12-2007 Newsletter

Minnesota State University, Mankato. Library Services

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Extensive Journal Review Planned

Beginning next semester Library faculty, in consultation with other campus faculty, will begin a systematic review of print journal holdings currently available to Minnesota State users. In the first semester of this project, departments in the College of Business and the College of Education, along with selected departments from other colleges, will be reviewed. The remaining colleges will be under review during the next two academic years.

In the past few years, the number of resources – especially online – has increased dramatically. At the same time, courses and programs offered at the University have changed, so this review will help to ensure that the mix of document delivery, print, and electronic journals fits the Library’s mission of supporting the University curriculum.

One of the factors to be considered is the kind of access to journal information that is appropriate in each case. Programs with a strong online component may prefer electronic access for as many resources as possible. Print subscriptions may be the best option for journals with art reproductions, photographs, or charts. Document delivery may be the best choice for high-cost, specialized journals that receive little use on campus. Other considerations include the availability of archival access to information and specific accreditation requirements for some programs.

The serials librarian and librarians who work together on instruction and collection development for each college will consult with library liaisons in each department and department chairs as the serials review process progresses. Our goal is to make sure that we spend university funds most effectively to provide print and online resources that support Minnesota State’s academic programs. To support that goal, library faculty have reviewed reference and standing order subscriptions and will continue to review general title subscriptions. For more information, contact Becky Schwartzkopf, Serials Librarian, at becky.schwartzkopf@mnsu.edu or 507-389-5956.

Reserve Your Library Instruction Session for Spring Semester

Spring Semester is just around the corner. As you begin planning your class assignments and research projects, remember that librarians are available to provide instruction sessions for students whether they are enrolled in general education classes or graduate seminars. Although librarians need at least a week to work with you to tailor the session, we encourage you to submit requests earlier to make sure that classroom space and librarians will be available when you want to have your students learn more about information resources. To learn more about library instruction and find a link to the request form, visit lib.mnsu.edu/services/instruct/instruction.html.
Now Accepting Faculty Course Reserves Submissions

As you begin planning for Spring semester classes, it’s not too early to organize your course reserves.

Please remember:

- Reserve requests are processed in the order in which they are received. To allow sufficient processing time it is recommended that reserve requests be submitted a week before actually needed.

- The Library must secure copyright permission again for material used during a previous semester. This can take anywhere from minutes to weeks so it is best to submit material well in advance of class need.

- Personal copies or Library-owned copies of books, pamphlets or other monographic publications may be placed on hard copy reserves.

- It is not necessary to submit all required reserve material for a given class at once.

Please complete a Reserve Request form and submit it to the Library along with the material you wish to have placed on reserve. This can be sent via intra-campus mail: ATTN: Reserve Technician, ML3097.

For more information about placing reserve requests please contact Reserve Technician Steven Johnson at 507-389-5065 or steven.johnson-2@mnsu.edu

Coming in January – Six New Databases!

The following new databases will be added to the Memorial Library database collection in January 2008:

- CQ Supreme Court Collection
- CQ Voting and Elections
- MarketResearch.com
- Mental Measurements Yearbook
- Smithsonian Global Sound
- International Medieval Bibliography

Important Dates to Remember

Library Services During Winter Break

The upcoming winter break will bring changes to Library hours and services. The last 2:00 a.m. closing for the fall semester will be Thursday, December 13. The Library building will be open usually 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday for most of winter break. The Library’s hours and announcement recording at 507-389-6201 or the Library’s homepage lib.mnsu.edu will have all the detailed opening and closing times as well as information about access and any other updates. Circulation periods may change slightly during interim; please take a moment to confirm due dates when you check out Library materials. The Library’s website, catalogs and databases will be available 24X7 with no changes throughout the winter interim. Variations from normal Library services:

- Reference Librarians will be available to provide assistance with your research through December 21 and will return January 2. If you need Reference Services over the break call 507-389-5958.

- University Archives will be open through December 17 and will resume full services January 10. Please phone 507-389-1029 for an appointment to use the Archives during the interim.

- Interlibrary Loan will continue to accept requests and distribute materials as they arrive, but expect a longer turnaround time to accommodate larger mail loads during the holidays and given closures at lending libraries. The ILL office will not be staffed during the holiday week.

- The Library’s ERC will continue to check out equipment and audiovisual materials during the Library’s open days and hours.

- The Music Library in PA203 will be open through Monday, December 17. Full services will resume Monday, January 14.

- The Library Dean’s office will continue to be open 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. during the interim.

- The Bookworm coffee shop will be open through December 11 and will resume operation January 14.
Library Building Hours During Winter Break

Friday, December 14 7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.
Saturday, December 15 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
Sunday, December 16 closed

Monday, December 17 through Friday, December 21 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
Saturday, December 22 and Sunday, December 23 closed

Monday, December 24 [1st floor only] open 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
Tuesday, December 25 closed

Wednesday, December 26 through Friday, December 28 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
Saturday, December 29 and Sunday, December 30 closed

Monday, December 31 [1st floor only] open 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
Tuesday, January 1 closed

Wednesday, January 2 through Friday, January 4 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
Saturday, January 5 and Sunday, January 6 closed

Monday, January 7 through Friday, January 11 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.
Saturday, January 12 and Sunday, January 13 closed

Monday, January 14 regular hours resume: 7:30 A.M. to 2:00 A.M.

Saturday, January 20, 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.
Sunday, January 21, closed
Monday, January 22 (MLK day), closed

Database Spotlight: Knovel

The Memorial Library added the database Knovel in January 2007. Knovel searches authoritative reference works from major Sci-tech publishers including John Wiley & Sons, McGraw-Hill and Elsevier. Not only does it search texts like Patty’s Toxicology, Sax’s Dangerous Properties, the Encyclopedia of Energy, and hundreds of other engineering and scientific reference sources, it also provides helpful analytical tools to analyze and manipulate data!

Knovel covers a wide range of subject areas in the Sciences, including: Adhesives, Coatings, Aerospace & Radar Technology; Biochemistry, Biology & Biotechnology; Ceramics & Ceramic Engineering; Chemistry & Chemical Engineering; Sealants & Inks; Civil Engineering & Construction Materials; Earth Science; Electrical & Power Engineering; Electronics & Semiconductors; Environment & Environmental Engineering; Food Science; General Engineering & Engineering Management; Mechanics & Mechanical Engineering; Metals & Metallurgy; Oil & Gas Engineering; Pharmaceuticals, Cosmetics & Toiletries; Plastics & Rubber; Safety & Industrial Hygiene; and Textiles.

To take a look at this new resource, visit the library’s webpage: lib.mnsu.edu, click on Databases A-Z and navigate to Knovel. Comments (both positive and negative) from all library users regarding our electronic resources are very useful in developing our collection. Please email Casey Duevel at casey.duevel@mnsu.edu if you have comments regarding Knovel.
Library Outreach at the Deep Valley Book Festival

With the weather turning cold, November is the perfect time to bundle up with a good book. On November 10, people from all around southern Minnesota were doing just that at the 4th Annual Deep Valley Book Festival. The goal of the festival is to promote Minnesota authors and celebrate the art of writing. It is also a chance for the public to meet authors and visit with them. Always interested in what is new in the world of books, the faculty and staff of the University Library could be found rubbing shoulders with well-known as-well-as aspiring authors. The Library hosted a table at the Festival and shared information about Library's services and collections with Festival attendees. This year over 500 people attended the free event.

Professional Development Day
Library Faculty Presentations

Library faculty will be presenting several interesting workshops at the Professional Development Day on January 9, 2008. Casey Duevel and other reference librarians will lead a session on “New and Updated Library Databases.” Kellian Clink and other academic advisors will discuss “Advising and Advocacy for Refugee/Immigrant ESL Speakers.” Daardi Sizemore, University Archivist, will present “Paper, Papers and More Papers: Record Management at Minnesota State Mankato.” Details about these workshops and registration information for all 48 sessions are available in the PDD flyer or at the PDD website mnsu.edu/humanres/profdev/.