Library Update for Fall 2011

UNF Digital Commons

The Thomas G. Carpenter Library is pleased to launch a new service for the UNF community. Using the Digital Commons platform hosted by Berkeley Electronic Press, we have begun to build a digital archive or institutional repository to preserve and make available unique local collections and selected scholarly output. This means we now support digital files of all types (text, image, audio, or video) through a service used by scores of other academic institutions to showcase and share research and scholarship.

The UNF Digital Commons provides a stable and organized digital presence with content searchable through Google as well as through the site itself. Research and scholarly materials included to date have been selected and deposited by individual faculty, the Library’s Special Collections and Archives, and other departments and centers on campus.

Check out some of our historic content. You can view images of UNF buildings as the campus developed or listen to the first commencement. With appropriate permissions, we have digitized and loaded about 100 UNF theses and dissertations with more in the queue. All issues of
Osprey Journal, UNF’s undergraduate research journal, have also been digitized and appear in UNF Digital Commons.

Explore UNF Digital Commons here.

This platform also allows the library to offer SelectedWorks, a service for faculty which offers a clean, elegantly designed scholarly publication page. To pilot this service, we have worked with six of UNF’s distinguished or presidential professors whose pages are now live. We have the means to track how many times an article is read or downloaded. Early statistics show interest from all over the world.

SelectedWorks is administered by the Thomas G. Carpenter Library as part of our implementation of Digital Commons. Any faculty interested in participating in this opportunity may contact Jeffrey T. Bowen at j.t.bowen@unf.edu or (904) 620-1502.

See our pilot of Faculty SelectedWorks here.

The Library encourages UNF faculty, staff, and students to consider ways in which the UNF Digital Commons can help preserve and showcase research and scholarship.

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Department Spotlight -- Digital Projects and Preservation

The mission of the Digital Projects and Preservation Department is to build online collections of enduring value for university and global users by identifying, digitizing, and preserving information resources of scholarly, educational, and civic interest. The department is responsible for maintaining the library’s digital repository and for scanning, tagging and loading digital content. The Library’s online collections are found in the UNF Digital Commons and in PALMM (Publication of Archival Library and Museum Materials). The department provides access to theses and dissertations created for UNF degrees.

Digital Projects and Preservation is also responsible for all binding, book repair, and preservation of the collections. It processes new materials for the shelves once they are cataloged. It accepts theses and dissertations from UNF departments, and binds library copies of works written for a UNF degree program. The department staff repair damaged materials using archival techniques. They create appropriate enclosures for fragile documents, maps, and pamphlets and they are available to offer advice about storing and preserving personal collections. Contact Tracey Britton at tbritton@unf.edu.

You can see some of the beautiful photography by Digital Projects employee Ryan Fairbrother on the department page.

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Art in the Library

Perhaps you’ve noticed the many pieces of artwork throughout the library and wanted to know more. These acquisitions came about through the library’s Art in the Library project. The project was first proposed by the library’s Dean, Dr. Shirley Hallblade, in 2008. Shortly after the idea was presented to the Dean’s Leadership Council, our Director of Development Phyllis Andruszkiewicz and independent art consultant Jen Jones began working to facilitate donations from interested artists and private collectors. The collection now boasts over 70 pieces.

Many of the pieces are by artists working in the Northeast Florida area. In addition to creating a more aesthetically interesting experience for library patrons, the art provides an avenue through which visitors may learn about local art and experience something truly unique within the physical space of the library.

The piece on this page is titled The Hunting Season, by Susanne Schuenke. It is a gift of Pat Vail and is located on the 4th floor.

Some highlights of the collection are pieces by influential Jacksonville artists Memphis Wood and Charles “Charlie” Brown. Other highlights are two pieces by American Caricaturist Al Hirschfeld and a series of autographed portraits of well-known jazz musicians from the collection of the late Dr. John Ibach.

Though the collecting phase of the Art in the Library project will draw to a close later this academic year, the library has begun to investigate designating wall space for regularly occurring exhibits of student artwork.

To learn more about Art in the Library, please visit the guide for the collection here.

by Courtenay McLeland, Librarian and Curator
LibGuides and LibAnswers

We've created new LibGuides since we told you about them in the summer Au Courant. Some of the new ones are for history, health sciences, education, biology, nursing and nutrition. You can see them all here. If you would like one created for a specific class or subject, get in touch with your liaison.

Students seem to like the LibAnswers software. We're getting lots of questions and building up quite a good database of ready answers. The new "text a question" is very popular. LibAnswers is here.

Database News - It's good!

Each year librarians review research databases and make subscription changes in an effort to bring the best resources to our faculty and students. We are excited to announce new full text databases offered by EBSCO that met our budget constraints.

The major health sciences database CINAHL now includes full text, as does SPORTDiscus. Other new ones include Academic Search Complete, Art and Architecture Complete, Business Source Complete, Computers & Applied Sciences Complete, Education Research Complete, Environment Complete, Humanities International Complete, SocINDEX with Full Text, and Sustainability Watch.

UBorrow is Up and Running

This new service was tested during the summer and is now in full swing. It lets you request materials directly from participating Florida state university libraries when the item is not available at UNF. Just search the online catalog, follow the UBorrow link to the statewide catalog, find the item you want, and click the UBorrow button.

It is quick and easy. Give it a try!