

# THE CORNER SHELF



OCTOBER 2010

## News and Alerts

The library will be closed for Thanksgiving Weekend, October 9th - 11th.

Thanksgiving and Halloween are the big holidays in October. Here's a few more days to celebrate.



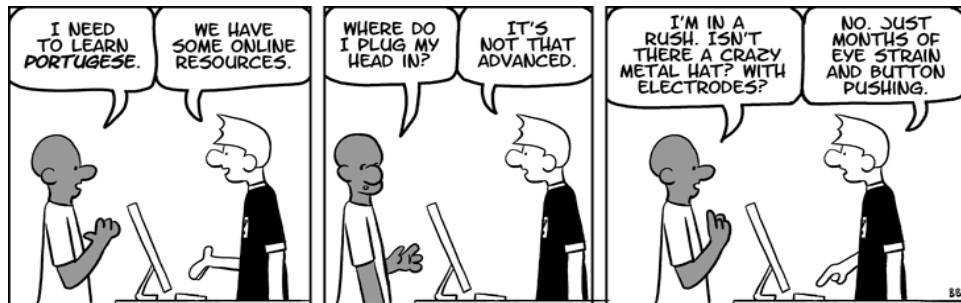
- \*World Smile Day, Oct 7th
- \*Dictionary Day, Oct 16th
- \*United Nations Day, Oct 24th

Several book displays are just waiting to tempt you. **Banned Books Week is Sept 25 - Oct 2** - this display can be found just past the Holds Shelf. Did you know there are a lot of books about books? If that interests you check out the display shelf close to the 3 leather chairs. We've also got great new books waiting for you to check them out!

Our glass display case close to the Library Gallery has a collection of souvenirs from around the world, on loan from Concordia faculty & staff. How many places have you been?

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## CANADIAN LIBRARY MONTH

### Canadian Library Month: Your Library, Your World *Opening Doors to the Future*

The pursuit of information has become increasingly electronic, putting the world at our fingertips, so to speak. We have libraries to thank for delivering a lot of that content and that is something to celebrate.

**Canadian Library Month** is a reminder to appreciate and support libraries for what they provide. The Concordia library **Opens Doors to the Future** by purchasing access to a wide range of electronic resources, databases filled with scholarly articles, thousands of e-books, even citation software like *RefWorks* to keep track of it all.

Electronic access has amazing advantages but it also brings with it a set of challenges. I don't always need to visit the library building to get the information required to complete an assignment. I could do research

from home, from wherever I happen to be on campus, or from anywhere with an Internet connection. This means that if I need some help or a few tips on the next step in my research, there is rarely a trained information professional just a few feet away and ready for consultation. So much for that "open door," I'm stuck at the side of the road on the information highway and going nowhere fast. What do I do now?

1. **Self-Help Tools:** Go to the Concordia Library homepage and try the links on the left side of the screen, under the headings *How Do I Find...*, *Library Tools*, and *Mobile Library* to get quick directions on the task at hand. Choosing the *Start my Research* link will give you a crash course and get you moving forward.
2. **Instant Messaging:** From the library homepage, click on the *Ask Us!* button and start typing in the chat window to

communicate directly with a Librarian.

3. **Email:** From the *Ask Us!* screen, choose the link to staff email addresses and send us a message with your question. If you aren't sure which person to send your query to, choose the Information Desk or Circulation Desk and we will respond ASAP.
4. **Telephone:** Add the library's phone number to your cell phone contacts and give us a ring when you need a hand. (780-479-9338)
5. **Roving Librarian:** A member of our Information Services team roves around the campus, delivering assistance direct to you.

Whether in the real world or the virtual realm, Librarians are your partners in **Opening Doors to the Future**.

Submitted by Jenna Innes  
Information Services and  
Circulation Services Assistant

## ...FROM THE CIRCULATION DESK

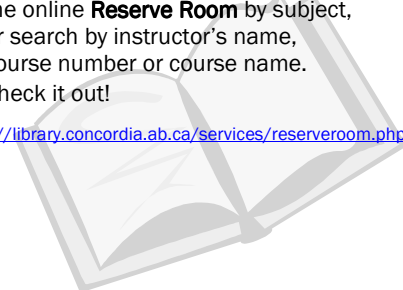
Great news! Now you can top up **Copy Card** or **Declining Balance** amounts on your student ID in the library. You can set up accounts for Copy Card and Declining Balance at the Bookstore in the Hole Academic Centre. You can also set up your Declining Balance account at the

Student Accounts office (S206). If the amount runs out during the evening or on the weekend you can come to the Circulation Desk to top up your account for copying or that snack in the Cafeteria.

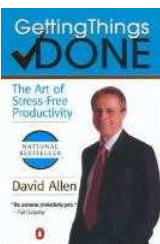
Did you know you don't need to come to the Circulation Desk and check the Reserves Binder to

find out what your professor put on Reserve for your course? Browse the online **Reserve Room** by subject, or search by instructor's name, course number or course name. Check it out!

<http://library.concordia.ab.ca/services/reserveroom.php>



## STAFF PICK



**Getting things done [electronic resource] : the art of stress-free productivity** by **David Allen**.

School, work, family, friends, home, transportation, groceries, repairs... the endless avalanche of tasks that is

constantly threatening to overwhelm us. How do we get it all done? That's the million dollar question and author Dave Allen has some suggestions on how to answer it.

A To Do list is often a general list of projects rather than a list of specific actions; for example: 1. Dad's Birthday 2. Write term paper 3. Renew Insurance. Allen encourages people to break these items down into the *next actual action required* to move the project forward. This new list looks a bit different: 1 Dad's Birthday gets

a few sub-sections a) Call mom to find out party details b) List ideas for his present c) Purchase present and card d) Make cake for party. Turning the general project into action steps makes it less overwhelming and gives a clear indication of what you actually need to DO.

This is only one strategy; the book contains many more practical instructions to help you be more productive. The author discusses how to deal with all the email we receive, the work that piles up in the in-box, and re-negotiating our commitments. We can't always control the big picture, but we can start by taking small steps that will add up and get the job done.

Read this great book online from the library website!

Submitted by Jenna Innes  
Information Services and Circulation  
Services Assistant

**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](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

☞ Want to use *Sam I Am* to broadcast your message like the image above? Get *Sam I Am*, other Seuss characters and many other sign generators at **RedKid** [www.redkid.net/generator/sign.php](http://www.redkid.net/generator/sign.php). Make your own *Wanted Poster* or *Motivational Poster* at **Tuxpi** [www.tuxpi.com](http://www.tuxpi.com). If you use an image like I've done, just make sure to attribute your source.

☞ Have you heard about **Groupon**? First sign up for email notifications of the day's super deal, which could be up to a 90% discount at local businesses (restaurants, spas, theatres, etc.). If the day's deal appeals to you, click the link and buy using your credit card (your credit card isn't charged unless enough people sign up for the deal). You receive a link to a voucher to print and redeem at the business. I've got a \$20 voucher (I paid \$8) to use at Wee Book Inn - who can resist a deal on books? Share your deal on *Facebook* or *Twitter*, or email it to a friend and earn *Groupon Bucks* to use for future deals. Check out **Groupon** here: [www.groupon.com/edmonton](http://www.groupon.com/edmonton). Another local player in this new way to save money is **Living Social** <http://livingsocial.com/deals>.

☞ Ever wonder if your password is secure? Use **How Secure is My Password** <http://howsecureismypassword.net> to find out. Type in a password and it will tell you how long it would take a desktop PC to crack it. Most of my usual passwords would take 3 days - sort of okay but still not very secure! If you need some help creating better passwords just click the link *Choosing a Secure Password* for some tips.

☞ Who knew that you can play games on **YouTube**? Check out **Trivial Pursuit** here: [www.youtube.com/trivialpursuit](http://www.youtube.com/trivialpursuit). Rounds are about a minute long with a twist at the end - you bet your winnings on how a character will answer. Good for a short break from routine. If you have more time to kill, try a room escape game. Simple - use your mouse to click around the room and try to escape - easier said than done! Try these if you dare! **The Doors** <http://alt.tnt.tv/games/thedoors>. **Guest House** [http://terminalhouse.com/guesthouse\\_en.html](http://terminalhouse.com/guesthouse_en.html). **Neutral's Room Escape Games** <http://neutralxe.net/esc/index.html>.

Any feedback or suggestions would be *mutch* [sic] appreciated. Contact me at 780-479-9335 or [jan.mutch@concordia.ab.ca](mailto:jan.mutch@concordia.ab.ca).

## FEATURED E-RESOURCES



Looking for free information on this fair country of ours? Some great examples of free online resources with maps, journals and census information about Canada and its peoples include the following:

The **Atlas of Canada** is an amazing online resource with many kinds of maps. You can find maps about everything from diamond exploration to the levels of education people

have attained across the country. <http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/site/english/index.html>

The **Census of Canada** is another place to find information about Canada. Locate data from the 2006 Census or find information on the upcoming (and controversial) 2011 Census. <http://www12.statcan.ca/census-recensement/index-eng.cfm>

**PubMed Central Canada** provides free access to a digital archive of full-text, peer-reviewed

## 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\*\***



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health and life sciences research journals. It builds on PubMed Central, the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) free digital archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature. <http://pubmedcentralcanada.ca/>

Submitted by Erica Hebert  
Information Services Librarian