

The TCL Letter

The Newsletter of the Touro College Libraries

Volume 8, Issue 2

Touro College Alumni Portal is here!

Touro College Libraries are pleased to announce that the Touro College-NY Alumni Portal is up and running. This exciting new reference service enables former students to access a robust collection of electronic resources via a link on the right side of College Library website's home page: www.touro.edu/library

By clicking on the "Alumni Portal" button at the upper-right-hand corner of the Virtual Library web site home page, confirmed alumni may view the online databases available to them. These include:

- **ABI/INFORM Complete**— search articles in over 2,800 national and regional business journals, including the Wall Street Journal.



- **ebrary** - features over 31,000 ebooks in all areas of academic study.
- **netLibrary** - features over 13,000 ebooks in all areas of academic study.

- **ProQuest Health Management** — search articles in over 495 periodicals.
- **Research Library**— search articles in 1,800 journals back to 1971 in all areas of academic study.

To access the portal, alumni must first register by clicking "Login & Password" at the top of the Portal web page (or going directly to www.touro.edu/library/sites/AlumniPortal.asp), then selecting "Touro College New York," and then entering their personal information to request a login and password.

New Electronic Resources

ProQuest Central - The largest database currently available on the market enabling users to search articles in over 11,300 periodicals and 760 newspapers. With the Springer Un-Embargoed Premium add-on, users can access the most current issues of 563 titles.

JSTOR Arts & Sciences II & III and Business Collection II - This resource is popular because it allows access to article level links via Google searches.

GreenFILE - Focuses on the relationship between human beings and the environment, with nearly 300,000 records from scholarly journals, government studies and more. Full

text is available for more than 4,600 records from open access sources.

Nursing and Allied Health Collection - This exciting resource accesses over four million articles via Gale's PowerSearch platform.

Teacher Reference Center - Abstracts of over 260 books and journals is provided, covering topics of interest for educators of grades K-12.

Touro College-NY Alumni Portal - Confirmed Touro College alumni can now access ebrary, netLibrary, ProQuest, ABI/INFORM Complete and more.

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These proprietary databases and others may be accessed at www.touro.edu/library/sites/ProprietaryDatabases.asp and are restricted to the Touro community. To access them remotely, request a login and password online, at any of our libraries or call 212.463.0400 x5321.



Personnel Update

Welcome Aboard!

- **Caitlin Q. Bernstein** - Librarian, Midwood
- **Yoram Bitton** - Hebrew Cataloger
- **Melissa Francis** - Assistant Librarian, Bay Shore
- **Emily Nurkin** - Technical & Electronic Services Assistant
- **Elizabeth Sher** - Evening Librarian, Women's Building
- **Deavon Wilson** - Technical & Electronic Services Assistant

Congratulations!!

- Kings Highway Library Assistant **Starvita Thompson** graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree.
- Midtown Assistant Librarian **Dr. Mark H. Balto** had two articles published: "Logos As Will And Cosmodicy," *Existentia* Vol. XVI, FASC. 3-4 (2006), pp. 235-242; and "Nietzsche As The Last Metaphysician Of The West," *Existentia* Vol. XVII, FASC. 3-4 (2007), pp. 299-319.

Meetings, Conferences and Workshops

- 4-7-08 - Women's Building Librarian **Dr. David B. Levy** attended the Spring 2008 AJL-NYMA conference "Digital Libraries: Building, Collaboration, and Effectiveness".
- 4-24-08 - Information Literacy Librarian **Sara Tabaei** attended a seminar entitled "Copyright Education Series: Foundations and Beyond the Basics" in Philadelphia.
- 5-5,6-08 - Cataloging Librarian **Sara Levinson** attended Nylink's 2008 Annual Meeting "Evolution and Transformation: Get Ready for the Future!"
- 6-22-25-08 - Judaica Librarian **Rabbi Amram S. Rister** and Women's Building Librarian **Dr. David B. Levy** attended the 2008 Association of Jewish Libraries Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Levy participated in a panel presenting on the Dead Sea Scrolls.
- 7-16-08 - Chief Midtown Librarian **Marina Zilberman** and Information

Literacy Librarian **Sara Tabaei** attended "Managing Copyright Issues in the Library".

- 7-25-08 - Archivist **Philip Papas** attended "Archival Processing: Implementing New and Efficient Strategies".
- 8-5-08 - Director of Libraries **Bashe Simon** attended the conference "Strategic Planning For Library Directors".
- 9-25-08 - Systems Librarian **Yitzchak Schaffer** attended a presentation by WALDO and LibLime, a company offering commercial support for the open-source integrated library system Koha.
- 10-7-08 - Systems Librarian **Yitzchak Schaffer** attended "Organization 2.0 and the Future of Libraries", a webinar focusing on end user involvement in metadata and content creation, and reaching out to established 2.0 spaces such as Facebook.



Touro College Libraries are pleased to announce the appointment of Bashe Simon to the position of Director of Libraries.

Salvatore Russo has been appointed Assistant Director of Libraries for Public Services.



From the Director . . . Bashe Simon

As the New Year commences Touro College libraries look forward to continued growth and development. As part of that growth we welcome the following new staff members:

Yoram Bitton, Caitlin Q. Bernstein, Melissa Francis, Emily Nurkin, Deavon Wilson, and Elizabeth Sher.

The User Satisfaction Survey posted in the spring received an overwhelming response with over 200 respondents. Thirty-four percent of the respondents visit the library on a weekly basis while 38%

use the library's web site weekly. 48% visit the library to get help with research and 42% use the library to study and do homework. Our proprietary databases are searched by a whopping 78%. Eighty-three percent felt that the library has the information they need, 78% find the seating comfortable, and 75% responded that the number of computers is satisfactory. The majority, 86%, found reference services were very good. While 86% found that the library instructions addressed

their needs we are working to increase that percentage. Overall we are pleased with the results and hope to address the areas that need improvement. I want to personally thank all those that participated and look forward to hearing from you in the next survey.

During the summer there were many exciting developments in the libraries. The first stages of adding Hebrew-script fields to the Hebrew catalog was completed. Patrons can now type Hebrew

text while performing title searches for many of the holdings. The library purchased ProQuest Central, a database which enables patrons to search articles in over 11,300 periodicals and in over 760 full-text newspapers. The library catalog has a new feature entitled "new books". Patrons can search for the most recent acquisitions in the fields of business, education, and social work.

The libraries look forward to serving the Touro College communities in the future as we have in the past.

What Makes a Library “Green”?

By Emily Nurkin, Library Assistant, Technical & Electronic Services

First, it is important to mention that libraries are inherently green. If you have 10 people who repeatedly borrow the same book, as opposed to 10 copies of that book being printed, bought, and read once or twice, that is intrinsically green. When considering *Harry Potter*, which is over 800 pages long and boasts millions of readers, the impact is vastly more significant. In fact, libraries exemplify the expression, “renew, reuse, and recycle.”

“Green” libraries seek to minimize their negative impact on the environment and attempt to add a positive impact. This can include being housed in structures built from recycled materials, as well as employing the use of energy-efficient light bulbs and natural sunlight. Recent studies have shown that students’ performances improve in buildings with better (natural) light and cleaner circulating air; thus, all libraries should be examining their commitment to going green and their development of sustainability programs.

Touro College has recently begun its own “greening” measures in a variety of ways. Most prominently, the library at the newly-constructed Women’s Building at 225 West 60th Street in Manhattan features a frosted glass skylight which runs along most of the length of the library. The skylight provides a great deal of natural sunlight, thereby saving energy which would otherwise be used for artificial lighting; this decreases energy costs. Also significant are the almost 60,000 eBooks which are readily accessible via the library catalog. In fact, Touro College’s Department of Libraries was a pioneer among colleges and universities in the acquisition of substantial numbers of eBooks as far back as 1999. Some of the benefits of eBooks include saving

trees, eliminating the amount of old books dumped in landfills, and saving shipping-associated transportation costs and pollution. (Though it is admittedly “not easy being green,” students can add to the efficiency of eBooks by thoroughly reviewing online sources and materials **before** hitting the print button.)



The skylight inside the library of the Lander College for Women

Other cost- and energy-saving measures implemented by Touro College include the discontinuation of van service, which was previously used to transport mail between Touro’s 15 sites in the New York metropolitan area. This move eliminates gas emissions and decreases the size of our carbon footprint. Individual efforts are also vital to the success of green initiatives; a great example of this is Philip Papas, archivist, who bikes

seven miles from Queens to work in Manhattan almost daily. Finally, this newsletter is now being printed on recycled paper.

The Bronx Library Center is the closest “LEED certified” public library in the New York City area. The U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification is the nationally accepted benchmark for design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings. The Bronx Library Center qualified for certification based on the Center’s green features involving materials selection; air quality and daylight; energy and water usage; and site use. The building’s foundation and structural steel, for example, largely consist of recycled content.

In order to further our initiatives, Touro College will be sending a representative to the “Greening Libraries Greener Communities” conference at the Bronx Library Center for further study and education on this topic. We look forward to reporting on additional green library features in the future.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

GreenFILE: citation and abstract database (with added full-text content) about environmental concerns, including global climate change, green building, pollution, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and recycling. Accessible on Touro College Library’s Proprietary Databases webpage:

www.touro.edu/library/sites/ProprietaryDatabases.asp

“Green Libraries” at Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green_libraries

Bronx Library Center, NYPL: www.nypl.org/branch/local/bx/fdc.cfm

Book Announcement

Mentor of Generations: Reflections on Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, Zev Eleff (ed.), KTAV Publishing House Inc.: Jersey City, NJ, 2008.

Mentor of Generations is a compilation of over 55 essays written by students and those close to Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik. Known to many as “the Rav,” Rabbi Soloveitchik is considered one of the most

outstanding Jewish leaders and thinkers of the 20th century and is regarded as a seminal figure by Modern Orthodox Judaism. Ordaining close to 2,000 rabbis over the course of almost half a century, he served as an advisor, guide, mentor, and role-model for tens of thousands of Jews and advocated a positive involvement with the broader community.

Touro College has the distinct honor of

having three essays written by members of the institution included in the book. Dr. Bernard Lander, founder and president of Touro College; Dr. Stanley Boylan, Touro’s vice president of undergraduate education and dean of faculties; and Dr. David Luchins, founder of Touro’s Women’s College are all contributors to this informative and inspiring collection.



About Copyright

By Sara Tabaei, MLIS, Information Literacy Librarian

On April 15, 2008 three publishers sued Georgia State University (GSU) in federal court for violation of copyright laws. Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press and SAGE Publications charged GSU officials with “ongoing unauthorized distribution of copyrighted materials” via “electronic course reserves service, Blackboard/WebCT Vista electronic course management system, and departmental web pages and hyper-linked online syllabi available on web sites and computer servers controlled by GSU.” Although GSU has so far asserted that the materials come under the fair use exemption, such lawsuits in the digital age make one ponder the dangers of copyright infringement.

Copyright protects any creative and original work, such as books, articles, software, music, poetry, web sites or video games that exist in some tangible format for at least some time. A common misconception about digital content is that anything found on the internet can be freely used without permission. It is assumed that if the content does not have a copyright notice, it is not protected.

The truth, however, is that copyright law protects almost all content on the Web and any other digital or electronic format and permission is likely required. As access to online resources on campuses has risen, the risk of posting copyrighted material without permission has increased. According to a survey from the Copyright Clearance Center, 51% of materials posted by the instructors on their course management system, such as Blackboard, were full text, and 45% of the material in their online course systems was posted without copyright permission, assuming wrongly that their use is covered by the fair use exemption. An alternative option for professors is to post links rather than the full text, but in either case, the material and use must be authorized and fall under Fair Use, thereby avoiding copyright issues.

The Copyright Act, Section 107 on Fair Use recognizes the fact that there is often a benefit from the unauthorized use of copyrighted materials when the purpose is scholarship, research and education. Fair Use, therefore, balances the rights of owners with needs of users and recognizes that certain uses do not require permission. Fair Use can be a

defense against charges of copyright infringement. Examples of Fair Use are quotations in reviews, personal use, criticism or parody, clips of news reporting, spontaneous classroom use, scholarship or research. To make it easier for users, the Copyright Act has established four basic factors that should be always considered when deciding on the fair use of copyrighted material:

The purpose and character of the use: Use should be for non-profit educational purposes and not for commercial use; students should not be charged a fee; access should be limited by password.

Nature of the copyrighted work: If the use is relevant to the educational objectives of the course, i.e. criticism, comment, research; the law of fair use applies more narrowly to highly creative works.



Amount of work used in relation to the whole work: Materials used should generally be limited to brief works or excerpts, e.g. a single chapter, individual articles, a short poem, etc.

Effect of the use on the potential market for the original work: Materials used should not deprive the copyright owner of income or undermine a new or potential market; use should not be repeated in consecutive semesters.

Yet whether a certain reproduction or other use of a copyright-protected work is considered fair use is not specifically set out in the Copyright Act. There is no specific instruction on the number of words or percentage of a whole book to be followed. In fact, it seems that Fair Use is a deliberately vague and unclear concept, and with the advancement of electronic postings college administrators and librarians fear the risk of copyright infringement is growing.

What are the consequences of copyright infringement and what can be done to lower its risk? The answer usually follows, “The Copyright Act provides for the copy-

right owner to recover damages for unauthorized use of the owner’s works, ranging from \$250 to \$150,000 per willful infringement, as well as legal fees”.

Like so many colleges everywhere, Touro strives to adapt to and comply with current intellectual property and copyright laws. One way to minimize the risk of infringements and to avoid a lawsuit is to educate the college community about their responsibilities towards copyright laws and procedures. Touro College Libraries continues to offer ERes (referred to as EReserves on our web site), an electronic course reserve system, and classes on copyrights for faculty and staff each semester. In these classes, we also emphasize that the library is not the copyright police! We encourage faculty for their own protection to use the Fair Use Checklist (www.copyright.iupui.edu/checklist.htm) and make sure that their use of material, whether in class or online, complies with copyright law.

Additional information on copyright is also available under “Information Literacy for Faculty” on the Touro library website (www.touro.edu/library), explaining intellectual property, the four Fair Use criteria, Fair Use cases, etc. By offering ERes to all faculty members, the library has created an easy-to-use avenue for instructors to submit material to the library and obtain copyright permission for required classroom readings. With ERes integrated into Blackboard, we further hope that faculty will be encouraged and post their third-party copyrighted material through ERes rather than directly to their Blackboard courses. This means that once students have logged in their Blackboard course, they do not need to get out of their account to access their required readings in ERes.

In the mean time, we stay tuned to hear the verdict for the case of Georgia State University.

The Touro College Libraries aspire to be the primary resource for intellectual content college-wide.
To fulfill the mission of the college, the libraries foster intellectual discovery and advance information literacy.

Send newsletter comments and questions to: newsletter.library@touro.edu