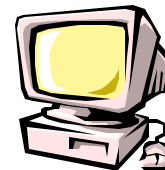




Porter Henderson Library Faculty Newsletter



A Word from the Director

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

On behalf of the staff of the Library and the West Texas Collection, I want to welcome everyone back for the start of the 2004 Spring Semester.

Over the Christmas Holiday break, the various contractor crews continued work on the construction project. One crew finished the installation of the fire suppression system on the First Floor. The Second Floor restrooms neared completion of the tile work and installation of the fixtures. Crews working on the new floor continued with erecting walls and began painting the interior sections of the floor. The Library's existing elevator should be back in use by the time you receive this issue of the *Newsletter*.



Over the course of the 2003 Fall Semester, I conducted a series of meetings with students, faculty, and staff to explore options and possibilities of how to make the best use of the existing three floors of the Library. During the Christmas Holiday break, I completed the first draft of a proposed remodeling program for the Library. By the end of this spring semester, I hope the plan will evolve into a formal proposal to send forward to

Dr. Coers' Office.

One feature from the Library's Web page you may not be aware of is the "New Books and Government Documents" page. (<http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/newbooks/index.htm>) You can access this page by going to the RamQuest page. In the descriptive information for RamCat (the Library's on-line catalog), there is a link to "New Acquisitions." That link will take you to the page where you will be able to access four "weeks" worth of listings of new materials added to the Library's various collections. Each listing is arranged by collection and then by call number. "Selected New Government Documents" are grouped by month instead of week. These new documents are arranged by Library of Congress subject headings. A canned "subject browse" search is associated with each heading, enabling you to find other resources in RamCat on the same topic.

In this issue of the *Newsletter*, you will learn about the newest online resources available from the Library (via RamNet) and some new features in RamCOPS. You can read a reminder about using EZproxy to access databases from off-campus and using the IRS web site to help prepare your income taxes. There is also an article about the first recipient of the Joe Bill Lee Scholarship, a new scholarship opportunity for student assistants in the Library and West Texas Collection. The issue ends with some information on a new federal bill (H.R. 3077, International Higher Education Act of 2003) and to an article looking at the divergent viewpoints on the bill's provisions.

New Online Resources for Spring 2004

..... Antonella Ward (942-2154)

The Porter Henderson Library has recently added four new databases to its collection of online resources. The new databases are JSTOR's *Language & Literature Collection*, EBSCOhost's *American Humanities Index* and *Communications and Mass Media Complete*, and FirstSearch's *ClasePeriodica*.

A generous gift from Dr. and Mrs. Perry Gragg made possible the Library's subscription to *Language & Literature collection*. The Collection is home to 46 titles spanning the literary

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cultures of many different countries, and containing articles in several languages, including Arabic, Italian, and German. Developed with the help of the Modern Language Association, this collection includes *PMLA* (the official journal of the Modern Language Association of America), and a range of core journals in the diverse fields of literary criticism that have emerged in the last 30 years.

American Humanities Index is a collection of bibliographic references to literary, scholarly and creative journals published in the United States and Canada. This database covers over 700 journals published from 1975 to the present. All journals included in the *American Humanities Index* are indexed in their entirety (cover to cover). The database provides citation information for articles, essays and reviews, as well as original creative works including poems, fiction, photographs, paintings and illustrations.

Communications and Mass Media Complete incorporates *CommSearch* (formerly produced by the National Communication Association) and *Mass Media Articles Index* (formerly produced by Pennsylvania State University) along with numerous other journals to create an extensive research and reference resource in the communication and mass media fields. CMMC offers cover-to-cover (“core”) indexing and abstracts for over 300 journals, and selected (“priority”) coverage of over 100 more, for a combined coverage of more than 400 titles. Furthermore, this database includes full text for nearly 200 journals. Many major journals have indexing, abstracts, PDFs and searchable citations from their first issues (some dating as far back as 1915) to the present.

ClasePeriodica indexes Latin American journals in the sciences and humanities. CLASE indexes more than 1,200 sources published in journals specializing in the social sciences and humanities. PERIODICA covers over 1,400 journals specializing in science and technology. The database offers access to more than 300,000 bibliographic citations from documents published in Spanish, Portuguese, French and English in the 2,600 scholarly journals and other sources covered by both indexes. It contains information from articles, essays, book reviews, monographs, conference proceedings, technical reports, interviews and brief notes published in journals edited in 24 different countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as from publications that focus on Pan-American issues.

New Features in RamCOPS

Our Serials Solutions service, which produces the content for RamCOPS, now includes two new features: the ability to search for a specific title, and the ability to retrieve a list of titles by subject category. These two features can be found at the beginning of each alphabetical list of journals in RamCOPS.

The first search box allows you to search for a title by the beginning word(s) (Title begins), the actual title (Title exact), title keyword(s) (Title contains all words), or the title’s ISSN. The second box groups titles by subject categories such as Business and Economics, Fine Arts and Music, Health Sciences, and Physical Sciences and Mathematics.

Having Trouble Accessing Databases from Home? An EZproxy Reminder

Many of the electronic resources subscribed to by the Porter Henderson Library are licensed to be used only by current Angelo State University students, faculty and staff. The Library now uses a utility called EZproxy, which rewrites the URLs of restricted Web sites so requests going through the EZproxy server to the vendor systems appear to come from on-campus.

If you are using a computer off-campus, you will be required to login to EZproxy. The login used is a valid ASU POP e-mail account username and password. (All requests for assistance with ASU e-mail accounts and login information should be directed to Information Technology's Help Desk at 942-2911).

EZproxy uses cookies to keep track of each session, during which authorized users have seamless access to each database they choose. EZproxy will not work if the browser is set NOT to accept cookies.

If you experience access problems *after* logging into the EZproxy server, please e-mail Antonella Ward, Electronic Resources Librarian, at antonella.ward@angelo.edu. In your e-mail, please include as much information as possible, especially the URL at the point where access was denied, and any related error message that appears on your screen.



Joe Bill Lee (center) and Preston Lewis (right), ASU's Director of News and Information Service and Vice President of the Friends group, present the Joe Bill Lee Scholarship to Zach Ramirez (left). (photo by Alex Cano, University Archivist)

Friends Group Awards First Lee Scholarship

During the fall semester the Friends of the Porter Henderson Library and West Texas Collection established the new Joe Bill Lee Scholarship to recognize outstanding work by a student assistant in the Library or the West Texas Collection. A junior kinesiology major from San Angelo has been selected recipient of the first Lee Scholarship, named in honor of the former Angelo State University library director.

Zachary Ramirez, a student assistant in the Library's acquisitions unit, has been awarded the \$250 scholarship for the spring semester. He is the son of Irene G. Ramirez of San Angelo and Oscar Reyes Ramirez of Arlington and is a San Angelo Central High School graduate. Mr. Lee, the University's library director from 1963-1992, oversaw the design and construction of the Porter Henderson Library. Dr. Maurice Fortin, the current Library Director, said the decision by the Friends to award a scholarship in Lee's name was an appropriate way to honor Mr. Lee for his many accomplishments and many years of service to the University.

Both Zach and Mr. Lee were honored during a presentation of the scholarship certificate Wednesday, December 17, in the Conference Room of the Porter Henderson Library. Mrs. Ramirez was an honored guest.

The Lee Scholarship will be awarded each fall and spring semester to a student nominated by a supervisor or other full-time library staff member for outstanding work performance and service-oriented attitude. The recipient must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher and have worked at least two long semesters (fall and spring) or a long semester and the summer sessions in the Library.

(The preceding information came from a Dec. 15, 2003, Press release.)

A Tax Story: "Dear IRS"

..... Janetta Paschal (942-2300)

Picture a classic illegally altered *Peanuts* cartoon: Snoopy sitting on top of his doghouse with his typewriter. He begins to type: "Dear IRS." He pauses to think. He continues typing: "I am writing to you to cancel my subscription. Please remove my name from your mailing list."

I suppose we could request to have our name removed from the IRS mailing list, like Snoopy did, but they would probably refuse to honor our request. Therefore, since we will all be on the list we must communicate by April 15, in some form or fashion, with the agency charged with collecting the government's annual "tribute" from the nation's taxpayers. The usual method has been via the mail-in paper forms. While many taxpayers still use this method, more and more are using electronic means to file their returns; 53 million returns were e-filed in 2003.



If you are one of those taxpayers who prefer the tried and true paper method, individual IRS tax forms, schedules, and instructions have begun arriving in the Library and can be found on a cart near the entrance to the Juvenile Collection. The publications found here include:

- Forms 1040, 1040A, and 1040EZ (and instructions)
- Form 8863 (Education Credits (Hope and Lifetime Learning Credits))
- Schedule 1 (Interest and Dividend Income)
- Schedule 2 for Form 1040A (Child and Dependent Care Expenses) (and instructions)
- Schedule A&B (Itemized Deductions & Interest and Dividend Income)
- Schedule C (Profit and Loss from Business)
- Schedule D (Capital Gains and Losses)
- Schedule E (Supplemental Income and Loss)
- Schedule F (Profit or Loss from Farming)
- Schedule EIC (Earned Income Credit)
- Schedule SE (Self Employment Tax)

However, if you prefer to use the computer to obtain forms and instructions, especially those not available in the Library, the best place to go is the IRS web site at <http://www.irs.gov>. Use the “Search Forms and Publications for:” box on the left to retrieve any needed forms.

Many individual taxpayers may find an additional section on the IRS web site useful. “1040 Central” includes highlights of tax law changes, tax tips, and answers to frequently asked tax questions. You can also find information on “Free File” on the web site. Free File is online tax preparation and electronic filing through a partnership agreement between the IRS and the Free File Alliance, LLC. A Help Center, answers to frequently asked questions, eligibility guidelines, and a list of Free File Alliance companies are provided at “Free File Home.”

International Studies in Higher Education Act of 2003: Culture War? or Cultures Passing in the Night?

A daily news e-mail message from *The Chronicle of Higher Education* this week included an abstract of an article from the January 1, 2004, issue of *The American Prospect*. In “Culture War, Round 3077” the author, Todd Gitlin, discusses the two diametrically opposite viewpoints held by some members of government and academe about the bill, H.R. 3077, International Studies in Higher Education Act of 2003. He includes statements from people on both sides of the divide, from liberal congressmen to a dean from Columbia University to the past president of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA).

Included below is a short summary, with a URL and link to the article (which is available online), and a PURL link to the House report on the bill. All three versions of the bill are available via “GPO Access: Congressional Bills: Main Page” (URL and link included below). All quoted statements are from the online version of the article.

- Gitlin, Todd. “Culture War, Round 3077.” *The American Prospect* vol. 15 no. 1, January 1, 2004. (Available online at <http://www.prospect.org/print/V15/1/gitlin-t.html> and via LEXIS-NEXIS and Student Resource Center Gold Edition in RamNet)

“This latest battle has it all: a federal international-studies bill and two sides – government and academe – worlds apart in their interpretation.” “... [T]he International Studies in Higher Education Act of 2003 (H.R. 3077) authorizes the secretary of education to spend more money to promote ‘foreign language fluency and knowledge of world regions’ and to ‘foster debate on American foreign policy from diverse perspectives,’ among other good works.”

The same bill authorizes the creation of an advisory board, to be composed of political appointees. This board is to “ensure that funded activities ‘reflect diverse perspectives and the full range of views on world regions, foreign languages, and international affairs.’” Some academics call this surveillance and advice by such a board “meddling” but politicians say there is no cause for alarm. “What we are dealing with is not so much a culture war as cultures passing in the night.”

- *H.R. 3077, To amend title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to enhance international education programs* (three versions available via “GPO Access: Congressional Bills: Main Page” at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/bills/index.html>)
- *International Studies in Higher Education Act of 2003: report to accompany H.R. 3077* (including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office). House report, 108-308.
 - US Documents microfiche: Y 1.1/8:108-308
 - PURL link to PDF version: <http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS39833>