

# Library Newsletter

December 2007

Volume 1, Issue 2

**Western** Technical  
College  
THE ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCE

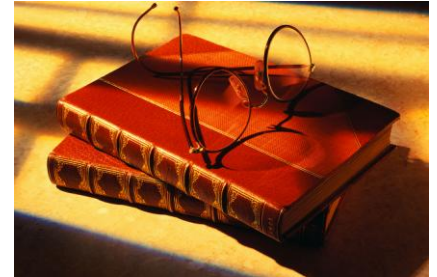
*"A classic is something that everybody wants to have read and nobody wants to read."*

Mark Twain

## Highlights:

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Western Technical College Library  
Academic Resource Center / Second Floor  
R-201 (608)785-9142



## From the Director

Fall 2007 witnessed numerous changes and enhancements to meet library user needs. In addition to acquiring a multitude of new print resources, PC computer lab workstations increased by nearly 33%, a plasma screen highlighting library services and resources was acquired, a *Library Newsletter* was introduced, Email Reference service was implemented, and a Library Open House was offered to the campus community. Library instruction sessions also increased by over 25%,

along with a variety of operational changes. As we approach the coming year, enhancements will continue to occur as library staff strives to meet the challenges ahead in our efforts to provide quality service. So if you're looking for the ideal place to find up-to-date information, get assistance doing your research, conduct group study sessions, locate leisure reading material, get suggestions for class presentations, receive help with navigating through a

maze of electronic resources, or a place to just relax, look no further than the Western Library. It offers the best in one-stop shopping throughout the year. **Don't forget** that it's also never too late to schedule those class-related library instruction sessions and tours. Library staff is here to help! Have an enjoyable and rewarding upcoming semester break!

## New Leisure Reading Section

Library staff is pleased to announce a new Leisure Reading Section in the Library. Although most individuals who frequent the Western Library go there for class-related projects, to study, to use a variety of electronic resources, or acquire assistance from library staff, there are many other library users who seek out various leisure reading material or other items to

relax, and because of lifelong learning interests. As a result, library staff have made a concerted effort to acquire these other materials in a variety of formats. Most of these items are recently published and acquired based on popular reading lists contained in numerous publications from throughout the country. Books and DVD's have been the most popular formats, but other

types of materials are being considered.

### Recent Arrivals

- Glass Castle: A Memoir by Jeannette Walls
- Nineteen Minutes by Jodi Picoult
- Richistan: A Journey Through the American Wealth Boom and the Lives of the New Rich by Robert Frank
- Yoga For Every Body (DVD)



[libraryreference@westerntc.edu](mailto:libraryreference@westerntc.edu)

## Email Reference

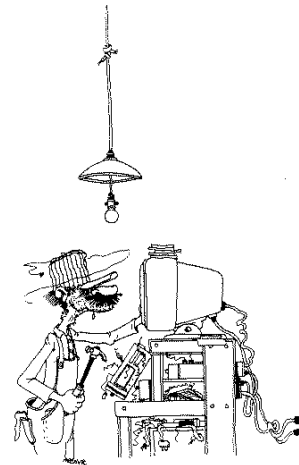
Email Reference officially started on November 1. This new service for library users offers another way for individuals to communicate with library staff. Questions normally asked on-site, and answered by library staff, can now be emailed to Western Library personnel 24/7. Email Reference is available to all Western students, faculty, and staff.

Reference questions and other inquiries will be responded to within 24 hours, although various holidays, weekends, and library closings may lengthen the response time. Currently, Email Reference will only be available during the fall/spring terms. Although the process may not be as in-depth as an in-person consultation with a

reference librarian, it does provide another option for Western students, faculty, and staff to utilize the resources and services of the Western Library. Send your questions to [libraryreference@westerntc.edu](mailto:libraryreference@westerntc.edu).

## Library Computer Lab Expanded

The Computer Lab located in the Western Library has been increased. Ten additional workstations, complete with a variety of software packages, have been added. The expansion will assist in providing students, faculty, and staff with better access to technology and resources. Trained personnel are on duty to answer any questions library users may have, as well as assist in navigating through the variety of resources available.




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## Free Books!

## Year Round Book Giveaway

Remember our annual spring book giveaway?  
Now it's our **daily book giveaway!**

Books that have been withdrawn or are no longer needed will be available for the taking. They are located

in bookcases in our front entrance to the library. (We accept donations – please keep us in mind when clearing out your areas.)

*Tell your students about the free books!*



## Health Information

One of the great virtues of the Web is that it allows us to research or explore issues and topics pertaining to our personal health. The Web gives us control over medical decisions to a degree never imagined just a few short years ago. Unfortunately, many studies have shown that even reputable, well-intentioned sites often deliver erroneous advice and information. Here are half a dozen sites that nursing and allied health students – or anyone – can use with a high level of confidence:

### HealthFinder

<http://www.healthfinder.gov>  
Reliable information from government and non-profit agencies, self-help groups, and universities.

### Mayo Clinic

<http://mayoclinic.com>  
We're only 75 miles or a keyboard click away from the world's best health care.

### PDR Health

<http://www.pdrhealth.com>  
Information about medicine, drugs, and current trials.

### Physical Exam Study Guides

<http://medinfo.ufl.edu/year1/bcs/clist>  
Excellent instructions and illustrations.

### RN Central

<http://www.rncentral.com>  
Great list of links – plus Care Plan examples.

### WebMD

<http://www.webmd.com>  
Look for the A-to-Z Guides on over 4000 topics.

But, don't forget about the highest quality and most scholarly information of all – that found in the Library's databases: Health Reference Center, Proquest Nursing Journals, and half-a-dozen databases within Badgerlink's EBSCOhost.



## Western Library Keeps You Informed

The Library has recently acquired a new plasma (display) screen as part of its continuous effort to keep its clientele informed. The visual display will provide a variety of announcements regarding library services and resources, campus news, policy changes, library hours of operation, new electronic resources, community events, as well as news about lectures or presentations and other activities. Because of

Western Library's pivotal role in the teaching and learning process, the new plasma screen, located in the lobby area of the Library, will keep students, faculty, staff, and the campus community up-to-date concerning recent developments in the Library and throughout campus.



*Plasma screen with up-to-date Library and campus information.*

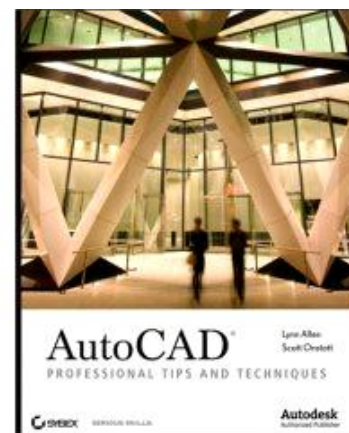
## Featured Program – Architectural Technology

### SustainEcoGreenewabable

By Tom Felton

SustainEcoGreenewabable is probably not a buzzword you have ever heard before, but I'm sure you have heard the message the origins of this new word relates to. Save the planet and its resources for future generations. Even though that sounds like a huge undertaking, we need to start somewhere. The best places to start are in your own home, your workplace, and your community.

As an instructor I feel that it's my responsibility to address current issues that affect the industry in which I teach. This is why I attend training and seminars, and order new resources through the library. Other than the technology behind the latest and greatest software packages, green architecture is another area that needs attention. In fact, at a recent advisory committee meeting, our industry members offered suggestions on how we could incorporate these topics into our existing curriculum. I don't think it should stop there however; we ALL need to find ways to incorporate this into our daily lives and become more SustainEcoGreenewabable.




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*AutoCAD : professional  
tips and techniques  
by Lynn Allen, Scott  
Onstott*

## Featured Program Books, DVD's, & Journals

- ***The house*** (DVD) / written and produced by Luke Ellis  
Part of a series of documentaries about engineering achievements of the twentieth century. This segment shows the building of a house from the ground up. Presents the power struggles, accidental discoveries and monumental breakthroughs behind the methods and materials used today.  
**Call number:** TH 4808 H68 2002
- ***Redux : designs that reuse, recycle, and reveal*** / Jennifer Roberts  
**Call number :** NA 2542.35 R645 2005
- ***AutoCAD : professional tips and techniques*** /  
by Lynn Allen, Scott Onstott  
**Call number:** T 385 A4555 2006
- ***AutoCAD 2008 and AutoCAD LT 2008 bible*** / by Ellen Finkelstein **Call number:** T 385 F54459 2007
- ***Renewable energy*** (DVD) / produced by Actuality Productions, Inc. for the History Channel  
This video explores the recent advances and technologies of renewable energy, in particular solar, wind, geothermal, biofuels, and tidal power  
**Call number:** TJ 807.9 U6 R46 2006
- ***Design e<sup>2</sup> : the economies of being environmentally conscious*** (DVD) / director, Tad Fettig ; series producer, Elizabeth Westrate ; narration writers, Mark Decena, John Kenney ; produced by kontentreal, LLC  
**Call number :** GE 195 D47546 2006
- ***A handbook on low-energy buildings and district-energy systems : fundamentals, techniques and examples*** / by L.D. Danny Harvey  
**Call number :** TJ 163.5 B84 H364 2006
- **Journals**  
*Architectural Digest*  
*Architectural Record*  
*Custom Home*  
*Fine Homebuilding*  
*Home Power*  
*Journal of Light Construction*  
*Metropolitan Home*  
*This Old House*  
*Walls and Ceilings*  
[and coming soon](#)  
*Ecological Home Ideas*

## Western Library

400 7<sup>th</sup> Street North  
La Crosse, WI 54601

Phone:  
(608) 785-9142

E-mail:  
[library@westerntc.edu](mailto:library@westerntc.edu)

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### We're on the Web!

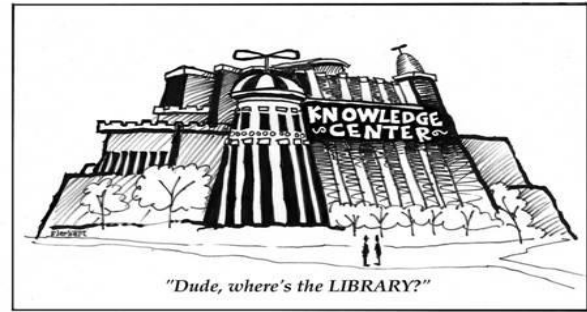
See us at:

[westerntc.edu/library](http://westerntc.edu/library)

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## Did You Know?

"To Read or Not to Read," a report released 19 November 2007 by the National Endowment for the Arts reveals that 15-to-24-year-olds spend only seven minutes a day doing voluntary reading during weekdays and ten minutes on weekends. They did, however, manage to find the time for two-and-a-half hours of daily television viewing. People aged 35 to 42 aren't performing much better. In 2006, the time of the study, they devoted only twelve minutes per day to reading. In addition to American's reading *habits*, the report also addressed their



measured reading *ability*. The proportion of high school seniors reading at or above the proficient level fell from 40% to 35% between 1992 and 2005. The supposedly well-educated were not immune to this worrisome trend; those who had studied at the graduate level regressed from 51% at

the proficient level in 1992 to only 41% by 2003. To read the full report, or maybe 10 or 12 minutes worth of it, go to: (<http://www.arts.gov/research/ToRead.pdf>),

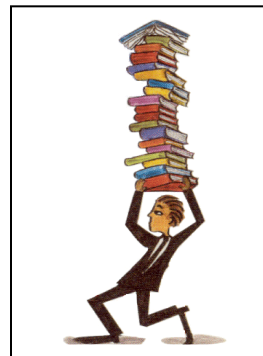
## Library Staff:

*Director of Library Services*  
Ronald G. Edwards

*Reference Librarian*  
Mike Hanson

*Circulation*  
Linda von Uhl  
Nicole Clutter

*Cataloging*  
Deborah Blum



## Library Hours:

Monday – Thursday

7:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday

7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Sunday closed

Any modifications to the above will be posted in advance