latest cardboard canoe team representing the Library won the department trophy for the third year in a row during the Engineering Department’s annual cardboard canoe race, held on Friday, October 1st. Ten student library assistants under the direction of Amy McCoy, Circulation Services Manager, designed and built the library’s entry. The canoe, expertly paddled by library student assistants, sisters Valentina Blackburn and Vawny Kaye Blackburn, not only completed the entire course but did it in the fastest time of the day. As well, the sturdy canoe was the last canoe floating in the subsequent demolition derby. Our thanks to Jill Conway and Nate Dolan, captains of the team, assisted by the Blackburn sisters, Michael Cox, Matt Hawkins, Rob Hinks, Will Kelly, Steven Small, and Kelby Wade, for the time and effort committed to the design, construction, and piloting of the Library’s canoe.

Mobile apps coming to the Library

Beginning in January, you’ll be able to hold the Centennial Library in your hands! In the next six to eight weeks, the Centennial Library’s mobile applications created by Boopsie will become operational on all handheld mobile devices: Android, Blackberry, iPhone, iPod Touch, iPad, J2ME, Palm OS, Symbian S60, and Windows Mobile. From a web-enabled phone, patrons will be able to search the library catalog for books, journals, and media; check their library account and renew materials; access basic library information such as hours, phone numbers, and contact information; Use Ask-a-Librarian for research; access their RefWorks account; and link to the Library’s Facebook page. The Centennial Library joins more than 40 other public and academic libraries, and OCLC WorldCAT, using Boopsie as their mobile application provider. Look for Centennial Library mobile, coming soon to your phone!
Library book cart drill team “hits the road” in the Homecoming parade

On Saturday, October 2nd, the Centennial Cartwheelers made their fifth appearance in the Homecoming parade incorporating the “Road Trip” homecoming theme. This highly skilled book cart drill team entertained those along the parade route with the precision routines designed and led by Sergeant Major Andi Mounts, Assistant Circulation Services Manager. The cart pushers included Tonya Fawcett, Julie Deardorff, Fran Andrews, Rachel Johnson, Lynne Funtik, Becky Dufresne, and for the first time three student library assistants, the current Library interns, seniors Amanda Snyder, Kaitlin Start, and Stacie Schmidt. The team was supported by a cast of Library personnel and family members who distributed candy along the route. The decorations on the book carts, created by former Library employee, Dianne Seals, made them look like small cars with a picture of the cart pusher in the windshield. This year’s effort, directed by Greg Martin, CMC Librarian, involved several months of preparation, including drill team practices in the Library parking lot, music preparation, the transformation of book carts into “cars,” and the work of many on the Library staff.

Media Services staff provides key leadership in media systems integration planning for the new Health Sciences Center

During recent months, Carl Brandon, Director of Library Media Services, and Scott Deetz, AV Services Manager, worked with our administrators, nursing and pharmacy faculty, and media systems integrators from Cincinnati and Columbus to design, engineer, and develop an effective proposal to meet the media installation needs for each venue in the new Health Sciences Center. This new three-story facility will add 40 media-equipped venues to the Library’s Media Services/AV Services campus coverage, bringing their media systems service support total on campus to 183 rooms. Carl and Scott solicited the vendor proposals, reviewed the proposals to determine those that were most effective in meeting the specifications, and recommended the selection of Premier Network Solutions of Cincinnati for providing the best solutions for the new Center’s media systems installation and integration. While the multi-media installations in the classrooms, collaboration rooms, and conference rooms are very similar to those in the Center for Biblical and Theological Studies, the new Nursing and Pharmacy laboratories require specialized media equipment for recording student practicums. For example, four Laerdal SIM manikins will provide nursing students with the opportunity to practice realistic procedures that are recorded and available for review with instructors’ comments. Once construction is underway, Carl and Scott will work with Premier to assure that the installation matches the contract requirements and is fully operational for the opening of the facility in 2012.
Library faculty hosts dinner for students interested in a library science career

Carol Mitchell, Head Librarian of the Cedarville Community Library, was the keynote speaker for the 5th Annual Library Science Careers Dinner, hosted by the Centennial Library faculty members. The dinner, which provides Cedarville students with the opportunity to learn about career options in library and information science and about the master of library science degree, was held on Monday, November 8, in the Stevens Student Center. Twenty students from a wide variety of majors had the opportunity to interact with university and community librarians and with students enrolled in Master of Library Science programs. In her presentation, Carol focused on the service aspect of librarianship and on the ability of librarians to make an impact in their communities.

Attendees also enjoyed a presentation by the 2010 Centennial Library interns about the benefits of the internship program. Seniors Amanda Snyder (History), Kaitlin Start (Graphic Design) and Stacie Schmidt (History) shared details about what they have learned, the surprises they have encountered, and how the internship will help them with their future graduate school and career plans.

If you know of any students who might be interested in learning about a career as a librarian, please contact Julie Deardorff, Director of Library Collection Services, for more information. Students from all undergraduate majors are eligible to apply to graduate school for the Master of Library Science degree.

Centennial Library Scholarship Award in Library Science Available

The Centennial Library is again seeking applicants for its scholarship award in Library Science. This Award, presented annually at Honors Day if applicants are available, was established by the Centennial Library faculty to encourage and actively support the next generation of library and information specialists, and especially those who seek future careers in the library faculty ranks of Christian colleges and universities. The cash award is available to senior applicants, and is made directly to the institution in which the recipient is enrolled for graduate study in Library and information science. The first award was presented in 2000, and since then nine other scholarships have been awarded, the most recent in 2010. The Award brochure can be accessed online. Applications for the award are available in the Library Administrative office with a submission deadline of February 15, 2011. Faculty are encouraged to identify students who might be interested in a Library science degree and direct them toward this opportunity. Questions can be addressed to Julie Deardorff, Director of Library Collection Services, who provides oversight to the Library career development program.
Library instructional program experiences exceptional growth during the Fall semester

Cedarville University students are receiving more opportunities to improve their academic research abilities, thanks to a marked increase in collaboration between the teaching faculty and librarians this semester. Reference librarians provided course-integrated research instruction in 64 different class sessions during the fall 2010 semester, a 52 percent increase from the 2009 fall semester, and nearly double the number of classes from just two years ago.

Library collaboration with teaching faculty in student research skill development is part of a trend at colleges and universities across the country, according to Brent Etzel, Instructional Services Librarian, who leads this effort. “Students learn research skills more readily when they have a specific information need. With that in mind, we work with classroom faculty to develop instruction sessions to help students learn how to find research resources to complete a specific assignment,” he said.

For students taking entry-level courses, research instruction sessions usually involve teaching students the basics regarding the use of the library catalog and research databases. Brent further comments, “when students arrive at Cedarville, they are usually accustomed to finding all of their research resources from a search engine like Google. It’s important to demonstrate to students that in an academic environment, the best and most reliable research available cannot be found that way. Students have to learn how to use research databases if they want to succeed, not only in their coursework, but also in their careers.”

The increase in the number of research instruction sessions is in large part due to the partnership between librarians and the professors and instructors of English Composition, a course taken by all Cedarville freshmen. Librarians worked with students in 19 of the 24 sections of Composition this semester. In addition, librarians provided course-integrated instruction this semester to all 139 students taking Introduction to Biology, a course required of students seeking to major in the sciences.

“It’s exciting to see the value that the classroom faculty are putting in research instruction. The result is that they are receiving a better research product from their students,” said Tonya Fawcett, Director of Library Public Services, who provided in-class instruction for a number of classes this semester.
University Faculty in Print
Recognizing Faculty Scholarship

Timothy G. Gombis, Assistant Professor of Bible

The author has rediscovered Ephesians as a dramatic text that follows the cross-centered triumph of God in Christ. In the author’s word, “this book is not a commentary, nor is it a collection of sermons or studies in Ephesians. It is more of a cultural and theological engagement with the text of Ephesians... I regard Ephesians as containing within it dramatic and resurrection powerful dynamics. I attempt to give close attention to these, to read these patterns and trajectories in Paul’s letters and then turn and give close attention to the trajectories and patterns within our culture and in many facets of life in our world. My aim is to discern the ways of God with his people.”

University Alumni in Print
Carrying the Torch to Their World

David S. Lyons (Class of 1978) with Linda Lyons Richardson

The book addresses the pain of serious illness through the experiences of a brother and sister and their families. A woman learns she has incurable ovarian cancer, and a father learns that his twelve-year-old son has aggressive childhood cancer. Using the content of personal journals and letters, the authors share how, through pain, we can draw near to God and experience His loving care in the intense battles of cancer. They answer the question, could or would God use pain as an instrument in our spiritual formation? David is an international vice president for Navigators and Linda is currently a housewife and mother. A website has been created at http://www.dontwastethepain.com to accompany the book.
Library Semester break hours

The following are the public hours for the Centennial Library for the Semester break. Please plan your schedule accordingly.

Semester Break

December 17
Close at 5:00 p.m.

December 18-January 2
Closed

January 3-7
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

January 8-9
Closed

January 10
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

January 11
Resume regular hours