



Visions

NEWSLETTER OF THE DREW UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ISSUE NO. 30, FALL 2011 WWW.DREW.EDU/LIBRARY

(Art + Science) x Collaboration = A New Library Catalog

By Guy C. Dobson, *Integrated Systems Librarian*

When I arrived at Drew last February, one of my first tasks was to improve the experience for those using the catalog to find something in the Library. Adjectives used to describe the old catalog included “confusing,” “frustrating,” “ugly,” and “unintuitive.” Fortunately the software that delivers the catalog to your web browser is nothing more than a modified HTML, called Web2, and is flexible and easy to customize.

One of the first things that I did to help me get it right was to invite people to join the Drew University Library Catalog Evaluation Team—DULCET—an ad hoc group of administrators, faculty, staff, and students who have been participating in the evolution of the catalog.

Next, thinking about the graphic design of the catalog, I asked Ernie Rubinstein, Theological Librarian, for imagery of the Library’s stained glass window which he had written about in the Spring 2010 edition of *Visions*. He was able to give me a set of superb photographs taken by Geoff Pollick, a Ph.D. student in the Graduate Division of Religion. I wanted that



A dramatic graphic design announces the many new features in the Drew Library catalog rolled out this fall. Written by Integrated Systems Librarian Guy Dobson, the new functions and design were developed with many suggestions and contributions from colleagues and Library users.

beautiful work of art, which watches over all of us as we come and go through the library doors, to be the centerpiece of the catalog. In order to show the window in its best light, it seemed obvious to me that

the background should be black. The text is a very pale blue that can be found in the robes of Faith and Hope in the top of the window.

Continued on page 5

Thomas H. Kean Reading Room & Gallery

Rose Renovation Underway at the Library

This architect’s rendering is a prototype for the Thomas H. Kean Reading Room & Gallery, which will transform the former lobby of the 1930s era Rose Memorial Library building. Commissioned murals will depict historic scenes of the Drew campus and the New Jersey State House in Trenton. The design of the room will also incorporate some personal items donated by the Governor. Funded by private donors, the space will honor Governor Kean, cre-

ating an exceptional reading room for the use of students. Renovation began in mid-October and is expected to be completed early in 2012.

The Drew University Library houses an important archive of Kean documents, the Governor Thomas H. Kean Collection, covering Kean’s years as governor of New Jersey from 1982-1990, and as president of Drew University from

1990-2005. The Kean Room will feature a dedicated computer station for searching and displaying digitized items from the archive. Representative items will be exhibited, while the archive remains accessible to students and scholars on request through the University Library’s Special Collections.



Image courtesy of Peter Dorne Architects

THE DEAN'S CORNER

Strategic Advice: Recent Review of the University Library

This past spring an outstanding team of library leaders visited the Drew campus for two and a half days with the mandate to evaluate the University Library and its recently completed strategic plan¹. The team included Peggy Seiden (College Librarian, Swarthmore College), Ray English (Asariah Smith Root Director of Libraries, Oberlin College), and Vicki Sells (Associate Provost for Information Technology Services and University Librarian, The University of the South). This outside review was a critical step of assessment and planning for the Library.



Drew must reinvest in its collections, especially monographic resources—print and digital

The visiting team affirmed the Library for:

- Moving expeditiously to adopt digital formats, particularly for journal literature
- Becoming a partner in the VALE consortium to develop a new generation of an integrated library system
- Placing high value on information literacy
- Achieving high student use
- Succeeding in fund raising
- Engaging in a robust strategic planning process

They found that “Drew has a committed, highly service-oriented staff, strong special collections, and a fac-

ility with great potential to serve as a center for intellectual life on campus. Nevertheless... there is a critical need to address particular areas with regard to budget for collections and digital initiatives, allocation and organization of staff, technology infrastructure and programming, and information literacy.” Among them:

- Drew must reinvest in its collections, especially monographic resources—print and digital—to ensure that both undergraduates in the humanities and social sciences and graduate and seminary students have necessary materials for their scholarly work.
- As the University considers new degree programs, it is critical that library resources required by matriculates are considered along with other costs. The university should look at the best way to formalize this process.

- Rebuilding the materials budget will require both a reinstatement of some of the funds that were previously cut by the University and reallocation of Library resources, most likely from personnel costs.
- Joint planning with the three organizations that provide IT services is essential to the Library’s success in digital initiatives, yet the Library needs to build its own capacity in this area. The Library should be positioned to provide leadership for digital initiatives that enhance access to local and acquired resources.
- The Library should be ready to partner with instructional technology staff to provide support for digital humanities work, multimedia creation, geographic information systems—those areas where library resources and digital tools converge.
- Developing a robust information literacy program that meets the needs of all of Drew’s undergraduates and graduate students will require deeper collaboration with faculty in planning and implementing a program that not only addresses the first year experience, but is truly developmental in nature.
- One concept that is particularly compelling is the scholarly or academic commons. The academic commons can serve as a vital interdisciplinary center where faculty, librarians, and instructional technologists can collaborate to bring scholarly and cultural programs of mutual interest; and it can serve as a space where faculty and students can explore new modes of scholarship. Ultimately the Library can provide means to preserve and disseminate the intellectual products of its community. The Library should not only be about individual engagement with the “text” in whatever form that may take, but it should also facilitate the creation of new knowledge.

The report concluded with the advice that consideration of the recommendations should be done in the context of the University’s strategic plan.

The 24-page document has given the Library invaluable advice and perspective. The Library’s strategic plan has integrated most of the recommendations and the Library is actively exploring partnerships and seeking resources that will help bring them to reality.



¹ See the Spring 2011 issue of *Visions*, <http://www.drew.edu/library/news/visions>.

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The Library gratefully acknowledges the following gifts.

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 Rev. Mary Elise Thomas
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Conversation on Collecting with Dr. James Fraser

“Conversations on Collecting,” a new series of talks sponsored by the Friends of the Library, was launched in October by Norman B. Tomlinson, Jr., speaking on collecting Byron and Whittman. On December 7, Dr. James Fraser will share his expertise on materials reflecting political and social upheaval around the world. His talk, “Collecting Political Ephemera during Revolutions,” begins at 4:00 p.m. in the Pilling Room on the second floor of the Library. Light refreshments will be served.



Photo: Sungchun Ahn

Rowe Honored

Dr. Kenneth E. Rowe, Methodist Librarian and Professor of Church History, Emeritus was honored September 13 at a reception celebrating the publication of *The Methodist Experience in America, Volume 1: A History* (Abingdon Press, 2010). The book is a companion to the previously published *Volume 2: A Sourcebook* (2000), both written with Drew alumni Dr. Russell E. Richey and Dr. Jean Miller Schmidt. The program ended with Dean of Libraries Andrew Scrimgeour honoring Rowe's leadership during his long career of shepherding the Methodist collections and the Archives building. Scrimgeour announced that the president and trustees had authorized a special honor recognizing Rowe, the naming of the conference room in the Methodist Archives Building as the Kenneth E. Rowe Room.

Visions

Andrew D. Scrimgeour, Ph.D.
 Dean of Libraries
 Drew University Library
 Madison, NJ 07940
 973.408.3322
 ascrimge@drew.edu

Editor: Anna K. S. Magnell
 Online Edition: Jennifer Heise
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A complete online archive of past issues of *Visions* can be viewed on the library website at:
www.drew.edu/library/visions

What Do Library Users Tell Us?

By Jody Caldwell, *Head of Reference and Research Services*

During the spring 2011 semester, the Library Reference and Research Services Department conducted a survey of students and faculty, following up on a similar survey in 2010, asking about general satisfaction, research habits, and use of the Library and its resources. 317 (11.5%) of students and 43 (17%) of faculty responded to the spring survey, down somewhat from 2010. Most reported high satisfaction levels, particularly with staff and service:

- “Having a librarian that openly emails students offering to meet with them on papers. . . eases the anxiety when [I first start] a paper. . . .”
- “The library has been especially helpful to my students doing advanced as well as introductory level research, but the librarian helped them in ways I actually had not imagined: in defining and refining the research topic itself. In this way, she became much more of a co-teacher.”



And students were appreciative of the recent expansion of Library hours during exam periods — “Love the [24/7] hours during finals week. That was a great idea!”

Faculty were somewhat more critical of the collections, but even so, almost 80% professed themselves “satisfied” or “very satisfied,” and

many commented that Interlibrary Loan services fill the gaps. Students reported greater satisfaction with the materials available at Drew, offering comments like “provided much needed books for a research paper,” and “Last week I had a presentation due on a topic I knew nothing about. The Library had enough resources, both physical and online, to complete the project.”

Students continue to use the Library, both physically and virtually. Almost three quarters of CLA student respondents reported coming to the Library at least once a week, and close to half come more frequently. Use of the Library website and electronic resources follows a similar pattern. And when Drew students do research, although they turn most frequently to familiar sources such as Google and Google Scholar, they are also likely to go to Library-provided academic databases and resources. Two-thirds reported “always” or “usually” consulting Library databases. While only half of students who have not had a course-integrated instruction session in Library resources reported using Library databases, the proportion goes up to three-quarters for those students reporting ever having received a class session from a librarian. One student commented, “I enjoy when the Library sends people to the classrooms and shows you actually how to use the different online sources and gives out the business cards just in case. Every time that happens I do really well on my research papers.”

Both faculty and students have high expectations of the Library, indicating its importance in their academic work. We’re excited by the centrality of our contribution, and are committed to meeting the needs of the Drew community.

Culmer-Nier Retires

By Lucy Marks, *Special Collections Cataloger*



Lessie Culmer-Nier,
*Head of Cataloging
and Periodicals*

Lessie Culmer-Nier, Head of Cataloging and Periodicals, retired in June after 34 years of exceptional service to the Drew University Library. She was granted the title of Librarian, Emerita. Lessie joined the Catalog Department in 1977 and had been its

leader since 1992.

Few librarians have contributed more skillfully and single-mindedly to the mission and success of the Drew Library. A steady voice during times of great change within librarianship, Lessie pioneered the institution of the integrated library system, played a central role in the implementation of electronic resources, and organized the library’s ongoing project to switch from the Dewey Decimal to the Library of Congress classification system, the standard among academic and research libraries. She saw that department goals to improve the description and accessibility of materials were achieved according to current professional practices and standards. Among her many contributions toward the tutelage of our Special Collections, her role in creating a secure space on A-Deck for a number of disparate and previously underutilized materials helped ensure their safety, preservation and availability to patrons.

Lessie provided collaborative and insightful leadership on a variety of library and university committees. In addition, she has served our profession through continuous involvement at both the state and national levels, through her committee work for NJLA, VALE, SIRSI and the Library of Congress.

With consummate professionalism and characteristic modesty, Lessie has been a mentor to library colleagues, students, and above all, members of her department, inspiring them not just to do their best work, but to be their best selves.

A New Library Catalog

Continued from page 1

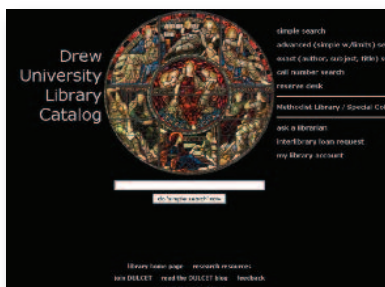
With the help of Faith, Hope, and Love I wrote a simple search form using the elegantly uncomplicated Google model. With the addition of "Feedback" and "Join DULCET" links, the process of collaboration took off in earnest. I received a lot of good ideas, constructive criticism, and wish lists of desirable functionalities from many generous people. The time that they took to articulate their thoughts and communicate them to me is much appreciated. In order to share all of this valuable information with the Drew community, and inspire others to think out of the box, I started the DULCET blog, where anyone who is interested can review comments, questions, and suggestions as well as my replies, answers, and reports about how the catalog has developed. Here are just a few of the improvements and new features that you'll find in the catalog thanks to DULCET:



E'lon Osman, C'13 explores the new catalog

Special Collections Descriptions and Title Lists

One member of DULCET remarked, "I would find it helpful to have a link to a thesaurus that tells me what's in each of the Collections options..." That got me thinking about the fact that you could not ask the catalog to simply display a list of items in any given collection. So I set up a page that includes descriptions of each collection as well as a link to a title list of the contents of each collection. SirsiDynix is the company that provides the library software that we use. Their Application Programming Interface and a technique developed in collaboration with Paul Coen at Computing and Network Services allows me to include this sort of content in the catalog even though Web2 cannot accomplish this on its own.



Library Lingo vs Plain English

I tried not to change the vocabulary of the new catalog any more than necessary in an effort to avoid disorientation for those already

familiar with the old catalog, but I was not always successful. I just had to replace some of the library lingo with plain English, ergo:

- Browse is now Exact Search—for Author, Title, or Subject
- Keyword is now either Simple Search or Advanced Search—Simple with Limits
- Numeric is now Call Number Search
- Visual Materials are now Videos

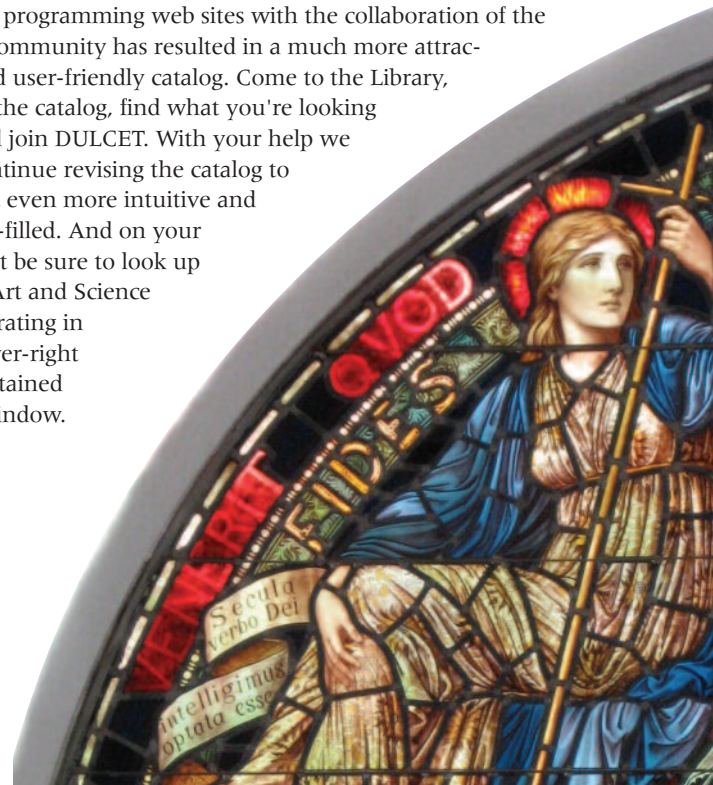
Mall-Like Maps

During my first tour of the Drew Library one of the things that I noticed was that there are maps all over showing you how to find where different call numbers are shelved on each of the several floors of the building. It's a lot like being at the mall. I found out that the maps were created by Kim Magnell, the Library's Communications Associate, using Publisher and asked her for a copy of the file. After a little fussing with Publisher and Photoshop, I was able to add the same maps to the Library catalog so that a light-box opens up with a mall-like map when you click on the "Level..." link that tells you where to find the book. This feature has been very well received and, through professional library listservs, shared with other academic libraries.

My Library Account: Renew All...

In the old catalog, the "Renew All" button would only renew items on one page, with a display limit of five items per page. If you didn't realize that you had more items checked out, and clicked on the link to view them, you wouldn't realize that you hadn't actually renewed all of your items. In the new catalog everything that you have checked out appears on the first My Library Account page, and clicking on the "Renew All" button does just that.

Incorporating the art that represents the Library and the science of programming web sites with the collaboration of the Drew community has resulted in a much more attractive and user-friendly catalog. Come to the Library, search the catalog, find what you're looking for, and join DULCET. With your help we can continue revising the catalog to make it even more intuitive and feature-filled. And on your way out be sure to look up to see Art and Science collaborating in the lower-right of the stained glass window.



Mapping Black Methodism

By Christopher J. Anderson, *Methodist Librarian*

Many of us have used Google Maps for directions to places we want to visit. Others use the mapping software to discover the history of geographical locations. Recently, I received a Drew Geospatial Information Systems faculty workshop grant to develop an online program that uses Google software to create an interactive map that traces the history and locations of historic African American Methodist churches.

Using ArcMap 10 software, addresses are entered and then geocoded to find their spatial location. Once addresses are mapped, latitude and longitude coordinates are calculated. These coordinates are then entered into an Excel database and mapped across several states that were part of the Delaware Annual Conference of the Methodist Church. The data is then converted to Google map software that identifies the current and/or former location of each church. The software highlights images of the church, digitized published histories, statistical information and links to cur-

rent churches if still operational.

The project focuses on churches that were part of the Delaware Annual Conference of the Central Jurisdiction of the Methodist Church, the first alignment of African American churches segregated by action of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The conference was organized in 1864 at John Wesley Church in Philadelphia, and included congregations in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

The later Central Jurisdiction was a racially segregated grouping of African American churches located throughout the United States. The jurisdiction originated in 1939 with the Plan of Union that merged together the Methodist Episcopal Church, Methodist Episcopal Church South, and Methodist Protestant Church. Nineteen annual conferences

were eventually formed as a result of the Plan of Union. These segregated conferences existed from 1939 to 1973. The Philadelphia and Wilmington districts, specifically the segregated New Jersey churches of the Delaware Annual Conference, were the initial focus of this GIS project.



Methodist Librarian Christopher Anderson used Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) technology to create this image as part of a mapping project which locates historically segregated African American Methodist churches.

Shelf-Ready Books

By Dorothy L. Meaney, *Head of Collection and Metadata Services*

The Library has been able to take advantage of vendor partnerships we have through membership in the OCLC global cataloging cooperative to increase automation of new book acquisitions. In July we began purchasing shelf-ready books. Books are ordered online, catalog records are prepared for us, and the vendor sends books that they have barcoded, labeled, stamped, and readied for the Library security system. Here at Drew, we download the



records, check all details, pay the invoice, and shelve the books. The results of this outsourcing should include faster turnaround time for orders, books in users' hands more quickly, and no loss of service despite staff retirements. We started the project with our biggest book vendor and will expand to others after a successful pilot period.

Systems Librarian Guy Dobson was able to create a unique program for loading records and creating orders bypassing the need to purchase additional software, saving us more than the cost of the outsourcing. Acquisitions and Cataloging staff worked together to address all the necessary details.

PROFESSIONAL NEWS

Christopher Anderson, Ph.D., *Methodist Librarian*, presented a paper, "These Appear to Be Your Property": Theft and Security in Special Collections Libraries," at the American Theological Library Association annual meeting in Chicago and chaired a panel there on "Collaborations between International Theological Libraries." He also attended the annual meeting of the General Commission on Archives and History during the summer.

Matthew Beland, Ph.D., *Archives Assistant*, recently presented a paper on "The Bildung and Bürgertum Traditions in Thomas Mann's *Buddenbrooks* and Nineteenth Century Germany" at the 36th European Studies Conference, University of Nebraska-Omaha.

Jody Caldwell, Ph.D., *Head of Reference and Research Services*, was promoted to Associate Librarian at the May 2011 Board of Trustees meeting.

Linda E. Connors, Ph.D., *Senior Librarian for Collections, Emerita*, is co-author with Mary Lu MacDonald of *National Identity in Great Britain and British North America, 1815-1851: The Role of Nineteenth-Century Periodicals* (Ashgate Publishers, 2011).

Susan Crater, *Catalog Associate*, retired on June 30, 2011.

Lessie Culmer-Nier, *Librarian, Emerita*, retired on June 30, 2011, after a 34-year career in the Library, most recently as Head of Cataloging and Periodicals.

Guy Dobson, *Integrated Systems Librarian*, presented a session to librarians on Paperless Online Weeding at the SirsiDynix Northern Regional Conference on June 14, 2011. His system made headlines: "Innovation Goes POW," on the *Library Journal* homepage. See the full article by David Rapp at: <http://users.drew.edu/gdobson/pow/>.

Jennifer Heise, *Web Manager and Reference Librarian*, is editor of the quarterly monograph, *Compleat Anachronist*, published by the Society for Creative Anachronism.

Kenneth E. Rowe, Ph.D., *Professor of Church History and Methodist Archives Librarian, Emeritus*, received the General Commission on Archives and History's Distinguished Service Award at the Seventh Historical Convocation of the United Methodist Church in Oklahoma City, July 21-24. Dr. Rowe is a leading scholar and bibliographer of Methodist History.

Dorothy L. Meaney, *Head of Collection and Metadata Services*, has been appointed Director for University Planning and Assessment, and is dividing her time between the Library and University Administration.

Ernest Rubinstein, Ph.D., *Theological Librarian*, published an article, "Secularization in a Pre-Raphaelite Spirituality: Henry Holiday's Stained-Glass Tribute to Theology," in the spring 2011 issue of *Journal of Pre-Raphaelite Studies*. He also presented a paper at the June meeting of ATLA, entitled "Art in Our Libraries: A Case Study of Drew University."

Andrew D. Scrimgeour, Ph.D., *Dean of Libraries*, hosted a June 2 conference at Drew of VALE Library Directors, representing the consortium of academic libraries in New Jersey. He was reelected chair of the Board of Directors of Westar Institute, a think tank for biblical studies, as well as vice chair of the VALE Executive Committee. He also presented "Wild Ideas and Cautionary Tales: The Future of the Academic Library" as the final Aquinas Seminar at Drew in October.

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LIBRARY EXHIBITS

MAIN LIBRARY

'Gladly Laid Upon the Country's Altar': Methodists and the American Civil War

Sept. 22 – Nov. 22, 2011

The 150th anniversary of the start of the American Civil War is commemorated in this exhibit highlighting historic Methodist traditions and Drew University figures who experienced the Civil War. The display is drawn from the collections of the Drew University Archives and Methodist Library as well as the General Commission on Archives and History of the United Methodist Church and is on view in the main library during regular day and evening library hours, and in the Methodist Center on weekdays, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., or by appointment with Christopher Anderson, Methodist Librarian, at 973.408.3910 or cjanders@drew.edu.

Landscape Photographs of New Jersey

Nov. 8 – Dec. 2, 2011

Three outstanding photographers—Clem Fiori, Dwight Hiscano, and Michael Hogan—display their landscapes of ecosystems from across New Jersey's geographic regions—the Highlands, Piedmont, Pine Barrens, Shore, and Delaware Bay. Sponsored by the Environmental Studies and Sustainability Program, the exhibit invites discussion of environmental policy issues, the protection of ecosystems, and the state's remarkable natural areas. An artists' talk and reception will be held November 8 at 4:30 p.m. in the Library Lobby.



Photograph: Drew University Library Methodist Collection.

Clinton B. Fisk held the rank of Brigadier General for the 33rd Missouri Infantry of the Union Army. He later became a Drew University Trustee, serving from 1876-1891.

Natives

Nov. 30 – Dec. 12, 2011

What is the Drew experience? The Art History and Museum Club provides a variety of perspectives with photos taken on the Drew campus selected from a recent competition.

METHODIST LIBRARY

'Gladly Laid Upon the Country's Altar': Methodists and the American Civil War

Sept. 22 – Dec. 22, 2011

The installation begun in the main library continues in the Methodist Center with eight cases of material on view. See description and hours above.

UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS

Book Reception, celebrating the publication by Dr. Linda E. Connors and Dr. Mary Lu MacDonald, of *National Identity in Great Britain and British North America, 1815-1851: The role of Nineteenth-Century Periodicals* (Ashgate, 2011), November 15, 4:00 p.m.

Conversations on Collecting, "Collecting Political Ephemera," Dr. James Fraser, December 7.

"Evolution of a Bookish Magpie," Rev. John McElhenney, February 8.

"The Story Behind the Nestorian Cross Collection," Dr. Robert Bull, March 28, 2012.

Hosted by the Friends of the Library, 4-5 p.m. All Welcome.

Architect Announced for Archive Project, Princeton-based KSS Architects have been selected for a project that will redesign archival and reading spaces in the Methodist Center, where all Library Special Collections and Archival materials will be housed in the future.

Twenty-nine Quarts of Half 'n Half, What does it take to keep the Library open all day and all night and provide a few home comforts to students through the exam period? During finals in May, students consumed 1030 cups of coffee, 368 cups of tea, 29 quarts of half and half, 2000 packets of sugar, 495 home-baked cookies, and 1385 cookies from the grocery store. In addition, Library faculty and staff covered 55 additional hours behind the circulation desk, during which they also brewed countless pots of coffee and brought out the midnight snacks. 24/7 Library hours resume December 9.

DREW

Drew University Library
36 Madison Avenue
Madison, NJ 07940