



Porter Henderson Library Faculty Newsletter



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Angelo State University

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A Word from the Director

..... Dr. Maurice G. Fortin (942-2222, ext. 222)

During the month of September, progress continued on the planning for the Library's new floor. The various groups having space on the new floor reviewed and approved the revised floor plans. DMS Architects and the Physical Plant held a pre-bid meeting on September 26th where potential contractors and sub-contractors received information concerning the project. Following the meeting, the contractor and sub-contractor representatives toured the inside and outside of the building. Several even climbed up to the roof to see for themselves the site of the project. Bids were opened on October 8th.

On September 24th, the Administrative Council reviewed parking options and changes available during the numerous construction projects scheduled to begin in the next six months. As these projects begin, University administrators will be sending information to the campus concerning changes in parking options.

The University Library Committee met on September 19th and approved the Library's FY 03 Materials Budget. Javad Maher sent allocation information to each academic dean and department. The Committee also endorsed the proposed uses of the new LIFE Fee (Library Improvement & Funding Enterprise) revenues. The majority of this new fee will support the continued operation of several on-line services (ABC-Clio, CINAHL, FirstSearch, and Lexis-Nexis' Academic Universe) as well as the purchase of two or three additional on-line database services. These new on-line database services will probably be available in the 2003 Spring Semester. At that time, the Library will provide the campus community with information on the new services. One of the Library's goals is to increase the amount of full-text/image on-line database services available to our users. This will be very beneficial during the construction project for the new floor.

For additional information on Library services, please visit the Library's Web page (<http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/>) and watch for future

editions of this *Newsletter*. The rest of this current issue includes information about the upcoming visit of Cecil Williams to San Angelo and the Library's new Media Librarian, Hongxia Yang.

Rev. Cecil Williams Returning Home

Cecil Williams, pastor of the Glide Memorial Methodist Church in San Francisco will be in San Angelo November 10-12, 2002. Rev. Williams, born and reared in San Angelo, graduated from Blackshear High School in 1948 as class president and valedictorian. He earned a sociology degree from Huston-Tillotson College in Austin and was one of the first five African American students admitted on a full-time basis to Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University.

Williams served in several churches including ones in Dallas, Texas; Hobbs, New Mexico; and Kansas City, Missouri, before going to Glide Memorial, located in the middle of San Francisco's Tenderloin District. From a church of less than 100, the church has grown to 11,000 members and 200 staff and is known for its social work in the city.

On Sunday morning Williams will preach at the Wesley United Methodist Church where he preached his first sermon. That evening, he will preach at the First United Methodist Church. The ASU student group, Black Organization Striving for Success, will sponsor a forum with Williams and William "Bill" Maxwell, the AEP/West Texas Utilities Distinguished Professor in Residence, at 6:30 p.m. on Monday in the Davidson Center. The forum is open to the public. After the event the West Texas Collection will host a reception and display featuring Williams and his family and the African American community in San Angelo.

On November 12th there will be a Glide Celebration at 7 p.m. in the Junell Center. This event will feature Williams and the Glide Ensemble Singers. In addition, poet Maya Angelou will be a part of the program. Williams has said this will be a celebration of diversity and unity.

New Media Librarian Joins the Staff

..... Hongxia Yang (942-2313)

Excited to make San Angelo her new home, Hongxia Yang joined the ASU library team as the new Media Librarian in August 2002.

A native of the People's Republic of China, she was born in the north of China and grew up there until she came to the U.S. Affected by her parents, she dreamed of being a professor since she was a little girl. After graduating from a Normal University with a Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature, she worked in a foreign trade company for three years. In order to realize her dream, she returned to the university campus and worked there for another three years.

After celebrating the New Year of 2000, Hongxia came to the United States to continue her advanced studies at the University of Southern Mississippi. There she received the Master of Library & Information Science and the Master of Science in Instructional Technology. Then she and her husband moved from Mississippi to West Texas and began her new life and new career at ASU.

During daily work, she enjoys helping faculty, staff, and students to locate library resources they need. In her spare time, she likes to spend time on the computer and the Internet, playing badminton, and cooking.

Elections and Congressional Hearings

Need more information before you cast your ballot in November? Check out the "Elections 2002: State and Federal" page at <http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/govdocs/election2002.htm>.

Interested in Congressional hearings? The contents of the "Selected New Government Documents, August 2002" page (<http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/govdocs/newdocs/Aug02.htm>) is exclusively Congressional hearings on current topics (*e.g.*, accounting standards, airport security, Afghanistan, terrorism, Enron, human cloning, and computer network security). There are also two links using canned searches that will retrieve those hearings for the 106th and 107th sessions that have been cataloged and appear in RamCat.



The Benefits of Humor

The following is presented in honor of the 2002 Angelo State University Symposium, "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Laughter: Humor & American Values," scheduled for October 21 and 22. This information can be found on "The Laughter Remedy" web site (<http://www.laughterremedy.com/>).

"Recent research has demonstrated what our grandmothers always knew: Laughter is Good Medicine. Humor and laughter make a significant contribution to both your physical and mental health. Learning to adopt a lighter attitude and see the funny side of everyday situations gives you the resilience you need to cope on the tough days. ...

Physical Health Benefits

- Stronger immune system
- Cardiac exercise
- Reduced stress hormones
- Reduced pain
- Muscle relaxation

Mental Health Benefits

- Less stress
- Reduced anger, anxiety
- Increased joy, aliveness
- More positive, optimistic mood
- Sense of control

Work-Related Benefits

- Humor Improves:
 - Team building
 - Communication skills
 - Conflict management
 - Morale, job satisfaction
 - Creativity, problem solving
 - Resilience
 - Stress management
 - Productivity

To enjoy these benefits of laughter and humor everyone is invited to view the library display of examples of political cartoons, comic strips, and other humorous writings, located in front of the Reference Desk.