Books & Bytes Issue No. 03

Thomas G. Carpenter Library

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BELT TIGHTENING

This newsletter has been delayed due to the fiscal exigencies of the library's budget. However, we would like to keep you informed of the budget situation and a number of positive developments which have occurred in the Library despite funding problems.

The state's fiscal crisis has seriously affected the Library in 1991/92, both in daily operations and book purchases. In order to realize utility savings across the entire campus, both the Library and Computing Services have been closed on Sundays. The hiring freeze on vacant positions on campus has caused the Government Documents Department to cut back its service hours; new hours are posted at the service desk. The book budget for 1991/92 is 33% less than the budget for 1990/91, and 61% less than the 1989/91 budget. Due to this drastically reduced book budget, monographic ordering has virtually stopped. Needless to say, no new periodical titles have been ordered, for the second consecutive year. Book OCO has paid the periodicals bill, after an approximate $70,000 cutback in periodicals renewals. The elimination of 246 titles was based on the advice of the academic departments, and the Library staff would like to thank all the faculty who cooperated in the periodicals list reduction project at the beginning of the Fall semester.

Although new book purchases have come to a halt, the Acquisitions Department has remained busy preparing order requests for the time when money becomes available. Sheila Mangum, Acquisitions Librarian, encourages faculty to continue recommending titles for purchase, prioritizing which requests are the most vital. When library funding improves we want to be prepared to ship off as many orders as possible in a timely fashion before the desired titles go out of print. If you need order request cards, call Acquisitions at x2550.

The Acquisitions Department staff has handled almost 2,000 gift volumes donated by faculty and patrons since July 1. All gifts go through an evaluation process as to appropriateness for the collection. We plan to hold a book sale this year for those gift books which did not match our collection's profile. We're also anticipating the usual increase in gift books with the close of the 1991 calendar year as patrons look for tax deductions.

Student concerns over the Library's situation have been gratifying. Through the grassroots efforts of students and the Student Government Association, University Relations is conducting a campaign, "Bucks for Books," to solicit contributions to the book budget. We would like to thank all those who remembered the Friends of the Library account in the recent Faculty/Staff fund drive, and remind our readers that the Friends account and the "Bucks for Books" don't need a special occasion for donations.

The Florida Center for Library Automation has expanded the capabilities of LUIS, the public online catalog. The NEWS BRIEFS section details important and exciting developments in the area of information access for the university community.
MEET THE STAFF--Two new faculty, Assistant University Librarians Barbara Tuck and Margaret Kaus, joined us in March 1991. Many of you may already have met Mrs. Tuck at the Reference desk. After graduating from the University of North Florida, she received her Master's degree in Library Science from Florida State University in 1990. Ms Kaus, who works in Cataloging, graduated from Marymount College in Kansas and received her MLS from Indiana University, where she specialized in Music Librarianship.

INFORMATION EXPANSION--The Florida Center for Library Automation has implemented significant improvements to the online catalog, LUIS. Keyword searching is now available on all the SUS libraries' campus catalogs. Library patrons may search for resources under not only the traditional access points of author, title, and Library of Congress subject headings, but also under significant words in the author, title, notes, and subject headings' fields with Boolean operators. In addition, FCLA has taken a major step forward in information access by loading three citation indexes, ERIC, Academic Index, and Business Index into LUIS. ERIC indexes both research materials and journal articles in education and education-related disciplines. Academic Index and its companion Business Index index journal articles from 1988 to date, and backfiles will be added when additional storage space becomes available at NERDC. In the near future, Systems Librarian Bob Jones plans to improve the menu screens by adding news and information menus which will also provide gateways to other information resources.

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR--University of North Florida faculty selected Library Director Andrew Farkas as the 1991 Distinguished Professor. Mr. Farkas received the award at the May 1991 commencement and gave the commencement address at the August graduation ceremonies.

NO TRANSFERS--The Circulation Department reminds faculty that library cards are not transferable without written permission of the owner of the card, who is responsible for all fines and bills incurred on that card.

LOST?--The Reference Department conducts both tours and bibliographic instruction sessions for UNF classes. Contact Mary Davis in the Reference Department (x2616 or LIBHELP) for more information.

CD-ROM NEWS--Reference Librarian Mary Davis won a year's subscription to UMI's CD-ROM index PROQUEST, a general periodical index available on the second floor of the Library.

MEDIA--The Media Resources Department's annual Acquisitions List is available for perusal in the Department. To save printing charges, the list will not be sent to individual faculty.

CRYSTAL BALL GAZING--Library faculty devoted November 8 to strategic planning for the Library. Uppermost in everyone's minds is the impact of electronic publishing on the dissemination of information, and on how the UNF Library will make provision for the new technology. With the rapid acceptance of CD-ROMs, coupled with the probable installation of local area networks on microcomputers, has come the possibility of complete text retrieval of documents through both CD-ROM products and electronic transmission. Academic libraries, which have traditionally provided and preserved knowledge contained in formats which they owned, are migrating towards environments which provide access to information located in remote locations, but the information retrieved is neither owned nor housed by that library. How electronic dissemination of material previously printed in books and journals will affect the nature of scholarship and how researchers retrieve and use that material are unknowns which must be dealt with in the next few years.

This newsletter is published at least once each semester to inform UNF faculty and staff of library activities. Direct any questions, comments, and suggestions to Kathleen Cohen, Assistant Director of Libraries, 12/2011, x2553.