

Library Newsletter

October 2007

Volume 1, Issue 1

Western Technical
College
THE ESSENTIAL EXPERIENCE

"The closest thing we will ever come to an orderly universe is a good library."

Ashleigh Brilliant

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



From the Director

Welcome to the Western *Library Newsletter*. We invite you to explore a variety of information topics presented in each issue of the publication throughout the academic year. The *Library Newsletter* will be published electronically four times a year. Our goal is to keep you updated regarding exciting resources in the library, new initiatives, key services, and a variety of other activities library staff is involved with as they work with all areas on campus to enhance the educational process and promote lifelong learning.

We are optimistic that you will enjoy the *Library Newsletter*. By offering our clientele up-to-date, cutting edge information, we hope to keep you informed about the latest trends in libraries and technology. Podcasting, copyright issues, plagiarism, teaching and learning, as well as a plethora of related ideas will be examined. Likewise, an expanded computer lab, plasma screen, enhanced library instruction program, and new electronic resources will be highlighted.

Library staff look forward to responding to your information needs by optimizing the learning environment, assuming a leadership role in acquiring and disseminating information resources, and empowering the library user. We believe the *Library Newsletter* is just another example of this commitment to excellence. We welcome your comments as we continue to provide quality service to Western students, faculty, staff, and the campus community.

ENJOY THE NEWSLETTER!

Ronald G. Edwards
Director of Library Services

Library Open House

The 2007 Library Open House was held on September 13 from 2 – 4 p.m. Faculty, staff, and others from throughout the campus attended. Besides offering a chance to meet all library personnel, attendees had the opportunity to ask questions regarding library services and resources,

participate in one of two mini library instructional sessions, win prizes, and socialize. The event will be an annual affair and is open to the entire campus community.

New Library Display



Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee

A Civil War theme depicting items the everyday soldier might have carried is on display in the Western Library. The reproductions, circa 1861-1865, include a variety of memorabilia from this era. A walking stick, lice comb, bullet mold and bullet, sewing kit, eye glasses, and hardtack are

among the many items presented by Tom Neefe, local Civil War collector and historian. A brief bibliography of Civil War books owned by the Western Library complements the collection. The display will be featured throughout October and November.

The Chronicle of Higher Education

The Chronicle of Higher Education always has articles of interest to those of us in the community college and technical college branches of academia. Western Library subscribes to the paper edition and retains back issues for a year.

But did you know the Chronicle allows you to set up a free personal account and delivers daily or weekly newsletters directly to your digital mailbox?

Go to: http://chronicle.com/services/create_account and follow the directions for creating a free account.

Last time we checked, the Chronicle was producing ten separate newsletters; here are three that might be of particular interest to Western staff:

[ACADEME TODAY](#), the Daily Report from The Chronicle of Higher Education -- Start your day with the important higher-education news delivered to you every weekday. The Daily Report is available in a [text-only](#) or [HTML](#) edition, or you may get the news summarized in a weekly edition.

[COMMUNITY-COLLEGE NEWSLETTER](#) -- This is your weekly briefing on the fastest-growing segment of higher education. You'll get links to news articles, career advice, and employment opportunities -- all delivered to you each Tuesday morning.

[THE WIRED CAMPUS NEWSLETTER](#) -- A daily glance at education-technology headlines from The Chronicle and elsewhere on the Internet.

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!



Information Literacy

Library instruction and information literacy are often used interchangeably by students and faculty when discussing the process of learning to use the library. Although similarities exist regarding the terms, there are some distinct differences.

Library instruction usually revolves around the concept of examining library resources and principles. Resources and services are highlighted and often enhanced with cursory explorations into various electronic databases.

Information literacy tends to be more in-depth and

involves dissecting the information retrieval process in the pursuit of developing critical thinking skills. The process includes these basic ingredients.

- Becoming aware of when information is required
- Understanding how to effectively & efficiently locate resources
- Knowing how to critically analyze & evaluate information
- Comprehending how information is organized, stored, and transmitted

Librarians and staff at Western Library assist library users in a variety of ways regarding the information literacy process. Library instruction is offered via class-related sessions, library tours are given, workshops are conducted for various groups, and one-on-one sessions occur routinely. As students get exposed to class-related library instruction sessions, work with librarians in learning to use the library, and utilize library resources, they develop the information literacy skills so essential in the overall educational process.



Laptops are available for faculty and staff checkout.

Just Ask!

If you have any questions about library services or what the library does, please call the circulation desk at 785-9142 and just ask! If we can't help you, we will put you in touch with someone that can. Some of the things we do:

- We circulate books! As you walk in the library, the library has a display of new books available for checkout. The library welcomes your book recommendations. Please contact us with your requests.
- The library maintains a reserve collection of

books, articles, videos, etc. behind the circulation desk as a means of providing access to course related material for students. To put material on reserve, contact Linda von Uhl or Janet Erickson.

- Interlibrary loan services are available to faculty, students and staff. If the item is not available in La Crosse, we will search for it.
- Test proctoring is on our list of things we do. While we are not a substitute for Academic Success Center, the library may assist students, staff

and faculty with proctoring written tests. Contact us for more information.

- Yes, we have laptops! The library has a limited number of laptops available for faculty and staff checkout (seven day loan period).
- We gladly accept books, magazines, videos, etc. as a donation, anytime.
- The library has some of the friendliest staff on campus. We are here to find the answer for you! Just ask!

Did You Know?

Let's say you want information on buying a digital camera. Did you know that through LexisNexis Academic and Western Library, Consumer Reports is readily available and at your fingertips? Here's how to access Consumer Reports from your home or office:

Go to Western Library Home Page:

westerntc.edu/library

- Search Magazine & Newspapers
- LexisNexis Academic (if asked for password, enter 7 digit Western ID number)
 - Click **Sources**
 - Next click **Find Sources**

- Click the "keyword" radio button
- Type "Consumer Reports" in keyword box, click **Find Sources**
- Click the box next to *Consumer Reports*, click **OK-Continue**
- Enter search terms, click on **Search**

Like magic! ...the most recent Consumer Reports articles on digital cameras.



Featured New Books

Tricks of The Microsoft Office 2007 Gurus

HF 5548.4 M525 M392 2007

Valuable assortment of useful insider tips to help you extract the full power of Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, and Access.

Preparing For the Worst

T 55.3 H3 S33 2007

If you're a worrier, this book is for you. It provides detailed plans on coping with natural hazards like fires, floods, and tornados, or technological hazards like nuclear power plant leaks and hazardous material spills, as well as various types of terrorism such as chemical or biological attacks.

Builder's Guide to Drainage & Retaining Walls

TH 6571 S387 2007

As the last few weeks have demonstrated, establishing adequate drainage is a critical first step in construction projects, and retaining walls are often an essential component. This unique reference provides a comprehensive introduction to the important topic of hydrostatic control.

Engine Company Fireground Operations

TH 9310.5 R5 2008

Covers the basic objectives of engine company work:

- Equipment and initial hose operations
- Apparatus positioning,
- Rescue,
- Water supply
- Initial attack lines
- Backup lines
- Exposure protections
- and more.

How to Live in Small Spaces

NK 2117 S59 C65 2007

Contains plenty of ideas and tips, some expensive, some more practical, for those living in crowded apartments or tiny houses.

The Rough Guide to iPods, iTunes and Music Online

ML 74.4 I49 B83 2006

This handy little paperback shows you how to:

- Select the models that are right for you
- Import music from CD, vinyl, or cassette
- View photos, videos, and DVDs on your iPod
- Subscribe to Podcasts – or publish your own
- Download from online sites and stores
- Hook up to stereos and other people's computers
- Add software and accessories

"[Librarians] are subversive. You think they're just sitting there at the desk, all quiet and everything. They're like plotting the revolution, man I wouldn't mess with them..."

Michael Moore

Western Library

400 7th Street North
La Crosse, WI 54601

Phone:
(608) 785-9142

E-mail:
library@westerntc.edu

We're on the Web!

See us at:

westerntc.edu/library

Featured New Books continued

Wisconsin Indian Literature

PS 508 I5 W57 2006

A unique collection of oral traditions, legends, speeches, myths, and histories originating in twelve Native American bands and nations currently associated with the Wisconsin region.

Happiness

BF 575 H27 N48 2005

This little book doesn't attempt to tell us how to be happy, rather, it explores what the emotion of happiness is and examines why we have an intrinsic need to achieve it.

My Secret Life on the McJob

HD 31 N49 2007

A human resources professor works undercover at several fast food restaurants and discovers a universal truth – the attitude of managers always determines the quality of the work environment.

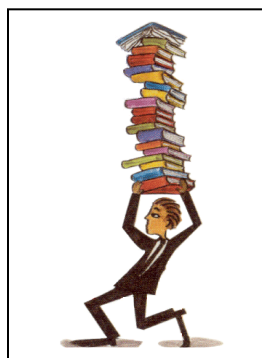
Library Staff:

Director of Library Services
Ronald G. Edwards

Reference Librarian
Mike Hanson

Circulation
Linda von Uhl
Janet Erickson
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