NEW CIRCULATION LOAN PERIODS

Professor Joy Dunkley, Access Services Librarian

Effective Monday, April 14, 2014, at the recommendation of the CUNYWIDE Circulation Committee and with the approval of the Council of Chief Librarians, the Office Of Library Services instituted new loan periods for library patrons. There has been an increase in the length of time for loaning library books across the board. See the new structure below:

INITIAL LOAN PERIODS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patron Status</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Students:</td>
<td>Four weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Students:</td>
<td>Six weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctoral Students:</td>
<td>Eight weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staff:</td>
<td>Four weeks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty:</td>
<td>Eight weeks</td>
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RENEWALS:
Patrons may renew 2 times.

RECALLS-HOLDS:
The guaranteed minimum loan period after a recall will be three weeks, regardless of the initial loan period. *Rush recall is not affected by the newly proposed guaranteed minimum loan period.*

RETIRED FACULTY-HEOs-CLTs:
The initial loan period will be eight weeks; the same as CUNY-wide Faculty.

STUDENT CONSULTATION SERVICE

Professors Robin Brown, Dorothea Coiffe, Lane Glisson and Dr. Kanu Nagra serve on the library’s popular research consultation service. Students can request an individual consultation with a librarian to gather research for their assignments by using the form on the BMCC Library website: http://lib1.bmcc.cuny.edu/services/research_consultations_reservation_form.html

Student Ejona Banushi consults Dr. Kanu Nagra.
In the interest of outreach to both faculty and students, this semester two strategies were utilized to promote library resources and services. One method was to embed librarianship and offer dedicated support for Blackboard-based online or hybrid classes. The project coincided with a recent upgrade which introduced new features and functionality into the learning management system. Within the Blackboard interface available to both faculty and students, the library shares workspace with other campus departments in a menu tab called BMCC. The created content provides quick links to specific resources and information such as the Library Catalog, available databases, and hours of operation. Librarians who are specialists in a particular discipline are also embedded in the tab under their subject area. A link to the library directory allows faculty and students to be able to take advantage of this new cooperative program. (see BMCC Tab image) In addition to the BMCC tab, work is underway for the library to have its own navigation button in the fall of 2014. The button is specific to the class subject and provides particular resources for students.

Another outreach method was to promote multimedia. In today’s visual culture and active learning environment, film and digital media in the classroom can be used to meet instructional goals and deliver content to students in a familiar way, including media snippets and feature-length films. Like all libraries, the BMCC Library has extensive multimedia resources, some supplied by vendors such as Films on Demand and Alexander Street Press, and others created in-house. The library’s streaming video innovation allows for the conversion of legally-purchased DVDs or videos to windows media files. Once converted, files are uploaded to ERes. Subsequently, a step-by-step guide was devised to help faculty add multimedia into their curriculum.

One technique is by e-mail. For example, faculty can e-mail students an embedded URL link which directs them to ERes streaming video. Another approach is through course syllabi. The Films on Demand database comprises instructional video and multimedia. Once a desired clip is selected, the URL can be simply copied and pasted into a course syllabus for students to view at leisure. Another way to incorporate multimedia is through Blackboard. The Alexander Street Press provides access to several multimedia databases, such as American History in Video and Education in Video. The URL of any video can be embedded on any Blackboard course page.
With online classes becoming more prevalent, BMCC Library is working to provide library instruction that reaches online students. Since Fall 2012, Professor Lane Glisson of BMCC Library and Professor Kelly Secovnie of the English Department have worked as instructional partners to create an embedded librarian project in Professor Secovnie’s online English 201 courses within the Blackboard environment. Professor Glisson was given Teaching Assistant status in Blackboard, enabling her to post announcements and create content, videos, and blog posts in the Weekly Folders. Over the last two years, they have augmented the syllabus to include more research components in online English 201. This outreach to students can also be used for in-person courses that use Blackboard, in any department’s course that requires research.

Online research instruction now includes the following features:

- Content is tailored to the material that will be read and the assignments students will complete.
- Weekly folders contain scaffolded lessons that build research skills over time, delivered by the librarian in the form of blogs.
- Links to the library website show students where they can access research materials and assistance.
- An introductory library instruction video, with engaging graphic elements, is assigned near the beginning of the course. Students are then tested on what they have learned for assessment purposes.
- A video introducing the librarian’s face to the students encourages them to reach out for help. Students may connect in person, by phone, during reference desk hours, or by email or via discussion boards in Blackboard.
- A Softchalk online lesson introduces basic encyclopedia and newspaper databases for Essay 2. An assessment test follows the activity.
- A discussion board activity, assigned for extra credit in the middle of the course, offers students the opportunity to ask questions about refining topics, finding research, and MLA documentation. A list of proposed questions is posted to inform students about the kind of questions they may want to ask.
- A final video assigned for essay 4 introduces more sophisticated databases and how to work with books and e-books for their final essay, which is research intensive. A second discussion board may be offered at that time, if useful.
How to Get Help with Research When You Need It!

A group of librarians at the BMCC Library helps staff an innovative chat reference service that runs 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Offered by OCLC, question point is based on cooperation amongst a worldwide network of reference librarians. Chat reference librarians step in to help our students find resources on a particular topic. Many of our students end up interacting with other CUNY librarians. Others end up interacting with librarians from a wide range of colleges and universities across the country. Overnight, the chat reference queues are monitored by backup librarians hired by OCLC.

Does it really work? Research is currently underway to analyze chat reference transcripts for 2013. Preliminary data suggests that the service is very valuable, particularly for students who have trouble getting to campus to get assistance, or resist having face-to-face encounters because of language barriers. During the first three months of 2013 BMCC students, staff, and faculty accessed the job reference service 220 times. The overwhelming majority of the questions were substantial information-based questions, that were well answered by the cooperative. I am hoping that faculty will recommend the chat reference service, and its companion email reference service to students who seem unwilling, or unable to visit the physical library. There is now no reason to struggle alone in the middle of the night.

Our popular library Instruction program has been very busy this semester. The most frequent classes that we have seen this semester were English 201 students, doing literary research. There are several things we talk about in an English 201 presentation. We encourage them to use the diverse research materials that the library provides for English courses, which include literary criticism, historical materials as well as articles and books that support a psychological, biographical, or theoretical approach. This is based on the principle that the circumstances and the experiences of a writer have an enormous impact on what they write.

This has led me to a reflection on how my circumstances and experiences impact my writing.

1. The Unquiet Zone: This spring I have continually realized that extended time spent with keyboards spikes inflammation in one of my wrists. In the process, I have learned much more about voice typing than I ever expected to know. So I wrote an article about it, which is been submitted for publication.

2. “CUNY and a thriving city: a defense of public higher education.” This piece comes out of my passion for the work that we do here at BMCC. It is still being revised, but I hope to submit it shortly for publication.

3. My blog, The Adventures of a Three Wheeled Librarian, has recently been adopted as a reading for a disability studies class. This is where I write about my passion for librarianship, and how it intersects with my identity as a person with disabilities.

My door is open to anyone who wants to talk about our library instruction program, adaptive technology, my passion for public higher education, or disability studies.
Professor Lane Glisson, Evening/Weekend Librarian

News
Professor Leo Theinert, a Faculty Librarian at BMCC Library for 23 years, has retired as of March 1, 2014. A familiar face at the Reference Desk, Professor Theinert also formerly served as an Interlibrary Loan Librarian and an Access Services supervisor. Professor Theinert has been a dedicated librarian and is a gifted photographer who has been represented in many photography shows and publications. The Library and BMCC’s community will miss his presence at the reference desk and in the department. We wish him the best health and happiness in his retirement.

Professor Dorothea Coiffe, BMCC Library’s Media / Interlibrary Loan Librarian, received tenure on March 1, 2014. Congratulations on a well-deserved appointment.

Professor Linda Wadas, BMCC Library’s Collection Management / Acquisitions Librarian has been promoted to the rank of Assistant Professor. Professor Wadas recently earned an MS in Urban Affairs with a Concentration in Nonprofits from the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning at Hunter College, CUNY.

Publications

Professor Lane Glisson, Professor Shane McConnell, Dr. Mahatapa Palit, Dr. Jason Schneiderman, Dr. Cynthia Wiseman (BMCC), and Dr. Lyle Yorks (Teachers College, Columbia University) co-wrote the article “Looking in the Mirror of Inquiry: Knowledge in Our Students and Ourselves” in Teaching and Learning Inquiry: The ISSOTL Journal, Vol. 2, Issue 1, March 2014, published by Indiana University Press on behalf of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.

Presentations
Professor Joy Dunkley presented “Reserve (R)evolution: The Hows and Whys (BMCC Textbook Program)” at the The BMCC Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship (CETLS) on April 29, 2014.

Professor Lane Glisson, Dr. Michael Morford, Dr. Michelle Wang (BMCC), and Dr. Laura Lombard (Rubin Museum of Art) presented “Arts Across the Curriculum Initiative at BMCC” at the Arts and Higher Education Conference on April 11, 2014 held at the William & Anita Newman Conference Center, Baruch College, CUNY.
**Dr. Kanu Nagra, E-resources Librarian**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Culture Grams</strong></th>
<th>Subject: Reference. Full Text: Yes. Description: Digital version of the Culture Grams.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EasyBib</strong></td>
<td>Subject: Citations and Bibliographies. Full Text: No. Description: A tool for managing citations, learning various aspects of writing research papers, and preparing presentations. All users need to register and set up an account in order to save their work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ovid Nursing E-book Collection</strong></td>
<td>Subject: Nursing and Health Science. Full Text: Yes. Description: Provides the full text of nursing ebooks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Oxford Very Short Introductions</strong></td>
<td>Subject: All Subject Areas. Full Text: Yes. Description: Provides subject and topic introductions written by authors who are experts in their field. Simultaneous access to this database is available to 5 users only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research Monitor</strong></td>
<td>Subject: Business Management. Full Text: Yes. Description: Provides Euromonitor International’s industry and country research reports for 80 countries, with daily articles and opinions from industry and country experts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Testing &amp; Education Reference Center with Career Module</strong></td>
<td>Subject: Career and Education. Full Text: Yes. Description: Includes test preparation and practice tests (such as TOEFL, TOEIC, and more) as well as career assessment tools for job search and workplace skills preparation. Also includes career preparation test tools for law enforcement, firefighters, medical/nursing, postal, air traffic control, teaching, military services, and more. Must create an account to use.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gale World History in Context</strong></td>
<td>Subject: History. Full Text: Yes. A comprehensive collection on periodicals, viewpoint essays, maps, flags, media material, and more in World History.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Women and Social Movements International</strong></td>
<td>Subject: History, Women’s Studies. Full Text: Yes. Description: Includes 150,000 pages of conference proceedings, photographs, videos, reports of international women’s organizations, publications and primary documents such as letters, diaries, and memoirs of women active internationally since the mid-nineteenth century.</td>
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Dr. Kanu Nagra, E-resources Librarian

Trial access for the following electronic databases is set up for potential database candidates to evaluate and to make a decision on their purchase and subscription. The following databases were added to Database Trial Index during Spring 2014. I encourage faculty to check our trial database index page and provide us input and advice.

**Mango Languages**
Subject: Languages. Full Text: Yes.
Description: An interactive tool which covers online learning lessons for learning languages. A username and password is not required.

**The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Strategic Management**
Description: Provides a comprehensive overview on issues and concepts in strategic management.

**The PBS Video Collection**
Description: This collection provides access to the films and popular media series.

**Rosetta Stone**
Subject: Languages. Full Text: Yes.
Description: An interactive tool which covers online learning tools for learning languages. Users will need to create an account (e-mail address) and choose a password (must be at least 6 letters plus and contain one number) to get access both on and off campus.

**Science Education 1: General Lab Techniques**
Description: Video database for teaching laboratory fundamentals through simple, easy to understand video demonstrations.

**Science Education 2: Basic methods In Cellular and Molecular Biology**
Description: Video database for teaching cellular and molecular biology through simple, easy to understand video demonstrations.

**Science Education 3: Model Organisms I**
Description: Video database for teaching science of organisms and laboratory fundamentals through simple, easy to understand video demonstrations.

**Science Education 4: Model Organisms II**
Description: Video database for teaching laboratory fundamentals through simple, easy to understand video demonstrations.
The Periodicals Department Welcomes Two New Office Assistants

There are two new Office Assistants in the Library’s Periodicals department, Julia Keiser and Richard Sepulveda.

Julia Keiser has lived in Brooklyn for most of her life, has a bachelor’s degree in English from Brooklyn College, and worked at the Brooklyn College Library while she was a student there. She has a strong interest in education, and loves libraries and librarians because they encourage and support all of the learning that goes on outside the classroom. Julia hopes to complete a graduate degree in Library Science and one in Liberal Studies with concentrations in Africana Studies and Digital Humanities. Before coming to BMCC, she did coursework in Library Science at Queens College, worked on a digitization project at Weeksville Heritage Center in Brooklyn, and did a library fellowship in Senegal with the West African Research Center. Julia is happy to be working at BMCC Library, not only because it is a great library with a beautiful view of the Hudson, but also because she started out as a college student at BMCC and because her positive experience at BMCC gave her the foundation she needed to continue at Brooklyn College.

Richard Sepulveda was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York to a single mother living in the NYCHA houses of Brownsville. Richard gravitated toward academics as a means of escape from the negative influences of his neighborhood. His mother (a graduate of BMCC and professional with the NYC Department of Education) instilled in Richard a profound appreciation for a good education. Eventually, Richard took to the study of Philosophy at LaGuardia Community College where he was elected to Student Government and worked closely with staff and students from across CUNY. Following the completion of his Associates Degree in 2011 Richard was hired as a Part-time College Assistant at LaGuardia’s Student Information Center where he spent several months until transferring to LaGuardia Library’s Circulation desk. After gaining valuable experience in both Student Information and CUNY Library operations Richard accepted a full-time CUNY Office Assistant position with the library at Borough of Manhattan CC in January of this year. Richard is currently pursuing two bachelor’s degrees in Philosophy of Law and Television and Radio at Brooklyn College and aspires to become an Entertainment Lawyer. In his short time with BMCC Richard has already worked in two different departments within the library. Currently he works in the Periodicals Department and enjoys using his ever-increasing library knowledge to help his fellow CUNY students.
What Size is Your Screen? The Library Adjusts!

Professor Sidney Eng, Library Chairperson

A responsive website design addresses the library user’s mobile needs while delivering full content. Under this strategy, the website automatically adapts (responds) to the computing device’s browser window through programming and style sheets.

The library’s current web design project responds to a new reality: A 2013 Pew Internet study reports that 85% of people aged 18 – 29 use their phone to go online, with 50% using their phones for Internet access almost exclusively. Some mobile Web users rarely use a desktop. Our goal is not to give our users less content as in the case of an app, but rather to make the content and the display fit various screen sizes.

Our current website was launched in 2009. Together with our Library Website Manager Derek Stadler, I have been wrestling with the decision to either launch a complete website redesign or create a responsive website using the existing template. What may be the trade-off?

Two years ago the library made available a free app as an experiment. By comparison, the shortcoming of an app is that a user has to download it from the iTunes Store or the Android Market. Also, while it is pleasing to the eye and functional, an app does not provide the full website. Another option is a complete overhaul by moving to a content management system like WordPress or Drupal. Both systems offer the responsive feature.

Our strategic discussion led us to take the responsive approach to upgrade the website. Rather than creating multiple sites to support multiple devices, we use a responsive design to support all devices while just coding one site. When a student uses a smartphone to access information, the library website will adjust to his or her device. Please take a moment to explore this new information universe in the palm of your hand.

A detail from the beautifully designed display for National Poetry Month, created by HEO Guerda Beaucicaut with the help of students. The poem displayed in the frame is Children, by the Lebanese-American poet and artist Khalil Ghibran. The frame is a digital selection of the work and photographs of several prominent poets. The winners of BMCC Library’s Can You Haiku Contest are reported on the next page with another view of the poetry display cases.
**Can You Haiku?**

**Professor Dorothea Coiffe** started the BMCC Library’s Can You Haiku Contest nine years ago and continues to coordinate and co-judge it every year during Asian Heritage Month at BMCC. Her co-judge this year was **Professor Priscilla Rogers-Fahy**. Haiku is a traditional form of Japanese poetry that has three lines of 17 syllables-consisting of 5, 7, & 5 syllables, respectively. The rules for writing Haiku in Japanese are strict, but in other languages it is simpler.

Eligible entrants needed to conform to this year’s rules. Each poem had to be an original haiku in the 5 – 7 – 5 format and contain any variation of the word CLASS. On April 23, the judges declared two winners and two runner-up/honorable mentions, all of whom were BMCC students. The winners won a $25 gift card from Barnes and Noble plus a ticket to attend the BMCC Asian Heritage Annual Dinner, held on April 25, 2014 at Delight 28 Restaurant.

**The winners were:**

- **My old memories**  
  Replaced sadly by new ones  
  But still life goes on.  
  — J. Portelli

- **I’m a city girl**  
  New York, New York born & raised,  
  Colorful and cool.  
  — A. Velasquez

**Runner-up/honorable mentions were:**

- **Rip me a new heart**  
  Molded from inside of you  
  Explain your thing, love.  
  — A. Onuoha

- **The old world is gone**  
  It is a new world I see  
  Right now I am free  
  — Z. M. Abardo

According to our Library Catalog, we have 4512 books of poems, critical writing about poets, and poetic style. Stop in to the library for recommendations of our favorite poets!