

The Informer

INAUGURAL NEWSLETTER

M C H E N R Y C O U N T Y C O L L E G E L I B R A R Y
R E F E R E N C E D E P A R T M E N T

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MARGINALIA:

- Library hours:
M-Th 8 am—9:30 pm
Fri 8 am—4:30 pm
Sat 8 am—2:30 pm
CLOSED:
Thanksgiving
Recess:
NOV 21-24
DEC 15 Graduation

Winter Break hours:
DEC 17-DEC 22
8 am—4:30 pm
CLOSED:
DEC 24-JAN 1 2008

JAN 2-JAN 12
8 am—4:30 pm

- [Library Homepage](#)
- [Library Class Handouts](#)

BANNED BOOKS WEEK 2007

This year the MCC Library celebrated Banned Books Week (BBW) Sept 29-Oct 6 by hosting a few events at the library. The week started with a

Brown Bag Lunch open event at the library featuring an overview of the American Library Association's (ALA) annual Banned Books Week. Reference Librarian, Cynthia Letteri presented background on the terminology of BBW as well as historical events

from the past that have threatened writers, publishers, libraries, and the freedom to read.

Next at the library the award-winning MCC Forensics Team performed selections from the ALA's Banned Books Week list. Faculty spon-

sor/speech instructor, Bonnie Gabel led informal group discussions of themes in the performances and issues of censorship.



Coffee with Colleagues at the MCC Library, dubbed "Banned Bagel Day" in recognition of Banned Books Week 2007

The library also hosted the weekly *Coffee with Colleagues*, affectionately known as *Bagel Day*. This year the library proclaimed the get-together "*Banned Bagel Day*"! "We wondered if anyone would notice the temporary name change," said Cynthia. "You know, exercise your Intellectual Freedom to create whatever bagel/spread combo you want . . ." Along with the campus bookstore the library showcased reading material that has been challenged and sometimes banned for a variety of reasons.

Be sure to watch for next year's event, always celebrated the last week in September, when the ALA will celebrate it's 27th annual event and MCC Library will again celebrate the freedom to read.

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INFORMATION LITERACY AS GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOME

The librarians at MCC are very excited that Information Literacy was selected as one of the five General Education Outcomes for our students. In this information-driven world, the ability to find and use appropriate information effectively is vital. Our formal Information Literacy Program (see next page for description) is already in place to serve as the cornerstone for information literacy instruction on our campus. However, information literacy is larger than the Library. We look forward to working with our fellow faculty to infuse this essential lifelong learning skill more fully into the curriculum.

PAGE ONE FOOTNOTE:

Kudos to Collection Development Librarian, Joan Perlman, and the entire Library staff for the successful Board of Nursing site visit at MCC Library October 18th. More on the library's support for this program in our Spring issue!

BOOKMARK THIS: INFORMATION LITERACY

Information Literacy is the ability to recognize when information is needed and to locate, evaluate, and use information effectively. The MCC Library has integrated an information literacy program into the transfer curriculum with three eighty-minute sessions, one each in MCC 101, ENG 151, and ENG 152. Basic information navigation skills (for both the physical and virtual library) are covered in MCC 101,

evaluation of information sources in ENG 151, and more advanced research skills (the research process, database searching techniques, etc.) in ENG 152.

These sessions are supplemented by instruction and handouts geared to specific research assignments in other transfer courses. The librarians also work with instructors in occupational programs to integrate into their courses the information literacy skills particularly

needed in their disciplines. The librarians are also happy to assist instructors in the development of effective research assignments. Contact the Library Reference Department at 455-8762 to discuss the information literacy needs of your students. You may also want to stop by and visit us!

On six Saturdays, Janet Scott will again offer "Information Literacy for Educators" through Aurora University

at MCC. JAN 12, 26, FEB 2, 16, MAR 1, 15 2008.

For more information on Janet's "Information Literacy for Educators" course, [visit her webpage](#) for details.



Reference Librarian, Janet Scott, reads banned books when not teaching information literacy.



Meet Noam N. Clayture. He reads banned books when no one is looking!

"If we knew what we were doing, it wouldn't be called research, would it?"--
Albert Einstein

Among the many services the reference librarians offer to faculty is the invitation to consult with a librarian when creating a research assignment. In this way, librarians will be able to inform instructors of the various resource types available to students for research and may be able to pinpoint topics that might need additional resources. Librarians may also suggest that certain items be

put on reserve for use within the library or two day checkout to ensure many students gain access to limited resources.

By discussing a research assignment during the planning stages, librarians can offer assistance in matching the assignment to the skill level of the students. Matching appropriate resource for-

mats to the type of research is also a suggestion the librarians may give in designing a research assignment.

As always, the reference librarians are very happy to meet with you or talk to you to discuss any instruction or handouts you may need for specific research assignments. Contact us at 815.455.8762, email us, or stop by the Reference Department.

WORKS CITED: WHAT WE'VE BEEN READING

One of the most common comments to librarians is "Oh, how lucky, you get to read books all the time!" We read lots of information in many different formats, but when we do choose leisure reading here's what you might find in our tote bags or on our bedside tables.

Janet Scott likes mysteries and non-fiction and is now

reading *Bones to Ashes* by Kathy Reichs and just finished *A New Human* by archaeologist M. J. Morwood. Cynthia Letteri prefers literature, non-fiction, biographies and historical fiction. Currently she is on a Tudor kick and is reading *Catherine of Aragon* by historian Garrett Mattingly and *Six Wives: the Queens of Henry VIII* by historian David Starkey.

Joan Perlman is currently reading *Yiddish Policeman's Union* by Michael Chabon. Joan Kapstein raves about *Infidel*, by Ayaan Hirsi Ali. Amanda Hovious just completed Nicholas Sparks' *True Believer*. Terri Norstrom enjoys fantasy and historical fiction and is reading *The Deception of the Emerald Ring* by Lauren Willig. We are always ready to talk a

good read if you like to share thoughts on your favorite authors, books and articles!



Caveat lector (let the reader beware). Reference Librarian Cynthia Letteri peruses a banned book to see what all the fuss is about.

SEE ALSO: LIBRARY FACULTY SUPPORT