



# FROM THE STACKS

## The Newsletter of the Nassau Community College Library

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**Spring 2012**

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### *Remembering Gerry*

On February 28, 2012, Nassau Community College suffered a tremendous loss with the passing of Professor Gerald Leibowitz.

A librarian at NCC for 30 years, Gerry held several positions during his tenure: Chair of the Library Department, Media Unit Head, Media Librarian, and Reference Librarian. He served on library committees too numerous to list, and represented the library through his many campus activities over the years.

Gerry was part of the fabric of not just the college library, but the college community. Film festivals, Civility Week, Sexual Harassment Awareness workshops, the NCCFT Operetta – Gerry embraced campus life in so many areas. He could often be seen walking the campus and taking pictures, some of which are on display in the Library's Information Commons Exhibits area. Outgoing and friendly, Gerry had a warm greeting for everyone. So many faculty and staff members at NCC have their own special memories of Gerry.

Also an active member of the library profession, Gerry was currently serving as a trustee of the North Babylon Public Library. He was a proud member of the SUNY Librarians Association, receiving the prestigious Friend of SUNYLA Award in 2008. Gerry served as editor of the SUNYLA Newsletter and was a popular figure at the annual conferences. He was also an active member of the Nassau County Library Association's Media Division for much of his career. Perhaps Gerry's career accomplishments are best highlighted by his SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship which was awarded to him in 2002.

While Gerry enjoyed many personal and professional accomplishments during his career, to understand his essence, one would need to understand his unflagging dedication to students. I met a young man standing before Gerry's memorial exhibit as it was being assembled this week. He told me that Gerry always helped him with his homework, and always encouraged him to smile when he was feeling down, saying that Gerry always made him feel like he really cared. In a room usually teeming with hundreds of people, Gerry had the ability to make each student feel like he counted. He will be missed.

Nancy Williamson, Library Dept. Chair

**NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK**  
**April 8-14, 2012**

Long Island Reads was established in 2002 and is an Island-wide reading initiative that includes both counties. It is sponsored by the Nassau Library System and both Suffolk and Nassau Public Libraries. Our library at Nassau Community College is a member of the Nassau Library System as well and would like to share with you information regarding the annual Library week selection.

In honor of National Library Week, Long Island Reads has chosen the book *The Lost Wife*, by Alyson Richman. Ms. Richman is also the author of three previous, well-received novels including *The Last Van Gogh*, which was nominated as a Book Sense Notable Pick in 2006. A native Long Islander, she is a graduate of Wellesley College who currently lives with her husband and children in Huntington.

*The Lost Wife* tells the heart-wrenching story of a love affair begun in pre-WWII Prague that was interrupted by fear and hatred as a result of the Holocaust. The main characters, Josef and Lenka meet, fall in love, marry but are cruelly separated. They go on to have lengthy married lives to other people after the war ends. How this couple eventually come together and meets again is surprising and totally unexpected. It is not just the story of a sixty-year love affair gone wrong, but also an exploration of the power and durability of the artistic spirit combined with the exploration of memory and just how powerful it is. This novel portrays the ability of the human spirit to defy great odds in order to simply survive, as well as to be able to love and create, even under great duress. For a change of pace, pick up a copy of *The Lost Wife* at our Library or your local public library. You will discover a love story wrapped in tragedy and survival you will not soon forget.

Donna Seidl, Reference

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Linda Gorman—Chair, Sharon Russin, Donna Seidl

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Linda Gorman

## *Assessment and the Library*

Is your department involved in course/program assessment? Are research skills among your learning outcomes? These abilities, often referred to as information literacy competences, include five essential proficiencies identified by the national Association of College and Research Libraries:

- Identify a research need
- Access information efficiently
- Evaluate information effectively
- Use information productively
- Understand the social and ethical responsibilities of using information

If you have research projects or journal readings in your courses, the Library Reference Unit is here to help you to improve learning outcomes. Book an instruction session with a librarian who will show your students how to locate, evaluate and cite the best resources available based on your assignments. The Library has an excellent collection of online databases in a wide variety of disciplines. Work with us to create customized online LibGuides that direct your students to appropriate, reliable, trustworthy material rather than to Wikipedia or random Google searches. Please contact us for more information.

To arrange for a Library session, use the [Book A Class](#) link on the Library homepage and submit the form, or call the Reference office @ 27408.

Marsha Spiegelman, Reference

## *Collection Development Day 2012*

Collection Development Day 2012 was a grand success. On February 14, faculty from across the campus converged on the third floor of the library. They discussed the needs of their students plus learned more about what the library has to offer them and their students. Some were given demos of databases. Art, Math, English, Women's Studies, Nursing, Biology, Accounting/Business, and Engineering were represented. Some attendees helped the library by weeding in their subject areas. Others wrote up their wish lists of materials they would like the library to purchase. There were attendees who talked about donating books to the library. During this time, a power point presentation about the library was running too. If you missed the event but would like more information about: donations, recommendations, weeding project, or just more information about the library and its services – contact Sharon Russin at [Sharon.russin@ncc.edu](mailto:Sharon.russin@ncc.edu).

Sharon Russin, Acquisitions

# LibGuides for Everyone!

Come and explore just how much a LibGuide can help your students. Our LibGuides are accessible from the Library's homepage under Course/Research Guides. We currently have approximately 50 LibGuides on a variety of topics including specific assignments for various classes. This link, <http://ncc.libguides.com/> will take you to those that are currently available. If you would like to see a LibGuide created for your class contact me and I will be happy to work with you.

Linda Gorman, Reference

The screenshot shows the 'Music' LibGuide page on the NCC Community College Library website. The page is titled 'Music' and is dedicated to music research. It features a navigation menu with options like 'Home', 'Books/DVDs/CDs', 'Articles/Databases', and 'Websites'. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'How to Get Help', 'Citation Help', 'Welcome', 'Help Us Help You', 'Subject Guide', 'Library Hours', and 'Orchestra'. The 'Welcome' section includes a description of the guide and a 'Comments (0)' link. The 'Help Us Help You' section contains a feedback form with questions like 'Was this information helpful?' and 'How useful is this page?'. The 'Subject Guide' section features a photo of Linda Gorman and her contact information. The 'Library Hours' section lists regular hours for Fall 2011. The 'Orchestra' section includes a photo of an orchestra and a 'Comments (0)' link. The page is powered by Springshare and includes a footer with a link to view the page in a printer-friendly format.

## On Display.....

Stop by the Library's exhibit areas located on the first and second floors. The current attractions are:

Remembering Gerald Leibowitz

Women's History Month featuring Professor Elizabeth Gulotta, Biology Dept.

Art Dept. Student Art Work

Faculty Authored Work

### *Upcoming Exhibits*

American Sign Language

Borders Invisible and Visible

Linda Gorman, Reference

## Library Hours Spring 2012

### **Regular Hours:**

**Monday—Thursday**

**8:00 am-9:30 pm**

**Friday**

**8:00 am—8:00 pm**

**Saturday**

**10:00 am—4:30 pm**

**Sunday**

**Noon -4:30 pm**

### **Special Hours:**

**April 2-5, Monday-Thursday**

**8:00 am-5:00 pm**

**April 6-8, Friday-Sunday**

**Closed**

**May 18, Friday**

**8:00 am—5:00 pm**

### **Intersession Hours:**

**May 19 & 20, Saturday-Sunday**

**Closed**

**May 21-25, Monday-Friday**

**8:00 am—5:00 pm**

**May 26-28, Saturday-Monday**

**Closed**