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Both of these events are free and open to the entire University community, and to the general public. We hope you’ll join us in these celebrations.

**A Fond Farewell**

It is with regret that we say goodbye to Rodney Brown in Access Services and Tamara Smith in Reference. Brown’s last day was Dec. 18, 2009 and Smith is leaving on Feb. 16, to take a position with Lockheed Martin.

**Libguides at Langsdale**

Over the years, the librarians at Langsdale have created many guides to include research. Our most popular guides include explanations APA and MLA researching styles, but we also have guides that can help you get started researching on almost any subject.

This semester, we are moving all of our guides into a new, more interactive format using a service called Libguides. Libguides, offer numerous places for you to send comments and suggestions and sometimes even rank your favorite guide or add a recommended resource to a page. Plus, you can get updates to the guides sent to you via e-mail or an RSS feed. Even if you don’t want to take advantage of those features, the tabs and integrated search and chat boxes make it a lot easier for you to find the information you need.

You can see the new guides at [http://ubalt.libguides.com](http://ubalt.libguides.com).
The beginning of the semester is often a (relatively) calm time, as you are just beginning to lay the groundwork for the semester. So what should you do with your extra time? Langsdale Library has the perfect solution: make an entry for the Langsdale Library Video Contest.

That’s right, Langsdale is sponsoring a video contest that is open to all students at the University of Baltimore. Just make a video about Langsdale Library and its services, submit it by Feb. 26, and you can win a $50 gift card. Complete rules can be found at: http://langsdale.ubalt.edu/contest.htm.

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Lucy Holman - Library Director

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As you’ll learn from this issue, our student outreach continues through our READ poster campaign, participation in campus events and our student video contest. Students have been eager to share concerns and discuss new programs with us, and staff has appreciated many of the ideas. We’re looking forward to using the student-produced videos to promote the library and to spread the word about our resources and services. We announced the launch of our leisure reading collection in our fall issue. That collection has been more successful than we imagined; circulation has risen, and our winter break promotion brought many students, staff and faculty in for books and DVDs for their holiday enjoyment.

I hope you’ll find this Link informative; I thank the editorial staff who work tirelessly to put each issue together. As always, I would love to hear from you about what you think. Contact me any time at holman@ubalt.edu or 410.837.4333.

Langsdale Blog

A great way to keep-up with current happenings at Langsdale Library is the Langsdale blog: http://langsdale.ubalt.edu/news/index.htm. Here you’ll find updated information on library events, useful information that will give you an edge on your class assignments and insights on the latest information for the digital age.
Looking for Group Study space?
Check out Langsdale’s newly improved group study spaces

On the 2nd floor, across from the Computer Lab/Electronic Classroom 200, there are two group study rooms: 205 and 206. Group Study rooms are available when the building is open. The rooms are for groups of students to study together, discuss projects, and create presentations. Individuals may also use either room, but groups will be given first priority.

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There may be even more changes for Langsdale coming in the next few months. We hope to create additional group study space on the third floor and more in another section of the basement too. And speaking of the newly renovated basement, in addition to the fresh paint and brand new carpet, there is plenty of space to sprawl out on some of the comfy furniture or study at one of the tables.

And if you happen to get hungry or thirsty, all three of Langsdale’s vending machines are now located in the basement.

As always, Langsdale welcomes any comments and/or suggestions; we are here to help you.

Langsdale’s Student Liaison: Shamija Moncur

The idea for a student liaison came from a conference session at the Association for College and Research Libraries conference that Lucy Holman, Langsdale’s director, attended last March. She explained, “I went to a session presented by Eastern Washington University on student liaisons and spoke with their liaison. She talked about meeting with student organizations to promote their library and talking to friends and classmates about library services. It sounded like a great way to get the word out.”

Other campuses such as George Washington University also have liaison programs, where students use library blogs, Twitter and other social networking applications to communicate with students. The idea is that students may listen and take more notice of a fellow student talking about the advantages of using the library. It is a much more direct way to communicate to students about what Langsdale has to offer them.

Holman advertised for the position over the summer and received numerous applications, including those from several student leaders who already had connections with many student groups. Shamija Moncur, one of these student leaders was selected for the position with the ultimate goal of getting more students into the library. Moncur and Holman set three objectives for the year:

• Enhance the communication between the library and students.
• Find out what the students want and require from the library.
• Increase student participation in library programs and activities.

Moncur set out to achieve these objectives through outreach at UB’s Student Life Expo, where she encouraged students to participate in the library’s READ posters; through discussions with students in the Student Center, and through the “Question of the Day” which allowed students to post replies to a daily question posted on an easel at the library’s entrance. Moncur contributed weekly postings to Langsdale’s blog with helpful tips for students that promoted library services such as the database service, hard copy reserves and the library’s new leisure reading section. She also got to know the student workers at Langsdale by posting a questionnaire and the students’ photos to the blog. Gradually throughout the fall semester, more students came into the library to search for books, meet with reference librarians for additional help and learn about the variety of available resources.

“Shamija has been a wonderful addition to our staff,” Holman remarked. “Her ties with the UB Student Council help us coordinate with other activities on campus and she’s been amazing in her ability to reach out to students. Her outgoing personality and student focus is just what we needed to make this program a success.”

The feeling is mutual, says Moncur, who remains enthusiastic about her role. “What I like most about my job is the day to day interactions I have with students. “Some students whose photos were taken for the READ posters came into the library and were excited to see them framed and hanging.”

For the upcoming semester, Moncur plans to continue the READ poster program in Langsdale by reaching out to more student organizations. She is also considering having an end-of-semester party for students in the library.
The University of Baltimore has excellent legal, business, and liberal arts programs. However, there are very few opportunities to learn foreign languages. This void is currently being filled at Langsdale by staff member, Adrian Korz. What many people do not realize is that as many people speak Spanish in the U.S. as in Spain (roughly 40 million). This trend will only increase in years to come. Spanish has always impacted English, with such words as canyon, plaza and wrangler now commonplace in our lexicon. New words and phrases such as *qué pasa, hasta la vista* and *nada* have been recently adopted into our vocabulary.

Korz will once again teach Spanish this semester at Langsdale. As he points out the library is well suited for teaching Spanish. Students can access ample resources including, books, CD-ROMs, audio CDs, movies and even Internet programs to learn and practice Spanish. Both Rosetta Stone’s *Spanish*, and Pimsleur’s *Ultimate Spanish* are available for the UB community and can be found at the reserve desk. Langsdale’s computer labs act as language labs for these services.

For more information, please contact Korz at 410.837.4241 or akorz@ubalt.edu.

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**NEW STAFF**

Stephen Michael Kiel

- **Birthdate:** Dec. 7
- **Hometown:** Baltimore
- **First Job:** dog-sitting
- **Hobbies:** I ski and run marathons
- **Favorite Books:** *The Count of Monte Cristo, And Then There Were None* and, for something more modern, Clive Cussler’s work
- **Favorite Movies:** *Alien, The Spy Who Loved Me, Manos*
- **Favorite TV Shows:** *Doctor Who*
- **Favorite Website:** I don’t think I have one
- **Favorite Foods:** almost anything Indian
- **What I like Best about Baltimore:** Between it and Washington, D.C., you have everything
- **What I like Best About UB:** Everyone here is so helpful

Brenda Morris

- **Birthdate:** Dec. 9
- **Hometown:** Sodus, N.Y.
- **First Job:** Babysitting two children (one is now a surgical nurse, the other is ex-military and mentors teens)
- **Hobbies:** mixed media art, volleyball when I get a chance, flute when I get motivated to practice
- **Favorite Authors:** James Baldwin, Toni Morrison, Louise Erdrich, Lucille Clifton, Gwendolyn Brooks
- **Favorite Movies:** anything with Johnny Depp, Robert Downey Jr., or Brad Pitt
- **Favorite TV Shows:** hmm..don’t watch much, but *Family Guy* is fun. *Cable* is great for catching pro tennis
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- **Favorite Foods:** West Indian, vegetarian, baked desserts, dark chocolate, hot cocoa made with milk

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**LEISURE READING**

Thought Langsdale Library was all about textbooks? Well, you guessed wrong. We now have a leisure reading section, which is located behind the reference desk. All you *Twilight* fans—we have the whole series. Are you more of a poetry reader? Or a fiction reader? We’ve got everyone covered.

**UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH**

Planning is underway for the First Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium. The event is being sponsored by Langsdale Library and the Honors Program.

The symposium is tentatively scheduled for April 30. It will feature the creative and scholastic work of UB undergrads and will begin at 9 a.m. in the Langsdale Library Auditorium.

Updates and final plans will be announced on the library’s blog: [http://langsdale.ubalt.edu/news/index.htm](http://langsdale.ubalt.edu/news/index.htm)
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