

# BOSTON COLLEGE LIBRARIES FACULTY NEWSLETTER

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## Yavarkovsky Earns Top Librarian Award



University Librarian Jerome Yavarkovsky has been named winner of the 2004 Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Award from the American Library Association, considered the most prestigious award for an academic library director. The award, according to the ALA, honors the life and accomplishments of Hugh C. Atkinson, one of the major innovators in modern librarianship, and recognizes outstanding achievements by academic librarians that have contributed significantly to improvements in the areas of library automation, library management, and/or library development and research.

## Electronic Journal Ventures

### New Open Access Electronic Journal

Boston College Libraries are pleased to announce the title of their first open access electronic journal that is being published under their new agreement with Berkeley Electronic Press. It is called Teaching Exceptional Children Plus (TECP), and it will be a publishing collaboration between Boston College Libraries and the Council for Exceptional Children. Dr. Alec Peck, Associate Professor, Lynch School of Education, is the co-editor with Dr. Stan Scarpati, Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst. It is expected that the first issue will appear in September 2004.

In describing, TECP, Dr. Peck wrote, "Each issue will contain feature articles, which are peer-reviewed and selected with the same rigor as a paper journal, and have additional content (e.g. video, live links, extended data.)". Another proposed feature is "a collection of case studies (hopefully 2 to 3 per issue) Every time new legislation is proposed or funding increases or cuts are discussed, legislators want to hear success stories. TECP will build a repository of such cases. In the long run, some of these cases may even become data for other studies!"

The Libraries have been leading the efforts on campus to promote open access to scholarship. Providing the software and technical support to create new e-journals is just one of many initiatives, in which the Libraries are currently involved. For further information, consult our "Scholarly Communications" website at: <http://www.bc.edu/libraries/about/scholcomm/>.

### Ideas for Other Electronic Journals?

Have you an idea for founding a new scholarly journal? Or are you an editor of a print journal that you would like to transform into an electronic journal? BC Libraries recently purchased a license to publish several electronic journals using Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress) software. The Berkeley Electronic Press's software facilitates an innovative publishing model that promotes high-quality, rapidly disseminated, low-cost electronic alternatives to high-priced print journals. At the heart of the bepress system is EdiKit®, a powerful web-based editorial management software. EdiKit is used to manage an article in its progress from submission to publication. EdiKit automates every procedural step in producing scholarly journals, from submitting an article to its review and final publication. It eliminates delays inherent in such tasks as mailing manuscripts and reviews; managing correspondence among authors, reviewers and editors; and bundling articles into an issue. BC Libraries welcome queries from faculty about bepress as well as proposals for the creation of electronic journals or for the transformation of existing print journals into electronic format. Please contact Adeane Bregman <[bregman@bc.edu](mailto:bregman@bc.edu)> or Brendan Rapple <[rappleb@bc.edu](mailto:rappleb@bc.edu)>.

*Adeane Bregman, Bapst Art Librarian*

*Brendan Rapple, Collection Development Librarian*

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Spring 2004



## Electronic Theses and Dissertations Debut at Boston College

On May 17, Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD's) went live on the Libraries website: <<http://dissertations.bc.edu>>. Boston College joins other research libraries by publishing the scholarly output of students and faculty - the beginning steps to establishing an institutional repository. While the database will eventually contain Ph.D. dissertations as well as undergraduate honors theses, the database is currently populated with over 70 theses written by undergraduate students graduating in 2003 and 2004 who were enrolled in the College Honors Program or in a departmental honors program.

Students submit electronic versions of their theses and dissertations, previously published only in a paper format, to the site themselves. Following easy, online directions, they add metadata describing their work and the software (co-developed by the BC Libraries and BePress) converts them to online PDF documents. This new method of access to research scholarship expands the possibilities for students to include multimedia files, hyperlinks, and spreadsheets with their work. It also increases access to the research by making it available to all on campus and to scholars worldwide.

Submitting an online version of their thesis is now a requirement for graduating seniors in the Honors programs. Much guidance and support was given by Tim Duket, coordinator of the College Honors Program and Bob Murphy, Coordinator of the Economics Department honors program. Plans for adding Ph.D. dissertations are still being developed by a committee of librarians and administrative deans, led by Margie Fiels, Access Services Librarian, O'Neill Library. Other committee members include Candace Hetzner (A&S); Laurel Eisenhauer (SON); Joe O'Keefe (LSOE); Paul Kline (GSSW); and David Horn, Burns Library.

*Margie Fiels*  
Access Services

## Enhancements to Literature Online [LION]

The database Literature Online [LION] is now in its third edition. LION is a very large fully searchable database of more than 350,000 works of English and American poetry, drama and prose, 123 full-text literature journals, and other key criticism and reference resources. The database comes with a number of new features:

Research support enhancements include

- My Archive: a password-protected area in which users can save searches and search results between sessions.
- Easy bookmarking with durable URLs: all full-text pages, Author pages and Tables of Contents pages now have links to 'URL for this page' or 'URL for this text'. These give access to durable links that can be used for linking in to Literature Online from course pages or other web sites.
- Author alerts: from each Author page, you can sign up for email alerts to keep you informed whenever new content is added to the service.

New search features include

- Quick Search: a one-box 'smart' search that retrieves results from both Texts and Criticism & Reference.
- Variant Typography: on the Search: Texts page, you can select 'typographical variants'; this will automatically search for Early Modern variants of your search terms, such as 'loue' or 'wyfe' (instead of 'love' and 'wife').
- New wildcard operator: as well as the truncation operator (\*), users can now use an internal wildcard (?): e.g. 'wom?n' will retrieve both 'woman' and 'women'.
- Literary Works in Journals: Literature Online's collection of full-text journals contains contributions by over 800 contemporary authors. These poems, short stories and essays can now be retrieved via searches in Search: Texts, or by browsing through the Complete Contents.

New navigation features include

- Complete Contents: a new feature allowing you to browse through the entire contents of the database and link through to full text.
- Full-Text Journals can now be accessed from every page in the service.
- The Combined Dictionaries search has been expanded into a Reference Shelf, which now includes the King James Bible in addition to the Concise Oxford Dictionary, Webster's Dictionary and the Shakespeare Glossary. This is accessible from every search page.
- Author Index: a new interactive browse list of authors, which can also be accessed from every search page.

*Brendan Rapple*  
Collection Development

## “Open Access”: The Basics

No doubt you’ve come across the term “open access” in recent months, whether in a scholarly publication, the popular science media, or the web site of the Boston College Libraries. The debate over proposed transformations to the academic publishing system is heating up, propelled by such developments as the cancellation by Cornell, Duke, the University of California system, and other universities of hundreds of journal subscriptions from publisher Reed Elsevier, as well as the ballyhooed October 2003 debut of the journal PLoS Biology from open-access outfit Public Library of Science. The spotlight is on open access, and is probably here to stay as more and more librarians, researchers, and administrators agree that the scholarly communication system needs an overhaul.

### Open Access Defined

But what does “open access” really mean? Coverage of open access can be heavy with talk of library budgets, publishing conglomerates, renegade non-profits, and technological developments. Behind all this, it can be easy to lose sight of the movement’s fundamental aims and ideals.

In essence, the open access movement calls for the online availability, free-of-charge, of peer-reviewed research publications. Although descriptions of open access often stress commercial journal publishers’ price-gouging (and libraries’ ensuing difficulties making ends meet), overcoming the serials pricing crisis is not application of the fruits of research, funding organizations and universities maximize their investments in scholars. And as the process of discovery is expedited by the swifter and wider exchange of ideas, the public enjoys a more immediate benefit from research.

### Achieving Open Access: Two Approaches

But if not from library subscriptions, then where will the funds needed to publish scholarly articles come from? Even with a new electronic model of distribution, which reduces production costs, the administration of peer review can still present a major expense. Open access proponents are still devising new publishing models, but have two broad ideas to attain their goal, one probably a distant reality, the other allowing free online access without delay.

### Open-Access Journals

Called the “gold road” to open access by cognitive scientist and open-access guru Stevan Harnad, this strategy calls for the development of subscription-free journals that do not demand author relinquishment of copyright (an almost universal practice among journals today). This new type of journal demands innovations in funding—and these possible innovations are a main source of controversy in open access debates. Some new open-access journals, such as those published by Public Library of Science and BioMed Central, try to finance their operations through author charges (mostly furnished by research funding organizations) and through institutional memberships (these ask an annual fee, in exchange for which the member institution’s faculty institution may publish articles without charge). Under this model, the cost of publication is shifted from user to producer, with publication posited as a final expense in the research process. It is widely acknowledged that this system would only work well in highly funded disciplines such as biomedicine, and that other models (such as library-published electronic journals) must be explored for other fields.

### Self-Archiving

But no need to await the utopia of universally toll-free journals to attain open access, experts advise. Researchers can deposit copies of their refereed articles in electronic archives, making research available immediately on an author-by-author basis through what Harnad calls the “green road” to open access. Before publishing, scholars should make sure that their contracts allow them to self-archive their papers (see <http://www.bc.edu/libraries/about/scholcomm/s-copyrightadd/> for a sample contract addendum). If an author has already surrendered copyright to a journal publisher and is not able to reclaim it, he or she still can deposit a pre-print (the draft of the article prior to peer review) along with corrigenda (a list of errors and corrections).

Electronic archives are available in a number of disciplines, such as Research Papers in Economics (RePEc), CogPrints, and ArXiv in physics, mathematics, and computer science. A growing number of institutions are also establishing digital institutional repositories where faculty and other members of the college or university community may save and make available their scholarly work. Among the most prominent of these in the U. S. are M. I. T.’s DSpace <<https://dspace.mit.edu/>> and the California Digital Library eScholarship Repository <<http://escholarship.cdlib.org/>>. Material deposited in these repositories is picked up by Internet search engines, and may also be searched in more detail from the repository’s web site. Portals using the Open Archives Initiative Metadata Harvesting Protocol (OAI-MHP) are also under development; with the OAI-MHP, it will be possible to

search disparate institutional and disciplinary archives as if they were one combined electronic archive.

### For Further Information

A comprehensive basic introduction to the concepts of open access is offered by the Budapest Open Archives Initiative FAQ <<http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/boaifaq.htm>>. The Create Change web site <<http://www.arl.org/create/home.html>> from the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC) offers suggestions for faculty action to reform scholarly communication. Learn more about the Public Library of Science at <<http://www.plos.org/>> and BioMed Central at <<http://www.biomedcentral.com/>>.

*Michelle Baildon*  
*Scholarly Communications Reference Librarian*

### New Librarians



Michelle Baildon, an Association for Research Libraries (ARL) Diversity Fellow, joined the staff of O'Neill Library as Scholarly Communications reference Librarian in September 2003. She received a B.A. in History and Science from Harvard University in 1997, an M.A. in American Studies from Yale University in 2001, and an M.L.S. from Simmons College in 2003. While a student at Simmons, she received a Spectrum Initiative Scholarship from the American Library Association; a stipend from the Association of Research Libraries Initiative to Recruit a Diverse Workforce; the LITA/OCLC Minority Scholarship in Library and Information Technology; the Harold T. Pinkett Minority Student Award from the Society of American Archivists; and the Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship for Minority Students from the Midwest Archives Conference.



Margaret Cohen joins the University Libraries as Head of the Educational Resource Center. Prior to this position Margaret served as Head of Instructional Services and Reference at Phillips Academy, Andover, MA. She has been very active in promoting the use of technology in education as well as ensuring that all students are effective and efficient users of information. Margaret is an active member of Association of College and Research Libraries. She received a Master of Science degree in Library and Information Sciences from Simmons College and an undergraduate degree in Communication Studies from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA.



Sally Wyman, Senior Reference Librarian/Bibliographer for Chemistry and Physics, joined the staff of the O'Neill Library in September 2003, after 18-1/2 years at the Gerstenzang Science Library of Brandeis University. While at Brandeis, she served in a number of capacities, including: Coordinator for Library Instruction (Sciences), Head of the Science Library, and, most recently, as GIS Librarian. Sally's educational background includes an A.B. in Biology, an M.L.S., and a Master's in Marine Science.

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Faculty Newsletter Editors:  
Brendan Rapple, Ed Tallent  
Layout:  
Coleen Dunkley  
Photographs:  
Sadie Northway