Beginning in Fall 2012, Library and IT launched a new programming series for faculty. New Horizons, a lunch series, focuses on providing opportunities through peer-sharing and outside speakers, for faculty to look at the possibilities that technology and the library may bring to their teaching and research, both in the near-term and the distant future. With the launch of this series, we carefully considered what types of programming would appeal to faculty. We have also reconceived our marketing approach.

Survey data often suggests an interest in learning about new possibilities, but time is precious. Our new series offers 8-10 programs each semester over lunch with a clear focus on innovation and new possibilities rather than workshops or other more tool-oriented programming which we reserve largely for the summer and intersession. The attendance at New Horizons programs is regularly at or beyond capacity, a testament to our faculty’s willingness to participate when the quality is good.

For a program lasting little less than an hour, bringing off-campus speakers is also a challenge. Beyond the logistics, there can be substantial costs for travel. Our campus WebEx license has allowed us to bring, at little or no cost, speakers from across the country. This has allowed us to offer programs that feature both innovative practices of not only our own faculty, but also preeminent outside experts.

Twice this year, we have hosted experts who talked about the possibilities high speed networking can bring to a liberal arts campus. As Bucknell prepares for high speed access that will come during 2013 as part of the KINBER project, having speakers like Anne Doyle and Shelton Waggener, both from Internet2, join us, goes far beyond what we would be able to offer ourselves. We were also able to host an eTextbook authoring expert from Apple to challenge our thinking on the future of the textbook. As library and information technology professionals, we are often fortunate to hear great speakers like this at conferences, but to provide an opportunity for our faculty to interact directly is invaluable.

A nice balance of local programming is also essential. This year, we have offered a Digital Scholarship showcase, a student panel on the use of technology in the classroom, and a series of brief faculty presentations under the heading of ‘Taking it to the Streets,’ which focused on assignments and scholarship projects meant to engage the public at large. We were also fortunate to have Provost Mick Smyer present his own perspective on the critical role of technology in a liberal arts context. Looking ahead to next fall, we are planning to host a specialist in new media, as well as an open access expert from Harvard.

We have learned that a compelling program series takes a lot of effort, but really pays off. We have articulated a bold vision that says we will drive innovation. As the theme for the spring program notes: innovate. Just ask me.

Who innovates? WE DO.
In the spring of 2009, a group from higher education and healthcare institutions in Pennsylvania got together in Harrisburg to envision a regional research and educational network. We came together for a common cause, even though we represented very different institutions: liberal arts, Ivy League, state schools, healthcare, and others. We sought funding from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to build a regional network, PennREN, and were awarded $99.6 million for the project in the spring of 2010. In spring of 2013, we completed the construction of 1681 miles of fiber optic throughout the state. Keystone Initiative for Network Based Education and Research (KINBER) was incorporated to build, manage and sustain the network. Bucknell is a charter member of KINBER.

KINBER is a not-for-profit corporation established to work with its members to create an environment that fosters collaborative research and promotes the innovative use of digital technologies among educational, healthcare, media and other community anchor institutions to improve the quality of life in underserved communities throughout the Commonwealth. Its mission is to provide broadband connectivity and outstanding services to its current and future members.1

KINBER’s goals are to:

1. Expand access to networks
2. Connect individuals, communities and organizations
3. Spur innovation in learning, health and public media
4. Deliver exceptional membership value
5. Demonstrate stewardship

What does this mean for Bucknell? First, it means that we are now more connected than ever, not only to other institutions in Pennsylvania, but to institutions across the world. The high speed network KINBER is establishing will allow us to collaborate with others in ways that we have not been able to previously. It will create opportunities for our faculty and students which were only previously possible at research institutions. With information technology services moving to the cloud, and large data sets becoming the norm in research, a high performance computing network is a necessity to undertake the kinds of academic research that modern scholars are performing. This will also enable us to seek grants which require high speed access for research.

A prime example of a collaboration that KINBER will enable is the Bucknell-Geisinger Research Initiative (BGRI). BGRI encourages collaborations between Bucknell University faculty and the scientists and clinicians of Geisinger Health System. Both institutions are members of KINBER. According to the BGRI website (www.bucknell.edu/BGRI), “as two institutional leaders in the region, a formal partnership in the advancement of healthcare delivery, education, and research has truly transformative potential at the local, regional and national levels. The combination of Bucknell’s nationally recognized educational programs and faculty with Geisinger’s field leading healthcare delivery programs and staff is a unique opportunity for the institutions to pursue a joint collaborative mission of improving patient care and advancing related research.”

This project will also be a tremendous enabler for The Plan for Bucknell in creating opportunities for strengthening the academic core, enhancing diversity and internationalization efforts, and building bridges with the local communities.

KINBER also benefits the communities in which member institutions are located. Local non-profits may join free of charge, and are eligible to purchase network services at extremely competitive rates. This will allow underserved communities to more fully realize their potential by tapping into this source of increased bandwidth.

For more information about KINBER, please visit www.kinber.org. If you’d like to discuss KINBER, or anything related to Library and IT, my door is always open!

1 KINBER Strategic Plan 2013-2017

Cheers, Param
“THE BUCKNELL MODEL”: LIBRARY AND IT MAPS THE WAY AT GIS CONFERENCE
by Matt Gardzina, Assistant Director for Instructional Technology

For two days this past November, faculty and staff from more than fifty American and Canadian colleges and universities came together for the inaugural GIS and Spatial Thinking in the Undergraduate Curriculum conference at Bucknell. Hosted by Library and IT, the conference’s goal was to share ideas, solve problems and provide opportunities to collaborate and network with colleagues who are engaged in similar efforts to integrate GIS and spatial thinking into undergraduate courses of study.

Representing a wide range of academic disciplines, attendees arrived at the conference in all stages of developing GIS and spatial thinking initiatives at their home institutions. Carrie Rampp, Bucknell’s Director of Library Services and Instructional Technology, noted that the conference provided a “rich forum where the free and open sharing of ideas and innovation was evident. It proved, beyond a doubt, that we have much to learn from one another, regardless of where we are in our own institutional implementations of GIS tools and techniques.”

The conference followed an unconventional format designed to foster both formal presentations and a whole host of opportunities to collaborate more informally. The conference kicked off with a social mixer that was an intriguing cross between a happy hour and a map gallery opening. The event encouraged social interactions and created a sense of excitement about the potential of the next two days.

The bulk of the conference took place in community sessions where all participants attended each session, with time divided equally between presentations by panel speakers and collaborative brainstorming sessions. The final part of the conference consisted of a small group of GIS specialists, instructional technologists and faculty, who were planning projects and future initiatives for undergraduate spatial thinking.

Bucknell GIS Specialist and conference organizer, Janine Glathar, summarized the University’s approach to this emerging field of study during her presentation with Associate Professor of Geography, Duane Griffin: “early, often, in just the right amount, and with just the right tool.” Reactions were overwhelmingly positive and many attendees, through their Twitter posts, even began to “brand” Janine’s approach to comprehensive GIS support across disciplines as the “Bucknell Model.” To date, Bucknell Library and IT has worked to integrate GIS or other spatial tools in nearly forty individual courses and over thirty research projects across the University’s many divisions and departments.

Those unable to attend the conference can view video of the keynote speakers and conference session materials at the conference website: http://bucknellgisconference2012.blogs.bucknell.edu/

Anyone interested in learning more about how GIS or other spatial tools can be used to enhance teaching and research at Bucknell should feel free to contact Janine Glathar at jlg046@bucknell.edu

GIS & Spatial Thinking in the Undergraduate Curriculum

Farewell, Mike Weaver!

Library and IT bids farewell to Mike Weaver ’71, who is retiring in April. Mike has worked in many capacities in Library and IT since he joined the Bucknell staff (as a COBOL programmer) in 1981, including systems, technology support, and most recently in ITEC, where he is Senior Instructional Technologist. His amazing technical skills, affable nature, and incredible institutional memory will be sorely missed. Best wishes to Mike as he starts the next exciting chapter in his life!
DOCUMENT IMAGING: SAVING RESOURCES, TIME AND EFFORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY

by Mark Yerger, Director of Enterprise Systems and Jason Snyder, Librarian/Manager of Communications and Outreach

Paper files are outmoded, inefficient, and often needlessly duplicated in offices across campus. They require a lot of staff time to process, assemble and manipulate. They also require an incredible amount of storage space. With paper files, administrative offices must make additional copies to share information with other offices.

Increasingly information-dependent administrative offices at Bucknell have significant needs to enable online access to administrative information. The ideal environment is a common information architecture or framework for attributing, organizing, retrieving and securing this information. Bucknell’s Admissions office served as a pilot for a document imaging project, which fundamentally changed the way administrative offices here think about paper files. The system that Library and IT (L&IT) decided to pilot was NOLIJ, a process and content management software package.

L&IT worked hand-in-hand with admissions throughout the pilot. Admissions team members learned how to step back and have the courage to rethink how they could do business, while L&IT provided the connection between business processes and how the new NOLIJ software could be used, in connection with Banner, to revolutionize office processing. As an example, L&IT staff helped admissions think through how they were going to physically process the documents to be imaged. Admissions chose to outfit each workstation with a high quality scanner and LCD monitor, rather than designing a central scanning station for all staff to use.

While this was happening, there was also constant interaction by Enterprise Systems and Systems Integration team members as they, over several months, reconstructed and matured the NOLIJ system infrastructure, including performance tuning and storage and recovery processes. The Technology Support team was also on hand for hardware training and troubleshooting.

Beyond the environmental savings of going paperless, the implementation of document imaging also means that the staff time required to produce, deliver, enter, file, retrieve, and archive that paper is eliminated. In its place, admittedly, is the time to implement and manage an imaging system, and the time needed to deal with the information still received on paper. That time is still much less over the lifetime of document imaging than the thousands of person-hours it takes every year to process over 8,000 applications and materials for up to 25,000 prospective students. Further, once a student’s file is initiated in NOLIJ, it can be shared with other offices, such as Registrar, Deans, and others, thus eliminating the need to produce and store multiple copies of the same documents.

Since the successful Admissions pilot, additional offices, including Human Resources, Development and Alumni Relations, and others have adopted document imaging. One of the biggest benefits of the project is the relationships that have been forged between L&IT staff and people in the offices involved in the document imaging project. Lisa Veloz, Associate Director of Enterprise Systems Services, sums up this relationship best: “Administrative offices see Library and IT as a strategic partner in helping them undertake and think through the business process conversations that drive the use of document imaging. L&IT helps departments think through how this technology can enhance their operations.”

Questions about this project? Contact Lisa Veloz at lveloz@bucknell.edu

The outcome of the project was huge financial and resource savings for the University as well as significant contributions to the Bucknell greening effort. In the first year of conversion to a paperless system, Admissions saved 150,000 sheets of letter-sized paper from being printed, filed, and stored. Application file storage needs have been reduced from 234 linear feet to 72. Annual file archiving has dropped from 100 “bankers boxes” to 20 per year, and eventually the Admissions archive in the Marts Hall attic will go from 300 boxes to zero.

“Annual file archiving has dropped from 100 “bankers boxes” to 20 per year”
PLAY BALL WITH SPECIAL COLLECTIONS/UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

by Crystal Matjasic, Assistant Curator for Special Collections/University Archives

The spring Special Collections/University Archives exhibit, “Play Ball: Early Athletics at Bucknell University,” features documents and photographs from the university archives collection representing men’s and women’s early sports history at Bucknell University. The exhibit is available through May 3, 2013, on Lower Level I of the Bertrand Library.

Organized athletic activities have had a long history at Bucknell, but it took several decades from the founding of the University in 1846 for such activities to take root and develop into an intercollegiate program. Physical activity was encouraged, though, at early colleges, and prior to baseball, football and other recreational activities being established at Bucknell, students were encouraged to get their exercise through manual labor on the campus. In time, though, athletic games, which combined physical activity with amusement, gained strong student support and became the predominant form of exercise on Bucknell’s campus. Although baseball was the first organized athletic activity in the early 1860s, football, basketball and track and field quickly emerged, giving students opportunities to participate in a variety of sports throughout the academic year. Highlighted in the exhibit are the popular sports, players and playing fields at Bucknell from the 1860s to the early twentieth century.

MISFITS OR MAGICIANS?: A PROFESSOR AND A LIBRARIAN IN THE CLASSROOM

by Kathleen McQuiston, Assistant Director for Research Services

Each first year student in the College of Arts and Sciences takes a foundation seminar their first semester at Bucknell. The foundation seminar is intended to introduce students to the learning community at Bucknell and to help them develop the writing, reading, speaking, listening, and information literacy skills necessary for collegiate-level academic work. The students in Professor Virginia Zimmerman’s Misfits and Magicians foundation seminar, which explores the impact of children’s literature through analysis of a wide range of texts, had an advantage with the development of their information literacy skills.

Since information literacy is an integral part of the class, Virginia saw the advantage of having a librarian, Jason Snyder, embedded in the course. Not only did the pair collaborate to design and insert information literacy lessons throughout the semester but Jason attended all the classes, read the required novels and participated fully in the class discussions. Jason believes that having first-hand knowledge of the course content, materials and discussions was greatly beneficial when assisting the individual students with their research and when teaching tailored research skills sessions.

When asked about the experience, Virginia said that having a librarian embedded in the class was an extraordinarily positive experience and exceeded her expectations in every way. “Because Jason was in class with us every session, the students learned that information literacy is not something to hurry through and then set aside, but rather it is always important. They gained a deep and, I hope, lasting understanding of the many ways information literacy is integrated into their reading, analyzing and writing about literature.”

Sounds like magic.
WHERE DO ALL THE COMPUTERS GO?

by Bud Hiller, Manager of Technology Desk

We go through a lot of computers here in Library and Information Technology! We also get regular questions from people in the area, wondering what we do with all of our ‘old’ computers. Years ago, we used to have an on-campus sale for faculty and staff of these machines, but in recent years, we’ve used a local organization called Mission Central for distribution of our computers and monitors after they’ve completed their rounds of use, re-use, and extended re-use.

Mission Central is an outreach ministry of the Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church. After we remove all Bucknell licensed software from the computers, and after we’ve determined that there is no more use for them anywhere on campus, we contact Mission Central. They pick up our equipment and combine it with other donations before shipping everything to overseas mission projects.

We recently saw some of our donated technology in an update from Mission Central. Here is a description of the project from the organization:

The most recent shipment [of 110 computers] went to the Konde Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, for the Mbeya Lutheran Teacher’s College. The Tanzanian Church and government are joining together to move the academic work from what we once called a normal school, preparing people to teach primary grades, to university status with accredited faculty and necessary facilities to support world-class study and preparation. This new school is Southern Highlands University College, Uyole, Tanzania.

A Busy Summer For Tech Support!

If you see a harried member of Tech Support this summer, please say “Hi!” as they rush by you, arms weighed down with machinery. This summer, Library & IT will move hundreds of computers across campus as departments withdraw from Coleman, parts of Olin, Carnegie, the Botany building, and parts of Vaughan Literature Building. In some cases, faculty and staff will move into temporary quarters in Trax Hall. Most of the desktop computers, monitors and peripherals will go into temporary storage before we move them to their permanent homes in the newly constructed Academic West Building in July, or into refurbished offices in Coleman, Olin and Vaughan Lit in August.

These moves are all in addition to our normal computer replacement schedule, which will involve removing and installing over two hundred machines in fourteen academic and administrative departments this summer.
NEW LIBRARY AND IT STAFF
by Carrie Pirmann, Social Sciences Librarian

TRACY HOWER, Administrative Assistant to the Vice President for Library and Information Technology
Tracy came to Bucknell in January as the new Administrative Assistant to the Vice President for Library and Information Technology. Prior to joining Library and IT, Tracy worked for eleven years as a Research Coordinator at the Central Pennsylvania Workforce Development Corporation. She previously worked at Lycoming College in the Development Office and at IBM providing administrative support. A graduate of McCann School of Business and Technology with a degree in Business Administration/Computer Science, she is a native central Pennsylvanian and grew up in Watsontown. Tracy says she is most looking forward to getting to know everyone in Library and IT, and to the challenges that come from working in an environment where “no two days are the same.” In her spare time, Tracy enjoys camping trips with her husband and two sons, Kevin ’13 and Luke, reading, scrapbooking, and making cards and other paper crafts.

DOUG LEBLANC, Business Intelligence Analyst
Doug rejoined the Bucknell family in January as a Business Intelligence Analyst working on the Bucknell University Intelligence project; he previously worked for six years in Development and Alumni Relations as a report developer. In the interim, he served as Senior Director of Alumni Information Services at Mt. Holyoke College. Doug hails from western Massachusetts, and received his bachelor’s degree in computer science from Westfield State University. Of working at Bucknell, he says he “enjoys the environment, culture, people, and fact that the work has a sense of purpose to it.” In his position, Doug says he “finds it exciting to be part of an initiative that will be creating new ways of sharing information that didn’t exist before.” In his spare time, he enjoys listening to all types of music with classical and jazz being favorites, plays the trumpet, dabbles on the piano and guitar, and takes part in outdoor activities.

MYRIAM BIKAH, Business Intelligence Analyst-Functional Architect
Myriam joined the Library and IT team in March as a Business Intelligence Analyst-Functional Architect. Born and raised in Libreville, Gabon, she previously worked in Washington, DC as a Research and Data Associate at the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). She holds a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Myriam says what attracted her to Bucknell “is the ability to positively influence the way that institutional data are analyzed” and that she looks forward “to providing analytical support to address the wide variety of current unanswered questions.” In her spare time, Myriam enjoys running, rock climbing and homemade foods. She also enjoys crocheting, which she finds relaxing and satisfying.
A DAN FOR ALL SEASONS
by Brody Selleck, Instructional Design Librarian

The staff of the Bertrand Library has known for quite some time that Scholarly Communications Officer and Information Access Manager, Dan Heuer, is a man who wears many hats (usually big floppy ones). Conversations often end with: “we should ask Dan what he thinks about this.” These days, library staff members are not the only ones asking Dan what he thinks about things. R.E.P. Industries, a manufacturer of interlibrary loan products, has enlisted Dan as a developer and a consultant on a number of their new products.

Looking for a better solution to the paper and tape book straps used by libraries to identify interlibrary loan books, Dan approached R.E.P. to see what they could offer. Working together, they came up with a reusable velcro book strap that is now being used by a number of interlibrary loan departments. Knowing that Dan possessed an interest in library-related inventions, R.E.P. has since sought him out as a consultant for a cart caddy and to help develop a reusable mailer bag. The cart caddy (typically used by library staff for stacks maintenance) hooks onto a book cart and provides multiple storage pockets for a smart phone/mp3 player, clipboards, tablets, other necessary tools and even leaves space for a cup holder! The mailer bags are designed to cut down on shipping time, money, and waste for library consortia by eliminating the need to use disposable mailer bags for interlibrary loan materials. Now Dan and R.E.P. just need to figure out a way to clone and market Dans so that every library can have one of their own!

Visit [www.buchanindustries.com/ill-products.php](http://www.buchanindustries.com/ill-products.php) to see the products Dan has helped create.