Digital Literacy Integral to Student Success

Message from Dr. Luozhu Cen, Dean of Library Student Learning

Digital literacy is the ability to use digital technology, communication tools, or network to locate, evaluate, use, and create information; and to understand and use information in multiple formats from a wide range of sources when it is presented via computers. For Butte College students, activities including writing papers, creating multimedia presentations, and posting information about themselves or others online are all a part of their day-to-day lives, and all of these activities require varying degrees of digital literacy.

Positioning digital literacy as an entitlement for all students is essential for student success. At Butte College, we are continuously updating our curriculum for digital literacy to keep up with accelerating technological developments. This includes computers in the classrooms, the use of the learning management system (Blackboard) to deliver instruction, and course materials being made available to students online. Most of the classrooms in our newly built buildings are smart classrooms. These techniques are most effective when our teachers are digitally literate as well.

Presentations at Butte College’s fourth annual Blackboard Community Exchange on January 11th, 2013 constitute good examples of how instructors incorporate digital literacy to enhance their effectiveness in teaching. An impressive range of topics were covered during this conference. Presenters share ideas and experiences in creating multimedia interactive presentations to engage students, using free online resources to enhance course materials, using Google Docs to teach writing conventions and to help students think more critically about their writing and their audience, using basic HTML code to make content pages professional and appealing, and integrating online library resources in Blackboard, and so on.

As technology advances, digital literacy will play an increasingly essential role in both teaching and learning. Our reference librarians, together with our TMI staff, have been working hard to promote digital literacy. Let’s continue to work as a team to enhance student success!

New Library System!

In July of 2013 the Library will be moving to a state-of-the-art, cloud-based catalog and resource management system. All of our resources will be available from one click-- stay tuned for more this summer.

Inside this issue:

- News & Updates 2
- Service Highlights 2
- Statistics 2
- Resource Highlights 3
- New Books 3
- Events 3
- Get to Know Our Staff 4
- Staff News 4
- FAQ’s 4
News & Updates

New Display in March!

Many of you may have noticed the wonderful display case in the Library that has been hosting various Ceramic Arts created by Faculty and a beautiful photographic display highlighting Ayse Taskiran’s research in Turkey.

These wonderful displays will be leaving to make room for a new display highlighting African American’s in our community.

Specifically, this display will highlight Jeff Crawford’s research on African American’s in the Quincy area that worked for the lumber industry in the early 20th century.

This beautiful photographic display will be on display for the next year so please stop by and see it when it comes out this Spring. We will of course send out a Community Announcement when the time arrives.

If you have an idea for display, or if you know someone who has done exciting research, please let us know by contacting Jennifer Lasell at lasellje@butte.edu, x4060.

Service Highlights

Reference Service

Having a difficult time finding information for your paper? Don’t know where to find appropriate information for your project? Having a hard time choosing a research topic? The reference team can help!

Butte College Library has 2 full-time and 4 part-time reference librarians to help you find information on a topic, develop research strategies for your papers, and show you how to use library resources. No appointment is needed, just drop by the reference desk on the second floor of the Library at the main campus, or Room 219 at the Chico Center. If you have a lot to discuss, you can even set up a research consultation session with a librarian.

Not only can you get help from a librarian in person, you can also reach a librarian by phone (Main Campus: 879-4024, Chico Center 879-4398), email, or via 24/7 live chat.

Click on the “Ask-A-Librarian” link on the Library home page to see various ways to reach a librarian for reference assistance.

Statistical Analysis

Number of Patrons Visiting Main Campus Library by Month

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2011-2012 Academic Year
Resource Highlight

Reserve Collection

Students: are you short on money or do you have time to kill before the bus comes? Faculty: do you need a temporary solution for students who cannot afford to purchase the textbook until Financial Aid comes in?

The Main Campus and Chico Center branches of the Butte College Library may have a solution. The Reserve Collection! Publishers are usually very good about donating a copy of a current textbook to an instructor who is using their book in a current class. Instructors can bring this book down to the Library and we will make it available for students.

For more information about Main Campus Reserves contact Jennifer Lasell, lasellje@butte.edu x4060

New Books

Here are some recent additions...

Circulating Books:

How to write it: a complete guide to everything you’ll ever write. By Sandra E. Lamb. (HF5721 .L273 2011)
Dream deferred: how social work education lost its way and what can be done. By David Stoesz. (HV11 .S833 2010)
How to succeed in college (while really trying): a professor’s inside advice. By Jon B. Gould. (LB1027.5 .G635 2012)
How to say it: choice words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs for every situation. By Rosalie Maggio. (PE1483 .M26 2009)
Information: a history, a theory, a flood. By James Gleick. (Z665 .G547 2011)
Energy for a sustainable world: from the oil age to a sunpowered future. By Nicola Armaroli. (TJ163.2 .A763 2011)

Reference Books:


Events

Upcoming Events

National Library Week is coming up April 14-20, 2013! Be sure to stop by the Chico Center and Main Campus Libraries and join in the festivities.

Past Events

In October 2012, the Library celebrated Banned Books Week. Both the Chico Center and the Main Campus celebrated by putting up displays and hosting a contest for a Nook Color!

Last May, the Library participated in the Spring Carnival Parade in which we won Best In Show!
Get to Know Our Staff

Tia is a part-time reference librarian who received her Master’s degree in Library and Information Science from San Jose State University in 2010. She received her BA in History from San Francisco State University in 2003.

After living in San Francisco for 5 years, she realized city life was not for her and made her way to Chico where she enjoys the nature (especially in the Fall) and sense of community.

You’ll find Tia at the reference desk three days a week. When she is not at the reference desk, you can find her at Cupcake Crusader, a cupcake shop she owns with her Mom. Tia started her business in 2010 with just a mobile food truck and has now expanded to a storefront on East Avenue in Chico.

Aside from books and cupcakes, Tia enjoys the relaxing life filled with home cooked meals, movies, friends, family, and her cats.

Staff News

Outstanding Student Assistant Awards—May 4, 2012

Jeffery Marsh—Reference Student Assistant
Caitlyn Roach—Circulation Student Assistant

Other Staff News

Jennifer Lasell’s son, David Wayne Hines Jr., held his Eagle Scout Court of Honor on June 30, 2012.

Shirleigh Brannon officially started as Faculty Professional Development Coordinator on July 1, 2012.

Morgan Brynnan joined the Community College Consortium in July of 2013.

Frequently Asked Questions

Where do I get reference help when the Library is closed?

You can use our 24/7 online chat-service to get help from a reference librarian. Click on the “Ask-A-Librarian” link on the Library Web Page for access. The service is available 24 hours a day. 7 days a week!

How do I know if a textbook for my course is available on reserve?

Ask at the Circulation Counter or check the Library Catalog at http://www.butte.edu/library ➔ Books & eBooks ➔ Course Reserves ➔ Choose your course from the drop-down menu ➔ click Search

More Questions? Visit the FAQ on our Web Page or call the reference desk at 879-4024 for assistance!