



ISSUE 1 Fall 2008

An occasional newsletter

Quinsigamond Community College

Alden Library

▶ **IN THIS ISSUE:**

- VIDEO: THE ACT OF TEACHING
- ADJUNCT CORNER
- INFORMATION LITERACY
- LIBRARY HOLDINGS: MACHADO DE ASSIS

INFORMATION AND USER TIPS FOR FACULTY

Responding to student comments in the recent LIBQUAL Survey, we've made it easier to find your way around

Signs Improve Harrington Learning Center Flow

Have you ever seen a visitor to the HLC hesitate or come to a halt once inside the security gates bracketing the 2nd floor entryway? Have you wondered which way to go to find the tutoring centers or the library?

In 2003 the Transition Team for the HLC planned a minimum of signs for the new building with the idea that we would add additional signage as needed. Last November you helped us administer the LIBQUAL Survey, and the results pointed to the fact that more signs were definitely needed. A quickly assembled HLC Signage Workgroup suggested the addition of 25 new signs.

Some large signs greet you immediately. The question mark at the HLC Information Desk speaks for itself. "Quiet Study Zone" signs in four prominent places on the 3rd floor denote library study areas. Major areas like the main entry to the three tutoring centers, the reference area of the library, and the library staircase have received large new signs. Smaller signs let people know which way to turn when they exit the elevator.

Of course, signs do not eliminate the need for personal contact since some people will always walk right by a sign to talk to a person. Our friendly and helpful staff at the Information Desk are always here to provide detailed information about building events and campus directions, as well as the answer to the most asked question in any building, "Where's the bathroom?"



New Resources

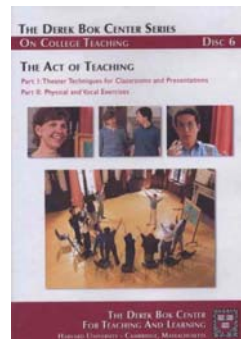
It's Showtime, Folks! Video Set Promotes *The Act of Teaching.*

Is effective teaching often a matter of performance? Quinsigamond faculty who feel that it is have a new tool for honing their inner Olivier.

The Act of Teaching is a video set from the Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning at Harvard University. Part I of the DVD covers Theatre Techniques for Classroom Presentations, and Part II is Physical and Vocal Exercises. We hold an additional copy of Part I as a VHS tape.

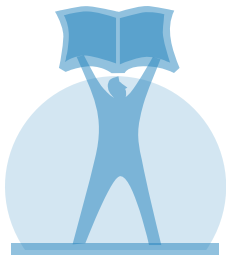
Faculty may use an accompanying 48 page booklet in conjunction with the two video presentations or as a stand-alone guide or refresher on the Bok Center's recommended techniques and exercises.

This set was recommended to the Library by the QCC Center for Academic Excellence and is available at the Circulation Desk, second floor of HLC, with non-print call number **LB2331.A27 2001**. Call the Reference Desk to learn about more teaching tools recommended by the Center for Academic Excellence and held by Alden Library.



Library Quick Fact:

In FY08, 2,449 new books were ordered: Humanities 612; Business & Technology 282; Healthcare & Human Services 491; Math & Social Sciences 983; Professional Development and Leisure Reading 81.



Adjunct Corner

Adjunct faculty members can navigate around the Alden Library faculty page for quality-added resources. You can find links there to place course items on reserve or to request instruction sessions to complement student research assignments.

http://www.qcc.mass.edu/library/Faculty_page.htm

This is also the place to find links to the *Adjunct Advocate* and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. News, jobs, opinion and—of course—blogs are all a click away.

Adjunct Advocate is an online-only publication devoted to your interests. The *Chronicle of Higher Education* addresses DCE and adjunct issues in articles like the October 2008 “An Administrator Takes up the Cause of Adjuncts” by Jeffrey J. Selingo. This publication also has a section devoted to community college news.

The print periodical collection on the third floor has some gems like *The Teaching Professor*, *College Teaching*, *Change*, and several community college journals. And don't miss faculty development databases like *Educator's Reference Complete* through Gale, and *ERIC* and *Teacher Reference Center* through EBSCO.

For remote access to all the library resources, ask for a library card at the HLC second floor Library Circulation Desk. And remember that the library is open 67 hours a week. There is always a professional librarian on duty to help you.

Library Services

Information Literacy

The Alden Library offers library information skills training to develop information literacy in our students, faculty, and staff to ensure effective and efficient access to information. Information literacy, as defined by the American Library Association, is the ability to recognize when information is needed and then locate, evaluate, and use the needed information effectively.

With the growing quantity and uncertain quality of free internet resources, databases subscribed to by the Alden Library are ideal research tools. However, reliable sources are not enough. Acquiring information literacy skills requires practice. Students should attend multiple library class instruction sessions sequenced throughout their academic careers.

For more information about our library instruction program please visit the Alden Library webpage at:

http://www.qcc.mass.edu/library/FAQpolicies/FacultyBI_faq.htm

Did you know?

ARC Cards

The Alden Library's membership in the Academic and Research Collaborative (ARC) allows faculty from QCC to check out books from nearly all of the other academic libraries in our region. You must carry an ARC card from the Alden Library and a current QCC Faculty ID with you when you go to the other library. Stop by the Circulation Desk and pick up an ARC card. For information about other libraries, follow this link:

http://www.qcc.mass.edu/library/area_libraries.htm

Need a book or video?

The commitment of the college administration and the QCC Foundation enable us to obtain the print and video sources that our college's curriculum demands.

Faculty requests are a vital part of building our collections. Please e-mail suggestions for books, DVDs, and videos to Michael Stevenson, Coordinator of Collection Development, at mstevenson@qcc.mass.edu, or call Michael at extension 2793. He can also suggest reviewing media available to Faculty, such as the online *Book Index with Reviews* and the premier academic collection development journal *CHOICE*.

Alden Library telephones:

Reference — 508-854-4366

Circulation — 508-854-4581

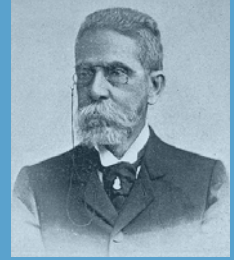
Current hours are posted near each entry door and on the web at

www.qcc.mass.edu/library

Library Quick Fact:

In FY08, 3,554 interlibrary loans were sent to and received from libraries around our state and across the nation. We have received materials from as far away as Alaska and Oregon.

The Backstory



Race, Class and “Empire” Through an Absurdist Lens: a Boom for Senhor Machado

Matamos o tempo; o tempo nos enterra.

We kill time; time buries us. — Machado de Assis

The Library has been collecting Brazilian author Joaquim Machado de Assis in translation for the past few years. Machado (mah-CHAH-doo, 1839-1908) portrayed Brazilians in a bumptious, often absurdist, manner during a time of ferment: the end of rule by an “emperor” and also of slavery. *The Washington Post Book World* called Machado's style “playful, ironic and tricky.”

In the way that literary “buzz” builds, Machado is now being championed by such literati as Yale's Harold Bloom. Another fan was Susan Sontag, who termed him “the greatest writer ever produced in Latin America.”

In September a Machado centennial celebration offered roundtables and seminars on the author's life and creations, coinciding with the anniversary of his death after a career as an author, government official, and patron of Brazil's nascent film industry.

We offer *The Posthumous Memoirs of Bras Cubas* (1881). Non-Brazilian critics tend to hail *Bras Cubas* as Machado's masterpiece, notes the *Times*. Brazilians prefer the author's *Dom Casmurro*, a melancholy take on sexual jealousy, also held by the Library.

To find Machado's works at Alden Library consult the Catalog or call the Reference Desk at extension 4366.

[Portrait of Machado from *Biography Resource Center* (c)2008 Gale Cengage Learning]