**New tools to foster undergrads’ research skills**

English 201 instructors have worked closely with the Libraries to provide in-class instruction, by seasoned librarians, on the fundamentals of how to conduct research, effectively use library resources, and evaluate information found in-print or online. Yet with the growth in class sections, the number of librarians available to teach these critical instruction sessions could no longer meet the scheduling demands. Working together, the administrator of English 201 and three New Brunswick librarians tackled this growing challenge head on, before it became critical. [More on this story](#)

**Dana Library receives $180,000 grant to create two media-rich learning spaces**

In the fall semester the Dana Library was notified that it received a $180,000 grant from the Booth Ferris Foundation to create two multimedia group study spaces on the first floor of the library. One group study space will focus on multimedia production, with a widescreen LCD panel and workstations with multimedia authoring and editing software for digital productions. The other group study space will focus on collaborative teamwork, with a SMARTboard and workstations with business presentation software for collaborative presentation design. Both rooms will boast comfortable furniture, easily accessible power and data ports, and cutting-edge computer equipment. [More on this story](#)

**RU Libraries join the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC)**

The University’s entry into the Big Ten Conference for intercollegiate sports comes with a significant benefit to academic programs, through a partner collaboration called the Committee on Institutional Cooperation, the CIC. The Center for Library Initiatives, within the CIC, focuses on three objectives – optimizing student and faculty access to the combined resources of our libraries; maximizing cost, time, and space savings; and supporting a collaborative environment where library staff work together to solve mutual problems. All of these library collaborative programs will have major benefits for Rutgers faculty and students. [More on this story](#)

**Spotlight**

**Libraries increase hours for finals**

In response to user feedback the Libraries have once again increased the hours of operation of the New Brunswick/Piscataway libraries.

For spring semester finals, Alexander Library on the College Ave. Campus and the Library of Science and Medicine (LSM) on the Busch campus will be open 24 hours starting on Monday May 6th, the last day of classes. Both Libraries will be open for 24 hours during weekdays, and till midnight on Friday and Saturday, until Wednesday May 15th, the last day of exams. [More on this story](#)

**New online resource at the Libraries - Oxford Islamic Studies Online**

[Oxford Islamic Studies Online](#) is a comprehensive reference center designed to disseminate authoritative, balanced scholarship from a global perspective and provide a source of timely, reliable, and accessible information on the history, peoples, beliefs, individuals, and cultures that constitute the world of Islam.

This resource includes the full content of four key scholarly works, two essential English-language interpretations of the Qur’an, a standard concordance in the English language and primary source documents.