“At this time there existed in Cleveland and the vicinity one of the worst bunches of thieves that ever lived.” We would excuse anybody who thought I was describing Danny Greene and his associates. Greene was the very violent gangster who set off a mob bombing epidemic that led to the conviction of numerous Mafia chieftains in the 1970s (Genovese Family boss, “Fat Tony” Salerno, Luchese boss, Tony “Ducks” Corallo, and Columbo Family leader Carmine “the Snake” Persico, among others with colorful names), and whose life is depicted in the current movie, Kill the Irishman. Instead, the introductory quote comes at the beginning of a story about the Forster Gang who plagued Cuyahoga County in the 1880s, almost a century before Greene’s reign. The Foster Gang (and one of its leaders with another precious nickname, “Shoe Box” Miller) is but one of the many mob crews and individual criminals who appear in the extremely rare three-volume, Adventures of Jack Cribbs (Clarion Democratic Press: 1909-1910).

Cribbs was a detective in Clarion County, PA, who was active from the 1870s until the turn of the century. Cribbs vividly and colorfully describes countless crimes, criminals, scoundrels, and others. Writing in the picaresque tradition, Cribbs describes the rise and downfall of criminals, as well as dissertates on the causes of crime. Of the latter, he says, “I find in my long experience tracing criminals that the cause that fits men and subjects them to commit crimes and do other unlawful acts, has been drink, strong drink.” This quote reminds us of the great 20th century French historian Fernand Braudel’s delightful phrase “sans alcool, sans courage” as he described the necessary ingredient for daring deeds.

Cribbs’s work, in original wrappers, is to our knowledge, unique; and our first edition is the only copy ever to be recorded in a library. Such tales from both law enforcement officers and criminals enrich any description of crime, much more than dry and colorless statistics, and we are pleased to add it to our research collections.

Larry E. Sullivan
Faculty Publications & News

Scholarly activities of library faculty


Ellen Belcher is the co-organizer of the session Present, Past and Future: Modern and Archaeological Bodies in Interpretation at which she will present the paper "Imagining the Body as a Sum of its Parts: Prehistoric Body-Parts & Modern Meanings" at the Theoretical Archaeology Conference, Berkeley, CA May 6-8.


Kathleen Collins co-presented "The Weekly Visitor, or Ladies' Miscellany: An Overlooked Stalwart in Early Women’s Periodicals" at the joint Journalism Historians conference held at NYU in March. She also had her article, "The Trouble with Archie: Locating and Accessing Primary sources for the Study of the 1970s US Sitcom, All in the Family," published in the Fall 2010 issue of Critical Studies in Television.


Karen Okamoto reviewed the following books for Library Journal: The Dressmaker of Khair Khana; Behind the Dream: The Making of the Speech that Transformed a Nation; The Backlash: Right-Wing Radicals, High-Def Hucksters, and Paranoid Politics in the Age of Obama; Wanted Women: An American Obsession in the Reign of J. Edgar Hoover. She also co-presented with Nathan Hosburgh a paper on electronic delivery methods at the 2011 ILLiad International Conference in Virginia Beach in March. Also in March, with Mark Aaron Polger, she chaired a roundtable discussion and presented a poster on library outreach at the 2011 Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) National Conference in Philadelphia.


Retirement Congratulations

Professor Marvie Brooks Retires

We wish Professor Marvie Brooks well upon her retirement. We are grateful for her long and much appreciated service to the Library. Generations of students have benefited from Professor Brooks’ teaching and mentoring.

Fortunately, Professor Brooks is not leaving us entirely, but has graciously agreed to continue working as an adjunct Reference Librarian (Professor Marta Bladek has taken over responsibility for scheduling classes).

Professor Brooks continues to pursue a most energetic research agenda with three articles and one book in progress.

Compiled by Marta Bladek

Richard Minsky, The Eighth Amendment
Forlorn Hope: The Prison Reform Movement by Larry E. Sullivan

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Expanded Borrowing and Access Privileges

Manhattan Research Library Initiative (MaRLI): Columbia, NYU and NYPL Libraries

The New York Public Library and the libraries of Columbia University and New York University have launched a pilot initiative to expand access and use of collections and better serve their users. The collaboration, dubbed the Manhattan Research Library Initiative (MaRLI), will enable approved New York Public Library cardholders with a demonstrable research need not met by currently available resources, to borrow materials from all three institutions. Any person who lives, works, attends school or pays property taxes in New York State is eligible to receive a New York Public Library card free of charge.

New York Public Library users can obtain borrowing privileges by speaking with a NYPL reference librarian and demonstrating that they have exhausted the resources available through NYPL for their projects and need sustained access to the resources of the three institutions. Interested New York Public Library cardholders are individually approved by NYPL’s reference and research services staff to participate in this program. To register for MaRLI as an NYPL-affiliated user, please see: http://www.nypl.org/help/finding-things/MaRLI-application.

Upon approval, NYPL cardholders will receive an e-mail confirmation, which they must present along with an accepted form of ID to complete the registration process before borrowing any materials.

MaRLI membership for approved applicants from all participating libraries may be validated by visiting the following New York Public Library locations:

- Stephen A. Schwarzman Building Rose Main Reading Room (Bill Blass Reference Desk Room 315) Fifth Avenue at 42nd Street, New York, NY 10018-2788
- Science, Industry & Business Library (Lower Level Delivery Desk) 188 Madison Avenue @ 34th Street, New York, NY 10016-4314
- Library for the Performing Arts (Third Floor Print Delivery Desk) 40 Lincoln Center Plaza, New York, NY 10023-7498
- Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture (Lower Level Delivery Desk) 515 Malcolm X Boulevard, New York, NY 10037-1801

For more information about the program see the MaRLI site: http://marli.libguides.com/content.php?pid=194135&sid=1627106.

Larry E. Sullivan

Policy Change on College-Mandated Citation Style

Faculty may now choose discipline-appropriate documentation styles

For the past three decades, John Jay College supported a policy whereby the American Psychological Association (APA) citation style would be the one and only method of documentation taught and accepted by faculty (with an exemption for Science faculty and students). The policy was proposed by the Curriculum Committee in the early 1980s after the college did away with humanities majors, such as English, American Studies and History. Because all students during this time were social science majors (except for Forensic Science), the Committee believed, and the College Council approved, that supporting one style alone would simplify matters greatly for all involved.

The college now boasts several majors outside of the social sciences. Accordingly, at the end of the Fall 2010 semester, the College Council approved a proposal from the Academic Standards Subcommittee to rescind the one-style policy. Faculty do get to choose the citation style of their choice and do not have to stay within any restricted areas. It is now officially the prerogative of each instructor to teach and require whichever style he or she wishes. It is also recommended that each instructor include information about which style is accepted or required on course syllabi.

The library provides access to information on major citation styles on its web site. The “New and Noteworthy” box on the library homepage links to “APA or MLA Style Guides.” The following page includes detailed guides to those two styles as well as the Bluebook style for citing legal materials. For those seeking guidance on other citation styles such as Chicago, Turabian, Harvard or the hundreds of journal-specific styles, the bibliographic management resource RefWorks can be a useful tool.

Kathleen Collins
An Easy Way to Expedite ILL Book Requests

Submitting ILL book requests through WorldCat

Interlibrary Loan (ILL) services implemented a “direct request” feature that expedites ILL deliveries. As long as they meet certain loan criteria, direct requests do not require staff processing and are automatically forwarded to participating libraries. The shorter turnaround time for ILL requests means that you will receive your books faster.

When you locate a title in WorldCat that is not owned by the Lloyd Sealy library or another CUNY library, click on the “Request via Interlibrary Loan” link in the record.

GET THIS ITEM

Availability: Check the catalogs in your library.

- Libraries worldwide that own item: 44
- Search the catalog at CUNY+.PLUS

External Resources: Request via Interlibrary Loan

When you click on this link, the ILL log-on page will appear. Log on using your John Jay user name and password. (For information about your user name and password or to register with ILL, please visit http://jjay.cuny.illiad.oclc.org/illiad). Once you have logged in, a populated book request form will appear. All you have to do is to click on the “submit request” button at the bottom of the page, and your request will be sent. When the book arrives, you will receive an automated notification message via email. The book will be available for pick-up from the reference desk on the upper floor of the library. For further information about ILL, please contact Karen Okamoto at kokamoto@jjay.cuny.edu or 646-557-4777.

Karen Okamoto

Lloyd Sealy Library Joins the DSpace Community

A new digital repository system

Several years ago, CUNY Libraries joined the DSpace community as a way to make it easier for individual CUNY colleges to make digital content available. Lloyd Sealy Library has just begun exploring the possibilities and potential of DSpace for expanding our digital library.

DSpace was developed at MIT as a digital repository software, which according to the FAQs posted on www.dspace.org “captures, stores, indexes, preserves and distributes your digital research material.” Our Library has recently started a pilot project to explore the ways it might be used to make digital content freely available in an organized and properly described fashion.

Ellen Belcher

On the John Jay College DSpace collections (easily found by googling “DSpace John Jay” or at the URL http://dspace.nitle.org/handle/10090/2805) you can find College Bulletins, College Council Records, Student Newspapers and Reports among other John Jay College publications. These will also be linked to from the Library’s catalog, CUNY+. Also available is a small but growing number of digitized items from our Special Collections.

Ellen Belcher
The CUNY Copyright Committee (established in 2010 by the Office of Library Services) hosted “Copyright & Fair Use @ CUNY” at BMCC on April 8. As evidenced by the strong attendance, there is a great need for education on these issues. More than 90 people from across CUNY—library and classroom faculty, legal counsels, and representatives from academic affairs, teaching and learning centers, IT and campus services—participated. The event was jointly sponsored by the CUNY Office of Library Services and the Library Association of CUNY.

The first part of the program featured talks by two copyright experts, Peter Jaszi, Professor of Law and Director of the Glushko-Samuelson Intellectual Property Clinic at American University, and Brandon Butler, Director of Public Policy Initiatives at the Association of Research Libraries. Coming from the legal and policy perspective, the speakers focused on the section of U.S. copyright law known as “fair use” that allows for some flexibility for the purposes of teaching, scholarship and research. While certainly useful in academia, fair use is the source of much confusion precisely because it does not provide clear rules and answers. Butler and Jaszi presented on their work and recent publication, “Fair Use Challenges in Academic and Research Libraries.” Their report, the first part of a multi-part project, is available at www.arl.org/bm-doc/arl_csm_fairusereport.pdf. Butler and Jaszi (along with colleague Patricia Aufderheide of the Center for Social Media) aim to facilitate the development, and ultimately adoption, of a code of best practices in fair use for research libraries.

The second half of the program provided another perspective on the issues around copyright and fair use. Rhonda Johnson, Head of Access Services at Hostos Community College Library spoke about copyright’s evolution and its importance in higher education, both to creators and users of copyrighted material. Jim Lengel, Visiting Professor at Hunter College researching digital technologies in teaching and learning (see article below) presented a number of hypothetical case studies involving copyrighted materials in teaching.

Divided into ten groups, the workshop participants were asked to discuss and agree on an answer. Interestingly, while Lengel provided no “right” or “wrong” answers to the groups’ scenario solutions, post-event evaluations revealed that attendees found this segment the most useful one in the program. Lengel emphasized that it is just this type of deliberation that is needed to address the questions that arise in our daily lives as educators. His interactive session echoed Butler and Jaszi’s comments about the process required to develop a code of best practices.

The Copyright Committee is chaired by Kathleen Collins (John Jay) and consists of members Sheila Beck (Queensborough), Jane Davis (CUNY Legal Affairs), Amrita Dhawan (City College), Rhonda Johnson (Hostos), Andrew Leykam (Staten Island), Julie Lim (CUNY Law), Ann Matsuuchi (La Guardia) and Beth Posner (Graduate Center). Over the next year, the Copyright Committee will continue to maintain and enhance the Copyright @ CUNY web resource at http://cuny.edu/libraries/services/copyright.html for the education and awareness of the entire CUNY community.

Kathleen Collins

The Copyright Consideror

An online copyright tool for instructors

Have you ever wondered if you could post copyrighted materials on Blackboard or distribute a work in class? To help you navigate the world of copyright and fair use, Jim Lengel, Visiting Professor at Hunter College, developed the Copyright Consideror, an online tool that assists users in thinking through the use of copyrighted materials, especially materials to be posted online.

The tool asks questions about the work and how you want to use it, and it provides feedback on what is possible under U.S. copyright law. It does not provide legal advice or answer definitively whether a work can be distributed or not.

Based on the Copyright Basics resource from CUNY Libraries (http://www.cuny.edu/libraries/services/copyright/basics.html), this tool, which continues to be updated, is currently available freely online for you to explore at http://lengel.net/cc. To request access to a podcast featuring the Copyright Consideror, contact Kathleen Collins (kcollins@jjay.cuny.edu).

Karen Okamoto
Why Do You Still Assign That Textbook?

Library resources offer alternative to traditional textbooks

The textbook has been a classroom staple for generations. All the information a student needs is tightly packaged and ready at hand for consultation at any moment. And how wonderful is it that the texts are updated every other year?

We might well ask whether students consider the behemoths they are compelled to purchase are worth the extraordinary cost. Do they read the entire volume? Do instructors assign every chapter? Are the readings even assigned in the order they appear in the text? How much information is filler, and what bells and whistles were added between the 9th and 10th editions to justify the increased price?

Faculty need to ask whether the magisterial text is conducive to student learning and consider alternatives. The library certainly has the resources, both electronic and in print, to render the traditional textbook obsolete for many classes. In specialized and advanced courses in particular, library resources can enrich students’ learning experience. Our databases contain more scholarly articles from more academic journals than we could possibly have subscribed to in print versions. Add to that full-text articles from newspapers and magazines, databases of primary sources, and hundreds of academic encyclopedias and reference works, and a wealth of information is available to students whenever and wherever they need it.

For basic information, students can start with Gale Virtual Reference Library or Sage Reference Online, databases that search hundreds of academic reference works. For real world examples or case studies, search New York Times Historical File (every article from the paper from 1851 through 2007) and Lexis-Nexis (newspaper articles from across the English speaking world from the 1980s to the present). Other databases provide primary source material: Social Explorer offers maps of census data from 1790 to the present; Polling the Nation features public opinion polls; the Economist Historical Archive has every issue from 1843 to 2003. JSTOR, PsycINFO, SociINDEX, America: History & Life, and the other databases provide a wealth of scholarly articles.

What we do not have, of course, is often available on the Internet beyond. The Library of Congress provides thousands of historic photographs and documents through the American Memory site, and the New York Public Library has made several digital collections available for browsing. The beauty is that all of the assigned articles, scanned book chapters and essays, maps, and media that a faculty member wants students to use can be linked through Blackboard or other course management software. Even supplying the complete citation would enable students to locate the material in our databases or catalog. For material not in the library, faculty can scan articles or book chapters and post them on electronic reserve. In cases where several chapters in a book are assigned (not the entire volume, but more than could be copied under fair use), a hard copy can be placed on reserve.

Granted, it is an enormous amount of work to redesign a course using library resources exclusively, but it can be done. Every classroom is equipped with a computer and projector, which makes it possible to instruct students in how to find information as well as what to do with the information they find. Given how our students navigate the universe of information, we have an obligation to incorporate all of the resources at hand into the classroom experience. Why should we continue to rely on methods that look backward?

Jeffrey A. Kroessler

Library Instruction Request Form Available Online

One more way to request library workshops

With the ever-expanding availability and variety of information formats, college-level research has become a daunting task for many students. To help students acquire the skills they need to locate, access, and use information resources in the library and beyond, the Library offers instructional sessions for specific courses and assignments.

To learn more about the selected courses we target, please visit http://www.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/info/libclasses.html. To make arrangements for a session, please contact Marta Bladek at mbladek@jjay.cuny.edu or (212) 237 8997. You may also take advantage of our new Library Instruction Request Form that can be filled out and submitted online at http://www.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/info/InstructionRequest.asp.

Marta Bladek
Databases for the Study of Terrorism

New library resources support research in the field

For faculty and students interested in issues dealing with international and domestic terrorist activity, government policy towards it, and public safety, the library has just added several databases to help with research in the field. Select the “Choose Databases by Subject” link from the library’s home page and then pick Terrorism. From there, you can click on “Search Multiple Terrorism Databases” to use our federated search tool or you can choose any of the sources listed. The following are brief descriptions of a few new databases. Please note that other databases—Criminal Justice Abstracts, Criminal Justice Periodicals, Faulkner Security Management Practices, and InfoSECURITYnetBASE and FORENSICnetBASE—are all good depending on the aspects of terrorism you are researching.

IHS Jane’s: Defence & Security Intelligence & Analysis

Jane’s Terrorism and Insurgency Centre brings the latest terrorism news, exclusive features, detailed reference and an interactive terrorist events database, providing an extensive collection of open source terrorism-related intelligence. Use this database to gain a complete profile of the world’s significant terrorist, guerrilla and insurgent groups. Analyze terrorist activity using a wide range of criteria, including group, country of origin, tactics, targets, political, religious or other affiliations. Discover on a daily basis the latest activities of terrorist and insurgent groups using the interactive events database. Undertake analysis of terrorist activity using the eight-year archive of events and an up-to ten-year archive of related thematic analysis on issues such as terrorism financing and radicalization.

Praeger Security International Online is updated weekly with commentary by advisory board members, expert authors, and well-known researchers. PSIO provides readers with in-depth analysis on security issues that threaten to destabilize our world. With a news feed and ever-growing range of content, PSIO offers varied international perspectives and reflections from psychologists, diplomats, first responders, economists, journalists, civil servants, warfighters, legal experts, and more. With the experience and insight that this vast community of scholars and practitioners brings and an impressive search functionality, PSIO is an invaluable resource for anyone who seeks a deeper understanding of the complex issues that affect our lives and future.

Military & Government Collection™

Military & Government Collection is designed to offer current news pertaining to all branches of the military and government. It provides full text for nearly 300 journals and periodicals and offers indexing and abstracts for more than 400 journals. Publications covered in this database include Air Force Comptroller, Defense Studies, JFQ: Joint Force Quarterly, Military Technology, Combat Edge, FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, Foreign Affairs, Naval Forces, and many more.

The International Security & Counter-Terrorism Reference Center™ (ISCTRC) offers information on virtually every dimension of security & counter-terrorism. It is designed to inform the analysis process and to enhance the general understanding of security and terrorism-related issues. ISCTRC provides a comprehensive Open Source Intelligence Resource for analysts, risk management professionals, and students. It includes hundreds of full text periodicals, hundreds of thousands of selected articles, news feeds, reports, summaries, books, blogs, FAQs, and proprietary Background Information Summaries. ISCTRC combines deep background from scholarly writings with expert commentary from a variety of organizations, agencies and publishers and timely reviews of developments across the international political, military, economic, social and technical spectrum.

Nancy Egan
How Many Clicks Does It Take to Order a Book?

Notes from the acquisitions corner

Let’s see – One? Two? Three?

If you are still in the habit of buying books (and the Library is) then, in theory, it should not take you long to get one. If you make a personal purchase then you go to a physical or online bookstore and buy your book this way.

In practice, libraries do not have it that easy. Libraries not only have to acquire a book but have to keep a record of it and package it accordingly so it can have a proper residence on a shelf and a safe return when it voyages through several circulations.

Librarians click away like crazy – check the catalog if the book was already acquired or placed on order; get the record so the data can be put into the library catalog; create an order record so we know in the future what was ordered and raise alarm when the book does not arrive at a certain time; search the vendor’s website and create an order; receive the book and register it in the library catalog; pay the bill and register it in the online system so we know what we have spent on a book (and what to charge you when you lose it); enhance the bibliographic record adding more data so the book can be easily found in the catalog (these data come handy when you try to find books by how they look, smell and weigh). And when you have located the book on the library shelf and want to take it home with you, sorry, but we have to click again.

Marlene Kandel

Maria Kiriakova
News from the Library’s Media Department

With the continued purchase of documentary and feature film DVDs and subscription to several streaming video databases, the Library has added thousands of video titles to its already comprehensive media collection. The following is just a sample of newly acquired videos:


Based on the novel by Cormac McCarthy, this Academy Award winning film follows Llewelyn Moss who stumbles onto a drug deal gone wrong while hunting in the parched Texas scrubland near the Mexican border. With a satchel filled with $2 million, he dreams of moving his wife, Carla Jean, out of the trailer park and into the good life. It isn't long before he's being tracked by Anton Chigurh, a psychopathic “debt collector.” Sheriff Bell sets out to find Llewelyn and discovers that the borderland is no country for old men.


Explains how global poverty began with military conquest, slavery, and colonization that resulted in the seizure of land, minerals, and forced labor. Today’s financial crisis is a direct consequence of these unchallenged policies that have lasted centuries.


The film explores why so many people leave small Mexican towns to work in the United States and what happens to the families and communities they leave behind.


Hear from three people who made highly lethal suicide attempts and survived, as they courageously share their stories of self-destructiveness, survival, and recovery.


Looks at a high-risk parole office and the people whose lives it touches: prisoners guilty of everything from murder to white-collar crime; officers desperate to keep their clients out of prison, and their failures off the files. Follows six offenders and their parole officers and therapists over a 10-month period.


This documentary focuses on the controversy surrounding the execution of Robert Alton Harris on 21 April 1992.


This project tells the stories of women who were incarcerated during pregnancy and facing the reality of giving their babies away at birth. The documentary focuses on three women who served sentences at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility in Wilsonville, Oregon.

Merrison, L. (Director). (2005). *The art of documentary filmmaking.* Found in *Ethnographic Video Online*

Anglo-Burmese filmmaker Lindsey Merrison brings together eight tutors versed in documentary filmmaking with twelve young Burmese men and women for a three-week workshop titled “The art of documentary filmmaking.” Included in the series are a workshop video diary and the four final completed films.


The BBC’s documentary looks at Leary’s background, work, and the series of psychedelic experiments at Harvard University that made him the leader of a generation not his own.


A Senegalese woman takes a job as a governess for a French family. In her new country, the woman is constantly made aware of her race and mistreated by her employers. Her hope for better times turns to disillusionment and she contemplates suicide.


Through stunning visuals and insightful interviews, this multiple award-winning film explores human beings’ innate and subconscious fear of death and portrays the impacts of that fear on our behavior, specifically in regard to violence.

Go to [http://www.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/info/video_collection.html](http://www.lib.jjay.cuny.edu/info/video_collection.html) to reserve a DVD or to suggest a purchase. If you have any questions or comments about our streaming video databases or our video collection, contact Nancy Egan at negan@jjay.cuny.edu or x8269.

Nancy Egan
Spotlight on Library Usage Statistics

- **Searches** on Library licensed electronic resources, 2010: over 2 million
- **Journal articles** downloaded from Library licensed electronic resources, 2010: over 900,000
- **Library website** visits: over 1 million visits per year
- **Electronic journals** available: over 63,000
- **Book sections** downloaded from Library electronic resources, 2010: over 300,000
- **Electronic monographs** available through CUNY+: over 137,000
- **Electronic reserve** document views 2009/2010: 242,597
- **Electronic databases** available to JJ community: 148
- **Electronic resources** use that takes place remotely outside the Library: over 80%

Print books circulated 2009/2010: 41,317
Print reserve circulation 2009/2010: 67,140
Print volumes added: 2009/2010: 4,350
Student/public-use **Library computers**: 148
Number of **presentations to groups** 2009/2010: 209
Total attendance at **presentations**: over 4,000

Bonnie Nelson

Helpful New Tools for Library Users

**Calculators on reserve loan**

The library now has easy-to-use TI-83 graphing calculators for math and science from the CUNY Office of Library Services. Calculators are on reserve for one-day loans and can be requested at the Reserve Desk on the ground floor of the library.

Please note the following loan policies:
- Calculators must be returned in good working order to the Library’s Reserve Desk half an hour before the library closes.
- Late fines will be charged at $1.00 per day and will accumulate up to the replacement cost of the calculator.
- For calculators returned with missing batteries, $5 will be charged.
- Borrower must pay all repairs and/or replacement costs resulting from damage or loss. The replacement cost of a calculator is between $110 and $150.

Noncompliance of the above rules will result in the registration block and suspension of library privileges.

Kathleen Collins

**New book scanners**

We’re happy to announce that the two book scanners that arrived in the library towards the end of the fall are proving to be very popular with students. The scanners have easy-to-use touch screen controls that guide the user to scan and create PDF or MS Word files. Smaller files can be emailed to any account; larger files need to be saved to the user’s memory stick. No sign-on is necessary—any visitor to the library can use them, without charge. A special book-edge allows books to be laid on the scanner in such a way as to scan a single page without damaging the spine. More information about the scanner technology can be seen at www.booksanstation.com.

One book scanner is located at the back of the Reserve Room on the lower floor of the library; the second one is on the upper floor, beside the Law Reference area.

Our thanks to the Technology Fee Committee for paying for the scanners.

Ellen Sexton
From the Special Collections

New acquisitions

The Special Collections of Lloyd Sealy Library is always acquiring interesting titles and some are described in these pages. These are just a few of the notable titles we have recently added to our collections:

Estudios de antropología criminal: Memoria, que por disposición del superior gobierno del estado de Puebla, presentan, para concurrir á la Exposición Internacional de Chicago, los doctores Francisco Martínez Baca ... y Manuel Vergara. Puebla, Mexico 1892

The book was written by the first criminal anthropologists of Mexico, and is based upon their research on criminals incarcerated at the Puebla Prison in Mexico City, of whom they provide mug shots, charts and other visuals.

Convict Catechism! Read to your neighbor. Independent Democratic Committee of Georgia, 1878.

Written for the Georgia gubernatorial election of 1880, the pamphlet criticizes the incumbent governor, Alfred H. Colquitt, who later won re-election, despite the fact that, according to the author, prisoners under his control had “men and women were chained together and occupying the same sleeping bunks ... 25 illegitimate children, born of mothers lying chained promiscuously in bunks or on the ground among males.” And many other disturbing prison practices. This short pamphlet will be made digitally available on DSpace.

The Laros murder: a whole family poisoned by an ungrateful son: full particulars: the arrest and confession of the prisoner, funeral services, and both sermons in full, with incidents, interviews, &c. Easton, PA: West & Hilburn Publishers, 1878.

According to the New York Times, June 4, 1876, Allan C. Laros confessed to attempting to poison his wife, six children and two boarders. The article quotes from his confession “I did it; the money is out between the privy and the sheep stable, this was done on Wednesday evening, the same night I put poison in the coffee pot...” Three died and the rest survived.

These titles along with all our Rare Books are cataloged in the library catalog CUNY+ and are available to study in our special collections room by appointment. Those wishing to work with these and other rare books in our special collections should contact me at ebelcher@jjay.cuny.edu or 212-237-8238.

A Russian treatise on penal colonies

Recently, the Lloyd G. Sealy Library has acquired a 112 year old book by a famous Russian criminologist Dmitrij Dril’. Sylka vo Frantsii i Rossii (Penal Colonies in France and Russia) is a comparative analysis of settlements of the exiled criminals and recidivists in New Caledonia and Sakhalin Island that Prof. Dril’ visited in the late 1890s.

Even as a young doctoral student, Dmitrij Dril’ held unpopular views on the governmental means of punishment and rehabilitation. His dissertation on the causes of juvenile delinquency was not allowed for defense at the Moscow University, and he was later awarded a doctorate degree in Kharkov, Ukraine. Dril’ traveled all over imperial Russia visiting correctional institutions after he became the head of the Department of Penitentiary in St. Petersburg in 1897. Penal Colonies in France and Russia, published in 1899, harshly criticizes the effectiveness of such settlements and the punitive role of the state in the rehabilitation of criminals.
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