



LIBRARY STAFF NEWS

ISSUE 5

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SAFETY FIRST!

by Rebecca Malamud

A revised edition of the *Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Plan* will soon be distributed. In addition to several corrections, the manual will contain additional material such as the location of Emergency Call Stations, AKA “Blue Lights” surrounding the Gottesman library. Stern College for Women also has prepared their own disaster manual.

As part of the renovation project in the Gottesman Library building, the University was supposed to create evacuation signs but never did. As a result, library staff has started working on the plans in-house. Once the signs are completed, they will be posted in the designated areas of the Library, and copies will be made and distributed to staff. In addition, the *Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Plan* will contain a copy of each sign. The signs are maps of each floor with designated routes showing the nearest exit in case of emergency.

The Library will soon have an area dedicated to emergency supplies such as flash lights, a first aid kit, cotton gloves in case of mold, rubber gloves, paper towels, a fan, and batteries.

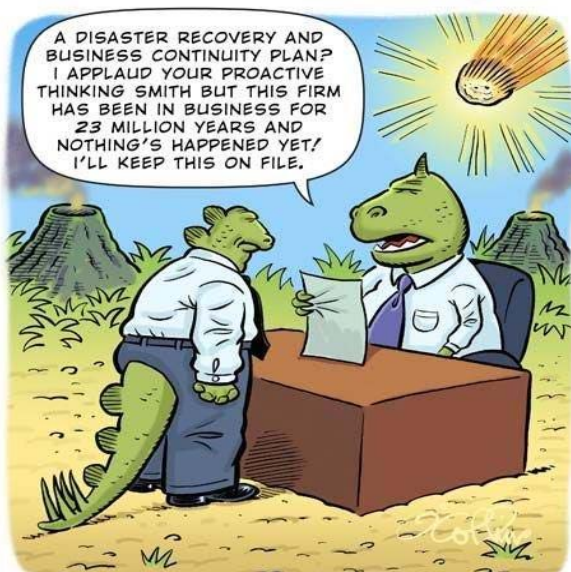
YU HOSTS NYMA

NYMA (New York Metropolitan Area chapter of the Association of Jewish Libraries) Winter Conference was arranged by President Rina Krautwirth (Hedi Steinberg Library) and co-chair Brian Katz at the Wilf Campus. One of the speakers was Paul Glassman, Director of University Libraries. Here is a brief summary of his talk, “Walking the Labyrinth: The Library, Complexity, and Paths to Academic Leadership.”

There are three fundamental paths the library of today must pursue:

- Entrepreneur
- Place
- Source of instruction

In the past, students had few alternative information sources beyond the library. Today things have changed radically. Students now regard themselves as customers. The library must be entrepreneurial and learn to promote itself on the website and social media. Outreach avenues include new student orientation, links to subject guides and tutorials on the course management sites, and the institutional repository. We must aim to create an inviting, functional, comfortable and safe space for users so that the Library is regarded as the intellectual



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center of the campus. Staff should be welcoming, engage in one-on-one contact, have good listening skills, and take advantage of instructional opportunities, including online. Teaching librarians can influence many levels of higher education.

SHORTS

Library Hours

Once again the Library supported extended hours for finals. In addition, the local staff who were able to come in during the blizzard of January 4th and the snow day of March 7th managed to keep the Library open for students who live in the area.

Parisian Views: Instagram Discoveries by Yeshiva College Students

An ongoing project of cell phone photos snapped by students in the course given by Professor Rachel Mesch is on display once again in Pollack Library (2nd floor). The student photographers this semester are Daniel Avraham, Daniel Elfenbein, Eli Goldberg, Yehuda Goldfeder, Zvi Goldstein, Mordechai Lis, Jacob Mendelson, Gavi Pomerance, Efraim Schachter, Ezra Splaver, and Steven Stein.

Virtua/Chamo

A Virtua/Chamo update will soon be installed.

YU Authors

The annual celebration of YU authors sponsored by the Libraries and in conjunction with the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Our staff will produce the *2018 Catalog of University Authors* which will include faculty and staff members who have produced scholarly or creative work over the past year (i.e., March 2017 through March 2018).

2018 YU Student Library Research Award

Designed to recognize outstanding library research conducted by an undergraduate student at Yeshiva University, this award is sponsored by the Yeshiva University Libraries. The deadline for submissions is April 1st and the award will be made at the celebration of YU authors, May 3rd.

STRATEGIC PLANNING WORK GROUPS

A meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee was held on February 27th. This group, who outlined its past work at the Mini-Symposium of January 11, has continued their momentum with much current activity and ongoing projects.

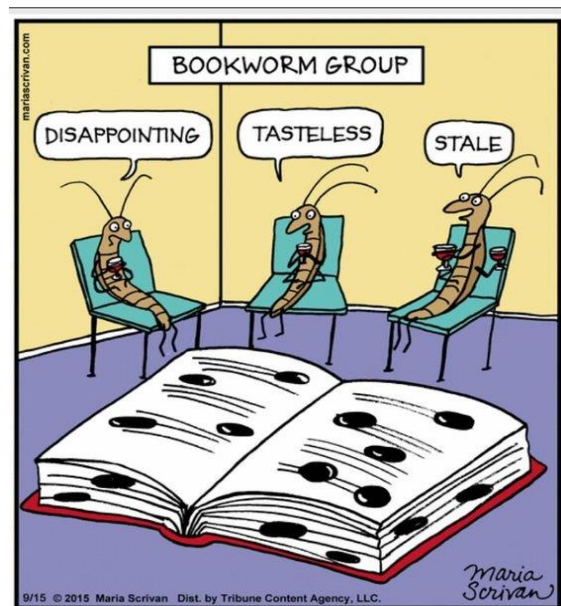
MGL WORK GROUP

Moshe Schapiro, Chair

The immediate goal of this work group is to box and shelve the newspapers in the basement. Zvi and Moshe scouted out areas where boxes could be shelved and identified challenges in doing so.

Large sections of the basement will need to be shifted in order to make room. Folio shelves, large enough for the boxes, will need to be appropriated from other sections (which means even more shifting and re-shifting), and new folio shelves that were purchased will have to be installed. However, original calculations for the number of shelves did not take into account that most of the material that was in the staff room on 5 has remained in the basement since the renovation. Therefore, additional shelves and boxes may need to be purchased.

Even with shifting, it will be difficult to keep the rows of boxes contiguous which could lead to confusion and disorder (even more than now). There is concern regarding the feasibility of this project, in terms of space, materials, costs, and manpower.



DIGITIZATION WORK GROUP

Deena Schwimmer, Chair

The archives staff has identified highly-used collections that, if digitized, will save the staff much time. They met with the Office of Sponsored Programs to review the Grants Database so as to select and pursue grants for this project. A pilot project for digitizing small collections internally was undertaken. It is hoped that it may be continued by interns or students.

A labor intensive operation has begun to digitize individual photographs, documents, ephemera, and publicity brochures. The staff has selected 350 items so far to be scanned in-house over time. They require new standards for file maintenance, preparation, and staff. It is hoped that, if work-study students are employed for scanning, more scanners can be provided, and that space may be expanded in Glueck or the basement to accommodate this effort.

A small number of rare books have been digitized, and grants will also be pursued for funding the digitation of Ladino books.

Audio and video recordings already digitized, are not supported by the current system and await an effort to bring these assets up to preservation standards. CDs or DVDs can be transferred to web delivery. The Soviet Jewry Oral History Collection requires video streaming to mount it on the Library's YouTube site.



TECHNOLOGICAL SERVICES WORK GROUP

J.B. Holderness, Chair

Hardware

A 50-inch flat-panel display has been acquired and is ready for installation in the Gottesman lobby near the elevators. It will feature library hours, events, etc. Digital signage web software has been installed and tested on the server. Once the flat-screen is successfully installed in the Gottesman lobby, we will consider purchasing an additional flat-screen and client receiver box for the Hedi Steinberg Library. We also have a tentative agreement with ITS to repurpose the nonfunctioning flat-screen monitor near the front entrance of Gottesman Library to add library-specific content to it by connecting our own client receiver box. In addition to that, we are evaluating the purchase of a 50 to 55-inch flat-screen monitor for use in the administrative conference room attached to Paul's office (401) in order to provide Skype connections and website demonstrations during staff meetings.

An earlier Dell laptop purchase was replaced with a more suitable Microsoft Surface Pro, which can easily connect to the flat-screen monitor in seminar room 507 and will be used for library administrative purposes.

The PC that is used for scanning rare materials in the Glueck basement Archives room is 9 years old and in need of an upgrade. We have acquired new components to modify an existing 5-year-old PC. This will allow us to build a more suitable PC (for graphics-intensive purposes) than the current ITS restrictions will allow us to purchase.

Software

Microsoft Office 2010 software (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) has been installed on three of the four YULIS PCs in the North Wing at Hedi Steinberg Library. The first PC on the taller (ADA-accessible) carrel is still reserved for library research only and does not have MS Office software.

YouTube Channel

The YU Libraries YouTube channel is now in its initial phase of development, with 3 videos (and 2 outside video links) available right now. We are working with YU Communications and Public Affairs on creating the appropriate branding for the YouTube site. Scroll to the bottom of the library home page to find the YouTube icon link.

INSTRUCTION/PUBLIC SERVICES

Wendy Kosakoff & Rina Krautwirth
by Hindishe Lee

Paul is bringing YU Libraries up to warp speed... (for those of you who remember *Star Trek*). Check out these developments:

Personal librarians

A survey of the Personal Librarians is now up and running. Besides quantitative analysis, qualitative questions are being asked in the survey. How has the program fared this year? The evaluation will assess possible improvements to be initiated. And on that note:



Curriculum map

On March 5, reference librarians from Wilf and Beren campuses convened and collaborated at Hedi Steinberg Library to discuss the new curriculum map designed by Wendy and Rina that will hopefully serve as a blueprint for future teaching strategies to be adopted in library classes. A great deal of give-and-take sparked ideas and goals for engaging students to improve their research skills. The group shared personal experiences and thoughts on pedagogic methodology. There was a suggestion that all reference librarians share their instructional PowerPoints with each other--crossing Wilf/Beren lines--to create an extensive pool for the exchange of ideas. DROPBOX was proposed as a possible repository where reference staff might have easy accessibility. At a future meeting, Paul would like to concentrate on crystallizing the general objectives of YU library instruction and how to best evaluate progress.

Light refreshments were served. In attendance were: Paul, Edith, Wendy, Shulamis, Steven (Essig), Elinor, Rina (Krautwirth) and Hindishe.

LibGuides

Shhh....Did you hear that? Many of the LibGuides are quietly being updated. No longer split into four different courses, the Research "Jump Start" guide is now a single entity aimed at smoothly sliding and gliding students into the "How-to's" of utilizing the library's vast resources and properly conducting research. And... the guides can now be accessed on Canvas. That's right--teach a library class and you can happily tell the students that relevant materials can be found in a LibGuide on their course homepage! An eBook LibGuide is now in the works, authored by Rina Krautwirth. At present, this promising tool is slated to appear in two separate forms: one for English language eBooks and one for Hebrew online texts.



Reference

What are the most frequently asked reference questions? At Pollack, the consensus is: "How do I print from my laptop?" (Answer: Go to print.yu.edu, upload the document, release station and *Voila!*) At Hedi Steinberg Library it's: "How do I find a book on reserve for my course?" (Or just, "Do you have this-and-this textbook for this-and-this course?")

Social media

YU is no longer in the Stone Age. The libraries now have Instagram and Facebook in addition to the Twitter account. Wendy is taking an online course about social media and recently sat through a fairly comprehensive webinar on the topic. There was a meeting with communications personnel to discuss exactly how to implement social media. An eight-page document, "Guidelines Concerning University-Related Social Media Profiles" contains a variety of protocols.

Follow us! And send Wendy photos!

Twitter: @yulibraries

Facebook: yeshiva University Libraries

Instagram: YULibraries

STAFF DEVELOPMENT WORK GROUP

Marlene Schiffman, Chair

Lunchtime Learning

by Hallie (Chaya Sarah) Cantor

The weather forecast for Tuesday, March 13th: a snowstorm. But neither rain nor sleet nor hail kept any of the library staff away from the latest session of the YU Lunchtime Learning Series.

“RefWorks: Citation Management Software Workshop,” presented by Nancy R. Glassman, Assistant Director, D. Samuel Gottesman Library, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, gave an overview of the web-based citation management tool both YU and Einstein have shared since 2007. Available both remotely and on campus, RefWorks offers researchers the tools to gather references from many online resources, edit and organize their collections, share with colleagues, and create formatted in-text citations and bibliographies.



Shulamis, Avrom, Hallie and Yosef assisted by Nancy

Nancy (no relation to Paul) demonstrated how to add records from ProQuest and Google Scholar. There are four ways to enter data – manually, direct export, importing an RIS-formatted text file, or RefWorks Z39.50 Search.

“Let’s look up duct tape and warts,” said Nancy, the true medical librarian. A list of titles appeared; a few were selected by checking the box, then importing into a temporary “My List.” Folders can be created for long-term storage; the procedure is similar to bookmarking on Microsoft Explorer or Google Chrome.

Catalog or database searches yield a gazillion sources from YU and a long list of institutions. A search and delete query will remove the inevitable duplicates.



Nancy explained the additional icons and features, such as Write-N-Cite, where citations can be placed within Word documents and bibliographies are available in different styles – e.g. APA and Chicago. “RefGrab-It” enables RefWorks to plumb the depths of the Internet for any shared bibliographic information (i.e. ISBN, PubMedID) on webpages in order to glean anything of potential interest to the researcher.

There is much to master, let alone in one afternoon. But click the side tab “Resources” and further webinar training is available. In addition, the “help” icon offers tutorials through Youtube (“Legacy RefWorks”).

For further information:

<http://www.RefWorks.com>; or

<http://proquest.libguides.com/refworks>.

RefWorks tech support: 775-327-4105.

Mini-Symposium

by Avrom Shuchatowitz

On Thursday, January 11th, the library held a mini-symposium entitled: *Innovative Trends in Academic Librarianship*, involving all the members of the Yeshiva University Library staff, including Pollack, Gottesman, Stern and the Technical Services Department. The first of its kind, the goal of this conference was to gather together all the library staff and to hear and share ideas about education and instruction.

This symposium took place at the Pollack Library, which was closed for the day to students and outsiders. Beginning at 9:00 AM and ending at 3:00 PM, it started off with the Strategic Plan Update and Current Initiatives, a report given by the Steering Committee of the Strategic Planning Work Groups. It was followed by the keynote address given by Jane Suda, Head of Reference and Information Services at Fordham University, about the mission of the university library in the instruction of its students and users.



After a one-hour lunch break, the afternoon program started with a breakout session. The participants were divided into two groups. One, moderated by Paul Glassman, dealt with “21st century academic mission and professional development.” The other, moderated by Jane Suda and Wendy Kosakoff, focused on “implementing ACRL’s framework for information literacy in higher education.” These sessions allowed staff to voice their opinions and have fruitful discussions in these areas.

The Mini symposium ended with a talk by Danielle Cooper, Senior Researcher, Libraries and Scholarly Communications Program, Ithaca S+R, about “Digital humanities: supporting the changing research practices of religious studies scholars.”



Ina Cohen and Naomi Steinberger of JTS, and Speaker, Danielle Cooper

Later a survey was taken to elicit the feelings of the participants. The overall response was favorable. Opinions included “well organized”, “highly engaging” and “stimulating.” There were a few complaints, though, of lesser importance: “not enough food” and “too long.” This experiment will definitely pave the way for more such programs in the future.

OUTREACH WORK GROUP

Elinor Grumet, Chair

Professor Mordechai Z. Cohen

It was drizzling outside on Sunday, February 11th, and the SOY book sale was open for business in Weissberg Commons, jazzy music playing on the loudspeaker. At 4PM that day, in partnership with the Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies, and in conjunction with the SOY sale, the Libraries held our second book talk of the academic year. Prof. Mordechai Z. Cohen spoke on the book he recently edited (with Adele Berlin, Emerita of the University of Maryland), *Interpreting Scriptures in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam: Overlapping Inquiries*. We were in a classroom in Belfer Hall that was filled to capacity. At least 35 people were there.

Prof. Cohen's task was challenging: He had to pull together in a single presentation the sense of a book written by many hands. He did this not only by identifying ideas that played throughout the volume, but by evoking the picture of a community of scholars in ongoing, lively conversation. In the course of the lecture, he handed around copies of the seminal books by authors represented in his volume.

One of the salient ideas he touched upon was the influence of medieval Christian Biblical interpretation on Jewish interpretation, which led some Jewish exegetes to read the text symbolically, rather than literally. So the prefiguration of Christ in a story like the *Akedah* taught Jewish scholars a prefiguration of their own: "*Ma'ase avot siman l'vanim.*" He then brought up Rashi's claim that he was only clarifying the *peshat* of the Biblical text; whereas others later argued that Rashi was far more interpretive.

Cohen contrasted the medieval Muslim reverence for the original Arabic of the Koran, leading them to ban translation, with the Christian encouragement to translate Scripture into many languages in order to spread the Gospel.

He spoke about Englishman Robert Lowth's 18th-century development of the idea of Biblical parallelism; and the rediscovery of the Hebrew Bible by Christians in the Romantic period. This was a break with the Classical tradition, where poetry was valued for its meter and rhyme and its concern with the lives of royalty and nobles. The parallelism of the Hebrew Bible presented a new poetic paradigm, and a new interest in the humanity of the common person as a proper subject for literature.

Prof. Cohen's book cast a wide net: Biblical interpretation in the three Abrahamic faiths and its intersection over time. He spoke well, and the audience—and we—were very appreciative. This talk can be accessed on the YU YouTube channel. Click on the icon at the bottom of the Home page.

Professor Marnin Young

A Library Book Talk with Marnin Young, associate professor of art history and a Studio Lecture with Mary Creede, instructor in art, is scheduled as part of the YU Center for Israel Studies Arts Festival 2018. It will take place on Tuesday, April 17th at 6 p.m. in Room 102 at 245 Lexington Avenue. Books for the author to sign are on the way.

INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORY WORK GROUP

Hao Zeng, Chair

The work group visited Cardozo on February 2nd to gather information on creating our own IR prototype. The draft of the IR proposal explains how it will be useful to us and what services will be provided. We plan to use the DSpace platform.

We are planning to conduct an evaluation of IRs from other institutions regarding the structure of the communities and collections and their metadata schema to compare with DSpace.

Then we will compile possible content sources for IR collections and revise the IR proposal before meeting with CPA and Institutional Advancement. A release form for faculty and student submissions will be prepared based on a review of the Cardozo form. This last step will solve copyright issues.

Prospective collections will include newsletters and theses (which will be linked to the YULIS catalog rather than Amazon Cloud). A trial phase will be an open source product.

REVAMPED LIBRARY WEBSITE

by Hindishe Lee



Pop the corks and get out the champagne! The new YU Library website is finally here! Kudos to Hao, Wendy, Deena, Elinor and Shulamis for streamlining the site with these features:

Navigation bar

No more scrolling and scrambling to the bottom of the screen. Research, Resources, Services, About Us are all within clear view, equipped with drop down menus.

Alert banner

No, this is not the BANNER we use to get our paystubs. This banner is an announcement bar across the top of the screen giving timely YU news, as in, are we open today during the storm?

Library search tabs

The research tabs have a new look – artistically

superimposed over a photo from YU library life – a cozy scene that makes you just want to snuggle up with a good book (or article, or Kindle...). There is also a new tab: GUIDES. Write the topic of your choice in the search box and – *Voila!* – a list of LibGuides just for you!

What else? Besides YUFind, a new tab called ARTICLES has been added, which contains only articles from YUFind. Great for students whose professors stipulate: only journal articles for your research papers! This tab has another fine feature – you can immediately indicate PEER REVIEWED, right under the search box.

Improved Library hours calendar

No need to click a link if students want to know – “when does the library close today?” It’s all upfront on the Library Home Page. Monthly opening and closing times are still available with a mere click but in an easier to read format.

STEPHANIE’S HANDY HINTS

by Stephanie Gross

When one does not wish shut down the computer in order to clean the keyboard: Use NOTEPAD in full screen mode. Anything that’s written by touching the keys can be dumped when the document is closed and trashed. Also, F Function keys, if touched in error, can be reversed by simply toggling them.

YÄHRZEIT OF MENDEL GOTTESMAN

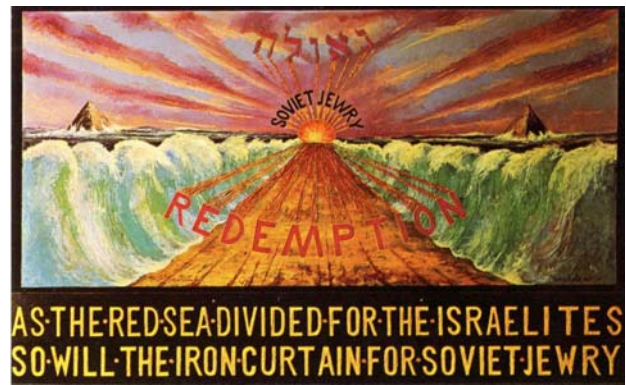
From the Library Blog, January 3, 2018



The Mendel Gottesman Library commemorates the 75th *yahrzeit* (anniversary of the death) of Mendel Gottesman who died on December 16th, 1942. A portrait of Mr. Gottesman hangs on the wall of the

newly renovated fifth floor of the Library. The Library was named for Mr. Gottesman in 1937 when it was located in Zysman Hall. Mendel Gottesman never saw the current library building. The plaque in his honor was moved from the library in Zysman Hall to the 5th floor of the current library building when it was built in 1968. Mr. Gottesman was a major benefactor of the Yeshiva [the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary] and Yeshiva College, serving as treasurer from 1919 until 1942, and he was the founder of the Yeshiva Endowment Foundation in 1928, serving as its president until his death. He had a special interest in the library, “effecting improvements in lighting and fixtures and helping to maintain its financial support.” An editorial in the *Commentator* stated: “His life was Yeshiva, and Yeshiva was his life.” May his memory be blessed. יהי זכרו ברוך.

His grandson David S. Gottesman continues the tradition of library philanthropy. David S. and Ruth Gottesman funded the recent library renovation.



Postcard of a banner of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry march of 15,000 students to the UN on behalf of Soviet Jews, April 1966. Courtesy of YU Archives.



Postcard from “Leonid and Maya” (probably former Refuseniks) to Yaakov Birnbaum, founder of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, ca. 1974.



Passover cleaning?

Happy Holidays!



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with the aid of the Staff Development Work Group:
Avrom Shuchatowitz and Hindishe Lee
Layout: J.B. Holderness