



THE CORNER BAR: A Gathering of Readers, Writers and Critical Thinkers

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BHCC Library Newsletter

Bunker Hill Community College Library and Learning Commons

Inside this issue:

Proctoring Services	1
From the Director's Desk	1
eCollection Building	2
Fast Facts	4
Celebrating Women's History	4

PROCTORING SERVICES

by Elizabeth Fields

For years, librarians have joked about wearing many hats – we are sometimes instructors, tech support specialists, custodians, and security personnel. Sometimes we're even librarians. But as Bunker Hill continues offering more non-traditional classes, at non-traditional times, and for non-traditional students, we may be about to take on a new role: proctors.

The library has offered proctoring services in the past, usually in a low-key fashion: an instructor would leave a copy of an exam, and the student would come to the library at a certain time, usually on the weekend. He would

sit in a certain chair and we would stare at him for two hours while he finished the exam. That was simple, neat, and easy. Now, however, there are many options: what if the test isn't on paper but online? What if the test is open-book? What if the student is only available to take a test at 3 A.M.?

We are willing to accommodate almost all of those situations, with a little notice. First of all, any instructor interested in having a librarian proctor an exam should contact us in advance. We can ensure that a librarian will be available and take note of any special requirements

or rules. If your rule is that students can use their textbook but not their text messaging, this is the time to tell us!

If the student is to take the exam online, she needs to know how to access it – or the instructor needs to give us specific instructions in advance. We are not familiar with all the tools professors use in their teaching. When a student panics because she's having trouble logging into quia.com, there's a good chance we know even less about it than she does. If a student needs a specific code, password, or username for your exam...

[...continued on page 3](#)

Get to Know Your Library

Please send us your thoughts on future library programming. What kinds of programs would you like to see and attend if hosted by the BHCC library?

bhcclibrary@bhcc.mass.edu

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Vivica Smith Pierre, JD, PhD

WHAT DOES SPRING PROMISE?

Dear Patrons,
Spring is officially here for those of us in New England and throughout the Northern Hemisphere. Study after study shows that we, as humans, are transformed by our attitudes.

These research reports show that a "good" attitude is a crucial part of the lifelong learning and living experience. What is required is relationship building and nurturing: individual/self, individual/family, individual/community, and our attitude about our relationship

and responsibility to the environment and the world at large.

So what does spring promise? I happen to believe that spring promises:

- the bounty of what comes after a long winter

[...continued on page 3](#)

E-COLLECTION BUILDING

by Andy McCarthy

The Library & Learning Commons works eagerly toward meeting its patrons where they are in terms of technology and resources. We constantly evaluate and review our resources, our equipment and our services to better meet the needs of today's 21st-century community college student. A student today is better equipped technically than they were in the past. Most have cell phones and smartphones on which they can access certain e-collections including but not limited to eBooks. In addition, many students have their own laptops and some have tablets as well, including Nooks, iPads and Kindles. Since more and more students own smartphones, tablets and laptops, the library is active in seeking out and providing new e-collections that can be accessed through these devices.

One of the library's top priorities presently is adding to our electronic collection, or e-collection. Our main focus in building this collection is eBooks since the library was recently awarded \$37,600 for an action plan that focuses on eBooks and eBook readers. In addition, we will continue to look at other electronic collections that could be useful for our main collection, including but not limited to online films, video, and audio.

"We presently have over 30,000 eBooks in our collection."

To add to this collection, we constantly evaluate our collection and seek to recognize the holes that could be filled with electronic information resources. As an example, some of the subjects that are lacking include the STEM areas (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and the computer science area. We are constantly looking to bolster these areas with additional resources.

We also must be proactive in our collection building. Looking at the college curriculum and how it is changing is imperative to a good library collection. Has the college added any new programs? If it has or if it is planning to, then the library must know this so that we can not only buy items in that subject for the collection but also decide whether to buy them electronically. What also factors in is if any programs have been stopped by the college. If so, then these items can be removed from the shelves and from the eBook collections. We can then use this budgeted money for items for another part of the collection.

Our e-collections will not take away all physical items in the library's collections; there will always be something on our shelves. We will focus on the purchase of electronic items that we do not have elsewhere. A copy on our shelves and a copy in electronic format is redundant and not a good

use of our budget. The items we purchase should be unique, and we will take this in to effect when making decisions on what to buy. In addition, we will take suggestions from faculty, staff and students about what is missing in our collection and what should be added. They should also suggest to us what should be removed or is not needed any longer. The library will be more proactive in seeking out recommendations and suggestions from others within Bunker Hill Community College to help us build our e-collections.

When deciding how to build our e-collections, we also monitor usage statistics in order to determine which eBooks are used the most and the subjects these books are in. Most of our eBooks at this time are easily accessible with the internet the primary method of access. We will continue to ensure that future purchases are also easily accessible. Accessibility is key to these collections.

Building the e-collection will not happen overnight, but the groundwork is here, right now, since we presently have over 30,000 eBooks in our collection. We can only improve and add to this number.

To make a suggestion for our e-collection or for our collection in general, please send an email to BHCCLibrary@bhcc.mass.edu.

-Andy McCarthy, MLIS



Continued from page 1... *FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK*

- rocking or sporting the exaggerated stripe or floaty scarf or styling into your spring forward wardrobe
- spring concerts, festivals, and parades
- spring running or training, new diets or exercise plans
- buying a few spring cleaning products in hopes they will jump-start the process

One of the questions I ask myself in this season is: Are there any unfulfilled promises that need to be completed? One could say:

- No promises, but hope springs eternal
- Yes promises, especially hope to get rid of extra stuff like weight or clothing or even hair

Spring cleaning, however, is not easy.

- What thoughts and beliefs are we still holding on to that are tired and have outgrown their usefulness?
- What relationships do we need to grow or regrow?

- What words spoken do we need to ask and receive forgiveness for?
- What gossip or rumor did we plant, whether as speaker, originator, hearer, receiver, or transmitter of a false report?
- What work have we left undone? What work did we commit to last spring, but still haven't accomplished?
- What seeds do we need to plant in our garden to harvest in our lives, personal and professional, success? Are there any unfulfilled promises that need to be fulfilled; whether it is a promise made to a parent, child, spouse, significant other, coworker, teacher or fellow student?
- What promise and/or promises have we made but broken to ourselves? Is there any choice that needs to be unchosen?

To make this all real for ourselves, we might consider helpful spring reading... Whatever you do, may spring be filled with the promise of change, with transformation and with hope. -**Vivica Smith Pierre, JD, PhD**

Continued from page 1... *PROCTORING SERVICES* by Elizabeth Fields

please let us know in advance. Similarly, if the student should already know *her* code, password, or username, let us know that as well. We are unable to help with most exam-specific questions, both technical ("where do I click to save my answers?") and academic ("what's the answer to number two?"). That usually works out well because professors don't *want* us to help students with their exams!

On a related note, we will do our best to proctor to a reasonable degree. If you tell us that a student is not allowed to use her phone during an exam, we can enforce that. On the other hand, if the exam is open-internet but not open-email-a-friend, that's a little more difficult. Standing behind the student and staring over his shoulder for two hours is neither feasible nor comfortable for either of us.

With so many students on campus now (at last count, 15,002 were enrolled for the spring semester), at least one of them, on at least one occasion, is going to have trouble meeting all her commitments. Almost every instructor I've met is willing to make alternative arrangements for a motivated student, and I am sure the library is not the only department on campus that is willing to pitch in to help students and instructors succeed. Except for the 3 A.M. exam sessions. You're on your own with those.

To schedule a proctored exam or session, contact us at 617-228-3479 or bhcclibrary@bhcc.mass.edu.

-**Elizabeth Fields, MLIS**



Publication Policy

The Corner Bar encourages all members of the BHCC community especially enrolled students to submit comments, feedback, suggestions, and thoughts for publication. However, we reserve the right to edit, shorten or rewrite any portion of a writing, for the sake of objectivity, responsibility, and good taste. At all times, we will strive to maintain the meaning and intent of any submission.

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STATS—February 2013

GATE COUNT: 43,705 (RAW); 34,964 (ADJUSTED)

NEW BOOKS ADDED TO CATALOG: 127

PUBLIC SERVICES/REFERENCE QUESTIONS: 294

LIBRARY INSTRUCTION:

WORKSHOPS: 44

STUDENTS : 698

WEBSITE: Total Page Views: 28,373

Most Popular Pages:

<http://www.noblenet.org/bhcc/databases/databasesAZ.html>

<http://www.noblenet.org/bhcc/databases/databasesSubjects.html>

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY

By Anicia Kuchesky & Stefanie Maclin

READINGS FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March is Women's History Month. Observed worldwide, it celebrates the contributions and achievements of women. While the celebration is still new - a 20th-century birth - the history of Women's History Month is much older, recognizing the women who challenged their societies, gender, and sexuality, in a common goal of being allowed to live their lives as they so chose. As you celebrate Women's History Month in 2013, remember, 100 years ago, you, as a woman, would not have been allowed to vote yet, you would not be able to attend a school of higher education such as Bunker Hill Community College, and you would not be allowed to wear pants.

Today, we celebrate Women's History Month through learning. Consider one of the following books. You just might learn something about the women who paved the way for your dreams.

The Awakening by Kate Chopin

PS1294.C63 A64 2008

Originally published in 1899, *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin was not well received by critics due to its early feminist views. In this work of fiction, the main character, Edna, struggles with her feelings of dissatisfaction with marriage and motherhood, attitudes considered to be immoral in Victorian era society especially when openly expressed by a woman. Resurrected in 1960 during the women's movement, *The Awakening* has been honored as an honest discussion from a woman's point of view on subjects such as gender roles, female sexuality, and social identity.

Her story: a timeline of the women who changed

America by Charlotte S. Waisman & Jill S. Tietjen

HQ 1410.W354 2008

Her Story is a richly illustrated timeline highlighting not only well-known women innovators but many unsung heroes, including pre-

sent day heroines. The timeline dates from 1857, when Virginia Dare became the first child born in the Americas, to 2007, when historian Drew Gilpin Faust is named the first female president of Harvard University. The book has a "Professions Index" allowing readers to look up influential women in categories such as *abolitionists, military personnel, and youth group founders*.

Joyous greetings: the first international women's movement, 1830-1860 by Bonnie S. Anderson

HQ 1154.A6856 2000

Joyous Greetings reveals the early work of women's rights activists and the mobilization of the women's movement as an international campaign. Author Bonnie Anderson cites feminist ideas recorded in letters and pamphlets written as early as 1851, reaching places such as Worcester, Massachusetts; Leipzig in German Saxony; Sheffield, England; and Paris, France. Collaboratively women transcended country and continental borders to discuss issues such as class struggle, divorce, political equality, and slavery.

Nobel Prize Women in Science: their lives, struggles, and momentous discoveries by Sharon Bertsch McGrayne

Bunker Hill electronic resource collection

Author Sharon McGrayne opens her book asking the question, "*Why have only ten women won Nobel prizes in science when more than five hundred men have done so?*" This book describes the lives and careers of 15 women scientists who either won a Nobel Prize or contributed toward a Nobel winning project. Written as a collective biography, this book chronicles the work of these women scientists and gives the reader insight into the obstacles and discrimination experienced by each woman in a male-dominated scientific community.

This is only a small selection of the books available on women's history in our library. Found something else that caught your interest? The BHCC Library is on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) - we would love to hear about it!