InfoWave

NEW LOOK AT BELL LIBRARY

A new, modern Reference desk highlights a number of changes users will see at Bell library at the start of the 1996-1997 academic year. Together with longer hours, new electronic databases, a reorganized collection and an electronic security system, the changes will make the library easier to use and more responsive to student and faculty information needs.

NEW REFERENCE DESK

Measuring 11 by 14 feet, the expansive new desk contains at least twice the area of the previous one. With space to accommodate three Reference Librarians, it will prove especially beneficial in assisting patrons in peak periods during the semester. Current plans are to install two more computer terminals at the desk to enable librarians to provide even more prompt and in-depth service. The highly-visible, U-shaped desk sits close to the front door so that, upon entering the building, users will know immediately where to request assistance.

NEW HOURS

To better serve users, Bell Library will extend its weekday hours of operation by remaining open until midnight. With the beginning of the fall semester, library hours will be:

Sun.	2pm-midnight
Mon.-Thurs.	7:30am-midnight
Fri.	7:30am-5pm
Sat.	10am-6pm.

In addition to the night Reference Librarian, who is on duty until 10 pm, a graduate student Library Assistant will staff the Circulation Desk from 8 pm-midnight on the five nights the library is open. According to Circulation Supervisor Noreen Kalien, "the Grad Assistant will also be qualified to help users needing Reference assistance from 10 to midnight." She added that the longer hours "will give students extra time for checking out materials as well as a quiet environment conducive to study and research."

REORGANIZED COLLECTIONS

Bell Library's Main Collection of circulating books has been reorgnized on the second floor. The stacks have been arranged in long, continous runs, replacing the shorter runs which had often led to confusion in the past. Circulation Supervisor Kalien noted that "this greatly simplifies the collection, making the books much more accessible and the sections more easily defined."

She also pointed out that the study areas have been relocated to the northeast windows section of the second floor. "The chief benefit of this move is to give students a quieter place to study, away from the activity going on in the library offices," she said.

Kalien added that the move has been a massive undertaking, requiring three months' time and the labor of many staff and students to move over 115,000 volumes. Alva Neer and Grace Charles of Special Collections, with Xann Salazar of Circulation, were major contributors to the effort. They were aided considerably by 15 dedicated student assistants working several shifts per day.

NEW SECURITY SYSTEM

Bell Library has installed a new, unobtrusive electronic security system similar to those found in retail stores. The system requires that books be checked out at the Circulation Desk before they can leave the library.
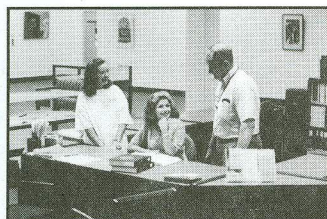
According to Circulation Supervisor Kalien, "students now only have to walk through uprights, as opposed to pushing a gate in the restrictive old system." The new system, moreover, complies fully with the Americans With Disabilities Act and will accommodate all wheelchairs much more easily than did the old one.

The new system is equipped with a voice alarm and a continuous video monitor. If a user has forgotten to check materials out, the speaker will direct the user back to the Circulation Desk. A video camera records all traffic entering and leaving the building.

"Aside from its ease of use," Kalien said, "the new system makes for a cleaner, more spacious appearance at the front of the library."

CONVENIENCE

Overall, the changes outlined above will make Bell Library and its services much more accessible and "user-friendly" in the upcoming academic year.

ILL DROPS CHARGES

Starting with the Fall 1996 semester, Bell Library's Interlibrary Loan Dept. will no longer pass along charges to students requesting items from other libraries.

Charges are usually incurred for books or journals that are obscure and consequently owned by only a handful of libraries. Those are the libraries that most often charge others for interlibrary lending. Their fees normally range from $7 to $15. Previously, Bell Library had required students to be responsible for the charges.

However, although the ILL Dept. will be dropping charges, library users should be realistic in their requests. "We still couldn't afford to pay $90, for example, for a photocopy of a 10-page article," explained Lydia Kelley, Library Asst. IV in ILL, "so we ask users to be reasonable."

Kelley emphasized that the ILL Dept. will continue its concerted efforts to obtain whatever Bell Library users need quickly, accurately and courteously.

LIBRARY EXPANDS ELECTRONIC CAPABILITIES

New Faces

Please welcome the following new staff to the Mary and Jeff Bell Library:

Marian Chapman has been appointed Library Assistant II in Interlibrary Loan. She holds a BA in English and French from Weber State University in Utah. Most recently, she was a Reference Librarian at the Davis County Library, Farmington, UT.

Elizabeth Clark was selected as Graduate Assistant assigned to the Public Service Division. Beth recently graduated with a MA in Art History and Theatre from TAMU-CC.

David Fowler has been named Serials Librarian. He is a recent MLS graduate of the School of Information Science and Policy at the State University of New York at Albany. He has been employed as a reference librarian at Sage College in Albany.

Lydia Kelley has been appointed Library Assistant IV in Interlibrary Loan. Her most recent assignment has been as Library Assistant II in Interlibrary Loan. In her new position she will supervise the processing of all ILL requests.

Jacob Quintana has been named Library Assistant III in the Serials Dept. He was most recently Library Clerk in Serials and is also a graduate student in Business at TAMU-CC.

Erma Ybarra is the new Library Clerk in the Systems and Technical Services Division.

Friends of the Library BookSale!

September 17th
8:30am to 5:00pm
Bell Library Breezeway

Bell Library users will find a wealth of new databases awaiting them at the beginning of the new academic year. These research tools represent a significant expansion of the library's state-of-the-art electronic capabilities.

The majority of the new databases will be networked and available on the public terminals in the Reference area of the library and thus be accessible through remote log in as well. Several will be on CD-ROMs available on the standalone workstations located directly in front of the Reference Dept. Offices. The new databases will considerably enhance users' ability to obtain more in-depth information to aid in their research. In alphabetical order, the databases are:

*America: History and Life provides access to over 65,000 journal articles, book and media reviews, and dissertations on the history and culture of the U.S. and Canada. Its comprehensive coverage is drawn from over 2,000 journals published worldwide. It will be available on the CD-ROM workstations.

*BIOSIS is the electronic version of *Biological Abstracts* and *Biological Abstracts/RRM (Reports, Reviews, Meetings)*. With coverage from 1993-present of 6,000 international journals representing every life-science discipline, **BIOSIS** contains references to journal items focusing on biological and medical research findings, clinical studies, and discoveries of new organisms. In addition, it covers the international meeting literature, reviews, books and research reports. It will be networked on the public terminals.

*Cambridge Scientific Abstracts includes 45 databases covering 10 different scientific disciplines. Its extremely broad range of offerings includes references to and abstracts of the literature in aquatic sciences (*e.g. ASFA*), medical and biological sciences, environmental sciences, computer sciences and engineering specialties, market research, materials science and technology, as well as scientific conference papers. It will be networked on the public terminals.

*CollegeSource replaces the microfiche version (*College Catalogs*)

currently in use at Bell Library. Its easy-to-use format includes the catalogs of all accredited institutions of higher learning in the U.S. and U.S. Territories. It will be networked on the public terminals.

*Criminal Justice Abstracts is the electronic version of the paper title. It provides references to the literature on topics including crime trends, crime prevention, juvenile delinquency, police, courts, corrections, offenders, and victims. It will be networked on the public terminals.

*Dow Jones Academic Edition offers users comprehensive and up-to-date business information from the wires of the Dow Jones News Service. It replaces Moody's Company Data, currently in use at Bell Library. **Dow Jones'** features include Current News, Search News and Articles, Company and Industry Data, Quotes and Market Data, as well as Leisure and Travel. Search News and Articles, e.g., allows access to more than 55 million documents from over 3,000 publications in the Dow Jones library, most available in full text. Company and Industry Data provides information on more than 10 million private and public companies worldwide. **Dow Jones** will be networked on the public terminals.

*The Hispanic-American Experience is a research tool providing images, documents and background essays covering the full range of the Latino experience from pre-Columbian times to the present. It includes primary source materials as well, ranging from an engraving of a Spanish mission to a reading by Chicana poet Carmen Tafolla. The database covers topics such as the expansion of Spain's colonial empire, Central Americans in the U.S., and the religion and music of the Mexican Revolution. It will be available on the CD-ROM workstations.

*Historical Abstracts contains references to the literature in the field of history, covering world history from 1450 to the present. It indexes articles, dissertations and books published worldwide, from all branches of world history. It will be available on the CD-ROM workstations.

*Ovid Core Biomedical Collections contains full text versions of fifteen leading biomedical journals including: The American Journal of Medicine, JAMA: The Journal of the American Medical Association, The Lancet and The New England Journal of Medicine.

Users needing assistance selecting or using any of these databases will find it readily available at the Bell Library public terminals.

LIBRARIANS TO TEACH CORE

Two Bell Library staff members will serve as Instructors in the University Core Curriculum Program during the 1996-1997 school year. This marks the first time that librarians have taught in the Core Program at TAMU-CC.

Chris Shupala, Reference/ Government Documents Librarian, and Leah Muilenberg, Reference Assistant III, will teach Freshman Seminar (UCP 101 and UCP 102) in the fall and spring semesters. Their teaching duties will be in addition to their library responsibilities.

Full-time freshmen at TAMU-CC are required to enroll in Freshman Seminar for each of their two freshman semesters. The courses are devoted to activities designed to emphasize development of students' critical thinking skills. Instructors function as discussion leaders, mentors, informal advisers, and general resource people for students in their seminars.

Overall, the University Core Curriculum is a 46-hour program which provides students a basic foundation of skills and information. Core courses focus on a single University Theme each academic year. This year's theme will be "Toward the Urban Environment," an exploration of the ongoing transition in Western society from rural, agrarian communities to urban, industrialized ones.

Both librarians are looking forward to the seminars, viewing them as a challenge as well as an extension of the teaching roles they already fulfill within the library. "One thing is for sure," said Shupala, "and that is that our students will gain the information-literacy skills they'll need to succeed at the University and in our information-driven society."

GOV DOCS WORK-STATION ONLINE

Information compiled and published by the U.S. Government has recently become more readily accessible with the introduction of Bell Library's Government Docu-

FIL GOES ELECTRONIC

Searching for grant and funding information has become considerably easier, thanks to the new electronic capabilities of Bell Library's Funding Information Library (FIL).

A grant from the United Way of the Coastal Bend has enabled the FIL to purchase a computer and several electronic databases, which are located directly in front of the Reference Dept. Offices.

According to FIL Librarian Sue Hain, the new electronic resources will simplify the grant-seeking process. "Finding grant money still requires a lot of perseverance," she said, "but it's not quite the formidable task it used to be. The databases are user-friendly and will enable users to obtain accurate information much more quickly." The new databases are:

*Federal Money Retriever, a software program which focuses on funding opportunities at the federal government level. It is the electronic version of the *Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance*, a government-wide compendium of federal programs, projects, services and activities which provide assistance or benefits to the American public.

*FC Search: TheFoundationCenter's

Database on CD-ROM contains records for all known active foundations in the United States, as well as records for direct corporate giving programs, more than 43,000 grantmakers.

*Chronicle Guide to Grants, a CD-ROM covering 40,000 grants as listed in *The Chronicle of Philanthropy* and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. This will be updated on a bi-monthly basis, with listings of new grants awarded.

*Grants Database, a CD-ROM which covers the *Directory of Research Grants*, the *Directory of Biomedical and Health Care Grants*, and the *Directory of Grants in the Humanities*. It gives access to over 9,000 grants available from federal, state and local governments, commercial organizations, associations, and private and community foundations. It is also updated bi-monthly.

In addition to these resources, the FIL workstation provides users access to the World Wide Web, which contains a multitude of sites offering funding information.

Bell Library users needing assistance with any of the databases or with grant-seeking in general should contact Sue Hain at 994-5961. The mission of the Funding Information Library is to make available publications, information and services useful to grant-seekers from throughout the community.

ments workstation.

The new Pentium terminal, situated in the Reference area, provides the latest government reports and statistics to users on CD-ROMs and through the World Wide Web.

The Federal Government, said Reference/Government Documents Librarian Chris Shupala, "is moving away from paper publication toward a primarily electronic format. With the new workstation, we're well situated to take advantage of that." The result will be that Bell Library users will have quick and easy access to a variety of databases containing the full text of government documents.

On the World Wide Web, for example, users will find current statistical information from the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Commerce Dept., among others. Also on the Web are full-text documents from the White House as well as from Congress and the

Judicial branch.

CD-ROM offerings include statistics on business, such as *U.S. Imports/Exports*, *Survey of Current Business,* and *U.S. Global Trade Outlook*. Also on CD are reports from the Dept. of Health and Human Services, such as *Health, United States* and the annual *Health Interview Surveys.*

As a Federal Depository library, Shupala noted, Bell Library receives new government CD-ROMs weekly, "giving our users up-to-date and in-depth resources for their research."

New Periodical Holdings List

The Bell Library's Periodical Holdings List (PHL) has been updated and expanded by the Periodicals Department. The PHL includes the periodicals available in full text format through TexShare (Periodicals Abstracts and ABI/Inform).

BELL, MONTERREY TO SHARE RESOURCES

Resource sharing on an international scale has become a reality for Bell Library

Thanks to a formal Memorandum of Understanding signed during the Spring semester of 1996, the library has entered upon a cooperative agreement with the library of the Instituto Tecnologico y de Estudios Superiores in Monterrey, Mexico. This "sister-school" relationship between the two libraries will enable students of each university to obtain materials from the other institution quickly and easily.

ITESM is a multicampus university system comprising twenty-six locations in twenty-five cities throughout Mexico. The Monterrey campus serves 17,000 students of the system's total of 69,000. Its library holdings include 108,000 book volumes as well as subscriptions to 2,450 periodicals.

The Memorandum was signed by TAMU-CC Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration, C. Ray Hayes, ITESM Director de la Biblioteca Miguel Angel Arreola and Bell Library Director Ben Wakashige. Basically, it calls for each library to: provide access to each other's online catalog, engage in expedited interlibrary book loans, establish an auto-mated document delivery program for the exchange of journal articles.

The resource sharing service started up in the Spring and is now in full operation. Since both libraries employ the same Innovative Interfaces automation system, it is possible for TAMU-CC students to search Monterrey's holdings through the public workstations. Access is simple and direct, through "Other Online Catalogs." Once a student identifies materials he/she wants from Monterrey, he/she can request it through the Bell Library Interlibrary Loan Dept.

Currently, both libraries are employing the Ariel system to transmit copies of journal articles to each other over the Internet. The system permits library users to receive articles quickly.

"The agreement holds great promise for the future," said Bell Library Director Wakashige. "And I'm sure that traffic between the two libraries will increase as students gain awareness of the service." He added that the libraries will actively cooperate in other ways as well, including workshops and staff exchanges for the sharing of ideas and expertise.

Bell Library Open to Midnight

Sunday to Thursday

"Here to Serve You"

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
Mary & Jeff Bell Library
6300 Ocean Drive
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