2010 ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award Program

ENTRY FORM

ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES
A Division of the American Library Association

The signed entry form and supporting documentation must be electronically submitted to the ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award Program. For further information, please visit the Awards section of our Web site at: http://www.acrl.org. Faxed entries will not be accepted.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT THE FOLLOWING:

Name of Nominated Library __Bucks County Community College Library__

Name of Institution __Bucks County Community College__

Name of Library Director/Dean __Linda McCann/Maureen McCreadie__

Address __275 Swamp Road__

City __Newtown__   State __PA__ Zip Code __18940__

Phone (215) 968-8004 Fax (215) 968-8142 E-mail __mccreadi@bucks.edu__

Institution's Mission __"to provide to the County's diverse population of learners__ __accessible, affordable, convenient, and comprehensive educational, training, and__ __cultural opportunities that will equip them to be competent and effective in__ __their work and as citizens of the world."__

TYPE OF LIBRARY *(Please Check One):*
Carnegie Classifications are available at www.carnegiefoundation.org/classification.

University
☐ Doctoral/Research Universities-Extensive
☐ Doctoral/Research Universities-Intensive
☐ Master's Colleges and Universities I
☐ Master's Colleges and Universities II

College
☐ Baccalaureate Colleges-Liberal Arts
☐ Baccalaureate Colleges-General
☐ Baccalaureate/Associate's Colleges

Community College
☒ Associate's Colleges

Submitted by (Full Name/Title): __Linda McCann, Director, Library Services__

Name of Institution __Bucks County Community College__

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Address __275 Swamp Road__

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Phone (215) 968-8003 Fax (215) 968-8142 E-mail __mccannl@bucks.edu__

I understand that applications will be kept in the award pool for three years. If my institution is selected for the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award, I will organize and sponsor a ceremony on campus for the presentation of the award.

__Linda McCann / Maureen McCreadie__   __11·30·2009__
Signature of Library Director/Dean of Nominated Institution   Date

(All entries must be received by December 4, 2009. They become the property of ACRL and will not be returned.)
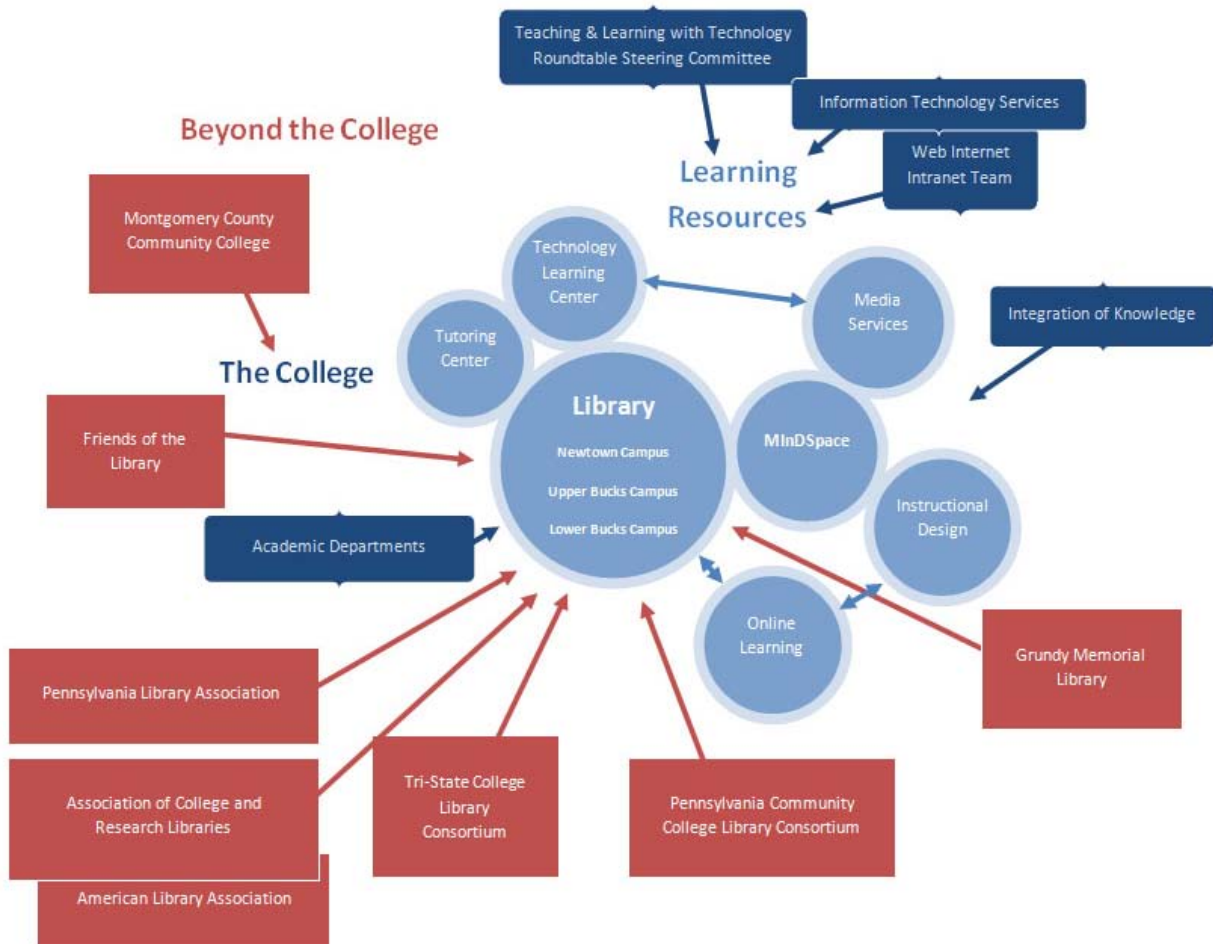
2010 ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award Program

Bucks County Community College Library
Newtown, PA
Bristol, PA
Perkasie, PA

A Community Dedicated to Learning

Our students expect and deserve transparency when they need support for their learning. That is why their library is simply one part of several larger communities. At the most local level, we are a part of the community of Learning Resources, interconnected and interdependent, all calling the Library their physical home—a community that in turn connects interdependently to the rest of Bucks County Community College and beyond to the region and the nation.

Learning Resources: A Unique Community

> The mission of the library is to provide the information services and resources required to meet the needs of Bucks County Community College students and the community, to enrich their lives, advance their careers, and enable them to become lifelong learners and more responsible citizens. One way in which the library achieves its mission is by selecting, acquiring, and/or otherwise providing access to the information resources necessary to satisfy the information needs of the community.

The Library cannot fulfill its mission in isolation. For that reason all areas of Learning Resources are physically collocated in a way that makes sense to the College's students, faculty and staff. A visitor to the Library sees no boundary between it and the Technology Learning Center (technology help desk), MInDSpace (Media and Instructional Design, our new multimedia lab) and Learning Technologies, and the Tutoring Center and Online Learning are steps away from the Library proper. (Plans are in place to relocate the Tutoring Center to the Library's Information Commons.) Likewise, all Learning Resources faculty and staff work together to bring seamless assistance to our patrons, both in person and online—communicating, working together and learning from each other. Our students don't compartmentalize their needs...why should we compartmentalize our services?

Partnerships within the College

Learning Resources supports the mission of the College (FTE approx. 8000), which is "to provide to the County's diverse population of learners accessible, affordable, convenient, and comprehensive educational, training, and cultural opportunities that will equip them to be competent and effective in their work and as citizens of the world." The Library works in partnership with the academic departments in information literacy and collection development, with a faculty librarian assigned to each department. Several librarians also serve as instructors of Integration of Knowledge, a multi-

disciplinary, team-taught capstone course required of all Associates Degree candidates. We partner closely with Information Technology Services in the day-to-day technology needs of the College community as well as in special initiatives such as Internet2 and MInDSpace—a critical partnership that serves to render the boundary between our two departments invisible to those who need our services. Library faculty and staff are further involved with the life of the College through membership, and in some cases taking leadership roles, in College groups such as the Technology Policy and Planning Group (TEPP), the Web Internet Intranet Team (WIIT), the Teaching and Learning with Technology Roundtable (TLTR) Steering Committee, and the Planning Advisory Group (PAG), groups dedicated in part to making the College's Web presence transparent to all users and visitors, and to increasing student engagement through creative use of current and emerging technologies. Direct outreach to students beyond the walls of the Library includes the Books Across Bucks program, through which leave-a-book/take-a-book stations are maintained across all three campuses, and our recent READ posters campaign, featuring faculty, staff and students from across the College community.

Innovative Learning Spaces

We are constantly working to make the Library a more open, inviting and livable space that encourages all forms of learning. There's always something new to experience, whether it's an exhibition of student or faculty art, art from regional organizations like the Trenton (NJ) Area Soup Kitchen, one of our Library Coffee Breaks, a student musical performance, or just a new jigsaw puzzle set out for a refreshing study break.

The **Learning Studio** is a popular multipurpose space that hosts the College's information literacy sessions and supports group work, individual study, or any form of classroom use. Laptops with wireless access are available for student use, while instructors have access to a mobile instructor's station with projection capabilities and Internet2 access. The

flexible furniture includes comfortable chairs with tablet arms, as well as nesting chairs and tables on casters. Colorful art, paint and carpeting contribute to the allure of this multifunctional learning environment.

Nearly adjoining the Learning Studio is the recently-created **MInDSpace**, designed to bring 21st-century learning skills to 21st-century students and their instructors, in order to foster awareness and understanding of new media literacies and skills. MInDSpace provides a learning environment that offers a collaborative workspace, along with tools and resources (both tangible and virtual) for students and faculty. It draws on expertise and innovation from students, librarians, instructional designers and Learning Technologies staff.

The **Learning Commons** brings together library collections, services and technology assistance. The circulating collections, the Open Access Computer Lab, the Technology Learning Center, a second reference desk, and inviting and flexible study areas provide a comprehensive, comprehensible and still human-scaled learning environment that our students are drawn to, and that has been imitated by other academic libraries across Pennsylvania.
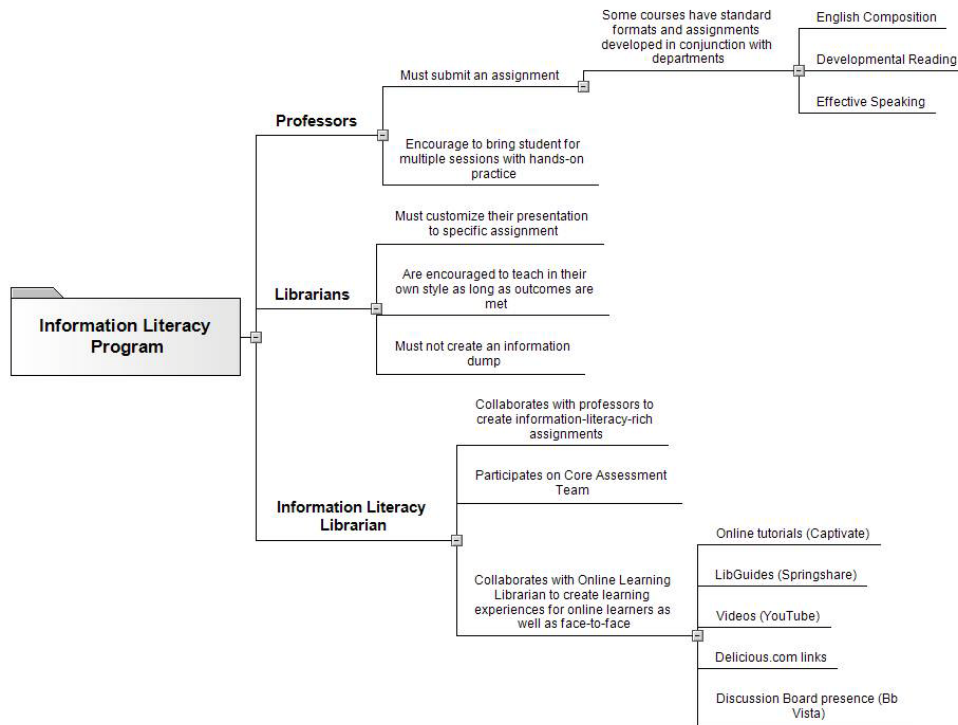
Supporting our learning spaces—both physical and virtual—are the latest tools and services, including laptops available for students to check out, virtual reference by chat and email, online LibGuides that bring relevant resources and services together for specific courses and subject areas, electronic document delivery for fast interlibrary loan, our Library blog, and individual librarian spaces on Facebook and Twitter.
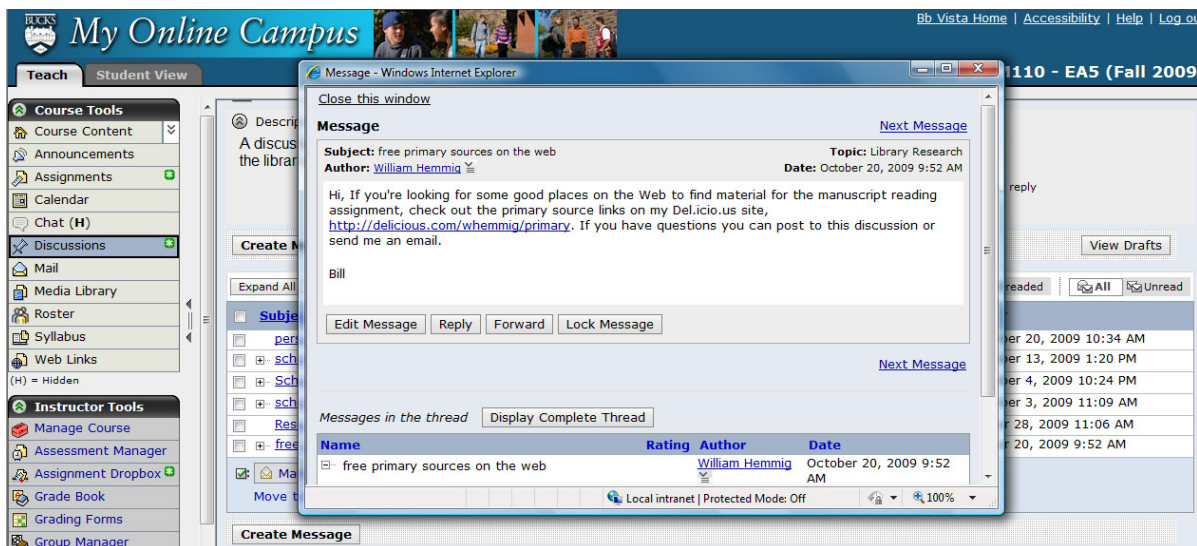
Emphasis on Learning

The Library's information literacy program supports students' individual learning styles with traditional face-to-face sessions as well as innovative electronic tools. During the past decade, the college's information literacy program has moved away from general, teaching-centered bibliographic instruction sessions and toward focused, learning-centered information literacy sessions. Information literacy is one of BCCC's Core Assessment (Gen Ed) categories, and is assessed every five years. Margaret Montet, our Information Literacy Librarian, is a member of the College's Core Assessment Team.

In order to facilitate the growth of BCCC's information literacy program, Montet was dispatched in 2007 to ACRL's Information Literacy Immersion Institute where she was charged with creating an Information Literacy Action Plan in order to tie BCCC's various IL offerings together into a program. As part of this Action Plan and in order to unify our goals, she created an information literacy mission statement, in collaboration with all our librarians, the director, and the dean:
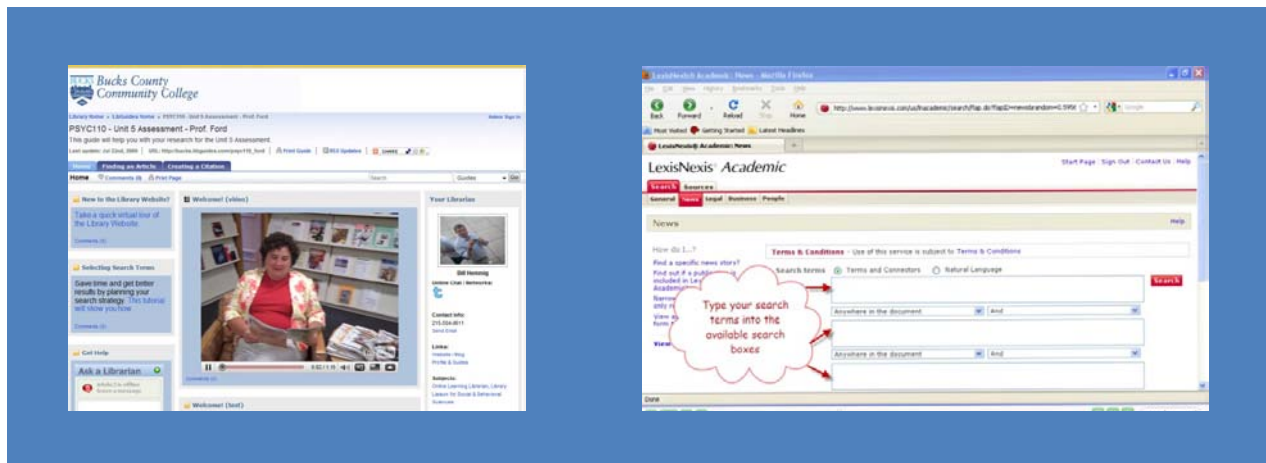
> The mission of the Bucks County Community College library's Information Literacy program is to collaborate with classroom faculty to teach students how to find, retrieve, evaluate, and use information ethically and efficiently for success in their courses and as lifelong learners.

More recently, William Hemmig, Online Learning Librarian, with Montet, devised a strategy to offer this customized information literacy philosophy to BCCC's burgeoning Online Learning program. The objective is to provide the same focused IL instruction for online courses that is offered in face-to-face courses. In order to achieve this goal, Hemmig coordinates a team of "Embedded eBrarians" who deploy online tutorials, dedicated electronic discussions, videos, LibGuides, delicious.com and other technologies that students can access through the Library's website and their course's online workspace.
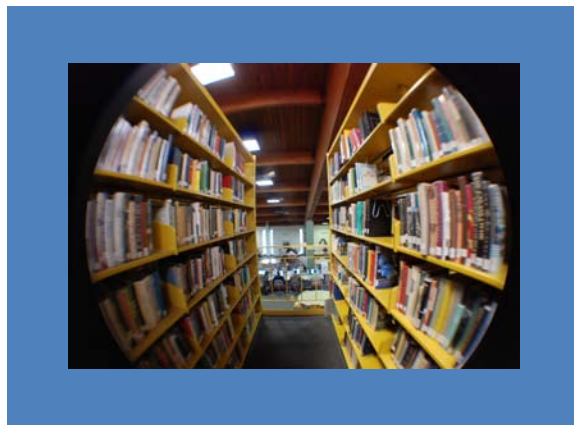
Hemmig and Montet presented on this topic at the Innovations 2009 conference in Reno and at the Faculty of the Future 2009 conference at BCCC, both of which prompted healthy discussions with librarians from other institutions hoping to emulate this model for offering focused information literacy experiences to online students. To date the Embedded eBrarian Program has reached approximately 600 distance learners, and its tools—tutorials, LibGuides, Delicious pages—have also become extremely popular with face-to-face instructors and students.

The Media Literacy team—Jacqueline Fritz, New Media Librarian, and Matt Seibert, Emerging Technologies Librarian—helps students and faculty select appropriate multimedia resources and apply those resources to convey a specific theme that meets the learning objectives of the assignment and follows copyright laws and fair use guidelines.

The Library Collection

Library collections support the curriculum of the College. Students can take advantage of more than 150,000 print titles, a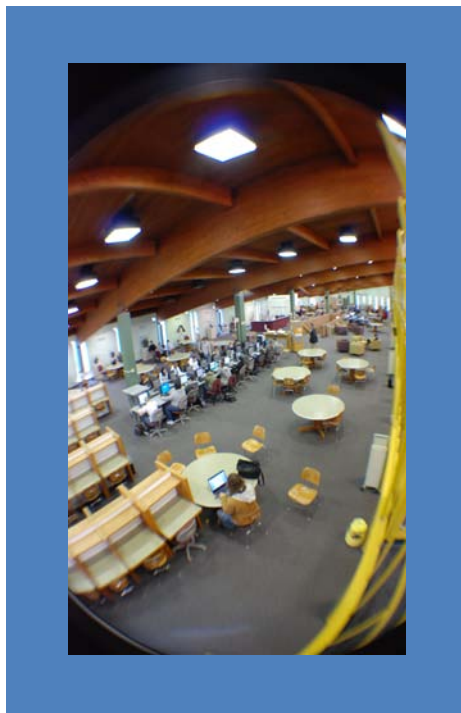 diverse multimedia collection, and databases containing over 20,000 electronic journals, 2,000 electronic books, 500 electronic reference titles, and more than a million art images. Two local organizations, CCC Celt and the Piazza Nuova Lodge, have created endowments with which the library purchases books and other materials on Celtic and Italian culture, forming two unique special collections that are used extensively by our students and community patrons.

But learning today requires more than information. Learning Resources has recently established a pool of new media equipment that is available, through the MInDSpace staff, for faculty to borrow. The goal is to support teaching and learning with emerging technologies by giving faculty and students the opportunity to try new tools, currently including classroom response systems, media readers, microphone headsets, wireless presenters, netbooks, Flip videos, tripods, iPods, Snoball microphones, and webcams.

Taking Our Place in the Greater Community

Partnerships and dialogues outside of the College inspire innovations that make the Library and the College more relevant to our students. They also in turn bring our innovations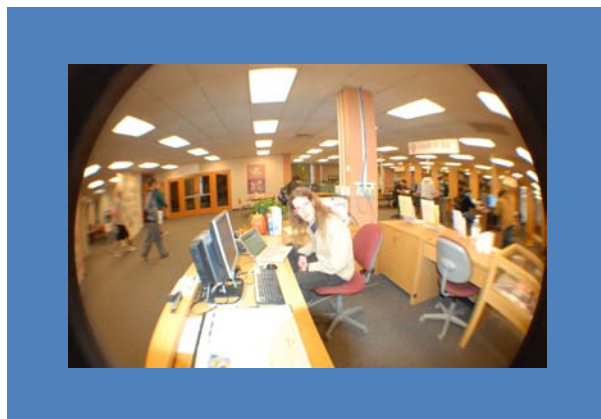 to the attention of other library leaders. Staff from the entire College, including the Library, conduct frequent "Tech Talks" with counterparts at Montgomery County (PA) Community College in order to share insights into current projects and planning in uncharted waters. Connections with the community include an ongoing partnership with the Margaret R. Grundy Memorial Library, a special library near BCCC's Lower Bucks Campus, which augments the resources and services of both institutions, and a vibrantly active Friends of the Library organization that sponsors fundraising and social events. The College and Learning Resources provide generous support for faculty and staff travel to conferences sponsored by organizations such as the League for Innovation in the Community College and Educause. We participate and provide leadership in regional and national organizations: currently Maureen McCreadie, Dean of Learning Resources, is a member of the Editorial Board of *College and Research Libraries* and serves on the Educause Learning Initiative (ELI) Advisory Board, William Hemmig, Online Learning Librarian, is Chair of the Arts Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), and Linda McCann, Director of Library Services, is Chair of the Pennsylvania Community College Libraries Consortium (PCCLC). McCreadie has authored a scholarly book on information retrieval, and Hemmig has had peer-reviewed articles published recently in *Reference Services Review* and *Journal of Documentation*. Other members of the Library staff engage in freelance writing and volunteer in community and regional organizations.

For Further Information

College Website: http://www.bucks.edu/

Library Website:
http://www.bucks.edu/library/index.php

Our LibGuides Site:
http://bucks.libguides.com/

Our Web Tutorials:
http://www.bucks.edu/library/infolit/tutorials.
php

Library Staff

Maureen McCreadie, Dean of Learning Resources
Linda McCann, Director of Library Services

Jacqueline Fritz, New Media Librarian
William Hemmig, Online Learning Librarian
Brian Johnstone, Digital Resources Librarian
Margaret Montet, Information Literacy Librarian
Marzenna Ostrowski, Collection Management Librarian
Matthew Seibert, Emerging Technologies Librarian

Part-Time Reference Librarians: Bridget Capobianco,
Debra Carney, John Caviston, Catherine Collins, Peter Cutrera, Joy Dlugosz, Sara Drew,
Jaroslaw Fedorijczuk, Kara Groschopp, Jenifer Gundry, Kristin Hawkins, Richard
Hodges, Mary Moulton, Anita Samuel, Poonam Sood, Patrick Wright.

Specialized Support: Kate Brown, Mary Fravel,
Barbara Gilmore, Mary Ellen Livesay, Deborah
White, Urszula Zak.

MInDSpace and Technology Learning Center
Faculty and Staff: Mary Ellen Bornak, Karl Carter,
Marilyn Puchalski, Liz Sette.