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## Myrin Library News, Vol. 21 No. 1, September 2008

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**Reference Desk Hours  
Fall 2008:**

**Monday**

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Tuesday—Friday**

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Sunday**

BY APPOINTMENT

IM Diane At her Screenname,  
Calyamity.

For all library hours, visit:  
<http://myrin.ursinus.edu/about/hours.htm>

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<http://myrin.ursinus.edu>



# The Myrin Library News



## Myrin's Website Gets a Facelift! New Library System to be Implemented January 2009

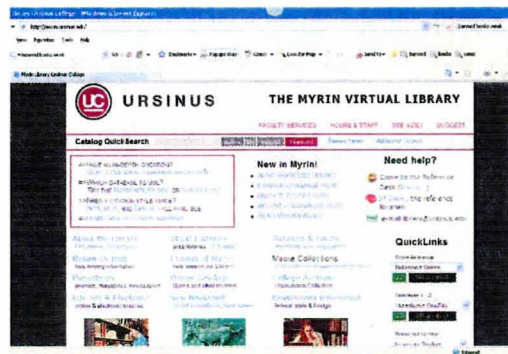
If you haven't noticed yet, Myrin's Website got a facelift over the summer! Much of the content remains the same, and we hope you like the new look. We've updated our "Need Help?" section: please don't hesitate to direct your students there to IM or e-mail a librarian for help with their research. The new website also highlights our Audio Books collection and new acquisitions lists.

Many of the back pages are still in the process of being updated, but feel free to send us suggestions as we continue to make changes. We need your input. E-mail dskorina with comments.

In conjunction with our new homepage, the system migration from our 20 year old technology has begun! Kerry Gibson, David Mill and Maureen Damiano are hard at work participating in training

Webinars so that we can transfer our vast amount of data to the new, more robust system that will integrate library systems and ultimately make things easier for you. The new system should be up in January of 2009. It will not only look better,

but there will be more efficient back-end integration, access to a list of all journals the library subscribes to and more robust search capabilities. Stay tuned!



### From the Director...

By Charlie Jamison



The staff of the Myrin Library warmly welcomes the class of 2012 and all returning students, faculty and staff.

We have had a busy summer at Myrin and in this first issue of our newsletter you will read about some exciting changes: a new and improved library website that features a library blog; a new flagship online database, Academic OneFile; and our fledgling audio books collection. You will also read about upcoming events in the Myrin Library such as our Banned Books Week and Now on View, a monthly film screening series we're hosting in conjunction with the Art Department. And we've also had some staffing changes.

As always, feel free to send your comments, concerns and suggestions about Myrin Library to me at [cjamison@ursinus.edu](mailto:cjamison@ursinus.edu)

Good luck to everybody as our Fall semester gets underway. This is your Library-- please use it to its fullest.

## Staff News

**Dominique de St. Etienne** joined the Myrin Library as InterLibrary Loan Supervisor in May. Dominique worked for 6 years in the Audiovisual Department of the Library at Montgomery County Community College both at the circulation desk and processing AV materials. She had just started working in the InterLibrary Loan Department when we snatched her up for Ursinus.

Dominique came to the United States from France in 1997. She ran a family business until her husband was transferred here for work.

Dominique has 4 children and enjoys reading, making jewelry, and running. (She's lucky to live at a walking distance from Audubon Loop). We're happy to have her with us and this summer she has already proved a great asset to the Library. She can be reached at detienne.

**David Mill** will become a part-time staff member at Myrin Library beginning September 1. He will primarily focus on the system migration throughout the Fall. He will still serve as liaison to the science departments, but he will no longer be involved with Reference and teaching (contact Diane for questions that relate to these aspects). He and Diane will share responsibility for the website. You can continue to reach him at [dmill@ursinus.edu](mailto:dmill@ursinus.edu).

David also had his article published in the July 2008 issue of the journal *College & Research Libraries*. Congratulations David!

**Diane Skorina** presented with **Jean Bennett** at the ASCUE 2008 conference and the TCLC Annual Program on their collaborative efforts. They'll be teaming up again at the Pennsylvania Library Association Conference in November. Diane is also speaking on the Pennsylvania Folklife Society Collection in September. In more tech-y news, Diane has attended 2 conferences in 2nd Life, one on literature and one on copyright, exploring ways to use this new technology.

## Banned Books Week September 27—October 4

*The following is an excerpt from Lindsay Sakmann's paper "The Dangers of Censorship," which she wrote for her Communications class. Lindsay will be curating our annual banned books exhibit this year for October.*

Why are certain books considered controversial and who decides this? There are several movements of grass roots organizations that believe it is their job to police and determine what is suitable for not only their children when it comes to books but also, what every other child in the library reads too. One of these grass root organizations calls themselves Family Friendly Libraries (FFL)... The FFL believes that parents should have the right to prevent their children from taking out certain books from certain collections; they also believe that parents should have access to their children's library records and they believe with the regard to public school libraries that parents should have input on the books that are acquired by the library. They put a large emphasis on parental permission slips which they believe should be required for children to access certain collections in their library.

It may seem that FFL has good intentions but censorship is a very slippery slope .... When a person delves deeper into the information that FFL presents they will discover that the FFL supports "Emphasis on Traditional Family -- That the most important and superior unit of civil society is the

traditional family, i.e. a mother and father married to each other, committed to a lifetime monogamous relationship and to caring responsibly together for their children." The FFL lets these beliefs color their view of how public and school libraries should be. ....

Throughout history whenever people have taken it upon themselves to determine what books should be banned or labeled as controversial, some of the most far reaching reasons for challenging books occur. For example, in 1978 a library in Eldon, Missouri banned the *American Heritage Dictionary* because it contained objectionable words such as "bed," "knockers" and "balls." The Illinois Police Association in 1977

encouraged librarians to remove the book *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* because the IPA did not like that fact that the book's characters were animals, and more specifically that the police in the story were the pig characters (banned-books.com). The book *The Lovely Bones* and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night* were removed from an *optional* summer reading list by an Ohio high school even though the parent who complained had not read one of the novels (National Coalition Against Censorship).

*The Forbidden Library* is a website created by Janet Yanosko who is a librarian at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, and maintained by her until 2005. She created this site to track incidents of book challenges. She notes many outrageous but real

(Continued on page 3)

ASCUE



ACRL Association of College & Research Libraries

Four members of the Alabama State Textbook Committee wanted Ann Frank: *Diary of a Young Girl* removed because they believed it was a real "downer."



## New In Myrin! Audio Books, Film Lists, a Blog & a Database Upgrade

**Audio Books:** Myrin now has an Audio Book Collection! We've got an eclectic mix of audio books including classics like *The Inferno*, *The Great Gatsby*, *To the Lighthouse* and Sherlock Holmes to more modern works, like *The Kite Runner*, Stephanie Meyer's Vampire trilogy and Clive Cussler's *Plague Ship*. There's also some Shakespeare, some poetry, *The Voice of the Buddha*, and a good selection of non-fiction, including *How To Win Friends and Influence People*, *The Tipping Point*, *Freakonomics* and *The Omnivore's Dilemma*. There's some history, too — McCullough's *John Adams* and Jeffrey Toobin's *The Nine* are all there. Plus more! Come in and browse around or check out the online list on our website.

If you have suggestions for Audio Book titles to include, please e-mail them to Charlie Jamison @ cjamison.

**Films List:** Looking for a list of films in French, German, Spanish, or Japanese? Take a look at the list on our website under the "Foreign Language Films" link. You can use this url, too: [http://myrin.ursinus.edu/foreign\\_films/films\\_french\\_a-z.asp](http://myrin.ursinus.edu/foreign_films/films_french_a-z.asp). We hope this is helpful!

**Blog:** We'll be keeping up a BLOG here in the library, which is available as a link from our website! During the year, library students and librarians will contribute updates about the library and other items of interest. Keep an eye out for Lindsay Sakmann's Banned Book Week entries.

### *Banned Books, cont'd*

examples that illustrate the subjectivity that can color people's desire to challenge or ban books. Four members of the Alabama State Textbook Committee wanted *Ann Frank: Diary of a young girl* removed because they believed it was a real "downer." Martin Hanford's *Where's Waldo* was challenged at the Public Libraries of Saginaw Michigan for containing nudity. Apparently they were offended by a tiny picture of a woman lying on her stomach without her bikini top. A well known Dr. Seuss book *The Lorax* was challenged on the basis that it criminalized the foresting industry. Finally, the book *My Friend Flicka* was challenged because a character refers to a female dog as a bitch.

**Databases:** InfoTrac's Expanded Academic ASAP database has grown! It's now called Academic Onefile, so look for that in our Databases A-Z list. This upgraded database contains more than 12,000 academic journals, most peer-reviewed and in full text. You'll find the full text of the *New York Times* and the *London Times* from 1985, as well as the *Financial Times* from 1996. This database continues to be our best starting place for all subjects from English and Philosophy to Psychology and Sociology to Biology and Physics.

Please do make sure your students are aware of this database! And of course, as always, send them over to us if they need help finding any information.



In other news, **SciFinder Scholar** is now available from off campus on the Brownbear terminal server. When working off-campus, log into the VPN before logging onto the Brownbear Remote Terminal Service. Just use the "Regular ID" for your login. Both the VPN and Brownbear are accessed via a shortcut on all laptops' desktops. Be sure to save search results to a network drive (M: or R:) or to the drive space on Brownbear (W:). Also, don't forget to log off by clicking the "Exit" button when finished searching, since we share logins with other colleges. Contact David at dmill with any questions.

**Academic OneFile**

*Academic Onefile provides access to more than 12,000 academic journals, most peer-reviewed and in full text. This upgrade from Expanded Academic is a major improvement for Myrin.*

### Liaisons

**Charlie Jamison** is the Liaison for:

Art & Art History  
Environmental Studies  
Philosophy & Religion

**Kerry Gibson** is the Liaison for:

Dance/Theater  
Government Documents  
Modern Languages  
Music

**Diane Skorina** is the Liaison for:

African American Studies  
American Studies  
Classics  
Business & Economics  
East Asian Studies  
Education  
English  
Exercise & Sport Science  
Gender & Women Studies  
History  
Media & Communications  
Politics & IR  
Sociology/Anthropology

**David Mill** is the Liaison for:

Biochemistry  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Math and Computer Science  
Neuroscience  
Physics  
Psychology



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Visit us on the web at:

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### The Myrin Library News

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Director: Charles A. Jamison  
Editor: Diane Skorina  
Web Edition: Diane Skorina &  
David Mill

## Upcoming Events: First Fridays, Screenings, & Exhibits

**NOW ON VIEW: A selection of seminal and contemporary multi-disciplinary arts projects on video and film.**

7-9 p.m. September 3, October 1, November 5, and December 3.

On the first Wednesdays of every month, Myrin will be hosting screenings of artists' films, many of which are a part of our collection, in Jazzman's Café. Grab a coffee and a snack, sit back and enjoy the show!



**"Applying Fair Use Doctrine to Colleges and Universities" Web Conference**

October 10, 2008 1—2:30 p.m.  
Hosted jointly by the Library and the IT department in Pfhaler Auditorium. Contact [jbennett](mailto:jbennett@ursinus.edu) or [dkorina](mailto:dkorina@ursinus.edu) for more information, and stay tuned for e-mail updates!

**Upcoming exhibits:**

September 2008: Summer Fellows projects on display!

October 2008: Lindsay Sakmann, '09, will curate our

Summer Fellows



Banned Books exhibit.

*In the Archives:* Student Mary Massey's exhibit links buildings on campus and the person each is named after, whether a benefactor or a distinguished professional.

### Staff Recommendations

When a recommendation is available in the library, the call number and floor location are noted after the title.

**Denise Hartman** recommends *The Twilight Series* by Stephanie Meyer. She's never read anything about vampires or werewolves and didn't think she ever would — so she was surprised to find these books so compelling that she couldn't put them down. A great read — or listen! Myrin has all four available in its Audio Book collection: #s 66, 25, 68 & 81.

**Diane Skorina** read Virginia Woolf all summer. Her brain expanded and then exploded several times. Her favorites are *The Voyage Out*, *Mrs. Dalloway*, *To the Lighthouse*, *Orlando* and *The Waves*. And she still has *The Years* and *Between the Acts* to go [most of Woolf's material can be found at 823.912 W — but check the catalog]. In any event, she has enjoyed the intensity and recommends it to all. She's also determined to finish *Infinite Jest*, though the jury's still out on whether she will recommend it...Oh, and Season 5 of *THE WIRE* is here in the library on DVD (along with seasons 1-4).

**Dominique de St. Etienne**, our new ILL manager, recommends some titles from her home country by Anna Gavalda — *Ensemble c'est tout* & *La consolante* — and Muriel Barbery — *Une gourmandise* and *L'elegance du herisson* (which translates as *The Elegance of The Hedgehog*). She also suggests the French films *Tell No One* and *Persepolis*.

**Charlie Jamison** has enjoyed getting back into a hobby of his this summer — organic gardening. His first season of growing flowers and vegetables in his backyard garden in Pottstown has been quite successful thanks to two books he recommends that we have in the Myrin collection: *How To Grow Vegetables Organically* [635 C839] and *The Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening* [REF 631.58 En19].

### FROM THE STACKS by Lindsay Sakmann ('09)



Greetings fellow bibliophiles! I hope everyone had a great summer! I want to start off with something fun and light hearted to help ease us into the school year. And so I give you *Blind Submission* by Debra Ginsberg. The main character, Angel Robinson, is happily employed at an independent book store called Blue Moon. Unfortunately, Blue Moon goes the way of many independent book stores and closes, leaving Angel without a job. Her boyfriend, whom she met in Blue Moon, suggests a job at the Lucy Finnaman Literary Agency. Lucy's literary agency exploded in popularity after the release of an autobiography by Kranuk, an Inuit author, called *Cold!* Angel gets hired but finds out that Lucy is not the easiest boss to work for. Lucy becomes more demanding after Angel picks out a best seller by Italian author Damiano Verano. Damiano's work, about drug addicts and the park where they hang out, is an instant hot seller. Angel does not think much of Lucy's demands until one morning she has the unfortunate experience of showing up before the other employees and sees her boss topless! On top of this there is a manuscript that is being sent in by an anonymous author that seems to chronicle Angel's life. Angel's boyfriend also causes problems because he is an aspiring author and is constantly pressuring her to just "show" Lucy his book. The cast of secondary characters that Angel works with that add humor to the book. I enjoyed this book. It was a little bit like *The Devil Wears Prada* but with more of a mystery and more quirkiness. It is not a heavy novel and is perfect to help get yourself back into reading mode for the school year! As always if you think there is anything I need to review you can reach me at [Lisakmann@ursinus.edu](mailto:Lisakmann@ursinus.edu) until then HAPPY READING!!!