Spring 2009

Library Ledger

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We Face Campus! The New Entrance to Glickman Library is Open and Ready for Business

More than just a new door, it is also a glass enclosed arcade for meeting classmates and enjoying some sunshine.

On January 20th, President Botman cut the ribbon and welcomed USM students, faculty, and staff to this final step in connecting Portland’s Glickman Library to the rest of campus. Benches will eventually line the arcade offering a new sunny space for students to gather and a welcoming means of access to the Glickman Family Library.

Phase One of the building transformation was completed when it opened in 1993 as the Albert Brenner Glickman Family Library including a new outer wall, new systems, and the first four of seven floors completed. Floors five to seven remained unfinished until Phase Two of the project in 2003, with the completion of the top floors and the grand opening in April 2004.

A new expanded Osher Map Library will be opening during Fall 2009.

While USM Libraries are becoming increasingly digital, our physical libraries remain important centers on campus for students, faculty, and staff to gather for research, group study, computer access, and just hanging out with a cup of coffee. Come visit us soon!

Off-Campus Research

Your USM One-Card ID provides you with access to all the library databases from home...or anywhere else. Click on the library database you need, like Academic Search Premier, and enter your name and the (usually) red ID # beginning with 25022… It’s easy. Questions? Ask us!
PBS, The History Channel, Discovery Channel, some popular films and more are now available for checkout at our Portland location. They used to only be available for faculty use, but we decided it was time for our students to have some fun, too. Use them for research or your own enjoyment. While most are in VHS video format, many are DVDs and they range widely in subject matter. Search our catalog (URSUS) to see what we have or just browse the shelves on the second floor of Glickman Library near the Information Desk.

Videos Hit the Library!

“But despite the meek, shush-shushing stereotype, librarians are largely a freedom-upholding, risk-taking group. In the name of the First Amendment and anti-censorship, they have championed the causes of provocative writers and spoken out against banned and challenged books.”

Writer Linton Weeks, Washington Post

Sage Advice from Dear Crabby...

Dear Crabby...
What’s this about cutbacks at the library? How am I supposed to get the books I need for class? Bummed ‘n Bookless

Dear Bummed ‘n Bookless,
I hear ya, but we still have lots of good books in our 3 libraries, plus you can request delivery of books from any UMaine campus to USM. Just don’t think you can use the Internet to find the books you need, because there are all kinds of problems with that. I could tell you stories.

Some students even think that just because a book isn’t listed in our catalog (URSUS) that they have to buy it. Not true! We have this thing called Interlibrary Loan, you know. We can usually get the book you need from a library in another state for free. It just takes a few days. I tell people that all the time, but do they believe me or actually use it? No, they just stumble through the class trying to fake out the instructor with some book summary from Amazon and end up getting caught by the new plagiarism software the university uses. Boy, are they in a fix then!

People hear the word “cutbacks” and they think the library is going down the drain. Well it ain’t so. We still have lots of books and tons of other resources ...and can get those we don’t have...so don’t you worry. Those librarians are smarter than they look and they’ll help you find exactly what you need if you’ll just ask them. I knew this guy who was as average as dirt and he graduated Summa Cum Laude because he was tight with one of those librarians.

Hope this helps ya.

Crabby

New Materials

GeoscienceWorld (new): A comprehensive Internet resource for research and communications in the geosciences, built on a core database aggregation of peer-reviewed journals indexed, linked, and inter-operable with GeoRef. There are over 30 full-text Geology and Paleontology journals available through this resource.

SpringerLink (new): SpringerLink provides electronic access to full text STM (scientific, technical, medical) journals, e-books, book series and e-reference works published by Springer and its imprints. This important resource will provide access to over 15,000 E-book titles from 2005-present and fulltext access to approximately 1700 E-journals from 1997 to the present. SpringerLink is available to USM partially through USM subscriptions and a consortia arrangement with a UM Springer E-book subscription.
SAGE Journals Online
USM continues its subscription to Sage Journals Online, providing access to full-text articles in more than 400 Sage journals from 1999 to the present. Topics covered are primarily in the social sciences as well as sciences, technology, and medicine.

OverDrive (coming soon!) USM has joined in a partnership with other Maine InfoNet Libraries to provide access to downloadable audio books, E-books and other popular digital media. Patrons will be able to checkout downloadable digital content via the Internet utilizing state of the art digital copyright protection technologies for free, 24/7, from a statewide collection of audio books. Stay tuned for more details.

Got Citations?
If you have had to cite your sources in a bibliography, you know it can be tricky and time consuming. Many of you have used our database, Academic Search Premier, but you may not know that it will create your citation for you.

When you choose to email an article in Academic Search Premier you are given the option of including the citation. Select the style you want, such as MLA or APA, and it will email you the article including the formatted citation. Then you can copy/paste the citation into your bibliography.

Also, Opposing Viewpoints and CQ Researcher have similar citation tools built in. We strongly recommend them.

New Materials!

A REALLY Useful Tip for Students During the Spring Semester

Everyone seems to have a thousand things to do as the end of semester nears. You can avoid that crunch, which is an especially good thing to do as weather in April and May gets nicer, by keeping up with all your reading, studying, and assignments during the all important months of February and March. How to do this? Develop good study skills...like...reviewing your syllabus from time to time to see where you're going, what's coming up, etc. It's also a good idea to keep lists of your priorities...which may change from week to week...

Bottom line: avoid headaches in April and May by working hard during the earliest and middle parts of the Spring semester. This is a VERY simple strategy which pays off big time!!!

And remember, librarians are always available to help you find information or to offer you useful study skill suggestions.

“Those who declared librarians obsolete when the Internet rage first appeared are now red-faced. We need them more than ever. The Internet is full of ‘stuff’ but its value and readability is often questionable. ‘Stuff’ doesn’t give you a competitive edge, high-quality related information does.”
Patricia Schroeder, President, Association of American Publishers

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Book Review

Take a journey into R.A. Salvatore’s imagination with a trilogy of the dark and deadly world of Drizzt D’ourden as he grows up in an underground society of Elves that have been forced into a subterranean existence. In this female dominated culture called the Drow, the males are subservient to and weaker than the women. Drizzt has an unusual talent with dual scimitars that he uses to defend his people but, as time goes on, he finds he needs them more often to defend himself.

This trilogy (Homeland, Exile, and Sojourn) is one of the most exciting series to come out of the fantasy genre in the last twenty years. Savatore is an amazing storyteller with books that continue seamlessly to the next adventure. There is no “lag” time with these adventures. Every moment has one waiting for the next surprise! Enjoy!

Reviewed by Tim Lynch, Librarian

Lewiston-Auburn College Library recently followed in the footsteps of Gorham Library by welcoming the computer lab into the newly created common space of an expanded library. Shared services means students can now get help with research and the completion of their assignments in one place.

Evelyn Greenlaw, Head Librarian at LAC says, “It’s a great thing for the library and the computer lab. We love being able to more effectively help students.”

Spring 2009 Library Hours

Library Hours (Portland & Gorham)

- Monday-Thursday: 7:45 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.
- Friday: 7:45 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
- Sunday: 10:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.

Lewiston-Auburn Library

- Monday-Thursday: 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Friday: 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Saturday: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- Sunday: CLOSED

Exceptions

See our hours online or check signs posted close to the time of winter and spring vacations and finals.
http://library.usm.maine.edu/about/.php