Pace University
DigitalCommons@Pace

University Library Newsletter | Pace University Library System

4-1-2008

The Information Edge - Library Newsletter - Spring 2008 Issue

Karen DeSantis
Pace University, Pleasantville

Janell Carter
Pace University - New York

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.pace.edu/lib_bulletin

Recommended Citation
DeSantis, Karen and Carter, Janell, "The Information Edge - Library Newsletter - Spring 2008 Issue" (2008). *University Library Newsletter.* Paper 18.
http://digitalcommons.pace.edu/lib_bulletin/18

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Pace University Library System at DigitalCommons@Pace. It has been accepted for inclusion in University Library Newsletter by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@Pace. For more information, please contact rracelis@pace.edu.

Volume 13, Issue 2 Spring 2008

Information Edge

PACE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Research Pro	1
What's in a Name?	2
Facebook Tools	3
Book Review	4
Theatre at Pace	5
New Databases & Instructional Videos	7
Hello My Name is...	8

Audio Interview

Ever wonder what life would be life as a Circulation Librarian? Listen to an interview with Alicia Joseph, Circulation Coordinator, who discusses her position at the Birnbaum Library. Go to http://videoserv.pace.edu then click library and InterviewAliciaJoseph to listen as Janell Carter, Instructional Services Librarian, interviews her.

Research Pro

Get started with your research in a big way!

Noreen McGuire, *Assistant University Librarian for Staff Development*

When you search for articles in one database, you often don't know what you are missing in another database, or even if the one you chose is the best database for your topic. Using our new Federated Search tool (that's librarian lingo for a tool that allows you to search across a number of resources at one time) called **Research Pro**, you can search the library catalog, selected databases, and some search engines simultaneously from one starting point!

Why use Research Pro?
It is a great starting place when conducting basic research because you no longer have to wonder if the database you are searching is the one that best suits your needs. Research Pro will return results from as many databases as you select, and you can compare the results quickly between databases to discover the sources that best meet your information need. You may find that several databases have useful results, and even identify databases you wouldn't have considered otherwise.

There is no need to know all of the specifics for searching each individual database to do this first-level searching when you use Research Pro.

By running a search across multiple resources you can get an overview of what kind of information is out there which can help you figure out just what information you need and help you make more informed decisions about what sources to use. Also, when you use Research Pro, you will generally get the most recent articles first. This is not generally true when you only use a search engine like Google.

How to start using Research Pro.
When you click on Databases (under Find Resources) on the Library homepage, over to the left you will see an option to ***search multiple databases***. Click there to get started with Research Pro.

You'll notice that you go right into an Advanced Search. This is because a Simple Search sends the search to all resources as a phrase - which may work well in some search engines, but does not always work well with library databases. However, once you try the Advanced Search, you will find that it is pretty simple to use!

You can search by subject category or use multiple categories at one time, or you can pick and choose resources from all categories. If you do not specify a subject category or specific resources, the default resources Research Pro will search are: ABI Inform, Academic Search Premier, JSTOR and the Library Catalog.

Advanced Search lets you search multiple terms or phrases. There are three search boxes that can each

(continued page 2)

Research Pro – Get started with your research in a big way!

(cont.)

be connected with AND or OR. If you enter more than one word in any box, it will be automatically searched as a phrase. After entering search terms in the search boxes, click on the **Search Research Pro** button to run the search.

Research Pro presents results grouped by resource in a tabbed-browse display that shows the search status and number of results found in each resource. This allows you to access a resource immediately and focus on those with the most promising results. The tabbed-browse display lets you move between resources without losing your place in each set of search results.

Note that when your search results are returned, the search form at the top of the page will revert to a **simple search**. If you wish to run another search, to return to the Advanced Search form, just click on the **Start Over**

If you have any questions regarding Research Pro, please stop by or call the Reference Desk at your home campus library.

What's in a Name?

Elisabeth Birnbaum, *Head of Access Services*

"Who is/was Henry Birnbaum?" "Is there any family relationship?" and even, "Do you own the Library?"

These are among the questions I often get from students and visitors to the library, because, by coincidence, the library and I share the same name. My surname, which came to me after my marriage, is not very common, so it's quite an amazing coincidence. Sometimes I find it slightly embarrassing, and that's why, when I sign an email, I usually avoid using the official library name but use "Pace University Library" instead. But more often these inquiries amuse me, as I am reminded again of the true past, there is no known relationship. Mr. Birnbaum, who died in 1999, had been Pace University Librarian for 28 years when the library was named in his honor in 1989. He continued serving in this same capacity until his retirement in 1994, when he had served Pace University for 33 years! He was the library director when the current main building of Pace University (then Pace College), was dedicated in 1969.

He had an interesting personality. He was scrupulous to a fault. I always like to say, in jest, that he probably would not have hired me if we had been related. He was a mild man and was much respected by the administrators and faculty of Pace, but he could be sarcastic, making cutting or even disparaging remarks. One had to be careful to keep on his good side. He really dedicated his life to the library. Here is a quotation from an interview he had given in 1984, on the occasion of the University's 75th anniversary: "Well, I'm married to the job. I've been extremely happy. I look forward to coming to work every day…" Naming the library after him – in his lifetime – was a singular honor.

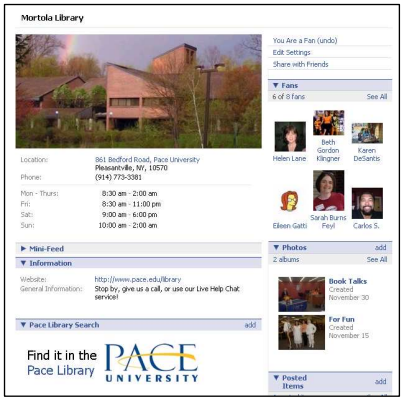
The Pace Archives has more information about the life of Henry Birnbaum.

FACEBOOK LIBRARY AND RESEARCH TOOLS

***Helen Lane**, Instructional Services Librarian*

Research has always been social, but now it's on Facebook.

Library Pages



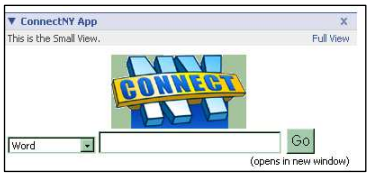
Both the Mortola and the Birnbaum Libraries have Facebook pages. Visit these pages to see what new books we've purchased, review recommended readings, watch how-to videos, write on the discussion board, or just check the hours.

Become a fan and you will receive periodic updates concerning trial databases, events, schedule changes and more.

You can locate our pages by searching Facebook for "Birnbaum Library" or "Mortola Library."

Facebook Widgets

The Pace Library has also created an application that can be added to your profile. This application can be used to gain access to the catalog, databases, reserves and other services offered by the library online.



ConnectNY is a group of 14 college libraries in New York State. The ConnectNY Facebook widget allows you to search the ConnectNY catalog and request materials online from member libraries. These materials can be sent to the campus of your choice.

If you really want to expand your research, adding the **WorldCat** application to your Facebook profile will allow you to search for materials in libraries **worldwide**. It will indicate which libraries near you have the item you want or need. (Some of these libraries will be open to the general public, and others will not be. Ask your librarian about the Metro referral system that grants access to private libraries.)

JStor, the scholarly journal database beloved by professors and students alike, also has a Facebook widget. If you are off-campus, set the proxy server base URL to the following: http://rlib.pace.edu/login?url=

These applications can be located by clicking the *edit* link in the left hand Applications Menu, then clicking the *Browse More Applications* button on the upper right, and lastly, searching in the *Search Apps* box.

Book Review: The Big Oyster

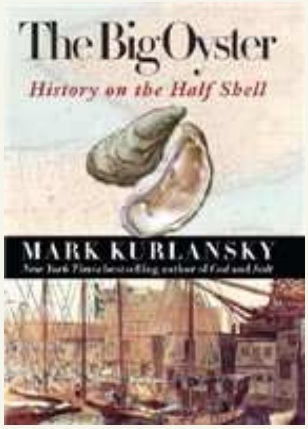
***Eileen Gatti**, Head of Information Services and Resources*

There's a common assignment in library school that asks students to go "undercover" as it were, and visit 3 or 4 different libraries with the same research question in hand, in order to evaluate and compare reference services. Some of us, cocky grad students that we were, saw this as a chance to play "stump the librarian." I devised a question that was inspired by the life of my great-grandfather, who had gone from working the oyster beds in his native Ireland to shucking them to be served on the half-shell at the famed Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. I went into three different libraries asking for help in finding anything I could about the history, culture, and lore of oysters, oyster industries, and oyster consumption. I think I may have ruined one librarian's day. Another was so casually dismissive, I was sure he had seen through the ruse and didn't want to be part of some student experiment. The third, at a graduate school library, took up the challenge and did her best to provide me with enough bits and pieces to get me started on the ersatz book I was writing. Mark Kurlanksy's book "The Big Oyster," should have been the first item we turned to -- if only it had been written at the time.

Kurlansky takes the reader on a multi-sensory journey through New York City history as seen through the eyes of the *Crassostrea virginica*, with its many varieties. But you don't need to be a lover of oysters to thoroughly enjoy this book. It brings a fresh perspective to the sweeping narrative of New York's past, from the Lenape Indians and the early Dutch settlers, through the Gilded Age in all its showy excess, down to current-day environmentalists' attempts to clean up our waterways.

The streets surrounding the spot where Pace's New York Campus now stands were once teeming with outdoor stands selling raw, roasted and fried oysters. Oyster vendors were more ubiquitous and synonymous with New York City streets than hot dog vendors are today. There were oyster cellars catering to every class of clientele, as well as fine restaurants like Delmonico's offering up oyster specialties. Downing's Oyster House on Broad Street was one of the most famous and salubrious of the oyster cellars. Owned by Thomas Downing, a son of freed slaves who had grown up in Chesapeake oyster country, Downing's was a favorite haunt of businessmen, politicians, socialites and celebrities. What Kurlansky neglects to mention is that it was also a stop along the Underground Railroad, with escaped slaves finding refuge alongside the oysters in Downing's storage basements. Downing's was also the setting for many famed banquets in the mid-nineteenth century, including one in honor of Charles Dickens, popularly know as the "Boz Ball." Dickens himself provides some of the many colorful quotes strewn throughout this book. He and other visitors from abroad found much to write about in the highs and lows of New York society, and the oyster frequently played a starring role.

"The Big Oyster" is liberally peppered with literary quotes, maps, photographs and fascinating recipes from the sometimes strange history of oyster cookery going back to ancient Rome (oysters with honey, anyone?). It is an entertaining and informative journey which highlights the significance of one lowly species in the evolution of a great city. Most importantly, it shines a spotlight on the price we pay for the neglect of our natural resources, and shows us just how long this neglect has been going on. By the early 20th century, oysters were so over-fished and our rivers so polluted, that several varieties of oyster were beginning to disappear. The loss of the New York oyster is less of a culinary tragedy than an ecological disaster. Oysters perform important work in their bay habitats, filtering the water and cleaning

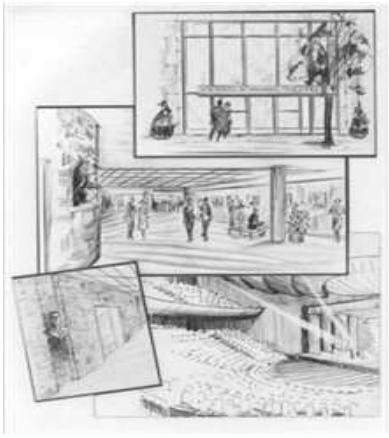


out impurities.

Environmentalist groups have been attempting to cultivate new oyster beds around New York in the hopes that they might begin to grow again in greater numbers and help purify our waters. Even if they succeed, these oysters would not be edible for generations to come. Kurlansky concludes with the hope that some day New Yorkers will again be able to pluck oysters from the Hudson estuary and taste the "freshness and sweetness" of the waters once noted by early explorers. Let's hope that day will come.

The Show Must Go On - Theater at Pace

***Ellen Sowchek**, Pace University Archivist*



Pre-construction drawings of Schimmel Theater, ca. 1967-1968
Photo from the Pace University Archives

Pace's affiliation with the Actor's Studio and the BFA and MFA degrees offered beginning in September 2006 has focused the spotlight on Pace's course offerings in the areas of acting, directing, musical theater and choreography. These programs have proven to be quite popular, and the taping of the *Live at the Actor's Studio* and the recent renovations in the Schimmel Theater have certainly brought excitement and even a touch of glamour to the Pace NYC campus. They may appear to be moving Pace in a new direction. Not so! – for Pace has a long tradition in teaching theater that dates back to our earliest years as an institute and then a college.

The idea that Pace, a school more frequently known for its business offerings, is also one with long experience in the teaching "dramatic arts" may seem surprising but, as with many things at Pace, it originated with our founder and first president, Homer Pace. A firm believer in the importance of good communication skills as a way of achieving success in the competitive world of business, Homer Pace saw to it that, from the earliest days of Pace Institute, students were required to take courses in speech and public speaking. Building on the foundation of these speech and public speaking courses, by the time Pace became a college in 1948, courses in drama history and dramatic arts had been added to the curriculum. When 41 Park Row, the first Pace-owned campus building, was purchased in 1951, planned renovations included provision for a "theater," for Frederick Schaeberle, an early graduate of Pace Institute and a Schaeberle Hall, named for a much-beloved member of the Institute/College administration.

Schaeberle Hall as it appeared in December, 1955
Photo from the Pace University Archives

At Pace College, in addition to course offerings, there were also opportunities to perform as part of the "Literary Activities" offered to members of the college community:

> "Dramatics. The *Torchbearers*, drama society of the day session, present two major productions each year. These are usually Broadway hits, selected for their interest and popularity as well as their large casts and production staffs – a policy affording all members of the society an opportunity to participate in this *Pace Masquers* is the drama society of the evening session of the College. It, too, presents two plays each year, and casts them from the ranks of both the evening students and the alumni." (*Pace College General Bulletin, 1963-1965*, p. 69)

Pace Torchbearers production of Twelfth Night, April 1964
Photo from the Pace University Archives

By 1965, it was possible for students enrolled for the Bachelor of Arts degree to major in drama:

> "The serious student of Drama may major or minor in one of two areas of concentration – History of Drama or Dramatic Arts. The former caters to the student of the theater; the latter caters to the performer. Both areas of concentration prepare the student for graduate work or future professional activity. There are rewarding opportunities for career positions as an actor, director, stage manager, make-up or lighting consultant, playwright in legitimate or civic organizations, or a teacher of drama in schools and colleges." (*Pace College General Bulletin, 1965-66*, p. 83*)*

(continued page 6)

The Show Must Go On - Theater at Pace (cont.)

Pace College experienced a period of major growth during the 1960s, with the opening of the Pleasantville Campus in 1963 (they had their own version of the *Torchbearers*, known as the *Parnassus Players*), and the construction of the 1 Pace Plaza building, which was scheduled for opening in 1970. As with 41 Park Row, the plans for the building called for a theater, which was funded in large part by an alumnus and trustee, Michael Schimmel, for whom the theater is named.

Dedication of Schimmel Theater on November 19, 1970. From left to right: Dr. Edward J. Mortola, Anne Meara, Michael Schimmel, Jerry Stiller

This growth and expansion culminated with the decision to seek university status. The New York State Board of Regents requires universities to offer both undergraduate and graduate programs and to have or be affiliated with professional schools. In 1972, Pace College entered into an affiliation with the American Academy of Dramatic Arts

> "...to secure mutual growth in the performing arts through sharing of facilities, joint enrollment in programs of study and co-operative presentation and professional performances. The immediate thrust of the affiliation has been the establishment of a joint program in professional program will earn the Associate in Arts degree by completing half their credits at the Academy and the other half at Pace.
>
> The Academy, located in midtown New York, was founded in 1884 and has graduated some of the most famous names in the Theater, Included on its Board of Trustees are such theatrical luminaries as Miss Lillian Gish and Mr. Hume Cronyn." (*Pace College Undergraduate Bulletin, 1972-1973*, p. 11)

Pace was granted university status in 1973, and its affiliation with the AADA continued until some time in the 1980s. However, it was still possible to work towards the Associate in Arts degree in Professional Theater, or a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Dramatic Arts of in Drama with an Education minor, leading to Secondary School Certification in English.

Dr. Edward J. Mortola with Lillian Gish, American Academy of Dramatic Arts, ca. 1972
Photo from the Pace University Archives

On May 24, 1985, the New York State Education Dept. granted Pace the authority to grant the Bachelor of Fine Arts and the Master of Fine Arts degree in New York. The *1985-1986* following majors in the BFA program: Acting, Scenic Design, and Theater Technology. B.A. candidates could major in History of Drama or Drama/Education.

The MFA in Scenic Design was offered in NYC for the first time in September 1986, and prepared students for careers as scenic, costume and lighting designers in the professional theater. In addition to intensive study and mastery of skills in the area of specialization, the curriculum required coursework in the areas of theater, criticism and performance styles. Not all courses were to be taken at the Pace downtown campus.

> "The Scenic Design program is presented in consortium with the Studio and Forum of Stage Design, Inc., an internationally recognized professional school. A number of the courses in the area of specialization are offered on the premises of the Studio, which is located conveniently near Pace. The Studio was established to train prospective designers for the Broadway stage, with the school's graduates accounting for more than one-third of the designers working in this market.
> The Studio and Forum of Stage Design has a unique faculty entirely comprised of actively working designers in the various jurisdictions. Students complete the Scenic Design program prepared in all respects to undertake professional responsibilities in the theatre or in college and university programs." (*Pace University, Dyson College of Arts and Sciences, Graduate Catalog 1986 -1987*, p. 27)

Throughout this period, theatrical productions continued to be presented at Pace, not only on the amateur (student-faculty-alumni)

The Show Must Go On - Theater at Pace (cont.)

level, but also on the professional level with Pace's affiliation with the National Actor's Theater, directed by Tony Randall, in the 1990s. Sadly, this affiliation did not survive after Mr. Randall's death in May 2004.

Despite the excitement surrounding the initiation of the BFA/MFA programs in 1985, enrollment ultimately proved to be rather small, so the degrees became dormant.

Their revival is due to Pace's affiliation with the Actor's Studio. With this affiliation, Pace has now entered into yet another stage in its long history of theater education.

Pace Masquers production of Playboy of the Western World, 1966
Photo from the Pace University Archives

New Library Databases

AdForum
AdForum.com is a information provider focused on the global advertising industry…we have information on over 20,000 agencies and 70,000 ads (tv, print, interactive, etc.) from around the world. (http://www.adforum.com/aboutus/aboutus.asp)

Sage Premier Collection
This is a collection of 450 discipline-specific popular peer-reviewed journals in Communication Studies, Criminology, Education, Health Sciences, Management & Organization Studies, Materials Science, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Urban Studies & Planning published by SAGE Publications and participating societies.

JSTOR Health & General Sciences Collection
The collection features important historical scientific journals and top publications in the health sciences, offering published scientific research dating as far back as 1665.

ITER
Iter's bibliography includes literature pertaining to the Middle Ages and Renaissance (400-1700). Citations for books, journal material (articles, reviews, review articles, bibliographies, catalogues, abstracts and discographies) are included, as are citations for dissertation abstracts, and essays in *books (including entries in conference proceedings, festschriften, encyclopedias and exhibition catalogues).*

New Videos Page on the Library Web Site

The Instructional Services team at the Pace University Library has created brief videos demonstrating various library resources and services as well as several videos that are database specific. To view these videos, go the library's website and select the "More" link under the "Help" menu. Select the last link, labeled "Videos."

Video Titles:

- Browse or Search for Journal Titles:
- Use the "Search for Article" service
- Use the "ConnectNY" service
- Request Books in the Catalog:
- Search for Reserve items held at the library
- Access Electronic Reserve items
- Searching the Cinahl database
- Searching the Cochrane Library
- Searching the Infoshare database
- Using the Census homepage

PACE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY HOURS

Birnbaum Library	**Mortola Library**	**Graduate Center Library**
Monday to Friday 8 am to 11 pm Saturday 10 am to 8 pm Sunday 12 pm to 8 pm	Monday to Thursday 8:30 am to 2 am Friday 8:30 am to 11 pm Saturday 9 am to 6 pm Sunday 10 am to 2 am	Monday to Thursday 10 am to 12 pm 1 pm to 10 pm Friday 1 pm to 5 pm Saturday 10 am to 5 pm Closed Sundays

Exceptions: Holiday, Intersession, Summer Session and Final Exam hours vary and are posted at the library entrance and on the library website at http://library.pace.edu.

The Information Edge is published semi-annually by the Pace University Library. Please direct comments, suggestions and submissions to the editors: Janell Carter jcarter3@pace.edu and Karen DeSantis kdesantis@pace.edu.

Hello, My NAME IS...

Doug Heimbigner recently joined Pace University as an Instructional Librarian at the Mortola Library. Doug received his Masters in Library & Information Science from Long Island University.

Previously, he served as an intern at the Mortola Library, while completing his Masters degree. Before arriving at Pace, Doug worked as a reference librarian at the University of Bridgeport. Prior to attending graduate school, he was employed in the advertising and marketing fields in Manhattan where he focused on healthcare marketing and patient education initiatives.

Doug resides in Westchester with his wife and dog. In his spare time he enjoys traveling, reading and occasionally playing tennis and golf.