



## Promoting Social Justice and Global Citizenship

*As Secretary-General, I am determined to see the United Nations deliver meaningful results that advance peace, sustainable development, and human rights.*

Ban Ki-moon



Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

Lehman College has had a landmark year, featuring visits and presentations from President Obama, Mayor de Blasio, and United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. On March 17th Mr. Ban delivered the annual Lehman Lecture with an inspirational talk about his sustained work addressing the refugee crisis, climate change, empowerment of women, and our collective role as global citizens. In particular, he appealed to all of us as members of the United Nations, asking that

we each individually honor our commitment to promote peace and mutual understanding. He hoped this message resonates with Lehman students as potential future world leaders.

**Significantly, Mr. Ban's appearance coincides with the Leonard Lief Library's current theme of *social justice*.** One component of our recently-approved *Characteristics of a Lehman College Graduate* is *being engaged citizens who contribute to their local, national, and global communities*, which we aspire to embed into the curriculum and culture of the College.

This semester the Library offered a three-part series on Syria, *Cultural Conversations About Syria*, as part of its Reading and Discussion events, featuring poetry by both American and Syrian poets, as well as discussion concerning **Syria's film industry and social media advocacy movement. These events were co-sponsored by Lehman's Center for Human Rights and Peace Studies, with which we have a longstanding relationship in producing film series and conferences.**

**This year's Human Rights Conference, *Archives, Witnessing, and Testimony: Truth Battles***, considered the role of archives, information, and testimony in documenting and advocating for justice in addressing human rights abuses. This partnership is another illustration of the Library extending its presence and exposure within the campus community.

This issue of *Biblio-Tech* explores several significant populations historically underserved by libraries: **Germany's renewed efforts to provide library services for incoming refugees; New York Public Library's Correctional Services programs at Rikers Island; and *Green Books* started in the 1930s for African Americans to inform them about accessible travel resources. Recently we've been reminded of the pivotal role libraries can play in their home communities, such as in the Rockaways following Hurricane Sandy, as well as proactive public library outreach after the riots in Ferguson, Missouri. Here, too, in the Bronx — the poorest county in New York State — we are committed to library services for CUNY students, faculty, and the surrounding community in order to support the Borough's renaissance in the 21st century.**

Kenneth Schlesinger  
Chief Librarian

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## Music and Passion Were Always the Fashion: CUNY Librarians Visit Cuba

A group of ten CUNY librarians and archivists visited Havana from January 15-22, 2016. Former CUNY University Dean for Libraries and Information Resources Curtis Kendrick invited Sarah Aponte (Dominican Studies Institute), Tess Tobin (City Tech), and myself to organize and co-lead this delegation. I previously had the opportunity to visit Cuba in 2010, so was able to recommend specific collections and sites of interest to incorporate into the itinerary.

The first task we undertook was to draft a Mission Statement defining the scope of this project:

*With the reopening of relations between the United States and Cuba, CUNY has the unprecedented opportunity to foster new international partnerships. CUNY Libraries wish to expand their international outreach by means of a professional visit to Cuba in early 2016.*

*We aspire to initiate dialogue with Cuban librarians and archivists by offering a series of professional workshops and presentations. This would be accomplished in the context of site visits to notable Cuban libraries, archives, and cultural institutions. The mutual sharing of ideas, resources, and knowledge will lay the groundwork for future research, scholarship, joint digitization projects, and exchange of international resources.*

*Through this dialogue and exchange, we propose to initiate a return visit from Cuban librarians. Formulating this new cooperative effort with Cuban libraries and archives promotes international scholarly relations, increased understanding and goodwill, as well as demonstrates the proactive leadership of CUNY Libraries.*

Even with restoration of diplomatic relations, travel to Cuba is never easy. With the influx of tourists, hotel rooms in Havana are at a premium and actually had to be booked in July. We worked with Cuba Explorer, the trav-

el agency that had hosted my previous trip, to organize the agenda. Direct roundtrip charter flights to Havana are now offered out of New York City, but must be scheduled far in advance.

While our major thrust was to tour libraries and archives and have facilitated meetings with our Cuban colleagues, I stressed the necessity to balance these visits with cultural enrichment and leisure activities. The first day we had an extensive walking tour of Old Havana, which has more restored colonial buildings than any city in the Americas [Figure 1]. We witnessed the firing of a cannon to close the city at nightfall — as has been done since the 16th century. The group also visited several fascinating community projects including a school to train future architectural restoration workers, the astonishing ceramic-decorated village created by Jose Fuster, and a newly restored block with privately-owned hair salons, shops, and restaurants.

Further, librarians enjoyed a day trip to the scenic and historic 19th century colonial city of Matanzas [Figure 2], an art tour of Casa de las Americas cultural center, and a guided overview of the Museum of Literacy, the 1961 mobilization campaign that sent teachers to rural areas and resulted in 770,000 new readers!

Even with all these diversions, we managed to squeeze in eight major library and archival visits. Our first stop was **University of Havana, Cuba's leading university with 18** different faculties (schools). The main library primarily functions as a reference facility since it has closed stacks. Branch libraries for its faculties have subject specialists who provide instructional training for students. The library has been automating its central catalog, a painstaking process involving scanning and digitization of 90,000 catalog cards. It is also engaged in digitization to make resources open access, though given server storage challenges, it is only available onsite at present.

*(continued on page 3)*



Figure 1: Old Havana streetscape



Figure 2: Matanzas town square

## Music and Passion Were Always the Fashion (cont.)

Since my 2010 visit, the National Library (Biblioteca Nacional Jose Marti) underwent a two-year thorough renovation and technological infrastructure retrofit of its landmark Midcentury (1957) building [Figure 3]. The marble floors gleamed, wall murals sparkled, and vintage furniture from the original design has been reconstructed.

We met with three library administrators, who candidly shared some recent digitization projects, technological challenges, and future ambitious goals. They showed us stunning, museum-quality monographs of reproductions from their Special Collections. A special highlight was when National Librarian Torres Cuevas, whom CUNY hosted at Hunter College in 2010, joined us for a brief discussion before our departure.

The National Archives is housed in a landmark building whose lobby contains historic furniture and paintings [Figure 4]. It is part of a network of collections in all of **Cuba's provinces. Only documents fifty years or older are** transferred to the central archive. Appointment is by letter only, approved by the director. Community members and visitors have onsite access to genealogical records.

The website contains listings of major collections, but not finding aids describing them. While archivists receive similar library science training as librarians (first-year coursework includes logic, statistics, computer programming), the National Archives offers special workshops (continuing education) to support Cuban archivists throughout the island to advance their skills and expertise.

The main public library (Biblioteca Publica Ruben Martinez Villena) was a particular high point. Located in Old **Havana's main square, the three-story facility features a** disabled access center, attractive and well-stocked children and young adult rooms on an entire floor, as well as a general reading room with books and periodicals. The library prides itself on a breadth of programming activities benefitting all sectors of the population from chil-

dren to seniors. The library director, truly a visionary **leader, talked about her institution's pivotal community** role as *salud para la mente* (health for the mind).

On our final day, we visited two special libraries, one at the Fine Arts Museum (Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes) and the Center for Medical Sciences Information. The latter was an extremely impressive facility with an open access website documenting Cuban medical research and scholarship about major infectious diseases and conditions. Each webpage is voluntarily compiled by a leading specialist. This resource is heavily used by Cuban international visiting medical teams — such as groups who went to Africa to help treat the Ebola outbreak — which are **now the country's leading export and industry. Resident** librarians, also trained in medical informatics, inspired us with their comprehensive knowledge, proactive leadership, and vision.

Of course — this being Cuba — not everything goes as planned. At the last minute, we were shifted to a seemingly abandoned beachfront resort outside Havana (which we called ***Gilligan's Island***) the first two nights. But we were able to swim and take morning beach walks. Our Havana hotel — located on the central plaza — did not have hot water for three days. An anticipated visit to a CDR (neighborhood block association) was abruptly cancelled without explanation. But given the warmth and welcoming spirit of our Cuban librarian and archival colleagues these proved minor inconveniences.

Ultimately, we discovered more similarities than differences between American and Cuban libraries. In fact, most Cuban librarians function under conditions familiar to CUNY library faculty: limited resources, reduced budgets, infrastructure challenges. But in striking parallels, this forces all of us to become more nimble, resourceful, and entrepreneurial in our ongoing challenges to deliver competitive services to our users.

*Kenneth Schlesinger*



Figure 3: Jose Marti National Library



Figure 4: National Archives



## Volunteering with New York Public Library Correctional Services

From 2013 - 2015, I had the pleasure of serving as a volunteer with the New York Public Library (NYPL) Correctional Services, a unit dedicated to providing library services to the incarcerated. From conversations I had with NYPL Correctional Services librarians and other volunteers, it was clear that some of the primary reasons we all wanted to work with Correctional Services stem from an interest in social justice. We wished to help ensure that inmates were not forgotten and excluded from the riches libraries have to offer. We believed that inmates — as any other NYPL patron — deserve equitable access to books, information, and enriching programming.

Correctional Services boasts a variety of resources and programs, including:

- *Connections*, a resource guide designed to connect formerly incarcerated individuals with organizations in New York City that can help them get back on their feet
- Circulating book services at five city jails
- Daddy & Me/Mommy & Me, a book recording project for incarcerated parents
- Reference services where inmates around the country can mail in information queries
- Inmate book discussion groups

I mainly assisted with circulating book services, Daddy & Me/Mommy & Me programs, and reference services.

I spent many Friday mornings assisting with circulating books at Rikers' Eric M. Taylor Center (EMTC) building. We would set up a makeshift library in the gym, placing books in egg carts on top of tables. The collection was small, but diverse. The Corrections Officer would call down the various houses in the EMTC building to browse the collection. Horror and thriller novels were extremely

popular. James Patterson, Ann Rule, Dean Koontz, and Stephen King novels went quickly. A number of inmates also sought self-help and how-to books. Many of the inmates were surprisingly well-read.

I found the Daddy & Me/Mommy & Me programs heart-breaking. I was tasked with helping to record inmates reading bedtime stories to their children. The recordings, **once processed, were sent to the inmate's children, giving them the opportunity to hear their parent read to them.** During these programs, the Correctional Services Librarian would talk to parents about the importance of childhood literacy. NYPL also worked with the Osborne Association to set up televisiting sessions for inmates and their children, a video chat program that enabled children to **"see" their parents on a consistent basis. It was** obvious many inmates missed their children tremendously and anxiously awaited the day they could be reunited.

Helping to answer library reference requests mailed in by inmates around the country was interesting, to say the least. I responded to a very diverse set of questions, including requests for journal articles, old news articles, sports statistics, information on starting a non-profit, information on learning how to play the guitar, and much more. The most interesting request came from an inmate defending himself in court. He wanted the exact time the subway arrived at a particular station on the day he was accused of committing a crime.

It saddens me I no longer have time to volunteer with NYPL Correctional Services. It was an amazing experience I won't soon forget. **Some argue that inmates, as part of their punishment, should not have access to library services. I can't disagree more with that statement.** I take heart in knowing that with or without me, staff and volunteers at NYPL Correctional Services will continue advocating for inmates to have the right to equitable access to library resources and programming.

Kevin Saw  
High School of American Studies Librarian

## Welcome New Education Assistant Carlos Ruiz

We're pleased to welcome new Education Assistant Carlos Ruiz, who commenced his position May 2nd. In 2000, Carlos began working in the Library as a College Assistant — so is familiar with our services and procedures. He brings a strong background in Human Resources — serving as HR Assistant at Lehman from 2007-2015 and, most recently, at SUNY Purchase as Assistant Manager for Human Resources Information Systems.

He studied Business Administration at Bronx Community College and plans to pursue his BA at Lehman. He was also affiliated with the U.S. Navy during 1998-1999.

Carlos' quiet, laid-back manner belies an individual with outstanding organizational skills who is a proactive problem solver. His pleasant, supportive style will be an asset to the Education Library.



Carlos Ruiz

## Willkommens Kultur: How German Libraries Support Migrants and Refugees

Given the ongoing migrant crisis in Europe, Germany has been featured in the news as one of the countries that openly welcomes asylum seekers, many of them refugees fleeing the war in Syria. While Germany is still struggling with how to successfully integrate these new arrivals into its society, many have welcomed them with open arms. Appropriately, the expression *Willkommens Kultur* (welcoming culture) has been used to promote assistance for hundreds of thousands of refugees arriving in Germany.

Libraries have played an integral part in providing services and resources for immigrants, migrants, and refugees. Many German libraries have embraced *Willkommens Kultur*, promoting and adding new services specifically designed for new migrant and refugee patrons.

The German Association of Librarians maintains a list of valuable resources for refugees: (<http://www.bib-info.de/index/willkommen-in-den-bibliotheken.html>). It includes subcategories on language, education, law, and media. It points to the German library portal <http://www.bibliotheksportal.de/english.html>, which includes a website, *Bibliothekangebote für Flüchtlinge und Asylbewerber* (Library Services for Migrants and Refugees), containing information on how libraries are actively supporting these populations:

- ◆ Berlin public libraries have produced a flier about their services and resources in several languages. They have also made it easier to obtain library cards. ([http://www.bibliotheksportal.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/content/themen/kunden/interkulturell/dateien/150929\\_fl%C3%BChtlingsflyer\\_englisch\\_web.pdf](http://www.bibliotheksportal.de/fileadmin/user_upload/content/themen/kunden/interkulturell/dateien/150929_fl%C3%BChtlingsflyer_englisch_web.pdf)).
- ◆ Hamburg public libraries created T-shirts and sweat-shirts with the logo Refugees Welcome. Sales proceeds are applied to German language and grammar lessons. ([http://www.bibliotheksportal.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/content/themen/kunden/interkulturell/dateien/Projektbeispiel\\_Hamburg.pdf](http://www.bibliotheksportal.de/fileadmin/user_upload/content/themen/kunden/interkulturell/dateien/Projektbeispiel_Hamburg.pdf)).
- ◆ Munich public libraries offer free Wi-Fi and fliers in over 20 languages, German language classes, and movie events. (<http://www.muenchner-stadtbibliothek.de/info-service/benutzungshinweise/other-languages/>)

Stefanie Havelka

## Apps for Students with Disabilities

CUNY is required to adhere to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). According to it, “The laws mandate an equal opportunity for students with disabilities — **they’re** entitled to benefit from all the services of those institutions and to use campus facilities” (<http://ada-one.com/focus/higher-education/>).

**Lehman College’s Office of Student Disability Services’** mission is:

- ◆ to educate staff, faculty, and students on disability issues
- ◆ to provide sensitivity workshops to increase success and achievement among students with disabilities. (<http://www.lehman.edu/student-disability-services/about-sds.php>)

To foster the above, the Library, in conjunction with the Office of Student Disability Services, hosted its second Apps and Technology Share on April 4th at the Access and Technology Center (Library, Room 215).

Participants — including all invited students — shared their experiences with apps that help them become successful learners.

Some useful apps:

- ◆ Dragon Dictation — an automated transcription app that can record speech during class and convert it into written text
- ◆ Sound Note — a notetaking app helping students record lectures as well as adding their own notations
- ◆ inClass — a class materials organizer that assists students in keeping track of course schedules, notes, and academic events
- ◆ Evernote — allows students to take notes, keep track of link lists, and record audio notes.

Stefanie Havelka

## The Green-Book: Don't Leave Home Without It

African Americans in the Jim Crow era struggled to find welcoming hotels, restaurants, gas stations, and other amenities on their road trips. Many establishments would not serve blacks. Too often black travelers had no option but to sleep in their cars, pack up whatever food they would need, and even carry gas-filled cans for their trip.

Discrimination was not confined to the South. Thousands of northern “sundown towns” required non-whites to leave by sunset. Despite inconveniences and other humiliations blacks might experience on the road, the threat to personal safety was an even greater concern.

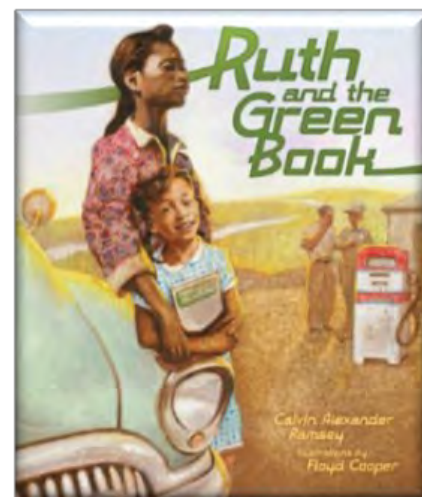
After a Jewish friend showed him guides for avoiding “Restricted” or “Gentiles-only” places, Harlem-based letter carrier Victor H. Green produced the *Negro Motorist Green-Book* in 1936. It listed NYC metropolitan area addresses for hotels, restaurants, gas stations, and businesses welcoming black customers.

At the time, the U.S. Post Office was perhaps the largest employer of blacks. With input from colleagues at the Postal Workers Union, Green expanded coverage of his book. It became an annual edition, published from 1936-1940 and 1946-1967.

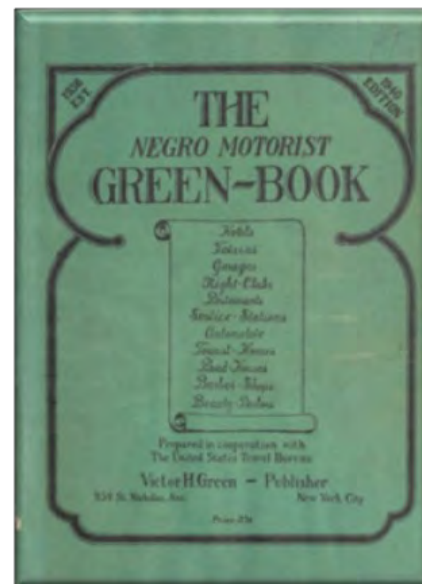
Eventually, it included the United States, parts of Canada, Mexico, and Bermuda. The *Green-Book* was sold mainly at black-friendly businesses, by mail order, and at Esso gas stations.

The *Green-Book* ceased publication within a few years following the 1964 Civil Rights Act banning racial discrimination in facilities serving the general public. For decades, this guide seems to have been forgotten. A new generation became aware of it in 2005 when author Calvin Alexander Ramsey wrote *The Green Book: A Play*. He followed up in 2010 with *Ruth and the Green Book*. This children’s book personalized discrimination faced during Ruth’s family road trip from Chicago to Selma. Presently Ramsey is working on a documentary *Green Book Chronicles*.

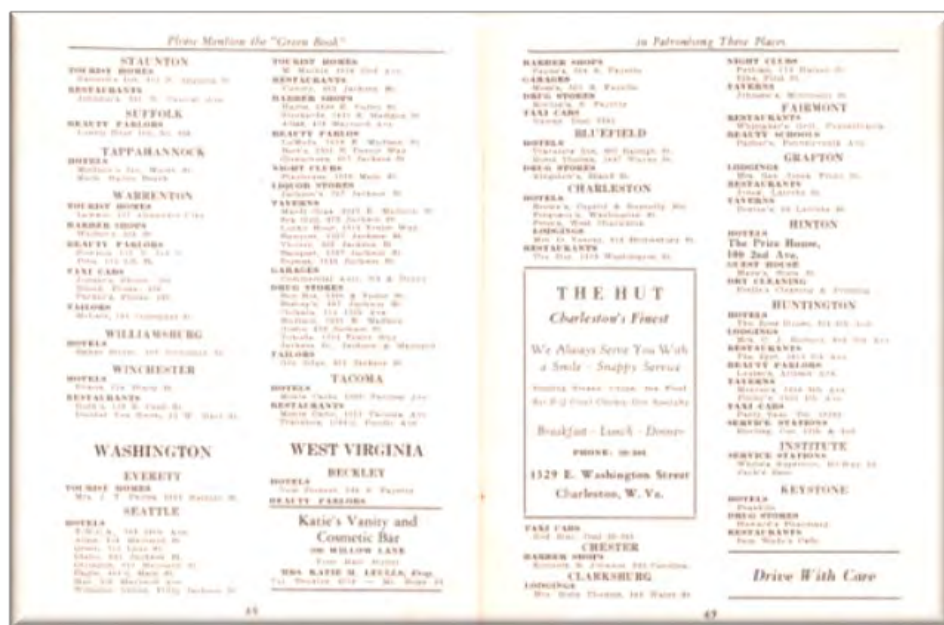
Janet Butler Munch



Ruth and the Green Book



Negro Traveler's Green-Book, courtesy University of South Carolina



1940 Green-Book, courtesy of Wikipedia.org



1955 Green Book, courtesy of Emory University



## History of a Depository

**Lehman College's Library has served as a Federal Depository** since 1967. In 2017, the depository will be 50 years old. A government depository is an empowering resource for the college community, providing access to information and a service to instruct how to search for and interpret findings. Emeritus Professor Michael Shannon was the first depository coordinator and a catalyst in facilitating its designation as a Federal Depository.



Michael O. Shannon and Rebecca Arzola

Since a depository designation must be conferred by a Congressional representative or senator, Professor Shannon assumed Leonard Lief, founding president of Lehman College, had some interchange with local Congressman Jacob Koppel Javits. Mr. Shannon also worked with Congressmen Jonathan Bingham and Javits to establish Lehman as a government depository.

Shannon used government documents with students and faculty throughout his tenure at Lehman. The History Department heavily used the *Congressional Record* and the Hansard for British history. U.S. Geological Surveys were used to investigate water pollution and the history of pollution in the Bronx River. Shannon's law school training came in handy when Political Science students used the Statutes at Large, and those from the now-dissolved Paralegal program used various legal documents.

## Flipped Classroom Day

Library resources were featured in a program for Flipped Classroom Day, a faculty professional development workshop sponsored by Lehman's School of Natural and Social Sciences. The day started with two presentations on active learning and the flipped classroom by workshop coordinators Pamela Mills and Donna McGregor of the Chemistry Department.

These presentations were followed by a demonstration of library resources on the flipped classroom by Madeline Cohen. She and other library colleagues have conducted a multi-semester research study on the flipped classroom in Information Literacy instruction, resulting in workshops presented at library conferences.

Economics students were assigned to survey the changing dollar value over the course of a year, and **"correlating data was a big effort and always a challenge for students."**

Part of the charge of being a depository librarian is teaching students what government information is. Professor Shannon discussed how he would teach census data, explaining variations in it like **"how it's collected, whether the block data was available at a certain point in time, when it became available within the census tracts, and so on,"** as well as **"why the census data does not correspond to congressional...or senatorial [districts], and certainly state political divisions."** He noted, **"...there's a give and take constantly when using data to explain what the limitation and ramifications are."**

When queried whether students were daunted by government information, he responded, **"No. No, you do it gradually...there are logical reasons for everything and once they can see the logic, their eyes are open to the wider universe. When we did neighborhood surveys, there were all kinds of city, federal, and any other kind of data, their eyes were open, that was the purpose of the assignment, so that they could go out after graduation and maybe have a position in the social welfare office or local community planning district and apply for funding...and know their neighborhood and [use] all this kind of data. So, it was very worthwhile training."**

Shannon still orders documents from home, keeps up with current legislation, and is interested in documentary sources and histories — particularly constitutional histories — and British history. He lectures on the Magna Carta, draws Celtic art, and tap dances. Shannon periodically visits campus to keep apprised of developments at Lehman, the Library, and of course checks in with the current depository librarian for any new and interesting documents in print or online.

Rebecca Arzola

Through these activities, Madeline developed a Research Guide ([http://libguides.lehman.edu/flipped\\_classroom](http://libguides.lehman.edu/flipped_classroom)), a compilation of research studies, literature reviews, technology resources, active learning modules, and videos. Cohen and her colleagues are gratified to share their knowledge and expertise in areas of pedagogy and curriculum with faculty outside the Library.

Madeline Cohen

## Bronx Book Fair

The Bronx Book Fair, now in its fourth year, seeks to promote the literary culture of our borough through diverse programming for adults and children alike. While Brooklyn has a much larger literary festival, the Bronx Book Fair is a grassroots operation, one that has slowly grown to include an organizing committee of about a dozen **Bronx residents and supporters. This year's events took place May 7-8, 2016.**



Ron Kavanaugh, Charles Rice-Gonzalez, LaTanya DeVaughn, and Carmen D. Lucca speaking on Bronx literary culture.

Social justice is at the core of the Book Fair, a value embodied by its founder, Ron Kavanaugh, director of the Bronx-based Literary Freedom Project and publisher of *Mosaic Magazine*. Through *Mosaic*, Ron has featured authors from the African diaspora and offered lesson plans to teachers in each issue. The combination of literature

**and education has been the foundation of the Book Fair's** mission from its inception, something it shares with its host venue and programming partner, the Bronx Library Center.

Unlike other boroughs, the Bronx does not have an independent bookstore. The Barnes and Noble in Co-op City, while appreciated, is difficult for most residents to visit. And while we have a vibrant literary culture supported by Bronx Council on the Arts and Bronx Writers Center, we are still striving to resolve the economic and social inequities that prevent many of our citizens from discovering their artistic voices.

The Bronx Book Fair is working to make a difference on **this front. This year's event featured a Small Press Day** to create a pop up bookstore in the neighborhood. It featured discussions on issues related to diversity and social responsibility in literature and publishing. We also **highlighted Lehman College's literary talents, poets, and** writers associated with *Obscura*, the College literary magazine.

More about the Bronx Book Fair, including a complete schedule, can be found at [www.bronxbookfair.com](http://www.bronxbookfair.com).

Robert Farrell

## Faculty Development Workshop on Predatory Publishing

On February 26th Associate Provost for Academic Personnel Davina Porock invited the Library to co-sponsor a workshop, Prevent Predatory Publishing.

Head of Reference Madeline Cohen and Business Librarian Martha Lerski were charged with selecting speakers and **organizing the workshop. Cohen invited City Tech's Monica Berger and Office of Library Services' Megan Wacha** to serve as featured speakers.

They presented on open access, predatory publishing, and methods to select quality journals for publication. Further, they highlighted some myths and truths that have surfaced in the current publishing environment which can confuse authors seeking venues for their work. The second hour was a hands-on session utilizing best practices in selecting quality journals.

Martha Lerski and the speakers developed a Research Guide ([http://libguides.lehman.edu/selecting\\_quality\\_journals\\_faculty](http://libguides.lehman.edu/selecting_quality_journals_faculty)) available to all faculty.

The presentations were recorded and are available on Academic Works (<http://academicworks.cuny.edu/le/>). Over 20 Lehman faculty and a few library faculty from other CUNY campuses attended. Lerski collected feed-

back from several Economics and Business faculty present. They observed that the workshop presenters were enlightening and the best practices recommendations are particularly useful.



As a result, we continue to receive questions and comments related to scholarly publishing from attendees, indicating that open access, selecting quality journals, predatory publishing, and Academic Works are ripe for future workshops.

Madeline Cohen



Chief Librarian Kenneth Schlesinger offered the following remarks at the Retirement Parties for staff members Wendy Brenner and Wayne Halliday:

## Wendy Brenner



Madeline Soto and Wendy Brenner

When Wendy made an appointment to see me, the first thing I said to her was, **W'olyn, say it isn't so!** She then confirmed my suspicions that she was taking retirement. I first congratulated her, then said I would miss her as a colleague and friend.

Wendy has served as the stalwart Education Assistant since 2005. Her friend, Education Librarian Sandra DeMinco, brought her to Lehman. **As everyone's aware,** Wendy ran a tight ship and proved herself indispensable

to all three Education Librarians — DeMinco, Madeline Cohen, and Alison Lehner-Quam — under whom she served. She was also greatly valued by students.

Wendy — or **W'olyn** or **WenBren**, as I called her — also evolved into an honorary Library Office staff member. **I saw her nearly every single day, when we'd exchange pleasantries over coffee, discuss national politics or the latest book we'd been reading.**

Speaking of reading: in her quiet way, Wendy may very well have been the best read of all library faculty and staff. When Jennifer King distributed the bookmark, *100 Books Worth Reading*, a few years ago, Wendy clocked in at nearly 60 titles compared to the 33 I had proudly read. **What I'll most miss about Wendy is her kindness, generosity, easy laugh, and unassailable moral values.** In many respects, she functioned as the *conscience* of the Leonard Lief Library.

Two years running I nominated her for a College-wide Customer Service Award. To my regret, she was never **selected, which is why I'm extending an Honorary Customer Service Award** to her now.

**Wendy, we'll miss you!**

## Wayne Halliday

Wayne Halliday, Lehman alumnus in Computer Science, Class of 1997, joined the Library the same year as Lecturer in Electronic Information Services. For many years, as my predecessor Rona Ostrow vastly expanded our computer resources, Wayne was the only member of the faculty with a working knowledge of computer hardware, software, servers, and network administration. It was **Wayne who hired and trained Raymond Diaz, the Library's Academic Technology Specialist**, as a student worker.

Several years ago, Wayne impressed me when he single-handedly designed an Access database for managing electronic theses. He sat down, evaluated the challenges, and designed a database anticipating the information access and retrieval needs of students. Wayne continued oversight of this entire process.

**Further, he was instrumental in supporting Janet Munch's** digitization projects by providing a key component in managing audio files, particularly for the *Childhood in the Bronx* data collection.

Most recently, he presided over Fine Arts, enjoyed providing service to students, as well as evaluating more efficient ways to manage our internal processes related to the Safari media management database.



Wayne Halliday

**I'll miss Wayne's beautiful speaking voice, laid-back manner, and strong commitment to social justice issues.** We wish you the best in the future — **and of course you'll** always be part of our library family.

## CUNY Libraries' Open Educational Resources (OERs)

The Library hosted an informational showcase on CUNY Libraries' Open Educational Resources (OERs) on April 6th. OERs are faculty-designed learning and research resources developed and remixed from open access, publicly-available materials. They serve as a progressive alternative to standard and subscription-based learning objects. CUNY library faculty are piloting engaging and creative OER projects with discipline departments.

Ann Fiddler (Project Management Librarian, Office of Library Services), Miriam Deutch (Associate Librarian, Research and Access Services, Brooklyn College), Jean Amaral (Outreach Librarian, BMCC), Cailean Cooney (User Services Librarian, City Tech), and Steven Ovadia (Acting Chief Librarian, LaGuardia) showcased their campus OER projects and presented pedagogical rationale for OERs.

Ann Fiddler described CUNY-wide projects and current interest in complete OER programs (<http://guides.cuny.edu/openeducationresourcesOER>). Deutch featured **Brooklyn's Open Educational Resource pilot** with alternative textbook projects in Art History, Ancient Medicine, History, Mathematics, and Music (<http://tinyurl.com/n9awwpu>), designed to encourage faculty curation of OERs.

Amaral highlighted BMCC's OER program, which she placed in the context of a larger social justice movement to *Open Everything*, including open source software, open access research, and open courses (<http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/news/news.jsp?id=11653>).

Cooney demonstrated City Tech's OpenLab (<https://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu/>), an open source platform to support teaching and learning. Ovadia illustrated the use of GitHub as a potential programming and publishing tool to share OER content (<https://oercuny.commons.gc.cuny.edu/tag/oer-101/>).

The panelists discussed how OERs provide financial and educational advantages to diverse student learners. They also serve as creative models for faculty to customize syllabi, where they can select and customize their own research resources for students.

Rebecca Arzola



Jean Amaral, Outreach Librarian, BMCC



Cailean Cooney, User Services Librarian, City Tech



Steven Ovadia, Acting Chief Librarian, LaGuardia

## Faculty Professional Activities

REBECCA ARZOLA

Published **“Collaboration Between the Library and Office of Student Disability Services: Document Accessibility in Higher Education”** in *Digital Library Perspectives* (March 2016).

REBECCA ARZOLA and STEFANIE HAVELKA

Presented **“Adopting Universal Design in Libraries: Collaborating for Student Success”** at CUNY’s Bronx EdTech Showcase at Lehman College in May.

Published **“Apps in Higher Education: Criteria and Evaluation”** in *The Charleston Advisor*.

MADELINE COHEN

Presented **“Library Resources at the Leonard Lief Library”** at the **Active Course Design - Flipped Class** Demonstration and Discussion Day at Lehman in March.

As Co-Chair of LACUNY Scholarly Communications Roundtable, hosted **“Put Your Assumptions on Trial”** a workshop on Academic Works at Bronx Community College in March.

As Co-Chair of LACUNY Reference Roundtable, organized and hosted **“OneSearch Revisited: Impact on Reference and Instruction”** at the Graduate Center in April.

MADELINE COHEN and MARTHA LERSKI

Organized **“Prevent Predatory Publishing”** co-sponsored by Office of Academic Personnel in February.

ROBERT FARRELL

Presented **“Poetry in Dangerous Times: Towards an Approach to Reading Ben Jonson”** at American Comparative Literature Association in Boston in March.

Published a book review of *The Poetics of Information Overload* by Paul Stephens in *Information and Culture*.

Offered two poetry readings in Boston in March.

STEFANIE HAVELKA

Invited to be a grant reviewer for Borough of Manhattan Community College.

ALISON LEHNER-QUAM

Published **“Making Room for Creativity and Inquiry from Pre-Kindergarten through University”** with Amanda Gulla and Limor Pinhasi-Vittorio in *LEARNing Landscapes* (Autumn 2015).

ALISON LEHNER-QUAM and MADELINE COHEN

Presented **“CUNY Academic Works: How to Share Your Scholarly Publications with a Wider Audience”** at the Lehman School of Education Faculty Retreat in January.

MARTHA LERSKI

Presented **“Fitbit: Mobile Interface & Privacy + Security”** at LACUNY Privacy Roundtable in February.

JANET BUTLER MUNCH

Honored as a 2015 Irish Educators 100 at a reception sponsored by the Consulate General of Ireland in December.

Chaired a panel at the 2016 Irish Language Literature and the History of Ireland Symposium at Lehman College in February.

Published **“At Home in the Bronx: Children at the New York Catholic Protectorate (1865-1938)”** in *The Bronx County Historical Society Journal* (Fall 2015).

Led the CUNY Institute for Irish-American Studies Book Club’s Spring discussion of *Models for Movers: Irish Women’s Emigration to America*.

Presented **“Women’s Voices Heard in Bronx Oral History”** at Lehman’s Women’s Study Program Lecture Series in April.

JENNIFER POGGIALI

Presented in the panel **“Digital Privacy in New York City Libraries”** at the METRO Annual Conference in January.

KENNETH SCHLESINGER

Offered three conference presentations: **“Planning Library Events”** workshop for CUNY library faculty; **“Global Perspectives: Shared Values of Cuban Librarians”** for SUNY Library Association (with Tess Tobin); and **“Strengthening Living Archives: Place for Empowering Artists and Communities”** for SIBMAS (international performing arts museums) Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Moderated panels at three conferences: **“Protecting and Preserving Your Creative Legacy”** at New Jersey State Council on the Arts; **“Archives, Witnessing, and Testimony: Truth Battles”** human rights conference at Lehman; and **“Roundtable on Diversifying the Library Profession”** at LACUNY Institute.

ROBIN WRIGHT

Presented **“Wearable Technology: If the Tech Fits, Wear It”** with Latrina Keith (Albert Einstein College) at METRO Science Librarian Special Interest Group’s Research Forum in April.

Awarded a LACUNY Professional Development Committee Travel Grant to attend the 116th Annual Meeting and Exhibition of the Medical Library Association in Toronto in May.



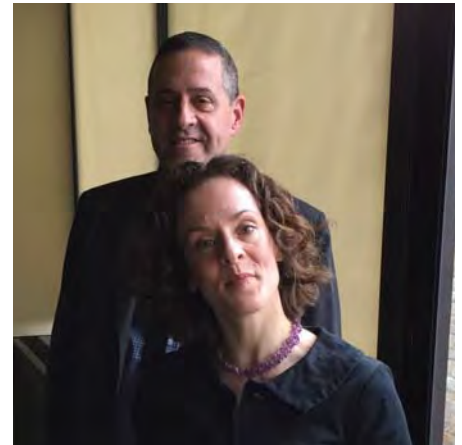
## Cultural Conversations About Syria



Christa Salamandra and Kenneth Schlesinger

This spring the Library hosted three readings and conversations that provided an opportunity for faculty, students, and staff to gather to discuss new work by Lehman and CUNY faculty concerning Syria, which has been devastated by five years of civil war and strife.

tion, *My Not-My Soldier*, on March 16th. She helped contextualize her work by providing an introduction to the work of selected Syrian poets. Jennifer discussed inclusion of historic ideas and facts in contemporary Syrian poetry and the visible role poets play in Syrian society. She also shared her own work, drawn from her experiences as an American living in Syria from 2009-2012.



Jennifer MacKenzie and Kenneth Schlesinger

On March 3rd Lehman Anthropology professor Christa Salamandra opened the series with a discussion about the new book she recently edited with Leif Stenberg, *Syria from Reform to Revolt: Culture, Society, and Religion*. She shared sections of the book addressing the rise of the Damascus Spring, highlighted her anthropological research on Syrian television drama, and offered insights into the work of major figures in Syrian media, including the recently-deceased Nabil Maleh, considered father of Syrian cinema.

Jennifer MacKenzie, Lecturer in English and Journalism, Communication, and Theatre, shared her poetry collec-

Shareah Taleghani, Assistant Professor and Director of Middle East Studies at Queens College, and Ammar Hamidou, application developer and media activist from northern Syria, presented their work on April 13th. Shareah is currently working on a book about prison literature and human rights in Syria. Ammar immigrated to New York in 2012, and has worked to help citizen journalists create alternative online news sources that offer a better understanding of ongoing events in Syria.

Alison Lehner-Quam

## Biblio-Tech

Editors: Alison Lehner-Quam  
Jennifer Poggiali

Production Design: Evelyn Santiago

Webmaster: Stefanie Havelka

Chief Librarian: Kenneth Schlesinger

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For previous issues see:

<http://www.lehman.edu/library/newsletter.php>

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## Summer 2016 Hours

May 31 - June 21  
Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 8:45pm  
Friday 9:00am - 4:45pm

June 22 - August 5  
Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 8:45pm

July 8  
Friday 9:00am - 4:45pm

August 6 - 18  
Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 8:45pm  
Friday 9:00am - 4:45pm

August 19 - 24  
Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:45pm

CLOSED  
Weekends May 31 - September 4  
Fridays June 22 - August 5  
Independence Day July 4 (Monday)

<http://www.lehman.edu/library/library-hours.php>

Library Hours are subject to change.  
Call for current schedule, 718-960-7766.