



Library News

Niagara University
Library

Volume 4, Issue 2
Fall Semester 2004

Please Pardon Our “Virtual” Dust While We Upgrade Our Automation System This Fall!

The University continues its strong support of the Library by funding an **upgrade to our 15-year-old automation system**. A library automation system includes the functions that our users see such as the Library Catalog, but it also includes back office operations such as book ordering, journal check-in and cataloging. It is the heart of library operations, and an upgrade is a large undertaking. As a result of this upgrade, there will be several benefits to our users:



- New books will reach the shelf faster.
- Waiting times at the Circulation Desk will decrease.
- The Library Catalog will include images of book covers, tables of contents and book reviews.
- New types of searches will be available in the Library Catalog, thereby making the book collection more accessible.

We expect to cut over to the new system in mid-October. There may be some slight disruptions in service as we migrate -- please pardon our “virtual” dust! If you have any questions or comments about this upgrade, please contact **Joe Umhauer**, Head Cataloger/ Systems Administrator, at jumhauer@niagara.edu or **716-286-8015**.

Reference Librarian Kathleen DeLaney Named Niagara University Archivist

Part-Time Reference Librarian Kathleen M. DeLaney has been hired as **University Archivist**. She will be working, on average, one day per week in the Archives, located on the second floor of the Library.

Prior to coming to NU, she was Acting Archivist at the University at Buffalo where she curated the Love Canal Collection, the Women’s History Collection and other collections. She was also responsible for co-chairing the University Libraries efforts to commemorate the Centenary of the 1901 Pan-American Exposition. In addition to holding various grants, she was Archivist for the Library of Congress Local Legacies project to research and document the history of Buffalo’s Annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade; the results of that project are part of the permanent collection of the Library of Congress.

Kathleen is a member of the Society of American Archivists, Mid-Atlantic Archives Conference, and is a Board Member and Co-Chair of the New York State Archives Conference. She holds a BA in English from Canisius College; a BA in Arts and an MA in Anglo-Irish Studies from University College Dublin, Ireland; and an MLS from University at Buffalo. A frequent visitor to Ireland, her latest scholarly work relates to undocumented holy wells. The best way to reach Kathleen is via email at kmd@niagara.edu.

Staff News

- Congratulations to **Debbie Farrell** on her promotion to Circulation Department Coordinator. She replaces **Friedl Fuerst**, who retired in May 2004 after more than 27 years of service.
- Library Technician **Laura Bradum** became the fourth recipient of the Library’s Excellence in Customer Service Award in May 2004. Congrats!
- Congratulations to recently-graduated senior work study students **Shannon Lewis**, **Samantha Meyer**, **Stephanie Salato** and **Andrea Scherer** for being named the 2003/04 recipients of the Excellence in Library Service Award.



Please see page 3 for more staff news!

Niagara University Library
Lewiston Road
Niagara University, NY 14109

Library Hours
716-286-8000

Circulation and Reserve
716-286-8020

Reference Assistance
716-286-8022

Book/Periodicals Purchasing
716-286-8007

Cataloging
716-286-8015

Director's Office
716-286-8001

Interlibrary Loan
716-286-8013

FAX
716-286-8030

Web Site
www.niagara.edu/library

Email
reflib@niagara.edu

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Please direct comments about **Library News** to:

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Library Begins Trial Subscription to Academic Search Premier



The Library has initiated a year-long trial to **Academic Search Premier** via the EBSCOhost database system (www.niagara.edu/library/ebsco.html). Academic Search Premier, designed specifically for academic institutions, is the world's largest scholarly, multi-disciplinary, full-text database. It contains full text for more than 4,600 scholarly journals, including more than 3,500 peer-reviewed publications. In addition to the full text, this database offers indexing and abstracts for 8,040 journals.

Academic Search Premier provides full-text access to more journals in all fields than Academic Search Elite, our current main database. However, it especially provides access to more full-text journals in the sciences.

Here is a chart comparing Academic Search Elite with Academic Search Premier.

	Academic Search Elite (what we have been using)	Academic Search Premier (on trial)
Search Term		
Biochemistry	12,138 full-text articles	20,061 full-text articles
DNA	20,587 full-text articles	37,807 full-text articles
Stem cells	6,346 full-text articles	11,321 full-text articles
Cloning	3,957 full-text articles	6,229 full-text articles

The dilemma is that Academic Search Premier is very expensive -- \$14,000 per year. By trying it out for a year, we will be able to evaluate if usage justifies the cost.

If you have any comments about Academic Search Premier, please contact **Samantha Gust**, Reference/Interlibrary Loan Librarian & Webmaster at gust@niagara.edu or **716-286-8031**.

Have Questions? Get Answers!

The Library continues to participate in a pilot project for a nationwide program that provides "**chat**" **information and reference services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week**. You can obtain research assistance from academic reference librarians of participating libraries across the country - all you need is access to a computer with an Internet connection! Just visit www.niagara.edu/library/virtref.html and click the **Chat Live** link. If you have any questions or comments, please contact **Jonathan Coe**, Coordinator of Public Services, at jcoe@niagara.edu or **716-286-8005**.



Successful Library Technicians Conference at NU

Congratulations to our Library Technicians for organizing and hosting the **Spring 2004 WNY Library Assistants Conference** called **Decorating Your Workspace: Ways to Alter Your Workspace to Increase Productivity -- Everything from Organizing, Compacting Files and Decorating Your Space**. This successful conference took place in St. Vincent's Hall on May 20.



Database News

The Library's online subscription to **Encyclopedia Britannica** has been discontinued, but the Library still has access to **Funk & Wagnalls New World Encyclopedia via EBSCOhost**.

Available at: www.niagara.edu/library/fwag.html

The Library is once again providing access to **Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center**, a complete one-stop source for information on social issues. You can access viewpoint articles, topic overviews, statistics, primary documents, links to websites, and full-text magazine and newspaper articles.

Available at: www.niagara.edu/library/oppview.html

The Library has access to **Westlaw Campus** on a trial basis for one year. This database has laws, statutes, federal regulations and more.

Available at: www.niagara.edu/library/westlaw.html

Current NU students and employees may search most Library databases off campus by obtaining a user ID and password. There are several ways to do this. Choose the method that works best for you:

- If you are a student, **log into your myNU account**. The *Trouble logging in* link will tell you how to determine your first-time user name and password. After you login, click the *Resources* tab at the top of the page. Then look for the *Library* category. There you will see a link to *Passwords For Off-Campus Access to Library Databases*.
- Or **stop by the Reference Desk** and ask for a password sheet.
- Or call the Reference Desk at **716-286-8022**.
- Or send an email request to reflib@niagara.edu. Please remember to include your name and student ID number in your message. You should receive a reply within 24 hours.
- Or use the online form located at www.niagara.edu/library/reqpass.html. You should receive a reply within 24 hours.



Book News

The Library recently added the following reference books to its collection: **Encyclopedia of American Historical Documents** (Ref E173 .E54 2004), **Encyclopedia of the American Presidency** (Ref JK 51 I .G45 2004) and **Encyclopedia of Westerns** (Ref 1995.9 .W4 F27 2003). These books are shelved in the Reference Collection on the first floor of the Library but do not circulate.

Each month the Library publishes a list of new books added to the collection during the previous month. If you would like to be notified when the list is released each month, please enter your email address at www.niagara.edu/library/newbk.html.

There is an ongoing **Used Book Sale** in the Library. About 20 books are on sale at a time and are displayed on a table near the front entrance. Be sure to check it regularly!

Do you know of a book that you think the Library should acquire? Please tell us about it! If it is suitable for the collection, we will order it. Just complete the online form located at www.niagara.edu/library/bksugg.html. Thank you!

More Staff News

- Part-Time Reference Librarians **Michelle Dubaj** and **Ernarosa Tominich** and Part-Time Evening Circulation Supervisor **Kathryn Horner** left the University over the summer. We wish them well and thank them for their dedicated service.
- The office of **Adrienne E. Leibowitz**, Director of the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research, is located on second floor of the Library in Room 221. She can be reached via phone at **716-286-8339** or via email at ael@niagara.edu.

Did You Know?

In 2003-04, the Library provided **155** Library Instruction sessions (a 53% increase from 2002-03).

The Library obtained **1,498** items for our patrons via our Interlibrary Loan Service (a 5.6% increase from 2002-03).

The Library's 2003-04 Book Circulation was **25,172** (a 3.3% increase from 2002-03).

Comments?



If you have a comment about the Library, please write it in the **Comment Book**, located on the first floor near the Circulation Desk. You may also contact Library Director **David Schoen** at **716-286-8001** or schoen@niagara.edu.

Library Services

Hours of Operation

School Year

Monday-Thursday	8 am to Midnight
Friday	8 am to 8 pm
Saturday	10 am to 5 pm
Sunday	Noon to Midnight

Summer

Monday-Thursday	8 am to 9 pm
Friday	8 am to 4 pm
Saturday	10 am to 4 pm
Sunday	Closed

Visit the Library web site (www.niagara.edu/library) or call **716-286-8000** for exceptions to these hours during exam week, breaks, and holidays.

Reference Assistance

Reference Librarians are on duty during all the hours the Library is open to help you find information. The Reference Department also offers a **Reference Assistance by Appointment** program, which is designed to provide you with the undivided attention and assistance of a Reference Librarian. You may also ask questions via email at reflib@niagara.edu or by phone at **716-286-8022**.

Circulation Services

By presenting a valid Niagara University ID card, students of the University may **borrow and keep out up to 25 Library books**. The loan period is 28 days, and books may be **renewed one time** either in person, or by phoning the Circulation Desk at **716-286-8020**, or electronically via the **"My Account" module** of the Library Catalog. Overdue fines are **20 cents per book, per day**. The fee for a lost book is a **minimum of \$50.00** (expensive books can be more).

Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery

If the Library **does not own an item you need**, we can almost always obtain it for you from another Library. This is called **Interlibrary Loan**. Please remember to start your research early enough so that you can take advantage of this service. If you wish to **obtain an article from a journal, magazine, or newspaper that the Library owns**, we will photocopy the article for you and send it to you. This is called **Document Delivery**. You can submit your request for materials electronically on the Library web site: www.niagara.edu/library/docdel.html

Borrowing Books From Other Libraries

There are two ways to obtain a book that Niagara University Library does not own. You can use the Library's Interlibrary Loan System, or you can make use of the **Library Access Project**, which will allow you to go to and check out books from other college libraries in Western New York. You can get a special card to do this at Niagara University Library's Reference Desk. It is called a **LAP** or **INFOPASS** card and will allow you to check out books from most of the college libraries in Western New York.

Study Rooms and Vending Machines

There is a **silent study room** located on the second floor of the Library to the right with tables, comfortable chairs and study carrels. There are **two group study rooms**. One is the **Study Abroad Room**, located on the second floor to the right. This room features a collection of materials on studying, living and traveling abroad as well as comfortable seating. The other **group study room** is located on the basement level of the Library to the left. **Vending machines** are located on the second floor to the left.

Fax Service

The Library can send or receive your **personal faxes up to 10 pages** in length. Please go to the Reference Desk and talk to a Reference Librarian to initiate this process.

Computer Training Lab

The Library maintains a **Computer Training Lab** on the basement level of the building to the right. It is used to **train students how to use Library databases to do research**. But when it is not being used for training purposes, the room is available for **students to work individually** using Library databases, the Internet, or Microsoft Office. The Lab is equipped with a networked printer.

Access to Databases From Outside the Library

In an attempt to make your research easier and more convenient, the Library provides **remote access** through the World Wide Web to most of its database subscriptions. Please see www.niagara.edu/library/onlres.html. Most of the databases do not require a password if you are connecting from anywhere on campus. If you are **connecting from home** via your own Internet Service Provider, you will need to obtain **passwords** from a Reference Librarian.

Contact Us

Mail: Niagara University Library
Lewiston Road
Niagara University, NY 14109

Web: www.niagara.edu/library
Email: reflib@niagara.edu
Phone: 716-286-8000