Media Musings
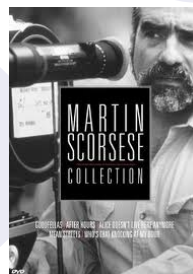
Spring 2011

Points of Interest

- Welcome—Growing and Listening to You!

- Media Matter / New Media

- Motion

- FB is not yout BFF

- Scanning Room

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Growing and Listening to You! by Johnnie Gray, Interim Director of Media Services

Last semester was a challenge to meet all of the media goals we set for ourselves. This semester, the Media Center has scheduled more Media Matter sessions than we have ever offered before. I encourage you to take advantage of these free media sessions. Based on the feedback I have received from students and faculty, we have obtained a few pieces of new equipment, enhanced our scanning ability and obtained many DVDs that were requested. The DVD collection is expanding quicker than it ever has. This is exciting even in the age of video on demand and streaming services. Not everyone has Netflix and not every movie is available to watch instantly. We hope that our DVD collection bridges this gap. The collection reflects the needs of the faculty as well as input from students as to what they want to watch.

One thing that makes everyone excited in the Media Center is to get feedback on how our equipment is being used. If you are documenting a club event or practicing Spanish with our voice recorders, please let us know. We constantly update our documentation based on usage so that we work in the most efficient way for our patrons' benefit. We post this documentation on the website for easy access. Besides helping us to help you, we genuinely like to hear about media creation. It is one of the reasons why we exist—to aid you in creating a successful digital product.

Did you know we have a Facebook fan page? Well, if you didn't, you do now! Just search for Trible Library Media Center and you'll find us. We post interesting links, pictures and student assistant projects. Fan us if you like us! It is a great way to get updates on new DVDs, equipment and much more! Speaking of new DVDs, we now have a New Media page that we will update as we get new DVD titles in. Each title is linked to the catalog. Have an awesome semester!

We now have a dedicated scanning room with five different scanners. All of our Media Center staff is trained and can help you use our special scanners. We have a great poster scanner that scans large format items as well as a program that will scan your document for text and transfer it to Word so that you can edit.

New Flip Slide HD Video Recorders for loan!

New Media

Did you know that we are constantly getting new DVDs in? If you have any suggestions, please email us and we will keep it in mind when we buy more media.

Motion by Ben Howard, Student Manager of Computing

Motion is an exciting piece of software available to all CNU students through the Media Center. This software allows users to create complex and fascinating digital effects. Many of its capabilities are demonstrated in the commercials seen on TV every day. Do you ever wonder how Disney created their logo that seems to draw itself? Well the answer is that someone used software similar to Motion to manipulate the text to make words appear as though they are drawing themselves. Motion can make words fly across the screen and make images twist and twirl. The program has the capabilities to create light saber effects as in Star-Wars. If you develop your skills you can even make objects appear as if they are on fire. Think of a digital image that involves any sort of movement and it can most definitely be created in Motion. The possibilities with Motion are endless. Have you seen the bizarre Old Spice Commercials lately? Just search, "Old Spice Blocker" in YouTube and you will see what I am talking about. The man featured in the video, Terry Crews, seemingly blocks the word "ODOR" as it flies across the screen. With a little practice, similar effects can be created in Motion. You can make your own commercials in Motion. They do not have to be complex as in the Old Spice Commercials, but rather they can be very simple. Motion comes with easy to use templates. With the templates, users can just drag and drop their own pictures or videos into a readymade commercial. By changing a few titles, a commercial with a professional look is created.
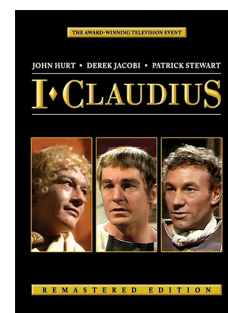
THE AWARD-WINNING TELEVISION EVENT
JOHN HURT • DEREK JACOBI • PATRICK STEWART

I, CLAUDIUS

REMASTERED EDITION

Coming Soon!

I, Claudius: the lush BBC production in 13 episodes.

FB is not your BFF by Petia Sotirova, Services Student Manager

It's no news that Facebook has its issues as far as securing users' information. Last summer's leak of 100 million users' public information is proof that we should be wary of creative hackers who can access public and private Facebook account information. One such hacker got into Mark Zuckerberg's account on January 25, 2011! Fortunately, Facebook has recently rolled out a few security innovations. Here are 5 steps you can take to protect yourself with the new security measures:

1. First, and most basic, make sure you've listed a security question and answer for you account. Go to the Account Settings page. If you do not see the Security Question section, then you have already filled it out.

2. Find the Facebook Security page by searching "Facebook Security." Like the page to receive updates about security and read the helpful information on the page.

3. Facebook is finally making the HTTPS option available. HTTPS encrypts information so that hackers cannot access it over a poorly secured wireless connection. To switch your account to HTTPS, go to Account Settings and click Account Security. Check the box under Secure Browsing—if you can! This option is not yet available for all users.

4. Another new option notifies you when a new device accesses your account. To sign up for this, go to Account Settings, then Account Security, and check the boxes under "When a new computer or mobile device logs into this account."

5. Finally, Facebook will soon launch a "social authentication system" to make sure it is really you using your account by showing you pictures of your friends and asking you to identify them.

facebook

Scanning Room by Erin Butterfield, Equipment Student Manager

"What can I do with a scanner?" Here are a couple suggestions! Say you have to copy some pages from a book, but don't want to pay 10 cents per page to use the copy machine downstairs. Just come up to the Media Center, scan the pages into an Adobe file using the Book Scanner, which is specially designed to scan pages from books right up to the edge of the binding, and print them on the black and white printer for 6 cents per page. Want to save even more money? Print double-sided for 4 cents per page (8 cents for both sides). If you need to pull your document into Microsoft Word in order to edit your scanned page, simply scan the document into the program Readiris using the Plustek OptiBook 4600 (book scanner), which will then transfer it into Word where you can manipulate your document to your heart's content. This option is a savior for anyone who lost the file to their midterm paper but has a hard copy. Now say you have a picture you want to manipulate in Adobe Photoshop, but don't have it in a digital form. Come to the Media Center, scan the photo or image into the computer using the Epson Photo Scanner, save it on your flash drive (the most desirable format is a JPEG) and then bring it into the Editing Suites where you can use Adobe Photoshop for free. Also available is the Canon CanoScan 8600F in Editing suite 4, our picture editing suite, which is desirable for anyone wishing to scan photos, negatives or slides onto a computer. This scanner is exceptional for scanning slides or negatives because it has a backlight and templates for the mediums. The CanoScan also autocorrects your image to remove any dust or glossiness in the photographs. This feature makes the scanned image clearer to edit in Photoshop. Maybe you've never used a scanner before, or if you have it has been a long time. Don't worry about it! The process is simple, and our friendly Media Center desk assistants would be delighted to assist you in performing any of your scanning needs. So make sure to take a trip upstairs and see what the scanning room can do for you.