

Report to the Baruch College General Faculty
Submitted by Arthur Downing
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Spring 2019

William and Anita Newman Library

Atrium Ceiling Repair (Update) – The work is on schedule to be completed by the end of the spring 2019 semester. All library services have continued without interruption while the scaffolding has been up. The work is being done overnight; therefore, there has been no noise disturbance.

New Website – After months of research, design, and testing the Library has launched its new web site.

New Digital Resources – Since the last General Faculty Meeting the Library added the following:

- Safari (40,000 e-books in Information Technology, including O'Reilly titles)
- Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Communication
- IOPscience (journals and e-books from IOP Publishing - Institute of Physics)

Student Theses Read Worldwide – Undergraduate Student Theses represent one category of documents in Academic Works, the Library's open repository for providing access to the research, scholarship and creative works of faculty, students, and staff. In 2018 there were 85 Baruch student theses in Academic Works that logged a total of 8,343 downloads by users in 130 countries. The most frequently downloaded item (1,107 times) was "African vibrations: The percussive approach in hip-hop music" by Sherese Francis (B.A. with honors in Music and Journalism, 2012).

Faculty Workshop – The Library is hosting a workshop designed to help faculty boost their scholarly profile online and extend the reach of their scholarly work. In this workshop led by Megan Wacha, CUNY's Scholarly Communications Librarian, faculty will learn how to make their work more visible in search engines by adding it to Academic Works and how to build an online profile in platforms like Google Scholar. By the end of the workshop, faculty will know how to make their scholarship easier to find and their profiles more visible to peers and publishers around the world. The workshop will be held on March 19, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. in Newman Library, room 320a. A light lunch will be provided. Please RSVP at https://baruch.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eflvhkKbDtqrsEZ

Self-Service Textbook Loan Kiosk – The Library is planning to install a kiosk that uses robotics to transact book loans and returns on a self-service basis. The unit, which holds up to 500 books, will be installed on the first floor of the Library and Information Technology Building. It will provide students with access to a collection of course textbooks even when the Library's loan desk is closed, including during mid-term and final examination periods when the building is open 24 x 7.

Staff Vacancies – The Library continues to have 4 vacant full-time positions that remain unfunded due to budget reductions at the start of the fiscal year.

Baruch Computing and Technology Center

WiFi for Field Building (Update) – BCTC installed “temporary” WiFi service in all rooms designated as classrooms and teaching labs in time for the start of classes in January by using the old network infrastructure. Faculty are asked to not unplug any equipment from the electrical outlets, including podium equipment, because it will shut off WiFi service in the room. The College continues to work on the procurement of services to install a new WiFi network in the building.

Training Center – BCTC has equipped a training lab next to the help desk in the Kaplan Center. It will be used exclusively for IT training for students, faculty, and staff. We are currently testing the lab with various types of training events. A full schedule of training opportunities will be developed for delivery in fall 2019. We are very interested in receiving recommendations from faculty regarding the training sessions we should provide.

Dropbox – The University will soon be able to announce an enterprise agreement with Dropbox that will provide an account to every student, faculty, and staff member. Faculty are likely to receive unlimited storage. CUNY CIS is working with Dropbox on the technical details of the implementation, which poses challenges due to the enormous scale.

Office Printers – BCTC continues to work with Administration & Finance to migrate our Konica-Minolta devices to the Xerox print services platform, which offers reduced costs and equivalent functionality for the College. BCTC staff will be reaching out to owners of Konica-Minolta equipment to plan for the transition to Xerox devices. BCTC is also standardizing on the Xerox devices to replace Dell and other networked laser printers for printing where possible. The College will continue to reduce the number of desktop printers and standalone fax machines.

Staff Vacancies – BCTC had to deactivate four open staff positions as a result of the budget reductions in July. These vacancies are affecting the delivery of services.

Office of Institutional Research

In addition to responding to data requests the following projects are in process/recently completed:

- Design and data-checking phases of a new Fact Book and Fact Sheet (completed)
- Setup of a more efficient process to retrieve data from CUNY Central’s IR Office (in process)
- Setup of the Shiny server to develop tables for the Fact Book (in process with BCTC)
- Updating of publishing house Common Data Set (CDS) surveys (completed)
- Generating data for Enrollment Management Key Performance Indicators (in process)
- Submission of MSCHE Annual Institutional Update (AIU) (completed)
- Participation by IR staff on MSCHE Self-study committees (in process)