

Spring 2015

Check It Out! Library Newsletter, Spring 2015

Johnson & Wales University - Providence

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Check it out! Library Newsletter

Writing Fellows Program Launched

JWU Library is teaming up with the English department on an initiative that capitalizes on the educational value of peer-to-peer tutoring to improve student writing skills.

The *Writing Fellows Program* was conceived and developed by English professor **Eileen Medeiros, Ph.D.** From her many years of teaching experience and her research into best practices for teaching and learning, Medeiros became convinced that many JWU students could benefit from more help with their writing, and that their learning process would be enhanced if that help came from other students, trained as peer tutors.

Based on recommendations from A&S faculty, seniors **Jessica Hughes, Matt Kominsky, and Katie Sands** were selected to become the university's first writing fellows. During the winter term they received faculty-led training on the components of the courses for which they would be tutoring, as well as on how to help students draft and revise their writing, and how to give students effective feedback.

With the start of the spring term, the three writing fellows were introduced to students in *DME2040 Sophomore Portfolio Assessment*, *SCI4061 Food Microbiology Lab*, and *MRKT4030 International Marketing*. Students in these courses were encouraged to schedule a tutoring session with their designated peer tutor whenever they needed help with their writing assignments.

For the two courses conducted Downtown, the writing fellows are using dedicated office space on the first floor of the library in order to hold one-on-one or small group tutoring sessions.

On the Harborside Campus, the writing fellow is being given top priority in reserving library study rooms to use for tutoring sessions. ♦

Borrowing from RI Public Libraries is Easier than Ever

now that the *Higher Education Library & Information Network (HELIN)* has formed a strategic partnership with [Ocean State Libraries \(OSL\)](#), Rhode Island's consortium of public libraries.

The partnership allows patrons of participating academic and public libraries in Rhode Island (plus Wheaton College in Mass.) to quickly find and borrow books and videos from among **8 academic, 12 health sciences, and more than 48 public libraries!**

JWU Providence users can still start with [OneSearch](#) to locate a book or video. But now, if the item they want is not available there, they can click on the **InRhode** link at the top of the page. Their search will be repeated across RI public library holdings. If they locate the item they want, they can request it by entering their name and JWU Library barcode number, just as they would when requesting an item from a HELIN library. Within 3-5 business days, they will receive an e-mail notifying them that the book has arrived at whichever library they selected as their preferred pickup point.

The *One Catalog* initiative—as the partnership is known—is currently in a pilot phase, running until December 2015. Library administrators throughout the State will be watching closely to see if users are taking advantage of this new service.

Although three RI academic libraries (Brown, Bryant and URI) opted not to participate in the pilot, **JWU Library** leaders and staff are enthusiastic about their role in helping to make library materials more widely and conveniently available, both to JWU users and to citizens throughout the State. ♦

Search InRhode:



Research Coach

Librarians helping students with research

Lisa Spicola, Fred Brown, Kerry Caparco
Your Friendly Harborside Librarians
are here to help you with:



- Figuring out how & where to get started
- Finding information for your projects
- Understanding library resources
- Citing & formatting styles



Make an Appointment

Harborside Library
Visit or Call: 401.598.1466
<http://pvd.library.jwu.edu>

Research Help Targeted to Graduate Students

Harborside Campus librarians **Lisa Spicola**, **Kerry Caparco** and **Fred Brown** are providing group coaching sessions to graduate students taking **Prof. Steve Poplowski's** *Financial Reporting and Control* course (FISV5526).

Each student group in the course is expected to schedule their session in advance, and each session lasts approximately one hour during which a librarian works closely with the students on the organization of their research project, how to find substantive background information and data on the research topic, and how to correctly cite the selected information sources. As the term progresses, librarians will hold a follow-up consultation with each group in order to confirm that the students were able to successfully identify, integrate and cite information sources suited to their assignment

The Harborside 'Research Coach' initiative was conceived by Prof. Poplowski after consulting with the Harborside librarians on the challenges his students appeared to be having with the information discovery and citation process.

A comparison of *Sources Cited* lists from this term's student projects and those of previous terms will help to assess the value of the initiative. ♦

New Talent on the Team

JWU Library recently welcomed librarian **Kelly Faulkner** to its reference services team.

Kelly graduated with a Master's of Library & Information Studies from the *Rutgers University* in 2012, and completed her Master's in English at *Fitchburg State University* in 2010 with a thesis entitled, "**The Formation of Identity on a Mobile Landscape in Jack Kerouac's *On the Road.***"

Kelly's interests include marketing library resources for optimum engagement, the changing value of libraries, and the first-generation college student experience. She is thrilled to join the team at *Johnson & Wales University*, particularly as her passion lies in serving diverse communities and encouraging students of all backgrounds and experience to take full advantage of the opportunities available through the library.

Prior to assuming the position at JWU, Kelly managed university food service operations in the New England area, while also part of the library reference and instruction services team at *Northern Essex Community College* in Massachusetts.

Originally from New Jersey, Kelly completed her undergraduate work in English and Leadership at *Franklin Pierce University*. When not working, she enjoys hiking in the White Mountains, and competitive bagpiping. Best ways to meet Kelly: stop by the reference area of the **Downcity Library** Sunday –Thursday between 2-10 p.m. ♦

