

Reed Library News

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From the Desk of the Director

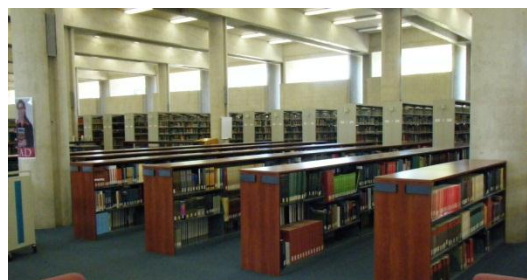
Randolph Gadikian, Director

Over the past two years some subtle and not so subtle changes have occurred in the layout of Reed Library. These changes are early phases of the creation of an [Academic Commons](#) environment in Reed Library. While the physical progress appears to have taken place in fits and starts, the concept of an Academic Commons has been a part of Reed Library planning for a number of years.

Phase one consisted of familiarization of the library faculty and staff with the commons concept, through readings, site visits, conference attendance and working with a library design consultant. Phase two consisted of the replacement of the old reference desk and the creation of a proctor work area / printer kiosk. Phase three could be said to be the creation of a more user friendly reference area by installing low shelving. Occasionally opportunities to jump ahead in the process will occur, and phases will overlap. Such is the case with the installation of research islands and the replacement of 100 terrible chairs with better chairs made available by the closure of the Williams Center. In the coming months the Commons conceptual planning document will be available for viewing on the new, low reference shelving.

Facilities

The **reference collection** and the reference area underwent a much needed transformation over the summer. New titles, both print and electronic have been added while numerous items have been moved to open stacks. The reference collection now resides on low-shelving creating a more user friendly space that both showcases our collection and improves the air circulation in the building.



Additionally, **print magazines and journals** once shelved behind circulation are now available for perusal in the reference area. In addition to our scholarly titles, we've added favorites such as *Newsweek*, *Wired*, *MS*, *Sports Illustrated* and *Rolling Stone*.



Reed Library has created an archipelago of study spaces equipped with outlets and whiteboards. Five **Research Islands** are located on the first floor scattered among the stacks, while two more are located on the music balcony.

"Fredonia for St. Jude," an S.A. group which raises money for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, donated their first place prize of **iMacs** to Reed Library. Four iMacs have been installed by the reference desk while an additional cluster of four has been installed on the music balcony. Our thanks go to Meagan Allers, Fredonia of Saint Jude chapter president and Jean Michelli-Pendl, faculty advisor.



Reed Library has three **group study rooms** that can accommodate up to six people. Two rooms are equipped with PCs, wireless keyboards, a scanner and a white board, while the third has a large wall mounted **flat panel display** equipped with appropriate cables to support the use of laptop computer. These rooms can be reserved by students or faculty for occasional use to work on group projects, practice presentations or hold meetings. Preference is given to student users. Please sign up for study rooms at the circulation desk.

Caldecott and Newbery award winning books have been moved to a shelving area in the second floor study bar of the Carnahan-Jackson Center.

Reed Library has revamped its **Library Instruction classroom** to be a dual-use facility for both Library Instruction classes and Professional Development Center events. The library instruction space was recently updated with 24 new laptop computers for student use during library research classes. The classroom computers additionally will be available for hands-on technology training sessions sponsored by the PDC. A portion of the classroom space also has been outfitted for PDC events featuring roundtable and small group discussions, with internet and projection available. Due to the high volume of library classes and PDC events, the space is not open for other uses at this time.

To view the full schedule of PDC events, visit: <http://fredonia.edu/pdc/>

In addition to regularly scheduled reference desk hours the reference staff is available for **scheduled research consultations**. To schedule a research appointment with a librarian please visit: http://www.fredonia.edu/library/Indiv_Instruction.asp.

Collections

Reader's Guide Retrospective brings an old favorite to the 21st Century! This new electronic resource gives access to the Reader's Guide print Indexes from 1890-1982, giving remote and online users access to popular press materials indexed during this time period. An advantage to the online includes a link to Article Linker to check for full-text availability and direct links to the Time Magazine Archive.

Oxford's Very Short Introductions series has come to Reed. The VSI collection offers concise, original introductions to a wide range of subjects. Each volume in this series provides trenchant and provocative-yet always balanced and complete-discussions of the central issues in a given discipline or field. Very Short Introductions are shelved in a carousel behind the reference desk. These books are available for checkout on a normal three week loan.

On Trial Now....Reed Library has a semester-long trial to **EBSCO Discovery Service**. Called *Discover* on the Library's home page, this tool allows researcher to explore all of Reed Library's information sources through a single search box. Information from our catalog and our numerous databases are now indexed directly on the



TRIAL --DISCOVER: Search Databases and the Catalog

Search

EBSCO*host* servers allowing for exceptionally fast search response times, and the ability to leverage the familiar powerful features of the EBSCO*host* user interface across all resources.

Although the resulting collection is massive in size and scope it offers users the ability to see what's out there on a topic first, and then narrow their topic in a variety of ways, eliminating the need to know the intricacies of each database interface. The future is here....please give us your feedback.

Services

Faculty and staff can now photocopy library materials on the copier in the circulation work room. Please fill out the faculty copy log for statistical purposes.

Reasonable printing of microfilm on the old reader/printers is now free of charge. Please remember that the microfilm machines are old, fragile and expensive. Please ask for help at the Circulation Desk if you need assistance.

Microfilm images can now be saved electronically. See the instruction sheet in the microforms room or ask for instructions at the circulation counter.

All music circulation functions have been relocated to the **Circulation Desk** on the library's main floor.

Library Instruction Scheduling for Spring 2012:

Thanks to all of you who submitted your Fall Semester library instruction requests prior to August 1st deadline. Getting your requests in early has enabled our teaching librarians to better prepare for a busy semester. We would like to continue this scheduling model for Spring 2012 and are currently accepting class requests for the upcoming semester. To schedule library instruction, please visit: <http://www.fredonia.edu/library/LibInstReq.asp> Questions? Contact Dawn.Eckenrode@fredonia.edu

Our **Big Read** author is Edgar Allan Poe. We will be reading the short stories and POetry of Poe in Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties. Planned events include activities at public libraries throughout the two county region; [Mat Johnson](#), author of *Pym: A Novel* will be giving a talk titled "Pym: Poe's Gauntlet" at the 1891 Fredonia Opera House on October 27th at 7:30; and a county-wide [POetry contest](#) for all ages is underway. For the schedule of events, please visit: <http://www.fredonia.edu/bigread/>