After a decade of planning, the Architecture Library, soon followed by the Visual Resources Library (see separate piece on page 5), moved out of its 25-year-old home in Shepard Hall, Room 408 on July 13. It re-opened on July 27 in its new quarters in Room 101 on the main floor of the renovated Y Building now housing the newly named Bernard and Ann Spitzer School of Architecture.

Located at 141 Convent Avenue on the South Campus at 135th Street, the school now occupies a gleaming white, five-story building re-designed by the renowned firm Raphael Viñoly Architects. The library occupies a prominent and much more accessible spot than in Shepard Hall where its fourth-floor location in an enormous building served by one small, not always reliable elevator called for extra effort by those in need of library services.

Described accurately as both charming and cramped with overflowing book shelves, the Shepard Architecture Library was long in need of an expansion. Subject to the vagaries of an older build-

ing, the library experienced urban wildlife visits, fluctuating temperatures, mold, and the more than occasional complaint from patrons about the long climb to our fourth-floor perch as they arrived with labored breathing after tackling the double-height staircases between all floors.

On the other hand, Shepard offered the beauty of another era, and, indeed, there were nostalgic glances back by staff members who moved out book collections, files, and computers over a four-day period.

With this move, floor space increased almost three-fold allowing the new library to offer a number of amenities including a lounge where patrons can relax in a comfortable setting while catching up on current architecture journals; a copier and computer room with a number of workstations as well as a scanner and public printer; a first-ever electronic classroom with 22 computers; and two spacious group study/seminar rooms on the mezzanine level. The various book collections also have more shelving space for future expansion. Access to the mezzanine level is available to all as a lift offers a smooth ride for those in need of such.

Northern light fills the long, double-height reading room which seats 32 at study tables. Well designed, light-maple tables and chairs coordinate with the architects' wood trim on stairs and mezzanine. Lounge seating welcomes those who want to peruse the new books on
Possibly the biggest library news of interest to undergraduates is the Textbook Initiative created by CUNY in response to new state and federal laws designed to reduce the amount students must spend on the textbooks they need for their classes.

This initiative, funded so far only for 2009-2010, provided the Library with $120,000 to spend on:

- Providing reserve copies of very expensive course textbooks. We interpreted this to be any book with a price tag of more than $100. For the Fall ’09 semester, that’s about 230 titles. We’ll also buy reserve copies for Spring ’10 courses meeting the same $100 threshold.
- Purchasing ebooks and ebook packages. We are currently considering single title purchases through MyiLibrary, Cambridge Histories Online, and others.

Comments, suggestions and feedback regarding the library’s services are always welcome and should be addressed to me by calling x7271, sending email to prgcc@sci.ccny.cuny.edu, or by dropping by NAC 5/333 (Cohen Library).

Support the CCNY Libraries every time you shop at Amazon.com!

Whenever you have the urge for some e-commerce, click on the Amazon.com button located in the lower corner of the libraries’ Web site:

www1.ccny.cuny.edu/library/
The Library Scene


Dean Emeritus and Mrs. Stanford Roman arriving September 24 for his well attended event (see p. 7) in the library’s Archives.

Outgoing President Gregory Williams holds a gift to the college, a framed display of seaweed specimens from the Shimoda delegation below. Kiyoshi Masuda proudly presents it.

Members of the annual delegation from Shimoda, Japan join Archivist Sydney Van Nort on July 15 for an Archives program celebrating Townsend Harris, the founder of City College and the first American diplomat to Japan. Pictured (l. to r.) are Shimoda City Nurse Ms. Kaori Ozawa, Deputy Consul General Akira Sugi- yama (rear), delegation head and Chairman of the Shimoda City Assembly Kiyoshi Masuda, Mr. Matsura, Mr. Fumiake Nagata, Ms. Kanako Ikemi, Prof. Van Nort, and Mrs. Kyoko Nagata.

Novelist and playwright Edgar Nkosi White (l.) interpreted the works of Langston Hughes in a performance art piece in the Archives in late April. He is pictured with Gordon Thompson, a professor in the English department.

Judy Connorton (l.) and Rita Gregory pitch in at the library’s semi-annual booksale on October 15.

Outgoing President Gregory Williams holds a gift to the college, a framed display of seaweed specimens from the Shimoda delegation below. Kiyoshi Masuda proudly presents it.
If you use the City College Music Library (Shepard Hall 160), you probably know the layout in the lower level stacks: books on the left, scores on the right or in the rear. You may also have noticed that we’ve been using two different systems of call numbers for this material. Books have Library of Congress numbers (usually starting with ML or MT), while scores have numbers from the Dickinson Classification (starting with a two-digit number, often followed by a decimal).

Times change, and the Music Library must move forward. Earlier this year I discontinued the use of Dickinson call numbers for newly-acquired materials and began assigning Library of Congress (LC) numbers instead. Eventually, every score in the Music Library will have an LC number. LC call numbers for scores begin with M.

The Dickinson Classification is solely for scores. It is named for its creator, George Sherman Dickinson, who taught music and served as music librarian at Vassar College from 1916 until 1953. It has the advantage of being adaptable, up to a point, to the needs of individual libraries. (City College has been using a version developed by Columbia University.) It also has a number of weaknesses, however:

• It is designed to support a collection that is smaller than ours has become. The goal in assigning call numbers is that every item should have its own unique number. Our collection is now large enough that this is difficult to achieve without creating very long numbers.
• George Dickinson devised his system at a time when libraries typically collected a much narrower range of music than they do today. For example, the classification scheme for vocal music is divided into four sections: “Folk songs” (organized mainly by geographic origin, with detailed attention given to the United States and Western Europe and very little to other parts of the world); “Secular Vocal Art Music”; “Sacred Vocal Art Music”; and “Dramatic Vocal Art Music.” (Oddly, the last of these includes a place for film music but none for musical theatre.) This leaves the cataloguer with no good place to put, for example, a collection of Rodgers and Hart songs. These songs clearly aren’t what Dickinson had in mind when he created his classifications for “vocal art music.” On the other hand, they aren’t folk songs in the commonly understood sense: while our knowledge of them may be shaped by oral/aural transmission, they nevertheless do exist in an “official” form created (and usually copyrighted) by the composer and lyricist, which is the form in which they are likely to first be published.

• Finally, as far as I have been able to determine, there are now only four libraries in addition to City College still using the Dickinson Classification: Columbia University, SUNY-Buffalo, Queens College-CUNY, and, of course, Vassar College. All of them, including Vassar, have introduced LC classification for scores to some degree, either for new acquisitions or in specific parts of their collections; Queens College began actively phasing out Dickinson numbers last year.

I wish that I could promise that this process will be painless, but in fact it is likely to cause some degree of inconvenience. We have created a separate shelving area for scores with LC call numbers (just ahead of you and slightly to your right as you get off the elevator). For some time to come, browsing in the stacks will require that you check in two different places to be sure of finding what you need. In addition, as items receive new call numbers, they will have to be removed from the stacks for a time so that they can be re-labeled. This process is likely to be fairly quick for single items and longer for multi-volume sets.

It will also be very important to read the holdings record for each title carefully when searching CUNY+ for scores —specifically, to look at the information about each score’s location: “Score (LC Call Number)” indicates (pictured below) that the score is in the new shelving area, while “Score” means that it still has a Dickinson number.

Our large collection of miniature scores also has its own shelving area, in the same bookcase as the one where we are housing the LC scores but on the...
Stanley Henry Kaplan, who died August 23 at the age of 90, overcame a personal setback through the application of humor and the desire to help other people by creating a unique American educational industry: test preparation classes. As he was finishing his studies at the City College, he applied to five medical schools and was rejected by all. Mr. Kaplan then decided to formalize his interest in tutoring other students by starting the Stanley H. Kaplan Co. in the basement of his parent’s Brooklyn home in 1938. (Pictured on the right.)

While he pursued his graduate education at the City College School of Education, thousands of people came to his preparation classes and learned such amusing catchphrases as “Boo: Boo: Boo: Square root of 2” for the Pythagorean theorem. By the 1960s the company had moved to another Brooklyn location. By 1980 hundreds of locations across the country had opened to prepare students for not only the SAT, but also the MCAT, LSAT, GMAT, and the GRE, providing opportunities for thousands of students to achieve their educational goals.

In 1984 Mr. Kaplan sold the company to the Washington Post allowing him more time to pursue other interests, including leadership of the Rita J. and Stanley H. Kaplan Family Foundation, established in 1995, supporting education, health, the arts, and Jewish causes. Mr. Kaplan remained active in the foundation until his recent death. In addition, he was a strong supporter of his alma mater, serving on the boards of The City College 21st Century Foundation, The City College Fund, and the CCNY Alumni Association.

He became a member of the President’s Circle, a group composed of CCNY’s most dedicated and generous alumni and friends, and also established the college’s Stanley H. Kaplan Institute for the Advancement of Mathematics Education in the Middle School.

Mr. Kaplan donated to The City College Archives his personal papers, including letters, memoranda, sample tests, and photographs which chronicle his unique educational odyssey. Stanley Kaplan will be greatly missed, but his legacy will continue through these organizations that received his steadfast support.

Sydney Van Nort svannort@ccny.cuny.edu

New Space for the Architecture Visual Resources Library

The Architecture Visual Resources Library is now conveniently located in Room 104 in the Bernard and Ann Spitzer School of Architecture. More efficient operation is one of the advantages of occupying the same floor as the classrooms, Architecture Library, administrative offices, and CAD Lab. Proximity to the classrooms especially is a relief to professors requiring our assistance in learning to use the sophisticated new equipment.

Located in the northeast corner of the building’s first floor, the library is framed with windows, some double-height, opening to soothing landscaping. While about half the size of our old space in Shepard Hall, the room is skillfully arranged to accommodate all our needs and to facilitate workflow. The sprawling slide cabinets are consolidated against the walls. All digital production equipment is compacted against one wall in a light-controlled area; production staffers no longer share a cavernous room with students photographing their models. We enjoy attractive and well-organized workstations and can easily monitor the entire space to provide better service. It has been an exciting experience to move into and discover our new library.

Ching Jung Chen cchen@ccny.cuny.edu

Visual Resource Library in Shepard

Stanley Kaplan, CCNY ‘39, (BS) and ‘41 (MSE)
The number of online journals available to the City College community has been growing by leaps and bounds. Less than two years ago faculty, staff and students were able to search, read and use about 31,000 full-text, unique journal titles through links on the CCNY Libraries website.

As of the Fall 2009 semester, our online access has expanded to over 57,000 journal titles!

Our newest full-text database is Education Research Complete, with over 2,000 journals dating back to 1936. This database is also an excellent source for education-related conference papers.

Some of our more familiar databases have also been upgraded, resulting in thousands of newly available titles. Academic Search Complete has replaced Academic Search Premier, Business Source Complete has replaced Business Source Premier and LISTA (Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts) with Full Text is the updated/enlarged version of Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts. There are new resources on the medical front as well, with Medline (EBSCOHost) being replaced by the expanded MEDLINE with Full Text.

There are links to all our databases on the CCNY Libraries database webpage at: http://134.74.20.33/resources/databases.jsp

You can also search for individual journal titles by using our online journal search option at: http://mh7cb7jt5p.search.serialssolutions.com/ (Journal title search screen pictured below; a sample eJournal, above.)

Need to do research on the weekend, or in the evening? Not to worry! The barcode on the back of your City College ID (the 14 digit number beginning with 2), is your open-sesame key to all our online resources from off campus.

Once that barcode number is entered into the library's computer system, your ID becomes your library card — and, that barcode allows you access to our databases from off campus. Just stop by the Circulation Desk in any of the City College Libraries to get your barcode number added to the system. It's already in if you’ve borrowed books during this current semester.

Grace-Ellen McCrann
gemscot@yahoo.com
other side. The CUNY+ record for a miniature score will now give its location as “Miniature Score.” It’s important to note this, because our miniature scores have Dickinson call numbers with an M at the front. This makes them look like they already have LC call numbers! For example, a miniature score of an opera has a call number that begins with M91. In LC classification, M91 would be a collection of original compositions for trombone.

The Music Library also has a small collection of pedagogical materials that have Dickinson call numbers with a T added to the beginning of the number. In LC classification these are considered books rather than scores, so eventually they will have call numbers beginning with MT.

Although this transition may cause some temporary problems, I believe that ultimately it will strengthen the City College Music Library and make the collection easier to use. Please don’t hesitate to contact me at rkoblick@ccny.cuny.edu or 212-650-7120 if you have any questions or concerns.

Rebecca Koblick

Goodbye to the Old...

Wireless connectivity is available throughout the library and should be inviting to those looking to do serious work on their laptops in a quiet setting. Twenty-plus carrels on the mezzanine also offer comfortable work space beyond that of the reading room tables. Students looking to study and brainstorm in groups can request access to the study rooms for more animated sessions.

The library staff now occupies a visible and efficient work area for easier monitoring of our new space. Even the reserve book area is more organized—we no longer have to find the “odd spot” on overloaded shelves to place items on reserve.

The Architecture Library is already seeing more users now that we are conveniently adjacent to the building’s main entrance. Our staff looks forward to welcoming all from the CUNY community as well as other visitors—both long-time and new users! Please stop by to see us...we think you’ll enjoy the experience.
The Friends of the City College Library

We are sincerely grateful to all those who have generously supported the City College Library this year. Private gifts play a crucial role, enabling the library collections to continue to grow. We wish to offer our donors special recognition for all they have done.

The gifts listed below represent the vital commitment of individuals to the library. Donors of both monetary gifts and collections are listed according to the total amount of their library donations.

$1,000+ (FOUNDER)
Bernard Bernbaum ’34
David Bushler ’56
Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning
DRAM
NYSERDA
Irven Rinard in memory of Jacquie Dean
Suzy Rudich in Memory of Norman Rudich
Eugene Sarver
Edward Silverman & Amy Dombro

$500-$999 (PATRON)
Gary Benenson
Diane Cole
CUNY Dominican Studies Institute
Louise Rice
Marion Rothenberg ’48

$250-$499 (FRIEND)
Harriet Alonso
Joyce Gelb

$150-$249 (SEQUICENTENNIAL SUPPORTER)
Gabriel Christian and Pond Casse Press
Judy Connorton
Robert Laureich
Christopher Mitchell
Martin E. Segal Theatre Center
CUNY Graduate Center
The Rifkind Center for the Humanities and the Arts
Stanley A. Waren ’38

$100-$149 (REGULAR MEMBER)
Michael Avramides
Martin Schulman ’63
Charles Stewart
Rosamond L. Wilen

$1-$99 (ASSOCIATE MEMBER)
Iyabo Alabi-Isama
Maxime Blanchard
Diana Boco
C. Ben Bosah
Edward R. Camp
Ana Maria Cobos
George Cortes
Barbara J. Dunlap
Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile, Jr.
U.S. Bank Foundation for the University of Cincinnati
Barbara Hanning
William F. Jaenike
Giftus John
Sharafadeen Kashimawo
Mica Lopez
Ann Matney
Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
Ras Mo
Marjorie Munsterberg
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Paramount Printers
Recital Publications
Thomas Roma
Esteban Sandoval
Ira Spaulding
Gary Thalheimer

This Donor Honor Roll lists gifts received by the library between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. Please notify Library Development at (212) 650-7271 of any errors or omissions.

Library Exhibits/Events 2009/2010

The Cold War: Two Superpowers & Their Spheres-of-Influence
November 2 - December 31, 2009
Cohen Library Atrium

MFA Student Proposals for Public Art in St. Nicholas Park
December 1 - 14, 2009
Cohen Library Gallery
Reception - December 1
4 - 6 PM

Latinos in the United States: ¡Presente!
February 1, 2010 - May 28, 2010
Cohen Library Atrium

Library Contact Information
Chief Librarian
Archives
Circulation
Reference
Architecture
Music
Science/Engineering
Slide Library/Architecture
Slide Library/Art
650-7271
650-7609
650-7155
650-7611-12
650-8768
650-7174
650-8246
650-8754
650-7175