Journal Subscriptions

One of the strengths of Hekman Library is the number of academic journals we provide our users. We subscribe to about 1,500 print journals, but the number of e-journals is nearly 5,000. To browse our current e-journal offerings, visit www.browzine.com, enter “Calvin College,” and you’ll see a display of thousands of current journals, all organized by academic discipline (e.g., see the list of our journals in the discipline of political science, complete with links to articles in current and recent issues). You can load the Browzine app onto your smartphone or tablet for an even more user-friendly experience.

Some of our users are surprised that institutional subscriptions to e-journals are at least as expensive as (and often more so than) subscriptions to print journals. In the past decade subscription costs have risen twice as fast as healthcare costs in the US. Skyrocketing journal costs have put a strain on all academic library budgets across the country. Our current journal subscription cost for this fiscal year is approximately $850,000. A recent article in the New York Times, “Should All Research Papers Be Free?”, outlines some of these issues.

As a result, we are carefully analyzing journal usage statistics. Where there is low usage, we have cancelled subscriptions. In some cases we have found that purchasing individual articles for users is more cost-effective than maintaining costly subscriptions, and we have moved to a pay-per-article model. This is particularly true in the sciences, where individual journal subscriptions can cost the price of a serviceable used car or a moderately priced road bike. Last month we managed to realize a $30,000/year savings by working with the Physics Department to cancel a full-text bundle of journals and substituting a pay-per-article model. We’re happy for their cooperation and plan to do more of this in the future with other departments.

Our goal continues to be to provide convenient access to the full range of scholarly resources necessary to support the academic program at the college and seminary, and we thank all of you for your feedback, encouragement, and continued support of Hekman Library.

Lugene Schemper, interim dean of the library

New Divisional Senators

Having received the name of one nominee from each division, the Committee on Governance announces that the following faculty members will begin three-year terms as divisional representatives on Faculty Senate, beginning September 1, 2016:

- Laura DeHaan, Natural Sciences and Mathematics
- Christina Edmondson, administrators with faculty status
- Lissa Schwander, Social Sciences and Contextual Disciplines
- Mark Williams, Arts, Languages and Education

From the Faculty Activity Reports


Be sure to fill out your Faculty Activity Reports regularly. If you have questions, see the FAQ page.

**Note:** FEN activities are now being called Intercultural Competency Professional Development Activities. Beginning April 1, 2016, such activities will be in a new system—not as FARs—with a link that will be coming soon. Activities that do not fit into one of the categories listed must be approved before receiving credit. Look for more information on this soon.

**Michigan Women’s Foundation Empowerment Forum**

Encourage your students to attend a city-wide empowerment forum featuring Shiza Shahid, held in Calvin’s Van Noord Arena on Thursday, April 21, at 9:30–10:30 a.m. Shiza Shahid has been named to the “30 under 30” lists of both *Time* and *Forbes* magazines and is an entrepreneur and advocate who focuses on leveraging philanthropy, innovation, and the media to eliminate poverty and empower women. This is being billed as “a presentation that has the power to change the course of students’ lives.” Calvin students, faculty, and staff may register for a free ticket through this website; if you have questions, contact Donna Joyce.

**Coming Up on Campus**

**Monday, April 4**
- Chapel. Tarence Lauchie. 10:00 a.m., Chapel

**Tuesday, April 5**
- Chapel. “Knit Together.” 10:00 a.m., Chapel

**Wednesday, April 6**
- Chapel. Sounds of African Worship. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- History talk. Doug Howard (History), “The Astrological Musings of an Anonymous Ottoman.” 3:30 p.m., Meeter Center lecture hall

**Thursday, April 7**
- Chapel. Taizé with Debra Rienstra and Karen Saupe. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Blood Drive. 12:00 noon. Chapel Undercroft
- Mathematics and Statistics colloquium. 3:30 p.m., North Hall 276
- Economics lecture. David Gebben, “What on Earth Is a Stated Preference?” 3:30 p.m., North Hall 161
- Sexuality Series. Nicole Bromley, “Breaking the Silence about Abuse.” 7:00 p.m., Commons Annex lecture hall

**Friday, April 8**
- Chapel. Vinnie Adams and Friends, Hymns for *Tesoros de Dios*. 10:00 a.m., Chapel