CAS Information Services Newsletter

Fall 2013
October

1. **ALCVault:**
   The new era of information storage and retrieval

The Center has recently started a new project to archive and store its historical and current documents in a secure and sustainable manner. Partnering with MaxxVault (www.maxxvault.com), now we can benefit from a top-notch software package to preserve our valuable documents. The Alcohol Library Collection Vault (ALCVault) will be the new home for existing databases and collections.

MaxxVault, a successful electronic document management solution, helps archive, organize, and manage content, while providing security to store confidential information. An electronic file storage and retrieval system, MaxxVault has been a leader in providing customized document management solutions in education, government, finance, and health care. The CAS Library is the first to build a digital collection using the software and explore its use for digital archives with MaxxVault software engineers. After setting up the necessary hardware and software, library staff members are now focusing on developing document and records management workflows that are task-appropriate yet simple to learn and use.

ALCVault is designed to host all special collections and archival material gathered over time at the library. The pilot has started with the assessment and migration of the Alcohol History Collection and the Ralph G. Connor Alcohol Research Reference Files. We are also experimenting with digitizing the registration cards and images from the Summer School of Alcohol Studies. Challenges include a large number of variables in terms of document and database formats, access rights, and metadata. Separate workflows need to be explored for items available for the public and in-house use only. Confidential information has to be treated with caution at every stage of digitizing.
2. *From the CAS Archives: “Conference Room receiving facelift”*

During the summer, CAS Library staff took the initiative and started to rearrange the display cabinets in the large conference room in the CAS building. All objects on display are from the collection of the CAS Archives or from the Summer School and will be integrated into a full exhibit on the history of the Center.

The exhibit is meant to demonstrate the five pillars of the Center in five display cabinets. In the center on the top is the original, hand-written Yale poster with the five original missions of the Center: research, publication, education, therapy, and special services. Historic research-related items below feature various research devices and their use pictured. On the far left is the Journal (QSA-JSA-JSAD) with a full run bound in blue and its various covers over time. The next cabinet highlights the Center’s efforts in alcohol publication and dissemination of information with representative pamphlets and other materials published at the Center. The Classified Abstract Archive of the Alcohol Literature (CAAAAL), the archetype of organizing alcohol and substance abuse information with 20,000 abstracts collected from 1939 through 1977, is represented with its manual, a sorting needle, and a replica McBee punch card. The shelves above are dedicated to the documentalist and editor Mark Keller highlighting some of his achievements. The first cabinet on the far right focuses on education with a display of the Summer School’s famous and eye-catching t-shirts on the top and educational materials on the shelves below. The second cabinet from the right highlights further CAS publications and memorabilia, such as the alco-calculator and classic glass slides. Above is a small tribute to E.M. Jellinek with the “Bunky”, the bust of Jellinek awarded to Mark Keller as the Jellinek Memorial Award, a few representative publications, a sketch of Jellinek drawn by Vera Efron, and a few screenshots from the 10-minute educational cartoon Jellinek supervised for the World Health organization – with himself as one of the characters.

Four of the original twelve Yale Plan Clinic posters are also displayed on the walls. The conference room exhibit will be complete with a large display highlighting notable people in alcohol studies, Summer School group photos, the Journal, and the history of the Center in the form of a modular mural on the wall opposite the cabinets.
3. Conference of the New Jersey Library Association, June 3-5, Atlantic City, NJ

New Jersey librarians gathered for the second time in the Revel Resort Hotel in Atlantic City for their annual conference. The Center was represented by three information assistants (Christine Briahtaris, Scott Goldstein, and Jonathan Torres), as well as Bill Bejarano, information specialist and Judit Ward, librarian.

Our poster, *Singing your own praises: Virtual exhibit presents the Birth of Alcohol Studies*, described the library’s preparations to celebrate three major anniversaries at the Center by collecting artifacts for an on-site permanent exhibit as well as a digital archive.

The poster addressed the challenges of selection, inclusion, and the creation of the physical and digital exhibits, including some technological aspects of digitization. Working closely with CAS faculty, the library wishes to help analyze and translate the Center’s identity into modern terms and redefine the “brand” with displays boasting the Center’s major achievements.
4. SALIS 36th Annual Conference

Looking Forward, Looking Back: Reflections on the Past and Planning for the Future

Substance Abuse Librarians & Information Specialists
36th Annual Conference

April 29 - May 2, 2014
New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA

Substance Abuse Librarians and Information Specialists (SALIS) last gathered in New Brunswick, NJ for a conference in 1985. Now, 29 years later, SALIS members and other interested information professionals are invited back again for the 36th Annual SALIS Conference, hosted by CAS.

Our theme this year, Looking Forward, Looking Back: Reflections on the Past and Planning for the Future, aims to review past successes and best practices in documenting and disseminating addiction research, as well as to explore opportunities to translate them into our information age.

5. Sheila Blume papers donated to CAS Library

A small but very interesting personal collection was donated to the CAS Library in June 2013 by Sheila Blume, M.D., lecturer at the Rutgers Summer School of Alcohol Studies (student 1965, lecturer 1966 – 2011), donated to the Center of Alcohol Studies in June, 2013. The donation includes a plaster head of William W. Wilson (pictured with Dr. Blume) sculpted by Frederic V. Guinzburg, a friend and neighbor of Bill and Lois Wilson (purchased at auction at Guinzburg’s studio, 1983, lot #135), a framed photo of Governor Thomas E Dewey signing the first New York State alcoholism bill in 1951, along with one of the pens he used, a framed poster “An extraordinary century for women” by the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (DATE), several sketches by Sheila Blume made at the Rutgers Summer School of Alcohol Studies, a notebook Sheila Blume kept as a participant at Rutgers Summer School of Alcohol Studies, certificates, awards to Sheila Blume, miscellaneous papers and conference presentations, notes, and photos, and various pamphlets, manuals, booklets related to substance abuse. Dr. Blume also collected newspaper clippings and other stories about people whose stories or obituaries include mention alcoholism, drug addiction or compulsive gambling. A precious finding for CAS is the two 120-minute cassettes containing Sheila Blume’s oral history interview with Mark Keller, recorded at some time between 1980 and 1983.
6. RUL Website gets a redesign

The Rutgers University Libraries’ website (http://libraries.rutgers.edu) underwent a major redesign following two years of research, discussion, and testing. Seasoned users of the previous iteration may be initially disoriented with the new look, but the clean interface and intuitive features should provide for quick understanding and simple navigability.

Perhaps the most prominent feature of the home page is the five-tabbed search box, separated into “Articles”, “Books”, “Journals”, “Audio/Video”, and “Course Reserves”. Considering users are highly likely to be going to the website to search the library catalog, this puts that feature front and center with no extra clicking necessary. Within that search box is a “View all databases” link as well, an indispensable resource for research in any area.

Another new feature is a horizontal navigation bar with five tabs (“Find”, “Services and Tools”, “Help”, “Places & Spaces”, and “About”) representing the five general but distinct areas for which users would access the site. These five portals open up into organized topical sub-groups when a cursor is hovered over them, replacing the former interface’s vertical, twenty-link navigation bar.

A third feature is the more visible “Ask A Librarian” section, which lists phone numbers, an email link, and a chat box for reference assistance in real time.
7. New Faces in the library

Tony Chu joined CAS library in fall 2013 as a graduate student intern. He is a MLIS second year student. He achieved a Ph.D. in social psychology and is studying library and information science to enhance his knowledge of how people construct and organize knowledge.

Before starting his current MLIS study, he worked as a statistical programmer, applying the major statistical software applications and data mining for insurance, education, and media research companies around the New York metropolis. He is interested in learning both programming and natural languages. He enjoys cross-cultural activities and practicing mindful meditation by running 5K.

A professional librarian with a background in graphic design, Deborah Fanslow earned her BA in Visual Art from Rutgers in 2007 with a minor in Psychology and coursework in Sociology.

Deborah began her career working as a graphic designer in the book publishing industry. After working her way up to become an Art Director at Random House, she then decided to pursue her additional passion for information science, earning her MLIS at Rutgers in 2010 along with certification as a school library media specialist.

After working for two years as the Library, Media and Technology Specialist at a private school in Monmouth County, Deborah decided that she wanted to learn more about the fascinating field of digital libraries/archives. She is now pursuing a Post-Master's Certificate in Digital Services with the hopes of working as a digital librarian/archivist.

Her work at the CAS Library involves reference work, updating the library's website, assisting with the digitization of the library's special collections, and some graphic design projects (of course!). She is especially looking forward to making the rich resources of the Alcohol History collection accessible for research and study.
My name is **Fatma Mohamed**. This is my first semester here at Rutgers University. I am a transfer student from BCC and currently a junior at Rutgers Business School. I am starting out as an Accounting major and hoping to double major in Accounting and Finance by the spring semester. Since I am new at Rutgers, I started to join some organizations and clubs that interest me to get involved. I am enjoying the college life living on Livingston Campus in Quad I. I am currently in the Federal Work Study Program and I am an undergraduate student assistant at CAS Library. I enjoy working in a Library, especially since I have two years of experience working in a library environment. So far, it looks like it’s going to be a great year working here at CAS Library.

Hello, my name is **Grace Kim** and I am currently a freshman at Rutgers University. I am in the Arts and Sciences program, but I would like to eventually switch into the business school and become a prospective Business Financer/Marketer. In the near future, I would like to work in NYC, Boston, and California, and eventually work in corporate. Aside from reality, I love to hang out with friends, play volleyball, shop, going to the beach, and I am always looking for ways to get to know people and have fun. Working at the Center of Alcohol Studies is a pleasure and I enjoy my time spent here. My co-workers are very friendly and they make me feel comfortable as a student who is adjusting to a new environment. Working in the center as a work study student allows me to develop social, organizational, and future job-intended skills. I am very excited for what the rest of the year has to offer, and I hope to work here for the rest of my undergraduate college years.

Hello, my name is **Sharon Qu** and I am a freshman at Rutgers University. I am majoring in pharmacy and I would like to pursue a career as a pharmacologist in the future. I found my love for chemistry when I was young with the help of my grandfather, who is a retired chemist. Through the years, I became more passionate in helping people in need and soon realized pharmacy was the path for me. I am enjoying college so far especially since it’s so diverse and unique. Even though I have yet to discover everything Rutgers has to offer I believe it wouldn’t be hard for me to consider this place as my second home. I am an out of state student attending a university with barely anyone I know. However, I view this change as something positive because I am able to meet new people and listen to the stories they have to tell. I am currently working at the research library in the alcohol studies building under the federal work study program. With this, I hope to broaden my experiences and learn from those I will encounter throughout the school year.

*This issue of the newsletter was edited by Bill Bejarano with contributions from Judit Ward.*