



Trends and news from Lawrence University's Seeley G. Mudd Library

Director's Notes - Susan Richards

Library Space

We have settled into our renovated space, with overwhelmingly enthusiastic student response. During certain times in the fall and winter terms, students occupied every seat on the main level. Those with laptop computers have been making heavy use of the study table network connections. The most frequent question is, "When will you renovate the upper floors?" That won't happen this summer, but we hope to receive approval to renovate the fourth floor in summer of 2003.

Pictures of the Mudd's interior will be appearing in two national publications this spring. A photo of the Milwaukee-Downer Room will grace the cover of *Choice* magazine in May. *Choice*, published monthly, provides reviews of books and electronic resources appropriate for college and university collections. Nearly every college and university library in the U.S. receives this publication. The Lincoln Reading Room will be featured in an *American Libraries* article on building construction and renovation in April. *American Libraries*, also published monthly, is the official publication of the American Library Association and has a readership of over 59,000 persons worldwide. We are very pleased to see the Mudd and Lawrence get this recognition.

Student Research

As part of a Mellon Foundation grant to the ACM, library faculty, instructional technologists, and a science faculty member have been hosting discussions with discipline faculty about student research. In November and January, science and social science faculty

discussed research skills they expect students to have and how library faculty can help students learn those skills. The humanities faculty will meet on April 25 for this discussion. Librarians regularly meet with classes, at instructor invitation, to teach students how to find the best information and then evaluate it for credibility and appropriateness for an assignment. We work with many classes, including those in biology, psychology, music history, history, studio art, anthropology, and chemistry. If you expect your students to complete an assignment (it doesn't have to be a term paper) by using information located outside of class readings, a session with a librarian may be beneficial. Call Gretchen Revie at 6730 to discuss the possibilities. You may also want to look at "Alternatives to Term Papers," a guide faculty created in Spring 2001. It is available at: <http://www.lawrence.edu/dept/library/instruct/alternatives.html>

Library Collection

This spring the library is asking academic departments to suggest periodical titles to discontinue beginning in January 2003. Periodicals continue to increase by about 10% annually. For next year in particular, the university administration has indicated that we should expect the materials budget to remain flat, meaning that, unless some subscriptions are eliminated, the library will face a shortfall of over \$30,000. Cutting periodicals is always painful, as faculty request subscriptions they believe are essential to their programs. After the budget is set in July, the library will cut only those periodicals absolutely necessary to meet our bottom line.



Primary Historical Documents - At Your Desktop

Two new full-text sources provide you and your students full-text computer access to primary documents in U.S. history.

North American Women's Letters and Diaries includes writings from over 400 women in approximately 50,000 pages of text. The earliest source is a diary of Hety Shepard's from 1675; Margaret Mitchell (Marsh) wrote the most recent letters in 1949. A researcher can find primary source material on courtship, weddings, childbirth, emigration, illness, work and travel. One can also read how particular women reacted to major events of their day – the Salem Witch Trials, American Revolution, Nat Turner's Insurrection, the Civil War, the Chicago Fire of 1871, the Titanic, World War I and World War II all appear in these letters and diaries. While the database includes plenty of famous women like Abigail Adams, Sarah and Angelina Grimke, Lydia Maria Child and Sarah Orne Jewett, ordinary women like Emily French and Sarah Wister also provide windows into their lives. The indices by year, author, personal or historical events, as well as the full-text search make finding appropriate documents easy.

The American Civil War Letters & Diaries contains letters, diaries, and memoirs from over 450 persons who wrote about their experiences in the Civil War. The database includes a few unpublished manuscripts, but the bulk of the texts are from published collections. Battle accounts, conditions for soldiers and officers, imprisonment, and life for those left at home provide a vivid picture of how the Civil War affected people as individuals. One can search the full-text of all documents, or use the author, places, battles, or day-by-day indices to locate documents.

Both of these databases appear on the Electronic Resources page, under Humanities, or in the alphabetical list. The creator, Alexander Street Press, in collaboration with the University of Chicago, indicates that both databases will continue to grow in size as more documents are scanned and indexed.

A New Face at the Reference Desk:

Valerie Magno has a background in Science but considers herself a "generalist" when it comes to consumption of information. She was raised in Montana, gaining her under-graduate degrees in Biology and in Modern Languages (German option). After working as a supervisor at a food production facility, she headed back to school and obtained her M.A in Botany in 1995 from the University of Texas at Austin. Before she finished her Botany masters, she had already decided to pursue Library and Information Science and started volunteering in the Geology Library even as she finished her thesis on optimization of cactus tissue culture. She also studied ribosome inactivating proteins in pokeweed, using electron microscopy, which she likens to "photography with a large camera". As a student in the GSLIS department at the University of Texas at Austin, Valerie worked in academic libraries and interned at 3M.. She earned her Masters in Library and Information Science in 1997 and worked at Motorola, as a Librarian, before leaving Austin. She is now working part-time at the Mudd library until June. You're likely to find her at the reference desk Monday through Friday, 10am-1pm or Tuesdays. 6pm -10pm.



DVD Collection Grows

A year ago, the library decided to purchase DVDs whenever possible instead of videotapes. As of March 1, our DVD collection numbered sixty-three titles, with others on order. If we have a title already on videotape, we will not replace it in DVD, choosing only to purchase new titles (to us) in DVD format. So, it will be a while before DVDs outnumber videotapes. Nonetheless, our DVD collection now includes -

- ◆ Cite des Enfants Perd[us] = The City of Lost Children
- ◆ Citizen Kane
- ◆ Elizabeth
- ◆ Jekyll & Hyde: a musical
- ◆ Last Emperor
- ◆ M
- ◆ A Midsummer Night's Dream, directed by Michael Hoffman
- ◆ The Mikado
- ◆ North By Northwest
- ◆ Orlando
- ◆ Le Retour de Martin Guerre
- ◆ The Wonderful World of Louis Armstrong

To see a complete listing of all titles, enter DVD videodiscs as a subject search in the library's catalog. DVDs (and videotapes) circulate for seven days. They are interfiled with the videotapes on the main level.

To see the list of DVDs and videos that have been added recently, go to <http://www.lawrence.edu/dept/library/media/newvid.htm> Happy viewing!

Spoken Recordings on CD

Keeping up with changing format means adding new collections. The library's latest is a small collection of spoken recordings on compact disk. Numbering only a dozen titles, we expect this collection will grow modestly over the next few years. Currently, you can listen to:

- ◆ The Doctor's Dilemma by George Bernard Shaw
- ◆ The Playboy of the Western World by J.M. Synge
- ◆ Blithe Spirit by Noel Coward
- ◆ All My Sons by Arthur Miller
- ◆ . . . and several other titles

To find a complete list, type s=text CD in LUCIA. Watch for the text CD designation with the call number. These items are shelved with other media near the Lincoln Reading Room. Ask for assistance if you cannot find them.

Michael May, our ILL Assistant in Chief, offers some Interlibrary Loan Guidance:

The Seeley G. Mudd Library offers interlibrary loan (ILL) services to students, faculty, and staff in order to provide access to library materials not held locally. We borrow books, journal articles, scores, government documents, dissertations, newspapers on microfilm, and other materials. We do not borrow or lend videos, DVDs, CDs, or other audio/visual materials, or borrow items owned by our library or the Appleton Public Library.

To place an ILL request:

- Plan Ahead. Keep in mind that it takes an average of 7 to 10 days to receive a book or article through ILL, and that the length of the loan will be determined by the lending library. Prioritize your requests.
- Check our library. We may already have the book or article you want. Our collection includes nearly 350,000 volumes and over 1,400 periodical subscriptions, and is supplemented by numerous electronic resources and databases. It's interesting to note that while Lawrence students, faculty, and staff submitted nearly 3,000 interlibrary loan requests in 2001, other libraries sent us over 3,300 borrowing requests for items owned by our library.
- Select one of three request options. Submit your request on a paper form available in the library, a Web form at <http://www.lawrence.edu/library/ill/>, or a LUCIA form available through a Telnet connection to the library catalog. You will need to use your Lawrence ID card number, the 13-digit number below the bar-code strip on the front of your card, for the Web and LUCIA forms.
- Provide complete and accurate information. The more information you provide, the faster we will be able to process your request. If you do not have a complete citation for the item you are requesting, please ask a reference librarian for assistance.
- Pick up and return loans promptly. We will notify you by phone or email when your loan has arrived and is ready for you to pick up in person at the library circulation desk. Generally speaking, photocopies of articles are yours to keep and will be delivered to you through campus mail. Remember, loan periods are set by the lending libraries. If you would like to request a renewal, please contact us at least 3 days before your item is due.

Our library assumes the costs of interlibrary loan requests for students, faculty, and staff. On average, college libraries pay about \$20 to complete each ILL transaction. Many libraries charge us for their services, and copyright laws limit the numbers of free photocopies available to our library.

Please contact us if your project will require extensive use of interlibrary loan. Our reference librarians offer guidance to library users in specific areas of research, and provide direction to additional resources on or off campus.

The ILL office, located next to the library circulation desk, is open from 8 am to 5 pm, Tuesdays through Saturdays, when classes are in session.

ILL Phone: 6758

Reference Phone: 6752

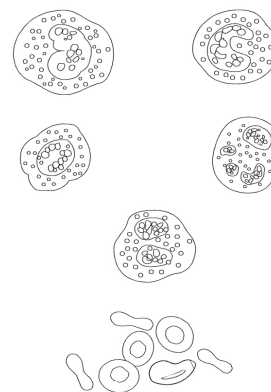
Email lucialib@lawrence.edu

Web <http://www.lawrence.edu/library/ill/>

Spotlight on: Selected Bio Science Databases

The following are available at the library's Electronic Resources page at <http://www.lawrence.edu/library/research/elecres.shtml>. Just follow the link at the top of the page, or scroll down to titles for **Sciences**.

BioOne is a full-text collection of "high-impact" bioscience journals focused on the biological, ecological and environmental sciences. It provides full-text of peer-reviewed journals and bulletins published by small societies and non-commercial publishers which are AIBS (American Institute of Biological Sciences) member societies and other closely related organizations. Visiting their "Help" section will make searching more efficient.



There is a current awareness service for Biology journals listed in the BioOne database, **BioOne Journals Online Issue Alert**. You will receive free e-mail notification of new issues for any journal you select from the list of BioOne journals.

AGRICOLA covers materials relating to all aspects of agriculture, forestry, and animal science from 1970 to present, and has over 3,500,000 records from over 5,000 sources.

BasicBIOSIS covers basic information about biology and other life sciences, including the current year and most recent four update years. It has over 350,000 records from over 350 sources. BasicBIOSIS covers a subset of BIOSIS, the electronic version of Biological Abstracts.

Both **AGRICOLA** and **BasicBIOSIS** are available using the FirstSearch interface. In addition to the standard keyword, author, title, and abstract searching, in AGRICOLA you can also search by descriptors, subjects, geographic regions, and more. BasicBIOSIS adds subject searching, super taxa, and chemical indexing, including the ability to search by CAS substance registry number.

If you want to know more about these and other library databases for the sciences, contact a reference librarian at x6752 or e-mail reference@lawrence.edu.

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Web Search Engines

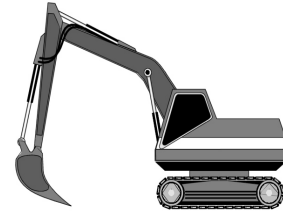
Frequent modifications to Web search engines and the ever increasing availability of solid academic information on the Web make it necessary to locate and study reliable search engine review sources.

In a recent work by information retrieval guru Randolph Hock titled, *The Extreme Searcher's Guide to Web Search Engines* Hock analyzes the current top eight search engines: AltaVista, Excite, Fast Search, Google, HotBot, Lycos, Northern Light, and Yahoo.¹ His criteria for selection to this elite group is the size and prominence of the search engine's database and its strength as a research tool. Hock's analysis leads to the conclusion that the serious researcher must use more than one of the top eight search engines to find most of the sites that match their needs. This is true because search engines differ in the way they determine how to retrieve a

Website and Website pages. For example, retrieval factors vary from engine to engine such as the search algorithm, use of a specified syntax [Boolean expression and user applied syntax], and typical retrieval ranking factors. Search engines are not alike in the way they treat Web page popularity, frequency of terms, number of matching query terms, rarity of terms, weighting by fields, weighting of terms, proximity of terms, word variants, case-sensitivity, analysis of documents, relevance feedback, and date. Here are a few resources to help you distinguish search engine features and stay current with search engine developments:

- 1.) About.com Web Search: <http://websearch.about.com/>
- 2.) The Extreme Searcher's Web Page: <http://extremesearcher.com/>
- 3.) Free Pint: <http://freepint.co.uk/>
- 4.) ResearchBuzz.com: <http://researchbuzz.com/>
- 5.) Search Engine Showdown: <http://searchengineshowdown.com/>
- 6.) Search Engine Watch: <http://searchenginewatch.com/>

¹ Hock, Randolph. The Extreme Searcher's Guide to Web Search Engines. 2nd ed. Medford, New Jersey: CyberAge Books, Fall 2001. [Favorably reviewed in Choice, Library and Information Science Research, The Serials Librarian, and Technical Services Quarterly]



The Internet Scout Project

Compiled by librarians, educators, and content specialists, the Internet Scout Project wants everyone to “surf smarter, not longer.” It is funded by the National Science Foundation and is free to the entire Internet community.

Appropriate at this time is the compilation of sites relevant to signs of spring,
<http://scout.cs.wisc.edu/nsdl-reports/life-sci/2002/lis-020322-topicindepth.html#1>

The archives include links to reports for Science & Engineering, Social Sciences & Humanities, and Business and Economics. On the Archives home page <http://scout.cs.wisc.edu/archives/> you'll find “a searchable and browseable database to over seven years' worth of the Scout Report and subject-specific Scout Reports. It contains 12535 critical annotations of carefully selected Internet sites and mailing lists.

The archives can be searched by title, alternate title, author, publisher, Library of Congress Subject Headings, URL, and keyword.

Reports include:

Life Sciences: Biology, Zoology, Ecology, Botany, and other Life Science topics.

Physical Sciences: Geology, Chemistry, Astronomy, Physics, and other Physical Science topics.

Math, Engineering, and Technology: Industrial Engineering, Calculus, Algebra, Geometry, Civil Engineering, Applied Mathematics, Environmental Engineering, Computer Sciences, Human Factors, Hardware, and Software, and related topics.

If you haven't browsed the Internet Scout Project, a whole new virtual Internet library is waiting for you.
