



## **Media Resources Annual Report 2006-2007**

The Media Resources department staff consists of a number of specialists. All these unique jobs are cross-trained, somewhat, so everyone can at least help a patron with their requests. All media equipment and videos are circulated through the College's main circulation desk. The department circulates 40 miniDV cameras, 25 digital cameras, 20 digital audio recorders, 20 cassette recorders, portable sound systems, as well as digital projectors, laptop computers and DVD players. Total bookings during 2006-2007 were 2986.

Aside from performing the typical audiovisual department circulation functions, the main College event support is handled through this office. During 2006-2007 events and films (video) screenings were up 25 percent. This data only includes material shown by the department and does not include faculty or student operated screenings. There were 135 evening classroom screenings during the 2006-2007 academic year. During the two reunion periods of 2007 there were 80 events, which is about the same number we see during the summer conference season. Typically the spring semester is the highest usage time for the department resources. Events, screenings and circulating equipment use are up more than 20 percent over the fall semester. We have seen this trend for the last four years.

Classroom technology support is another corner of the media resources department. Working with the Classroom Committee, we design, maintain, and install new technology in classrooms. Mt. Holyoke has a standard classroom setup consisting of a projector, a control system, computer, international dvd/vcr and sound system. All classroom equipment is on a four-year replacement cycle. Currently there are 90 mediated spaces on campus. During the 2006-2007 year 29 classrooms were upgraded.

The Media Resources department manages the College's current media on demand service. We had 240 titles digitized and linked to individual course sites in our course management system, ella. The workflow involves processing requests, collecting material, making a copy of the disk, sending the copy to the vendor which in turn, they wrap in a DRM and then send the link back to us, where we link it locally in the course site.

The Tandberg room-sized videoconference system was retired and replaced with a portable cart Polycom unit. This new unit has become very popular, especially in its use supporting faculty searches. The new unit is an I.P. based system and will not support older ISDN telephone conferences.

Media Resources purchased 10 additional miniDV cameras and 15 external fire wire hard drives to support additional request for the fall 2007 semester. Ten USB headphone/microphones were purchased, as well a small number of USB web cameras. The department also purchased 3 new Apple laptops to replace the aging units for faculty and staff circulation. We began to explore hard drive cameras, direct to DVD cameras and further tested out some new flash drive cameras. Several microphones with built in flash card media storage are currently being tested for uses such as student interviews to replace cassette tape. To continue with our support of the Film Studies program, 10 additional shotgun microphones were also purchased.

Submitted by  
Bill Farrington