A Message from the Director

By Rebecca Bostian

Welcome to Spring/Summer Trimester! We’re taking advantage of the time we have before Fall Trimester to enhance library service. We hope you’ll like the way the library is changing. We are trying to bring together services to make it easier to get assistance when it’s needed, and we’re trying to provide some additional quiet study areas away from the activity and business areas of the library. We’ve moved equipment and furniture; we have new photocopiers, new reader printers and new laser printers.

Please give us feedback on how we’re doing in providing you with the services you need. We have a survey at the circulation desk that can be picked up and filled out – it is also available on the library’s Website (www.govst.edu/library/survey.htm). If you don’t want to take the couple of minutes of time it takes to fill out the survey, please use one of the comment cards available at the circulation desk, and drop it into the suggestion box. We carefully examine the comment cards and the survey responses to evaluate our services and are committed to continuously improving them. We want to know how we’re doing, and we need your input to determine that.

E-Reserves and Faculty Services Pages

By Paul Blobaum

The University Library now offers faculty the option of having material digitized and placed on E-Reserves for access at anytime via the Internet. Your subject specialist will help you identify and select material, and will work with you to build your E-Reserve shelf using WebCT. More information is available from the Reserve page at http://www.govst.edu/library/reservec materials.html.

E-Reserves are very popular at other universities, and we hope that GSU faculty will also see how electronic resources can enhance the educational experience. A new feature of the library’s Website is a page that brings together all the services that the library offers to GSU faculty. Additionally, we have new forms, so that you may request Interlibrary Loan articles, dissertations, and RUSH articles via the library Webpage!


Questia

By Diane Dates Casey

Perhaps you have seen the ads circulating at GSU for a new Internet service called Questia. At the Questia Website (http://www.questia.com) the service is described as a supplement to an academic library’s collection in the humanities and social sciences. As a result, students at a distance, either local or outside the region, can access materials online. However, this service is not free; users must subscribe.

Before making a financial commitment, contact your program’s library subject specialist to learn about the online resources that are already available to you online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Not only does the GSU University Library offer electronic books, full-text journal articles and reference resources, but the library staff is ready to provide you with personalized assistance targeted for students at GSU.
Conference Highlights Challenges & Opportunities in the Information Age
by Nancy Shlaes

Thanks to a Professional Development Grant from the Alumni Association, I had the unique opportunity to attend the Special Libraries Association’s (SLA) international conference, Global 2000 in Brighton, England. This was only the second such event in the last seven years and attracted more than 700 professionals from 56 nations. For a week in October in this south coast seaside town, delegates were treated to spectacular keynote addresses, insightful breakout sessions and an exhibit hall loaded with the latest from the information industry.

The conference highlighted five major themes: collaboration, innovation, competitive intelligence, professional training, and global alliances. Each morning of the conference began with a session speaker who elaborated on one or more of these themes. The speakers were Dame Stephanie Shirley of the Information Technology Company, Yves-Michel Mart of the Business Intelligence Company in Europe, and communications specialist Chantal Cuer. Following each speaker’s address, conference continued discussion by participating in strategy sharing sessions. During the afternoons, attendees chose from a variety of educational sessions focused on special librarianship, including digital library projects, intellectual property issues, networking and future global information challenges.

Among conference participants, 23 were Global 2000 Fellowship recipients whose conference attendance was subsidized by SLA. One recipient probably had more excitement than he bargained for. On his flight from Saudi Arabia, Muhammad Yaquob Chaudhary was a passenger on the Saudi Airline jet hijacked the Saturday prior to the conference. Thankfully, all passengers and crew members were unharmed; Mr. Chaudhary arrived at the conference safely.

New Biology and Criminal Justice Databases Available at GSU
By Ann Glascoffe and Nancy Shlaes

You can now search in two new databases: BIOSIS Previews and Criminal Justice Periodicals Index (CJPI). Both were made available in January on the library’s Web page at http://www.govst.edu/library/acs.htm and added to the library’s already extensive list of online resources.

BIOSIS Previews replaces the library’s print subscription to Biological Abstracts and began coverage with January 2000. This database is the ultimate compendium for current life science information focusing on vital biological and medical research. BIOSIS not only contains abstracts to articles found in 5,500 scientific serials but is enhanced by including references to meetings, books, and U.S. patents (1999 forward).

CJPI, like Criminal Justice Abstracts, indexes and abstracts more than 190 journals covering a broad range of criminal justice issues. In addition, however, CJPI provides complete coverage of full-text articles in 45 of its indexed journals, making this the first place to go for full-text articles on criminal justice. Titles in CJPI focus on both practical and theoretical issues in crime, criminalology, etc. The online full-text coverage of journals in CJPI both augments our print collection and enables us to replace print journals with their online versions.

Library Online Guide Has it All
By Colleen Waltman

GSU Library was recently selected for the April 2001 cover of CHOICE Magazine. CHOICE is a publication of the Association of College and Research Libraries and is recognized as an essential tool for collection development in academic settings.

In an effort to assemble as many library resources in one place as possible, the GSU library faculty and staff worked hard to develop an online guide, available through the GSU library menu, the address is http://www.govst.edu/library/onlinenguide.htm.

This guide not only provides access to the myriad of online resources available through the library, but also gives information and instruction about using these resources. While intended primarily for distance education students, the guide should be useful to all GSU faculty, students and staff. Additionally, this guide includes an instrument to assess its usefulness, as well as a link to a survey for distance education students.
Scan the left sidebar on the Library Main Menu Website to unearth a real gem — Writing a Research Paper (http://www.govst.edu/library/researchpaper.html). From this Web document you are a click away from a treasure house of information that will help in writing a research paper.

A link to the subject specialists’ list enables you to contact the information specialist for your program to assist with your library research. Under Writing Assistance you find a link to GROWL — Governors State Regional Online Writing Lab (http://www.govst.edu/users/gsas/owl), where you can submit papers online for suggestions on improving the thesis, organization or structure.

Need examples of citations in your favorite style? It’s here along with links to grammar sites, dictionaries, thesauri, and encyclopedia. Among those sites is the Oxford English Dictionary, as well as Encyclopedia Britannica. For a virtual reference shelf that would be the envy of any student, try Writing a Research Paper.

What is the Acquisitions Department? In the simplest terms, we acquire resources needed for the library collection. These resources include books, videos, software, kits, tests, and music CD’s. In order to acquire these resources acquisitions staff members — Que Owens (Department Head), C. Amy Smith, Joanne Fields-Daley, Jamie Weeks, and Laura Gu — conduct extensive bibliographic searches, as well as maintain a close professional relationship with hundreds of vendors, publishers and producers. Fortunately, this department is full of individuals trained in attending to every detail. At the first sign of discrepancies, our department head is promptly notified and takes the necessary steps to clear up the situation.

Our department is also responsible for receiving and processing all donations. The items not added to the collection are placed in the annual library book sale, a big event for our department, because we get to mingle with the GSU community. The book sale is also the GSU community’s chance to see that there is life beyond the Reference and Circulation Departments in the library. While it is true that we are tucked away in the back of the library, we are completely in tune with its needs. We are a small department, but have been fortunate to enjoy the enthusiasm of student workers and volunteers.

Do You Mean You’ve Never Heard of Us?  
By Que Owens

Ten New Book Titles  
By Helen Benes

HISTORICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF NURSING  
Mary Ellen Snodgrass  
REF. RT31.S661999

CRIMINALISTICS  
An Introduction to Forensic Science  
Richard Saferstein  
HV8073.S22001

STALKING, HARASSMENT, AND MURDER IN THE WORKPLACE:  
Guidelines for Protection and Prevention  
Bernadette Schell  
HV6594.S342000

THE UNCERTAIN MIND  
Individual Differences in Facing the Unknown  
Richard M. Sorrentino  
BF697.S6742000

STEALING TIME  
The New Science of Aging  
Fred Warschofsky  
QP86W371999

INTERPRETING WEIGHT  
The Social Management of Fatness and Thinness  
Jeffery Sobal  
RA645.O231551999

THE DIGITAL DILEMMA  
Intellectual Property in the Information Age  
National Research Council  
KF2979D542000

LIVING YOUR DREAMS  
Gayle Delaney  
BF1091.D381996

SOBERING TALES  
Narratives of Alcoholism and Recovery  
Edmund B. O’Reilly  
HV5279.O761997

SHAMANISM  
The Neural Ecology of Consciousness and Healing  
Michael Winkelman  
RZ401.W562000

His book focuses on the involvement of activists in the U.S. who worked on organizing opposition to the apartheid policy in South Africa. Using organizational records of the American Committee on Africa (ACOA) and the Washington Office on Africa (WOA), as well as private papers of Prexy Nesbitt, Culverson describes political events in the governments of the U.S. and South Africa during the time period covered. He notes how the spread of protest activity increasingly influenced U.S. business and government dealings with South Africa, particularly in the area of divestment.

The events covered by the book are arranged into nine chapters. Culverson explains anti-apartheid activism in terms of social movement theory, which he calls revised political press theory. He sees activism’s effectiveness as "derived from an expanding structure of political opportunity" in the context of changing international configurations of power. The book is illustrated with photos and will be of interest to students and scholars studying the history of apartheid.

Congratulations to Dr. Mercedes Herrera Graf, professor of Psychology, who has worked at GSU for the last ten years. She has many publications about women in American history who have served in wartime. Recently, Graf’s book, A Woman of Honor: Dr Mary E. Walker and the Civil War, was published by Thomas Publications in Gettysburg, Penn. In this book she chronicles Dr. Walker’s life as a medical doctor during the Civil War. Moreover, she is the only woman who has even been awarded the Medal of Honor for valor during war.

Because of her book, Dr. Graf was invited to appear on The History Channel as the resident expert on Dr. Mary E. Walker during the filming of a feature presentation for television. Can’t wait to see it!

Need help teaching and/or developing the information and technology components of your program’s writing or WebCT course? Or do you simply want to enhance your class with library instruction, assignments, or electronic reserves? Visit http://www.govst.edu/library/libfacservices.html and check out the different ways to integrate the library into your course. The subject specialist assigned to your program is dedicated to working with you to provide the best library services and resources possible. To further investigate what the library can do for you and your students, contact your library subject specialist (http://www.govst.edu/library/subject.html).