

Fall 2007

Library Ledger

University of Southern Maine Libraries

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Library Ledger

Newsletter of University Libraries & ITMS
Volume 1, Issue 2

Check out the new look
of our homepage. We
think you'll like it!
library.usm.maine.edu

The latest news from Portland, Gorham, & Lewiston-Auburn

Special points of interest:

The faculty at USM are very prolific researchers and writers. While the library collects all their books, you might not know where to find them...so we've made it easier. From our homepage click on **Other Collections**, then **USM Authors** for a link to the catalog record for each faculty member's books and the call number(s).

New Extended Hours!
The Gorham & Portland Libraries now open their doors at 7:45 a.m. Monday - Friday, and are open until 8:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Come on in!"

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Volume 1, Issue 2

Fall 2007

Science Direct Is Back!

Let there be singing and dancing in the streets! ...by the science people anyway.

Thanks to a cooperative agreement among Maine's academic libraries, Science Direct is back to stay.

According to its creator, Elsevier Publishing, Science Direct offers more than a quarter of the world's scientific, medical and technical information online. It includes over 2,000 peer-reviewed journals beginning with volume

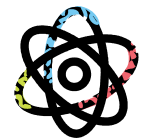


#1, issue #1. It also contains hundreds of books series, handbooks and reference works.

As USM scientists will recall, the University of

Maine system had Science Direct before, but lost it due to the cost. Thanks to cooperative efforts among the system institutions and some good bargaining, we now have access to this premier research tool for at least 5 years.

So put on your dancing shoes and turn on the reggae.



Osher Map Library Addition & New Glickman Entrance

A wrap-around addition to Glickman Library will begin soon along Bedford St. providing a link to the new Wishcamper Center and more space the Osher Map Library. Yes, they have so many maps, globes, and other

geographical resources that they just wouldn't fit in the space allotted, so more space is being built. In the process the front door of Glickman Library will also be relocated to face the University Commons/campus by Nov. '08 with a connecting walkway. We

want to invite you to the library with more than words. We want it to be physically and aesthetically welcoming. After all, we have a wealth of information and services for you to use.



The Commons @ Gorham Library

“A democratic society depends upon an informed and educated citizenry.”

Thomas JEFFERSON
(1743-1826)



Google Scholar Search Results Now Linking to USM E-Journals!

Google Scholar fans will be glad to know that whenever a full-text article is available through USM Libraries, they'll know just by looking at their search results! Whenever a "Resources @ USM" or "Full Text @ USM" link appears beside or below an item in the list, click it to be connected to an electronic version of the article available through the USM Libraries electronic journal collection. To enable this feature from off-campus, go to "scholar preferences" and use the "Library Links" search field to add "University of Southern Maine." Questions?

Even now the work continues as the library and computer lab at Gorham work out the kinks in their new marriage. Yes, IT moved in with the library over the summer and they've been fixing things up. New computer tables hold 40 computers loaded with the programs you need for your classwork. IT and library staff

work hand-in-hand (no not literally) in the library to help find solid information and turn your research into a top notch paper, PowerPoint presentation, or anything else.

There's even a color printer now...& group study rooms.

Of course, some things have been moved around to make room resulting in a more appealing and usable space. We hope you will like it.



Citing Sources Made Easy...er

A few people may like the intricacies of MLA, APA, or Chicago citation style, but most of us don't. Who wants to pour over each style manual to determine whether or not you underline the title, right?

If you go to *Instructional*

Services on the library homepage you will find a wealth of online guides and citation creators that can make your busy life easier.

For instance, *Citation Machine* let's you



type in the basic information, then it creates the citation so you can just copy and paste it into your paper. No, it won't create every type of citation, but it covers the basics and it's SO easy to use.

Check it out!

New Databases

Databases mean articles and we have added several databases over the summer that contain articles from journals you will almost certainly need for your classes. Here's a list:

- **Book index with Reviews** – need reviews of book. This is the place to find them.

- **Education Full Text** - ERIC is fine, but Education Full-Text provides articles from a wide range of scholarly publications that go well beyond the scope of ERIC.

- **Mental Measurements Yearbook** – You Psychology students have to try this one. It's way better than the print version, with all those volumes. Try it out.

- **Oxford English Dictionary** – OED, as it's called, is the gold standard for dictionaries.

- **Womens Studies International** – This replaced Contemporary Women's Issues because it's more complete. Social Work Abstracts – The database isn't new, but the way you search it and, believe us, it's a big improvement.



New Faces at USM Libraries!

The USM Libraries and Instructional Technology &

Media Services (ITMS) have two new people on board:

Judy Babin works in the Inter -Library Loan office in Glickman Library (Portland). She is one who will be working hard to get you those articles and books when you fill

out an "Iliad" form. She came to us in June from the Guilford, Connecticut Public Library. When not at the library she teaches metalsmithing, specifically jewelry making (she works primarily in silver and copper), at Artascope Studios in South Portland.

Joshua Gates is an administrative assistant for ITMS and hangs his hat in

their Luther Bonney office. His voice is the one you're likely to hear when requesting equipment, dvd's, etc. He has been drawn to media for many years and studied it at SMCC in South Portland. He has worked for several printing companies in the Portland area and is a music promoter, too. He plays bass guitar.



"We are not afraid to entrust the American people with unpleasant facts, foreign ideas, alien philosophies, and competitive values. For a nation that is afraid to let its people judge the truth and falsehood in an open market is a nation that is afraid of its people."

— John F. KENNEDY



New Reference Titles...Online

Do you need an encyclopedia or hard facts? You don't need to leave home. Try our new reference books online.

- **New Catholic Encyclopedia**
- **Encyclopedia of Education**
- **Countries & Their Cultures**

- **Gale Encyclopedia of Mental Disorders**
- **Geo-Data: The World Geographical Encyclopedia**
- **Encyclopedia of Religion**
- **Gale Encyclopedia of Science**
- **Encyclopedia of Clothing & Fashion**

- **Major Acts of Congress**
- **National Survey of State Laws**

All these titles are located on the library homepage under *Indexes & Databases*. Access them 24/7 from any location using your username & password.

Gorham Library Book Exchange

Gorham's Library has been bustling with students this year, as students have come to work in computer pods, read by the windows in the new chairs, collaborate on projects in the study rooms, and find information for assignments. In the café area of the library, we have created the Gorham Library Book

Exchange which provides students with free light reading books for bus rides, down-time in the dorms, between classes, or whenever they need a break. Students can pass along the books to others or bring the books back to the Book Exchange shelf. We are hoping the USM community can help us

keep these shelves replenished with **interesting current paperback and hard-cover fiction and non-fiction**. Books should be in very good to excellent condition and less than five years old. Please no text books.

If you have books you feel students would enjoy and with which you are willing to part, we would love to have them. Students greatly appreciate them. Please send books to:

Pat Potter
Gorham Library
Bailey Hall



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE
LIBRARIES

Portland
(207) 780-4270

Gorham
(207) 780-5345

Lewiston-Auburn
(207) 753-6540

Instructional Technology
& Media Services

Portland
780-4280

Gorham
780-5356

libraryadmin@usm.maine.edu



USM Libraries
One Library
on Three
Campuses

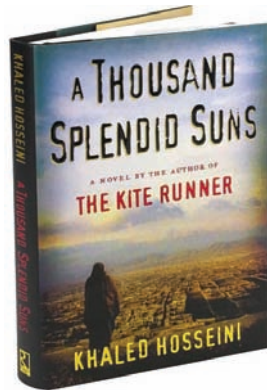
We're on the Web @
library.usm.maine.edu
Check us out!



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Book Review Central

Hosseini, K. (2007). *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. New York, NY: Penguin.



Splintered and broken, the reader's heart is laid open again by Khaled Hosseini, author of *The Kite Runner*. Two women's lives reveal a forbidding-yet-endearing culture shredded by war, yet bound by love. Mariam is nothing and will be nothing, her mother says, yet bound to her enemy, Mariam warms the reader with to her land, her culture, and herself.

A Thousand Splendid Suns illuminates all that's bad and good in the human heart, digging deep with intimate detail and deliberation to draw the reader down a dark tunnel.

First the Soviets rip apart Afghanistan's mesmerizing way of life, followed by the Mujahadin, then the Taliban. A flood of terror throws together Mariam and Laila as trash in a male culture, yet they refuse to be used and disposed of by Rasheed their husband. Courage and undying love alone can save them.

Using rhythm and the interspersed language of Afghanistan, Hossini warms the readers heart with *A Thousand Splendid Suns* of love and beauty set amid the chaos and despair that we know as Afghanistan.

Written by Bill Grubb, Head of Reference & Instructional Services

Google: We All Love It, but...

We all love Google. Even librarians use it. But while it's a great tool, the information it provides you with is often of questionable value. For instance, is the author who he/she claims to be? How do you know the information is current? Do they have a bias? Where did they get their information?

As you can see, many USM instructors have good reason for not accepting "articles" from the Internet. They



want journal articles. That means an article reviewed by other professors or professionals in the field. You can get those the most quickly and reliably from the library's databases.

Start with a general database, such as

Academic Search Premier, and limit your search to full-text and Scholarly (Peer-Reviewed) articles. If you don't find what you need there ask us at the reference desk...in person, by phone, or chat. You'll be amazed at how much help we'll give you.

"Chance favors the prepared mind."

— Louis Pasteur