

Fall 2008

Library Ledger

University of Southern Maine Libraries

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Library Ledger

Newsletter of University Libraries & ITMS
Volume 2, Issue 1

The latest news from Gorham, Lewiston-Auburn & Portland

What Is All That Construction About?

Construction continues on the new entrance to the Glickman Library and the expansion of the Osher Map Library. The new library entrance will provide direct access from the University Commons through a glass enclosed arcade. Opening of the new entrance will be around the end of the year and OML in mid-2009.

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New Homepage

Hey! Check out that new library website! If you liked the old one you'll love the new one. We have brought those things to the front you will most often use and we added some color to boot.

We're especially proud of our newly redesigned Subject Guides. They are better organized and provide a great place to "Start Your Research." For more information see *Dear Crabby...*

You didn't know about

Osher Map Library or Special Collections or ITMS? Well, you do now. And if you want to "Find Journals by Title", now you know where to begin.

Of course, the UMaine System catalog, URSUS,

is still front and center, but if you use "Find Books & More" you see that we have e-books. You can search Maine public libraries and more through MaineCat, or libraries worldwide using WorldCat. Check it out!

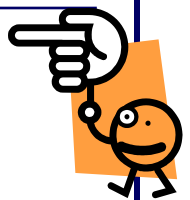


The LAC Library has changed over the summer!

Over the Spring '08 semester, the wall came down between the library and the computer lab, and the space was renamed the **Commons @ Lewiston-Auburn Campus**. Over the summer, the computer lab's Help Desk and the library's Circulation Desk have merged so you can request help with printing or check out books,

headphones, etc. all at the same desk! The white walls have been spruced up with new colors and new carpeting has been installed. New computer furniture has been ordered, too. In addition, four group study rooms and many laptop-friendly tables are also planned. If you haven't visited the

Commons @ Lewiston-Auburn Campus recently, you should make a point of doing so. Take in an art exhibit in the Atrium Gallery, enjoy a snack at the LAC Cafe, and more. You can contact the Commons at 753-6540.





The new online version of the International Encyclopedia of Communication, available via the library's website, includes an entry authored by USM's Department of Communication & Media Studies Professor, Lenny Shedletsky.

Sage Advice from *Dear Crabby...*

Dear Crabby... I'm so confused! I don't know where to even start to find articles, reliable websites, statistics, and quality materials on my topic. Help! ..Lost Online
Dear Lost Online, ...I hear ya. If I had a dime for every person who has



CredoReference & Opposing Viewpoints

What? You spent 45 minutes looking in Google for an article about media violence? You could have just logged into the library's Opposing Viewpoints database from home and found articles from opposing points of view, scholarly articles, statistics, and links to some

reliable websites. It would have only taken you about 15 minutes, too. Oh, and Credo Reference would have given you definitions of terms and some other background information and keywords to use in searching more in-depth databases.



Both databases were added over the summer following response to last year's LibQUAL student survey. It's all available online, 24/7 using your student ID number (25022...) Also, try that Concept Map search in CredoReference. Wow!



complained about this I'd be sitting pretty in Puerto Vallarta. But hold on... Instead of basking in what little sun there was this summer, the librarians spent their time creating some hot new online subject guides that you need to check out. I used to spend hours clicking through the thousands of Google hits for good information about simple things like ADHD. Now I just go to Start Your Research on the new library homepage and select Psychology...since that's what ADHD has to do with. There I

find all the databases, websites, and lots of others things that are useful for that subject area. It's like using my iPod. I can click into the Biology Boutique or Social Work & Things and find exactly what I want. If I don't find it there I just use the AskALibrarian link and chat with the librarian on duty for the personal attention I SO need. I mean, the last time I used it, I set up an appointment with this librarian online for personal instruction. I was impressed and, believe me, I'm not easily impressed. Don't get me wrong, Google's great for finding some basic information and terms...and the library website is a big improvement...but the new subject guides are a real time-saver. They're regularly updated and are easy to use online. My time is valuable and I don't intend to waste it. Oh, got to go get my pedicure. My advice? Get on to that new library website and try out a Subject Guide. ...Crabby

E-Reserves: Class materials reserved online

Do you need to find the required readings your professor has placed on reserve for your class? The easiest way to locate the readings from the library home page is to go to the quick links box on the right hand side of the

page and click on Electronic Reserves. This will take you to the search page. From here, select Electronic Reserves, then Reserve Pages. The next page gives you options for searching by department (ex: USM – History) or by professor or by title of the document.

You will need the password that your professor has given you to access the documents. It's easy! FMI or assistance: 780-4270



Online Tutorials

Everyone needs help from time to time. Our new “...in 3 Minutes” online tutorials can explain to you in 3 minutes how to:

- Find a book
- Find an article
- Refine your search
- Go beyond Google
- Cite your sources

Does that sound boring enough to you? Well, it

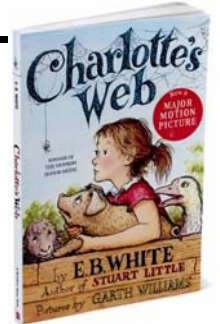
shouldn't because they are quick, and audible demos of each topic that can help you without having to leave your seat ... or the sofa at home while you watch Big Brother.



AskALibrarian lets you chat online with the librarian on duty during normal Reference hours. Give it a try!



*Genius is more often found
in a cracked pot than a
whole one.*
- E.B. White
Maine Author

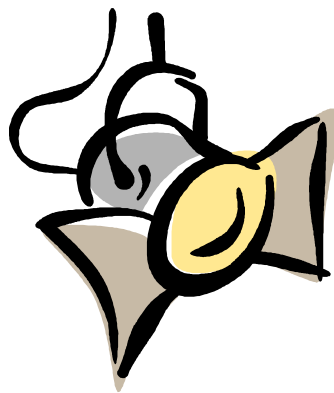


Staff Spotlight

Focus on Staff Member---
Angela Cook

Angela Cook, known to many at USM, is the Manager of Audiovisual Services of Instructional Technology & Media Services (ITMS). In this capacity she wears many hats—ordering and maintaining all sorts of instructional equipment, supervising three staff members and usually 10-15 students that work for her. Somehow she makes sure events held in Hannaford Hall and other venues come off without technology glitches. Of course, there was the time former U.S. President Bill Clinton visited. Ask her about that one.

Angela also coordinates with several areas of service, including USM's Department of Conferences, OLLI, and ITMS staff



on the Gorham campus, among others.

Angela has a bachelor's degree from USM, having graduated in 2000 with a

major in Fine Arts and History and a minor in Art History. In her personal time, she uses skills developed in her undergraduate days. She loves photography and she is a sea kayaker, finding peace and tranquility on Maine waters.

Angela both depends on and greatly appreciates the ITMS staff. In fact, she says she couldn't come close to doing what she does without their help, support, and friendship.

African-American Registry Is Acquired by The Sampson Center

The Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine recently acquired the registry for the African American Collection at the Glickman Family Library at the University of Southern Maine in Portland. The 182-page ledger of the Rose Cummings guesthouse in Old Orchard Beach logging guest stays between 1923 and 1993, was purchased from a Cummings family member for an undisclosed price, and offers a unique glimpse into the social lives of blacks in Maine and the United States during the last century.

Some were big names, including jazz band leader Duke Ellington and Harlem Renaissance poet Countee Cullen. Others were doctors, judges, newspaper publishers, university employees, religious leaders and ordinary folk.

For more information contact Susie Bock, Head of Special Collections, 780-4269

Text & photo taken from the Aug. 24 Portland Press Herald article



Smart Starts @ the Library

UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE
LIBRARIES

Portland
(207) 780-4270

Gorham
(207) 780-5345

Lewiston-Auburn
(207) 753-6540

Instructional Technology
& Media Services

Portland
(207) 780-4280

Gorham
(207) 780-5356

Lewiston
(207) 753-6526

libraryadmin@usm.maine.edu

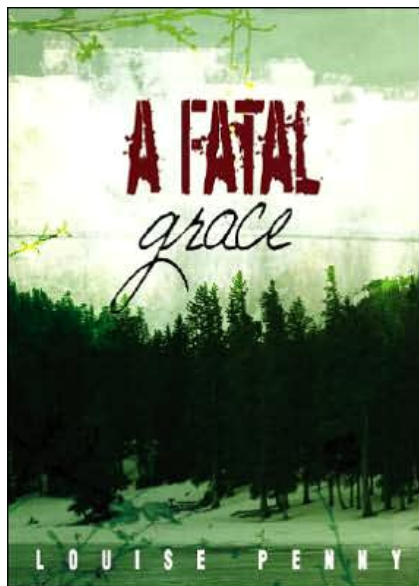


USM Libraries
One Library
on Three
Campuses

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



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE



Library Pulse



If you're looking for cool websites that could provide information for a paper check out the library blog @ usmlibrarypulse.blogspot.com

Book Review

Penny, Louise. (2007). *A fatal grace*.
New York: St. Martin's

C. C. de Poitiers had made no friends in the Quebec village of Three Pines, but who hated her enough to kill her? Chief Inspector Armand Gamache interviews the quirky villagers and uncovers their secrets.

A Fatal Grace is Louise Penny's second mystery in the Three Pines series. Because of references to the first novel, *Still Life*, I recommend starting at the beginning. All the same, this story stands on its own.

"The colorful townspeople, the charming setting, and the intriguing plot make this book a fresh take on the classic whodunit. In the end the insightful Gamache unravels the mystery--with the support of his librarian wife."

Written by Maureen Perry, Librarian, Lewiston-Auburn Campus

FRS 197—Information Power Unleashed

If you have signed up for FRS 197, USM's first-rate information literacy class, be prepared to slip beneath the veil of a secretive clan whose netherworld activities date back to the earliest days of civilization. Yes, you have entered the world of LIBRARIANS.

While hiding behind a well-crafted image of rigid nerds, more interested in the study of the Library of Congress Classification System than listening to hip hop, Librarians have long cultivated the art of information retrieval that has supported countless puppet dictators, the development of the atom bomb, and the development of artery-clogging products like that nasty piece of processed cheese that you're putting in your mouth as you read this.

Were it not for Library Science (yeah, that's right, it's a science!) you might not have many of today's luxuries. Yet, despite the secretive nature of these "Keeper of Information," the instructor has agreed to share tantalizing morsels of this ancient art with you.

Sounds cool, right? In the end it will help you develop the research skills that are essential to the successful completion of college at USM. And, those skills will enable you to achieve this goal with far less pain and suffering than your friends who did not take this class.

See you there!

