Greetings from the Dean of the Library
November 2012
on the web:  http://library.newpaltz.edu

Welcome back to campus from what I hope was a happy, restful Thanksgiving break. We in the Library certainly have much to be thankful for.

Surviving Sandy
First, the Library came through hurricane Sandy virtually unscathed. Much credit goes to our Facilities department for extensive work to keep our building sound and dry.

Library Open Longer Hours
We’re also glad to report that in response to requests from the SA and individual students, the Late Night Study @ the Terrace will be open all night during exams. On December 9-13 (Sun-Thur) and 16-19 (Sun-Wed) the room will be open from 11pm until 8am, when the main Library re-opens. The room features wireless access, a networked printer, 5 laptop computers, and a congenial place to get away from the res halls and/or roommates and buckle down. We will monitor traffic in the room to decide whether to continue these hours during Spring midterms and finals.

Also during exams the Main Library will be open most nights until 12:30am, one hour later than last year. Complete Library Hours

More iPads, Longer Loans
Students and faculty have enthusiastically embraced the extended iPad loan program, now lending iPads for 7 days! Next semester the iPad pool will double in size to 20 units. So Apple is certainly thankful for your interest! But to spread thankfulness around, we will also investigate the Microsoft Surface for possible introduction to our loan pool next semester. Surface promises to integrate with many core applications used on campus, including Word, Powerpoint and Excel.

We also trust you are glad as we are to see the 48 new public computers rolled out over the last few weeks.

El Día de los Muertos
We’re grateful to the several groups, led by the Department of Languages, Literatures & Cultures, that hosted a celebration of El Día de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) in the Library’s main lobby. In addition to remarks by Prof. Wilma Feliciano, participants enjoyed a delicious offering of traditional bread and chocolate. The event was a great success: SRO for the lecture and dozens eagerly partaking of the offerings.

Website Revisions
Thanks are also due to the many, mostly students, who responded to our invitation to help us review proposed revisions to the website. Who but librarians get excited about a website upgrade, right? But because libraries offer so many crucial services to researchers, our websites can be somewhat complicated to navigate. Feedback from our users will help us cut through the clutter, and help you spend more time researching and less time pointing and clicking.

Community Support
Finally, we are grateful to the many in the New Paltz community who have offered words of encouragement during the renovation project extension. It means a lot to all of us to know that the Library continues to mean so much to all of you. We will continue to work in the coming months to build on this already strong relationship and to deserve the tremendous support and trust you give us each day.