Reflections after 8 years

This newsletter was established eight years ago, in 2007, as an inventory of the activities of the Information Services Division. Since then, it has grown into a lengthy publication with a lot of valuable content, including articles marking specific milestones, highlights of our research, the treasures of our archives, and miscellaneous but relevant items from the fields of addiction and information science. The original founder, Judit Ward, was accompanied by William Bejarano in 2013 as in-house editor and author, and our graduate assistants from the School of Communication and Information as well as the English Department have been diligently contributing to each issue both as authors and guest editors.
Since 2007, the library has refocused its functions, shifting its role from a passive repository of knowledge to an active participant in the research, training, and dissemination missions of CAS. We actively serve all CAS faculty, staff, and students to promote the national and international presence of CAS and the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs. We provide support for CAS faculty by identifying evolving and anticipated needs in their research and training through our regular information sessions, training for research assistants, customized self-guided tools and resources, and this newsletter, published quarterly. Recent topics include navigating scholarly social media, meeting NIH grant submission requirements, and interpreting the emerging metrics of academic impact in the changing landscape of scholarly publishing.

The transition has filled a major need of the CAS faculty as they navigate unprecedented changes to federal public access policies, journal copyright and publication contracts, the need for a national and international electronic research presence, and its work to find valid, high impact information and publishing venues among the current proliferation of electronic outlets. Our continuing mission is to anticipate the needs of the CAS faculty by staying abreast of changes to funding and publishing opportunities and the many electronic databases that serve to promote CAS’s national and international presence as a leader in the field of addiction.

--Judit H. Ward
1. From the CAS Archives: We are online

The Information Services Division is pleased to share resources from its archival collection, including content from the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs and its predecessors, the Journal of Studies on Alcohol, and the Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol.

The new section of the web site features the history of the Center, the Journal, the Summer School, and the Library. The site is divided into three major sections: CAS Publications, Notable People, and Summer School Archives. The short, descriptive paragraphs on each page are complemented with images from the CAS historical collection, many of them highlighted in previous issues of the newsletter, such as the Alco-Calculator, the Yale Posters on Alcoholism, and the Classified Abstract Archive of the Alcohol Literature.

The publications are organized under Books, Fact Sheets, Monograph Series, Pamphlet Series, Memoirs, and Lay Supplements, with full texts or the option to request the resource from the library.
The page presenting notable people of CAS so far includes Selden D. Bacon, Anthony Carpenter, Leon Greenberg, Howard W. Haggard, Yandell Henderson, E. M. Jellinek, Mark Keller, and Raymond McCarthy.

Each individual page is divided into a brief introduction, biography, highlights, publications, and additional resources of the scholar, a result of the biographical and historical research at the library in the past eight years.

There is a lot more to show and even more to do. The library will continue with its efforts to unveil and share its treasures along with its research to preserve the artifacts of the past and translate it for the present in order to envision the future.

Many thanks to all CAS faculty and staff who contributed to the collection. Special thanks to all library graduate and undergraduate assistants from 2007 to date who worked on the archives.

--Judit Ward and William Bejarano
2. From the CAS Archives: Selden Bacon Bibliography

The Center of Alcohol Studies Library is dedicated to preserving timeworn materials through digitization projects. Recently, an extensive collection of papers (personal letters, old CVs, lecture notes, incomplete books) by Selden D. Bacon were gifted to the Library by his son, also named Selden, and processed by librarians and graduate assistants.

As the first director of the Center of Alcohol Studies at Rutgers University, Bacon affirmed the disease model of alcohol addiction and was instrumental in informing public comprehension of its effects and consequences. His progressive scientific and sociological approach to this discipline greatly advanced the perception and understanding of alcohol’s impact on society.

Using Bacon’s archived writings as guiding aids, I have been able to assemble a comprehensive bibliography of his works and compile previously unpublished texts. I assessed all of the metadata for consistency to ensure a uniform recording system that included diverse works such as interviews, memoirs, book reviews, and personal writings. With the help of undergraduate assistants, these texts were scanned and digitally added to the bibliography.

The content was aggregated from a number of different channels (the library’s stacks, interlibrary loan, digital archives, government records), resulting in a patch-worked organizational process that reflects a career so diverse and expansive in scope. The ultimate purpose is to ensure ease of access to Bacon’s articles. The intention is to publish the bibliography online in some capacity, and this digitization effort will render these writings searchable and easily findable.

By tracing the subject matter of Bacon’s publications, I was able to ascertain the specific societal elements of alcoholism that piqued his interest. His initial focus on alcohol’s impact on imprisonment and ties to family life expanded during the 1950’s to a concentration on government regulation and American society at large. He was deeply concerned with the capacity of legislation to mitigate drunk driving and alcohol-related crime in general, which is indicated by a transition to engagement in Congressional conferences and proceedings related to alcohol use. This shift during the latter half of Bacon’s career suggests a demeanor of someone who was not only a sociologist, but a devoted public servant. His scholarly nature and personal temperament coalesced to form an unwavering commitment to the deeply complex issue of alcohol use.

--Paul Kibala
3. Reading for Recovery: Alcohol Memoirs

The therapeutic process for alcohol addiction has a rich and longstanding relationship with narrative. Even the uninitiated know that AA meetings involve members sharing stories with one another, urged not to compare but to connect. Addiction narratives are tragic in the everyday sense, but for the purposes of recovery they operate by a logic somewhat different from the traditional definition of tragedy. For Aristotle the audience reacts to tragedy with pity and fear, a sense of “there but for the grace of God go I.” According to this model of tragedy, the way in which the audience sympathetically identifies with the narrative paradoxically involves holding it at arm’s length, feeling in some way spared from the catastrophe on stage. The therapeutic ideal, on the other hand, involves a fundamentally different relationship. In this situation, instead of fearing whether they will undergo the ravages of addiction as well, the audience recognizes that they already have; and instead of pitying the protagonist or themselves by comparing scars, they recognize their stories as more alike than different and look for the resources of recovery.

The Reading for Recovery project is looking for books that might provide those resources. We have been reading through autobiographies of addiction to get a sense of how the genre works and what titles might be useful for people in recovery. Some of this work involves sketching the outline of each story so that readers can be matched up with the narratives they can relate to, stories they can see themselves in. Perhaps the most striking lesson of the project so far is that in some ways these autobiographies already dramatize this process: the process of addiction and recovery is in some way fundamentally narrative already.

Pete Hamill’s A Drinking Life is the modern classic of the genre, and it lives up to its title. Hamill does not just narrate a drinking career in the clinician’s sense, from first sip to last: this is the entirety of a life, from birth into a poor Irish immigrant family in Brooklyn to the rebirth of recovery. In the long story of his youth, drinking seldom comes to the fore as a great and defining antagonist, looming on the horizon; instead, it steadily and organically emerges as a recurrent supporting character, the common denominator in his relationships with his father, his lovers, his neighborhood, his work, and himself.

Hamill’s is a work about a lifetime, and it’s also in some sense the work of a lifetime. One gets the sense that Hamill lived much of his life as a sort of autobiography in action, narrating himself and his world as he went along. Alcohol was bound up with this double consciousness from the beginning. An avid reader of comics, Hamill recalls how the fantastic transformation from mortal life to the heightened world of the superhero almost always involved a mask, a costume, and a secret serum; later in his youth he was drawn to Dr. Jeckyll and Mr. Hyde, imagining himself distributed among parallel identities (by sixteen, he was “at least six people”). Not only did his
earliest reading thematize splittings of the self and out-of-body experiences, but Hamill writes of understanding himself and his world by seeing them as if on the page: a Don Quixote of the Marvel era. Alcohol, the secret serum, was the price of admission to this fantasy. “From Hemingway,” Hamill writes, “I stole the guise of the stoic drinker” -- drinking was part of the process of fictionalizing his own life, of assuming another identity. Ironically, or perhaps fittingly, it was his relationship with actress Shirley Maclaine that made Hamill realize he was using alcohol to cultivate a kind of narrative distance from his own life. “I began to feel oddly detached,” he writes of one fateful night at a party. “I was there; but I was also looking at myself being there... That night, for the first time, I began to feel that I was performing my life instead of living it.” He stopped drinking cold within a month. His recovery, in other words, involved recognizing himself in his own narrative, closing the gap between his own consciousness and the life he performed.

Caroline Knapp’s *Drinking: A Love Story* relates a similar experience of drinking as a sort of internal distance. “Many of us drink in order to take that flight,” she observes, “in order to pour ourselves, literally, into new personalities: uncap the bottle, pop the cork, slide into someone else’s skin. A liquid makeover, from the inside out.” Knapp suggests that the motive for this self-fictionalization is, according to AA wisdom, a “fear of life.” Interestingly, Knapp acknowledges Hamill’s autobiography as a milestone in her recovery and an inspiration for her book. It’s hard to imagine a stronger endorsement of the Reading for Recovery project than these lines of influence among addiction narratives themselves. If part of the process of addiction involves relating to oneself as a person or set of persons who can be held at a narrative remove, then it seems logical that recovery should involve encountering someone else’s story and recognizing one’s own.

In a sense, the goal of the Reading for Recovery project is to curate and facilitate this recognition. If reading can provide the sort of “guise” that Hamill borrows from Hemingway, it can also offer ways to work through the long process of seeing those masks for what they are and taking them off. We look forward to putting the resources of the Library towards this invaluable project, and hope that it provides as many insights to people in need as it has to us already.

-- Nicholas Allred

### 4. Information Resources in Health Services

Probably unlike other programs, I have learned that some classes offered in the SC&I are broad in scope and deal largely with theory. As I like to joke, these are where we talk about “the things that make you go ‘hmm’. ” Others have been focused on building student proficiencies in information technology, search, and reference. It’s satisfying to find that many of these skills are immediately applicable to my life as a student, a consumer, and as a graduate assistant at CASL. The one that has perhaps served me best this semester is Information Resources in Health Services (17:610:545).

Taught by new SC&I faculty, Dr. Kaitlin Costello, our class meets Monday afternoons, and among the key objectives is the development of essential knowledge required in health sciences reference and information services. To that end, we have learned to formulate reference and research questions in order to determine the best search strategies. We have practiced with the most important biomedical and health sciences information resources such as PubMed, the Cochrane Review and CINAHL. We have studied
many current journal articles to gain a familiarity with health science research. Further, we have also discussed the meaning of evidence-based practice and systematic reviews, as well as the ways in which librarians can contribute to research discoverability, health literacy and patient education. Our projects were geared toward examining databases, answering complex reference questions and designing intervention proposals to serve the information needs of health professionals and/or patients. Beyond learning to use the MeSH browser more effectively, these are all experiences that are particularly useful in the CASL.

For example, the Center’s mission statement references a range of research concerns (biological, genetic, psychological, neuroscience and sociocultural), and I am frequently asked to perform a search on a subtopic. Often, a successful search requires the application of keywords that are not provided in the initial request. Sometimes it requires the application of several conditions (i.e. Boolean operators). Most often this means working with PsycINFO or PubMed databases that don’t look or act exactly like the more common EBSCO or ProQuest database products. Class assignments follow this line of questioning, and I feel that the quality of support I have been able to provide at CASL has improved with course-related practice.

A recent class trip to the RWJ Medical Library provided the opportunity to meet the library director and learn about the organization’s contribution to the medical education and library science. Specifically, Kerry O’Rourke and her staff instruct students in resource evaluation for course-related work. One innovation she spoke a lot about was the “embedded librarianship,” in which a RWJM librarian regularly does rounds with clinicians and students, providing on-the-spot support with real-patient case studies.

Our class is a small group, only five students, and I am glad it wasn’t cancelled because of the low enrollment. While my undergraduate degree was in biochemistry, none of my fellow classmates are scientists per se. I think if surveyed, they would agree that this class has illustrated the astounding amount of health-related science information that is currently available. As the expectations of clinicians, researchers and administrators increase, information professionals with interest in the subject and exposure to the bibliographic tools covered in Information Resources in Health Services can be great assets.

--Maria Ortiz-Myers

5. CAS Library in the Infrastructure of Addiction Science

I was recently invited to serve as a guest lecturer for a graduate course entitled Information Resources in the Health Sciences, taught at the Rutgers School of Communication and Information in the Master of Library and Information Science program. As a recent graduate of the program, I was happy to give back and explain the relevance of the topic in terms of what we do at the Center of Alcohol Studies (CAS) Library, since the Center is devoted to the analysis and study of a single health issue from a multidisciplinary perspective. This opportunity provided a chance to reflect on where we are coming from, on our place in the current infrastructure of the field of addiction science, and where we may be heading in the future. To
that end, and as part of our efforts to document the field, we have recently launched the CAS virtual archives, a project that is important in terms of preserving past practices at CAS and in the field overall. We often look to how things were done in the past and whether the principles at play can be translated to our modern climate.

I managed to compress the majority of the CAS library’s projects, management decisions, and research interests into a 35-minute talk, which led to a fruitful and interesting discussion about what public health libraries are and where they are heading. The talk was a great opportunity for a few reasons. It is always useful to translate what often gets done behind closed doors to an audience who may not often be exposed to it. But just as important is the process of putting everything together in one report, which forces one to assess the library’s strengths, challenges, and future goals, and can lead to reprioritizing and can help bring forth new ideas.

--William Bejarano
6. The A.A. Heckman Endowed Fellowship of the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation

The A.A. Heckman Endowed Fellowship offered by the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation is “designed to provide partial to full financial support for travel to and from archive collections for the purpose of disseminating information that advances the historical record and provides insight into America’s continuing relationship with—and response to—alcohol and drug use, misuse, and addiction.”

CAS librarian Judit Ward, who was the 2015 recipient of the fellowship, did research at the Hazelden-Pittman Library and Archive in October 2015 along with HBFF Library Manager Barbara Weiner.

The Hazelden-Pittman Archive is a well-maintained archival storage facility with on-site access to the collection. The impressive archive has several unique items that are hidden from a broader audience of researchers. These range from books to archival documents to very special formats, such as postcards, posters, coins, china, and other memorabilia. The preservation work is exemplary, given the fact that there is no specific archival staff dedicated to this task. The current online database of the Archive is incorporated into the Library’s book and journal catalog on the InMagic Genie platform. Searches can be narrowed down to the Pittman Archive. The expert on site, librarian Barbara Weiner, has decades of experience in various fields related to addiction science. She is well-connected in the field, strengthening the potential for the collection to serve as the pilot to experiment with creating a more comprehensive source.

“It was my honor to receive this prestigious fellowship and to have an opportunity to explore the Archive. The results of this short research trip to the archive exceeded all my expectations. When the field started to renew itself by establishing the Yale Center in the 1940s, five pillars of alcohol studies were identified as core: research, education and training, treatment, information dissemination, and publication. I have found the same core elements at the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation, following the best practices of our forefathers,” said Judit in an interview given to Deborah Stull-Kinsley, who provides communications/PR for the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation’s Fusion, an online in-house publication.

From the HBFF archives: Participants in the Rutgers-Hazelden International School of Alcohol and Studies in Clayton, Australia in September 2002

“Judit Ward has a passion not only for preserving these important historical collections, but also for helping to translate them into a format that will ensure ease of access for future research endeavors,” said Barbara Weiner, manager of Hazelden Library in the same interview. “We are honored to help support her goal of developing a comprehensive and cohesive database for addiction studies.” The two librarians agree that the Hazelden-Pittman Library and Archive meets
the criteria to serve as a model to similar organizations and proud owners of precious collections and it should participate in the pilot to create one of the building blocks of this resource.

Judit went through several boxes with valuable content such as many Temperance documents, music scores, Prohibition postcards, stamps, pledge cards, various unique medallions, coins, tokens, and other keepsakes. Her favorite piece in the Archive is the 3/4 size violin case with dark blue plush padding, which used to serve as a way to hide alcohol.

Judit was pleased to find the Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs displayed in the main lobby at a center location next to the Serenity store with a lot of foot traffic.

Discovering that HBFF wishes to keep copies from the past ten years in the library unbound, Judit arranged for the donation of missing copies by the JSAD.

The biggest discovery was to find out a lot more about the mysterious A. A. Heckman, one of the original incorporators of the Hazelden Foundation, with an impact comparable only to that of E. M. Jellinek, the founder of the RU CAS library. A great thinker and a man of inventive ideas, Mr. Heckman made a difference in the life of many in need.

The two Rutgers librarians, Judit, visiting at Hazelden, Bill, assisting the research from New Jersey, and Barbara, the Hazelden librarian, discovered and located a 240-page Oral History interview with A. A. Heckman at the Minnesota Historical Society during this week.

With first-hand experience about the strong ties between Rutgers and Hazelden, Judit and Barbara wish to continue to be ambassadors and will advocate strengthening the connection between the two institutions. The hope is that this partnership will serve as a model for SALIS member librarians to seek opportunities to collaborate for the greater good.

--Judit H. Ward and Barbara Weiner
7. CAS Library at NAADAC

On October 10, Judit Ward and Bill Bejarano presented at the annual NAADAC Conference in Washington, D.C. (read: North Bethesda, MD) on their topic, “Navigating information in addiction science,” partially supported by a travel award from the Substance Abuse Librarians and Information Specialists (SALIS). As NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals, claims to reach 85,000 counselors, it seemed a worthwhile platform to establish the presence of both SALIS and CAS at their annual conference by offering a primer on the range of services that we provide.

The setup was a 90-minute presentation for Continuing Education Credits, and it followed an article written by Judit, Bill, and SALIS Chair Deann Jepson, due to appear in early 2016 in their quarterly publication, Advances in Addiction and Recovery, entitled “SALIS: A trusted source of information in addiction science.”

The 21st century librarian’s role

- Retrieve and organize information
- Follow and monitor trends
- Evaluate information sources
- Provide access to information
- Teach information literacy

Informationist, librarian-in-context, or embedded librarian

Given that we had a good amount of time to experiment with the format, the presentation was highly interactive, and was received with a great deal of audience interest. Several attendees stayed after the presentation to ask more direct questions, and we referred many to their local public or academic librarians, or nearest SALIS member. It was a great opportunity for the CAS Information Services Division to represent both CAS and SALIS, as well as promote the new role of the “informationist” to addiction practitioners.
8. From the CAS Archives to the National Archives

The National Archives opened an exhibition earlier this year called “Spirited Republic: Alcohol in American History” in its Lawrence F. O’Brien Gallery of the National Archives Museum in Washington, DC.

Free and open to the public, this collection will be on display through January 10, 2016. The exhibit showcases the two different views of alcoholic beverages that run throughout American history, using “the National Archives documents and artifacts, about 100 original items, to reveal the evolution of the government’s alcohol policy over time, and to illustrate the wide variety of views about alcohol held by Americans. The stories they tell echo today’s debates over regulating drinking and the legalization of other drugs,” as stated on their website.

The curators of the exhibit contacted the CAS Library in 2013 to borrow two images from our collection: Benjamin Rush’s Moral thermometer, first publicized widely in the Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol, and the Crusade Scene (see picture).

Although old images are often in the public domain, very few quality copies are available for use in books, let alone in an exhibit, where the picture is significantly enlarged. Our two images were digitally enhanced by former librarian.
Debbie Fanslow to meet the standards of this high-profile exhibit.

Patrick Kepley, Assistant Museum Registrar of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA, see picture), our contact person for this project, arranged a special visit, which included taking a few photos with permission.

Patrick Kepley, Assistant Museum Registrar of the NARA in front of the Moral thermometer

Diverse materials displayed at the exhibit include documents and images of historical and sentimental value, such as The Moral Thermometer. Other objects range from memorabilia of those in recovery to the glasses Soviet Party Highness, Secretary Brezhniev, and President Ford used in the accompanying picture – a blast from the past for me.

Also hidden in this photo is a reflection of Betty Ford’s life-size headshot. It reminded me of the Hazelden-Betty Ford programs and my upcoming visit (see article in this issue), as well as the power of celebrities in recovery, who come forward, for example, by publishing their memoirs and providing therapeutic reading material. The exhibit targets various audiences and learning styles. Some visitors appreciate the beer posters or the 33 liquor labels proving the new interest in how to sell liquor right after the repeal.

In addition to landmark documents, highlights of the exhibition include President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s cocktail shaker, a Betty Ford Center serenity prayer coin, and, of course, a first edition of The Big Book, another reminder how lucky we are at CAS to own some valuable items.

There was a small object displayed, which they called the predecessor of the modern breathalyzer, with its patent next to it. It looked very different from Greenberg’s Alcometer, another predecessor in the display cabinet of the Library. I discovered it about half way through, and it helped me identify what I was missing all day long: Jellinek, of course! I believe the Bunky Doodle should have been displayed there, as it belongs to the history of the Spirited Republic. However, among the audiovisual material from the NARA collection, I detected a few clips from a Raymond McCarthy educational film about responsible social drinking. All of the above reinforced that we are on the right track at CAS with our efforts to collect, preserve, and share our treasures, right in the footsteps of our predecessors at the Center.

Another remarkable feature in the room is the creative use of technology. The exhibit actually gave me further ideas and directions with our efforts to display our past, both on site and virtually. I doubt we will ever have the resources
to create downloadable eCatalogs or eGuides for various devices and in various formats, but a virtual tour on the CAS web site does not seem too far-fetched.

The exit from the free exhibit leads the visitor through the Gift Shop, where they could not accommodate my request to take pictures of the central display, which featured artifacts and books related to the exhibit. Among the typical museum gift shop memorabilia, such as apparel, coasters, mugs, flasks, shot glasses, magnets, and cards, I was happy to discover scholarly books on alcohol history. Some authors and titles looked very familiar, such as the one pictured here, entitled *Bootleg: murder, moonshine and the lawless years of Prohibition* written by Karen Blumenthal, and available in the CAS Library collection. She and others did research in the CAS library in the past and we assisted them with their research. Many of them had the courtesy to give us proper credit, providing accidental PR for CAS.

“Spirited Republic: Alcohol in American History”: March 6, 2015—January 10, 2016, in the O’Brien Gallery. The National Archives Museum is located on the National Mall on Constitution Avenue at 9th Street, NW. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily, except Thanksgiving and December 25.

The Archives had a total of **1,221,528 visitors** in 2015.

--Judit H. Ward

9. International Collaboration of Substance Abuse Librarians

The Hungarian Association on Addictions held its annual conference near Lake Balaton, the largest lake of Central Europe, in Siófok, Hungary from November 26 to 28, 2015. Librarians Mária Palotai and Beatrix Kovács of the National Health Science Library, Hungary, presented the preliminary results of a research project done in collaboration with Judit Ward and William Bejarano, to promote the use of bibliotherapy as a treatment modality in addiction and behavior disorders. The poster was entitled *Books that heal: International collaboration to use bibliotherapy in addictions.*

Bibliotherapy is most simply defined as “using reading as a supplementary treatment option.” Although definitions, principles, and applications vary, there is a strong consensus on the value of reading as therapy, similar to art therapy.

Individual and group bibliotherapy has its roots in both psychology and library science. Librarians often find themselves in the role of an “accidental bibliotherapist,” yet they lack the proper resources and the formal training to make recommendations. Without a comprehensive bibliotherapy resource and consistent criteria of best titles, there is a gap in access and discoverability, even though potential reading material can be found on the shelves of public libraries.

This collaboration aims to explore a potential contribution of addiction libraries to communities involved in addiction research and treatment. Based on recent advancements in research and practice in the emerging field of bibliotherapy, the authors have been working together to develop an online tool that will connect those in need with...
resources that best meet their needs. To this end, the RCAS Library recently received a Carnegie-Whitney grant from the American Library Association for its project called “Reading for Recovery” (R4R).

The Hungarian partners contribute to this project based on the vast experiences and accredited programs related to bibliotherapy in Hungary. Due to the early experiments at an alcohol treatment facility by Hungarian librarian Éva Bartos in the 1970s, bibliotherapy has been on the radar of both librarians and therapists. In addition to the select opportunities for bibliotherapy provided by government and private organizations, three Hungarian universities offer postgraduate certification to become a bibliotherapist, after four semesters of coursework. Graduates of the program work in diverse areas of education, social work, mental health, psychology, prevention, therapy, and rehabilitation, as well as in various other settings where self-help books might be recommended.

The outcome of the R4R project will be an English-language database of titles already available in public libraries in the United States. The searchable annotated bibliography will serve as a reader’s advisory tool for librarians, addiction counselors, and therapists who face the challenge of recommending supplementary reading material for educational or recreational purposes. The tool will also be openly accessible to the public, so those in need can anonymously search without the intercession of a third party, if preferred. The project team includes a representative from all involved parties, such as academic and public libraries, addiction counselors, and information technology specialists. Criteria to select titles from the rapidly growing body of literature, including educational literature, self-help books, memoirs, fiction, and other classics, are based on consensus among all parties.

This project will serve as a model for a database of Hungarian-language titles, selected according to the criteria mentioned above and pictured on the poster. The poster has generated an interest in the community of Hungarian bibliotherapists, and will be followed up with presentations at the annual conference of the Hungarian Medical Libraries in Budapest in April. The conference of addiction researchers was a great opportunity to showcase our work and gain valuable input from the audience.

Beatrix Kovács and Mária Palotai

Mária Palotai says hello from Lake Balaton to her colleagues at Rutgers

The poster calls attention to important roles academic librarians can assume in their field as integral part of the infrastructure of science, including researchers, journals, libraries, professional societies and specialized databases. The Alcohol Library participates in collaborative research, which focuses on the values, needs, and commonalities of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug organizations via mapping the field with tools of information science. Activities also involve our graduate assistants from SC&I, who gain invaluable experience during their internship in the Alcohol Library, while contributing to international efforts of collecting data and documenting the existing functions and activities typical of the individual components of the infrastructure.

11. The State of the Libraries – A Student’s Perspective

Publication, Research, Treatment, Education and Training, and Documentation: These five pillars comprise the function and purpose of the Center of Alcohol Studies Library and guide its pivotal position as a cornerstone of alcohol-related scholarship. This is the message the Library’s poster, designed by Judit Ward and William Bejarano, strived to convey at the State of the
Libraries convention on November 4th. Hosted at the Rutgers College Avenue Student Center, the event presented an opportunity for librarians from every Rutgers campus to come together as a distinct, yet varied community.

As a graduate assistant for the Library, I helped present the poster to those in attendance. The discussions I had with librarians deepened my understanding of, and appreciation for, the Library’s fundamental role in field of Alcohol Studies. This led to conversations about the goings-on of their libraries, which provided me with a more in-depth perspective of the emerging developments in the field of academic librarianship. This communication proved vital for my own recognition of the assorted positions that make up this dynamic field. It was an honor to represent the Alcohol Studies Library and speak with librarians of different professional backgrounds and different mindsets. This diversity is essential to the continued progress of librarianship, and it was refreshing to experience it first-hand.

A series of lectures by Rutgers librarians followed this session. As librarians were encouraged to interject with their thoughts on the future of librarianship with regard to funding, focus, and mission, a network of ideas channeled through the conference room. There was a palpable sense of a dedicated community working toward a unified goal. This was my most lasting takeaway from the State of the Libraries event.

--Paul Kibala

12. New Faces at the CAS Library

Please welcome the following undergraduate assistant:

My name is Rafael Silva-Paulus and I am a first year undergraduate student here at Rutgers University – New Brunswick. I work at the Center of Alcohol Studies Library in Smithers Hall on Busch Campus. I plan to major in Public Health with a possible minor in Economics. I am also a proud member of the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF). Working at the library has been a rewarding experience as I am a self-proclaimed book worm and use my spare time to finish course assignments. My interest includes going to football games and playing basketball.

This issue of the newsletter was edited by Paul Kibala and Will Haggis with contributions from Nick Allred, William Bejarano, Beatrix Kovács, Maria Ortiz-Myers, Mária Palotai, Rafael Silva-Paulus, Judit Ward, and Barbara Weiner.