

Summer 2009

## McQuade Messenger- Summer 2009

Merrimack College

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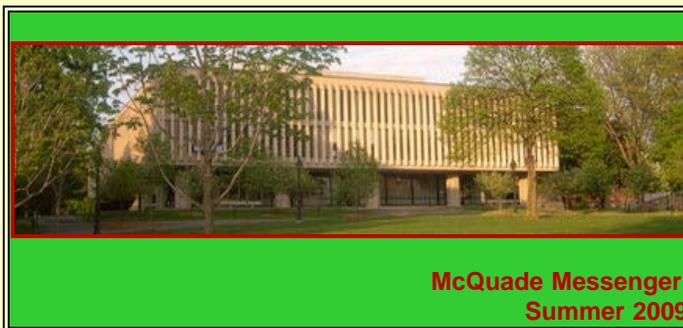
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## From the Director's Desk



Kerri Domohowski shows off her new iPod Shuffle

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all the members of the Merrimack community who took the time to complete the library's recent online survey, and congratulations to the two winners of our incentive prizes! Pictured is our student winner, Kerri Domohowski, with her new iPod Shuffle. The employee winner is Assistant Professor of Management, Jane Parent, who has won a new digital camera just in time for summer vacation.

The LibQUAL survey, developed by members of the Association for Research Libraries, is a valuable tool for assessing and improving library services. We will be receiving our institution's results and analysis of the data in the next week or two, and one of the most important summer projects for the staff at McQuade Library will be to find ways to improve the services and resources that we offer, based on our survey results.

I have already had the opportunity to read the comments that survey participants submitted, and one of the recurring themes was concern about the noise level in the library. As we approach Final Exam week, I want to remind you that the Periodicals Room on the second floor of McQuade Library is a designated silent study area, and this policy will be *strictly enforced* during exam week. And if you need to gather for a group study session, presentation rehearsals, or other group projects, please consider reserving one of our seminar rooms to help control noise in common areas.

If you'll be on campus or in the area this summer, remember that McQuade Library is open all year, so keep us in mind for your vacation reading and movie watching. And if you'll be taking or teaching courses here this summer, reference librarians will, as always, be available to help you with your research assignments. No matter what your plans may be, I wish you a relaxing, restorative, and wonderful summer!

~ Bridget Rawding



## HOT Summer Titles

Just in time for summer, the library has renamed its McNaughton book collection of bestseller books **Hot Titles**. These items can be found in the front lobby and have the prefix **[HOT]** in front of their call number in the catalog.

Titles are added to this collection every month and are generally chosen from bestseller lists featured in the [New York Times](#) and [USA Today](#) as well as on [Barnes&Noble.com](#) and [Amazon.com](#).

Suggestions can be sent to [Joe St. Germain](#).

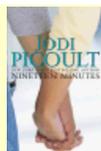
Some of the most popular titles in this collection include:



**The Last Lecture**  
by Randy Pausch



**The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society**  
by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows



**Nineteen minutes : a novel**  
by Jodi Picoult



**The Beach House**  
by Jane Green

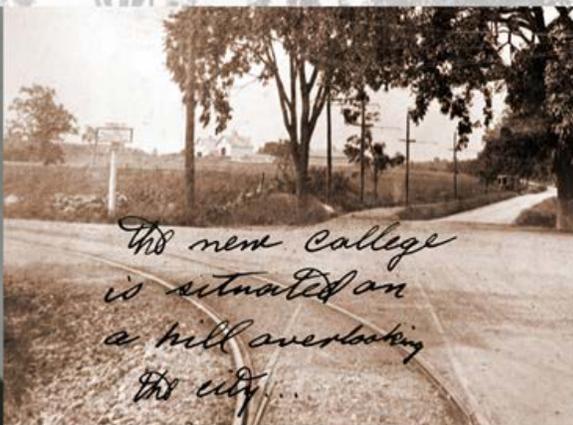
We invite you to come in and browse our **Hot Titles**.



**McQuade Centennial Exhibition & New Books**

# THE COLLEGE ON THE HILL:

REV. VINCENT A. MCQUADE, O.S.A. CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION



*This new college  
is situated on  
a hill overlooking  
the city...*

MCQUADE LIBRARY ART GALLERY, MAY - JULY, 2009

Our New Books Lists feature recent additions to the McQuade Library collection:

[March 2009 Acquisitions](#)

[March 2009 Education Resources Center Acquisitions](#)

**Notes to Students**

As you prepare for finals, remember that McQuade Library has a designated Silent Study area: the **Periodicals Room**.

Talking and cell phone use is strictly prohibited in this area. During finals week, Library staff members will control noise in the building as much as possible.

If you have problems studying due to disruptive activity or noise, please talk to a staff member at the Circulation Desk or Reference Desk on the first floor.

The entire McQuade Library staff wishes you the best of luck during finals!

If you need to recharge your laptop in the library, power strips are available at the Circulation Desk.





## Spotlight on Alana Ngo, Graduating Library Circulation Student Worker

As Commencement 2009 quickly approaches, McQuade Library staff sadly say goodbye to their senior library student workers. This year 7 library student workers will graduate—including a year round fixture at the library's front circulation desk, **Alana Ngo**.



Alana, a resident of the Philippines, began working at the library in September 2006 and worked during breaks and summers in addition to the academic semesters. She is conscientious, personable to all library staff and patrons, and always takes her work at the library seriously! Alana is a Health Science major here at Merrimack, and is also attending Northern Essex Community College, Lawrence and will receive her RN degree in spring 2010.

According to Alana:

“Living and studying in another country has been the most rewarding and liberating experience of my life. It is an eye-opening experience, which gave me the ability to view the world differently and from several perspectives. I have learned to embrace diversity, and it interests me to know about different ideals and cultures. Living away from home gave me the opportunity for independence and responsibility, especially being employed at McQuade Library—my first job! I do recommend for students to study abroad, as it is a life-changing experience that should not be missed.”

All of us at McQuade library wish Alana, and all our seniors, much success and happiness in their future endeavors.



## Library Instruction Update

The Library Instruction program continues to thrive at McQuade Library. During the Spring semester, librarians taught over 40 course integrated library instruction sessions spanning across many different disciplines and reaching well over 500 students. A list of course research guides developed for these sessions can be found [here](#).

This semester **all** students enrolled in the “Introduction to College Writing” (ENG1050) course visited McQuade and discovered scholarly resources beyond first-year favorites Google and Wikipedia. Students learned how to find appropriate and credible sources to incorporate into their writing and they also learned how to critically evaluate the sources that they come across. Upper level students built upon these basic information literacy skills and received instruction tailored to specific research assignments. All these classes incorporated hands-on lab time that allowed students to work directly with specialized resources during the class.

Here are a few examples of excellent faculty/librarian collaborations during the Spring semester.

Professor [Deborah Margolis](#) in the Education Department brought her upper level [Psychology of Learning and Assessment](#) students to the library. Students worked in groups to find articles about academic after school enrichment programs for the urban poor.

Dr. Margolis writes, “It is clear from my students’ written work that they learned from the library instruction sessions. They now definitely understand the difference between popular media and scholarly journals, so they now know how to access the information that they need to write a literature review. As a bonus, I learned some new things during the session. Overall, I was delighted by our experience at the library. It is a pleasure to see that my students are applying what they learned during the session to their own work.”

English Professor [Geraldine Branca](#) and her [Introduction to College Writing](#) students visited the library.

Dr. Branca writes, “My first-year writing students found the library research session very useful, so much so that I will request additional instructional time next time. The session reinforced principles and practices regarding research methodology they had

learned and offered students, in addition, a customized approach to their research topic so that they could see specific applications of these principles and practices. The course website that the librarian prepared was outstanding and the students used the databases and links to guide them in their research. Best of all, the session was interesting to the students as well as to me."



<b>Final Exam Hours</b>	
Friday, May 1 <i>Last day of classes</i>	7:30am - 5:00pm
Saturday, May 2 <i>Reading Day</i>	10:00am - 8:00pm
Sunday, May 3	11:00am - 12:00midnight
Monday, May 4 thru Thursday, May 7	7:30am - 12:00midnight
Friday, May 8	7:30am - 4:30pm
Saturday, May 10 and Sunday, May 11	CLOSED

**Good luck with Finals!**

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