

# United Library News

Volume 2, Issue 1

Fall Semester 2008

The Academic Library of Seabury-Western & Garrett-Evangelical

## Look for our "Virtual Reference Help"

- Toll free Library phone # for those ringing from a distance: 1-877-600-8753
- Instant Message Service via Meebo when professional library staff is on duty. The "chat" box is on the library website:

[www.Garrett.edu/library](http://www.Garrett.edu/library)

## Inside this issue:

Mini Makeover	2
Administrative Assistant Hired	2
RECL Seminar Space	2
Shifty Books	3
Video Cams Connect Desks	3
New E-books	3
Food & Drink Policy	4

## Laptops Soon Available for Checkout at the Library

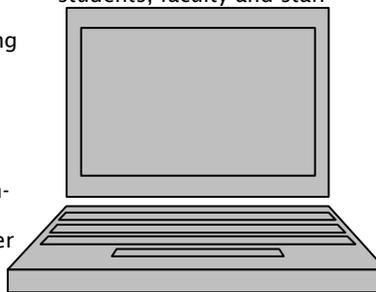
Personal laptop out of order?—or too heavy to carry? Long lines for access to a library desktop PC? Don't worry! Laptops will soon be available for checkout at the library circulation desk.

This new service is the result of cooperation between Garrett's Computing Center and the United Library. Library Director Beth Sheppard observes, "We are pleased that we will be able to offer this service. Libraries are generally staffed many more hours than most computer service desks. Plus, our already existing book check-out system can track the whereabouts of anything. If we can track a book, we can track a laptop!"

For the first few weeks after the laptops are delivered by the vendor, the checkout period for the

laptops will be 3 hours. After the library evaluates the initial demand, a determination will be made about whether that checkout time period may be lengthened or shortened.

This service is only available to Seabury /Garrett students, faculty and staff



who have current IDs and sign a laptop checkout form at the front desk. Other patrons may use the desktops that are available in the library.

The program will begin with 8 laptops for 08-09. Additional machines will be

purchased next year so we reach a full complement of 16. Harold Daniels, of the Garrett Computer Center, noted that the life span of a laptop is only about 2-3 years. By phasing in the laptops, we will always have some of the most current models on hand while being able to cycle out the older ones after their second year.

Laptops will be loaded with Media Shout and Office 07. During the 3 hour checkout period laptops may be used anywhere in the Garrett buildings. Laptops checked out near the end of the day, even if only for an hour or two, must be returned to the Garrett circulation desk before closing so they may be recharged for the next day.

We look forward to hearing what you think about this new service once it is launched!

## Coming for Halloween—The Haunted United Library Tour

Yes, there is a mummy! And the tales about the grave of a bishop (and his wife) reputedly beneath the altar at Seabury are true! With the initiative of Jason Hill, the library staff will be hosting a Halloween-themed tour of the treasures of the United Library.

To add to the mystique, the tour will be conducted by flashlight only (if you have one, please bring it).

Everyone is welcome to attend! The tour will begin on Oct 30th at 9:40PM in room 401 of Garrett (the tower) with snacks and ghost stories about Garrett. Featured stops will then include Keen Bible room, Hibbard (to see the Mummy) and of course the basement of Seabury to see the place of the bishop's final repose. At the conclusion of the tour,

trick-or-treat candy will be available. Don't miss this



unique event. See you there Oct 30; 9:40PM!

**“The orange was so 80’s!”**

**Mini Makeover**

Orange. That was the color of virtually everything on the Garrett side of the United Library. A very warm and retro-color, to be certain, but after more than 20 years, it was time for a bit of change. There are orange chairs, orange shelving ends, orange signs, and little bibs and bobs of orange everywhere!!

After consulting paint chips and looking at the new black laptop cart (see story on the previous page) the staff decided it was time for a mini facelift. Wielding paint-brushes and creating clouds of dust during the sanding

process, the library staff successfully gave the book carts that were behind the desk a new look.

While there is still plenty of orange for those who love fall colors, the new black color for the carts does give the



circulation area a more modern appearance. The shade

of black chosen (yes, there are more black paint chip samples at the hardware store than one would think!) matches the chairs that were added last year and the new flat-screen monitors at the circulation desk. “Pretty soon,” remarked one patron, “the Garrett side will look almost as great as the Seabury side.”

Ah, the miracles performed with a little can of paint...

**“Okki is a wonderful addition to the United Library Staff”**

**Okki Ahn Hired as Administrative Assistant**

There is a new staff person in the United Library. Okki Ahn, who hails from Korea, joined the United Library as Administrative Assistant to the Director.

She brings a host of talents to the library team. For instance, with Okki’s language skills the library has finally been able to catalog several books in Korean for which we have been sorely in need of her language expertise.

Okki is also very talented at

designing displays. Currently both the “We’ve Got the Music” display in the lobby near the Garrett circulation desk and the “Preaching Institute” display at the bottom of the Garrett library staircase were designed by Okki. If you haven’t noticed these displays, take a close look! The sheep in the preaching display are fantastic!!!!

In addition to keeping the library up to snuff with its displays, Okki will also assist

with processing book donations and data entry.

Please welcome her to the



community when you see her! Her desk is located in the technical services suite.

**New RECL Seminar Space**

One of the most popular study spaces in the library is the RECL (Resource and Educational Curriculum Library) area located in the Garrett basement annex. Out of the way of usual library traffic and slightly warmer than the normal chilly temperatures that sometimes characterize other parts of the library facility, there are always students gathered in the space.

This past summer the area was reconfigured to capitalize on its popularity. A dry-

erase white board was added to facilitate discussions, shelving was taken down to



make a more pleasant work environment, and the walls were painted a snazzy designer sage.

The library wishes to thank the Buildings and Grounds staff and our student assistants who worked miracles in getting this space ready for the fall semester.

Although this seminar area is currently reserved for class on Wednesday afternoons, patrons should feel free to make use of it at other times.



## Shift, Shift, Shift Those Books!

Over the summer the library staff and a cadre of student workers transformed the shelving sequences of both the Reference and BY (Methodist) rooms on the Garrett side of the street. Every book was picked up and moved to a new location a few shelves away from its original position.

The shifting was necessary because many shelves had become so crowded, new items could no longer be added. In addition, there were portions of the collection that were out of order. This made it very difficult for

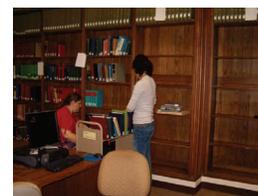
patrons to find books. The new shelving scheme not only provided extra muscle



mass for those who helped with the move, but has opened enough space to allow for about seven more

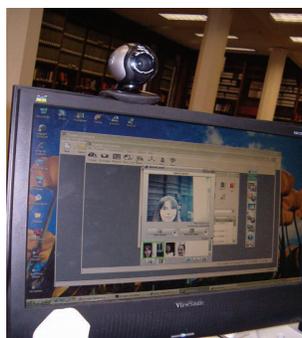
years of collection growth. Dr. Sheppard, Library Director, remarked, "We are currently identified as the 9th largest theological library amongst ATLA libraries. Since we add about 2,750 new books per year, we were sorely in need of the shelving space that was gained by this project!"

Should you have difficulty finding your favorite reference work due to the new shelving sequence, please don't hesitate to ask a library staff member for assistance!



## Video Cameras Connect Circulation Desks

In the old Hanna-Barbera cartoon "The Jetsons," characters communicate with one another using a futuristic



video phone. Well, the future is now. Using a free video conferencing software called "Skype" and an internet connection, the two circulation computers at Seabury and Garrett have been connected to one another.

The object is to allow the student workers to confer with one another when they have questions concerning procedures or difficult customer service queries, particularly on weekends or after

5:00 when full time library staff may not be on duty.

Some student workers seem a bit shy about using the software since they can see themselves on the screen. Others, though, have taken to it. The software was particularly handy in mid-September when heavy rains knocked out phone lines on the West side of Sheridan Road. The video cameras filled that communication gap!

"We want our circulation workers to be connected in order to serve you better."

## Library Adds New E-book Resource

Although it is nice to curl up in a chair on a nice snowy day with a good religion book, there are times when having an electronic version can be handy. Take that day when the snow is so deep, one can't make the drive back from Field Ed to get a hard copy from the library, yet the paper is due the next day! E-books to the rescue!

Unlike traditional books which are only available for checkout when the library is

open, e-books are a button click away 24x7. For night owls, that can be handy!

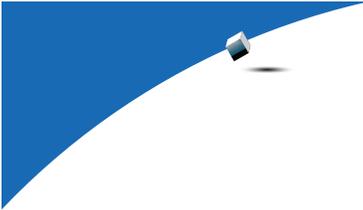
The *Oxford Scholarship Online E-book Collection in Religion* may be found in the general resources section of the library database page <http://www.garrett.edu/library>. It includes recent titles like Borgman's *David, Saul and God* (2008), Pattison's *Thinking about God in an Age of Technology* (2005) and Strong's *Episcopalianism*

*in 19th Century Scotland* (2002).

Each chapter of each book opens as its own file to decrease the time it takes for the book to "open". And, there are printer friendly versions too!

When one doesn't have the luxury of driving through the drifts for a paper version, at least this e-book set is a practical alternative. Let it snow!





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& Garrett-Evangelical

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With over 300,000 volumes on site, access to thousands of electronic journals and databases, and exciting special collections, the United Library is a treasure house of knowledge.

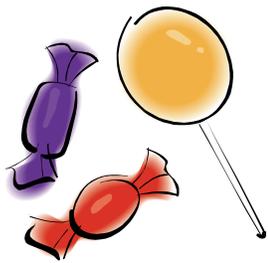
Come study in architecturally spectacular environments with materials that range to suit the tastes of readers from the antiquarian to the modern theologian.

Reflect and learn in a variety of stunning settings that ensure spaces for both collaborative learning opportunities and the solitary pursuit of meaning.

We're on the web!  
[WWW.Garrett.edu/Library](http://WWW.Garrett.edu/Library)

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### What about Food and Drink in the Library?



Once back in 1990 when dusting a shelf of books in a library (not this one), the librarian found dozens of soda pop cans nestled behind the books. Obviously, despite the rules, students had been bringing food and beverages to the library for quite some time. And other than hiding the litter, no harm was ever caused.

Since the turn of the millennium libraries across the country have relaxed their stance on comestibles in the stacks. Coffee bars are common and even Northwestern

allows beverages in containers with lids.

Every so often we are asked about our policy in the United Library. We are pretty practical here. We recognize that the open spaces in the library are often some of the most attractive "real estate" on a seminary campus. Thus we encourage groups to hold receptions (with food and drink) in the circulation areas of the library. Indeed, this fall Seabury is hosting a reception related to its "Bread for the Journey" event in the Seabury circulation area.

With regard to food and drink in the stacks, we understand that our students and researchers are adults. When our patrons check out books and take them home, they read them while snacking on chips and sipping coffee—and no harm comes to the books. Thus we trust our patrons to take good care of the books and to clean up any spills while eating in the library. Of course, food and drink are still banned from the rare book rooms, but in other areas, relax! Read, study and snack if you must!