The Center for Teaching & Learning: July 1, 2014 - December 2015

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THE CENTER for TEACHING & LEARNING
and
SCOTT MEMORIAL LIBRARY

July 1, 2014 - December 2015

Designing learning spaces
Creating teaching interfaces
Building research showcases
February 2016

Jefferson’s Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) grew from an initiative to foster creativity, collaboration, and communication on campus and was launched in the summer of 2014.

Built on the collective expertise and complementary services offered by the former Academic & Instructional Support & Resources (AISR)—which included Scott Memorial Library, AISR Education Services, Medical Media Services, and the Learning Resources Centers—the new organizational structure is designed to offer Jeffersonians centralized access to essential tools for meeting the needs of the 21st century learning environment as well as support for scholarship.

With a wide range of services to foster teaching excellence and effective student learning, we also promote evidence-based teaching, models of best practice, and cutting-edge instructional technologies. Web content related to instructional design, educational technologies, and media services was migrated to a new CTL website within the Thomas Jefferson University site. The Scott Memorial Library website will continue to be your gateway to our rich collection of library and knowledge resources.

Scott Library’s physical space continues to shift from a focus on paper-based collections to a focus on people—and we have never been busier. New group and individual study areas have enhanced our status as a campus hub of activity.

While we have made significant progress toward our goals in these first 18 months, the vision won’t be fully realized until we are able to bring all of the CTL’s staff and resources together in a redesigned Scott building featuring a single point of contact for all of the Center for Teaching and Learning services. Additions to this new area will be frequently-requested services. These include faculty design studios with access to educational software development tools and nearby help from our instructional design and support team. Video studios will accommodate the recording of micro-lectures for integration within iCE, assessment of faculty presentation skills, and coaching of students preparing to present for the first time.

The Scott building truly is the campus hub for everything innovative in education at Jefferson. We offer everything from the historical perspective on the way students learned and practiced health care in the 19th century to the latest innovations from our faculty and research staff in the 21st century. If you haven’t explored your library recently, please stop by sometime and see how we’ve grown from a collection of print resources to the key campus resource for collaborative education at Jefferson.

Anthony J. Frisby, PhD
Director, Center for Teaching and Learning & Scott Memorial Library
NEW CENTER SUPPORTS TEACHING AND LEARNING

Building on collective expertise to offer integrated services and promote collaboration

The Center for Teaching and Learning features expertise in academic research, instructional and digital technologies, and learning theory.

Anyone seeking help with academic research can consult with Scott Library’s expert librarians or request instruction on topics such as library skills, database searches, RefWorks, Browzine, and systematic reviews. Guidance on funding sources for research is available from SML’s grants information service. Faculty may request in-class instruction or use the Embedded Librarian service, which assigns a librarian to a course, giving students ready access to library resources and answers to their library-related questions through the course interface in Blackboard Learn.

Faculty can turn to the CTL for assistance learning and implementing technologies that enhance the classroom experience, including Blackboard Learn, Respondus, Adobe Connect, ExamSoft, NearPod, Articulate, Prezi, and the new, CTL-developed Interactive Curricula Experience—or iCE—Platform & App, which delivers content to students through an intuitively-designed iPad application.

The CTL also offers guidance on assignment development, course and instructional design, teaching philosophy development, peer review, and student learning assessment. To support communication practices, it offers constructive feedback, instruction on communicating with confidence, and assistance preparing presentations and writing for publication. Photography, video, medical illustration and graphics services are available to enhance publications and teaching materials. The Jefferson Digital Commons serves as a showcase for Jefferson publications, historical collections from the University archives, and teaching tools.

CTL EXPANDS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Workshops, clubs, and learning communities support scholarly activities

Faculty and staff can choose from an expanding selection of CTL workshops aimed to help them reach their academic goals. There are workshops on using active teaching strategies and promoting collaborative learning, as well as a new Faculty Reading Club that encourages conversations about teaching and learning. The club creates an informal, supportive space for connecting with other faculty members over the scholarship of teaching and learning. The small group size fosters an intimate, reflective environment. All meetings are moderated by Julie Phillips, PhD, Assistant Director of the CTL.

The Center for Teaching and Learning has partnered with the Institutional Faculty Development Committee to promote five learning communities: clinical quality and patient safety, ExamSoft, iPad in education, online learning, and team-based learning. The learning communities are open to any interested faculty, staff, or students, and each community sets its own agenda and meeting style. For instance, the online learning community group meets every other month and, much like a journal club, selects one or two papers for the group to read and discuss over lunch.

In addition, faculty and administrators now have access to the robust professional development resources from Magna Learning Commons. Magna Learning Commons is an online library of on-demand seminars in grading and feedback, syllabus development, student engagement, academic integrity, and online course design. Interested faculty and administrators can watch the seminars at home, at work, in a group, on a tablet, or even on a smartphone.

In Academic Year 2014/15:

Our staff led 173 sessions (workshops, classroom presentations or orientations) involving more than 2800 participants

Over 11,000 classroom AV requests were fulfilled
CTL SUPPORTS SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING

The Writing Center provides feedback on writing, editing services, and publishing guidance

In the spring of 2014, the CTL opened a Writing Center to support Jefferson authors, with a particular emphasis on helping faculty members and post-docs with their manuscripts. Since then, the Writing Center has provided assistance to more than 200 clients from across the university and played a supporting role in the publication of 50 manuscripts. When surveyed, clients said that working with the Writing Center helped them achieve their goals and they would recommend it to colleagues.

The Writing Center consultations occur in person or via email or telephone with Jen Wilson, the writer and editor who runs the Writing Center. Jen came to Jefferson after spending 12 years at Annals of Internal Medicine. She’s written about science and medicine for various other publications, including The Smart Set and The Scientist.

Services are individualized to meet clients at any stage of the writing process, from help getting started with a manuscript to putting the finishing touches on a final draft. The Writing Center also specializes in guiding writers through the publishing process, including selecting target journals, avoiding predatory publishers, and responding to reviewers.

In addition to individual consultations, Jen has presented workshops on key steps in the publishing process and on habits of successful writers. A weekly writing lab—called the Writing Café—provides faculty and staff a quiet location, away from the distractions of the office, where they can work on personal or professional writing projects. The group setting provides camaraderie and accountability, and the regular schedule enforces consistency that is key to successful writing and publishing. One regular attendee used the time to write a successful book proposal while another wrote a research article that has since been published.

Writing Center client distribution (representative sample April 14, 2014, to February 6, 2015). Note: This is based on the total number of clients, not the total number of visits (clients typically use the Writing Center more than once).

JEFFERSON DIGITAL COMMONS CELEBRATES TENTH YEAR

JDC makes Jefferson scholarship freely accessible worldwide

The Jefferson Digital Commons (JDC), a digital archive for articles published by Jefferson authors, Jefferson-sponsored journals, and historical materials from the University Archives and Special Collections, celebrated its 10-year anniversary and its 10,000th item in 2015. The rich resource provides a centralized home to a vast array of Jefferson scholarship and makes Jefferson-produced work available across the world. Since its launch, users from every continent except Antarctica have downloaded more than 2 million documents from the JDC.

The archive has seen steady growth since it launched in 2005, adding hundreds and sometimes thousands of new works per year. These include not only articles from peer-reviewed journals and faculty books, but also conference and symposium proceedings, departmental newsletters, posters, dissertations, materials from the historical collection, and oral histories. Teaching tools include a visual guide to human dissection and grand rounds presentations on a variety of topics.

“We would like to thank the Jefferson Digital Commons for making articles accessible to Local Public Health Agencies. … We commend you for providing this incredible resource.”

—JDC user feedback

“I’m constantly inspired by the number of Jeffersonians doing innovative research. My goal is to help them write clearly about their findings and publish their work in high quality journals so it can contribute to the knowledge base and make a difference.”

—Jen Wilson
Jefferson’s Interactive Curricula Experience—or iCE—Platform & App has emerged as an exciting web-based platform that allows for multidisciplinary collaboration on course development throughout the University. The technology promotes learner-centered education and provides opportunities for members of the faculty to integrate innovative approaches to education, such as flipped classrooms.

Faculty can use iCE to share course materials, such as lectures, presentations, interactive quizzes, videos and articles. The platform creates a central repository where they can create or download resources, edit them to fit the needs of their students, package them into a custom course, and then deliver these packaged resources to students.

Medical students who have used the app in their courses reported that it enhanced the learning experience.

Based on the positive feedback, Jefferson faculty are receiving training in iCE from the Center for Teaching and Learning and making plans to use iCE to facilitate student learning. Plans are also underway to roll out a branded version in the 2016 academic year in order to bring the interactive platform to other institutions.

To create iCE, Jefferson collaborated with Digital Wave, a user-focused web and mobile application development company. An August 2015 press release about iCE generated nationwide news coverage in academic and business media outlets.

**CASE STUDY:**

JEFFERSON’S COMMITTEE ON GLOBAL HEALTH INITIATIVES

When the University’s Global Health Initiatives Committee learned about iCE, they saw a solution to one of their biggest challenges: the effective delivery of information about global health to faculty and students across the University. “This is information our students need to be leaders in healthcare,” said Janice Bogen, Assistant Vice President of International Affairs at TJU.

Before iCE, the committee was planning to distribute presentations to faculty using a conventional slide deck series on working with medical interpreters, social determinants of health, and refugee health. With iCE, the Committee was able to bring together its widespread global health expertise in nursing, medicine, population health, pharmacy, physical therapy, and bioscience technologies. They uploaded interactive content directly to the iCE platform and now faculty can easily grab, edit, and deliver it directly to students.

“iCE meets students where they are, on their mobile devices. In addition to being a collaborative course creation tool and delivery platform, it supports the diversity of our students, putting them in control of their learning.”

—Tony Frisby

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iCE dashboard used by faculty to create and share content for course delivery
A PHYSICAL & VIRTUAL MAKEOVER FOR SCOTT LIBRARY

STACKS SHRINK AS ELECTRONIC COLLECTION GROWS

Thanks to an investment in the electronic collection, visitors to the library are finding fewer journals and books in print, but significantly increased access to journals and books online. The electronic journals collection provides Jeffersonians free access to thousands of journal titles—and their archives—while the electronic books collection makes a wide array of textbooks available for faculty and students.

The third floor of the library has been transformed from a journal warehouse to much-needed study spaces for students. Approximately 75% of the bound journals, now available electronically, were removed in 2015. The library kept the remaining 25% as part of an effort by U.S. academic medical libraries to retain a core collection in print for an extended period of time to protect against a catastrophe that could cause electronic medical resources to be lost.

Some of the journals were sent to neighboring state libraries with an interest in preserving their state medical journals from the early 20th century. Others were donated to local artisans who create unique artworks from reclaimed print materials. (See example below and Exhibits & Special Events page for more about the artwork they created.)

In addition, for the first time in 25 years, Scott Library has also undertaken a major evaluation and weeding of its circulating book collection on the 4th floor. Outdated, damaged, and unused books are being removed to create a high-value, relevant, and historically significant collection to meet the educational, research, and clinical needs of the Jefferson community.

RENOVATIONS INCREASE AND ENHANCE STUDY SPACES

Scott Library received a major upgrade during the summer of 2015 as it completed various renovation projects. Most notably, spaces for individual and group study have been significantly expanded and reimagined.

On the second floor, a variety of flexible new furniture options were added to support group study. These included new tables, counters, chairs, and partially-enclosed study “booths.” The library also replaced all of the chairs at the remaining tables and carrels and added additional wiring to support power and charging for laptops and mobile devices. Many of the new tables have built-in power supplies.

These upgraded study areas add much-needed group study space to Scott. The glassed-in collaboration rooms on the 2nd floor, added in 2013, are filled with student groups around the clock.

On the third floor, study spaces have replaced most of the bound journal stacks. The new study spaces feature furniture options for individual and quiet group study, including carrels, single and group pods. Finally, on the library’s first floor, the Scott Café was revamped with some comfortable new furniture.

Students have enthusiastically embraced the new furniture and upgraded spaces and Scott has never seen larger crowds engaged in collaborative activities or quiet study.

“We are thrilled that Jefferson students have wholeheartedly adopted the library’s new furniture and space enhancements for individual and group study.”

—Rod MacNeil

Renovated 2nd floor areas (above)

New 3rd floor study spaces (above & left)
REACHED OUT TO OUR USERS

REDESIGNED SML WEBSITE IMPROVES USER EXPERIENCE

Website users welcomed the reorganized and simplified Scott Memorial Library website, which became available in the summer of 2015.

The site (http://library.jefferson.edu) uses styles and visual elements found on the other Jefferson campus sites. Each page header contains dropdown menus to help navigate the site. The redesigned home page features our quick search tool and provides convenient links to popular resources, (including Access Medicine, PubMed, and UpToDate) as well as to key services. Users can order an article, reserve a study room, or add money to their photo ID card (used for printing and copying). Daily service hours are also front and center. A new “featured” area highlights new ebooks, library headlines, and current exhibitions, alerts, and resources of interest. Social media icons link users to the Library’s Facebook page and Twitter account.

The redesigned Find pages make it easier to locate the rich collection of physical and, increasingly, electronic resources offered by the Library.

The next phase of web development is a new University Archives site to highlight that amazing collection of resources.

ARCHIVES REVEALS COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The Jefferson Archives and Special Collections is filled with documents, photos, and artifacts related to medical education and history. Normally, the public can only see these in person and by appointment. However, through innovative social media outreach, the Archives has found new ways to share the collection with a wider audience.

Followers on Twitter and Instagram have recently gotten a peek inside some of the collection’s medical books. Viewers have been captivated by videos showing details from old-fashioned anatomical medical flapbooks, including Witkowski’s 1880 Movable Atlas showing structures from the brain (see, right) and Spratt’s 1850 Obstetric Tables, showing “Many Important Subjects in Midwifery.” Something similar to children’s pop-up books, the books pages contain layers of movable paper flaps that can be lifted to reveal something more underneath.

The Archives has also posted photographs of mysterious antique medical instruments and artifacts to Twitter. After encouraging followers to guess the instrument or artifact, they posted an explanation of its purpose and history.

In addition, the Archives and Special Collections has digitized yearbooks from past medical school classes. It has also collected and posted oral history interviews with some of the first women to attend Jefferson. The lively, compelling, candid interviews explore how each woman became interested in the sciences or medicine, their time at Jefferson Medical College, and where their careers took them after graduate school. (See some of the subjects pictured, right.)

All of the oral history interviews were conducted by Kelsey Duinkerken, Special Collections and Digitization Librarian, who has made both an audio file and a written transcript available in the Oral Histories section of the Jefferson Digital Commons.
EXHIBITS & SPECIAL EVENTS

As a meeting place for all members of the Jefferson community, Scott Library has sponsored numerous exhibitions and special events over the past 18 months. Our 2nd floor gallery space featured a rotating array of interesting exhibits, including the following.

**Harry Potter’s World: Renaissance Science, Magic, and Medicine**

This travelling exhibit from the National Library of Medicine incorporated the works of several 15th- and 16th-century thinkers in describing how the magic in the Harry Potter books had roots in Renaissance traditions. According to the NLM, these traditions, “played an important role in the development of Western science, including alchemy, astrology, and natural philosophy.”

The exhibition was supplemented with two feature presentations on related topics of magic and Harry Potter. George C. Brainard, Ph.D., from Jefferson’s Department of Neurology, presented “Light, Magic and Science”, and Nicole Salomone, also from Jefferson, presented a lecture on the history of medicine titled “How Magic Became Science.”

**From DNA to Beer: Harnessing Nature in Medicine and Industry**

Scott Library also hosted “From DNA to Beer: Harnessing Nature in Medicine and Industry” from The National Library of Medicine and the National Museum of American History. The exhibition explored the dynamic relationship between microbes, technology, and science and medicine, including the processes, problems, and potentials of technologies that create bacteria, yeasts, molds, and other life forms. In a related program, Jefferson hosted a presentation titled “Bacteria in Brewing” by Kristen Kahle, Ph.D., who earned her doctoral degree in Molecular Pharmacology and Structural Biology from Jefferson.

**Upcycled: Bound Journals Transformed**

When the library deaccessioned many of its bound journal volumes as part of the transition to electronic access, it offered some to the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers. Chapter members were asked to use these volumes to create artwork that adhered to some loose guidelines: they could make copies or cut the pages and reassemble them as another book, alter a volume, make something inspired by an article in the volume, or make something sculptural or two-dimensional. The resulting Upcycled exhibit, held in late 2015, featured works of art using two titles in particular, Hygeia 1929 – 1949 and the popular science and technology magazine Scientific American 1950 – 1979. These works proved imaginative and original, surpassing our expectations.

**Human Library: Loans Live “Books”**

Jefferson hosted its second Human Library at Scott Memorial Library in October 2014. The event lets students, clinicians, and staff ‘check out’ a ‘live book’—a volunteer who has agreed to spend 30 minutes in a one-on-one conversation, sharing stories and answering questions. Each volunteer book has experienced some form of discrimination because of who they are. Self-titled books included Disabled Veteran, Out for Good, A Human Being First, and Homeless, Not Helpless. Jefferson was the first U.S. academic medical center to host a Human Library event. The event started in 2000 in Denmark as a way to help stem the tide of youth violence.

**Therapy Dogs: New Campus Visitors**

Therapy dogs have become popular visitors to Scott Library. By sharing cuddles, comfort, and kisses, the dogs help students de-stress. Research shows that pet therapy lowers blood pressure, releases calming endorphins, lifts spirits, and lowers anxiety.
STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Anthony J. Frisby, Director, Center for Teaching and Learning & Scott Memorial Library, was a 2015 recipient of the Sidney Kimmel Medical College Dean’s Award for Excellence in Education. The award is given to faculty who: 1) demonstrate superior effectiveness as a teacher and devote significant time/effort to teaching over a sustained period of time, or 2) demonstrate major contributions to an educational course, clerkship or program of training.

Dr. Frisby was also selected as a mentor in the 2015-2016 NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program, which prepares emerging leaders for director positions in academic health sciences libraries by pairing them with a well-established director from another library. The program is sponsored by the National Library of Medicine and the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries.

Kathy Day, CTL Senior Instructional Designer, was named a Client Ambassador for ExamSoft, the iPad-based testing tool that supports exam creation, administration, and delivery to scoring and analysis. The ambassador program recognizes individuals who go beyond normal platform use and are passionate about using the software to positively affect their students, faculty, and educational program’s outcomes.

Edward Everett, CTL Instructional Technology Specialist, recently completed the course work and certification to be a course administrator for Blackboard, Jefferson’s Learning Management System. Ed is now able to provide the complete range of course- and community-related functions in Blackboard.

Jennifer Wilson, Medical Writer and Editor at the CTL’s Writing Center, is now a certified Editor in the Life Sciences (ELS). To earn ELS certification, Jennifer demonstrated a high level of proficiency in editing in the life sciences according to internationally recognized standards by successfully completing a 3-hour examination of her editorial skill.

Michael Angelo, University Archivist, was appointed to the College of Nursing sesquicentennial committee, bringing the historic resources of the collections for numerous program events and publications. In October 2015, he delivered a historic presentation on Jefferson in World War I to a full audience at the Wagner Free Institute of Science’s annual lantern slide salon.

Kelsey Duinkerken, Special Collections and Digitization Librarian, was a member of the 2015 Institute for Research Design in Librarianship, featuring a nine-day workshop that included instruction in social science research methods and design, with small-group and one-on-one assistance in writing and revising a draft research proposal. Participants also receive ongoing peer support in conducting research and preparing the results for dissemination. Kelsey’s research project is on perceptions of the Archives on campus among students, faculty, and administrators.

Dan Kipnis, Senior Education Services Librarian, was recognized as a “2015 IR All-Star” in the DC Telegraph, a blog of the bepress Digital Commons community, for his outstanding promotion of the Jefferson Digital Commons, our institutional repository. The profile also cited Kelsey Duinkerken (Special Collections and Digitization Librarian), Michael Angelo (University Archivist) and James Copeland (Access Services Technician) for their efforts on the JDC.

Patricia Wynne, Associate Director, Library Information Services, received a Jefferson All-STAR award, which recognizes staff who exemplify the iSCORE values of innovation, service excellence, collaboration, ownership, respect, and empowerment. Pat was cited for her work on the innovative Human Library Project, which allowed library visitors to meet with volunteer “living books” who agreed to talk about their experiences with discrimination.

What do they say about our staff?

“Creative and able to think beyond the immediate request presented”

“I can’t believe how he just makes everything possible”

“Very skilled ensuring the videos are always of high quality”

“An invaluable asset to me, assisting in course development”

“Don’t know what I’d do without her expertise when confronted with novel testing challenges”

“Illustrations are all professional grade”

“Turn around time was amazing”

“No job is ever too much or too difficult”

“Devotion to the Jefferson community helps to advance the mission”

“All-stars, a great support team”