

7-2004

## Information Please, 2004-07

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## Message from the Director

*By Diane Dates Casey*

*Information Please* has adopted a new look, a new format and a new editor. In an effort to publish the library newsletter more frequently, *Information Please* has gone digital and will be distributed via email. Carol Machura has agreed to serve as its new editor.

Thanks to end-of-the-year budget dust the University Library was able to add more than \$100,000 in books and full-text databases to its resources this fiscal year. In order to strengthen library resources for online learning, new electronic books through NetLibrary are being purchased in Business, Education and Computer Science. Turnitin, a database which identifies plagiarism, will soon be available, so students can submit their papers and learn where they need to improve their citations and paraphrases. Starting in August, [Beth Hansen Shaw](#) will be offering workshops on using Turnitin.

The new GSU web site is live. Now library staff are working on a series of tutorials to assist students in making effective use of library resources. By mid-August multimedia learning objects on Boolean searching, formatting in MLA and APA citation styles and plagiarism will be accessible on the library's web site.

Students, faculty and community users of the library will soon see improvements in technology and furniture. A new small smart classroom/group study room is being refurbished near the reference desk. In the library teaching lab new computers and desks will soon be installed. Furthermore, more tables and end tables wired with electricity and data ports will be available for those who bring their own laptops to the library.

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## Brown vs. Board of Education 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

*By Lydia Morrow Ruetten*

The Library has put together a special collection of materials relating to Brown vs. the Board of Education. Browse the display located just inside the library door. Additional reading materials have been collected and placed in a webliography which can be picked up in the library or viewed at: [www.govst.edu/library/Brown](http://www.govst.edu/library/Brown).

Stop in and check out our materials and special exhibits. Keep your eyes open for an essay and coloring contest this fall, in addition to other library sponsored events.

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## **University Library and SMRHEC Co-sponsor Copyright Workshop**

*By Paul Blobaum*

Over 70 educators and librarians attended the University Library and the South Metropolitan Regional Higher Education Consortium co-sponsored workshop "Copyright Law for Educators: Instruction, Copyright Law, and the Digital Age" on April 15 in the lobby of the GSU Center for Performing Arts. The presenter was Dr. Laura Gasaway, director of the Law Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Gasaway is a leading national authority on copyright law for educators. The workshop was funded by a grant from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and the Illinois State Library. The project coordinator and grant writer was Professor Paul Blobaum, Health Sciences Librarian.

Participants learned how to apply copyright law and the educational fair use guidelines to various classroom and distance education situations. A notebook of workshop materials including guidelines and resources for applying copyright law in educational settings is available in the University Library." A bibliography of the University Library's copyright law resources is available at: <http://www.govst.edu/library/copyrightbibliography>.

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## **Library Launches Employee Wellness Center**

*By Paul Blobaum*

The University Library and the Human Resource Department of Governors

State University have partnered to launch the Employee Wellness Resource Center, located in the University Library. Funded by a \$3,000 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant from the Illinois State Library, the Wellness Resource Center will consist primarily of books and videos on diet, nutrition, exercise, and wellness topics. The project coordinator is Professor Paul Blobaum, Health Science Librarian.

The Center also is being developed with donations of materials from GSU faculty, staff and students. Videos will be shelved in the Video collection, and will be easily identified by a green Wellness Center label. The books will be located on a book shelf near the Reference Desk, and will be identified by a green label as well. All GSU Library borrowers are welcome to use the materials.

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## **Library Focus Groups**

*By Beth Hansen-Shaw*

Focus Groups have been used as research tools for over 50 years, and, this past Winter Trimester, the University Library held three Focus Groups as a means of assessing the quality of services the library provides. Dr. James Howley, Director of Career Services and an experienced sociologist, served as facilitator for all three groups.

Participants were recruited across campus and included a mix of students, staff and faculty. Participants were asked a series of open-ended questions about their experiences using the University Library, including how the library helped or hindered them in their work, what services were most useful and what the library could do to improve its services. Results of the Focus Groups include recommendations for improvements based on the groups' discussions.

Dr. Howley's report and recommendations will be incorporated into the University Library's final Assessment Report, which will be available by the end of Spring/Summer Trimester. Many thanks to everyone who participated in these helpful discussion groups.

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## **Spotlight on Education Databases**

*By Linda Geller*

Many library databases support the information needs of our education students. Searching the *ERIC Bibliographic Database* through EBSCO or

FirstSearch links users to full-text articles when available.' The *ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS)* provides a wide array of non-journal publications in PDF format. Databases that provide articles exclusively from education periodicals include *Education Abstracts Full Text* and *Professional Development Collection*.

Teaching ideas can be found by browsing elementary and high school magazines in *Primary Search* and *MAS Ultra* databases. Several of our education databases contain specialized documents. The *Children's Literature Comprehensive Database (CLCD)* provides full-text reviews of children's books, and is an excellent tool for developing reading lists. The *Kraus Curriculum Development Library (KCDL)* is a database of K-12 curriculum guides, many available in full-text format, and *Mental Measurements Yearbook* provides full-text reviews of educational tests.

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## Library Offers Summer Workshops

*By Linda Geller*

Summer workshops will be offered by the library's [Academic Information & Technology \(AITT\)](#) service. These free workshops teach basic computer skills in popular applications such as PowerPoint, Excel, Word, Outlook, and FrontPage. Other workshops will cover topics such as formatting citations in MLA and APA styles, and plagiarism issues. The AITT Workshop schedule is available on the library's web site and at the Reference Desk.

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## Featuring PROQUEST

*by Mari Ellen Leverence*

Proquest Research Library Database is the most comprehensive database of interdisciplinary journals on the GSU Library's A-Z list and also one of the easiest to use. Research Library offers the capability to do research and literature searches in "one stop." The Proquest Research Database encompasses multiple sub-categories for those who wish to zero in on a particular discipline, such as Criminal Justice, Nursing, CINAHL, Allied Health, Psychology, Agriculture, AGRICOLA and National Newspapers.

Great features provide an advanced search through Proquest. The user can limit or refine a search by scholarly journals or peer-reviewed journals only, by dates of publication, by full-text format only, or by the name of the journal itself. This entire research database can be utilized in nine different languages, including Japanese, Spanish, and German. Proquest's Research

**Library comes highly recommended for new users and advanced searchers.  
All the data online can be emailed, downloaded or printed. High tech and  
well organized!**

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