

# CIRCUMSPICE

## Student Assistantships Program Launches in the CCNY Libraries!

The CCNY Libraries are pleased to take part in the City College of New York's new Student Assistantships program. In late spring, President Lisa Coico and Provost Maurizio Trevisan announced this initiative for the 2013/2014 academic year.

The program provides on-campus jobs to students either in their current fields of study and/or in preparation for careers after graduation. One of the goals of the program's assistantships is to place students where they can learn the "soft skills" that employers complain are lacking in some college grads. Each department must define which of these skills it will address when it creates its own student assistantships. Such skills may include facilitating individual decision making and goal setting, supervising others, managing time effectively, and communicating clearly through writing.

Campus offices and departments have been encouraged to participate, and the libraries stepped up to the plate.

For the fall semester, we hired students for five diverse library assistantships including cataloging, exhibits, social media outreach, digital archives and animation.

**Read below to find out who's involved and what they're doing!**

**We'll start with Chief Librarian Pamela Gillespie who hired a student**

### to focus on social media outreach:

"In Spring 2013, the CCNY Libraries were the 'client' for the senior Ad/PR Workshop in Media and Communication Arts. One of the recommendations that came out of that experience was to bring a social media assistant onboard to enhance the libraries' marketing efforts and appeal more broadly to students.



**Ms. Sara Daoud**, a Chemical Engineering transfer student from Egypt, started her assistantship by immediately

creating a Twitter presence for the libraries. She is also posting on the City College of New York Libraries Facebook page and has taken over the Instagram account that one of the Ad/PR groups created for the libraries. She has already been consulting on the visual ads being developed from the winning marketing campaign, and will take on the library blog shortly. Other duties to be undertaken this semester are to recommend additional uses for our Flickr site and incorporate the use of hash tags in all publicity/marketing formats."

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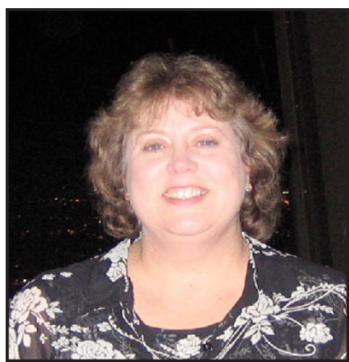
**Reference Librarian Daisy Dominguez reports:**

"While CCNY Libraries regularly host traveling exhibitions, most of the exhibits that grace the Cohen Library Atrium are created in-house by a team of librarians and library staffers working on everything from research to design. This fall, our team welcomed **Ms. Devidasa Kawal** (below) as our first exhibits assistant, a role which involves training in all aspects of exhibit coordination and implementation, and reports to the exhibits coordinator.

Ms. Kawal will be co-curating and helping coordinate a 2014 exhibit marking the centennial of the construction of the Panama Canal. Her other projects include designing promotional posters for upcoming



in-house and traveling exhibits including a photographic one. Pursuing a dual degree program in childhood



## From The Desk Of The Chief Librarian

Some of the most popular devices in our libraries are the self-service scanners, and on many days there are lines of people waiting to access them. Unfortunately, this heavy level of use causes them to malfunction more frequently than they should. The scanners with the touch screens are maintained by an outside contract service, so we have to wait for a service tech to visit to get them back up and running. The other scanners are simpler to service and we try to get to them right away to keep them working properly.

But we know that you don't have time to wait – either on line or for repair – so librarian Lena Marvin created an alternative to waiting in line – links to scanner apps for smart phones. These can be found on her “Mobile Resources” LibGuide at [libguides.ccny.cuny.edu/mobile](http://libguides.ccny.cuny.edu/mobile).

There are options for Android and iPhone, as well as Blackberry and Windows phones. Just scan the QR code from your Android or iPhone device and you're all set.

Since I just mentioned a LibGuide, let me note another one which is brand new and of great importance to Engineering Ph.D. students – the “Dissertations” LibGuide. In it can be found all the steps necessary to receiving approval for the dissertation, including all the format requirements, clearance forms and submission guidelines. It may be found at: [libguides.ccny.cuny.edu/dissertations](http://libguides.ccny.cuny.edu/dissertations).

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Comments, suggestions and feedback regarding the library's services are always

## CCNY Library Book Sale

Thursday, October 24

**new extended hours!**

9-7

NAC Rotunda

welcome and should be addressed to me by calling x7271, sending email to [prgcc@sci.ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:prgcc@sci.ccny.cuny.edu), or by dropping by NAC 5/333 (Cohen Library).



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Whenever you have the urge for some e-commerce, click on the **Amazon.com** button located in the lower corner of the libraries' Web site:

[library.ccny.cuny.edu](http://library.ccny.cuny.edu)



## Introducing Access Services Librarian Trevar Riley-Reid



Prof. Trevar Riley-Reid joined our library team on July 1 arriving from Kean University's library in Union, New Jersey, where she worked in reference, instruction and circulation. Trevar is a Hunter College alumna who then went on to earn both her MLIS and EdM from Rutgers University.

She also worked at the Newark Public Library in the Special Collections Division, explaining that her experience there deepened her appreciation of cultural heritage and artifacts. Trevar is a fan of making old stuff new through digitization!

Prior to her library experience, she was a high-school English teacher and also worked in marketing and editing in both corporate and higher education fields.

Following her appointment to the CCNY Libraries, Trevar had this to say: "I'm excited about my new position and the opportunity to work with some terrific staff and faculty. I'm looking forward to learning more about the way the library and the various departments here at CCNY work together to create meaningful learning experiences for the students. The role of the library is changing but we are still a crucial part of the learning process and will continue to be so."

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Welcome, Trevar!

## ... and Reference Librarian Tynan Hoffman

On July 1 the Cohen Library officially welcomed Tynan Hoffman as a reference librarian and evening/weekend supervisor. He earned his MLS from Pratt and is currently working towards a master's in political science at CCNY. Prior to joining the faculty on a full-time basis, Tynan was a substitute reference librarian here and had also worked in the Circulation Division.

Born in Billings, Montana, Tynan arrived in NYC at 18 to attend NYU for photography. He spent his days wandering the streets, taking photos of everything he loves about this city. He left NYU without his degree. "I wasn't ready for college yet. I preferred the city to the classroom." To pay the rent, he was a dog walker. He also traveled to Paris, "followed a friend there"; to St Croix, "I wanted to see what it was like to live on a tropical island"; to Buenos Aires, "my cousin wanted to go there"; and to places in between.

Returning to New York, Tynan completed his bachelor's at City College. He worked in the Cohen Library as a student assistant. "I did that intentionally, to see what it would be like to actually work in a library, and also to get a head start on learning to become a librarian." He began to believe that he would do greater good working in an academic setting, rather than becoming a museum archivist. "I come from a family of educators, and I think being in this setting just triggered something innate in me. I felt it would be selfish to spend my days surrounded by photography, instead of using my knowledge to help people succeed at a school like City."

The political science and sociology book selector for the library, Tynan is also part of the team that is currently redefining the future shape of Cohen Library's reference collection. He looks forward to the challenge of obtaining his second master's and to delving deeper into how the library can help our students succeed.



Welcome, Tynan!



# The Library Scene



Prof. Sarah Aponte, CUNY Dominican Institute Librarian, staffs the library table during Freshman Orientation Week.



Enjoying lunch with the Japanese delegation on their July 17 visit to the college are (l to r) Samuel Sanchez (Archives Office Assistant) , Michael Crowley (Archives intern), and Lena Marvin (Chief, Government Documents).

Cohen Library's Office says farewell to College Assistant Madelyn Rodriguez who has been with the office since October 2010. She left to join her recently graduated fiancé in California. The couple was married on October 11. The office threw her a recent going-away party, and will very much miss her.



(shown w/ Rex Agyemang and Library Office Manager Ebe De Leon)



**F**rank Netter, CCNY class of 1927, is renowned for his medical illustrations. The Archives Reading Room in Cohen Library on September 19 was the setting for Francine M. Netter, daughter and biographer of Frank Netter, sharing her memories and selections from her new book, *Medicine's Michelangelo: The Life & Art of Frank H. Netter, M.D.*



## Robert Olmsted Papers Donated to the City College Archives

The Robert Amson Olmsted Papers in

Transportation and Urban and Engineering History were donated to the City College Archives in

December 2012.

Robert Olmsted was a civil planning engineer for the Metropolitan Bridges and Tunnels Authority, and although he did not attend City College, his papers were acquired

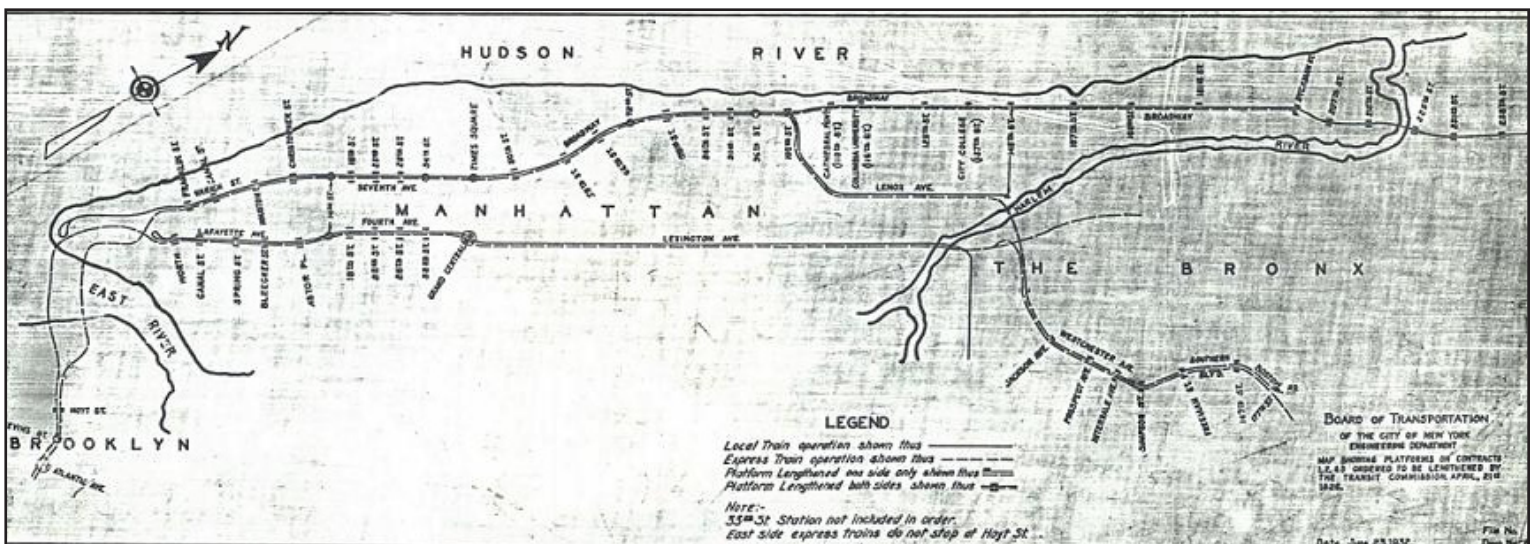
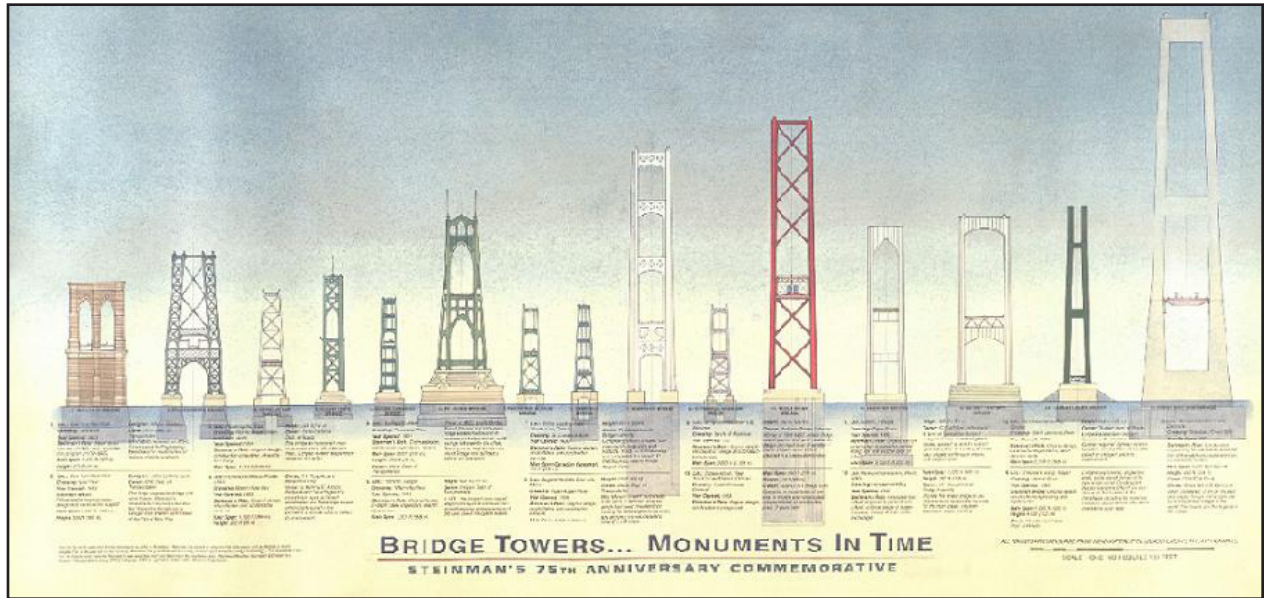
because of their relevance to the research conducted by CUNY's Transportation Research Center.

The 27+ box collection includes papers, memoranda, essays, and letters by Robert Olmsted on transportation, planning, and engineering topics from the 1950s to 2010. Robert Olmsted compiled over twenty binders related to various themes including articles, excerpts from historical works, memoranda,

essays, and other documentation. The collection has reports issued by the agencies with which he was affiliated, planning studies, and books. Oversized materials such as drawings, maps, and plans for the bridges and transportation arteries connecting those bridges supplement the planning studies. Additional supporting materials such as clippings, brochures, timetables, and excerpts from historical works can also be found in this collection.

Material in this collection covers several topics including the history of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and related agencies; the development and planning of transportation and infrastructure in the New York region and beyond; civil engineering history; airport access; and urban planning, history and development, especially in the New York region.

Sydney Van Nort  
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"Student"... continued from page 1

education and language and literature in the School of Education, she expressed particular enthusiasm for the revamping of our bulletin boards, which seek to make the CCNY community aware of the libraries' many services. Ms. Kawal has started this assistantship demonstrating great initiative and diligence and it is a pleasure to have her on our team."

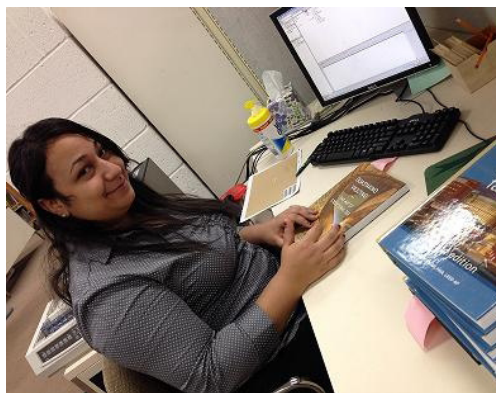
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**Chief of Cataloging Yoko Inagi (above) writes:**

"The Cataloging Division welcomed **Ms. Jurhidy Rodriguez**, (below) a computer engineering student. Jurhidy has been performing copy-cataloging of newly purchased titles and old monographs with problem records, as well as re-classifying older "Y" books into the current Library of Congress system from the formerly used Bliss classification system.

Jurhidy came in with experience in data and databases--she once developed her own library data-



base for a software engineering class! She has been increasing her knowledge of cataloging as well as developing skills with library systems such as OCLC Connexion and Aleph ILS. Her assistantship experience with us is helping her understand the architecture of a complicated integrated system and how data is managed within it. She hopes to use this knowledge and experience to create better, more user-friendly programs."

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**Visual Resources Librarian Ching Jung Chen hired a group of student animators, and she notes:**

"In the summer of 2013, the CCNY Libraries initiated a pilot project with the Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education to produce medical animations for Dr. Abraham Kierszenbaum to teach histology and cell biology. I assembled a diverse team of graduate and undergraduate students for the pilot project. Alex Vinkler, a senior biology major, and Robert Levy, an MFA student with a PhD in cell biology, work on the science end while Jazmine Rogers, a senior electronic design and multimedia student, and Mohsen Moghaddam, a graduate student in the master of urban design program make the animations using Adobe Flash."



(l. to r.) Mohsen, Robert, Alex, Ching-Jung, and Jazmine

**Archivist Sydney Van Nort reports on the library's fifth student assistant:**

**"Ms. Jeni Madembo** (below), also



known as Jane, a graduate student in the MFA in Creative Writing Program, came to the New York area more than nine years ago from Zimbabwe. She brings an interest in digitization to the City College Archives after attending a workshop this past summer and has already applied these skills to scanning projects.

She has been invited to contribute her writing skills to the fall 2014 library exhibit, *100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Opening of the Panama Canal*. In collaboration with Professor Sydney Van Nort, she is researching the life and career of George Goethals, Class of 1877, for this exhibit. "

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**The library welcomes these accomplished student assistants!**

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## The Friends of the City College Library

We are sincerely grateful to all those who have generously supported the City College Library this year. Private gifts play a crucial role, enabling the library collections to continue to grow. We wish to offer our donors special recognition for all they have done.

The gifts listed below represent the vital commitment of individuals to the library. Donors of both monetary gifts and collections are listed according to the total amount of their library donations.

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**CCNY** Libraries

## Exhibits / Events 2013 / 2014

### **Red Scare, Red Stars: Blacklisted CCNY**

April 26 to December 31, 2013  
Cohen Library Atrium

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### **Prof. Adrienne Petty discusses her book, Standing their Ground: Small Farmers in North Carolina since the Civil War (Oxford, 2013)**

Co-sponsored by CCNY Libraries  
and the CCNY History Society  
October 17, 2013, 12-2pm  
Cohen Library Archives

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Prof. Petty's talk is held in conjunction  
with the exhibit:

### **Emancipation and its Legacies**

A traveling exhibit from the Gilder  
Lehrman Institute of American History  
and the National Underground Railroad  
Freedom Center  
Through October 28, 2013  
Cohen Library Atrium

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### **The Unexpected Taj Mahal: Photographs by Haitham Abdullah** Cohen Library Archives Gallery, 5th Fl. November 4 - December 23

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### **Wilsonianism: The Conservative Origins of a Progressive Philosophy** January 22-August 1, 2014 Cohen Library Atrium

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### **Muslim Journeys Talks "Religious Muslims in Europe"**

Professor Emily Greble  
Spring 2014 (TBA)  
Cohen Library Archives

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