

United Library News

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The United Library is the academic library of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary & Bexley Hall Seabury Western Theological Seminary Federation

Message from the Director's Desk

The start of the new academic year in the United Library has been very positive and successful. We welcomed entering and returning members of the community, introduced new and upgraded library services, and opened the new PhD study suite. Students are already engaged in learning and research as well as building collegial relationships with one another. I hope that you can find the Library as the communal hub of intellectual inquiry, creative life, and relational-spiritual growth.



Over the summer the United Library completed the library staff reorganization. Now we have a full-fledged team of five friendly professional librarians—Kathleen Kordesh (Reference & ILL Librarian), J. Lauren Mondala (Electronic Resources & Digital Services Librarian), Mary-Carol Riehs (Circulation & Public Services Librarian), Jennifer Moe (Technical Services Librarian) and myself. We are dedicated to fulfilling your information needs and empowering you to be independent, competent researchers.

A few weeks ago the Library opened the new PhD study suite at the lower level. Student workers and staff from the Library as well as Buildings & Grounds collaborated to reface the old library staff offices area over the summer. We removed all the unnecessary materials out of the space, repainted the walls, cleaned the floor, and rearranged the existing furniture. The PhD study suite is now equipped with 20 desks and chairs (14 assigned and 6 unassigned), plenty of shelving units, and a small kitchenette. Out of 30 applications, students who are writing dissertations or taking doctoral exams were



given priority. Most of the students who got assigned desks or shelving space have moved in and enjoyed the quiet study community. One of the PhD candidates, Carmen Manalac Scheuerman says, "I love my study carrel at Garrett. I study there everyday, 9:00 am-3:00 pm, excluding Sunday. Library folks, *Maraming Maraming Maraming Salama!* (Thank you, thank you very much in Filipino)" Another PhD candidate, Jason Okrzynski also adds, "What I have experienced in the PhD suite is nothing less than an ecclesial community. As I gather each day and go about my work, I am aware that others who take on the same task silently surround me.... I am thankful for the many ways that my spirit and productivity are buoyed by this great addition."

October is Theological Libraries Month. In an effort to promote the library services and resources as well as further reach out into the community, the Library is planning to host a few special events, which are made possible by the financial support of the American Theological Library Association. As we celebrate Theological Libraries Month, please join us and discover what we have to offer you. We look forward to seeing you and enjoy the beautiful days of autumn!

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Upcoming Events for Theological Libraries Month:

- 10/1-10/31 Book Sale
- 10/1-10/31 Special Library Exhibit on the History and Resources of the United Library
- 10/3 Theological Libraries Month Reception
- 10/8 Research Essentials Workshop
- 10/15 Citation & Endnote Software Workshop
- 10/15 Conversation with President Amerson at the Fireside and reception



New Website Layout ~ J. Lauren Mondala

We've upgraded aspects of our website to better serve you. Our home page now features dropdown menus with easier to browse and navigate links, more recognizable quick links to our most used resources, and more efficient access to our chat service. We've re-categorized some links and added, 'How Do I...?' to our sidebar. This new category allows for quick access to the answers for questions like, 'How do I print?' 'How do I connect to the wireless network?' and 'How do I get reference help?' Our Research tab now drops down to a full listing of re-

search services topics: *Getting Started, Reference, Workshops, Citing Sources,*

throughout our site, making communicating with us easier and faster. Right from our



Videos & Tutorials, and LibGuides. We have also integrated online forms

Reference page, you may not only ask a quick question via the embedded chat link, but you may also schedule a reference appointment through the online form link. From our ILL page, you may now view several other alternatives for borrowing books from other institutions as well as fill out an ILL Request form. We hope these changes will allow you to better utilize all we have to offer. If you'd like to see more about the changes, check out the quick videos on our site.

Fall Library Workshops ~ Kathleen Kordesh

This fall the United Library is offering several workshops for new and returning students. The semester opened with Library Director Dr. Lucy Chung and Reference Librarian Kathleen Kordesh leading an in-classroom introduction to the library for the incoming class followed by a brief walking tour through the library. Kathleen Kordesh led a workshop for new doctoral students on conducting library research on September 11. Kudos to the students present who showed great dedication, having spent the previous three hours in their Biblical and Theological Hermeneutics class! The power point used for the presentation, which was created by Dr. Chung, is available on the [library website](#). Additional workshops on Research Essentials and Endnote Bibliographic software will take place in October during Theological Libraries Month. All are welcome to attend these one hour workshops. More information is available on the [library website](#). And that's not all. The library is also collaborating with the student team who last year started a popular series of instructional sessions on using technology in ministry (UTIM). The first of the weekly workshops was held September 18 in the library's Methodist Reading Room. See the [library website](#) for details.



New Arrivals ~ Jennifer Moe

Not only are there many new and interesting titles this fall at United Library, there is a new shelf for displaying them! Located right next to our new PhD Suite, the New Arrivals shelf will highlight titles for each month of the year. September's titles include: *Biblical Rhetoric and Rhetorical Criticism* and *Writing Up Jeremiah* by Garrett-Evangelical Distinguished Visiting Scholar Jack R. Lundbom; *Hope on the Brink: Understanding the Emergence of Nihilism in Black America* by Lewis Brogdon, featuring a foreword by Garrett-Evangelical Neal A. and Ila F. Fisher Professor of Theology Stephen G. Ray; *Spiritual Letters* by Sister Wendy Beckett; *Joy, Despair, and Hope: Reading Psalms* by Edward Feld; *Mark & Empire: Feminist Reflections* by Laurel K. Cobb; *The Artist and the Trinity: Dorothy L. Sayers' Theology of*

Work by Christine M. Fletcher, Associate Professor of Theology at Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois; *Choosing Change* by former adjunct professor at McCormick Seminary Peter Coutts; *Go to Ninevah: Medieval Jewish Commentaries on the Book of Jonah* by Steven Bob, an adjunct instructor at Chicago area Elmhurst and Wheaton Colleges; and "Am I My Brother's Keeper?": *Christian Citizenship in a Globalized Society* by Mark W. Scarlata. Stop by our New Arrivals shelf and check out some of these interesting new releases!



Ask a Librarian ~ J. Lauren Mondala

Don't you love it when you have a library question and a librarian happens to be nearby, ready and waiting to help? We do too! Wouldn't it be great if you could get a quick answer to a library question when you were writing a paper on your computer at home? Want to ask about the availability of a reserve book from your smart phone on your way back from class? We librarians love answering your questions! With the speed of life and the expansion of our learning environment to include more and more online points of learning, we know you're not always physically in the library at your time of need. The United

Library continues to strive to bridge that gap and one way we hope to do this has been with our online chat service. A patron can type a message and get a response back in real time, from a real librarian. Recently, we've expanded the visibility of our online chat service and renamed it 'Ask a Librarian.' This friendly little icon lets you know that we're here for you, just ask! We've embedded the chat service throughout our website at recognized points of need. Checking out our research services page? We're there. Course reserve policies page got you puzzled? Ask a Librarian! The chat window that appears floats free from the webpage, allowing you

to navigate where ever you may need to, to the NUCat and back, all the while staying connected to the chat service. So go ahead, ask us!



Our Ask a Librarian hours are Mondays-Fridays 8:30a.m.-4:30p.m. During our off-line hours, you will be directed to an email form. We answer emails the next business day.

The Loder Librarian ~ Mary-Carol Riehs



She has a laptop and she's taking the library to the Community Meal!

Do you have a reference question? Need to renew some books? Pay a fine? Want to apply for a United Library Family Card? Need to learn how to access the library databases from your home computer? Come ask the Loder Librarian!

In a new outreach program, Mary-Carol Riehs, the Circulation and Public Services Librarian, will be taking the library to the Wednesday Community Meal in an effort to acquaint students with the library's rich array of resources and to provide access to library services right in the Loder Dining Room. From 4:30 until 6:30 Mary-Carol will be available to assist with your library questions. We know that students are busy, and even though the library is just steps away, having a librarian available during this community building time helps to reinforce the notion that the library extends beyond the walls of the library building. Many students were not accustomed to using their university library when they were undergraduates, and many returning students express surprise at all the library resources that are available to them off-site and after hours.

We hope that in the relaxed setting of the Loder lounge students and faculty will take the opportunity to visit with the librarian and ask questions about the library services or about whatever research projects they are working on. The author Shelby Foote said, "A university is just a group of buildings gathered around a library." While we do like to believe that this is true, it is also true that today's library reaches into every building on campus. Let the Loder Librarian show you what we mean.

Featured E-Resource: New Academic Video Collections ~ Kathleen Kordesh

The United Library has acquired online access to a large number of academic videos in American History, Black Studies, Counseling and Therapy, and LGBT Studies. The opportunity to acquire this collection came as part of United Library's status as a "governing" member of CARLI (Consortium of Academic Research Libraries in Illinois). American History is the largest collection with over 1600 hours of documentaries,

newsreels and archival footage. Together with the other collections the library has greatly increased its video offerings in these subject areas. In addition, the LGBT Studies collection includes printed works and an annotated list of websites. The collections are searchable and browsable and embedded links to videos can be added to a course website or

online syllabus. The American History and Counseling and Therapy Volume 3 collections are available currently only on the Garrett campus. The other collections require a Net ID and password to access, but are available both on and off campus. Links to the collections may be found on the [library website's database page](#).





The Academic Library of Garrett– Evangelical Theological Seminary & Bexley Hall Seabury Western Theological Seminary Federation

The United Library
2121 Sheridan Road
Evanston, IL 60201
Phone: 877-600-8753 or 847-866-3909
Fax: 847-866-3894
Email: united.library@garrett.edu
Web: library.garrett.edu

With about 400,000 bound volumes on site, access to thousands of electronic journals and database, and exciting special collections, the United Library is a treasure house of knowledge.

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

Ask one of our knowledgeable librarians for expert assistance in finding resources for your research.

Get connected with us:



Books Shifting Project ~ Mary-Carol Riehs

The staff and student workers were busy shifting books in the Annex this summer to make locating materials easier. All of the oversized books, including the oversized books with call numbers beginning with BY that were shelved in the Methodist Room, are now shelved together on the orange shelves on the left side of the Annex. Books with call numbers beginning with R through Z are now located in the yellow shelves on the right side of the Annex.



The children's picture books were also relocated this summer to the reading nook at the bottom of the stairs from the reference room to the lower level. Some

shelving that had been removed during renovations was installed in this unused area and some comfortable chairs were added to make a welcoming space. Library student assistant Natalie Ferguson put all the books in call number order. New acquisitions will also be shelved in the space.

The shifting took about two weeks to accomplish, and was ably managed by student library assistants Daniel Smith, Dae-Gyu Yim, Paige Boyer, HeeWon Kim, Emily Lutz, and John Baker-Streevy. The shelf labels have been updated, and new maps and signs were created by student assistants Winter Hamilton and Daniel Smith. The books have been tidied, the floors swept, and now everything is in its place. Accessing the oversized books and the children's picture books will be much easier thanks to this summer project and our (somewhat dustier) hard-working student assistants.

