



Check it out!

WHAT'S NEW?

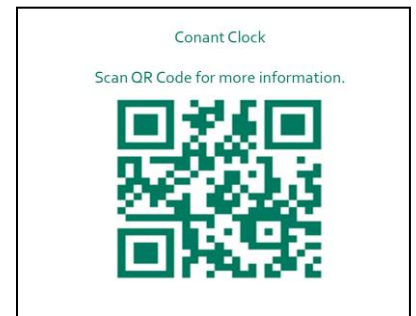
QR CODES: LINKING TO MORE INFORMATION

You've probably seen them in museums, stores, magazines and promotional fliers. They are Quick Response (QR) Codes, matrix barcodes that, when scanned, can link mobile phone users to a webpage or other specific content. The Library has begun taking advantage of this technology this semester. You will now find, for example, a QR code:

- next to the **Conant Clock** in the Main Reading area. Scan it and you will be linked to an informative brochure about the clock. See code on the right!
- on the door to each **group study room**, which can be used to go directly to Meeting Room Manager for room reservations.
- [AND COMING SOON:] next to the **portraits** of Amasa Nichols and Hezekiah Conant, as well as each portrait of a past Nichols College president on the balcony area. Each of these codes links to a video giving brief information about the person in the portrait and their impact on the College. The videos were the brainchild of Library Director Jim Douglas. He came up with a short script and selected graphics from the Nichols Archives for each president. Green Screen Room Coordinator Rob Russo and student Olivia Normandin videotaped each narration and then added special effects and the relevant images. Matthew Haggard generated the specific codes for each one.

IN THIS ISSUE

QR Codes
Student Workers
Textbooks on Reserve
New Artwork
Coming Events
Book Author Speaks
Entrepreneurial Speaker
Book Swap
Poetry Gala
Student Worker Spotlight



(Most smartphones now come with QR scanning functionality built-in, usually accessed automatically through the camera. Otherwise, QR scanner / reader apps are typically available wherever you go to get new apps for your phone or other handheld device.)

STUDENT WORKERS: AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE LIBRARY TEAM

When you walk through the front door of the library, student workers are the people who will greet you at the Front Desk. Student workers are our ambassadors, our troubleshooters, and the ones who will help you check books or tablets out. They will refer you to a librarian if you have a research question they cannot answer. They will help you use the online system to reserve a group study room, or to request an item through interlibrary loan (ILL). Student workers staff the library during late evening hours when regular staff members have gone home, and do all the closing activities at the end of each day. At the STARDesk, students answer technology-related questions and, if the problem requires knowledge beyond their expertise, ensure your problem is addressed by directing you to someone who can provide additional help.

Student workers play a vital role in the life of our library. We're grateful for their collaboration with us and each other, and for their willingness to contribute to our mission as we seek to serve them, their classmates and instructors.

TEXTBOOKS ON RESERVE: WHICH ONES AND WHERE IS A LIST?

As many of you know, every semester the Library purchases copies of every textbook that costs \$80 or more in the bookstore and puts them on reserve behind the Circulation Desk for users to borrow free of charge. We keep a list of all textbooks at the Circulation Desk (as well as a course reserve list of material put on reserve by individual instructors for their classes). You can also find the list online on the Library's FAQ page and the Patron Services page.

Check it out!

NEW ARTWORK by David Omar White (1927 – 2009) is now on display on the Main and Top floors of the Library! White, a prolific and internationally-recognized painter who passed away in 2009 was also an illustrator, muralist, printer and sculptor. He was also the creator of a long-running political cartoon strip called “The White Rabbit,” that ran from 1974-1984. The Library’s Director, Jim Douglas, first saw his work on display at Pearle L. Crawford Library in Dudley. Thanks to his daughter, Dr. Amy (White) Pratt, who is generously loaning the work for the semester, the Nichols campus community can also enjoy some of his fine art. For more about Mr. White and his art, go to <http://davidomarwhite.squarespace.com/>



COMING EVENTS

Feb. 21: “Speaking of Books...Conversations with Campus Authors” - Dr. Mauri Pelto

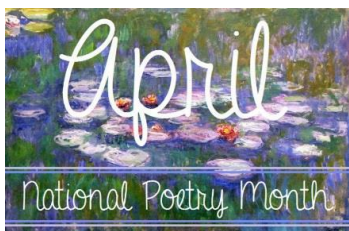
On Feb. 21 at 1:30 PM, the Library will host guest author, Dr. Mauri Pelto, Professor of Environmental Science and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Nichols College. Dr. Pelto will discuss his new book, *Recent Climate Change Impacts on Mountain Glaciers*, where he tells the story of glacier loss to climate change from 1984-2015. This event is open to the public. Refreshments will be served, courtesy of the Fischer Institute.

Mind Your Own Business Entrepreneurial Speaker - TBA



April 11 - SPRING BOOK SWAP TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Gather up a couple of books from home, residence hall, or office and head over to the Library’s spring book swap on Wednesday, April 11. Stop by the main reading room anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. to drop off and pick up a book. You don’t have to give one to get one (or two, or three...) Share your favorites and discover new ones!



April 18: English Department and Library present Third Annual Poetry Gala! 6 – 8 PM

The Fischer Institute, the English Program, the Poetry Club and the Library together celebrate National Poetry Month. The program will again be led by Professor Lisa C. Taylor. Her invited guest poet, Kate Rushin, will do a reading. Following the reading, there will be an open mic segment with faculty and the Nichols Poetry Club. Please join us in the Library’s main reading room for an immersion into the world of metaphor, image, and spoken word. Refreshments provided by the Fischer Institute.



PAULINE SROCZYNSKI, EVENING SUPERVISOR, RETIRES

It is with great sadness we announce the retirement of Pauline Sroczyński after 31 years of great service to the Library. Pauline has been a great asset to the Library, ensuring our evening student workers were well-trained, the stacks were kept in proper order, and eager to assist in various special projects whenever called upon. It was not unheard of for students to marvel how she worked diligently day and night, not realizing her twin sister was also employed during the day as the Library's acquisitions clerk and Nichols Archives assistant (she retired last year, after 29 years of service!). She will be missed.

TOO NOISY? HELP IS JUST A CLICK AWAY!

Is the music coming from the guy with earphones six seats away interfering with your concentration? Wish somebody would come and tell the cellphone user to be a little more quiet? That group "discussion" getting way too loud? There is a **chat widget on all library computer desktops**; should you wish to report too much noise in the Library anonymously or have some other issue you should get a quick response between 7:30am and 12:30am. M-TH and 7:30am to 3:30pm on Fridays.

And speaking about help.....

STUDENT WORKER SPECIAL PROJECT: ARCHIVES



Bethany Charron recently graduated. Here is what she had to say about her special project, working with the photo collection from the Archives:

"My name is Bethany Charron. I am a history major and senior here at Nichols College and a part-time student worker at Conant Library. My job is a lot different than what your average student worker does here; my job is to date and categorize the photos in the Nichols College archives. I've been working on this project with Rosalba Onofrio and Jim Douglas for about two years now. I work on this because I am an aspiring archivist and every bit of experience I can get counts!"

The photo archives here are in the process of being organized and it can be extremely difficult to differentiate when each photo took place and where it should go. Fortunately, there are multiple ways to figure out where each one goes and belongs.

The first thing I do is look at the back of the photos and see if there are any backprints or stamps. Backprints are manufacturers' markings, kind of like a watermark. As companies change, their logos or slogans and usually their backprints would change as well, making it easy to categorize them by decade. Stamps are older than backprints and are harder to track considering they're developer specific. Developers are small business owners who specialize in the art of creating photographs. If I'm lucky the date is already there, or a person's name is there. A person's name would help because if it's an alumnus I can look them up in an alumni directory.

Next, I look at the picture for any brand names, logo's, car models, license plates, fashion choices, distinguishable people, sports helmets and equipment, whatever I can find that may help me date it. I also look at the photo's condition, image quality, filters, colors, and other minor details. Why do I do this? Let's take football for example: the first helmets were leather and little changes developed along the way to make them what they are today. Those little changes can help me figure out a timeframe for the picture. As for picture quality and such, some photos deteriorate faster than others and the type of deterioration can help me figure out what paper or developer technique was used, when it was used, and where it was used.

After that, I put each photo in an acid free folder to try to keep the photos from deteriorating even more and put them into their individual category. The goal is to get them to be as close to the exact year they were taken as possible and this method helps me place them into the right decade or even lustrum. [Ed. Note: OK, even I had to look that one up.]

My favorite part is when I come across something very interesting, like a 100-year-old photo or a WWII document or any funny sticky notes people sorting these before me put on the back of the photos. My other favorite part is knowing that future students, faculty, and even alumni will benefit from my hard work doing this."

MORE SENIOR STUDENT WORKER SPOTLIGHT

Four of our senior circulation desk assistants recently selected a new book for the library collection to be read and enjoyed by the Nichols College community. Each book features a special bookplate with the student's name and graduating class. Check out their book selections in our 'New Book' display located on the library's main floor.



Jim Tereau

- Business Management Major
- 3 years working @ library
- Team Leader 2017-18
- Enjoys helping students find the resources they need
- Book: *House of Rothschild*/ By Niall Ferguson



Fallonne Fanfan

- Human Resources Management Major
- 4 years working @ library
- Loves the library staff and atmosphere
- Book: *The Giver*/By Lois Lowry



Mollie McDonnell

- Marketing Major
- 4 years working @ library
- Loves to interact with other students and help them find the books they need
- Book: *We Own the Sky*/By Luje Allnutt



Erica Sullivan

- Hospitality Major
- 3.5 years working @ library
- Loves finding books to get lost in
- Book: *The sun and her flowers* /by Rupi Kaur



Bruce Marchand

- Psychology/Sports Management Major
 - 4 years working @ library
 - Enjoys training new student staff
 - Book: *Success is the only option: the art of coaching extreme talent*/by John Calipari
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