Library to run 2007 LibQUAL+ Survey

The Houston Cole Library is gearing up for its biennial run of the LibQUAL+ survey. Development of the LibQUAL+ project was supported in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education. LibQUAL+ is an international survey which consists of 37 questions and allows the library to solicit, track, understand, and act upon its users' opinions of service quality. This helps the library provide excellence in services and collections, institute best practices, and understand how users perceive the library and what they expect in the way of service and collections. The LibQUAL+ project also allows the library to use the assessment produced by the survey for comparison with other academic institutions within the library's peer group.

The library's survey, which will be sent to a sample of 1,000 undergraduates, 500 graduate students, and all faculty, will begin on 18 February and run through 17 March. Responses are completely anonymous, and those participating in the survey will be entered in a drawing to win a SanDisk MP3 Player.

Library acquires ACLS History E-book Project

Houston Cole Library recently purchased an exciting new digital collection, the ACLS History E-Book Project. This database contains approximately 1,400 high quality books of major importance in the humanities field, all of which are accessible to the user online from the Library's catalog anywhere on campus, or remotely from off-campus. It is expected that the number of items will grow annually by 250 titles, and the project's focus will soon broaden into other humanities subject areas. A current title list can be found in the Library's catalog by performing a title search for "history e-book project", or by going to the web site http://www.historyebook.org/titlelist.html.

This database collection is a project of the American Council of Learned Societies, and was originally funded in 1999 by a $3,000,000, five-year grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation. As of Spring 2005, it is self-sustained. The ACLS web site (http://www.historyebook.org) states that it "is collaborating in this initiative with eight Learned Societies and nearly 75 University Presses to assist scholars in the electronic publishing of high-quality works in history, explore the intellectual possibilities of new technologies and to help assure the continued viability of history writing in today's changing publishing environment." Currently there are over 500 institutional subscribers to the database.

Following is an example of how this new database can be helpful in fulfilling our patrons' research needs. In a recent search of the HCL Catalog for books on the subject “Triangle Shirtwaist Fire” only two books were listed; one title was fiction and the other was a juvenile book, making both books inappropriate for the student's project. The juvenile book listed a subject heading: Sweatshops - United States - History - Juvenile. By modifying this subject heading (dropping the word Juvenile) and searching again, an additional two titles were retrieved. One was a print volume dealing with globalization and the second title, Sweated Work, Weak Bodies, was available from the History E-Book Project collection, and one from the library's collection, and one

By simply clicking on the Internet link available in the catalog record and retrieving the electronic copy of the book, several search options were immediately available: a keyword search for the entire book, the table of contents, and a list of related titles. Choosing the keyword search for the entire book, eight matches were found for Triangle Shirtwaist Fire. The related titles list offered eight additional titles, five of which are part of the History E-Book Project collection, and one specifically discussing the "Triangle Shirtwaist Fire". The History E-Book Project collection gave the student two very useful books and seven titles that may be useful for general background information.

This database is an important addition to the Houston Cole Library's collection, supporting our core curriculum as well as our research needs. It soon will change its name to the Humanities E-book Project, reflecting the broadening scope of its content.
New Databases Added!

This semester, our users will be able to access the following new databases:

- Academic OneFile: This database provides access to full text articles from leading journals and reference sources in the fields of physical sciences, technology, medicine, social sciences, the arts, theology, literature, and many other subjects. This database is a Thomson Gale product that is provided to our users through the Alabama Virtual Library (AVL).

- Film and Television Literature Index: This database covers the entire spectrum of television and film writing. It has been designed for use by film scholars, college students, and general viewers. Subject coverage includes film and television theory, preservation and restoration, writing, production, cinematography, technical aspects, and reviews. While it does not contain full text, it will provide access to the full text if the Library has it. This database is a product of and provided by EBSCO.

- NewspaperARCHIVE.com: This is the largest historical newspaper database available online. It allows our users to search tens of millions of newspapers. This database also allows our users to view, save, and print the full text articles of newspapers dating as far back as the 1700’s. This database is included with our subscription to The Anholt Press.

- World News Analyst: This is a sub-section of our Britannica database. This database is included with our subscription to The Anholt Press.

- World News Digest: This database provides the complete archive of this publication of record back to 1940, which is updated every week. Hundreds of photos, maps, charts, and graphs are also included in this authoritative reference database. This database is a product of and provided by Facts on File.

For more information about any of these new databases, please contact us at 782-8034.

Accessing Online Resources

You already know that you have access to all of the Library’s electronic resources while you’re on campus, but did you know that you also have remote access to these same resources? Well, you do, and it’s easy to access them.

If you’re a student currently enrolled in classes at JSU or a member of the faculty or staff, you can access the Library’s databases from home. When you select any of our electronic resources, databases or journal links, a login box will appear. At the login box, you’ll need to enter your student/staff number (all numbers, no dashes, no spaces) and your last name. For example:

Student/Staff ID: 123456789

Last Name: smith

Click the “Submit” button and you’re in! You can search any database you’d like from the Library’s web site.

Sometimes people follow the instructions for signing in, yet still can’t get into the databases. There are a number of reasons why this happens. Any librarian will gladly assist you, but you can help determine what’s wrong by asking yourself the following questions first:

- Am I registered or pre-registered?
- Registered students may access the electronic databases during the semester or session that their classes meet. Pre-registering will not grant you easy access to the databases.
- Am I using a networked computer?
- School or office computers are often connected to a larger network of computers through a server. These computers may have a firewall installed. You need to contact your computer service personnel to determine if this is the problem.
- Did I type in my student/staff ID and Last Name correctly?
- If you typed your student/staff ID and/or last name incorrectly, you’ll receive an error message. Try typing in the student/staff ID and last name again to rule out typographical errors. If you’re sure that you are an authorized user, JSU student, faculty, or staff, you will not be allowed access. If you are an authorized user but continue to get the error message, please contact the Library at (256) 782-8034 to report the problem.
- Do I have cookies enabled in my settings?
- Cookies are, by default, enabled on your computer. We have instructions for enabling your cookies on our web site. If you need this information or if you are still experiencing problems, contact our Reference Desk at (256) 782-8034.

Publications & Presentations

As usual, the librarians of the Houston Cole Library have been busy publishing and presenting papers as part of their scholarly duties as tenure-track faculty members here at JSU.

Publications:


Presentations:


Comings & Goings

Charlie Pettway Vann joined the Library faculty as General Reference/Instruction Librarian in August 2006. Her subject areas are Psychology and Philosophy and her office is on the 2nd floor.

Ms. Vann hails from New Jersey, but she spent her childhood summer breaks with her grandparents in Camden, Alabama in Wilcox County. She is a 1986 graduate of Piscataway High School. She holds the A.A.S. in Public Policy and the B.S. in Urban Studies from St. Peter’s College.

Ms. Vann worked in a law firm and returned to school to study Library Science after receiving the American Law Librarian scholarship in 1993. Her M.L.I.S. is from North Carolina Central University. Upon obtaining her library degree, Ms. Vann worked at a clinical trial health library in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. In her spare time she enjoyed volunteering with female youth through Sister-to-Sister, a Duke University outreach program.

Ms. Vann then moved to Georgia where she worked at Valdosta State University for nearly seven years. While there, she met her husband, Romoney. One project that kept them both busy was establishing their church newsletter, The Illuminator, in 2005. Ms. Vann served as editor, typist, and format director, and her husband was the main proofreader. They have been married for more than four years and currently make their home in Anniston with their daughters, Trinity Malca and Minnya Grace (born December 29, 2006).

Also joining the Library faculty in January 2007 is Carley Suther. Ms. Suther is the Fine Arts, Communications, and Language Librarian and can be found on the 6th floor. Her subject areas include Art, Communications, Drama, Foreign Languages, and Music. Ms. Suther holds the B.A. in French with a minor in Art from the University of Montevallo, and both the M.A. in French and the M.L.I.S from the University of Alabama.

Ms. Suther is a native of Anniston, Alabama, and after completing her master’s degree in French, she spent a summer waitressing on the coast of Maine near a town called Blue Hill. One of the great things she did when moving there was sign up for a library card. When she wasn’t taking orders or waiting on customers, she was at the Blue Hill library reading magazines and checking out books. Later that year she moved to Lorient, France to teach English in an elementary school.

After returning to Anniston in the summer of 2005, she decided to apply to the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Alabama, and the rest is history. She is pleased to return home and feels fortunate to work in the same library where she played as a kid when her parents were both in school.

Long-time Library faculty member George Whitesel retired in August 2006 after serving as the Fine Arts, Communications, and Language Librarian for three decades. Dr. Whitesel has continued to work as an Adjunct Faculty member in the Library during the 2006-2007 academic year.

Whitesel Receives Special Honor

Dr. George Whitesel was honored with Emeritus status at the Fall 2006 Commencement on December 16, 2006. Dr. Whitesel joined the Library faculty in June 1975 and retired in August 2006. Dr. Whitesel is deeply dedicated to the Library, his profession, and the University. He is well-known across the campus as a result of his many years of service to the University. Dr. Whitesel is also known throughout the greater local community through his involvement with Community Actors Studio Theater and the Jacksonville Arts Council. He has most recently appeared in the C.A.S.T. production of “The Trip to Bountiful.”

Dr. George Whitesel