As educators, librarians partner with their classroom colleagues in planting seeds and cultivating learning. The start and growth of libraries in our country is a rich story; the library has and continues to nurture responsible citizenry by promoting the exchange of ideas and stimulating conversation, as well as lifelong learning. The Lesley University Library expresses that distinguished tradition by:

- fostering a sense of community
- providing resources to continually stimulate the intellectual life of our students, faculty, and staff
- preserving our institutional memory in the University Archives, and
- encouraging experimentation and innovation.

However, we are facing a diffused, complex, and constantly evolving digital landscape with a multitude of emerging technology applications and students with different learning styles.

In this context, I would like to refer to the recently released Horizon Report 2017, prepared by the New Media Consortium (NMC) in collaboration with Educause Learning Initiative. This report elucidates major emerging technology trends and their impact on higher education. Divided into three major sections, the report’s second part describes a number of trends, including significant changes in pending technology adoption. I suggest you focus attention on the report’s discussion of the importance of digital literacy, whereby libraries play a role in enhancing these competencies. As mentioned in the report, “in addition to teaching, learning, research, and innovation divisions, academic libraries play an active role in addressing the problem; for example, Western Sydney University Library’s digital literacy tutorials and reflection activities help students develop higher order thinking skills.”

Recognizing both the challenges and opportunities inherent in these assessments, our research and instruction librarians stand ready to collaborate with faculty across the institution to teach and integrate these invaluable skills into the education of our 21st Century students.

In addition, our library is a forerunner in integrating formal and informal learning. We are collaborating with Dean Nathaniel Mays on creating a dedicated space at the library for our students to use for relaxation and informal gathering, we have opened our space for “Mindfulness Mondays” in the Sherrill Library. We hope to increase the participation not only of staff but also students in this informal gathering. This initiative puts us in good company: The Horizon Report describes Humboldt State University Library’s promotion of mindfulness and contemplation among their students. They created a special place called the “Library Brain Booth,” a drop-in space where students may take a break from a stressful and demanding schedule. This strengthens our sense of community across campus and enriches our focus on inclusivity and social justice.

These are just a few of the ways the library strengthens its relevance as an experience. In reinforcing that role, we will continue to make the library a center of community building, of access and discovery, of institutional memory, and of experimentation and exploration.

Hedi BenAicha, Dean of Lesley University Library
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Sherrill Library Faculty Corner:

Young Adult Books and Canonical Literature

Mary Dockray-Miller, Professor of English

We have great Young Adult and Children’s Literature experts here at Lesley (Mary Ann Cappiello, Erika Dawes, Brooke Eisenbach, and others), so I am somewhat hesitant to delve into the subject here. But I’ve been wrapped up in two new YA novels recently and wanted to share some ideas about how they tie into the curricula and literatures that I know best, those of medieval and early modern England. Adam Gidwitz’s *The Inquisitor’s Tale* and Molly Booth’s *Saving Hamlet* tell stories about teenagers, and while both novels function as stand-alone literary texts they also interact in interesting and productive ways with the texts that helped to inspire them, respectively Geoffrey Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales* and William Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*.

Booth's novel is set in both Shakespeare's England and the contemporary United States, thanks to a time-travel plot twist. Because of a wondrous trap-door in her school's theater, the main character, a high-school sophomore named Emma, ends up stage-managing not just her high school's production of *Hamlet* but also the first production of *Hamlet* -- that's right, the one at the Globe Theatre in about 1601, when *Hamlet* had no cultural resonance because no one had ever heard of it yet. Emma is beset with some typical but well-delineated teenage problems focused on identity, sexuality, relationships, and intellectual achievement; she finds many solutions to those problems in Shakespeare’s theater and in the text of his best-known play.

*The Inquisitor’s Tale* was named a Newbery Honor book in January 2017; through a series of “tales” told by a variety of narrators, the story of William, Jacob, and Jeanne unfolds. Unlike *Canterbury Tales*, where each tale is a self-contained narrative unit, all of the “tales” here focus on the story of the three protagonists, their possibly-miraculous dog, and their quests. Set in France in the High Middle Ages, Gidwitz’s novel takes the trio through farmlands, markets, castles, and cathedrals; they encounter the King of France, a papal inquisitor (the main narrator referred to in the title), an angel, and a farting dragon (a very Chaucerian touch in its allusion to the *Miller’s* and *Summoner’s Tales*).

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1Find these three on Twitter: @ErikaDawes, @BrookeEisenbach, @MA_Cappiello and also see Mary Ann’s blog post about *The Inquisitor’s Tale*: http://www.theclassroombookshelf.com/2016/10/the-inquisitors-tale/

2Thanks to Jackie Iannone (assistant director, CLAS advising center) and Jonathan Boudreau (CLAS English major, class of 2017) for feedback on this column.

3For an author profile/review, see https://www.bostonglobe.com/arts/books/2016/11/13/for-something-novelist-hamlet-was-muse/FXl6hpj3YssWkTWKJy5HmM/story.html
Readers who don’t know Chaucer or Shakespeare certainly will read and enjoy both of these YA novels. I’m more interested in how they inform my understanding of the ways that *Canterbury Tales* and *Hamlet* function in our contemporary culture. *Inquisitor’s Tale*, for example, is wonderfully diverse and multicultural: William is the mixed-race son of a French knight and a North African woman, Jacob is Jewish, and Jeanne is a peasant. Through the course of their adventures, they encounter a variety of prejudices about race, religion, and social class, and they discover that they have much in common despite their ostensible differences. Medieval Studies scholars (myself included) have been shouting for years that the Middle Ages were never simply dead, white, and male; enough of that message has now been heard that a “multicultural Middle Ages” novel can win a Newbery Honor. At least partly due to Gidwitz’s work, my students in five or ten years may not be surprised to find sympathetic Muslims and educated women in my class and in Chaucer’s texts.

Similarly, Booth’s work makes great thematic connections between overarching Shakespearean themes and some of our contemporary cultural issues. To take just one example, Emma’s best friend Lulu has recently come out and is dealing with family fallout from her announcement. In 1601, Emma encounters similar issues of sexuality and gender identity at the Globe, where both female and male roles are played by men and her short hair allows her to “pass” as a young man in the company. Booth’s work will convince any number of contemporary teenagers that Shakespeare’s plays aren’t horrifically boring and difficult reading exercises suffered merely because the teacher assigns them – she shows that *Hamlet* provides insights into a myriad of human experiences, and she seduces her readers into the beauty of the language as well.

So Booth and Gidwitz and YA authors like them are ultimately making my job just a little bit easier. They provide a gateway into the formal study of the humanities, the exploration of human experience throughout history. The humanities are crucial to any notion of global citizenship and engagement, and yet seem to be constantly and devastatingly under siege. As Chaucer and Shakespeare recede ever farther into the linguistic and literary past, as our government and our school systems contemplate budget cuts for the arts and humanities, as “aliteracy” plagues our nation, I need all the help I can get.

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4The Trump administration, for example, wants to eliminate the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities entirely; see Alexander Bolton, “Trump Team Prepares Dramatic Cuts,” *The Hill* 19 January 2017: http://thehill.com/policy/finance/314991-trump-team-prepares-dramatic-cuts accessed 30 Jan 2017
Imagine entering a safe space where you are at great ease. You take a deep breath and for those three seconds, time catches up with you. There's comfort in the silence and the buzzing of people interacting. I love working at Moriarty for all of these reasons and more I've yet to discover. I'm a sophomore at Lesley University majoring in Expressive Arts Therapy. Going to work is one of the most rewarding experiences I've encountered here. A student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, I am able to engage with LUCAD students and faculty on an everyday basis. I juggle my enjoyment of meeting new people and learning new things. Working isn't a chore, it is a collision of where great minds think alike.

Lesley University Archives

Cover of March-April 1972 Current, student periodical, featuring a photograph of a male teacher working with children during recess with the caption: Men in Early Childhood Education?
Did You Know That If You Could Read One Book A Week,
It Would Take You 1094 Years And 9 Months To Finish Reading All The Books In The Sherrill Library Stacks!

Staff:

Dennis Flanders
Assessment & Collection Management Librarian

- What are your research and teaching areas?
  My professional and research focus tends to live at the intersection of human/computer language and digital library resource management. This includes systems and database management, discovery and information retrieval, information organization, data visualization, and digitization.

- What did you do in your past life?
  Immediately prior to Lesley, I was a librarian at Emmanuel College. Before that and sometimes concurrently, I've been a college English instructor, an institutional researcher, a database manager, and a library assistant in neighboring Somerville.

- What are your hidden talents?
  My talents include classical guitar and foreign languages. My talents do not include singing in any form (my two-year-old already has higher standards and forbids it).

- What are your hobbies?
  Sports, hiking, any type of game or puzzle, reading, music.

- What do you wish the Lesley community knew about you?
  As someone with a lot of interdisciplinary interests, I'd be happy to partner with faculty or staff on any projects. I'm also proud to work at an institution so focused on helping people of all backgrounds and abilities.

- Who is your literary hero?
  Sam Vimes from Terry Pratchett's Discworld series, as well as most hobbits. They are unlikely adventurers with dirt under their nails and love in their hearts.
Tracey Baptiste, author of numerous fiction and non-fiction books for young readers, will visit the Lesley University Library on March 20, 2017.

That morning Ms. Baptiste will read from her recent middle-grade novel *The Jumbies* and engage in discussion with 4th and 5th grade students from the Garfield and Parks School.

That evening at 6:00pm she will present a lecture open to undergraduate and graduate students, educators, and parents about her experiences as a writer and educator, having taught both in elementary schools and at the graduate school level.

Tracey Baptiste is the author of *The Jumbies* and its forthcoming sequel, due in Fall 2017, as well as *Angel’s Grace*, named “one of the 100 best titles for reading and sharing” by New York City Librarians. In addition, she is the author of *The Totally Gross History of Ancient Egypt* and biographies of Nelson Mandela, Madeline L’Engle, Sharon Creech, Al Gore, and more.
Adventures at AWP 2017

Michael Mercurio, executive assistant to the Dean of the University Library and recent recipient of an MFA in creative writing from Lesley University, attended the Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP) Conference 2017, held in Washington D.C., where he divided his time between attending panels and readings, and staffing the tables for both the Lesley MFA/Creative Writing program and the Naugatuck River Review.

During his time at the conference Michael was able to see and connect with many Lesley literary figures, including MFA program director Stephen Haven and faculty members Laurie Foos, Erin Belieu, Annie Pluto, and Tracey Baptiste, as well as a number of alumni and current students. One highlight of Michael’s experience was a reading and conversation hosted by MFA alumnus Fred Joiner at the American Poetry Museum/Center for Poetic Thought, a space he oversees in the Brooklands neighborhood of Washington D.C. Joining Fred were fellow MFA alumni Melanie Henderson and Enzo Silon Suron, who is also the publisher behind Central Square Press. Michael was also able to attend readings by two other MFA alums: Cindy Hunter Morgan, whose first book Harborless is available now, and Eileen Cleary, who was nominated for a Pushcart Prize, as well as spending lots of time networking and socializing with other writers, journal editors, and publishers.

The Art of the Conference

By Micki Harrington

I just got back from the annual conference of the Art Library Society of North America, which I explained to my family as summer camp for art librarians. I always try to get the most out of every conference, so I wanted to share my top 3 conference tips!

1) If you’re like me and you never skip a block of workshops, it’s important to schedule in time to explore the city. Luckily my conference included city tours and lots of museum visits. We were even able to have a private party in a closed art museum with all of the best New Orleans foods!

2) If you planned on one workshop/session but you see a large group gathering at another one, check it out! Sometimes the description in the schedule doesn’t grab you, but the presenter is known to be very engaging and pulls large crowds.

3) Aim for variety! I learned about art librarianship, the librarian’s role as an agent for social change, diversifying collections, developing graphic novel collections, data-driven research, and my personal favorite: a 2 hour workshop on copyright law!

I’m looking forward to continuing to make connections with other librarians as the new Vice Moderator of the Art & Design School division of the Society, and now that I’m back home at Moriarty Library I’m ready to put everything I learned to use!
The Library is proud to announce the launch of EBSCO Discovery Service! “Discovery” is an intuitive tool that searches across many types of content with a single click. It is now easier than ever for students and faculty to explore our journal databases, ebook and streaming video content, art image collections, print collections, research guides, and even our doctoral dissertations. Discovery makes all of Lesley University Library’s digital resources accessible while also highlighting our unique print offerings, such as our extensive collections of graphic novels and teaching resources. Library staff and Fenway Libraries Online are working together on additional enhancements that will roll out in the coming weeks and months. However, the traditional catalog and database links are not going away—they are still easily accessible from the library homepage and on myLesley. Click here or on the image above to explore Discovery at Lesley University Library!

Have you tried BrowZine?

BrowZine is a library app that lets you browse thousands of key academic journals from your mobile device (iOS or Android) or computer. Are there ‘go to’ journals in your field that you look for every month? With BrowZine you may:

- Create personal bookshelves of your favorite journals
- Set up alert notifications when new issues arrive
- Download interesting articles to read offline
- Export citations to Endnote, Zotero, and other services

Find the app in the App Store, Google Play, or Amazon Appstore, or visit http://www.browzine.com. Select Lesley University from the list and login with your myLesley username and password for easy access.
Library Girl's Tips For Spotting Fake News

Before you buy what they're selling, check to see if you can answer these questions:

**Author**
- Is there an author listed?
- Is there an "About" page you can review?
- Is the author associated with other suspect sources?
- What can we learn from the author's other works?

**Domain**
- Do you recognize the site name?
- Does the url end in a common domain such as .com? .net? .org?**
- Is the website littered with advertisements?

**Note:** Some sites from other countries end in 2 letter domains such as .uk (for the United Kingdom) or .au (for Australia) but are still reputable.

**Triangulation**
- Can you find at least 2 other reputable sources that are publishing similar information?

If not, check Snopes.com to see if the information has been independently verified or proven false.

**Quotes/Images**
- Are any quotes in the story verifiable?
- Do the quotes seem sensational or outrageous?
- Are image sources cited?

Sites like www.tineye.com can help you find an image's original source. Once found, verify it too is trustworthy.

This resource was created by Jennifer LaGarde
For more information visit: www.librarygirl.net