Over the winter break, the library was given a collection of approximately 8,000 comic books and graphic novels. The collection predominantly consists of superhero comics (DC and Marvel Comics in particular) from the 1970s to the early 2000s.

The term “comic book” arose because the first comic books were reprinted comic strips. Despite their name, comic books over time have told stories in a variety of genres: horror, true crime, darkness, adventure, science fiction, and supernatural. The topics in comic books began to cover what was happening in society. The definition of “graphic novel” is debatable, but basically it is defined as a full-length story in comic strip form, published and presented as a book. The library’s new collection is not yet available—but will be soon!

Interesting Facts:
The first reoccurring character who would lead to modern comic strips was the Yellow Kid, created by R.F. Outcault around 1894.

The United States Postal Service honored several classic pre-1950s comic strips with their own set in 1995. In 2006, the USPS would create a commemorative stamp pane of DC Comics super-heroes.

Superman, Spider-Man and Batman are the three most popular American superheroes known and beloved worldwide.

World’s largest comic book collection belongs to the Library of Congress with over 6,000 titles and 100,000 issues, a massive collection that continues to grow at the rate of about 200 issues each month. The oldest comic book in the collection is Popular Comics, February 1936.

Marvel Comics, subsidiary of Walt Disney Company, is top in comic book publishing and has a library of over 8,000 characters.

The comic book, Detective Comics #27, in which Batman made his first appearance in 1939, sold for $1,075,000 at auction in February 2010.

Last year, the library started the tedious process of converting the call numbers from the Dewey Decimal Classification System to Library of Congress. Since September, a small team of library staff members, along with a group of work-study students, have been able to convert the DVD and Reference collections. The library’s literature collection, which is housed on the third floor, should be converted before the end of January. So far, the conversion project seems to have had little impact on students and faculty trying to locate library materials. However, as the project moves to the rest of the circulating collection, there may be times when materials are difficult to locate. We are asking everyone to please have patience during the spring semester, when the project is expected to really get into full-swing. If you cannot locate an item, please do not hesitate to stop at either the Circulation Desk on the first floor or the Reference Desk on the second floor. The library staff is more than happy to help you find the materials that you are seeking. If all goes as planned, the entire conversion project should be completed by the start of the 2012 fall semester.

National Library Week, April 8 to April 14, 2012

Join us this year as our staff welcomes you back from Easter vacation with a fun-filled week of food, games, prizes and surprises at the library! MU Clubs will once again be invited to win monetary awards for the best decorated book carts. Students, faculty and staff alike can fly paper airplanes, try their hand at bowling in the stacks, and picnic at the Library Club’s Hot Dog Cart for lunch. We are working on new presentations to pique your interest, so stay tuned for more information on upcoming

Library of Congress Conversion Update

By Jennifer Luksa
A new database called ATLA can be found on the library’s webpage just in time for the spring semester. ATLA, which stands for the American Theological Library Association, collects journal articles, book reviews, essays and citations under the umbrella of one database. ATLA is the premier database for research on religion. ATLA is ideal for undergraduate and graduate work for those seeking information on Christian religions but also many non-Christian religions. The ATLA Religion Database with ATLA Serials contains over 570,000 article citations from over 1,600 journals. Out of the more than 1,600 journals ever indexed in ATLA, 546 are still currently indexed in ATLA.

ATLA began in book form by mainly collecting journal articles about Christianity in a bibliographic index. Some of the coverage for ATLA extends back to the 19th century. With the electronic database version, the index begins in 1908, however there are some journals indexed from the late 19th century. There are also 130 journals whose articles are available in a full-text format.

ATLA is searched using the EBSCO platform that is familiar to many users. A search can be executed using a subject, author, scripture citation or title. The database can retrieve many articles on comparisons of various religions that are ideal for writing papers about religion and religious themes. ATLA, while mainly used for researching biblical analysis and references, can also be used as a philosophy database. Searches for philosophers retrieves many full-text articles. For these reasons, ATLA has uses for all students at Misericordia and is an ideal tool for research to assist in fulfilling core curriculum course assignments.

ATLA with Serials ensures that users have full-text well represented, with the ability to obtain PDF and HTML versions of the articles being retrieved. For the discipline of religion, this is a great assist to students, as they do not have to search for a print counterpart. ATLA is also a very important database to add to the library’s electronic collection since this is the first subscription database that the library has obtained specifically for the specific purpose of researching religion. Choosing the EBSCO platform to search ATLA will help our students extract the information that they need. Their familiarity with EBSCO makes the searching in ATLA a bit more user friendly than other database platforms offering ATLA. Like other EBSCO databases, ATLA can be searched and added to other databases using the EBSCO platform. The ability to limit by full-text or by journals owned by Misericordia is also available. If an article is not available in a full-text format from ATLA, the article can be obtained through the library’s interlibrary loan service.

For religion faculty and students, library staff is available to offer ATLA library instruction on how to create general searches or specific searches of a topic. David Marks is available for library instruction for an entire class or individual instruction to assist with information-seeking needs for this database. He can be reached at extension 6353 or via email at dmarks@misericordia.edu.

Silent Auction

The Sister Mary Carmel McGarigle Archives will be holding a Silent Auction on the third floor of the Mary Kintz Bevevino Library from Monday, January 30, through Thursday, February 2, with pick up on Friday, February 3. For more information contact the Archivist, Jessica Reeder at reeder@misericordia.edu or (570) 674-6420.
And it is in great demand. It is available for checkout, just like books or DVDs, at the Mary Kintz Bevevino library. However, be sure to put a hold on it because most of the time it is checked out. Many of you already know about all the wonderful things you can do with an iPad. Let’s start with some fun things such as FaceTime, playing games, social networking, listening to music, watching movies, and leisure reading. On the other hand, more practical applications are internet browsing, note taking in classrooms, workshops or conferences, and downloading textbooks.

Well, you can do the majority of these things using a laptop also. However, the compact size of the iPad makes it much easier to carry around than a laptop or heavy textbook. Special features, such as flipping the pages as if you are reading a hard copy, changing the font size, access to the online dictionary, and the ability to highlight passages and write notes, makes the e-book reading experience less tetchy and more enjoyable. If you like, you can read e-books at night by turning on the White on Black setting from the Accessibility settings. You can download the e-books that are accessible through the library’s databases free of charge. VoiceOver, the screen reader in iPad, can read you the contents of any page, and it also allows you to listen to music while you’re reading.

Stylus, a pen for an iPad, makes note taking more traditional by eliminating the need to use the keyboard. It also eliminates the possibility of losing the hard copies of the notes. The notes can be e-mailed for future use or storage. Stylus is not provided by the library, but a basic stylus can be purchased for 50 cents from Amazon.com. The library iPad is compatible with printers with AirPrint technology and will allow you printing if you have a printer with that technology at home.

If you check out an iPad from the library’s circulating collection, you can download any applications, music, games, books, etc. that you wish. If you purchase any apps from the App Store, you can retrieve them during your next iPad checkout or access them using any other Apple devices such as the iPhone or iPod. Based on the demand, we may add more iPads to our collection. Please feel free to make any suggestions about this resource by taking the survey inserted in the iPad case.

**eBooks, Formerly NetLibrary, from EBSCO**
*By Peggy Leonhart*

eBooks, one of the many databases offered through EBSCO, has over 12,000 books that can be downloaded to a computer as well as these portable devices: iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch, Nook, and Sony Reader. There is a tutorial that explains how to download the book of your choice.

eBooks offers titles on many different topics such as psychology, literature, business, science, math, politics, health sciences and more. There is also a variety of fiction that includes a series of vampire stories written by Laurell K. Hamilton.

You can find ebooks in the list of A to Z databases under “E.”

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**Book Review: Learning to Swim**
*By Gail Wyberski*

“If I’d blinked, I would have missed it. But I didn’t, and I saw something fall from the rear deck of the opposite ferry: A small, wide-eyed human face, in one tiny frozen moment, as it plummeted toward the water.”

Troy Chance

I recently read the book Learning to Swim and found both the story and the characters to be very realistic; I truly felt that I got to know the characters. Author Sara J. Henry paints a greatly detailed picture of places, things and happenings in the New Hampshire setting. I found myself not wanting to put the book down. I recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a quick read filled with suspense right from the beginning to the end.

Our library’s collection of contemporary fiction books is continually growing, and the selections are updated monthly. I enjoy the variety offered and encourage you to stop by and take a look. You’re sure to find a great read.

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**“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.”**
*Sir Richard Steele*
Seek, Find and Search New Databases

By Mark Stull

The library is excited to announce the addition of two new databases for 2012, Springerlink from Springer Scientific, and Sage Premier from Sage Publishing. With 1,800 journals included in Springerlink, and over 600 in Sage Premier, these two databases represent an addition to the MU catalog of one-half million peer-reviewed articles in disciplines including, but not limited to, health sciences, social sciences, life sciences, environmental sciences, chemistry & materials sciences, education, humanities, business, science/technology/medicine (STM), philosophy, psychology, and mathematics. These databases, coupled with 2011’s addition of over 1,100 peer-reviewed physical, social, and health sciences journals from Science Direct, represent, in just the past 12 months, an increase of nearly three-quarter million scholarly articles in the MU catalog. We are very pleased to announce the addition of these preeminent databases to the list of Mary Kintz Bevevino Library’s academic resources.

In another milestone of sorts, the library recently crossed over the 50,000 journals threshold. As of January 1, 2012, we have full-text coverage from 51,941 journals that are hosted in 93 different databases. Impressively, this total represents somewhere in the neighborhood of 9.5 million full-text articles. When you navigate through these nearly 52,000 journals, please remember, if we don’t have your journal in one database, we might very well have it in another. To determine whether or not MU has access to a journal which contains an article you would like, use the Journal Finder tab on the library’s homepage. Journal Finder will tell you if we have it, in what database or format it can be found, and the coverage dates, and will link you directly to the journal. May the force of these powerful research resources be with you!

Yearbooks Soon to Debut Online

By Jessica Reeder

From student names, clubs, and professors, to snapshots, fashion, and sports, a yearbook can provide moments of reminiscing for alumni or a look at Grandma’s major and favorite dress for a family genealogist. The photos and text provide insights into the culture, size, and concerns of a student population. For all of these reasons, Misericordia’s yearbooks are now the focus of a digitization project to make them available online. The digital version of the yearbook will be in color and word searchable, so that people can easily find a certain person or club. The project began in the fall semester, and the yearbooks will be going live as they are finished during the spring semester. The first yearbook to be published digitally will be the first yearbook that was published in print, “The Litany.” This yearbook was published in 1928, four years after Misericordia opened its doors. It contains fantastic photographs and rich descriptions of some of the earliest clubs, classes, and students of Misericordia. For more information on this project, the yearbooks of Misericordia, or other archival queries, please contact the Sister Mary Carmel McGarigle Archives at archives@misericordia.edu or (570) 674-6420.

Newest Additions to the McNaughton Movie Collection!

Rise of the Planet of the Apes
Hangover II
Larry Crowne
Cowboys and Aliens
Crazy, Stupid Love
One Day
Captain America
Bad Teacher
Country Strong
Soul Surfer
Dinner for Schmucks
Thor

The library has increased the holdings of the movie collection. Please stop by and make your suggestion!

“"All that mankind has done, thought, gained or been: it is lying as in magic preservation in the pages of books."

Thomas Carlyle
**New Books on the Reference Shelf**

*By Peggy Leonhart*

- *Literary Research and the Victorian and Edwardian Ages, 1830–1910: strategies and sources* / Melissa S. Van Vuuren
  REF. PR 461.V35 2011

  REF. HF5549.H82 2011

- *Metaphysics: The Key Concepts* / Helen Beebee, Nikk Effingham, and Philip Goff
  REF. 111.B33 2011

- *Climate Change and National Security: A Country-Level Analysis* / Daniel Moran
  REF. GE149.C55 2011

- *Women and Slavery in America: a Documentary History* / Catherine M. Lewis and J. Richard Lewis
  REF. HT1048.W66 2011

- *Mopar Muscle: Fifty Years: Dodge, Plymouth, & Chrysler Performance* / Robert Genat
  given in memory of Charles J. Siegel by the staff of the Mary Kintz Bevevino Library.

- *Camera: A History of Photography From Daguerreotype to Digital* / Todd Gustavson
  given in memory of Charles J. Siegel by the staff of the Mary Kintz Bevevino Library.

- *Foreclosing the Dream: How America’s Housing Crisis is Reshaping Our Cities and Suburbs* / William H. Lucy
  given in memory of James Williams by the staff of the Mary Kintz Bevevino Library.

If you are interested in purchasing a title in memory or in honor of someone, please contact Jennifer Luksa at 674-6325.

**Memorial Books**

*By Jennifer Luksa*

- *Mopar Muscle: Fifty Years: Dodge, Plymouth, & Chrysler Performance* / Robert Genat
  given in memory of Charles J. Siegel by the staff of the Mary Kintz Bevevino Library.

**Try Some Mango Today!**

*By Jennifer Luksa*

Mango Languages is a new language learning database available to the Misericordia community. Mango Languages focuses on the practical speaking skills of a foreign language, and it is a self-paced program that is very easy and fun to use. Mango offers 37 different languages with the most popular being French, German, Italian, Spanish, and Pirate! The first time that you log-in to the database, you will create your own profile that you will use to go through the language lesson that you have chosen. Each time you log-in, the database will keep track of your progress. You can always go back and review any of the lessons that you have completed. One of the benefits of the database is the Voice Comparison tool that allows you to compare your voice to a native speaker and enables you to perfect your pronunciation. Culture is also incorporated into each lesson so that you can learn about the customs and etiquette of the people who use the language. Mango has so many uses—from students who are about to study abroad to the individual who is interested in learning a second language. To learn more about Mango’s methodology, visit the website at www.mangolanguages.com or try Mango for yourself by visiting the library’s website and following the databases link.

**Color Nook Winner**

Congratulations to Kelly Rogan! Kelly was one of many students, staff, and faculty who finished the Digital Scavenger Hunt. Participants had the opportunity of checking out some of our new digital resources while scavenging for answers. Thanks to all who participated! Be on the lookout for upcoming events!

"I was so excited to win the Nook Color," said Kelly. "I don't usually win things. I look forward to using it, not only for leisure, but also for textbooks!"

**MU Hospitality**

Take a Break was once again offered in December to students studying in the library for final exams. University departments that graciously offered to sponsor or co-sponsor the eight nights of snacks and beverages were: College of Arts and Sciences, College of Professional Studies and Social Sciences, College of Health Sciences, Philosophy Department, Mercy Integration, Facilities, Student Affairs and Student Success Center, VP of Academic Affairs and VP of Planning, Assessment and Research, and the Friends of the Library. The library hosted between 75 and 100 grateful students each night.
Food and Drink in the Library

The staff works hard to make the library a hospitable place where students can study, work together, or just relax. Our housekeeping staff is tireless in their upkeep of the building. Please be responsible when disposing of food packaging and drink containers, as well as chewing gum. There are wastebaskets and recycle containers available throughout the building. Please be considerate and help keep our building clean.

Library Hours

Monday–Thursday
8:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m.
Friday
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Saturday
10:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
Weekend U
10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.
Sunday
11:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m.

Contact Numbers
Access Services 674-6231
circulation_desk@misericordia.edu
Reference 674-6352
reference@misericordia.edu

Library Club
By Jacob Garner

The fall 2011 semester was a busy one for the Library Club, as student members were involved with many activities both in and outside of the library. By participating in the SGA Club Fair, holding a 50/50 raffle, and reading to preschoolers, the Library Club has helped raise library awareness among the student population.

Perhaps the biggest news coming from the library club is the start of the “Secret Cinema” series. Open to current Misericordia students, faculty, and staff, movies are shown in the McGowan Room with a short presentation by a Misericordia faculty or staff member. The fall 2011 semester saw showings of the films Meet John Doe, The Dark Knight, V for Vendetta, and The Conversation. The spring 2012 semester currently has planned showings of For Colored Girls, Blade Runner, and Milk. Check back for scheduled dates and times—and support the Library Club!

Fun Book Facts
By Beth Spaciano

Barnes and Noble Bookstore in New York City has 12 miles of shelving and covers an area of 154,250ft2 (14,330m2). Facts-thewebweb.co.uk

The oldest written material in the Library of Congress is a cuneiform tablet dating from 2040 BC. blogs.georgefox.edu

Marcel Proust's A La Recherche Du Temps Perdu (translated as Remembrance of Things Past) is the world's longest novel, according to Guiness World Records. The profoundly influential 13-volume work contains 9,609,000 characters, with each letter and space counting as one character. bookspot.com

All the proceeds earned from James M. Barrie's book Peter Pan were bequeathed to the Great Ormond Street Hospital for the Sick Children in London. Trivia-corsinet.com

Of all the ancient writings, most scholars agree that the Old Testament of the Bible is the oldest of religious books. It was written at 1000BC through 500 BC and the words were given by God to its writers. allabouttruth.org

A 133 pound tome about the Asian country of Bhutan that uses enough paper to cover a football field and a gallon of ink has been declared the world's largest published book. usatoday.com