When asked if they would recommend the workshop to others, all students responded that they would, with one stating, “Yes; in fact, I already have.” Mariah and Nicole hope to build off the workshop’s success by investigating opportunities to offer additional workshops in the future.

In early September, writing consultants Mariah Steele and Nicole Jackson led students in the Writing Studio’s first sophomore writing workshop. This ACM-funded workshop—designed to emphasize critical reading, thesis identification and development, argument paraphrasing and identification, and writing in the disciplines—was considered a clear success by both participants and consultants.

To enroll, students wrote brief essays explaining what they felt they could gain from a writing workshop. Post-workshop feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and students cited a variety of “lessons learned,” including using quotes, developing and focusing thesis statements, drafting, writing for specific audiences, peer workshopping, and more. One student wrote that the workshop was “a great review” and noted, “I will . . . use the Writing Studio more often. I will also use what I have learned in every college and non-college paper I write hereafter.”

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Do you and your students need research or review articles on genetics, biology, health, biochemistry, environmental science, or even chocolate or alcohol? Our new collection of 900 peer-reviewed life and health science journals from Elsevier are packed within ScienceDirect College Edition which can be found on the library home page under Research by Topics=>Natural Sciences or under Specialized Sources. Well-used titles such as *Animal Behaviour*, *Trends in Genetics*, and *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* are now searchable from this location.

Many useful features make ScienceDirect a popular choice. If immediate full text is your goal, using certain strategies will minimize frustration. Limit your search to “subscribed journals” and “2002 to present” to return full text articles. Limiters such as article, review, correspondence, editorial, and book review allow selection by type of article. If you would like examples of how this online publisher deals with plagiarism, search for “retracted” in the title field. The word RETRACTED is stamped across each page of the pdf, the html version is removed, and a there is a detailed description of the transgression.

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Feel free to drop by to see Mary Iber in Library 307 if you’d like assistance with this or any of our databases.

Thanks to Dimensions funding for making this database possible.

**What’s new in Cole Library?**

**E-Books**

“E” has become an even more utilized letter in recent years. Ebay, e-commerce, e-romance… Cole Library has now joined this e-trend by adding e-books.

Cornellians now have access to the nearly 1,200 of the American Council of Learned Societies History E-Book Project. Actual images of each page of each book are available, and every word is searchable. The books are accessible from the library’s home page or via the catalog. We have unlimited multi-user access to the collection.

This e-book project was funded by the Mellon Foundation and was the result of a collaboration between eight learned societies, publishers, and librarians at the University of Michigan. The books in the collection were recommended and reviewed by historians. You can access the e-book collection on the library home page at ACLS History E-Books under “General Resources.”

If you are interested in how you might make best use of these e-books, please be in touch with your consulting librarian.
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Technology Tips - PowerPoint...Yay or Nay?

Are you tired of looking at PowerPoint presentations? Are you even more tired of looking at PowerPoint presentations that are not done well? Annette Beck, the Academic Media Consultant can talk with you about whether PowerPoint is the right form of multimedia for the content of your class. She can also come into your class and do a presentation on “how to do a better presentation.” Give your students tips on the psychology of color, font and font size choices, and making a presentation in a professional manner. It might be that having your students creating web pages or videos might work better.

It might be that having your students do a poster presentation would work better. PowerPoint can be a very effective tool when used correctly. Do your students know how to do an effective PowerPoint presentation or could they benefit from having some tips and tricks?

Call Annette at x4125 and set up an appointment today.

Quantitative Reasoning moves and adds peer tutors

I am very excited about the new look of the Quantitative Reasoning Studio for 2006-2007. First, we’ve moved! My office is now Library 124, and the Studio is the area outside room 124, identified by a new sign that hangs from the ceiling. This area includes several tables at which students can work in groups or individually, with the benefit of having a consultant right nearby! Also new this year are three additional tutors. With five peer consultants, the Studio is able to have extended hours and better representation of the disciplines.

In other news, Cornell now has a site license for the statistical software, SPSS. This means that SPSS is now in all computer labs and in tech classrooms in buildings with computer labs, and can be installed on any college-owned computer. If you would like SPSS installed on your college-owned computer, submit an online work order at http://cornellcollege.edu/information_technology/workorders/secured/workorder.php or contact IT at x4357.

Jessica Johanningmeier