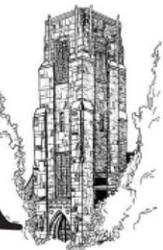


# GENEVA COLLEGE'S NEWS AND VIEWS FROM MCCARTNEY LIBRARY BELL TOWER



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## Evaluating Websites

**The Web:** A 2005 study found that almost half of all student researchers use an internet search engine, such as Google or Yahoo!, as their first stop for research.

**Grain of salt:** Christ tells his disciples to be shrewd when working in the midst of wolves (Mat. 10:16). The question is: how do you judge whether a website is reliable or trustworthy? One way is to apply a four-fold test: Authority, Accuracy, Currency, and Objectivity.

**Authority:** Authoritative websites list the person or organization responsible for the content, and they list the author's qualifications. Red flags fly when you cannot identify the author or when there is no contact information.

**Accuracy:** Accurate websites are specific and comprehensive. They provide reliable references for the facts that they cite, and hyperlinks to reliable outside sites. Websites are easy places for wolves to hide because almost anyone can publish a website and make it appear accurate, all without having to pass an editorial or fact-checking board. This means lies, distortion, and stereotypes can be pawned off as truth.

**Currency:** A website should list dates when it was created and last updated. Without date information, the facts may be stale, and the citation links may be out of date.

**Objectivity:** Most websites offer a point of view, or have some agenda. Objective websites, however, provide their point of view, as well as all other sides to the story. They let the reader decide by giving the whole story. Red flags fly when you notice unacknowledged conflicts of interest, or when advocacy is presented as factual analysis. Although the URL suffix (.com, .org, .edu, .gov) may give you some sense, it's not a fail-safe measures of objectivity.

**Judge for yourself:** These two sites below are about Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Both cite sources for their information and have a .org URL suffix. Can you tell if one is a wolf in sheep's clothing?

<http://www.thekingcenter.org/>

<http://www.martinlutherking.org/>

### References:

1. *How to Evaluate Information on the Web*. Widener University, Wolfgram Library Reference Department (2006)  
<[http://muse.widener.edu/~tltr/How\\_to\\_Evaluate\\_9.htm](http://muse.widener.edu/~tltr/How_to_Evaluate_9.htm)>
2. Griffiths and Brophy "Student Searching Behavior and the Web" *Library Trends* (Spring 2005): 539-554.

## Geneva College's Writing Center: Pendragon

Located on the ground level of McCartney Library, Geneva College's Writing Center, Pendragon, is a valuable resource for anyone looking to become a better writer.

Tutors can assist with all facets of the writing process, from understanding the assignment, to brainstorming ideas, to crafting paragraphs, to formatting the paper. The Pendragon is open Monday through Friday, and no appointment is necessary.

Check out the Pendragon's hours, tutors, and services:

<http://www.geneva.edu/page/pendragon>



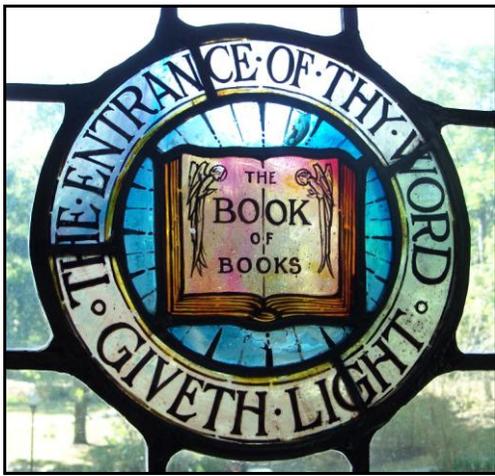
(from the McCartney Room)

## Research Gizmo: U Borrow

The McCartney Library has thousands of great books on hundreds of interesting topics. But it does not have every book on every topic. Yet, the library can get books for free from other libraries through interlibrary loan.

**UBorrow** is a special interlibrary loan service from the Keystone Library Network. You can find and quickly receive books from partner libraries, such as the State Library of Pennsylvania, Millersville University, or Edinboro University. It's fast, free, and easy.

Click the Other Catalogs/UBorrow link in MacCat, the library's online catalog (<http://pilot.passhe.edu:8007>) and choose "All UBorrow Libraries." When you find a book you want, just hit the request link. Ask a librarian if you have any questions: [ref.lib@geneva.edu](mailto:ref.lib@geneva.edu).



(from the Tower staircase)

## Did you know . . .

...that McCartney's Library's **bells** can be played as a musical instrument with a special keyboard, similar to an organ keyboard. The Library has 13 bells, ranging in weight from 350 to 3,000 pounds. McShane's Bell Foundry in Baltimore cast the bells in 1930. McShane's, which was founded in 1856, is one of the oldest, most storied bell foundries in the United States.

## New Face in the Library!

**Kimberly Kaufman** is McCartney Library's newest librarian. Kimberly oversees Library acquisitions, consisting of everything from new databases to the latest books.

Kimberly earned her bachelor's degree from Calvin College and her master's degree in library science from the University of Pittsburgh.

Kimberly's top picks for books: *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, *Blue Like Jazz*, *Persuasion*, and any of the Harry Potter books. Her top bands: Arcade Fire, Neko Case, Sufjan Stevens, and Cat Power.

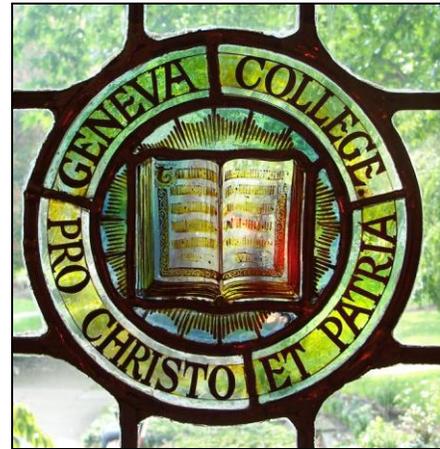


## Research Sleuth

Can you name the **artist** who created the stained glass windows in the McCartney Library (some are pictured in this newsletter)?

The first faculty, student or staff to email the library director with the correct answer along with the citation from a print resource available in the Library (no internet citations permitted) will win a \$15 gift certificate to Beaver Falls Coffee and Tea Company.

Email: [jgdoncev@geneva.edu](mailto:jgdoncev@geneva.edu)



(from the Director's Office)

## The Library's Best Stuff: *Gray's Anatomy*

Geneva College was only ten years old when Henry Gray published the first edition of his *Gray's Anatomy*, in 1858. Now in its fortieth edition, *Gray's Anatomy* remains the seminal text about the human body's structure.

*Gray's Anatomy* (QM 23.2 G73 REF) contains over 2,000 pages, with over 2,000 pictures, charts, and drawings. Although written at the medical school level, any reader will find it a fascinating book and compelling affirmation for the psalmist's words that we are "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Ps.139:14).

Gray, incidentally, never lived to see his book reach the zenith of medical literature. Three years after the first edition, he died of smallpox at the age of 34.

Book about this book: *The Making of Mr Gray's Anatomy: Bodies, Books, Fortune and Fame* / R. Richardson. Oxford, (forthcoming)



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*Pro Christo et Patria*