The Subject Librarian Newsletter, Writing & Rhetoric, Spring 2014

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Welcome to the second issue of my newsletter! I plan to send this out once every semester to keep you abreast of library related issue that may have an impact on your department. Last semester we announced the rollout of the new Canvas course for ENC 1102 classes, "Introduction to Library Research Strategies." There were a few inevitable bugs last semester, and a few new ones this semester, but we hope that we’ve finally ironed out the rough spots and that it’s running smoothly and is a benefit to all those who teach sections of 1102.

From our end, these modules have freed up time to do more during our face to face sessions. Additionally, we have been working with a group of very enthusiastic GTAs to work on tailoring our instruction around the concept of discourse communities. This has been a new approach for us and has been going very well so far. We plan to continue to explore new possibilities for this program, and to revise the online modules to correspond more closely to the 1102 curriculum.

If you have any concerns about the Canvas course, or suggestions for how we might improve it in the future, please contact Kevin Roozen, Matt Bryan, and within the library you may contact me as well as Rachel Mulvihill or Corinne Bishop.

We look forward to hearing from you!
Illuminations: A Newsletter for New faculty

Last year, I co-founded a newsletter called Illuminations to showcase the innovative research interests of new faculty at UCF. Each issue, we publish a number of feature articles written by new faculty members as well as other related articles and updates from departments around campus. The second issue has just been released and includes an excellent piece by the DWR’s own Douglas Walls who talks about his research that traces actors in moments of digital writing and asks what elements are at play in particular moments performed by people, tools, and cultures in professional and personal infrastructures.

I am already at work on the next issue of this newsletter (due out this fall) and plan to experiment more with the format and possibly implementing more art and multi-media. If you know of someone you would like to see featured, please contact me directly!

Document Delivery

Don’t forget that the library offers free Document Delivery Services all UCF faculty, staff and graduate students. This service gives faculty the opportunity to submit requests through Interlibrary Loan for items that are both owned and not owned by the UCF Libraries. Simply fill out an Interlibrary Loan request as you normally would and our friendly staff will pull the requested material for you. Then they will either send the articles directly to your ILL account or have the book ready for you at the Circulation desk. The average turnaround time is “estimated” at 1.31 days.

Collection Development

I received quite a few requests for books last semester, so funds are running low for the rest of the year. However, I encourage everyone to continue sending their suggestions and wish lists because there’s always a chance that we can get more money. If there’s a specific book you’d like, or a subject area you think we should develop, please contact Thomas Wright or me directly.

Streaming Video Options

Are you interested in using streaming video in your classes? We now have three different options to choose from: Alexander Street Press, FMG Films on Demand, and Digital Campus from Swank. We have provided an overview of each option on a handy research guide. If you would like to know more, or if you would like to requests a specific title for your class, please contact Rachel Mulvihill directly.