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Valpo News: Christopher Center Library Services Newsletter

Christopher Center Library Services, Valparaiso University

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New Technology Acquisition for Archives and Special Collections

New technology in the Christopher Center’s Archives and Special Collections is making materials even more accessible to our library users. Since the installation of a 75” monitor and Soltice software, archive and special collection materials will be easier to display. The new system is utilized by downloading one of the multiple Soltice apps to assure compatibility with most devices (Ipad, smart phone, tablet, laptop, etc.). Then using the device, the system provides a technology that replaces the functions of older document cameras and projectors, providing an enhanced visual environment for classes. Contact Judith Miller (Judith.Miller@valpo.edu) or Rebecca Ostoyich (Rebecca.Ostoyich@valpo.edu) for more details on this exciting new service.

Special Collections Librarian Judith Miller displays a Shan Buddhist scripture on rice paper from Monastery Shan Hill on the Archives Reading Room monitor while she is in the Special Collections Room.

2017 LibQual Survey

During January and February 2017, the library distributed a survey to Valpo undergraduates, graduate students, faculty and professional staff, to assess how well the library is meeting your needs. We received 535 valid survey responses, representing a wide range of departments and offices across campus.

On average, survey results tell us that the library is exceeding expectations in terms of spaces, collections and services. This was great news! Later this semester we will receive a detailed analysis of results from the Association of Research Libraries, the organization which administered the survey. This data will help us determine what we could do differently to serve the campus better.

We appreciate the honest feedback that was shared through the 170 open-ended comments. Many comments offered concrete suggestions for improving the library's building and services. These comments, along with the data, will help the library strategically plan how to move forward.

As the library takes action on the survey responses and comments, we will keep the campus informed. Continue to monitor the library website and this page for updates. We also want to thank our assessment committee for all its hard work.
Valpo Scholarship reaches Two Million Downloads

Valpo Scholar, Valpo's institutional repository, reached two million downloads during Christmas break, after less than six years of operation.

A law review article by Stephanie Kroeze ’16 J.D., “The FTC Won’t Let Me Be: The Need for a Private Right of Action Under Section 5 of the FTC Act,” was the two millionth download.

Since March 2011, Valpo Scholar has served as the central exchange for outstanding scholarship and creative work from faculty and students, as well as six professional journals and three student periodicals. The nearly 5,000 records are indexed in Google, Google Scholar, and other various search engines. The repository has helped Valpo's scholarship and publications reach all 50 states and more than 130 countries.

The Christopher Center Library Services and the Law Library jointly administer Valpo Scholar. Valpo Scholar can host and archive faculty and student scholarship, host and publish professional journals and e-monographs, curricular materials, and conference websites and proceedings.

For more information, please visit http://scholar.valpo.edu.

De-stress Week

The well being of our students is very important to us. The Christopher Center Library has offered both fall and spring semester de-stress weeks just before finals to help our students unwind a bit during much-needed study breaks. Over 690 students participated in our December activities. Spring CCLIR de-stress events are now being planned and will be coming the week of May 7th.

K-9 therapy dog visits are always a high priority request from our students during de-stress week.

Students enjoy building their own blanket forts in our second-floor fireplace lounge.
3D Virtual Reality Gaming

Our Spring 2017 Visbox Coordinator Chloe Witter provides some Oculus Rift instructions to our library media student worker.

Have you ever wondered just what goes on during one of our virtual reality gaming nights? Visbox Coordinator and Graduate Student Chloe Witter can answer your questions. Chloe is very knowledgeable about Visbox and Oculus Rift technology. In the past, we have hosted numerous classes, provided fundraising opportunities for fraternities such as Lambda Chi Alpha, and participated throughout the week of December and May De-stress events. To add to this fun opportunity, the Christopher Center provides the snacks and drinks for all gaming nights. Feel free to send Chloe an email with your questions or comments at Chloe.Witter@valpo.edu or contact Detra Becker at Detra.Becker@valpo.edu or call 219.464.5364 to learn how you or your organization may participate in one of our gaming nights.

Recent Faculty Publications and Presentations


Robison, M., Ivins, T., Bishop, C., McCallister, K., & Grigg, K. The library can do that?: Library services for transfer students. Session presented at the Annual Conference of the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students, Atlanta, GA. (February 2017).

Upcoming Spring Displays and Programs

Displays
LGBTQ Traveling Exhibit: 3/27-5/5
Fun Finals Week: 5/1 - 5/15
Sacred Dunes by Kari-Anne Innes: 5/12-5/22

Programs
Valpo Scholarship and Creative Works reception: 5/1
Art Purchase Award reception: 5/2
May De-stress Event: 5/7-5/13/2017

Support the Christopher Center Library
Click here to make a gift.
It is through the generous support of our donors that we are able to further the library’s mission.