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Library Newsletter : 1998 : 07 : 31

Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

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Library Newsletter

volume 4(4)
July 31, 1998

Announcements & Gossip fit to print:

Native in a foreign land! by Edward Sanchez

By far the most rewarding of my symposium experiences in Venezuela was a USF Virtual Library conversation I had on day two of the symposium with a gentleman who claimed to speak, "No Ingles." Trying to explain the meaning of a virtual library, I resorted to practical descriptions ... "It's a library without walls. A website you can connect to from anywhere, anytime, to find research materials and interact with various service points such as Interlibrary Loan and Electronic Reserves online. It's not as fully functional as a real library but virtually so!" It wasn't so much what we talked about however, that made me happy, as how we talked. In Spanish!

From the beginning, my trip to Venezuela was an immersion in a language and culture that I recalled only from long ago boyhood experiences in southern New Mexico and the capital city of Santa Fe. One visit to the plaza in Merida reminded me of Santa Fe where I used to believe that commerce, government, church, and education were all close friends. Not only did they occupy the four sides of the plaza they were essentially four different modes of being all rolled into one place. One experience. A time for shopping, for legal matters, praying, and schooling. In fact, all of the experiences I encountered in Merida seemed to belong to the plaza experience. My trip to the Mercado (market) where I tasted a Nispero (relative of the Kiwi?) and other wonderful foods, my sincere appreciation and visit to the government agencies that sponsored the symposium, my trip to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, and to the Universite de los Andes science library as well as to two orchestral performances, all formed a rich and complete experience.

At the symphony next to the plaza I made acquaintances with persons finishing doctorate degrees at places like the University of Leeds, London, the University of Paris and Syracuse University. They had traveled far, learned a new language and furthered their education/specialization. I had the feeling that our contact, as Norte Americanos was not only welcome but long overdue! A kind of repayment for the many efforts they had made toward understanding us and the way we live! Of course not all Venezuelans are native. Western influences could be seen all around the city, from Spanish Renaissance architecture to Christian influences in art and lifestyle to say nothing of the fruitful exchange between regional and Western orchestral arrangements.

Again it was at the plaza that my pastoral notions of existence suffered interruption by the presence of several young persons in dungarees shouldering automatic weapons. Here, in Merida, was a fifth mode of being rather incongruous to the plaza I had experienced in my own country where tyranny is symbolized as external threat and where the military by and large is unseen except in military towns. Here in Merida, in the plaza of all places, was a military presence. But who were they protecting? And from whom?

From Jim Schnur:

Former Poynter Library employee Tony Smith has just accepted a position as reference librarian at the Carlton-Fields Law Library on Harbor Island in Tampa. He will leave Gulf Beaches and start his new position in mid-July.

A reminder that conference calling is possible with our library phone system. Up to 8 parties are allowed. Instructions are available.

The Stetson University College of Law Library has announced that they will close on Friday, July 17 and will re-open on Saturday, August 15, 1998. They have requested that we refer patrons who need legal information during the next month to one of the county law libraries or the academic law libraries in Gainesville or Orlando.

Indian River Community College recently introduced its Library Technical Assistant A.S. degree program as an Internet program. Classes are scheduled to begin in Fall 1998. Program information is located at <http://www.ircc.cc.fl.us/dis/lta/ltapgm.htm>
Contact Pat Profeta, LTA Program Director, at pprofeta@ircc.cc.fl.us for additional information.

Administrative News:

Librarian Meeting, TBA
Staff Meeting, TBA

As a reminder for the Library faculty:

USF / SPJC Joint Fall Faculty Breakfast Meeting	Thursday, August 20, 8:30 - 10 a.m. CAC
Faculty Merit Pay meeting (vote for distribution plan)	Friday, August 21, 10 a.m. DAV 138
Faculty Meeting	Friday, August 28, 11:30 - 1:00 DAV 130

Our area code has changed to **727**. Since there have been system problems, remember the old area code will still work for awhile yet. Good Luck!

Automation News:

If there is inappropriate wallpaper, etc., on any of the Reference area PCs you can remove it by simply rebooting the machine. The machines now get their desktops from the server.

There is the specific explanation of why we see slower response times to WebLUIIS. WebLUIIS traffic is routed from here to Bayboro across the 150MB OC3 line to the university network router to the TCL router and up a T1 line to NERDC. Outbound routing is done through Domain Name Service (this converts names to IP

numbers) points along the way. DNS return traffic is routed through the T1 line but for TCL only. DNS for the regional campuses is routed through the Internet. That means when the Internet is slow WebLUIIS will be also.

Circulation / Reserve News:

WELCOME to Steve Forseth! Steve has had some good ideas about how to improve some of the routines in the Circulation department. There has been a lot of positive feedback and everyone is pleased that he has joined us.

<http://www.ugs.usf.edu/ritz.htm> (web version of Sunlink)

Lost and Found

Library policy is that everything unclaimed, no matter how innocuous, goes to the campus police, who dispose of it in an appropriate fashion. While donating to a worthy cause is a good idea, it is not library policy, and these items do not in fact belong to us to dispose of as we see fit.

Reminders about collecting money and shelving:

When taking a check which includes payment of a fine as well as a lost book, please be sure to itemize the amounts under the correct #5 and #6 even though you are only given a check in one amount. The money for fines goes into a different account than money for lost books.

There is a fourth truck for returned books from the juvenile collection. The books should be placed on the truck in the correct sequences to help those who shelve.

Reference Services News:

Due to a significant increase in fees, Poynter Library no longer subscribes to the DIALOG Online Service. We will still perform mediated searches for patrons in resources available through the USF Virtual Library or other electronic databases at Poynter Library. A search consultation fee of \$30 (including tax) is charged to non-USF affiliates.

A student tutoring program has begun (per Diane McKinstry) and student/tutor may sign up for first floor study rooms. At this point they only have one tutor, Lynn Campbell. Lynn is an alum so she may not have an ID. Please allow her to use a first floor study room for her tutoring sessions.

Recent additions to the USF Libraries Virtual Library:

Project Muse provides online, full-text, and searchable access to more than 40 scholarly journals published by Johns Hopkins University Press. Primary content is in the social sciences and humanities. (listed under Databases)
AMS Journals created by the American Mathematical Society supplies

full-text, searchable access to eight AMS journals. Click on Electronic Journals & Newspapers; Select By Vendor; Click on American Mathematical Society.

Free Medline: *PubMed* and *Internet Grateful Med* are available now through the VL. If you can't remember those names, just look under *Medline*.

The names of the Pro CD Biz and Pro CD Home databases on FirstSearch will be changed at the request of the new producer of the databases, Acxiom Corporation. The new menu names may appear as:

<i>AcxiomBiz</i> or <i>Acxiom Directories - Biz</i>	(formerly Pro CD Biz)
<i>AcxiomHome</i> or <i>Acxiom Directories - Home</i>	(formerly Pro CD Home)

The *NCAA Certification Self-Study Draft Report* is available to the public. A copy of the report is on Reserve and on the Ready Reference stacks.

Elsevier changes policy on e-journals

Elsevier Science, the largest publisher of scholarly scientific journals, will now allow libraries to make paper copies of requested articles appearing in electronic journals and share them with scholars at other institutions. Librarians have long lobbied publishers to treat electronic journal articles the same way print articles are treated for interlibrary loan purposes. Elsevier's new policy still prohibits libraries from sharing the electronic version of the article, but is seen as a positive step toward equal treatment of the two media for scholarly purposes. Yale University associate librarian Ann Okerson says, "This will send a signal to the rest of the publishers." (Chronicle of Higher Education 3 Jul 98 via Edupage)

Technical Services News:

Journals!

New titles:

Environmental History
Law Enforcement News

Title changes:

RQ is now *Reference and User Services Quarterly*
Learning is now *Mailbox Teacher*

Internet & other techie stuff:

Poynter Library "Nesting grounds"

<http://www.stpt.usf.edu/~brodosi/birds/bird.html>

The McLin Oral History Web Site <http://www.nelson.usf.edu/mclin/>.

Survey of Current Business <http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/pubs.htm>

From an NSF e-newsletter:

<http://www.law.wfu.edu/library/copyright/>

Copyright permission information in all subjects.

Virginia shared this notice:

The New York Public Library's new online digital image collection includes everything from a retrospective of 19th Century African American Women Writers to video clips of the Louis Armstrong Jazz Oral History Project.

<http://digital.nypl.org/>

This is old news but a report in the May 1998 issue of *American Libraries*, stated that a public library in North Carolina provided the police with a list of ~ 60 people who failed to return borrowed materials, worth over \$100K. The overdues were 8-10 years old. Stealing or detaining library books worth more than \$50 is a felony in N.C. The article stated that some 35 people including some children had been arrested, most folks were plea bargaining and paying up. We should tell some of our delinquents how bad it could *REALLY* be! ;-)

Humor

Kathy shared this message (message has been edited):

“Imagine if instead of cryptic, geeky text strings, your computer produced error messages in haiku...”

A file that big?
It might be very useful.
But now it is gone.

The Web site you seek
cannot be located but
endless others exist

Chaos reigns within.
Reflect, repent, and reboot.
Order shall return.

ABORTED effort:
Close all that you have.
You ask way too much.

Windows NT crashed.
I am the Blue Screen of Death.
No one hears your screams.

Stay the patient course
Of little worth is your ire
The network is down

A crash reduces
your expensive computer
to a simple stone.

Yesterday it worked
Today it is not working
Windows is like that

Three things are certain:
Death, taxes, and lost data.
Guess which has occurred.

Serious error.
All shortcuts have disappeared.
Screen. Mind. Both are blank.

Many thanks to all the newsletter contributors!

Editor:

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