

Boston College Libraries

Bapst Library

Middle Campus

The John J. Burns Library of Rare Books and Special Collections

Burns Library, Middle Campus

Geophysics Library

Weston Observatory, Weston, MA

Law Library

Newton Campus

Newton Resource Center (Undergraduate)

Chapel Basement, Newton Campus

O'Neill Library

Central Library, Middle Campus

School of Social Work Library

McGuinn Hall, Lower Level

Educational Resource Center

Campion Hall

Academic Development Center

O'Neill Library

Source: University Librarian

Expenditures for Library Materials

Library	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-77
O'Neill*	\$ 2,695,395	\$ 2,803,494	\$ 3,387,734	\$ 3,963,972	\$ 4,345,177
Educational Resource Center	39,093	44,607	47,131	57,279	59,153
Bapst	37,858	55,573	58,159	60,834	67,842
Social Work	63,595	75,781	76,608	78,335	83,376
John J. Burns	566,336	132,240	1,236,511	57,607	460,458
Law	\$696,098	\$722,667	\$758,433	\$777,112	\$832,833
Total	\$4,098,375	\$3,834,362	\$5,564,576	\$4,995,139	\$5,848,839

* Includes general expenditures recorded as "University Librarian."

Source: Office of the Controller

Holdings by Individual Libraries

1997

Library	Volumes	Serial Subscriptions	Microform Units	Gov't. Document Volumes	Media Units
Bapst	38,351	222	-	-	25
Burns	100,235	18	382	-	94,267*
Educational Resource Center	22,019	101	14,312	-	3,910
Law	214,348	5,686	915,675	-	117
O'Neill and Newton Resource Center	1,267,266	13,169	1,762,554	163,282	17,390
Social Work	36,978	356	3,441	1,002	258
Weston Geophysics	8,538	42	2,193	-	-
Total	1,687,735	19,594	2,698,557	164,284	115,967

*Media units for Burns Library include the University Archives Photograph Collection.

Source: University Librarian

Library Use Statistics

1996-1997

Library	General Circulation	Reserves Circulation	Computer Searches	Interlibrary Loans	Reference Questions
Bapst	14,520	2,606	-	-	-
Burns Special Collections	-	2,263	-	-	4,302
Educational Resource Center	52,533	-	-	-	-
Law	-	20,091	-	1,070	5,285
O'Neill and Newton Resource Center	290,743	81,102	517,329	31,000	55,004
O'Neill Microforms	-	31,153	-	-	-
Social Work	18,322	9,434	1,497	963	13,052
Weston Geophysics	494	9	-	81	150
Total	376,612	146,658	518,826	33,114	77,793

Source: University Librarian

Special Library Services

Quest – Library Information System

The Quest Computer system of the Boston College Libraries provides access to over 1.6 million volumes including books, media materials, microforms, newspapers, and periodicals. Quest may be searched by author, title, call number, subject, or key word from workstations in the libraries or by dialing in to the system from other locations either on or off campus. A separate file (NEWT) offers access to books recently added to the library collections. This is also searchable by author, title, subject, and call number. Over 25 major periodical indexes in the humanities, social sciences, law, and the sciences may be searched through Quest.

Computer Searching

CD-ROM networks in the O'Neill Library and the Law Library give patrons immediate on-site access to many databases in history, religion, and other areas of the humanities; the social sciences; government documents; nursing and medicine; law; and public affairs. Dial-in access to the networks is available from other campus libraries and faculty offices. Additional CD-ROM databases are available on individual workstations in O'Neill Library and other campus libraries. New databases are added regularly and patrons should check with the Reference Department for a list of current titles or consult the Boston College Libraries web page (<http://www.bc.edu/libraries.html>). The FirstSearch service, which provides access to the OCLC bibliographic files containing over 30 million records, is available through Quest as the database Worldcat (WCAT).

In addition to the search capabilities noted above, the Libraries offer patrons and researchers access to several hundred on-line databases that may be used for the retrieval of bibliographic information, full text, or statistical information. Many of these are accessible from the Libraries' home page. To use these databases, a researcher may plan a search strategy with a reference librarian and have the librarian perform the search. If appropriate, the researcher may choose from a smaller number of on-line services, such as Dow Jones or NEXIS/LEXIS, and perform the search after some initial training by a Library staff member. The Law School Library has on-line access to LEXIS and WESTLAW as well as other databases. Access to LEXIS and WESTLAW is restricted by contract to members of the Law School community. Dow Jones may be accessed by members of the BC community and NEXIS/LEXIS at O'Neill Library may only be used by members of the BC community on the Chestnut Hill campus.

The Libraries facilitate access to many computerized databases in business, economics, and the social sciences on magnetic tape. Contact the Reference Department for more information, and to arrange for demonstrations, workshops, or presentations to classes or departments.

Interlibrary Loan

The Interlibrary Loan Service is offered to students, faculty,

administrators, and staff to obtain materials not available in the Boston College Libraries. Books, photocopies of journal articles, microfilm, theses, and government documents may be borrowed from other libraries. Except for unusual items, the waiting period is from one to four weeks; for anyone willing to use the material at the holding library, a computerized system at the reference desk will provide locations. Request forms and further information are available from the Interlibrary Loan staff in each library. Requests can be made by using electronic forms available on the Libraries' web site or by visiting a library.

Boston Library Consortium

The library is a member of the Boston Library Consortium, a group of area libraries which includes Brandeis, Boston University, Brown University, Tufts, Wellesley, Northeastern, MIT, Massachusetts State Library, Boston Public Library, the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, and the University of Massachusetts System. Faculty and graduate students may apply for a Consortium borrower's card at the Reference Department in the O'Neill Library. Further information may be found in the User Guide and the Consortium Handbook, available in all libraries. A gateway to the BLC member library on-line catalogs is available on the Libraries' web site.

United States Government Publications

Boston College is one of 1,400 Federal Depository Libraries located throughout the United States. This status entitles the O'Neill Library to receive, on a selective basis, United States government publications at no cost with the stipulation that they be made available to the general public. Most of the material circulates in the same manner as books. Inquiries related to the use of government documents should be directed to Government Documents and Microforms staff on the first floor of the O'Neill Library.

Media Center

The Media Center on the second floor of O'Neill Library houses information in many nonprint formats — videocassettes, laserdiscs, 16mm films, compact discs, audiocassettes, phonodiscs, and CD-ROMs. Books with accompanying computer software are also shelved there. All media may be used by patrons within the Center, in individual carrels. Faculty may conduct their classes in each of our two media classrooms. There is a Faculty Preview Room for faculty meeting with small groups or previewing media materials. Loans of videos are restricted to BC faculty. The Center also has adaptive equipment for patrons with vision impairments.

New England Library Information Network/OCLC

Through membership in the New England Library Information Network (NELINET), our users have on-line access to publishing, cataloging, and interlibrary loan location information from the data bank of OCLC, Inc. which contains over 38 million bibliographic records from the Library of Congress and other national libraries and from over 25,000 other libraries world-wide.

Source: University Librarian

John J. Burns Library of Rare Books and Special Collections

The University's special collections, including the University's Archives, are housed in the magnificently appointed Honorable John J. Burns Library, located in the Bapst Library Building, north entrance. These distinguished and varied collections speak eloquently of the University's commitment to the preservation and dissemination of human knowledge. The Burns Library is home to more than one hundred thousand volumes, some twelve million manuscripts, and important collections of architectural records, maps, art works, photographs, films, prints, artifacts, and ephemera. These materials are housed in the climate-controlled, secure environment of Burns either because of their rarity or because of their importance as part of a special collection. While treated with special care, these resources are available for use at Burns to all qualified students, faculty, and researchers. Indeed, their use is strongly encouraged, and visitors to Burns are always welcome, either simply to browse or to make use of the collections.

Though its collections cover virtually the entire spectrum of human knowledge, the Burns Library has achieved international recognition in several specific areas of research, most notably: Irish studies; British Catholic authors; Jesuitana; fine print; Catholic liturgy and life in America, 1925-1975; Boston history; Caribbeana; Balkan studies; and Congressional archives. It has also won acclaim for significant holdings on nursing, detective fiction, Thomas Merton, Japanese prints, Colonial and early Republic Protestantism, and banking.

Some of the significant collections at Burns include:

The Aylesford Press Collection
Banking Archives: Hibernia Savings Bank, Union Warren, The Provident Institution for Savings, the Yankee Bank for Finance and Savings, and the Savings Banks Association of Massachusetts
Samuel Beckett Collection
Hilaire Belloc Collection and Archives, 1870-1953
The Honorable Edward Boland Papers
Bookbuilders of Boston Archives, 1938-
British Catholic Authors
Bruce F. Browning Boston Theater Collection
Burns, Oates and Washbourne Collection, 1847-1954
The Wallace P. Carroll Papers
The Charitable Irish of Boston Collection
Gilbert Keith Chesterton Collection, 1874-1936
Citywide Coordinating Council Archives, 1975-1978
Josephine A. Dolan Collection
Theodore Dreiser Collection
The Reverend Robert F. Drinan, S.J. Papers

East European Collection (Bulgarian and Romanian)
Eire Society of Boston Archives
Fine Print Collection
Eric Gill Collection
Howard B. Gill Papers
Joseph A. Grace's Early Modern English Collection
Graham Greene Library and Archive
Seamus Heaney Collection
The Honorable Margaret Heckler Papers
Irish Collection
Jane Jacobs Collection
Elizabeth Jennings Collection
Jesuitana Collection, 1540-1773
David Jones Collection
Rita Kelleher Collection
Leeming Collection of Irish Literature
Reverend William J. Leonard, S.J. Liturgy and Life Collection, 1925-1975
Peter Levi Collection and Papers, 1931-
Robert and Patricia Lowery's Sean O'Casey Collection
Reverend Robert J. McEwen, S.J. Catholic Social Action as Embodied in the Modern Consumer Movement
McNiff Collection of the Stanbrook Abbey Press
Thomas Merton Collection
Meynell Family Collection
Morrisey Collection of Japanese Prints, 18th-19th centuries
New England Deaconess Hospital Nursing Collection, 1896-1989
Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill Collection
Nursing Archives
The Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Papers
Flann O'Brien Collection
Mary L. Pekarski Nursing Archives
Pope John XXI Collection of Medical Ethics
Salem Divines Collection
Joseph Coolidge Shaw, S.J., 1821-1851, Collection
Francis Stewart Collection
Rex Stout Collection and Archives
Francis Sweeney, S.J. Collection
Francis Thompson Collection, 1859-1907
Typography and Design
University Archives
Sr. Madeleine Clemence Vaillot, O.P. Papers
Nicholas M. Williams Memorial Collection of Caribbeana
William Butler Yeats Collection

The John J. Burns Library is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Library is closed on all University holidays. Visitors are always welcome and are encouraged to view the permanent exhibition areas of the Library. Guided tours are also available upon request. Patrons using the collections must do so in the Burns Reading Room where specialized reference and copy services are provided. Burns sponsors an active exhibits and lecture series program.

Source: University Librarian