



LIBRARY SERVICES
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO

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New Databases for 2005

With the start of Spring Semester, several new electronic resources have been added to the Library collection.

Two databases from H.W. Wilson provide citations to articles that stretch back to the nineteenth century. **Reader's Guide Retrospective** includes citations to articles published 1890-1982. The citations in **Humanities and Social Science Retrospective** were published in 1907-1984. These electronic equivalents of their print counterparts do not include full-text articles in the databases. However, users can link from the citation to discover if the cited source is available in print at Memorial Library or electronically in another database to which we subscribe. Please note that access to each of these databases is restricted to one user at a time.

ASCE Journals is a new electronic set of full-image articles from journals published by the American Society of Civil Engineers. Dates of full-text coverage vary, but no full-text materials are older than 1995. The journals cover civil engineering in a broad sense with articles related to topics such as planning, transportation, construction, the environment, and waterways.

Chemical Abstracts is now available through a program called **SciFinder Scholar**. Although no full-text materials are included, users can find citations to research resources through topic searching. They can also search by molecular formula to find diagrams of the chemical structure.

Another technology database, available as a trial until June, is **Technology Research Database** through CSA. This package includes Aerospace and High Technology Database, Electronics and Communication Abstracts, Materials Research Database, and Solid State and Superconductivity Abstracts. Please share with us your observations of how this resource compares with Compendex.

Euromonitor offers a five-year archive of market reports for 50 countries, with 20 new reports added monthly. Information includes company profiles, market shares, forecasts, and other data useful in developing marketing strategies. Research incorporates information from trade associations, annual reports, national statistics, press coverage, and interviews to produce comprehensive market reports.

ComDisDome provides citations to and abstracts of articles related to communication science and disorders, audiology, and speech/language pathology. Although no full-text articles are included in the database itself, the citations are linked to Serials List to check for availability in electronic or print versions.

ARTstor contains more than 300,000 digitized images that can be used in teaching, learning, and research. The art works, photographs, and other images come from major museums, libraries, and slide collections. Among the resources are the Carnegie Arts of the United States Collection and the Museum of Modern Art's Architecture and Design Collection. All users can register to set up a folder in which to store selected images for future use. Faculty members can sign up for additional instructor capabilities. For a faculty password, contact Bobby Bothmann, Electronic Access/Catalog Librarian, at x2010 or bobby.bothmann@mnsu.edu or the librarian who works with your department.

A final "new" database, **General Reference Center Gold**, returns after a semester absence. Although it was discontinued as part of Electronic Library for Minnesota underwritten by MINITEX, MSU librarians recommended purchasing a license for campus users because of the broad coverage of popular topics. Some full-text articles are included.

River Valley Reads

Join community members from the Mankato area in reading and discussing Jon Hassler's novel, Grand Opening, during February. This inaugural venture for a community-reading project includes a number of presentations and discussions held throughout the area to encourage interaction among readers of all ages and backgrounds.

Set in 1944, Grand Opening reveals the obstacles a family faces after they move to a small Minnesota town to establish a business in a dilapidated grocery store. Suggested books on related themes are Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo, a Newbery Honor book for those in upper elementary school and above, and the children's book, Peppe the Lamplighter, by Elisa Bartone.

The MSU Library will host informal book discussions at 1 p.m. in the Casual Computing Lab on these dates:

- Thursday, Feb. 17, Because of Winn Dixie
- Saturday, Feb. 19, Because of Winn Dixie
- Thursday, Feb. 24, Grand Opening
- Saturday, Feb. 26, Grand Opening

Come join others from MSU and the community in conversations about these books!

In addition to these on-campus discussions, there are a wide variety of community activities including panel discussions about religious diversity, community business and generation/teen issues at various locations around the area. Local public libraries will host story hours featuring the children's selections. On Sunday, February 27, at 2:30 p.m., the Merely Players will stage a production based on Grand Opening. All community read events, which are planned for February 15 through 28, are free and open to the public.

For more information about the River Valley Reads project, including a complete list of events and activities, consult the website at www.rivervalleyreads.com or contact Leslie Peterson at 2290 or leslie-peterson-1@mnsu.edu



Learn More about the Library

Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to learn more about the Library by attending an open instruction session in February or March. All sessions are held on **Wednesdays, 12-1 p.m.** in Room 110, in the lower level of the Library off the corridor that runs from Gage-McElroy to the Student Union. No preregistration is necessary.

The following topics will be offered:

Introduction to using the Library—Take a detailed look at how to use MnPALS, the online catalog, to locate materials. Learn about reference, interlibrary loan and other Library services.

Research on Local Topics—Identify state government, regional, county and city resources that will be useful for reports and papers on local topics. County and city websites, Minnesota periodicals and state documents will be included.

Research with Journals—Learn how to use electronic databases to locate articles from electronic and print research journals.

Bibliographies/Citing—Explore how to cite information using standard styles such as MLA and APA to complete term papers and research projects.

- February 9: Introduction to using the Library
- February 16: Introduction to using the Library
- February 23: Research on Local Topics
- March 2: Research with Journals
- March 9: Bibliographies/Citing
- March 23: Research on Local Topics
- March 30: Research with Journals

In addition, tours will be offered each Wednesday noon through February 23. Tours start at the main Circulation Desk by the front door of the Library. To learn more about the open sessions and tours or to schedule an alternate time, contact Evan Rusch, Instruction Coordinator, at 2251 or evan.rusch@mnsu.edu