

THE CORNER SHELF



NOVEMBER 2, 2009

News and Alerts

Congratulations to Lindsay Holman! Our part-time Circulation Assistant now has a full-time position as a Receptionist at Student and Enrolment Services. Now you can say Hi! to her there, and in the library evenings and weekends.

Congratulations to Debbie Quast! Her set of jungle animal teapot & mugs received the most votes in the Mad Hatter's Day contest. She received a gift basket and gift certificate to Steeps tea shop. Thanks to everyone who voted!

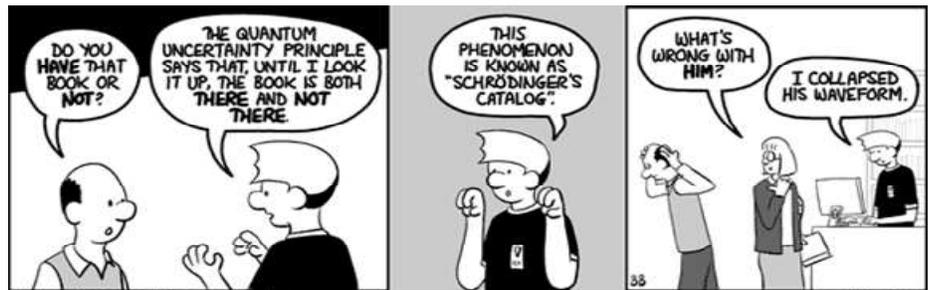
Come to the Library Gallery on Monday, Nov. 30th from 4:30-5:30pm for a poetry reading. Students from Writing 392, Lisa Martin DeMoor's Creative Writing class, will present their work. Snacks will be provided.

Remembrance Day is Wednesday, November 11th. The library will be closed that day.



What's Inside

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SCIENCE IS EVERYWHERE

Which vegetables will help prevent cancer? How can we produce clean energy? It can get so overwhelming! I am sometimes tempted to think that I can escape from science; that I can forget about words like H1N1 and global warming. But the truth is that science is everywhere.

In the morning my alarm goes off – because someone was so kind as to discover how to create and transmit electrical currents. I have a shower – because someone figured out how to deliver clean water to my home. I make a cup of coffee – allowing those wonderful caffeine molecules to percolate in my anatomy. Hooray for chemists! You get the idea.

Unfortunately, these benefits can be accompanied by trade-offs. That electrical current

typically requires natural resources to be extracted and transformed into energy. That shower produces waste water that has to go somewhere. That caffeine must be processed by my liver, which is probably a little over-worked given my level of coffee consumption. There is always another side of the coin to be considered.

My aim is not to say that electricity, water treatment, and coffee are all good or all bad. My goal is to point out that our choices have consequences and we need good information to make good choices. We need libraries in order to get at that information so it doesn't go to waste. Not everything is freely available on the Internet and current scholarly research can be tricky to locate.

Whether you are working on your latest paper or deciding whether or not to get a flu shot, the library

gives you access to the latest scientific information that can help you make important decisions. Take advantage of the knowledge available to you in the 21st century and, just for fun, grab something from the library's November display of science books. From music to mummies to mayhem, we have just the title for you to discover.

Submitted by Jenna Innes
Circulation and Information
Services Assistant



Professor Bunsen Honeydew and Beaker say that Science is fun! Check it out!

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SCIENCE MONTH AT THE LIBRARY

"Novels, poetry, stories – bah humbug!" I suspect that's what Scrooge would say if he opened a gift-wrapped box of books on Christmas morning. Scrooge was the kind of guy with little interest in fun or fantasy. If he was going to spend his time reading then it was going to be about something related to the real world, something more scientific.

Even if you are the type to enjoy a leisurely literary stroll through a long novel, don't forget to add

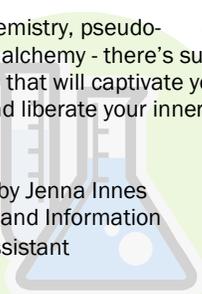
some scientific spice to your reading diet with the Concordia Library's November book display.

Look into lead poisoning in **Slow death by rubber duck: how the toxic chemistry of everyday life affects our health** by Rick Smith. Have a good laugh at the misguided beliefs in **Yes we have no neutrons: an eye opening tour through bad science** by A.K. Dewdney. Or, if you haven't had enough of the macabre after Halloween wraps up, try Michael

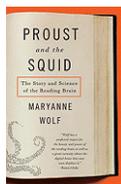
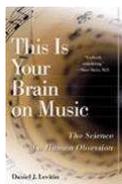
Kerrigan's **The history of death: burial customs and funeral rites, from the ancient world to modern times.**

Biology, chemistry, pseudo-science, or alchemy - there's sure to be a title that will captivate your curiosity and liberate your inner scientist.

Submitted by Jenna Innes
Circulation and Information
Services Assistant



STAFF PICK



I'm not a scientist by any stretch, but I am fascinated with the physical brain and how it works. Amazingly it appears that our brains are not hardwired at a young age, which was the prevailing theory for many years. Our brain has 'plasticity' and is capable of rewiring damaged circuits.

This is Your Brain on Music: the Science of a Human Obsession by Daniel Levitin (**ML 3830 L38 2007**) explores many aspects of music and the brain. What is music? What makes a musician? Why do we like the music we like? How do emotions and our reptilian brain relate to music? Fascinating!

Musicophilia by Dr. Oliver Sacks (**ML 3830 S122 2007**) explores music through case studies of patients from his practice. Musical hallucinations, autism, synesthesia, Tourette's and aphasia are just a few of the neurological conditions covered in this book. Ever had an earworm - that snippet of music that goes around and around in your head? Chapter 5 explores this phenomena.

Proust and the Squid: the Story and Science of the Reading Brain by Maryanne Wolf (**QP 408 W64 2008**) celebrates the miracle of reading. Learning to read is not automatic, like learning to walk and talk. We taught our brain to read only a few thousand years ago and our brains have been evolving ever since. After reading this book you will never again take your ability to read for granted!

Submitted by Jan Mutch
Reserves Technician

Weekly New Books List: <http://catalogue.library.ualberta.ca/newbooks/library/index.cfm?Libraryfilter=21>

Subscribe to New Books RSS feed: http://www.library.ualberta.ca/rss/newbooks/library/library_Concordia_University_College.xml

Concordia Library on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/group.php?gid=13518893391>

COOL WEB STUFF

☞ Have you heard about **Mendeley**? It's a research management tool for desktop and web. Explore research trends and connect to others in your discipline. It's used at, and endorsed by, some of the world's leading research institutions - Yale and Harvard, for example. Start by importing your own research papers. Mendeley creates a database with keywords, cross-references and tags that you can access from any computer. Annotate PDFs, generate bibliographies and gather papers from anywhere, including many databases available at Concordia (JSTOR, PLoS, EBSCO, etc.). Build a network of other researchers in your field by connecting with current users or inviting your colleagues and friends. Collaborate, share and discover using the Shared Collections tool. Finally, explore research trends and statistics in your field. Interested? Get it here www.mendeley.com.

☞ Dive into the deep web with **DeepDyve**. Access in-depth, expert content not indexed by traditional, consumer-based search engines. Sources include publishers, scholarly societies, universities and government agencies. DeepDyve monitors over 30,000 thousand trade, industry, and specialist sources to create specialized collections of current news and information in life sciences, clean energy, and technology. They're focusing on medical and life sciences with plans to expand into other subject areas. The great thing about DeepDyve is the ability to search with a block of text up to 5000 characters. Want to go diving? Get it here www.deepdyve.com.

☞ Another great resource for your science study and research is **Wolfram Alpha**. As mentioned in the September issue, it's a "computational knowledge engine." Use it for questions relating to computation, mathematics, or knowledge that is readily quantitative. It has an iPhone app too. Check it out here www.wolframalpha.com.

☞ You can't study/research all the time so try these games for some science fun! In **Compulse** use 4 directional tiles to guide a small ball into a rotating ball <http://armorgames.com/play/1150/compulse>. Other games at **Armor Games** are **Growbox**, **Redstar Fall** or **Gravitee 2**. Make your own **Fantastic Contraption** <http://fantasticcontraption.com/>. Visit www.physicsgames.org or www.physicsgames.net for other fun physics games.

Feedback or suggestions are *mutch* [sic] appreciated. Contact me at 479-9335 or jan.mutch@concordia.ab.ca.

FEATURED E-RESOURCE



BioOne is our featured e-resource for this month. It provides a unique selection of high-impact bioscience research journals featuring content on a variety of topics, including global warming, stem cell research, ecological and biodiversity conservation.

When searching, you can easily link to the full-text of an article, view a list of an article's references, and export records to RefWorks. Each search result has "Discovery Links" that provide access to NASA images, definitions, and other relevant information.

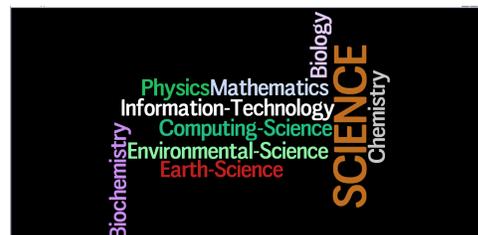
Don't forget to sign up for a "My Research" account where you can set up RSS alerts for

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday	7:45 am - 9 pm
Friday	7:45 am - 5 pm
Saturday	10 am - 5 pm
Sunday	12 Noon - 7 pm

Closed Statutory Holidays

Check the website for details



Graphic created at Wordle www.wordle.net



favorite searches and new issues of journals, as well as customize the database interface options.

Check out **BioOne** today under **E-Resources** at the library website!
<http://library.concordia.ab.ca>

Submitted by Erica Hebert
Information Services Librarian