In a recent issue of the student newspaper *The Informer*, there was an article by Charles Paullin, editor-in-chief. In this article he spoke about the sense of community that the Library has been building. Yes, we have been building a sense of community within the library. It may sound strange or weird to folks that libraries are major parts of any community. Here on campus both the Allen and Mortensen Libraries have become even more important to our students’ academic lives.

Much of this feeling comes from the staff members themselves. They are open; genuinely concerned about our students and faculty, interested in what and how the students are doing, and many are mentors. Every year we guide students with their first real job and that can take a lot of time and effort. Every year we grow attached to students for a variety of reasons some are great students who will succeed in anything they try in life and others just because we have a soft spot in our hearts for folks who beat to a different drummer. Many are taken under our wings.

The Student Government has been just wonderful to work with over the past several years. It is because of this relationship the Mortensen Library was able to stay open for 24/7 the week before exams. It was because of the Student Government that the textbook project has taken off.

Early this semester the Student Government came to me with the idea about being open 24/7 for the week before and during exams. With a little negotiation we came up with the pilot of staying open from Dec. 10 to Dec. 18. Some folks thought we were completely nuts; nobody would come; waste of time and money. I have to tell you the students did come. The sense of community that Charles wrote about in his article is true. What wasn’t mentioned in the article was that students have been coming in droves to both Allen and Mortensen for the past several years.

It is such fun to watch the students work on their projects; to see the engineering students work with their robots; to witness student groups discuss articles for their class projects; to see the education curriculum students work with the items in the curriculum lab on the upper level; to experience the excitement when a student and a faculty member meet over coffee in the Goodwin Café.

I am very proud of the community feeling the Libraries have promoted and have had a part to play in. Students and their faculty advisors have asked to use and display student work not in their academic departments but in the Library so all could see and experience. We have hosted book signings, receptions, classes, critiques, never mind all the classes our librarians teach.

There are a few other groups that have helped with this sense of community our Libraries Board of Visitors, our Emeriti Faculty Association and the Presidents’ College. Each one of these groups has become essential in the Libraries framework. There is never a day that one of these groups is not represented in the Libraries.
Connecticut’s iCONN Project

This was a normal semester until Hurricane Sandy hit over October 29 and 30. School was cancelled for three days with the Libraries being closed for two of those days. But it was a normal start — if you remember last September and October you know exactly what I mean.

When school started this fall our students were waiting for us to open and every day since, our Libraries have been full. As you walk through the buildings you can sense the energy and you can watch the projects start to develop and materialize almost in front of your eyes. Our cPODS are a perfect example of what students need in the way of technology. This past summer Information Technology Services (ITS) added four more large screen monitors to the main level PODS, two monitors per unit. Now, our students can open their power points on one screen and research on the other.

Speaking of research, over the years I have mentioned the iCONN Project many times. I cannot sing its praises enough. As you know, iCONN is part of the Connecticut Education Network. It provides all students, faculty and residents with online access to essential library and information resources. The project is administered by the Connecticut State Library under the auspices of the Commission for Educational Technology and the Connecticut Digital Library Advisory Board (CDLAB). iCONN is authorized and funded by the State of Connecticut with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Through iCONN, a core level of informational resources including secured access to licensed databases is available to every citizen in Connecticut. In addition, specialized research information is available to college students and faculty.

iCONN began in 2000 when the Connecticut General Assembly provided funding for the purchase of licensed information databases for Connecticut’s libraries, schools, and colleges that included the private institutions as well. The Digital Library was one of the several recommendations of then — Lieutenant Governor M. Jodi Rell in the fall of 1999.

Did you know that the state provides iCONN at no cost to all residents, schools and libraries? It provides a wealth of online resources available 24/7 with a statewide value estimated at over $32 million per year. It is your tax dollars at work!

Many Connecticut citizens use iCONN every single day. Many never think about how this project came to be or how important iCONN is to every school and higher educational institution in the State. If you wonder what the State Library does with its budget - here is one of the most important and beneficial projects ever. And did you know that you can access iCONN from home using your Connecticut public library card number to connect? In a public or academic library you just tap into the publically accessible computers or through your institutions proxy server. So, now that the elections are over, call your local State legislator and thank them for approving this expenditure. And thank the iCONN staff for managing this project.

Students study for exams during Mortensen’s recent 24/7 opening.
With the end of summer came the beginning of a whole new way to do interlibrary loan at the University of Hartford, as the Libraries introduced the ILLiad @ H interlibrary loan management system. Interlibrary loan (ILL) is the means libraries use to share their collections with each other—if a student, faculty or staff member here needs a book, musical score, or article that we don’t have at University Libraries, it provides a way for us to get it for them. On the flip side of the coin, we supply material that we own to other libraries for their users. Needless to say, there’s a lot to keep track of, and interlibrary loan management software helps with that. The Libraries’ Collection Development Committee recommended ILLiad for purchase in April, and what followed was a summer of documentation reading, button pressing, product training, technical support emailing, webpage editing, chocolate eating, workflow planning, and template tweaking to get the service ready to go for the new academic year.

ILLiad @ H offers two big benefits to users: all requests can be placed and tracked through their own individual interlibrary loan accounts, and each request that’s submitted is given a transaction number to confirm receipt by the ILS office. This is a significant improvement from our previous system, which offered no way for patrons to see what they had asked for or to make sure the requests had actually been received by the ILS office. Patrons can log in to ILLiad @ H from any web browser to check when books are due, view electronically delivered documents, ask for renewals, or read email sent to them by the ILS staff. Another bonus of the new system: because requests are linked directly to ILLiad @ H accounts, contact information no longer needs to be typed in every time a request is submitted.

On the staff side of the ILLiad system, all request processing can now be done within a single place. Instead of having one piece of software to bring in requests, a second to keep track of them, and a third and fourth to send and receive documents, just about everything is handled with one piece of software. ILLiad also has built in email functionality, so if the ILS staff needs to get in touch with a patron about a request that was made, it can be done directly from that request. Finally, ILLiad’s routing system gives staff the option of manually changing the status of any request at any time or automatically allowing it to go from one processing category to another, aiding the workflow in a department that handled thousands of requests last year.

In the month of September, over 600 requests were made through our new system, and October is shaping up to be a banner month as well. Faculty, staff and students can find out more about ILLiad @ H on the University Libraries Interlibrary Services webpage or scan below for information or to login directly to ILLiad @ H. web page accessed at http://library.hartford.edu/top_tools/interlibrary_loan/default.aspx. ◆
Bringing Textbooks to the University Libraries

This fall semester the University Libraries started hosting a new collection created by the Student Government Association (SGA). This collection will be comprised of select textbooks that are being used for classes being held at the University of Hartford. It is important to SGA, as well as the University Libraries, that we try to provide any of the necessary resources to allow students to get the most out of their time at the University of Hartford. The hope is that this collection will ease some of the burden that rising costs of textbooks inflict on students as well as give students a resource to use while they are waiting for a personal copy to come through the mail.

SGA was granted a $5,000 grant by the Parents’ Association to get this project started. Working with Victoria Lamagna, SGA—Academics Vice President, we have tried to make sure that this money is spent wisely and in a way that benefits the most students. The hope is that the collection will be supported by the SGA budget in the future years to ensure that the textbooks stay current and continue to be useful to students’ coursework.

The initial requirements used to decide which textbooks to purchase were based on the number of course sections that were using a particular textbook. Textbooks have been purchased for classes ranging from music to biology, architecture to education, as well as books that are associated with general education requirements. As the collection grows consideration and preference will also be given to textbooks for classes that are taken by all University students, such as textbooks for AUC classes.

Throughout this project we have worked with faculty and students to seek donations to supplement the textbook collections. As the project progresses, the University Libraries will be adding any books that are used in classes, which are currently in the library collection, to try to create one location in each of our libraries (Mortensen and Allen) that will be comprised of the essential materials that students need for their coursework.

A list of textbooks purchased by SGA is available from our “New Titles” page on the University Libraries website, http://library.hartford.edu/find/books_music_videos/new_titles.aspx, under the listing “Textbooks”. This collection will grow and grow through the coming years and is sure to be an essential part of the resources that are available through the University Libraries.

Thank you to both the SGA and the Parents’ Association for their support on this project.

The Mitten Tree at Mortensen Library

Every year, when winter descends upon us, a lovely tree grows in Mortensen Library … our very own festive Mitten Tree.

Although it’s cold outside, staff, faculty, students and groups make their way to the Library and make a donation to our Mitten Tree. By donating a hat, scarf or a pair of mittens our patrons have been helping the Greater Hartford Community for more than five years. The Mitten drive began the day after the Thanksgiving break and by December 19th it was chock full of a colorful array of items.

This year, over 158 donations were distributed through The Town That Cares Fund of West Hartford. This organization works with the town’s social workers to identify needy residents. Warm hands, warm hearts is a great motto for the generosity of the University Community in keeping the winter chill at bay.
Koha Gets a Facelift

– Ben Ide

There have been major changes to Koha, the University Libraries’ online public access catalog (OPAC) over the last several months. In fact, you could say that it’s gotten a facelift!

“Facelift” is actually the project code name for several improvements developed by Brandon Fuller, a URI marine biology student and jazz pianist who works at the University Libraries on special projects. Some of these improvements are relatively simple and low impact: the subtle changes like altering icons and tweaking the display. Others are much more noticeable. Among the latter are the larger book cover images, better formatting of large note sections, and the great new overall look of the catalog’s website.

You might also notice that subject headings are highlighted sequentially. As you move your cursor over a subject heading from left to right, each section of the subject heading lights up individually. This shows users what elements of the subject heading they will search when they click. For example, running your cursor over the first part of “United States > History > Civil War, 1861-1865” will highlight just “United States.” Click on that and you will do a subject search on the United States. Running your cursor further left and you will highlight “History” and “Civil War, 1861-1865.” Click on that and you get subject search results that include those words as well. Brandon developed this feature in conjunction with Sam Cook, Allen Library’s Public Services Librarian, who has been working to fix record display issues. Sam’s work has dramatically improved the displayed content of our catalog records and has done a lot to make our OPAC clearer and more intelligible.

Facelift includes key commands for moving through records. The left and right arrow keys move you back and forth through your search results, Alt + R will return you to the results list, and Ctrl + Shift + S will prep you for your next search by highlighting the text in the search box at the top of the page. While you are at the top of the page, you might want to notice the new dropdown menu that lets you select what format your search results should be (say, books or electronic resources) or where you’d like to find them (Allen Library or maybe on reserve).

Perhaps the most innovative change to our OPAC can’t be appreciated on your computer — you’ll have to use your phone. Brandon developed a mobile interface for our online catalog that works with iPhones, Microsoft’s Windows Phones, and the latest version of the Android operating system for mobile devices. The mobile interface doesn’t use a third party application, it just reformats the website for a better display on smaller screens. It removes everything except what a person doing an OPAC search would need, makes scrolling through search results and navigating from record to record easier, and it includes maps for those of us who get lost wandering to Mortensen Library’s upper floor. Plus, it allow patrons on the go to renew their checked out materials. If you have your smartphone handy, you can scan this QR code and see the mobile version yourself.

So take a look at Koha. It’s such a dramatic improvement; you might not even recognize it. ♦
This semester, Archivist Margaret Mair and Web Applications Developer and Technology Assistant Barbara Dessureau mounted an exhibit in celebration of Title IX on the upper level of the Mortensen library. Former University athlete Mary Cafasso ’80 and several of her contemporaries lent memorabilia to supplement photographs and documents from the University Archives.

2012 marks the 40th anniversary of Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972. Title IX stated, “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

Although neither the Act or Title IX was specifically directed at sports, Title IX eventually transformed women’s college athletics. Progress was slow. Many felt, and still feel, that Title IX siphons funding away from men’s sports for the benefit of women. Others were afraid that increased emphasis on athletics would make women less feminine. Today some commentators worry that women’s sports will become as commercialized as men’s sports have been, to the detriment of female athletes.

Prior to the 1970s women were generally steered towards sports that depended on grace and agility rather than strength or fierce competition. Dance, archery, and fencing were thought to be suitable pastimes for young ladies. Softball and volleyball were considered feminine team sports.

By the 1980s, women’s sports were becoming considerably more demanding and competitive. The first case in the exhibit featured images from the early days of the University of Hartford, the first Hillyer College, and Hartford College for Women. The second case featured images that demonstrate the impact of Title IX at the University.

---

New Series Addition to the Library Gift Shop — Nancy Mather, Presidents’ College

People agonize over their selection of holiday cards. We make sure the inside greeting is perfect and the illustration means something special to the selector. The Library is no different. We begin to explore card options early in the summer. Our holiday cards are made in-house and often reflect some event that happened over the year.

This year was different. An opportunity presented itself and this year’s holiday card was completely different. Pricilla Bergethon, known to all as Peg, was the artist of choice this year. Peg, a resident of Simsbury, has been a Presidents’ College Fellow for 20 years and is also a very active Volunteer in the program.

Peg brought in several selections for the Library staff to look at and it proved to be too difficult a process to select only one design. So, we selected all five. Four of the cards were made into the most gorgeous notecards and the fifth became the 2012 holiday card. The notecards are available for sale at the Mortensen Library Circulation Desk and come in packages of four and eight card sets. The Presidents’ College is pleased to announce that the proceeds from the Peg’s cards will help fund the Patricia Cremins Lecture Fund.

An artist who plays with color and fabrics, Peg designed the 2012 University Libraries card and we hope you enjoy both the new notecards as well as our holiday card. ✪
Have You Ever Wondered?

For years the Mortensen Library has displayed the incoming freshmen class signature banner. Each incoming class would sign the banner, then it would be proudly displayed around the grand staircase of the Mortensen Library. When graduation came along, the graduating class banner would be removed and marched down in front of the graduates.

But have you ever wondered how the banners actually get to the very top of the Mortensen foyer? Theories have been: elves, Martians, folks swinging down on cables, and even magic. The banners would come down and go up without a fuss, and without witnesses — all leading to the bizzare theories surrounding the installation.

Until now ... on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, two of the largest step ladders ever seen arrived along with three fellows and a spool of wire. Up go the ladders and then moments later down comes the banner. In a few more minutes the new banner was up in place gracing the front entranceway of Mortensen Library. Now, can you say 40 feet up or 40 feet down, depending on your perspective?

Mobile Technology Pilot Project

The University Libraries received a grant from the William and Alice Mortensen Foundation to expand on the University’s mobile technology effort in order to explore how mobile devices will enhance librarian services and improve student engagement with research. Some faculty members have been experimenting with mobile devices in their classrooms to expand student engagement and to improve teaching and learning. The Provost was instrumental in the development of instructional design and support services to help the piloting faculty and staff adapt to the new equipment.

Many of the University Librarians spend much of their time working out of their offices. Carrying a laptop around is a cumbersome and ineffective way to interact with students; you are tied to a physical space, electrical plugs and the WI-FI. Having easy access to smaller devices, such as iPads, should help the librarians be more flexible and to serve the students more efficiently.

The University Libraries staff were also interested in having mobile devices available for student use outside of classroom instruction. The Library will be managing this pilot in the same manner as we manage our laptop loaners. Working with the Information Technology Services iPad manager, the library will include a survey with the distribution of each mobile device that will be completed before the item has been returned to the circulation department.

To assess the success of the mobile technology pilot program, the University Librarians will meet to answer three basic questions:

1. How easy was it for the students to adapt to new mobile devices?
2. Did the devices help with collaboration and group student initiatives?
3. Did the Library select apps (software made for specific purposes for mobile devices) have a positive impact on library instruction by the librarians?

The Librarians will also be polled on a regular basis to see how they are using the items, what they have discovered and experienced, and what they are willing to demonstrate to others. We are hoping to make this a truly collaborative project instead of a passing fad.

Again, we would like to thank the William and Alice Mortensen Foundation for their continued support of the Libraries’ mission.
University Libraries Donors

July 1, 2011 – November 20, 2012

Peter Angelastro  
Nora Anthony  
Randi Ashton-Pritting  
Peter Bartucca  
Anna Bigazzi  
Mark Blackwell  
Louise Blalock  
James Bowers  
A. Richard Brayer  
Nancy A. Brennan  
Bridge Publications, Inc.  
George Brophy  
Daniel P. Brown, Jr.  
Sherry Buckberrough  
Michael Bzullak  
Career Services  
David E. Carson  
Robert S. Carter, Jr.  
Center for Basque Studies  
Center for Professional Development  
Charles P. Condon  
Frederick C. Copeland, Jr.  
Susan Copeland  
Marian Cox-Chapman  
Jared Cowing  
H. David Crombie, Jr.  
Michael Crosbie  
Alice DeLana  
Bernard denOuden  
Sally Ann DePietro  
Edward Diemente  
Mark Dion  
Roz Dischiavo  
Daniel M. Dollar  
Peter Eio  
Alycia Evica  
FCLD  
Charles Fidlar  
Maria Frank  
Samuel S. Fuller  
Mary Gibbons  
Stephen P. Goddard  
Howard Goldick  
Warren Goldstein  
Ellsworth S. Grant  
Francine du Plessix Gray  
Eunice S. Groark  
Virginia Hale  
Walter Harrison  
Emily Holcombe  
George A. Ingram Jr.  
Barbara Intriligator  
Harvey Jassem  
Constance Kaplan  
Gretchen LaBau  
Landscape Architects  
Janet M. Larsen  
George Lechner  
Hae-Sung Lee  
Lincoln College of New England  
DeLois Traynum Lindsey  
Living Word Church of Niceville  
George W. Logemann  
James B. Lyon  
Mary Mack Estate  
Fred Mahaffey  
Nancy Mather  
Paul Mihalek  
Minerva H. Neiditz  
Jon O. Newman  
Office of Sponsored Research  
Paralegal Studies Department  
Laura Pence  
Christine Pina  
Judith M. Pinney  
Posterity Press  
Claire Prochaska  
Claire M. Pryor  
O. James Purnell III  
Emily Rankin  
Belle K. Ribicoff  
Kristen Richards  
Christine Ripple  
Bernard Rosen  
Steven Rosenthal  
Dora Rytman  
Barbara Sergi  
Anne T. Shafer  
Beverly A. Smith  
Robert H. Smith, Jr.  
Keith A. Stevenson  
Kylie Svenson  
Basil B. Talbott, Jr.  
DeRoy C. Thomas  
David M. Tine  
Humphrey R. Tonkin  
Eric M. van Rooy  
Jean-Pierre van Rooy  
Sharon Vasquez  
Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art  
Durward D. Wakefield  
Judith Wawro  
Sherwood S. Willard  
Louise Willett  
John A. Woods
Offerings in the Presidents’ College — Spring 2013

Our preview reception for the spring semester will be held in Mortensen Library on Friday, January 18, beginning at 4:30 p.m. At the reception, which is free and open to all, you will hear from some of the faculty members who will be teaching courses for us in the spring. There will be refreshments and musical entertainment. Mark your calendar!

Humphrey Tonkin will lead daily discussions of poetry during the week of January 14-18.

Catherine Stevenson will be back to teach a course on “Childhood Interrupted: Charles Dickens’ Great Expectations and George Eliot’s Mill on the Floss.”

Teachers of courses on art scheduled for the spring semester include George Lechner on the paintings of Rembrandt (beginning Jan. 28), and Zina Davis on modernism in art from Duchamp to Pollock (beginning April 4).

The monthly Tuesdays at Duncaster series will continue, and we are also starting a new series of monthly lectures at the McAuley retirement community, with Louis Manzione on new technologies, Humphrey Tonkin on languages, Catherine Stevenson on Shangri-La, and John Feierabend on Little Miss Muffet. We’ll explain all in the Presidents’ College newsletter!

Edward Cumming will offer a course entitled “The Elements of Music,” in which he will look at melody, harmony, rhythm, and texture.

Biologist Stephan Bullard’s course will deal with natural disasters, and Jean McGivney-Burelle will treat us to a course on how to make sense of mathematics.

Anne Knapp will take us through the history of the First Ladies of the United States, historian Robert McLaughlin will examine “Britain and France in the Middle East 1919-1939” and newcomer Jennifer Steadman will address the phenomenon of “Globeskirters,” American women travelers of the nineteenth century, in a course offered in cooperation with the Connecticut Historical Society.

Other cooperative programs will include continuation of the Foreign Affairs Discussion Group jointly with the World Affairs Council, and a course coordinated by Bryan Sinche on Connecticut and the Emancipation Proclamation, a major effort featuring faculty from Central Connecticut State University, Trinity College, and Eastern Connecticut State University, as well as the University of Hartford. The journal Connecticut Explored is our partner in this venture.

Maestro Willie Anthony Waters, of Connecticut Opera fame, will offer an all-day program on Verdi on February 18, and a course on French opera in early May.

Kathleen McGrory will introduce us to the poetry of Mary Oliver (beginning February 27), and Dean Joseph Voelker will be back to tell us about modern Irish poetry, particularly the work of Seamus Heaney.

One of the major undertakings of the spring semester will be Michael Lankester’s six-part series on Wagner’s Ring Cycle, a unique opportunity to immerse ourselves in Wagner’s astounding musical and mythic creation, timed to coincide with Robert Lepage’s landmark production of the Ring at the Met. Maestro Lankester will take us on a guided tour through the world of Alberich and Wotan, Siegfried and Siegmund, Brünnhilde and Waltraute, but with an eye to the development of symphonic music and Wagner’s place in that development.

Other spring offerings will include Maria Esposito Frank on Boccaccio, Stephen Pier on dance, Chris Martens on baseball, and Humphrey Tonkin on “Shakespeare: Man and Myth.” This year, we intend to increase our programming in the early summer, with courses extending through May, June and July. ♦
Staff Happenings

Michael Anderson joined the Allen Library as the Cataloging Coordinator in November 2012. Michael will perform cataloging and processing functions for music and dance materials, oversee the work of student employees, and contribute to other Allen services and projects. Michael has a Bachelor of Music Education (instrumental emphasis) from Youngstown State University (Ohio), and a Master of Music (emphasis in percussion performance) from The University’s Hartt School. Please join us in welcoming Michael!

Randi Ashton-Pritting, director, was appointed to a two-year term on the State Library’s Advisory Council for Library Planning and Development (ACLPD). The mission of ACLPD is to provide the State Library Board and staff with advice, perspective, and communication from the library community on matters relating to the State Library’s various statewide program and service responsibilities, including the administration of the federal Library Services and Technology Act. ACLPD is centrally involved in all major planning efforts (with the exception of the Connecticut Library Network) undertaken by the State Library with respect statewide library and information services.

Sam Cook, Allen Library Public Services Librarian, and his wife Janice became the proud parents of a baby girl, Molly Rose Cook, born in June 2012. Congratulations Sam and Janice!

Jared Cowing resigned from his position as the Allen Library’s Cataloging Coordinator, effective September 2012, to move to Los Angeles to pursue an internship in music composition for digital games, and take a position at California State University, Northridge’s Oviatt Library cataloging music and media materials for the school’s cinema and music programs. We wish Jared the best in his new endeavors!

November 24 brought wedding bells for Stephanie Kacmarcik daughter of Judy Kacmarcik, Libraries Business Manager. Stephanie is a graduate of the University of Hartford, Barney Business School and a past Mortensen Library Student employee. What a great way to kick off the holiday season! Congratulations to Stephanie and David.

Benjamin Klein, Allen Library Public Services Coordinator, presented a new composition for tuba and electronics at the Electro-Acoustic Barn Dance conference on November 10, 2012, at Mary Washington University in Fredericksburg, Virginia. This work is a part of a larger solo tuba and electronics recital that Benjamin presented at Wesleyan University on October 23.

Congratulations to Cyndi MacCluggage, who has earned her Library Technical Assistant Certificate from Capital Community College. Cyndi has been working toward getting a better overview and more perspective on what everyone else does in the library world, and it shows! In addition to her duties as Serials Specialist, Cyndi is also responsible for processing the dissertations and theses submitted to the Libraries, helps out with interlibrary loan and cataloging, and takes a shift at the Reference Desk. Great job, Cyndi!

Tracey Rudnick, Allen Library Head, finished her service on a task force that helped the Music OCLC Users Group (MOUG) become a 501(c)3 charitable organization in 2012. The long and complex process included research and completion of a lengthy IRS form, as well as suggested revisions to MOUG’s articles of incorporation and bylaws. Tracey previously served a four-year rotation on MOUG’s executive board as Chair and Vice Chair. (MOUG has over 400 dues-paying members, holds annual meetings, and provides an official means of communication, assistance, and education for users of the OCLC services who are also concerned with music materials. Topics include cataloging systems, standards, authority control, and public interface design.)
Partnering with the Office of Community Service – Kristina Edwards

The University Libraries has enhanced its partnership with the Office of Community Service. The Office of Community Service is charged with assisting the university community (students, staff, and faculty) to connect with various community service projects and furthering our university-wide mission to be “Committed to Community”. One of the tools they offer is an online web service called VolunteerMatch. The goal is to provide easy access to volunteering opportunities and to allow the university to track and acknowledge all the great work that students, staff, and faculty are doing within the Greater Hartford community, as well as across the country.

This year we are doing our part to use VolunteerMatch, (https://uofh.volunteermatch.org/) to advertise two projects that the University Libraries have been doing for several years now: “Food for Fines” and our annual “Mitten Tree”. We are also hoping that through our two programs we can help bring attention to this great tool, which all university members can use to track and find volunteering opportunities within the Greater Hartford area or even at home during school breaks.

This is only the first step towards building upon our partnership with the Office of Community Service. We hope to find other ways that the University Libraries can show that we “Committed to Community,” whether it is by participating in “Hawks Helping Hartford” in April or providing the Office of Community Service a new location for them to distribute donuts when they do their next donut sale. We feel that a stronger partnership will benefit both the University Libraries and the Office of Community Service, as well as provide more opportunities for students, staff, and faculty to show that they are “Committed to Community”.

Presidents’ College

Education for a Lifetime

Short non-credit courses held at the University of Hartford for adults in the arts, humanities, science, music technology, and current affairs.

Save the Date — January 18, 2013

Spring Preview

Meet the faculty and learn about spring courses.

www.hartford.edu/presidentscollege
860.768.4269 — pcollege@hartford.edu

Happy Holidays from the Center for Community Service and the University Libraries!

University of Hartford

give the gift of SERVICE

The goal of this campaign is to encourage members of our community to give back during the holiday season. On the reverse side we have listed a few programs that are currently being offered. Together we have the opportunity to carry out this year’s theme, “Committed to Community” during the holiday season. With your help, the University of Hartford can make a large impact in the greater Hartford community.

University of Hartford

Happy Holidays from the Center for Community Service and the University Libraries!

www.facebook.com/ uofhcommunityservice
George Lechner Wins Gordon Ramsey Award

We, as a society, cherish the singer/actor who receives the Oscar, but a librarian/professor award is much rarer. On August 29, 2012, George Lechner received the Gordon Clark Ramsey Award for Creative Excellence in teaching for his work as an adjunct professor at the University of Hartford. In the library, George is best known as one of the Reference Library Staff in the Mortensen Library, but it is less well known that George dedicates extra hours to teaching about the Italian Renaissance in the All University Curriculum. George has been an adjunct professor at the University for 22 years which coincides with his arriving as a Library Assistant at the Mortensen Library. George has also taught at Hillyer College and in the College of Arts and Sciences, lecturing on art and art history. George consistently rates 4.6 to 5.0 ratings from his student evaluations, and his course is quite popular with University of Hartford students.

The Gordon Clark Ramsey Award is named for the late former University of Hartford adjunct Professor who offered over 20 years of continued expertise as a professor, secretary to the faculty senate and great friend to the University Libraries. Gordon Clark Ramsey advocated for the adjunct faculty by promoting opportunities for growth and enhancing their status in the University Community. The award indentifies professors who either develop a creative or scholarly project, or provide consistent and sustained scholarly teaching at the University.

George is no stranger to teaching awards as he was the recipient in 2009 for the Sustained Excellence in Teaching Award from the University of Hartford. His scholarship and expertise on Baroque art and symbolism has led to television interviews and research on critiques of the Dan Brown’s novel Angels and Demons. In the reference department, George conducts Library Instruction classes where he teaches thousands of students each year on the nuances of research and utilizing the tools that are provided by the library for fulfilling requirements in scholarship. Librarian/Professor Lechner also conducts classes for the Presidents’ College in the Library here at the University of Hartford and has guest lectured at talks at Yale University. The University Libraries would like to congratulate Professor Lechner on the presentation of the Gordon Clark Ramsey award so generously bestowed and so surpassingly earned.

In Memoriam – Shepherd Monson Holcombe, Sr.

Sheperd Monson Holcombe, Sr. died on November 28, 2012. He was born in Northampton, MA on June 12, 1921, and grew up in the house in which his family had lived since 1840 in a city he loved. He was dedicated to the city of Hartford and to many of its institutions. He leaves a legacy of service to not only the Wadsworth, Connecticut Historical Society and the Old State House but to the University of Hartford Libraries Board of Visitors and the Hartford Art School. The Library staff will remember Shep for his sense of humor and his interest in everything that went on within the Libraries.

Personally, I will not only miss Shep, but will also miss his grill cheese sandwiches and mermaids. Thank you Shep for everything.
Christy Bird Wins The Outstanding Staff Member Award

The Outstanding Staff Member Awards recognize individuals who are exceptionally dedicated to the University of Hartford and who play a critical role in the success of this institution and its students. The staff members who have been honored with these awards have a history of outstanding job performance and often go well beyond the duties of their jobs to help the public, students, parents, faculty, and colleagues. They approach their work with tremendous energy and enthusiasm, and they inspire those around them.

Christine “Christy” Bird manages the University Libraries Interlibrary Loan Department, where she helps faculty and students obtain research materials not owned by the University of Hartford. Always willing to go the extra mile to locate hard-to-find material or fill last-minute requests, Christy has won the hearts of scores of grateful faculty members and students who have filled her office bulletin board with thank-you notes, cards, and emails.

The reasons for compliments like “I couldn’t get my work done without her” are numerous. Instead of merely finding a copy of a requested book, she will go out of her way to find other editions and inform borrowers of their existence, in case there may be significant differences. She is able to access obscure articles in languages like German and French that have not yet been scanned into European databases. She sends emails to patrons to remind them to return or renew their materials and carefully erases any pencil marks.

Christy has diligently and successfully supported the University’s research mission for nearly 10 years, along the way earning a reputation as an efficient, unflappable librarian and wonderful coworker.◆

New Committee Promotes University Libraries – Sam Cook

This summer, the University Libraries established a Marketing Committee. This committee, comprised of staff members from both Mortensen Library and Allen Library and representatives of each department, was created out of a desire to better promote our resources and services to the entire University of Hartford community. It was formed in part thanks to the efforts of our Acquisitions Librarian, Kristina Edwards, and the Collection Development Committee.

Part of the work of the Marketing Committee has been to identify locations, both physical and electronic, where our resources and services can be promoted. Marketing locations include the Hartford Informer, UNotes, Facebook, TVs and bulletin boards across campus, emails to departments, and more. The Marketing Committee has promoted services such as library instruction, the textbook project, the Allen Library (focusing on users outside of the Hartt School), Food for Fines, and the Mitten Tree. Another project the Marketing Committee has undertaken is getting floor plan signs on the floors of Mortensen Library, making it easier for users to find call number sections as well as the various departments, rooms, and tenants within the library.

We would love for you to be part of this effort. If you have any ideas about how the libraries could be promoted or what resources or services you would like to see promoted, please contact current Marketing Committee chair Sam Cook, Public Services Librarian at Allen Library, at scook@hartford.edu.◆
For most of the undergraduate student body and most faculty and staff members at the University of Hartford, the only known fight song in the history of the university is our current fight song, *Fly High*. The song, penned by Stephen Gryc in 2002, is believed to be either the second or third song to hold the rank of “fight song” in the 56-year history of the university. The first song or songs were used as the university transitioned from three separate institution to the University of Hartford.

The second song was lost to university records until this past summer when student assistant to the university archivist, Daniel Crittenden, began a search to uncover it. According to Daniel, the search began when he came across an article from the *New York Times*, citing “Hartford On to Victory” as the university’s fight song. Daniel said he was taken by the writer’s specific listing of the name of the song, a detail *The New York Times* wouldn’t gloss over without fact checking. His conviction in their fact-checking ability took him from the archives records, to the President’s office, then to over to Paranov Hall to speak with Stephen Gryc and finally over to the University’s Sports Center, where he spoke to James Keener, the Sports Information Director. In between these stops, he spoke with anyone he thought might point him in the right direction.

Over the course of his search, Daniel found out that the narrative of the University has suffered due to a piecemeal record of the development of the University spirit and traditions. In the absence of a definitive history, people often will invent histories based on what they perceive to be what always must have been. Their faulty perceptions can distort historical evolutionary process by censoring valid information or by including narrative impurities. The archives in the university libraries, aims to demystify the origins of the University of Hartford, and preserve their memory for future generations of Hawks.

Daniel found the older fight song when he went to the Sports Center. James Keener found it on a men’s basketball season guide from 1983-1984. The document was discovered in the back of an awkwardly-placed closet, in the bottom drawer of the fourth file cabinet back in the corner. On the back side of the folded program he found the words’ to the song “Hartford, on to Victory” penned by then-freshmen Michael D Gaylord. After the lyrics to the song, the colophon on the bottom identifies the song as the University’s ‘first official fight song’. Daniel points out that this song was written in 1983, so there may still be other earlier songs, chants or cheers out there that were just never recorded or written down. Perhaps there are other materials out across the campus that are waiting to be found. Another gloomier reality, he says maybe that those materials may be lost forever.

Daniel Crittenden, Senior, graduating May 2013.
Food for Fines: Everybody Wins  
– Sam Cook

Run in conjunction with the Center for Community Service’s Give the Gift of Service campaign, the University Libraries held Food for Fines in November starting the week before Thanksgiving and ending December 2. This was a great opportunity for the libraries, our patrons, and local food banks. For each food item a patron brought in, we forgave $1 of overdue fines. In total, we received 264 non-perishable food items. The Center for Community Service donated all the food that was collected to local food banks.

With the assistance of the new University Libraries Marketing Committee, this event was heavily promoted, with information about it going to uNotes, Facebook, TVs in key locations on campus, signs throughout campus, and more. This helped lead to a successful and popular event, just as it has been in past years. Through this program, the libraries were able to get back numerous overdue materials, the patrons were provided an easy way to reduce their fines, and local families in need were given food at an important time of year. This was a true win for everybody.

News from the Allen Library — Your Music & Performing Arts Library  
– Tracey Rudnick

The Allen Library is pleased to announce that DVDs and VHS tapes now circulate to students for three days. Previously, students had to use DVDs and VHS tapes in the library. Items may be renewed once. This privilege has also been extended to Presidents’ College fellows, the Library Board of Visitors, and University and Hartt Trustees. Faculty and staff, including Hartt Community Division faculty, may still check out DVDs and VHS tapes for one week. For information about fines and limitations, see http://library.hartford.edu/services/borrow_renew/.

DVDs and VHS tapes also can be browsed in the library now. They have been moved into a public area where faculty and students can more easily explore them.

Last year’s policy change — allowing students to check out CDs and LPs for three days—proved to be popular: CD checkouts rose by 23% in FY12, and Allen’s total checkouts (books, scores, recordings, and videos) rose by 20%. Allen continues to be a very busy library!

The Allen Library now has a public scanner (flat bed) with easy touch-screen controls, available at no charge. Students, faculty, and staff can email their scans to themselves or save scans to a USB flash drive.

The Libraries’ newest performing arts database is IPA Source, a large online library of International Phonetic Alphabet transcriptions and literal translations of opera arias and art song texts. It is already popular among vocalists and music aficionados. The University Libraries also upgraded the dissertation database. It now gives access to the full text of thousands of dissertations across the US, including performing arts research. Find these e-resources, plus online streamed music and video (e.g., Naxos Music Library, Dance in Video, and Jazz Music Library), at http://library.hartford.edu/AllenLibrary.

All of these resources are available for everyone at the university. While the Allen Library has close ties to the Hartt School, staff are also eager to provide services to students, faculty, and staff from any of the schools and colleges on campus, university organizations such as the Presidents’ College, community groups, and more. Our staff look forward to seeing you at the Allen Library!
To:

Become a Friend of University Libraries

Whatever your reading interests might be, libraries are always eager to serve as your primary resource for information. Your contribution will enable the University Libraries to enrich subject collections in support of the University's academic programs. Your help is much appreciated — and much needed so that we can continue to support our patrons with the quality services and materials that have become our trademark.

Join us!

☐ $100 - $249 — Patron $_____ ☐ $5,000 - $9,999 — President's Circle $_____
☐ $250 - $499 — Pacesetter $_____ ☐ $10,000 or more — Bibliophile $_____
☐ $500 - $4,999 — Director's Circle $_____ ☐ Please contact me

May be paid by: (Circle One)    Check     VISA    MasterCard    Discover    American Express $_______

Credit Card No. ___________________________ Security Code ___ ___ Exp Date _________________

Signature ___________________________________ Date __________________________

Name ______________________________________ Phone _________________________

Address _____________________________________________________________________________

City ______________________________________ ST __________ ZIP ________________

Please make your check payable to: University of Hartford Libraries

Return this form to:
Friends of the University of Hartford Libraries
Mortensen Library
200 Bloomfield Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117