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Welcome to the Fall 2011 Issue of the Hostos Library Newsletter!

Welcome to the *Hostos Library Newsletter!* Whether you are faculty, student or staff, we'll help you keep up-to-date about the library's latest acquisitions, programs, workshops, & resources.

Two New Library Workshops Help Students Learn All About the Library & How to Build a Positive Online Reputation on Facebook

This semester, the Hostos Library was proud to introduce two new workshops to the Library's rich catalog of offerings: *Know Your Library* and *Facebook: Building Your Online Reputation*.

"Know Your Library" allows students who have never used an academic library before to become acquainted with its many resources," said Interim Chief Librarian Madeline Ford.

The new workshop focuses on the basics: where Circulation, Reserves, Reference and other important areas are located; how to print and copy material; how to do a basic search for a book using CUNY+; understanding call numbers; how to borrow material, including DVDs, laptops and calculators; and other information not covered in other Library workshops.

"This class gives students their first impression of the library and they learn how to empower themselves in search-



ing for information," said Prof. Tang. "By demystifying the research process, students will find the library less intimidating."

Though today's students have gotten used to being inundated with information at their fingertips, understanding the difference between types of resources and the quality of those resources remains a challenge.

"Students still need guidance in this area and this workshop is a good start for them to start asking questions," she added. Students are also reminded that, outside of workshops, reference librarians are always available to answer any questions they might have.

The second workshop, entitled "Facebook & You: Protecting Your Online Reputation" (the title is subject to change next year) came out of a COBI project created by Prof. Tang and Ms. Sarah Brennan, Assistant Director of CTL.

"This workshop will broaden next year to include social networking sites in general, such as LinkedIn and Twitter," explained Prof. Tang. "What I teach in this class, however, is applicable to all these sites: identifying ways to project a positive image of yourself in cyberspace and avoiding the pitfalls of indiscriminate posting."

(Continued on page 5)

Library Announcements

Information Literacy Workshops Now Offered Online

This semester, for the first time, the library began offering online versions of our information literacy workshops through Blackboard.

“Keys to Database Searching” was offered four times and “Finding Articles” class was given twice during the Fall semester. On weekdays, the workshops were open 7 a.m. to 8:45pm while a Saturday workshop was offered from 8 am to 3 pm.

Instead of having to sign up for an information literacy workshop and struggle to fit the workshop into their busy schedules, the online format now

freed Hostos students from the inconvenience of traveling to a class. They could now log into the workshop at any time throughout the day, completing tasks at their convenience. On their end, librarian instructors logged in throughout the day to respond to discussion board posts and student questions. Busy Hostos students who attended the online workshops were able to learn information literacy and research skills from anywhere.

All workshops were fully registered although not all registered students completed the workshops. Student comments

were uniformly enthusiastic: “I thought the online workshop was GREAT! I got to do it at home by myself and really concentrate and focus on what I was learning. And I really liked how the Librarian answered all of my questions pretty fast. I wish there were more FULLY online workshops!” One student commented that this workshop was her first introduction to Blackboard.

Librarian instructors benefited from the experience of teaching online. We are able to assess student learning in ways that are not possible in a short, single session workshop. We

also connected with individual students, responding to their specific concerns through email in the context of an organized lesson. We hope that these individual connections will encourage students to come back and use the library for future research.

Although we are still experimenting with format and process, look for more online workshops during spring semester.

—Prof. Kate Lyons

New Statistics Show Growing Number of Hostos Faculty Require Library Workshops

This semester we revised the evaluation surveys that students fill out online at the end of each of our library workshops for both the “open” and course-related workshops. We were able to add a new question asking students which faculty members and/or courses required them to attend the workshop. Students who remembered their teachers’ names (as opposed to just the course name or number) mentioned:

English Dept.: 34 individual faculty members were named; scores of students just mentioned Eng. 091, 110 or 111.

Biology: 5 faculty members were named and several dozen students mentioned Biology or Microbiology. (It should be noted that several Bio faculty brought their students to course-related workshops, and at least half of the total number of students attending a library workshop were in these course-related workshops as a group).

VPA: 3 faculty members were named and 24 others mentioned just “VPA.”

EDU: 3 faculty members named and more than a dozen mentioned just “EDU”

The following departments were represented by 1-2 named faculty requiring a workshop: Legal Studies, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Health, Nursing, Dental Hygiene and Criminal Justice.

We know that the English department requires two library workshops per course, so we were not surprised that they dominate the list. However, we were pleased to see that quite a few faculty from other academic departments also require our workshops. We hope that the trend will continue. We also hope that if you have any questions or suggestions regarding our workshops and acceptable substitutions for the in-person workshops (such as our online tutorials and new Blackboard-based library workshops), that you will contact Prof. Miriam Laskin (mlaskin@hostos.cuny.edu). We read your students feedback very carefully and are grateful for it. If you have feedback about our instruction program, we hope you will contact us.

- Prof. Miriam Laskin

New Books & DVDs!



Extreme Weather

Tom Streissguth

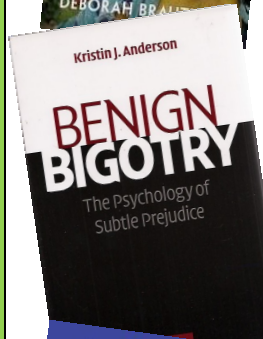
Streissguth explores the effects of global warming on human health, examining the impacts of extreme cold snaps; issues arising from aridity; the health dangers posed by hurricanes and floods; and more.



The Dragon's Gift

Deborah Brautigam

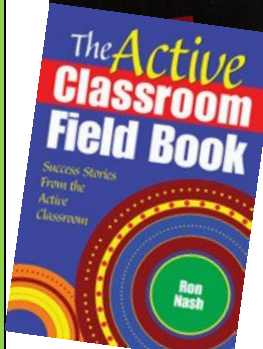
China ended poverty for hundreds of millions of its own citizens. Will Chinese engagement benefit Africa? Using hard data and a series of vivid stories ranging across agriculture, industry, natural resources, and governance, Brautigam's fascinating book provides an answer.



Benign Bigotry

Kristen J. Anderson

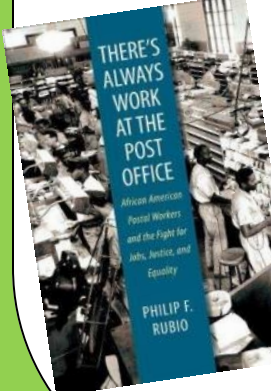
Anderson uses a fresh, original format to examine subtle prejudice by addressing six commonly held cultural myths based on assumptions that appear harmless but actually foster discrimination.



The Active Classroom Field Book

Ron J. Nash

Nash compiled the best research today on making students active participants in their own learning. The book is packed with ideas and field-tested strategies that will prove useful in planning units and designing lessons.



There's Always Work at the Post Office

Philip F. Rubio

This book brings to life the important story of African American postal workers and the critical role they played in the U.S. labor and black freedom movements. Rubio chronicles a struggle of national significance through its examination of the post offices.

GASLAND (2010)

Starring Josh Fox, Dick Cheney, Pete Seeger, Richard Nixon, Audrey K. McClendon

In this chilling documentary, filmmaker Fox receives a letter offering him \$100,000 for permission to mine natural gas on his rural Pennsylvania farmhouse. Soon he hears horror stories about water contamination due to this process from his neighbors and discovers how the Delaware River watershed's imminently endangered status will threaten New York City's main water source.



HALF-NELSON (2006)

Starring Ryan Gosling, Jeff Lima.

A drug-addicted junior high school teacher struggle to retain his ideals in the face of reality.



INCEPTION (2010)

Starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Ken Watanabe .

Acclaimed filmmaker Christopher Nolan directs an international cast in this sci-fi thriller that examines the world of dreams and different levels of consciousness.



KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN (2008)

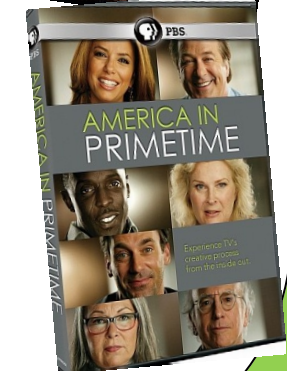
Starring William Hurt, Raul Julia, Sonia Braga and José Lewgoy.

This classic film tells the story of the bond between a gay man and a political prisoner. Incarcerated, the two men share a world of fantasy to escape the harsh physical reality of their prison walls.



AMERICA IN PRIMETIME (2012)

Weaving between past and present, This four-hour documentary focuses on character archetypes that have remained a staple of "primetime" network TV through several generations (i.e., the Independent Woman, the Man of the House, the Misfit, and the Crusader).





Celebrating Latin America & The Caribbean at the 2011 Hostos Open House

On Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2011 at 3:30 p.m., the HCC Library welcomed faculty to its third annual Open House. This year, the theme was “Celebrating Latin America &

and



(Left to Right: Profs. Lisa Tappeiner, Ross Flek, Julie Trachman, Olen Dias, Yoel Rodriguez and Flor Henderson)



Prof. Kate Lyons explains how eBooks and IM Reference works

The Caribbean”: specifically, the countries from which a large number of Hostos students and their parents hail from.

The event was organized by the Senate Library Committee, which consists of Prof. Jennifer Tang (chair), Carolyn Johnson (deputy chair), Flor Henderson, Sue Dicker, Olen Dias, Elvir Dincer and Mohammed A. Sohel.

Upon entering the library, faculty picked up free blue “Passports” that listed each library presentation and a map. Each station was named after a Latin American or Caribbean country. They received “stamps” at each station that could be redeemed for treats.



(Left to Right: Prof. Eunice Flemister, Ms. Linda Caycedo and Dean Christine Mangino)

Rhonda Johnson offered ten-minute presentations and demos on Reference IM (Instant Messaging), CLICS (CUNY Libraries Inter-Campus Services), Information Literacy workshops, E-

Reserves, and Archives resources. In addition, Ms. Linda Caycedo from the New York Public Library provided information about resources at NYPL.

Faculty met with their respective liaisons and received handouts on searching databases, information literacy workshops, E-Reserves, resources for faculty publication, and programs such as the Laptop Loan Program.

The last “stop” on the Passport was the Conference Room, where faculty redeemed their “stamps” for refreshments and entered a drawing for a Strand Book Store gift card.

The winner was Prof. Alisa Roost, who won a \$25 gift card.



(Left to Right: Ms. Irma N. Colon, CLT and Prof. Carolyn Johnson)

Among those who attended were Dean Christine Mangino, Profs. Carlos Sanabria, Julie Trachman, Eunice Flemister, and other professors from the Mathematics, Business, English, Allied Health, and Natural Sciences departments.

Interim Chief Madeline Ford, Profs. Elisabeth Tappeiner, Miriam Laskin, José Diaz, Catherine Lyons, William Casari,



(Left to Right: Prof. Luzviminda Malihan and Ms. Linda Caycedo from NYPL chat about library services)

Faculty expressed awe at the resources and new services available at the library. They thanked the library for making their visit so memorable.

—Prof. Jennifer Tang

Urbanization and Upheaval: The Bronx in the Twentieth Century

On November 17-18, 2011, Profs. William Casari and Matthew Flaherty, along with NYC Department of Education public school teacher, Matthew Foglino, participated in the Researching New York Conference at the University of Albany. The three presenters shared their research on the history of the Bronx during a panel session entitled *Urbanization and Upheaval: The Bronx in the Twentieth Century*. Mr. Foglino delivered a presentation entitled *Public Policy and the Shaping of the Bronx, 1934-1968*, followed by Prof. Casari's presentation *Fun City and the Fires: The Bronx, 1966-1977*, and concluding with Prof. Flaherty's presentation *Fort Apache, the Bronx: A New York Narrative and its Legacy Thirty Years Later*.

The panel presentation explored the rapid urbanization and rapid decay of the Bronx during the twentieth century. Foglino's lecture revealed how public policy and housing laws transformed the Bronx into a haven for the burgeoning middle class in the early twentieth century. These same policies and laws, however, set the stage for the exodus of the

white middle class from the Bronx and the creation of a vacuum that was soon filled by poorer, mostly minority residents.

Prof. Casari illustrated how policies implemented by the John Lindsay's administration (1966-1973) exacerbated an already fragile urban environment and created circumstances that resulted in the destruction of Bronx neighborhoods through abandonment and eventually, widespread fires in certain areas. It also focused on the role local and national media played in how the neighborhood was perceived by outsiders. This discussion provided a segue into the third presentation, which examined the controversy surrounding Hollywood's portrayal of the South Bronx as an urban disaster in the major motion picture

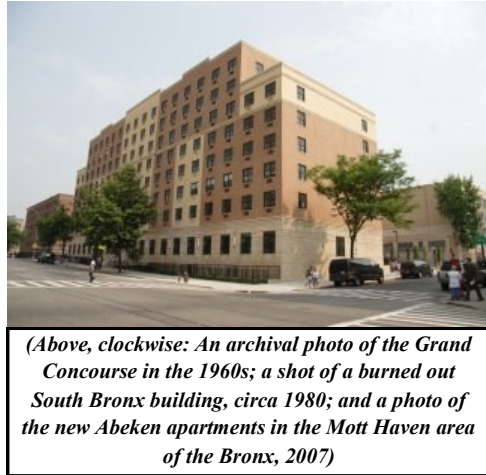
Fort Apache, the Bronx (1981). The talk examined the film's portrayal of the neighborhood and how the community rejected the story and organized a formal resistance to regain control over its narrative and identity from Hollywood elites.

Prof. Ivan Steen, of the University of Albany History department, moderated and commented on the strengths and weaknesses of each paper

presentation, while unifying the three presentations by providing broader context on the rise, fall, and rebirth of the Bronx during the twentieth century. A former Bronxite who lived at the Noonan Plaza Art Deco apartments, he commented on the changes he witnessed firsthand. A

Q&A session concluded the session, which was attended by a number of native New Yorkers and former Bronx residents. The presenters were pleased by the audience's response and how it gave them a chance to share their research on why the history of the Bronx is important to New York State.

—Prof. Matthew Flaherty & Prof. William Casari



(Above, clockwise: An archival photo of the Grand Concourse in the 1960s; a shot of a burned out South Bronx building, circa 1980; and a photo of the new Abeken apartments in the Mott Haven area of the Bronx, 2007)

NEW LIBRARY WORKSHOPS (continued from front page)

In this workshop, Prof. Tang shows students how to change their privacy settings on Facebook and quizzes them on their ability to identify visual and verbal postings that might harm their professional reputations. In one particular exercise, students are asked to repeat their own Facebook postings out loud in front of the class. Once, when

a student demurred, Prof. Tang asked why. "If you can't say it in front of a classroom filled with real people, then you shouldn't be posting it on Facebook," she said. The exercise helps students become more aware that their online "selves" are not separate from their flesh and blood selves and that care must be taken whenever one posts

information about one's attitudes, views, etc., on social media sites.

"What's written on the Web stays on the Web," concluded Prof. Tang. "Gossip shared in person with a friend turns into something else when those same words are posted online, recorded for posterity."

Judging by the highly

positive evaluations given to each of these new workshops, the Library will continue to offer them, adding to the roster of Information Literacy workshops available to students. View upcoming workshops at

<http://www.hostos.cuny.edu/oa/calendar>

—Prof. Jennifer Tang

¡ESCRIBA! ¡WRITE!

Attention Hostos Students and Faculty! We are seeking submissions to *¡Escriba!/Write!*, our award-winning* student Literary & Art Magazine. Submit work **AT ANY TIME!** Publication of **Volume 10** is next **May, 2012.**

Students may submit their creative work any time by using the simple form on our *Escriba* website and uploading the text or image via the form: <http://oit.hostos.cuny.edu/escriba/>

Faculty, please ask your students who may have essays, personal writing (journals, diaries), research papers, short stories, excerpts from novels, poetry, art or photography, to see Prof. Miriam Laskin (mlaskin@hostos.cuny.edu or (718) 518-4207) or submit their work to her as an email attachment (if it is text) or via the *Escriba* website.

We always welcome work in Spanish, Italian, French (and other languages), bilingual poetry or prose.

Browse our archive of past *Escriba* issues (where you can view & print out issues) by visiting <http://oit.hostos.cuny.edu/escriba/>

HOSTOS LIBRARY FAMILY RECIPES

Prof. Kate Lyons

My mother, an ex-Catholic nun (of Italian and Irish Descent), and my Russian-Jewish father enjoyed blending their holidays together. Both came from families with strong food traditions, and they relished merging their tastes. I enjoyed mozzarella, basil and roasted red pepper sandwiches on matzo during Passover, and Easter baskets filled with mini hamentashen. If Chanukah overlapped with Christmas, we sometimes ate latkes (potato pancakes) for Christmas.



Potato Latkes

Ingredients:

6-7 large potatoes
1 large onion
1 clove of garlic
1/2 cup of Italian breadcrumbs
(1 optional egg)
olive oil
Spices: oregano, basil, salt, pepper- to taste.

First, peel and grate (for a much less chunky batter, chop, put in a blender or food processor) 6-7 large potatoes and 1 large onion. Drain most (97%) of the excess water—it can be just a little liquidy, and add breadcrumbs (maybe a tiny bit of flour, if it doesn't look enough like a batter). As the mixture starts looking more like a batter, start warming a non-stick frying pan or pancake griddle (medium-high heat) with a few tablespoons of olive oil. Add spices and an egg to the batter (the egg is optional - when I was vegan for a few years, I left out the egg- no problem! As long as the mixture looks like a batter, it'll still hold together). The batter should be relatively thick, not runny. Fry on the griddle.

(HINT: Never try to flip a pancake until (when lifting up the tiniest edge), you can see that the bottom is uniformly quite brown. Otherwise, it'll fall apart.) Servings these with applesauce or pot cheese (cottage cheese) is common. In my family, we discovered that cranberry sauce is also a great accompaniment.

STUDENT APPRECIATION DAY AT HOSTOS LIBRARY SCHEDULED FOR SPRING 2012



To express their gratitude and thanks for hardworking Hostos students making the most of the library, the Library is planning to present a special “Student Appreciation Day” sometime in the early Spring semester. Please look for a flyer and/or email in the coming months about this exciting event!

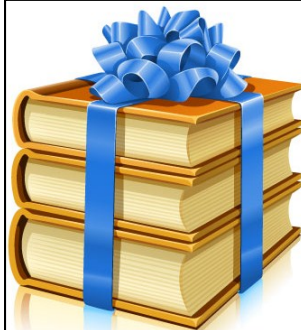
Date: TBD

Guide to Donating Books to Hostos Library

In this season of giving, we at Hostos Library would like to thank all of you who have generously donated books to the Library. Your gifts help augment our budget every year and allow us to expand and create a rich and comprehensive collection in all areas of study.

Some of our donors have asked, “What kinds of book do you need, and which ones would you prefer not to receive?” Good question! Due to our extremely limited amount of shelf space, we are forced to be very selective in what we add to the library’s collection. To maximize the chances that your book will end up in our collection, please read our quick and easy guide on what to look for when donating books:

- **Timeliness.** Newly published books in various fields are of more value and usefulness than older editions. This is especially true for material for allied health and the natural sciences. Faculty often recommend that students obtain the latest editions, so please bear this in mind when you’re ready to donate.
- **Condition.** Please check to see that your donated books are in good condition. Nobody wants a book that has water damage, stains, or yellowed pages that are falling out. Is the binding loose? Does it have a missing cover? If so, we can’t use it.
- **Binding.** With few exceptions (i.e., new textbooks in the sciences), the Library prefers to avoid adding spiral bound books to the collection, or loose leaf pages that require binders. Remember, books will be used by fac-



ulty and students, and any format that allows pages to be easily torn or ripped out may require time-consuming repairs.

- **Outdated formats.** Few people have VCRs anymore, so a VHS tape, even a rare one, will often sit on a dusty shelf. The same goes for audio cassettes, which are quickly becoming a nostalgia item, not a practical one.
- **Single print journals.** With few exceptions, single print journals are of limited usefulness, as many are now archived online.
- **Older popular magazines.** Popular magazines, such as *Time*, *Newsweek*, etc., are best donated to a public library.
- **Outside the scope of our collection.** Before donating, please check the online catalog, CUNY+, to see if your material is being used anywhere in CUNY. Also consider the needs of the student. Hostos is a community college and our needs are different from that of a senior college. Proceedings from a 1984 conference on travel and tourism, for example, will be useless at Hostos Library since we do not offer courses in tourism.

For more information, visit <http://www.hostos.cuny.edu/library/hcc/policies.asp?policy=donation>

Happy Holidays! We appreciate your helping us give good books to the people who need them most.

Hostos Library News

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Jennifer Tang

Content Advisors

Prof. Lisa Tappeiner

Prof. Miriam Laskin

Hostos Library Website:

www.hostos.cuny.edu/library

Address:

Hostos Community College Library

475 Grand Concourse

Bronx, NY 10451

(718) 518 4222

Photo Credits:

(Open House)

Prof. William Casari

Prof. Mohammed A. Sohel

HOLIDAY Library Hours

Beginning Mon Dec 12 until Dec 21, the Library will be open:

Mon - Thurs. = 9 a.m.—9pm

Fri = 9 a.m.– 5 p.m.

Saturday = 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday = 10 a.m.– 5 p.m.

HOLIDAY WEEK

Thurs Dec 22—9 a.m.– 5 p.m.

Fri Dec 23– Sun, Jan. 1 - CLOSED

2012

Mon Jan 2 - Jan 26 = 9 a.m.— 5 p.m.

Mon Jan.16 = CLOSED