

# LIBRARIES AND INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA SERVICES DEPARTMENT

## From the College Librarian

Happy New Year to all!

During the fall 2006 semester, LIMS Department personnel worked assiduously to achieve our mission to deliver essential information in varied formats to support instruction, intellectual exploration, personal development and research. In 2007, we pledge to continue to provide opportunities for students, faculty and staff to access existing and new resources, physically and virtually. The updated LIMS Web Page at <http://www.cob.edu.bs/Library/LIMSResources.php> serves as the vehicle to explore LIMS and its myriad resources. And remember, our friendly and knowledgeable staff are your best allies and most valuable resources! Have a wonderful 2007.

## Personnel News

In this issue, we profile three members of the LIMS team. These individuals have been lauded by supervisors for their hard work and commitment to excellence in service delivery.

**Mrs. Tameka Butler-Burton, Library Associate I**, holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology and Criminal Justice. She joined the staff of the Libraries and Instructional Media Services Department at The College of The Bahamas in September 2002. She has worked in the Public Services Units at the Main and Law Library branches and has demonstrated a strong commitment to the institution through her impeccable work ethic and dedication. She has conducted in-house training workshops for library staff and is building a collection of digital resources to improve access by law students. She has a keen interest in joining the college faculty in the future. Mrs. Burton is actively involved in civic work. She volunteers with the P.A.C.E. organization, teaching basic computer skills to teen mothers.

## E-Informer

### “Linking You to the World of Information” Spring 2007 Issue

**Mr. Rodman Forbes, Media Specialist**, holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications, with an emphasis on Education. Mr. Forbes is among the longest serving members of the College employees, having started in August 1977. He has moved through the ranks in the Libraries and Instructional Media Services Department, assuming the leadership of the Instructional Media Unit in 1997. He gives service above self and epitomizes love and commitment and dedication to the institution. His colleagues recognized this through their vote of confidence in electing him as the first Staff Ovserver representative on College Council in October 2006. Mr. Forbes is an active member of the Centreville Seventh Day Adventist Church.

**Ms. Judy Ann Rolle, Library Assistant**, rejoined The College of The Bahamas staff in 2000 when the Bahamas Hotel Training College was amalgamated with COB. Judy previously worked at the Library Department from 1981-1989. She is presently pursuing an Associate of Arts Degree in Library Science at the College. Judy has worked in both Technical and Public Services, but has a strong interest in Binding and Conservation and dedicates herself to ensuring that the collection is maintained in the best condition. Her work ethic and commitment to provision of excellence in service delivery are commendable. With her love for cooking, she can be counted on to prepare delicious meals for library social events.

## My Experience as a Graduate Student in Library Science

by Catherine Archer, Library Associate I

As a student in the Library Science Programme being offered by COB in conjunction with the University of South Florida (USF), I have had many new experiences. I have had to adjust to different methods of evaluation and very high standards. For the most part, tests and simple papers have been left behind. Instead, I must complete real world exercises such as evaluating library resources, developing policies, and designing and presenting seminars.

This is also my first experience with distance education. Before I started this programme, I had been wary of this modality and uncertain of my ability to succeed in this format. However, I have had access to information and services in a variety of formats and these have helped in the completing of my assignments and communication with my fellow students and professors. This experience will be invaluable as the library prepares for the possible introduction of distance education programmes.

My matriculation has given me the opportunity to network with colleagues in the profession. My nine Bahamian classmates come from a variety of library backgrounds: school, public, legal, medical, and academic libraries. We have all been able to learn from each other and to demonstrate how the principles and theories of librarianship can be applied in a variety of settings. We have learned about the core values of our profession, and found that applying them to real life conflicts is not always that simple. We have learned the role of the librarian in society has not diminished. In my opinion, the explosion of information sources and

formats has increased the need for librarians to act as guides as we all navigate our information society.

The Master's Degree in Library and Information Science programme has provided me with many opportunities and experiences. I have learned the reasons and purposes behind our practices. I have learned a lot about distance education. I have learned valuable people skills from working with fellow students and professors from a variety of professional and social backgrounds. I believe that I have received a firm foundation that will serve me well in my career in information science, wherever it may take me.

## Branches/Units Update

### Hilda Bowen Library

Suggestion box – Students, faculty, staff and other users are invited to drop their suggestions into the box. All comments are invited: positive or negative, ideas for improvement, suggestions for new resources (books, journals, or videos). The library staff will respond to all suggestions, whether they are entered anonymously or signed.

Scanning class handouts into the digital copier/printer has been a complete success.

### Instructional Media Services Unit

A/V Equipment – Students and faculty wishing to use AV equipment must book at least three (3) days in advance owing to the high demand for equipment, particularly the multimedia projector. To minimize damage to equipment, users are urged to participate in training sessions with LIMS personnel before use of the equipment.

### Law Library

“Lunch and Litigation Series” luncheon sponsored by LIMS Law Library Branch, in conjunction with Eugene Dupuch Law Library was held on January 31, 2007 at Choices

Restaurant. Attorney General, Hon. Allyson Maynard-Gibson addressed the attendance on the recently passed Consumer Protection Act. The event proved an overwhelming success. That it was oversubscribed projects a promising future for upcoming lectures in the series.

## Technology Update

- The Bahamas Science Bibliography provided by Dr. Kathleen Sealey, Dean of the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, is now available at the main library. First-time users should seek assistance from the Reference Librarian.
- New customizations were made to COBWEB to reflect our local library. Patrons can view relevant library information or visit remote library sites from COBWEB. Also, The **NEW BOOKS LIST TAB** was reinstalled on COBWEB. Patrons can view newly acquired books for up to four months for all branches, or may limit the query to a particular branch.
- International Labour Organization (ILO) Report on the Bahamas National Health Insurance Scheme may be retrieved at this <http://www.bahamasemployers.org/documents/iloreport.pdf>.
- Ask-A-Librarian Feature is available in Ebscohost: Away from campus and can't locate appropriate articles while searching EBSCO databases, select the Ask-A-Librarian link in the upper right-hand section of the computer screen and send your SOS! A Librarian will respond to your e-mail within 24 hours. Note: This feature is for remote access only!

## Trials To Databases

- A two-week trial to Global Books in Print database is available through 31 January. Please review it at <http://www.globalbooksinprint.com>. The username and password are: Bahamas / 1593438983.
- A ten-month trial to UNESCO-EOLSS Integrated Compendium of sixteen encyclopedias (equivalent to about 200 volumes) – review under ‘Database Trials’ on LIMS Web Page
- A one-month trial to IRIS Database of funding opportunities in every field will be available shortly – keep a lookout on LIMS Web Page.

Your feedback to [library@cob.edu.bs](mailto:library@cob.edu.bs) is appreciated.

## Conferences

- Check out the URLs below for upcoming conferences: <http://homepage.usask.ca/~mad204/CONF.HTM>
- Check these URLs for the keynote speeches and presented papers from the Fourth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning: <http://www.col.org/speeches> and <http://www.col.org/pcf4>