

Report to the Baruch College General Faculty
Submitted by Arthur Downing
Vice President for Information Services and Dean of the Library
Spring 2021

William and Anita Newman Library

Remote Access – The Newman Library continues to offer its services remotely while no on-site users are permitted during the spring 2021 semester.

Faculty Departures – Rita Ormsby will complete Travia leave on March 15 and Sandra Roff will complete her leave on April 12. Frank Donnelly's last day of employment was January 31.

Faculty Recruitment – The Library has received approval from the Vacancy Review Board to recruit for 3 faculty vacancies resulting from the departures of Professors Donnelly, Ormsby, and Roff. The positions will be: Geospatial Data Librarian, Public and International Affairs Librarian, and Business Librarian. The Library also received approval for a substitute appointment for a Lecturer position (Reference and Instruction) that had been at the interview stage last March when the hiring pause went into effect.

Staff Vacancies – Two full-time staff positions that were at the hiring stage in March 2020 remain vacant and approval is being sought to complete the hiring process. One is Resource Sharing Specialist, which manages interlibrary loan service. The vacancy has not been critical over the past year as interlibrary loan services across the country were suspended, but it is essential to have this position filled for the next academic year. The Library is also without a manager of its digital and print journal collections.

New Digital Resources –

- History of Economic Thought (Routledge) covers the period 1790-1914. It contains materials from primary source collections, such as the Pickering & Chatto collection, 2,000 chapters from Taylor & Francis books, as well as journal articles and essays.
- Black Freedom Struggle in the United States (Gale) is a collection of 1,600 primary source documents spanning 1790-2000.
- Academic Video Online (Alexander Street) is a video subscription service with over 70,000 titles across a wide range of academic disciplines.

SFSC Workshops – The Library continues its partnership with the Subotnick Financial Services Center to offer workshops to students remotely. The details are provided on the Library's home page.

High-Density Shelving – The DASNY project to replace the stationary shelving on the 4th floor with mobile high-density shelving will resume soon. The project had just begun in March 2020 when it had to be suspended.

Credit Courses – Library faculty are teaching 5 class sections online in spring 2021, including courses toward a Minor in Information Studies: Archives, Documents and Hidden History (3030), Information

and Society (3040-2 sections), Electronic Resources for Writers (3065), and Advanced Topics in Information (4900-capstone).

Baruch Computing and Technology Center

CUNYfirst Downtime - CUNYfirst will be unavailable from 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 24 to 12:00 noon on Sunday, March 28 while the system is migrated from the current hosting service provider's site to the CUNY data center on Hudson Street.

Multifactor Authentication – To increase security CUNY is moving toward multifactor authentication, which is the use of more than one set of credentials for authentication into our systems. As a starting point, the College will employ two-factor authentication with student MS365 email accounts in April. Many of the phishing and scam messages sent to our students are associated with compromised MS365 accounts. At other CUNY campuses where this step was taken the students adapted easily.

Zoom Security – CUNY has developed a Zoom Security protocol that will reduce the risk of Zoom bombing. The following are requirements from the protocol: “Don’t publicize Zoom classroom meetings on social media or public forums. Set a password for all meetings. Turn off file transfer. Keep the Zoom application updated to the most recent version. Don’t use a Personal Meeting ID (PMI) to host a classroom or large event meeting. Disable private chat.” Additional recommendations are listed in the protocol: <https://blogs.baruch.cuny.edu/bctc/2020/09/25/zoom-meeting-changes>.

Technology Training – CUNY offers live technology training every month. Spring 2021 sessions include MS Teams, OneDrive, MS Planner, OneNote, MS Stream, Sway and Forms. Details and registration information are provided on the CUNY training web site:

<https://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/cis/technology-services/technology-training>

Zoom Training for Staff – BCTC is providing group training in the use of Zoom for administrative staff upon request from Deans and Vice Presidents.

Office of Institutional Research

The following significant projects are in process/recently completed:

- Preparing report on NSSE 2020
- Analyzing Freshmen Year Seminar impact
- Update of Factsheet and Factbook for Fall 2020 in process
- Data for AACSB Business School in progress
- Preparing data for Graduate Student Survey (GSS) 2020
- Redesigning the Institutional Research web site completed
- Development of Graduate Student Enrollment Dashboard
- Developing dashboards in Tableau