Alden Library Launching New Discovery Tool

Search for books from around the block or around the world all in one easy-to-use service. WorldCat Local is a discovery tool that brings together items in the Alden Library's C/WMARS online catalog with those of libraries all over the world that participate in the WorldCat database. Items are displayed starting at the local level based on availability in the C/WMARS catalog, then by local zip code proximity to QCC. Items not available locally display hold request or inter-library loan buttons so the user can request the items they need. Searching for materials is also enhanced with faceting limits by topic, date and format type. Links to other editions of the work and similar materials also aid in quickly locating needed items.

The WorldCat Local address for QCC is: http://qccaldenlibrary.worldcat.org.

Give it a try and let us know what you think by emailing reference@qcc.mass.edu. — Denise Cross

Call for QCC Historic Documents

Do you have QCC publications collecting dust in your office? The Alden Library is collecting college catalogs, newspapers, programs from special events or graduations, and other items of historical interest produced by the college over the years. Materials from the 60's concerning the founding and early days of the college are of particular interest as we approach the 50th anniversary of the college. Please contact Denise Cross (dcross@qcc.mass.edu) for details about contributing to the historical collection that we have begun to build and preserve.

— Denise Cross

An advising tool you may not have considered …

professional journals

The Alden Library subscribes to 232 print periodical subscriptions, many of which are professional journals. It is our experience that many students who come to QCC have no idea what career they want to pursue. A student who browses through a professional journal has a wonderful opportunity to see what issues are important to a profession, what the people in that field wear, what equipment they work with, and what they talk about and argue about (in letters to the editor). In other words, they begin to see what it would really be like to work in fire safety or security, to be a CPT assistant or a psychologist, an occupational therapist or an accountant. In advising, teaching PSY115 or other career exploration courses, or as you talk with students who are trying to decide whether to pursue radiology or physics, please suggest that they browse in our periodical collection and talk with a librarian.

Faculty Development Tools

Are you feeling increasing pressure for accountability? We expect we would hear a resounding YES were we to poll. A tool to help meet demands from stakeholders — administration, students, parents — is Planning and Assessment in Higher Education, by Michael F. Middaugh (Jossey-Bass, 2010). Middaugh shows how colleges can measure their students’ learning and improve institutional effectiveness by applying various measurement tools.

Middaugh is associate provost for institutional effectiveness at the University of Delaware. Planning and Assessment in Higher Education is in Alden Library with call number LB2341 .M4437 2010. — Michael Stevenson

We are pleased to introduce Matt Bejune, our new Coordinator of Library Reference and Instruction. Matt comes to us from the Hicks Undergraduate Library at Purdue University. He is looking forward to meeting and working with QCC faculty.
The Alden Library on the 3rd floor of the Harrington Learning Center is a good place to encounter an extensive collection, helpful librarians, assistance with research, quiet space, and marvelous views. But for those based at Southbridge or teaching online classes, resources and services are also available by:

- telephone (508-854-4366)
- email (reference@qcc.mass.edu)
- electronic holds in the CWMARS catalog
- Interlibrary Loans

Many self-serve options are based on the user’s library barcode. Ask for one at the HLC second floor Library Circulation Desk. For materials needed in Southbridge classes, videos can be delivered by mail to your home address.

The librarians also value the opportunity to show students how to use library resources. Invite us to present during your class by submitting an instruction session request, which can be done at: http://www.qcc.mass.edu/library/onlineForms/LibrInstSessFm/LibrInstSessFm.htm.

Library collections can help you access audio books for long commutes or find professional resources to enhance teaching. For professional development, to hunt for jobs, or to sample trends, The Chronicle of Higher Education in print is found in the Alden Library and online from campus computers. From home, the text is available in the Academic Search Premier database. Adjunct Advocate is also available online. The print periodical collection in the Alden Library also has some gems like The Teaching Professor, College Teaching, Change, and several community college journals.

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**ADJUNCT CORNER**

The similarity in names can cause confusion, but Harrington Learning Center, where Alden Library is, and Harrington Computer Center, in the Administration Building, are two different places which provide different resources.

Except for the five Email Express computers in the atrium of the Harrington Learning Center, all the HLC computers are intended to be used by students doing library research or students needing the services of the tutors in the Math Center, the Communication Skills Center, and the Individualized Learning Center.

In contrast, the 55 computers in the Harrington Computer Center (room 379 in the Administration Building) are general use computers. That center has longer hours and offers expert technical assistance for students doing course related homework or accessing online courses.

**Collection Development Notes**

Whenever someone asks us what our library’s collection development policy is, we say “Yes!” That’s the policy. We purchase all requests made by faculty for books, videos and DVDs that are for use in support of QCC courses. Items requested near the end of one budget cycle may have to wait until the next fiscal year budget begins, but we will purchase the materials as soon as possible.

That said, we do sometimes say an occasional “Maybe.” This is the response to requests for electronic databases. Choosing, trying out, and negotiating prices for databases is a huge job. Our library belongs to five consortia, all of which offer their member libraries deep discounts on database purchases and we do get very good prices on our resources.

Nevertheless, we deliberate long and hard before we commit our resources for years into the future. Subscribing to a full text periodical or reference database is a long-term commitment … the expense never ends and the cost only goes up. When a library is forced by budget cuts to cancel a database, we have nothing to show for the years of subscriptions because we own none of the content.

As a result, we choose a new database very carefully. Our basic requirement is that it must be useful to a large number of students and provide resources that are not available in other currently subscribed databases.

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**Library Quick Fact:**

Midway through FY10, we have ordered 1,568 new titles for our collection. Fifty-seven DVDs, requested by faculty, have also been ordered.

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**Top-Notch Surgeon Exalts the Humble**

Atul Gawande, MD.


Alden Library call no. **RA399.A1 G39 2010.**

In our pressured workplaces, is there a good tool to help us meet our goals without cutting corners? Possibly the centuries-old, analog checklist, writes noted surgeon/author Atul Gawande. Gawande describes how the 24/7 economy and demands for accountability can overwhelm modern professionals, as well as members of their work teams. He proposes focusing on essential procedures — yes, get out the #2 pencil and check off that step when completed and before moving on — no matter how expert you are, or may think you are.

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**Do You Know?**

**HLC and HCC are two different places.**

The Backstory

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