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A Word from the Dean



Diane Dates Casey

What's new at the University Library?

New Extended Hours

The library is now open from 8:30 a.m. until 10:30 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Let us know if you like the new hours. They are part of a pilot project and will not be continued if students are not taking advantage of them.

New Rule

Drinking from covered containers is now permitted in the library except at computer stations.

New Employees

Sarah Wegley, Tom Johnson and Rodney Finley in Reference, Maggie Gessner in Serials/Acquisitions and Terry Rickhoff and Karen Evans Thomas in Circulation have all joined our staff recently. See *Meet Our New Employees* below.

New Upgrades

Susan Bell was promoted to Library Operations Assistant and Annie Ware to Library Technical Assistant III in Bibliographic and Metadata, Patricia Griffin to Library Technical Assistant II in Circulation, Amy Holman to Library Technical Assistant II in Acquisitions/Serials, and Maureen Bendoraitis to Information Technology Manager/Administrative Coordinator and Brenda Stennis to Information Technology/Technical Associate in Computer Support.

Retiree Honored



On December 8, 2004, Mari Ellen Leverage was honored as she retired after 18 years of service in the library at Governors State. She started as a library technical assistant and was hired as a reference librarian upon completion of her M.L.S. degree. She served as liaison to programs in CBPA, CHP and CAS. Recently she was head of Reference and provided administrative support to the manager of Circulation. Professor Leverage was highly active in the Faculty Senate and University Professionals of Illinois.

In Memory of Quemolia Owens



With deep sadness the library staff marked the passing of Quemolia Owens on January 17, 2005. Que joined the staff of the library in 1976 as a member of the Cataloging Department. Over the years she progressed through the ranks of cataloging and became the head of the Acquisitions Department in the early 1990s. She was actively involved in the Civil Service Senate as a senator and served as a union steward for Teamsters Local 743.

Faculty Authors' Reception to Be Held in April

The annual Faculty Authors' Reception will be held Wednesday, April 13, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the Library Balcony. Helen Benos will again coordinate the event. Faculty members, watch for information about submitting your publications for display.

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Intern Expresses Gratitude

Randy Schaal

I would like to express my thanks to the entire GSU Library staff for making my library technical assistant internship, through the LTA Program at College of DuPage, a truly valuable experience. From start to finish, the staff has provided me with a variety of duties, projects and assignments, giving me ample

opportunities to work both independently and with other talented staff members, to help provide library users with the friendly, excellent service these members routinely provide here.

I can highly recommend GSU as a site for future interns who are interested in learning how an academic library serves its users. Thanks to all for their friendliness and help, from Dean Diane Casey Dates who stopped in and welcomed me on my first day, to the outstanding staff members in Technical Services, Reference and Circulation who have made my stay here a pleasant one.

And, a special thanks to my mentor, Lydia Morrow Ruetten, who has provided me with constant encouragement and support from day one.

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News from Lydia

Lydia Morrow Ruetten

Pilot Study: Beverages Allowed in Library

Beginning in January, the University Library will start a pilot study to allow covered beverages in the library. No beverages will be allowed at any of the computer stations. Covered beverages, such as commercially bottled water, water bottles, and covered commuter mugs will be allowed. We ask that all patrons be aware that this is a pilot study and the success of the study depends on our patrons. Please be courteous and deposit all garbage in the appropriate receptacles, and immediately report any spills to a staff member.

LSTA Weed and Feed Grant

The Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White awarded a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant to Governors State University in the amount of \$4,000. The money was awarded as a “Weed and Feed” grant and will allow the library to enhance our electronic business book collection, while allowing us to weed the outdated materials. Lydia Morrow Ruetten was instrumental in writing the grant, and will be the project director.

Library Auction

The University Library will be hosting an auction within the next few months. Items to be auctioned include coffee table books, figurines and other items the library has received as gifts that cannot be added to the collection. Monies from the auction will be used for either one of two things. If we are awarded the National Library of Medicine traveling exhibit, “Changing the Face of Medicine,”

the money will be used for programs to showcase the exhibit.

If we are not awarded the exhibit, we will use the money for an information kiosk for the library. A letter will be going out in the next few weeks asking for donations to the auction. Please do not wait for the announcement, drop off your gift items to Lydia Morrow Ruetten in the library. All donations will receive an acknowledgment letter for tax purposes.

Book Sale

The library has two book sale shelves with new items added weekly. Hardbound books are \$1.00 and paperbacks are \$.50. Feel free to stop in and browse.

The PITCH

Learn how to analyze ads with a free copy of “The Pitch” by Hugh Rank, now available at the library reference desk, courtesy of the GSU Foundation and the Library.



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Academic Computing Workshops Resume

Linda Geller

This trimester, the library continues its free workshop series with the return of popular applications as well as new offerings. Workshops include Excel Basics, WebCT, Elluminate, iMail, Outlook, APA Citations, Copyright Issues, and Plagiarism Issues. New sessions include remote access to your GSU computer, and navigating LiveText. Workshops are open to all faculty, staff and students. The complete workshop schedule is available on the library's web site at <http://www.govst.edu/library/workshops> and at the Reference Desk.

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Library Acquires Standard & Poor's NetAdvantage

Beth Hansen Shaw

The Library's newest database NetAdvantage is a comprehensive source for business and investment information from Standard & Poor's, one of the leading research companies in the financial industry. It offers online access to popular Standard & Poor's research products including Industry Surveys, Stock Reports, Corporation Records, the S & P Register of Corporations, Directors and Executives, The Outlook, and Mutual Fund Reports as well as other S & P publications. By subscribing to NetAdvantage, the library now offers easy online access to many timely resources which in print format required constant updating.

Library Responds to Survey Results

Beth Hansen Shaw

Last year's Library User Satisfaction Survey provided a wealth of useful information concerning how well the library is serving our students, faculty and other patrons and prompted the library to make some changes in policies and procedures. Happily, student comments about the University Library were generally positive, with high overall satisfaction levels and relatively high rankings in all categories ranked. Kudos to the library staff, as staff courtesy received higher rankings from students than any other item on the survey. Following are highlights of the survey results and corresponding actions taken by the library:

Students thought the Library's book collection was old and out of date.

This is a budgetary issue which is not really under our control. However, librarians are brainstorming ways to find additional funding for new materials, from grants to fund-raising opportunities. We also are aggressively weeding out older materials so that newer materials are more visible in the collection.

Students would like the library to be open longer hours.

The Library is staying open until 10:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, rather than closing at 10 p.m. The Library is still open for four hours on Sundays, but Sunday hours are now 1-5 p.m. rather than 3-7 p.m. These changes are part of a pilot project and will be assessed for effectiveness throughout the Winter

Trimester.

Students would like food and drinks to be allowed in the Library.

The library now allows students to bring in beverages that are in covered containers, such as bottled water. The library is offering covered mugs for sale for \$5, if students need an approved container. After much discussion, it was decided that allowing food was not a good idea. This change is part of a pilot project and will be assessed for effectiveness throughout Winter Trimester.



Students would like better photocopiers in the library.

The library's photocopiers are actually supplied through the University Print Shop, and student concerns from the survey have been shared with appropriate people in the Print Shop. Proposals are being made to the "Powers That Be" for new photocopiers, and library staffers are keeping their fingers crossed about receiving new ones.

The Library is noisier than students would like, and too many people are talking on cell phones.

The library is designating the seating areas around the perimeter of the library as quiet study zones. The Library has had a No Cell Phone policy in place for quite some time, and Library staffers are agreed that this policy will be enforced more strictly. We ask that students be aware of this issue and cooperate by not using their cell phones in the library.

A detailed rundown of Library responses to survey comments will be available on the library's website soon.

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Government Information

Paul Blobaum, Reference Librarian

The University Library is a depository library for federal and state government publications. Government information is collected in print, microfiche, microfilm, CD-ROM, and online format. Most of our document collection circulates to library borrowers.



There is a wealth of government information and resources available online, including research databases. In this issue of *Information Please*, I would like to highlight the premier gateway to all government information, Firstgov.gov and firstgov.gov/Espanol. Firstgov is a web portal designed for the consumer by topic of interest.

FirstGov.gov is an easy-to-search, free-access website designed to give you a centralized place to find information from U.S. local, state and federal government agency websites. It is YOUR first click to the U.S. government.

The next issues of *Information Please* will highlight government databases of interest to GSU programs which are available for free searching on the Internet.

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Group Study Rooms Available for Students

Paul Blobaum, Reference Librarian

The Library Conference Room (D2421) and the small demonstration classroom (D2401A) may be used by students for group study or to practice PowerPoint presentations. Rooms should be scheduled ahead of time through Brenda Stennis-Perry, Ext. 5136, or b-stennis@govst.edu. If there is no room reservation, the Reference/Technology Desk staff will open the rooms for student use on a first-come, first-served basis.

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Meet Our New Employees

Nancy Shlaes

The library family is growing! Since last summer, five staff members have been hired. From left to right they are Karen Evans-Thomas, Terry Rickhoff, Maggie Gessner, Tom Johnson,



and Sarah Wegley.



Sarah joined GSU last August and works in the Reference and Technology Department as a Library Technical Assistant (LTA) III. She has worked in both public and academic libraries over her career. Sarah enjoys traveling and has visited England, France, Italy, Ireland and Scotland.

In September, Tom joined the Reference and Technology Department as an LTA I. He is also a GSU student studying for a master in School Counseling. A native of Orland Park, Tom enjoys playing and watching sports and is an ardent fan of the Fighting Irish and the White Sox.

Maggie returned to us in October as a temporary LTA II in the Serials Department. From 1987 until retirement last year, she worked in several library departments, including Circulation, Acquisitions, Interlibrary Loan and Cataloging. She is a native of the South Suburbs and enjoys traveling. She has visited California, New England and Europe and would like to make Alaska her next trip.

Back in November, Karen began her work with us and serves as a temporary LTA II in the Circulation Department. In addition, she works part-time in Circulation at the Richton Park Public Library. Karen enjoys reading and is pursuing a Computer Information Systems degree through the online program at DeVry University.

Terry is another past employee at GSU. From 1987-1993; he worked in our library first as a student worker and later as a staff member in the Circulation Department. He rejoined the Circulation staff in January 2005 as an LTA I. In his spare time, Terry is a massage therapist and enjoys volleyball and the martial arts.

We welcome our new co-workers and hope their experience here at GSU is a rewarding one.

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Ten New Titles

Helen Benos

1. Alcohol and Temperance in Modern History

An International Encyclopedia

Jack S. Blocker, Jr., David M. Fahey, and Ian R. Tyrrell, Editors

REF. HV5017.A43 2003

2. Cheating Culture, The

Why More Americans Are Doing Wrong to Get Ahead

David Callahan (not yet catalogued)

3. Devil in the White City

Murder, Magic, and Madness at the Fair that Changed America

Erik Larson (not yet catalogued)

4. Encyclopedia of High-Tech Crime and Crime Fighting, The

From Airport Security to the ZYX Virus

Michael Newton

REF. HV6773.N48 2004

5. Moral Compass, The

Stories for a Life's Journey

William J. Bennett (not yet catalogued)

6. Political Corruption in America

An Encyclopedia of Scandals, Power, and Greed

Mark Grossman

REF. JK2249.G767 2003

7. Selling Sin

The Marketing of Socially Unacceptable Products

D. Kirk Davidson (not yet catalogued)

8. War, Media, and Propaganda

A Global Perspective

Yahia R. Kamalipour & Nancy Snow, Editors (not yet catalogued)

9. What Color Is Your Parachute?

A Practical Manual for Job-Hunters and Career-Changes

Richard N. Bolles (not yet catalogued)

10. Women Don't Ask

Negotiation and the Gender Divide

Linda Babcock and Sara Laschever (not yet catalogued)

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