MSU Libraries and NAL launch DigiTop Plus

The MSU DigiTop Plus Pilot Project is officially here! The Mississippi State University Libraries and the National Agricultural Library (NAL) have jointly begun the first phase of the MSU DigiTop Plus Demonstration Pilot Project.

This unique project expands access to a core list of electronic journals to MSU faculty, staff, and students, as well as researchers at the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Stations and the Mississippi State Extension Service.

The project provides access to over 700 electronic journals, published by seven of the most prominent scientific and technical publishers.

Titles include widely used journals such as *Nature*, as well as more specialized research journals such as *Aquaculture*, *Biotechnology Letters*, and *Food Microbiology*.

The MSU research community will automatically have access to this electronic content through the Libraries' Galaxy Online Catalog and through the Electronic Journals web page.

In addition, access is available through the Libraries' SFX service, giving researchers the ability to click on the SFX button and retrieve the full-text article while searching commercial databases such as Academic Search Premier, AGRICOLA, or CAB Abstracts.

A complete listing of titles available and future announcements about the project can be found on the DigiTop Plus web site (http://library.msstate.edu/library/partners/msudigitop.asp).

Inquiries concerning the content of the MSU DigiTop Plus Pilot Project should be directed to June Schmidt, Associate Dean for Technical Services at 325-7672 or jschmidt@library.msstate.edu. For assistance in accessing the DigiTop Plus titles or any of the Mississippi State University Libraries' indexes and databases, contact the Reference Department at 325-7667 or visit the Ready Reference Desk on the second floor of the Mitchell Memorial Library.

MSU Libraries host regional workshop

On Friday, May 21, MSU Libraries hosted our 4th annual serials continuing education workshop.

Over eighty faculty and staff members from numerous schools and libraries from Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Mississippi attended this all-day event held in the Library's auditorium and John Grisham Room.

This year's event-sponsored by NASIG (North American Serials Interest Group), EBSCO Subscription Services, and Mississippi State University Libraries-titled "Discover the Magic of Electronic Journals" featured Dr. Carol Tenopir as the keynote speaker.

Dr. Tenopir is a professor for the School of Information Sciences at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and she shared with the large room of attendees her current research on faculty and student use of electronic journals.

In addition to Dr. Tenopir's presentation, three additional sessions were also held. Jodi Kuehl, Bethany Smith, and Rebecca Day from EBSCO discussed the advantages and disadvantages of direct subscriptions and aggregated packages.

Dr. David Kohl, Dean and University Librarian, Emeritus, from the University of

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Dr. Richard E. Holmes, MSU's first African-American student and currently a physician in the university's John C. Longest Student Health Center, has given his papers to the University Archives of the Special Collections Department, MSU Libraries. The Holmes Cultural Diversity Center on campus is named in honor of Dr. Holmes, who has maintained strong ties to his alma mater through the years. The presentation of his papers occurred on the occasion of Dr. Holmes's sixtieth birthday, and many members of his family and the university community were on hand to celebrate with him, including MSU President Emeritus Donald Zacharias (top photo) and Dr. Marty Wiseman, Director of the John C. Stennis Institute of Government.
MegaResource Librarians Workshop a huge success

The sixth MegaResource School Librarians Workshop was held Friday, April 2 in the Eli and Giles Electronic Classrooms, located on the first floor.

The MegaResource work-shops focus on the unique information needs of school librarians located throughout the state of Mississippi.

This year’s workshop brought 48 school librarians to the Starkville campus.

Co-sponsored by the College of Education, the 2004 MegaResource workshop provided updated information and sessions on educational issues of interest to school librarians.

This year’s keynote speaker was Nikisha G. Ware from the Office of Innovation and School Improvement at the Mississippi Department of Education. Ms. Ware provided an update on the No Child Left Behind Act and its implementation in Mississippi schools.

Other sessions included a plagiarism seminar, a hands-on session using Publisher for school materials, and a session on Magnolia resources.

A lunch session on incorporating problem-based learning was included, featuring guest speakers Lyn Blaylock from the Calhoun City High School and Donna Pearson and Kimberly Hall from the College of Education.

Digital Archives: Unlocking Hyperion’s resources

The University Libraries announces the release of its digital media archive, Hyperion, which is an innovative tool that facilitates organizing, storing, maintaining, and accessing non-book holdings in a digital format.

From delicate historical documents, rare photographs, and artwork, to movie clips, engineering drawings, and distance learning information, Hyperion offers instant access to digital images from anywhere to anyone with a browser.

Hyperion includes easy-to-use administration tools to build and maintain the archive. These tools organize and classify the material hierarchically, so users can intuitively browse through a tree structure of the online collections.

For example, once looking at the Hyperion Hierarchical view the user will be able to select which collection they would like to browse by selecting the appropriate link and then selecting the sub-categories or sub-collections that appear.

The hierarchy aids the construction and management of the archive by imposing a logical organization and grouping of related material.

One will also be able to input keywords to search for particular data elements that might appear in the records. For example, a researcher looking for sheet music by Irving Berlin would input the search terms under “Irving Berlin” under the Hyperion Searching option.

This will retrieve all records that have "Irving Berlin" in the record.

In April the MSU University Archives photographic collection index was added to Hyperion.

This index contains descriptions of over 9,000 photographic images contained in the University Archives’ photo collection. Pictures range from landscape prints of the campus to pictures of campus buildings and special events at MSU over the years.

While all of the photos in the collection have not been digitized, the index is available to assist researchers looking for photos.

Each record in the index has keywords that describe the image and the approximate time the photograph was taken. Plans are underway to digitize the collection.

To date, over 250 of the photographs have been digitized and are available on Hyperion.

The Congressional and Political Research Center has started migrating their indexes over to Hyperion to make the resources available online.

In February, the Instructional Media Center completed digitizing over 150 photographs from the G. V. “Sonny” Montgomery Missing-in-Action/Prisoner-Of-War photographs.

These photos were taken during Congressman Montgomery’s trips to Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. The oral histories of long time United State Senator John C. Stennis are also now contained in Hyperion.

These oral histories were conducted in the late 1980’s and early 1990’s as a means of capturing the impact and influence Senator Stennis had on the U.S. Senate as well as the lives of Mississippians, other U.S. Senators and United States history from 1947-1989.

Some of the oral histories now online include: Gil Carmichael, Steve Grafton, Dick Molpus, G. V. “Sonny” Montgomery, Leo Seal, Fred Slabach, John Hampton Stennis, Herman Talmadge, Strom Thurmond, and Governor William Winter.

In addition to the above collections, the Charles H. Templeton Sheet Music Collection which consists of over 1,100 digital copies of sheet music from the late 1800’s and early 1900’s is available in Hyperion.

This is a growing collection with pieces being added daily. The final product will include approximately 20,000 digital images.

To see these collections, visit http://library.msstate.edu/hyperion.
One of the most popular research services of the Mississippi State University Libraries' Reference Department is the research consultation. The research consultation is a private session with one of the librarians in the Reference Department. The purpose of a research consultation session is to assist clients in the identification and retrieval of appropriate research materials.

Users generally request a consultation at least 24 hours in advance, allowing the reference librarian time to prepare a recommended research strategy. The service is available to all MSU users. Undergraduates make use of the research consultation service to gather materials for a class assigned speech or term paper. New faculty members find the research consultation a useful orientation to the resources and services at MSU Libraries.

Graduate students often find the research consultation service of use, especially as they develop literature reviews for their thesis or dissertation. Research consultations are also available to research faculty and staff.

The research consultation is arranged by appointment only. To set up an appointment, users may call the Reference Desk at 325-7667 or fill out an online request form at: http://library.msstate.edu/reference/consult.asp.

Reference forms are also available at the Ready Reference Desk.

What is Engagement?

According to the Kellogg Commission on the Future of State and Land-Grant Universities, engagement refers to "redesigned teaching, research, and extension and service functions that are sympathetically and productively involved with the communities universities serve, however community is defined."

The Mississippi State University Libraries embrace the characteristics identified by the Kellogg Commission as crucial to successful engagement activities:

- Responsiveness
- Respect for Partners
- Academic Neutrality
- Accessibility
- Integration
- Coordination
- Resource Partnership

The Kellogg Commission's reports and publications are available online at: http://www.nasulgc.org/Kellogg/kellogg.htm.

Reference staff offers research consultations

In addition, the "library" portion of the course will include instruction in using popular software packages such as Word and PowerPoint, as well as sessions on developing web pages and using bibliographic management software tools such as EndNote.

The EN 3414 course represents one example of the Mississippi State University Libraries' dedication to enhancing MSU students' information literacy skills.

Other collaborative ventures are also under way.

If you have questions or suggestions as to how we can work with your course, please do not hesitate to contact the Library Instructional Services Department at 325-0810 or dlee@library.msstate.edu.

On March 25, 2004, the second lecture in the John F. and Jeanne A. Marszalek Library Fund and Lecture Series was given by Budge Weidman, Project Manager of the National Archives Civil War Conservation Corps. Weidman spoke on the Freedman's Bureau in Mississippi. One of John Marszalek's graduate students, James Humphreys read a paper written by the late Shannon Mallard, another Marszalek student, on Unionism in Mississippi. Pictured left to right: Frances Coleman, Dean of MSU Libraries, Dr. Michael Ballard, a member of the Marszalek Fund and Series Committee, James Humphreys, Budge Weidman, John Marszalek, and Jeanne Marszalek.
New @ the Library!

The following titles have recently been acquired by the MSU Libraries. These titles represent only a sample of the new material available at your library. Please feel free to examine these and other new books, located either in the Mitchell Memorial Library's circulating collection or on the new books shelf, located on the second floor.

**BR 115 .W4 S37 2002**

**E 176.1 .G68 2003**

**H 62 .M6612 2002**

**HB 615 .S477 2003**

**LB 1631 .A343 2003**

**PR 3091 .C36 2002**

**QA 76.76 .D47 E88 2003**

**QB 471.7 .B85 S3513 2002**

**TA 660 .J64 R43 2003**

**TA 174 .S36 2003**

**TS 156 .G474 2003**

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National speaker brings new ideas to Diversity Workshop

The Mississippi State University Libraries and the American Library Association's (ALA) Office for Diversity co-sponsored a one-day workshop on diversity. The workshop was held on March 26, 2004 from 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM at Mitchell Memorial Library, Mississippi State University.

Tracie Hall, Director of ALA Office's for Diversity (above), challenges participants in MSU Libraries' Diversity Workshop to think outside the box. The workshop included hands on activities (left) and discussion.

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Director of ALA Office's for Diversity (above), challenges participants in MSU Libraries' Diversity Workshop to think outside the box. The workshop included hands on activities (left) and discussion.
Registration open for sixth annual Genealogy Fair

The Regional Genealogical Fair can help you bring the past into the present with sessions on various ways to decipher and record genealogy.

Sponsored by the Choctaw County Historical and Genealogical Society, the Clay County Genealogical Society, the Oktibbeha County Historical and Genealogical Society, and the Mississippi State University Libraries, the sixth annual Regional Genealogical Fair will be held from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 12, at Mitchell Memorial Library, on the MSU campus.

The Genealogy Fair is free and open to the public, but registration is limited to the first 90 people.

"We are limiting registration this year to allow the participants to get the most out of the Fair. Please register early to ensure your place at this year's Fair," said coordinator Lynne Mueller.

Sessions for this year's fair include analyzing old hand writing, led by Esther Pippen of the Clay County Genealogical Society; computer genealogy, led by Edwin Ellis; conservation of documents and photographs, led by Mattie Sink of the MSU Libraries; and organizing research, led by Mueller of the MSU Libraries.

Marcia Phifer of the Clay County Genealogical Society will also lead a discussion and idea exchange for genealogical societies.

In addition to the sessions, participants will have an opportunity to tour the genealogical resources in the library, view an exhibit in the Special Collections area, exchange family information with other family members and do hands-on research in the Special Collections Department.

Participants may purchase a box lunch for $8, but lunches must be reserved by June 9.

To pre-register and to reserve lunches, anyone interested should contact the Special Collections Department, Mitchell Memorial Library, P. O. Box 5408, Mississippi State, MS 39762, call (662) 325-7679, or email lmueller@library.msstate.edu.

Database News: Changes to ERIC

ERIC is changing! ERIC, one of the core resources in the field of educational research, is undergoing a "reengineering" according to the U.S. Department of Education.

While the fundamental mission of supporting innovative educational research stays the same, the database will be redesigned to meet the changing needs of the educational community.

The sixteen educational clearinghouses have been closed and the ERIC database has been "frozen" in terms of new journal literature.

ERIC documents that had been backlogged from 2003 will continue to be added to the ERIC database through September 2004. The award for the "new" ERIC has been awarded to Computer Sciences Corporation, located in Rockville Maryland.

The five-year, $34.6 million dollar contract will fund the newly designed database, schedule for release in the fall of 2004.

To assist researchers in the transitional period, the Library has designed a web page to keep researchers abreast of the latest developments.

The web page also lists other options for educational research.

This web resource will continue to be updated until the new database is available.

Users may access this ERIC Update page at: http://library.msstate.edu/li/course_support/ERIC_Changes.asp.

MSU Libraries takes part in survey

The MSU Libraries participated this spring in the nationwide LibQual+ Survey.

The survey, developed and administered through the Association of Research Libraries, measures four dimensions of library service (affect of service, the library as "place", personal control, and access to information) through a series of questions. More than 400 libraries have participated in the LibQual+ project.

Undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and staff were randomly selected from across campus to participate in the survey.

The results, which will be released this fall, will enable the library to evaluate existing services and resources. Additional information about the LibQual+ survey can be found online at: http://www.libqual.org/.

Instruction, IMC offer workshops on demand

The MSU Libraries provides a number of scheduled and on-demand workshops. Most of the workshops available during the fall and spring semesters are also available for class presentations and as special workshops for faculty or departmental groups.

Some of our specialized workshops offered through the Library Instructional Services Department include:

- Cheating 101: Keeping Plagiarism out of Your Classroom!
- EndNote Basics
- Crawling the Web of Science
- Survival Skills for Graduate Students
- Effective Web Searching

Other workshops, offered through the Instructional Media Center, provide specialized introductions to popular software applications. These include:

- Adobe Acrobat: Unlocking the Secrets
- Adobe InDesign for Beginners

Instructional Media Center, please contact Pattye Archer at 325-0810 or dlee@library.msstate.edu; to schedule a session through the Instructional Media Center, please contact Pattye Archer at 325-6636 or parcher@library.msstate.edu.
Cincinnati presented some of his research involving the ICOLC Statement of Current Perspective and Preferred Practices for the Selection and Purchase of Electronic Information. Finally, Jill E. Grogg, Serials Librarian at Mississippi State University Libraries, closed the day's events with her discussion and explanation of the newest advances in the linking of scholarly materials.

"We were very pleased with the day's turnout and with the quality of the presentations," said Lyle Tate, a member of the event's planning committee.

"Discover the Magic of Electronic Journals" was coordinated by Maria Collins, Coordinator of Serials for MSU Libraries, and her committee of Ida Cunetto, Jill Grogg, Sara Morris, Lyle Tate, and Elizabeth Urbanik.