Meditation & Prayer Room

The new Meditation & Prayer Room is located in the southeast corner of the Library & Learning Commons 1st floor. This project was a collaborative effort of Library faculty & staff, the Office of Student Life and Conduct, and students from many faith- and non-faith backgrounds.

The room can comfortably accommodate 6-8 people, but can hold a maximum of 15 people. The Meditation and Prayer Room is intended to be a quiet, welcoming, and inclusive environment respecting the beliefs, traditions, and cultures of everyone. The room is meant for individual calm meditation, reflection, and prayer.

General oversight of the room is provided by the Office of Student Life and Conduct with monitoring of the space by the Library & Learning Commons. The room cannot be reserved, and minimal seating is provided. The space can be used whenever the Library is open.

For more, see: https://tinyurl.com/libmedpray

Shhh! Quiet Study

The stereotype of a library being a shhh-filled sanctuary is a far cry from reality in most college libraries. Study groups, students asking questions, librarians teaching, phones ringing, the whirr and hum from computers and copier/printers – all add to the library’s working environment.

Yet, students often seek out quiet study space – away from family, friends, roommates, music, TV, and other distractions. The Library & Learning Commons now provides a designated Quiet Study room in the southeast corner of the 1st floor, next to the Meditation & Prayer Room. It’s bright, comfortable, accessible, and best of all, it’s quiet!
A Note from your Library Director

As I write this letter, I have just begun my fourth month working at GRCC. I am happy to say that I have thoroughly enjoyed my time so far, and I look forward to the many great things we will accomplish together in the coming years.

In the past 3 months, I am truly amazed with how much we’ve done for our students. We’ve extended Exam Cram to an entire week of activities, extended hours, and food. We worked together with the Center of Equity and Inclusion, Tutoring & Academic Support Services, and Media in hosting a building-wide Learning Center Open House where we not only offered wonderful food and snacks, but also featured GRCC’s student guitar ensemble. We worked with the Office of Student Life and Conduct in building the Meditation & Prayer Room as well as the Library’s first Quiet Study Room.

We’ve reached out to faculty in marketing our library services. We remind all faculty to be sure to bring over your extra copies of your current textbooks so we can put them onto Course Reserve for students to check out. Also, our librarians are here to help you identify Open Education Resources (OERs). They can also show you how to legally link library articles, e-books, and licensed streaming video into your Blackboard course pages. All of these options can save our students hundreds of dollars.

I’ve spent a considerable amount of effort analyzing our library usage and am impressed by our contributions to student learning and success. Since July 1, we’ve had more than 50,000 people enter our library and nearly 5,000 students attended our 208 Library Instruction sessions. We had more than 51,000 database logins retrieving nearly 150,000 electronic items (electronic journal articles and e-books). Students accessed our Subject Guides (faculty and course pages) more than 36,000 times. It’s amazing how much our library services and staff are utilized and we’re glad to be a part of student learning at GRCC. We’ve done so much, and we have much more in store for the coming year. So stay tuned!

I am grateful for all of the work the librarians and staff do on a daily basis. We work hard to offer services in Circulation, Interlibrary Loan, Reference & Instruction, Technical Processing, Acquisitions, and Archives. We provide access to 100 databases and millions of full-text journal articles. We maintain more than 55,000 print books & media, 147,000 e-books, and thousands of streaming video titles. Our librarians teach Information Literacy Instruction classes – both on- and off-campus, are embedded in online classes via Blackboard, serve as liaisons for academic departments, provide research help, and purchase books and materials for specific subject areas. These are just a few of the things we do while keeping the library open 75-hours each week.

I could go on-and-on about all of the great work the librarians and staff do here at GRCC. I say all of this to encourage you to come to the library and speak with us about how we can help you and your students. We love contributing to student learning and we thank you for making us such an important part of our students’ education and success.

Brian J. Beecher, M.L.S.
Director of the Library & Learning Commons

New Titles Lists

If you want to see what new titles the LLC has recently purchased or licensed, take a look at Featured Lists in RaiderSearch Catalog. Librarian / Cataloger Lori DeBie updates new print, e-book, and video titles monthly.
### Spring Break & Special Event Hours

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<th>Mar. 4</th>
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### Exam Cram Dates Set

Exam Cram is set for Monday, April 17th through Sunday, April 23rd. We will offer free snacks and beverages throughout the week and weekend prior to exams.

The Library will be open extended hours from 10 a.m. through 10 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, April 22-23. Academic Support & Tutoring Services will offer expanded tutoring services on the weekend, too.

"Fine Amnesty Week" is new and will be offered every day during Exam Cram week. Students can have library fines waived so long as they have no overdue items still checked out. Details will follow on the Library blog.

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Google & Beyond Workshops Offered

Librarians are again offering Google & Beyond. Students will learn tips for better Google search results when it may be better to use the LCC’s 24/7 databases. Faculty, please promote these workshops to your students – and consider offering extra credit. These workshops will take place in the LLC computer classroom 206 and no registration is required.

- Monday, Feb. 6; 1-2 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 7; 2:15-3:15 p.m.
- Wednesday, Feb. 8; 6-7 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 9; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

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"What do your study notes say?" at Exam Cram December 2016.

Consider offering faculty office hours in the LLC on a regular basis. Contact Nan Schichtel for details.

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A good "nosh" made study time easier for these students at Exam Cram December 2016.
New Faculty Reads!

We have new higher education e-books sure to appeal to many faculty colleagues. All titles are licensed for multiple-users simultaneously, so they’re especially appropriate for a departmental reading group. Click a cover below and start reading. Off-campus and Wi-Fi users will be prompted to logon with last name and 7-digit Raider number.

Clickers in the Classroom by David Goldstein

The Coach’s Guide for Women Professors by Rena Seltzer

College Completion for Latino/a Students by Melissa L. Freeman

For more new titles see this box on the Faculty Resources Subject Guide. Click here for a list of higher education periodicals available through the LLC.

New Career Books

Books and videos on careers are “hot topics” at GRCC’s Library & Learning Commons, and librarians always seek out new and improved editions to keep the career collection up-to-date.

Many career books are shelved by the Dewey Decimal (DD) call number for vocational guidance titles - 331.702. But that is not the only place you and your students will find books about careers. For instance, hotel management titles often include pages, or entire chapters, on hotel management as a career – and those are shelved with the other hotel management titles in the 647.94*** DD area. See this list of careers with their DD call number designation.

Subject Guides supporting an academic department have a [Careers & Education] tab where career titles in your field are highlighted. We also offer a more general Careers Subject Guide for those who have yet to make a career choice. Please refer your students to these resources.

Click the cover of the book to the right to see a list of new career / career choice titles, available on the Careers Subject Guide.

From GRCC’s Archive

GRCC recently participated in the 31st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration. Archivist Mike Klawitter shared this photo from the first Celebration Walk in 1986.
Learning Center Open House: A Good Time Was Had By All!

Media Technologies staff enjoyed speaking with all the Open House attendees who enjoyed their hot cocoa and cappuccino bar and hot fresh popcorn!

(Left) Hot chili and finger foods were a hit. A second food station in Academic Support & Tutoring Services offered yummy meatballs, fruit, and more finger foods.

(Below) Brian Morris and his guitar students provided entertainment.

The Woodrick Center for Equity & Inclusion hosted a holiday cookie decorating station!
Save the Date: OER Open Educational Resources

Plan to attend one of the OER presentations offered in the LLC on March 1st. GRCC’s Sophia Brewer and Jacqueline Arnold of Saylor Academy will explain what OER is, and how you can help your students save money by using OER textbooks. Sophia attended the 13th Annual Open Education Conference in Richmond, VA, in November 2016 and will share what she learned there, and as a member of the OER Initiative on campus.

Recommendations Due: March 15

Please direct all library resources purchase recommendations to your Library Liaison by March 15th so they can be ordered with this year’s funds. Some book fund lines are already spent for this academic year, so orders may be saved until the next academic year’s funds are received.

AV Circulation Period Changes

In libraries long-long-ago, audiovisual (AV) materials were checked out for short circulation periods – usually just a few days long – so “there was enough media to go around.” Those days are long gone and media is ubiquitous. So, to better serve students, faculty and staff, the LLC has lengthened the circulation period for all 2829 AV titles, including CDs, DVDs and VHS (yes, we still have some VHS!) to 3-weeks – the same as book check outs.

Audiovisual materials are included in RaiderSearch Catalog, like all LLC resources. Click here for instructions on how to limit your RaiderSearch results to see what AV we own. In addition to the AV collection on the shelves, take a look at the Multimedia & Image Resources Subject Guide.

Library Staff Personnel News

Sophia Brewer, Serials & Collection Development Librarian, was on the Open Educational Resources (OER) Discussion Panel during Faculty Learning day.

Mike Klawitter, Reference Librarian/Archivist and the 2016 Excellence in Education Faculty award recipient, has been selected to receive the League for Innovation’s John & Suanne Roueche Excellence Award. Mike also presented Faculty and Institutional Memory sessions during Faculty Learning Day.

Marcia Lee, Serials Specialist, is interning at GVSU’s Frey Learning Center until the end of April. Marcia is working with their Health Professions liaison librarian, observing information literacy classes, curating a LibGuide, and provides support on a research project.

Steven Putt, Systems & Web Librarian, earned a graduate certificate in Archival Administration from Wayne State University.

Nan Schichtel, Information Literacy & Outreach Librarian, presented Linking Library Resources into Blackboard sessions during Faculty Learning Day.