



LIBRARY LINKS

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

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IMC offers customized workshops for any class

PowerPoint, PhotoShop, FrontPage! Today there are countless options for incorporating technology into your classes, but where do you start? - the Library's Instructional Media Center (IMC) of course.

The IMC works with faculty and staff at MSU to customize workshops for any course. If you want your students to make

a web page, the IMC can show them how. If you want your students to use Power Point for their final presentations, the IMC can give them the skills they need.

"For years the IMC has offered regularly-scheduled workshops throughout the year," said IMC coordinator Pattye Archer. "But we also offer

workshops tailored for a particular class. The tailored workshops allow professors to dictate what they want covered - therefore making certain the workshop fits the needs of their course," she said.

The workshops offer the students hands-on experience with some of the latest software. In addition to the workshop, stu-

dents can schedule additional one-on-one training from the IMC staff.

Workshops are available in Photoshop, FrontPage, PageMaker and PowerPoint to name a few.

For more information about scheduling a workshop, visit us at <http://library.msstate.edu/imc/> or contact us at 662-325-7676.

'CHARM'

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and Life Sciences.

The mission of CHARM is to promote understanding and appreciation of the role played by agriculture, forestry, and rural life in Mississippi's past by collecting, preserving, and providing access to important historical materials as a foundation for teaching, learning, and

research, with special attention to the leadership of Mississippi State University, a land grant institution.

The Center carries out its mission by identifying, collecting, and cataloging published and primary information sources (such as books, journals, photographs, diaries etc.); creating and implementing an ongoing oral history program; providing access to collected historical resources in physical

and electronic form via the library and the World Wide Web; promoting scholarly endeavors based upon the collection; developing educational outreach programs; and fostering ongoing collaboration and communication among those who share an interest in the history of agriculture, forestry and rural life in Mississippi.

For more information about CHARM, visit <http://charm.msstate.edu/>

Library Links

Library Links is designed and published for faculty, staff and students of Mississippi State University, and the general public, by the Instructional Media Center at Mitchell Memorial Library. It is a quarterly publication. Editorial material should be sent to Library Links, P.O. Box 5408, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

Editorial Board

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BOOKMARKS MSU Libraries a CHARMing Partner

Library kicks off semester with new programs, service

From faculty outreach to new services, increased workshops to additional enhancements in the Instructional Media Center (IMC), the Mississippi State University Libraries are looking forward to a very exciting semester this fall.

The MSU Libraries are dedicated to traditional services such as book collections and the latest technology, while also advancing into new areas.

"We want this to be a place for our students, faculty and community because this is a great place with quality programs," said Frances Coleman, Dean of the MSU Libraries.

Extending resource-sharing to work with other libraries in the state and the southeast is a top priority for the library. The Dean believes resource-sharing will strengthen the computer library services offered by Mitchell Memorial.

The Dean is excited about the new opportunities awaiting patrons at Mitchell Memorial. These opportunities include continued enhancements with graduate and undergraduate programs, faculty outreach and the serving of pizza at Food for Thought. These changes are being made so the library can continue to offer Mississippi State University faculty and students what they need.

With all of the opportunities, "Why would students not want to come to the library?" asked Dean Coleman. "We are making this a place where everyone can feel comfortable and receive positive responses."

From documenting long-vanished activities such as local canning clubs to developing oral histories focusing on the state's farm economy, a new Mississippi State University effort is preserving an important part of Mississippi's past.

The newly formed Consortium for the History of Agricultural and Rural



Mississippi, housed in MSU's Mitchell Memorial Library, is collecting histor-

ical materials related to Mississippi agriculture, forestry and rural life.

Initial CHARM partners are the MSU Libraries, the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, the MSU Extension Service, the College of Veterinary Medicine and the College of Agriculture

■ See CHARM, page 6



Tree of Life

Students look at the Tree of Life, which is installed in the staircase between 4th and 5th floor in Mitchell Memorial Library.

Library's technology-based services focus of two-day workshop

Mitchell Memorial Library staff will offer a two-day conference-style workshop highlighting the library's various technology-based services this fall.

Technologies & Text: Supporting Instruction for the 21st Century Professor, is scheduled for September 17 and 18, and will focus on many of the library's services and spotlight faculty members who have found the services helpful in their teaching.

"We want to showcase what the library has to offer, focusing on how those services can benefit MSU's teaching faculty," said Frances Coleman, Dean of Libraries. "We believe that by incorporating faculty members who have found our services helpful into the conference, we can better get the word out on what the library is doing to enhance the educational opportunities for our students."

The conference will include keynote speakers, concurrent sessions and information tables. Running over two days, all sessions will follow class times, according to committee chair Pattye Archer.

"The event is designed to allow faculty and staff to come and go as their schedule allows," Archer said. "You can attend one session or every session."

For additional information, contact Archer at parcher@library.msstate.edu.

Change Made in Electronic Information Providers

On July 1, the MSU Libraries began providing access to the following databases from EBSCO Information Services: Medline, Agricola, SportDiscus and Inspec. On September 1, 2002, the Modern Language Association (MLA) Bibliography will also be accessed through EBSCO. Previously, the Library subscribed to these databases from SilverPlatter, another information provider.

The MSU Libraries will benefit from substantial savings in subscription costs by changing to EBSCO as the electronic information provider.

MSU faculty, staff and students also

will benefit from this arrangement by increased electronic access to full text articles.

Through the "smartlinking" feature in EBSCOhost, a hyperlink will appear in the EBSCO database being searched directing the patron to the full text version of the article. In this manner, the patron will be able to take advantage of accessing full text material wherever possible.

This change is in agreement with other members of the Mississippi University Library consortium which includes the University of Mississippi, University of Southern Mississippi, Delta State

University, Mississippi University for Women, Alcorn State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Millsaps College, Mississippi College and William Carey College.

Please contact the Library's reference or library instruction faculty, subject bibliographer or outreach representative, if there are questions concerning this change in this phase of the Libraries' program.

Librarians are prepared to offer individual or group training in the EBSCOhost interface and will be happy to assist patrons.

A-Z electronic journal list now available online

MSU Libraries has implemented a new electronic journal management system designed to help patrons find full-text articles with greater ease.

The service, provided through Simple Solutions, provides an A-Z weblist of MSU's electronic journal collections.

The list provides patrons with one access point for all electronic journals subscribed to by Mississippi State, including full-text titles from aggregated collections and databases like JSTOR, Project Muse, and EBSCOhost.

The A-Z weblist will note beginning and ending dates of the full-text available for each version of a title. Additions and deletions to titles covered by an aggregator will be reflected in updates to the list received every other month.

In addition, embargo periods that postpone access to aggregated titles for a set period of time (typically three or six months) will be reflected in the holdings statement that accompanies each title.

The Serials Solutions system will help provide the Libraries' patrons with more efficient, direct access to electronic journals from one location on the Library's website.

Questions about the Libraries' implementation of Serials Solutions should be directed to Maria Collins at 662-325-8184 or mcollins@library.msstate.edu.

To access this new resource, go to <http://library.msstate.edu/resources/journals/>.



Common Site
Computer Commons, located on the second floor of Mitchell Memorial Library, is a popular place for students working on papers and class projects. The open lab offers a variety of PC and Macs with many of the latest software applications needed by today's student.

Two New Online Tutorials Available

Becoming a Super Searcher

<http://library.msstate.edu/li/tutorial/supersearcher/>

We all know the advantages of the World Wide Web (WWW). The World Wide Web is convenient, quick, and, at the hands of a skillful searcher, can provide instant gratification for our information needs.

In a perfect world, search directories and search engines would know instinctively our information needs and then produce for us the most relevant Web sites. Unfortunately, we don't live in a perfect world.

While the Internet is an invaluable source of information, we must approach searching it with some basic knowledge and some basic skills. A few minutes now with this tutorial will save you hours of frustration later.

Conquering Empirical Research

<http://library.msstate.edu/li/tutorial/empirical/>

Empirical research is at the core of many fields of study. Empirical research often defines relationships, demonstrates cause and effect, and sparks our own minds to begin thinking of other possibilities to be tested and studied.

Because empirical research is so important to so many fields, possessing the skills necessary to locate articles containing empirical research on pertinent topics of study is essential for researchers.

This tutorial provides a few tips that can help in locating empirical research in the literature of a field.

'Dear Jackie' letters on display

With the arrival of fall, the thoughts of loyal MSU Bulldog fans are turning to football.

A new library exhibit presents a selection of letters written by fans and supporters to Jackie Sherrill, MSU's "winningest" football coach. Dear Jackie: Letters to Jackie Sherrill, 1991-2002 is on display in the 2nd and 3rd floor atriums of Mitchell Memorial Library, from August 19-October 13 and can be viewed during Library open hours.

Included in the exhibit are letters, cards, drawings, play diagrams and photographs from Jackie Sherrill fans and supporters of all ages, and from players, coaches, and officials from all over the United States. Letters documenting Sherrill's outreach to fans with special needs and support for worthy causes are also included.

The letters were selected by Library staff from about 7 feet of letters received and answered by Sherrill and his staff during his first 11 years at MSU. The library is also displaying football posters and photographs collected by Jackie Sherrill and loaned for the exhibit.

For additional information, contact Mattie Sink (662) 325-3848, or msink@library.msstate.edu.

From October 16-December 31, the library will be exhibiting selected materials from its agricultural history collections.

Included will be documents, artifacts and publications documenting both Mississippi agricultural history and the role played by



The display cases in Mitchell Memorial Library are currently featuring an exhibit of letters written to MSU football coach Jackie Sherrill. The exhibit cases, located throughout the library, highlight information that can be found in the library.

Mississippi State University in agricultural development in the state.

The exhibit is being prepared in conjunction with the MSU Departments' annual Turning Points in History Forum, which will take place from October 26-27. The theme of this year's forum is Revolution in the Land: Southern Agriculture in the Twentieth Century". The forum will draw scholars from around the country, who will make presentations and lead discussions on agricultural history.

For additional information concerning the Agricultural History exhibit, contact Sara Morris, (662) 325-9347, or smorris@library.msstate.edu.

For additional information concerning the History Forum, contact Dr. Connie Lester, (662) 325-8304 or clester@ra.msstate.edu.

Library Hosts 4th Annual Regional Genealogy Fair

One hundred and nineteen genealogists from three states attended the fourth annual Regional Genealogy Fair on Saturday, June 8, hosted by Mitchell Memorial Library.

Activities included workshops, exhibits, tours, research opportunities, and a chance to visit with others working on similar surname lines.

Workshops on aspects of genealogical research are always the core of the fair.

This year, Beth Freshour, head of the Noxubee County Public Library, conducted a session on "Beginning Genealogy," while Margaret DeMerville, from Itawamba Community College, taught a more advanced class on "Early American Research."

Lenore Griffin presented a program on "Reunion: Genealogical Software for Macintosh," and Johnnie E. Miller spoke on "Tracing an African-American Family." In the afternoon, David Wiggins, a member of the Genealogical Society of Utah, talked about "Courthouse Research."

Wiggins is presently involved in organizing records at the Oktibbeha County Courthouse for microfilming.

Participants also had the opportunity to learn what the Library can offer to help with their research. Mattie Sink and Lynne Mueller conducted tours throughout the building, pinpointing useful resources for family history. As one person commented, "[It was] a bit overwhelming!

So much to look through someday." Betty Self and student assistants kept the Special Collections Department open until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, and some participants took advantage to do a bit of research while they were here.

For more information, contact Mattie Sink at msink@library.msstate.edu or 662-325-3848, or Lynne Mueller at 662-325-3935, or lmuellet@library.msstate.edu.

CORRECTION

■ Kathrin Dodds' e-mail address was incorrect as given. Dodds' correct address is kdodds@library.msstate.edu.

■ Several publications by Kerry Smith were mistakenly attributed to Amy Murphy. Smith authored the last five articles listed under Murphy's name.

Coming soon ~ the Fall 2002 Workshop Catalog