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The Liaison Connection Issue 2

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The Liaison Connection

Keep in the know about Penrose Library collections, services, and research instruction.

Special points of interest:

- Carson-Brierly Dance Collection
- Research Center
- Information on Classroom Support and Digital Conversion
- Mystery author Margaret Coel

Instruction and Research

Research Center

Since its launch Fall Quarter, the Research Center has become a popular resource for students and faculty. This new model of reference service offers both quick help at the desk and in-depth research consultations at comfortable side-by-side workstations within the Center. The new space also accommodates groups of students working on group projects. Graduate students and faculty especially appreciate the opportunity to schedule an appointment with a subject-specialist librarian and the chance to meet more than once on a complex project.

The Research Center and the library instruction program provide a comprehensive approach to research skills development. Students receive a general overview of concepts and resources in library instruction sessions, then go to the Research Center for guidance on specific course assignments. The number of consultations -550 during the fall and winter quarters -and positive comments from students and faculty attest to the

success of this new model. Consultations are by appointment and on a drop-in basis as available. For an appointment, call 303-871-2905, or complete the [consultation request form](#).

Erin Meyer, Research Center Coordinator and Student Outreach Librarian
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Encore! A New Way to Discover Library Holdings

Penrose Library recently unveiled a new catalog search engine using the Encore system. This does not replace the traditional Peak Catalog, but it is an enhancement. When you do a "Keyword-Beta" search in the Peak Catalog from the library website (<http://library.du.edu>), this will take advantage of Encore. With the new system, you will be able to see and refine the results in a number of different ways. For example, you can easily limit the search results by the format of the material, publication date, the collection or the location of the items. You can also limit the results using subject heading "tags" that are found in the search results. In a search on the word "baseball," the screenshot below shows that other subjects in those 840 records are "electronic books,"

"antitrust law" and "discrimination in sports" among others. You could either click on the tag to limit the results, or you could redo the search using the recommended terminology.

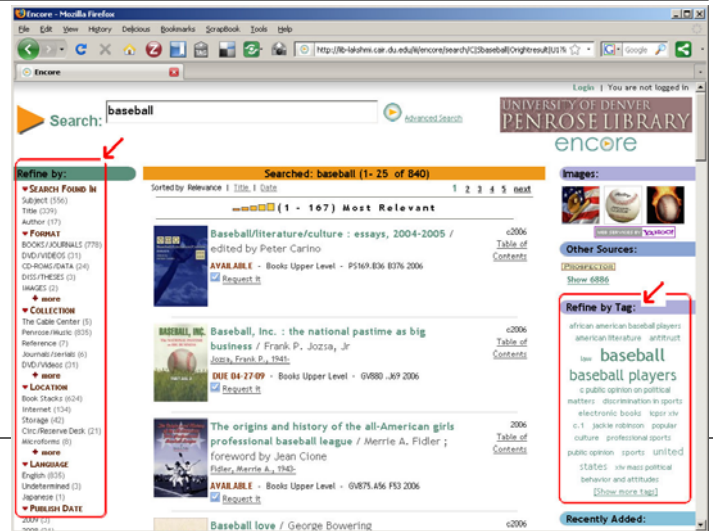
If you log in to the system, you can create your own tags. Anyone can tag all of the books that are relevant for a class with a unique term or phrase such as "biol1234" or "pro gun control". Several faculty already use this feature to identify books that their students should read.

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The Encore system is also very useful for finding journal titles. In a traditional keyword search, if you did a search on the word "science", you would get over 32,000 results, and the record for the AAAS journal *Science* would be buried. With Encore, the records for the print and electronic versions of the journal are brought to the top of the search results.

Joe Kraus, Science and Engineering Librarian
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Collections

Online Practice Tests for Graduate Entrance Exams

LearningExpress Library is a comprehensive, interactive online learning platform of practice tests and tutorial course series designed to help students succeed on the academic or licensing tests they must pass. Practices tests for the GMAT, GRE, LSAT, MCAT, TOEFL and more are included in Penrose Library's subscription. To access *LearningExpress Library* go to the Library's homepage at <http://library.du.edu> and click on the "Databases & Articles" tab. The database is available under the "Career" category.

All practice tests include instant score reports that help users target those skill areas that need the most attention. Complete answer explanations also accompany each test question so that

test-takers understand why a particular answer is right or wrong. Users can create their own personal account which allows them to keep a record of any tests they have taken, access personalized score reports, and save unfinished tests.

To find out more information about *LearningExpress*, please contact the Research Center at research-help@du.edu, or your library liaison.

Carrie Forbes, Instruction Services Coordinator
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The Carson-Brierly Dance Collection

Have you thought about incorporating either secondary or primary source materials about dance into your courses? The [Carson-Brierly Dance Library](#) may have materials you can have your students use! Carson-Brierly was founded at Colorado Women's College in 1972 by Justin W. Brierly in memory of Martha Faure Carson, one of Denver's noted dance teachers. When the University of Denver absorbed CWC in the early 1980s, the collection became part of the Penrose Library Special Collections. All varieties of dance are included, from the historical dances of the pavan, galliard, and minuet to recent developments in contact improvisation and the tap dance revival. Supplemental books on theater history and design, costumes, kinesiology, and therapy are also part of the collection. In addition to books, the dance library actively collects programs, press kits, photographs, posters, video and audio cassettes, music scores, and recordings.

Program Collection. Other collections include the Colorado Dance Festival Collection which contains over 1,000 images of artists and companies presented at the Festival. The Colorado Ballet Company Papers contain archives and papers, production notes, and publicity materials from Denver's major ballet company. The Lillian Cushing McFarlane Ballet Collections holds over 2,000 books pertaining to ballet. The Vytautas F. Beliajus International Folk Dance Library is an extensive collection of folk dance and folklore materials. The Stern-Elder Microfilm Collection is made up of theses and dissertations about dance from major American universities. Finally, The Glenn Giffin Oral History Collection consists of taped interviews with dancers and choreographers. The Carson-Brierly Dance Collection is available for research Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4 pm. Appointments are encouraged. Phone 303-871-3428 or e-mail archives@du.edu.

Steve Fisher, Curator of Special Collections
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Two of the major primary source collections within the Dance Library are the Dance Poster Collection and the Souvenir



Classroom Support now available through Penrose Library

You may not have realized it, but all Classroom Support services now operate out of Penrose Library. With expanded staff and services, it is Classroom Support's priority to furnish technology services, support, and guidance to the University of Denver, and to make accessible the most advanced educational technology in support of the university's goals of education, administration, research, and outreach.

The Classroom Support department supports more than 75 classrooms across campus, including Sturm Hall, Ben M. Cherrington Hall, Boettcher East, Seeley Mudd Building, Margery Reed Building, Shwayder Art Building, and Centennial Halls. Classroom Support staff provide technical assistance and technical instruction for faculty and staff throughout the university.

Prior to Winter Quarter, we installed control panels on the cabinets in Sturm Hall to reduce the inevitable issues with remote controls. The control panels provide a more straightforward way to turn on projectors and other equipment in the classrooms.

Classroom Support also manages two interactive computer labs in Sturm Hall – SH 353 and SH 354 – available for DU

courses at no charge. These labs now have locks that can be accessed using your Pioneer card, allowing the faculty or staff easy access at any time during their scheduled reservation.

Faculty, staff, and students may call x1-3595 to reserve special media needs such as digital audio recorders, overhead projectors, slide projectors, boom boxes, or mini video recorders.

The Call Desk (x1-3595) is staffed M – F 8am to 9pm and Saturday 8am – 4pm. Support outside of those hours can be arranged in advance. For more information about services and support visit: <http://library.du.edu/services/mms/>.

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Digital Conversion Services at Penrose Library

Penrose Library is offering expanded services to support converting analog and digital materials to web-ready digital content for use in the classroom and in learning management systems like Blackboard and DUVAGA.

For many years Penrose Library has offered services for reformatting text documents for electronic reserves. This free service is provided through the library's Access Services.

Did you also know that the library's Digital Production Services (DPS) unit provides video and audio digitization services for course reserves and more general faculty needs? The DPS can reformat DVD, VHS, many digital video tape formats, and 16mm film as well as a variety of audio formats including audiocassettes and reel-to-reel tape into digital content files suitable for use in the classroom or through DUVAGA or Blackboard. While most content services for classroom use are provided free of charge, large jobs and special requests may have costs associated with them. For more information, contact the Access Services desk (x1-3707 or reserve@du.edu) or the DPS (x1-6511 or library-DPS@du.edu).

At the same time, Digital Production Services and the Visual Media Center (VMC), located in the Shwayder Art Building, have developed a partnership to provide expanded still image reformatting services to faculty. Any faculty with still images that they would like reformatted into digital images for use in the classroom can bring them to the VMC. Numerous options are available for reformatting and delivering still images. For more information contact the Visual Media Center (x1-3277 or leslie.trumble@du.edu). The library also maintains access to thousands of digital images suitable for teaching and research through its subscriptions to visual media databases available through the "Image Databases" subject category, located in "Databases & Articles" library's web site (<http://library.du.edu>).

Penrose Library is committed to supporting the faculty's ability to use digital content in teaching, and will continue to provide new and improved services for faculty to use.

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Book Drop Café and the New Books Area

If you haven't been to Penrose Library lately, we've added a New Books and Browsing Books area with comfortable seating and tables near the Book Drop Café on the Main Level. The Book Drop Café opened in Fall Quarter 2008, and serves coffee, sandwiches, salads, and snacks. Pick up a cup of coffee and take a seat! Meet with friends, colleagues, or students to discuss projects or just get caught up. Peruse today's newspaper, browse through the new fiction and popular non-fiction books, and keep up to date on the latest books Penrose has purchased within your discipline. All books are available for check out. We hope you enjoy this new area.

Peggy Keeran, Arts and Humanities Librarian
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New Art in Penrose Library



Happy Life #8 by Chen Wenling is on display at Penrose Library in conjunction with the exhibition "*Transforming Traditions: Contemporary Chinese Art from the Logan Collection,*" at DU's Victoria H. Myhren Gallery this March and April. Dan Jacobs, director of Myhren Gallery and the curator of campus art at DU, has worked with Penrose to bring original works of art to the library and has advised us on ways to enhance the display of the library's current art collection. Jacobs is also working to place a new casting of the bronze crane sculpture "Birds of Happiness" by artist Dee Clements in Penrose Library in the near future. The sculpture of two cranes rising into flight was given to the University by Jean and Barbara James in honor of the late Professor of English, Stuart B. James.

A similarly fruitful relationship with Deborah Howard, Professor of Art and Art History and head of the painting program at DU, has resulted in the donation of a second large work by Howard. The new piece, *Triple Möbius*, hangs in the Research Center, providing a beautiful representation of the nature of research. According to Howard, "I feel the *möbius* resembles the process of doing research in a library where one can discover a path that will lead from one idea to another on a journey that is cyclical and unending."

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Margaret Coel

Audience members were treated to a delightful talk by *New York Times* best-selling mystery novelist, Margaret Coel, on Thursday, April 30, at the third annual Penrose Library Author's Lecture. A fourth generation Coloradan, Margaret grew up with a strong interest in history, especially that of Colorado and the West. This enduring interest in the past and the way it continues to influence the present is a common refrain throughout her work.

Margaret began her writing career as a newspaper and magazine journalist. Intrigued by the story of Chief Left Hand, a prominent nineteenth-century Arapaho who spoke fluent English, Margaret set out to write a magazine article about the chief that, five years later and following much research, turned into the award-winning biography, *Chief Left Hand, Southern Arapaho*, published by the University of Oklahoma Press. As she told the audience, "There was little known about this man. So I was quickly into primary sources: letters, journals, diaries, and government reports. And those things are in libraries."

Wanting to try her hand at writing a novel, she decided to combine her interest in the Arapaho with her love of reading mysteries. Following the advice of an early writing teacher to write what you love to read, she created her sleuths Father John O'Malley and Vicky Holden for the novel, *The Eagle Catcher*, who have been solving mysteries on the Arapaho and Shoshone Wind River Reservation ever since. In her latest novel, *Blood Memory*, Margaret gives Father John and Vicky a rest to let newspaper journalist Catherine McLeod foil a hired assassin while

uncovering a conspiracy around plans to build a casino on Arapaho and Cheyenne ancestral land.

Margaret shared that her novels begin with an idea, rather than with a particular character. Once the idea takes hold, she often dreams about her characters as the story develops. She writes primarily to entertain herself and hopes for her reader "that when you finish maybe you'll say that was a good read and maybe I learned something I didn't know."

Father John and Vicky Holden will return in Margaret's next novel, *Silent Spirit*, scheduled to be published this fall. Find out more about Margaret's works at her website, <http://www.margaretcoel.com/> or get updates as she posts about writer's block and other topics on her blog, <http://www.margaretcoel.blogspot.com/>.

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"Ask a research question"
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