In support of QCC’s One Book Project we have created a research guide for *Townie*, Andre Dubus III’s critically acclaimed memoir.

The guide leads students to library and internet resources about Dubus and his work.

Drawing attention to some of the major themes in *Townie*, the guide addresses poverty, violence, mill towns, and Dubus’s father—a critically acclaimed author in his own regard. Please share this link (http://qcc.mass.libguides.com/townie) with your students as they work on assignments related to QCC’s One Book Project.

We hope to see you at Dubus’s campus lecture entitled “Townie: How Writing Saved me from a Life of Violence” on November 15th at 12:30 pm in Hebert Auditorium.

What began as a frequently-asked-question or, more precisely, a frequently-voiced-frustration developed into a full library guide assembled by Denise Cross and Matt Bejune.

This guide illustrates how to embed library resources into Blackboard, The Q, or virtually any other online environment. The resource can be a video, like Fingerprint from Films on Demand featured here, or an article, an ebook, a sound clip, a cartoon and more. In fact, just about any content accessed from Alden Library databases will work.

Students will appreciate how easy it is to utilize library content when it is linked from their course. Faculty will be impressed when students use authoritative sources for their assignments.

— Matt Bejune

Ken Bain is Provost and a Vice President at the University of the District of Columbia.

— Michael Stevenson
Adjunct Corner—
New Video Resources

The “Streaming Video” link on the library’s front page connects to a bounty of video clips.

Films on Demand is our newest set. This is a delightfully rich and varied collection of titles from the humanities and social sciences, with over 5,000 videos subdivided into 84,398 segments. The collection includes everything from great speeches to fingerprint technique and from sociology to languages. The thousands of short and long pieces can be folded into course work.

Amy Beaudry reports “I’ve used clips on Aristotle and Plato in my Liberal Arts sections and I found a piece with Temple Grandin for a Speech class.”

The Special Collections tab offers titles from Ken Burns’s productions, TEDTalks, Frontline, Nightline, Scientific American Frontiers, the History Channel and many more.

For those faculty who need more healthcare-oriented material, the set we added earlier this year—Nursing Education in Video—has a series on anatomy and physiology. Other segments relate to assessment, caregiving, mental health, cultural awareness, and more. There are 284 videos in this Medcom collection hosted on the Alexander Street Press platform.

Both Films on Demand and Nursing Education in Video offer transcripts along with the clips. This makes it easy to read the narrative or dialog and to excerpt from the scripts.

These special collections expand and complement videos and tutorials already available in databases. Historic and contemporary events are captured in Opposing Viewpoints in Context and Encyclopedia Britannica, among others. Vendors show users how to access and use their resources in their tutorials. And guide pages link to selected video resources from the Dubus interview in the Townie guide to “Interview Dos and Don’ts” in the Career Exploration guide.

—Dale LaBonte

Library Displays

This fall the library mounted several displays on the concourse of the second floor in the HLC. The large display board was complemented by a scrolling slide show for Banned Books Week in late September and for the October theme of being an informed voter. A display of books mirroring the theme sits on table in the third floor Alumni Reading Room.

The November display addresses veterans—highlighting Alden Library and wider resources for students who have served in the military. In April we celebrate poetry month and National Library Week.

We not only highlight library offerings, we also partner with faculty and campus offices to raise awareness or celebrate their accomplishments. This has led to displays on people with disabilities by the Disabilities Office, and displays of work students have produced for classes such as Children’s Literature and Human Services or for competitions like the Open Door photo contest were in the past.

We are always interested in collaborating on library displays, so contact Dale LaBonte or Michael Stevenson with ideas.

Backstory

A People and A Leader
Unfettered


Call number: DS 530.53 A85 P66 2012.

Aung San Suu Kyi is the Burmese democracy movement’s face to the world: winner of the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize, detainee for 15 tumultuous years and survivor of two assassination attempts. Journalist Peter Popham, skilled at covert research in the formerly isolated nation, narrates her life as the daughter of one of Burma’s founders, as mother and housewife, and as focus of the military regime’s brutality as she recruited associates to campaign nonviolently to free the Burmese.

Thanks to the movement’s persistence, Burma has begun to liberalize and Aung San Suu Kyi won a seat in Parliament this year. “The Lady” is also free to entertain visitors such as Secretary of State Clinton, and recently concluded a visit to the U.S. She will shortly meet with President Obama when he visits Burma.

Archbishop Tutu has said Aung San “makes one proud to be human in her company. What a gift to our world and what a splendid telling of it in this book.”

Author Popham toured Burma several times as an undercover reporter, and writes for the U.K.’s Independent newspaper.

The Library added this title in support of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) project on “Bridging Cultures,” funding Faculty knowledge of East and Southeast Asia.

—Michael Stevenson