Library Lines
POST LEARNING COMMONS
AND DREXEL LIBRARY
Spring 2015
Saint John’s Bible
Guide on the Side
New Resource: EEBO
From the Director

The Value of an Original in an Online World

There are many reasons an archive and special collections are invaluable to a university. Archives help preserve the history and legacy of the institution. Exhibits such as “The Hawk Over Time” connect Saint Joseph’s past with its current students. Special Collections and Archives are also a wonderful teaching tool, and the Internet has made access to such collections easier. A researcher no longer has to go to the National Archives in Washington, D.C. to view the Constitution, because the National Archives has a copy viewable online. Libraries and universities such as the New York Public Library, and the University of California, Berkeley have digitized and transcribed primary documents to make them more accessible to the public.

If so much is online, why bother with the original document? Well, not everything is online. In addition, there is something about seeing and holding the actual object. I remember working as an intern at the Guggenheim Museum in New York and coming across the surrealist publication from the 1930s, *Minotaure*. The magazine was in perfect condition and while I could have probably found a reproduction in a book, there was nothing like viewing the actual work. Color, material, and texture were a part of the viewing experience and that certainly would not have been conveyed through a computer screen.

In the *Archives and Special Collections*, we have a unique opportunity through two recent acquisitions. We received a donation of the two-volume limited edition Pennyroyal Caxton Bible. We also now own all seven volumes of the Heritage Edition of the Saint John’s Bible. Two volumes are displayed on campus — one on the first floor of the Post Learning Commons and one in the Chapel of Saint Joseph. In March, Saint Joseph’s University is hosting a presentation on the Saint John’s Bible from Eric Hollas, OSB. Father Hollas, a Benedictine monk and priest, was instrumental in commissioning the creation of the hand-written and illuminated Saint John’s Bible while he was the Executive Director of the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library at Saint John’s Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota. Saint Joseph’s University is the only university in the Philadelphia area to own a copy of the Heritage Edition of the Saint John’s Bible. Fr. Hollas will provide two talks. The first talk at 3:30pm is designed for students and we welcome faculty to bring their classes. The second talk at 7:00pm is open to the public.

The acquisition of the bibles, as well as the opportunity to hear from Fr. Hollas, is the perfect combination of the valuable objects and their practical use. We do not acquire these works so that we can hide them away. They are useful objects from which to learn, adding another dimension to what the Post Learning Commons and Drexel Library offers.

SPECIAL EVENT:
The Artist as Preacher

On Thursday, March 19th, at 7:00pm, Saint Joseph’s University is hosting a presentation in the Chapel of Saint Joseph-Michael J. Smith, S.J. Memorial by Eric Hollas, OSB, on the Saint John’s Bible. His presentation is titled “The Artist as Preacher: Conveying the Word of God through Art in the Saint John’s Bible.” Fr. Hollas, a Benedictine monk and priest, was instrumental in commissioning the creation of the hand-written and illuminated Saint John’s Bible while he was the Executive Director of the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library at Saint John’s Abbey. This special event is free and open to the public.
NEW Guide on the Side Tutorials (Beta)

This semester the Reference team is piloting our new tutorial program, Guide on the Side, in beta. It creates self-paced tutorials students can use to walk themselves through live database searching. Instructors can create directions that appear in a split screen to the left with a database or website on the right. (See below). Students are led through database searching at their own pace.

We have created two basic tutorials for EBSCO and ProQuest databases. Subject-specific and in-depth tutorials are on their way. These will be great as a refresher for students who have already visited the Library or for a class that does not have enough time to schedule a visit. Available from both on- and off-campus, students do not need anything except a current Internet browser and an SJU login.

Dan Holden, Serials/Electronic Resources Librarian

Daniel Holden ’08 was recently appointed to the position of Serials/Electronic Resources Librarian, managing all aspects of the print and electronic journals and databases collections as well as working at the Research Help desk and conducting library instruction sessions.

Dan began working in the SJU Library interlibrary loan (ILL) department as a student assistant in 2004 and became the full-time ILL Technician in 2008. While ILL makes use of many technological tools, much of the work cannot be performed without the human touch. Dan is experienced at tracking down hard-to-find materials and enjoys the satisfaction that comes with being able to help students and faculty do their research. He has also been working with the Library’s Popular Reading Collection and the Dr. Thomas Keefe American Popular Culture Collection.

As an alum, Dan notes, he has a personal interest in being part of the University’s successes. He enjoys the personal nature of the campus and looks forward to more of an engagement with the mission of education and to building out a network of working relationships across campus. His personal interests, aside from history, range far and wide — from petrochemicals to finance, from astronomy to the psychology of mindfulness — and he’s an avid fountain pen user.

Dan has a B.A. in History with minors in Medieval, Renaissance, and Reformation Studies and in Philosophy from Saint Joseph’s University. He earned an M.A. in History from Villanova University and an M.S. in Library Science from Clarion University. The combination of his background in ILL and research, his course studies and his understanding of the SJU mission will serve him well as he makes the transition to Serials/Electronic Resources Librarian.

Please join us in congratulating Dan on his new position!
125,000 Books: Early English Books Online

It is rare for a library to acquire 125,000 books in a single day, but that is exactly what the Library managed with its purchase of Early English Books Online (EEBO) in December. The history behind EEBO dates back to 1938, long before the first computer. In that year, University Microfilms International (UMI) began issuing films of the books catalogued in Pollard and Redgrave’s *Short-title catalogue of Books printed in England, Scotland, & Ireland and of English books printed abroad, 1475-1640* (1926).

In time, the UMI microfilm collection became a crucial purchase for major research libraries around the world, having expanded to include books printed through the year 1700. But the vast majority of universities were unable to afford this collection. In 1998, Early English Books Online began offering these microfilms on a digital platform, and subsequent initiatives have made 69,000 of these books fully searchable.

Students and faculty at Saint Joseph’s now have access to nearly every book printed in England or in English over a period of 225 years. At the click of a button, one can browse through all of the books printed in a given year, or search through 69,000 books for a particular word related to a research topic. EEBO has obvious importance for historians and literary scholars, but is no less useful for those working on philosophy, Reformation theology, languages, the translation of classical literature, or the history of science. For research in my field, EEBO is indispensable, and it will be an enormous help in the classroom and for undergraduates writing theses and applying to graduate school.

~~ Article contributed by Jason Powell, D.Phil., Associate Professor of English and Co-Director, Medieval, Renaissance and Reformation Studies Program

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A screenshot from “A Perfect Description of the Celestial Orbs” by Thomas Digges, the first English translation of Copernicus’s theories on the solar system. Digges appended it to an edition of his father’s Prognostication Everlasting in 1576.
Humans of the PAC

Humans of the PAC is an ongoing conversation with the people who use the resources, services, and space in the Post Academic Center (Post Learning Commons and Drexel Library). For more information about this series or to be featured in an upcoming issue, please contact Marian Courtney, Library Operations Manager, at (610) 660-1905.

Carole Metellus, Professional & Liberal Studies, Senior

What keeps you coming back to the Library?

As a student, the Library is the best place for me to be able to do my schoolwork, free of distractions and food temptations. It affords me a place to focus, study, and complete my work. I do like the balance of moderate austerity and comfort, however. Just enough of both to keep me productive. The temperature is just below comfort and just above distress so that I am able to propel myself to completion. I tend to stay late at the Library, “with all of the bright lights” knowing full well that if I were home I would have succumbed to going to bed, when schoolwork continued to pile.

I am also grateful for a very helpful, knowledgeable, and caring staff whose auspicious efforts afford me support on various occasions and in myriad ways.

What are you working on?

I am working on my senior year of coursework as a Professional and Liberal Studies student. Most of my time in the Library is spent on the computer, reading and researching course material, preparing blogs, and actually studying for exams or preparing for classes.

Do you have a favorite spot in the Library?

Several. Different ones for different tasks. Best computer spot is in the Digital Media Zone. But I cannot let out the secret on the best reading and studying spot so that it can remain the best kept secret until I graduate.

Kathleen Daniels, Educational Leadership, Ed.D. Candidate

What are you working on?

I am pursuing a Doctorate in Educational Leadership. Currently I am enrolled in Qualitative Research and Public Policy in Higher Education.

What keeps you coming back?

I like the atmosphere. I enjoy the people who work here. They make it easy if I have questions. It is the place to be for my homework and studies!

Do you have a favorite spot?

The station in the DMZ outside the Library Director’s office is my favorite. Even though it is an open space and I can watch people going back and forth, it seems private. No one is behind me, but I am not boxed in – there’s a window!
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:

**Pennyroyal Bible**

Thanks to a generous donation by Bruce and Suzie Kovner, Archives and Special Collections is pleased to announce the addition of the Pennyroyal Caxton Bible to our collection. This striking, two-volume Bible is the first King James Version of the Holy Bible to be illustrated by a single artist since 1865. Issued in a limited edition, with fine typography and printed on specially made papers bound in vellum, the illustrations are by Barry Moser.

For more information about SJU’s Pennyroyal Caxton Bible, Christopher Dixon, Archival Research Librarian, at (610) 660–2164.

Books Through Bars Book Drive

Books Through Bars is a nonprofit located in West Philadelphia staffed entirely by volunteers. They mail free books and educational materials to incarcerated people in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Jeanne Montgomery from External Affairs organized a campus book drive in collaboration with Stephanie Riley from the Library. 275 Books were donated!

The event was so successful that it will run through spring semester 2015, so please drop off your donations at the collection box in the atrium of the Library. Special thanks to Kheri Vance, Jeremy Alfano, and Joan Chrestay for their assistance and donations!

To reserve rooms/spaces for your meetings and events in the Post Academic Center, please contact Marian Courtney, Library Operations Manager, at (610) 660-1905.

New @Your Library

The following policies are now in effect for all SJU faculty and staff:

- **Popular Demand**
  Books from our Popular Reading collection (recently moved to the first floor of the Post Learning Commons) now have a loan period of **28 days** with **one** renewal for ALL patrons.

- **Renewal is only a click away**
  Library Courtesy Notices are now emailed three days before materials are due. We’ve included a link in the notice so you can immediately renew your SJU items online from any device. **PALCI/E-ZBorrow** items may be renewed here as well. (ILL items must still be renewed through **ILLiad**, but we’ve included that link too.)

- **In a hurry?**
  We know that you’re busy. If you need library materials held for pickup, please contact Susan Clayton, Circulation Services Manager, at (610) 660-1926. If the items are available, we’ll have them waiting for you!

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**Mission Statement:** Post Learning Commons and Drexel Library supports academic excellence by serving as the primary physical and virtual resource for information, research and information literacy education; creating a focal point for collaborative learning and a center for intellectual and cultural activity; providing excellent physical and virtual collections and services; and assuming a leading role in the development and integration of library technologies that enhance study, teaching, research and the academic reputation of the University.

sju.edu/library