



# Porter Henderson Library

## *Library Newsletter*



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### Word from the Director

Dr. Maurice Fortin, Library Director

Over the last 20 years, every academic library struggled to balance rising serial/periodical costs with the need for new, scholarly monographs. During this same period, academic libraries became involved in the electronic access to information revolution. This technological revolution only further increased the pressure on the shrinking buying power of materials and M&O budgets.

When I came to ASU (in April, 1996), I immediately began planning for the FY 97 budget cycle. The ASU Library was very far behind in providing its users with electronic access to information. In that first year (FY 97), the Library's Materials Budget was approximately \$636,000. Serial, periodicals, and standing orders consumed a little over 57% of that amount. This included about \$40,000 for new electronic access tools. The Library maintained about 2,200 print periodical subscriptions.

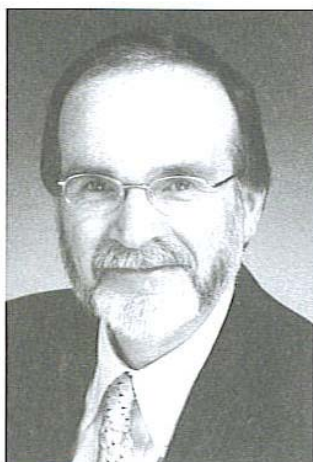
In FY 04, the Library's Materials Budget was approximately \$851,000. Serial, periodicals, and standing orders consumed 84% of that amount. Electronic access subscriptions accounted for nearly \$200,000. That represents a 400% increase over FY 97 expenditures for electronic access. The number of print subscriptions decreased to 1,628.

During the period of time I have been at ASU, the cost of library materials rose at an average rate of 9% to 11% per year. Even though the Library's Materials Budget is now nearly 34% higher than in 1997, the Library cannot afford to buy as much as it did in that baseline year of 1997. Because of generous donations, the Library has been able to keep a steady supply of monographs added to the collections. Unfortunately most of those donations are not new materials. In FY 05, at least six academic departments have no money for new monographs. The Library also has had to help several of these departments maintain their serial subscriptions.

Below is a column written by my colleague, Dr. Gerald Saxon, Dean of Libraries at the University of Texas in Arlington. His column recently appeared in the UTA Libraries' newsletter. Hopefully his column and the few comments I provided by way of introduction will cause each of you to consider these matters. In next month's issue of the ASU *Library Newsletter*, I will provide you with information from a recent symposium held at the University of Texas at Austin that addressed these issues. If you have any comments or suggestions, please send them to me ([Maurice.Fortin@angelo.edu](mailto:Maurice.Fortin@angelo.edu)) or stop by the Library for a chat and a free cup of coffee.

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## A Scholarly Communication Crisis

by Dr. Gerald Saxon

(REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR, FROM *UTA LIBRARY NOTES*, V.10, NO.2, FALL 2004, P. 4-5.)

In this column I wanted to write about something that has been on my mind, and the minds of many in the academic community of late, and that is the crisis in scholarly communication. Yes folks, there is a crisis, and it is impacting everyone on college campuses—the students, faculty, and library staff—though many might not be aware of it. My purpose in this column is to shed some light on the subject.

First a definition. By *scholarly communication* I mean the process by which research or new knowledge is created, refined, evaluated, disseminated, and preserved. Scholars conduct research, prepare their findings, publish their findings in books and journals, which are refereed by other

scholars in the field, and the books and journals are sold to individuals and libraries who provide access to the information to a wide audience. In the past, much of this work was done by professional organizations and societies whose main purpose was to serve their membership, foster the dissemination of new knowledge, and underwrite the printing and distribution of the information. This has changed in some disturbing ways.

Basically, scholars have lost control of the system, and commercial publishers have increasingly taken over. These publishers are more interested in making profits than they are in extending the boundaries of knowledge. The result of this change in the system has been sharply rising costs for books and journals (both electronic and physical ones) and increasing restrictions on who can use the information, resulting in scholars and students having less access to the body of information in a particular field. In short, scholarly communication has become a huge international business and information a commodity to be sold to those with the deepest pockets.

A few statistics will help make my point. Between 1986 and 1999, the Consumer Price Index in the U.S. rose 3.3% per year (cumulative 52%), while health care costs rose 5.8% per annum (cumulative 107%). Journal prices, however, rose a whopping 9% a year on average with a cumulative total of 207%. For the past four years, 2000-2004, the increases in journal prices have continued in the 10% range each year. What this means for UTA is this: with a journals/serials budget at close to \$3 million a year we need an additional \$300,000 each year just to maintain the serials we currently own. We have been fortunate in the recent past because an increasing student enrollment and a rising student library service fee have allowed us to cover inflation and maintain, even judiciously add to, the collection, but I am nervous that the enrollment management practices that have been put into place to slow growth and the concern about increasing student fees will have a negative impact on the library's budget, 70% of which comes from student fees. Lower enrollment growth means decreased revenue with which to purchase or license information.

Many academic libraries across the country have been less fortunate than UTA, and have already cut journals to cope with the spiraling costs (Duke Medical School, for example, cancelled more than 500 titles recently while Cornell cancelled 200 titles from a single commercial publisher). Other ways libraries have coped have been to not subscribe to new journals, reduce (or not grow) book budgets and place this money into journal collections, enter into consortial arrangements with other university libraries in order to negotiate cheaper prices from commercial publishers, improve document delivery systems such as interlibrary loan, and license electronic information. UTA has used all of these strategies as well to stretch our acquisition dollars.

There are also a number of strategic initiatives on the national—even international—level to begin to address the crisis. The scholarly community in a number of disciplines is creating and supporting alternatives to commercial publications. So-called "open access" journals like BioMed Central and Public Library of Science are helping to create a new paradigm for scholarly information. Open access journals, which are refereed and edited by the leading scholars in their fields, are paid for in numerous ways, including by the authors who publish in the journals or the authors' institutions, by grants, and

advertisements. The one characteristic that open access journals have in common is that once published the information in the journal is available to anyone without charge and without restriction. For a list of open access journals, see the *Directory of Open Access Journals* at [www.doaj.org](http://www.doaj.org).

Another strategy has been the creation of digital archives or institutional repositories. Many of these archives focus on a particular subject, such as mathematics or physics, or the intellectual products of a particular institution, like the well-publicized D-Space from MIT. Pre-prints and post-prints of scholarly articles, research studies, lectures, think pieces, and notes are some of the information products that institutional archives have included on websites. Similar to open access journals, these institutional repositories are freely available to anyone with internet access.

The crisis in scholarly communication is not a library problem. Rather it is a problem for the entire academic community. Over the next several months, the library staff will be discussing this issue with stakeholders across campus to raise awareness and begin a dialogue on the crisis.

In the meantime you might be asking yourself, especially if you are a faculty member, what can I do to make a difference in the crisis? SPARC (Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition) suggests the following:

- Where possible publish in open access journals;
- Include electronic publications in promotion and funding discussions;
- Encourage your professional society to explore alternatives to contracting or selling its publications to a commercial publisher;
- Encourage your society to maintain reasonable prices and user-friendly access terms;
- Modify, if appropriate, any contract you sign with a publisher ensuring your right to use your work, including posting it on an institutional repository;
- Carefully examine the pricing, copyright, and subscription licensing agreements of any journal you contribute to as an author, reviewer, or editor;
- Assist in establishing an institutional repository and deposit some of your intellectual products (pre-prints and post-prints for example) in it;
- Educate yourself on the issue and invite library participation in faculty meetings and graduate seminars to discuss scholarly communication issues.

I encourage you to contact me if you have questions about the crisis or to send me your ideas on how we might want to address it. My email address and telephone number are [saxon@uta.edu](mailto:saxon@uta.edu) and 817-272-5318. I look forward to hearing from you.

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#### **Related resources on this topic:**

Janes, Joseph. (2004). "License to ILL." Internet Librarian column. American Libraries. v.35, no.7, p. 82. <http://www.ala.org/ala/online/inetlibrarian/inetlib2004/InternetAug04.htm> (Accessed 03 Jan., 2005)

The columnist paraphrases the remarks of the president of the University of Washington, Lee Huntsman, at a Faculty Senate meeting on the topic of the continuing serials licensing problems: "Yes, librarians bear the brunt, but the current situation is a sea change ... if the journal mess doesn't get cleaned up, and quick, we could find ourselves with diminished opportunities to publish our work, which will impact the ways in which we do our research, train our graduate students, and think about tenure and promotion."

McGuigan, Glenn. (2004). "Publishing Perils in Academe: The Serials Crisis and the Economics of the Academic Journal Publishing Industry." Journal of Business and Finance Librarianship, v.10, no.1.

Discusses the serials crisis of journal price escalation that is facing academic libraries, and what can possibly be done about it.

## TexShare Benefits for ASU

One way for any library to stretch its materials budget is to join with other libraries to form a consortium. Together they can negotiate better pricing for access to information especially for electronic resources.



In Texas, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission administers a statewide consortium of public and private universities, community colleges, and public libraries called TexShare. ASU has been a member of TexShare since FY 98.

In FY 04, the Library paid \$11,173 for its membership in TexShare and an additional \$2,090 for membership in its TExpress service. Through this membership, ASU users have access to over 40 electronic databases (including Academic Search Premier, Business Source Premier, Literature Resource Center, Heritage Quest Online, and many other popular titles) and nearly 27,000 E-books. If the Library subscribed to these databases on an individual basis, it would have cost nearly \$182,000. The value of the E-books was estimated to be nearly \$171,000. In FY 04 ASU users performed nearly 107,000 searches in and viewed nearly 143,000 documents and articles from the TexShare databases.

TExpress provides a subsidized overnight delivery service to nearly 150 libraries in Texas. This helps to speed up ILL services for all participating institutions. The Library can ship and receive as many packages as needed for the set annual fee. It was estimated that the ASU library saved several thousand dollars in postage by using this service.

I hope this demonstrates the power of libraries joining together in consortial arrangements to reduce costs and stretch available financial resources.

## African American History Month at the Porter Henderson Library

Marquita Clarkson and Lindsey Mahaffey, student assistants in Circulation, and Janetta Paschal, Government Documents/Reference Librarian, combined their talents and developed the Library's display in honor of African American History Month. The works of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., are highlighted. Two other cases present information on Bryonn Bain, the UCPC's featured speaker for the month.

Mr. Bain will speak on "Shortcomings of America's Criminal Justice System," February 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the C.J. Davidson Conference Center. To provide readers some food for thought, two of Bain's essays from *The Village Voice*, "Three Days in a NYC Jail" and "Walking While Black: The Bill of Rights for Black America," are displayed in one case. (Both essays are also available via LexisNexis.)

In addition to the display, a new web page by Janetta Paschal, "African American History Resources," is available on the Library's web site. This compilation of online resources includes comprehensive sites covering all aspects of the topic, sites concentrating on biographical information, and sites with primary resources. The page is available from a link on the main Government Documents & Maps web page at <http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/govdocs/index.htm> or directly from <http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/govdocs/african.htm>.

## The Texas Legislature, School Finance, Lesson Plans, and African American History Resources

Four new subject-oriented web pages are now available from links on the main "Government Documents & Maps" web page at <http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/govdocs/index.htm>. Two are concerned with the current Texas legislative session currently underway in Austin: "79<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative Session" and "School Finance in Texas: A Selected Bibliography." Another web page/site of particular interest to education students and faculty is "Lesson Plan Sites from Government Agencies." This site organizes lesson plans from government agencies according to grade level and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) subject area. The fourth page is "African American History Month Resources," which is discussed above.

If you have any questions about these resources please contact Janetta Paschal, Government Documents/Reference Librarian at 942-2300, ext. 230, or [Janetta.Paschal@angelo.edu](mailto:Janetta.Paschal@angelo.edu).

## Did You Know About ... the Library's Reference Unit?



To most people who use the Porter Henderson Library, personnel in the "Reference Unit" answer questions, or they assist people in finding the resources (articles, books, etc.) to answer their own questions or to use for research papers or presentations due in the next few days. While they did answer over 5,000 questions at the Reference Desk in FY 04, they do so much more than that.

The Reference Unit, headed by Mark Allan, is composed of Electronic Resources, Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery, and Government Documents. The fruits of the labor of the Reference Units' five FTE staff members and two student assistants who staff these sections included but were not limited to:

- Provided Library Instruction (classroom training utilizing the Library and its resources) to 2,884 students – over one-half of the total enrollment at ASU.
- Developed three online tutorials, with the assistance of the Media Librarian, for English 1302, Nursing, and Biology.
- Answered 5,708 questions at the Reference Desk and Reference personnel offices; this figure does not include all the questions asked at other Library service points. These questions often involved detailed instruction and tutoring using either the student computer terminals in the Reference area or the Reference Room library materials.
- Provided access to 187 electronic databases that were searched 211,098 times, resulting in 281,331 documents or citations viewed. (These databases are available from 17 different database services, as well as the federal government.)
- Oversaw one major update to the Voyager library system software (*i.e.*, "RamCat").
- Added 9,354 NetLibrary bibliographic records to RamCat, increasing the number of electronic books accessible for ASU faculty, students, and staff to 26,851.
- Cataloged 3,892 new Texas and United States government publications in paper and microfiche, 207 maps, and 154 electronic-only publications. In addition to bibliographic records for these new publications, records for 825 older government publications were also added to RamCat in FY 04.
- Added 8,405 physical items to the Texas and United States government documents collections. These included paper, microfiche, maps, and CDs/DVDs.
- Processed 5,329 interlibrary loan transactions for both books and articles.
- Over 250 web pages created and maintained by the Library (primarily the Reference Unit) were accessed at least 880,900 times. These include 36 RamNet pages, 76 government documents pages, 57 *Library Newsletter* pages, and too-many-to-count "new books" pages.
- Prepared and "distributed" six *Newsletter* issues, in PDF and HTML formats.
- Prepared five library displays.
- Selected over 1,500 new books for purchase to be placed in the various collections throughout the Library.

[Other Library units will be highlighted in subsequent *Newsletter* issues. Read more about Circulation/Media in March and Acquisitions/Serials in April. Cataloging and the West Texas Collection will be covered next fall. (Stay tuned.)]

## Interlibrary Loan Delivery by Computer



In many cases, magazine and journal articles that have been requested through Interlibrary Loan will now be delivered to patrons online. If the document is digitally delivered by a lending library to the Porter Henderson Library, the PHL Library will post this article image on a server connected to the Internet. The patron will be sent an e-mail with a PIN (Personal Identification Number) in order to access the article online.

Not all items will be delivered online. Articles arriving at the Porter Henderson Library by FAX or the US Postal Service will be delivered to students and faculty in the same manner as before. (Students must pick up their articles at the Library's Circulation Desk.) Interlibrary loaned books must still be checked out at the Library's Circulation Desk. However, the Library estimates that seventy percent of all articles will now be delivered over the networked server.

*It is important to note that articles delivered in electronic format will remain on the server for up to 14 (fourteen) days from the day the email notification was sent, or for up to 5 (five) viewings, whichever comes first. After fourteen days or five viewings, articles will be unavailable. Therefore, patrons will want to print their articles or save them to their own computer as soon as possible.*

In order to maximize the convenience of this new delivery system, the Library recommends that you:

1. Provide a valid e-mail address that you check frequently for new mail, as the announcement of article availability will be made to the address given.
2. Make sure that the pertinent e-mail account has plenty of memory available; if the email announcing article availability bounces, you may never receive your article.
3. Make sure that any spam catcher or filter is not blocking or segregating these e-mails announcing article availability.
4. You must have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on your computer and functioning with your Internet browser. If you do not already have this software loaded on your computer, it is available for free on the Internet.
5. If you do not have a computer connected to the Internet at your home or residence hall, you can still print these articles at an ASU Computer Lab or one of the Library's networked computers. Remember, you will need to have your PIN as well as the e-mail address that the notification was delivered to in order to view the article.

If you have any questions, please call Sharon Weber at 942-2154, ext. 251 or e-mail her at [ill@angelo.edu](mailto:ill@angelo.edu); or alternatively call Mark Allan at 942-2511, e-mail [mark.allan@angelo.edu](mailto:mark.allan@angelo.edu).

### **NetLibrary E-Book of the Month for February: *The Muslim World After 9/11***

*The Muslim World After 9/11* is "a groundbreaking examination of the major dynamics driving changes in the religio-political landscape of the Muslim world." The book, published by the RAND Corporation, can be read online via NetLibrary through the month of February from a link at <http://www.netlibrary.com/>. It is also available online from the RAND web site at <http://www.rand.org/publications/MG/MG246/>. Summaries and abstracts are also available at these sites.

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## Recent Professional Commitments of ASU Librarians

### Dr. Maurice G. Fortin, Library Director

- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools:
- Member of Reaffirmation and Substantive Change Committees
  - Reaffirmation visits:
    - Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Meyers, FL, scheduled for March 2005
    - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, FL campus, April 2002
    - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott, AZ campus, February 2002
    - Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC, February 2001
  - Substantive Change Visit:
    - Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott, AZ campus, January 2004
- Texas Library Association:
  - Legislative Committee, April 1998-April 2005
  - Salary Compensation Study Task Force, April 2003-April 2004
  - Telecommunications and Network Policy Committee, April 2002-May 2004, Chair, 2004
- College & University Library Division:
  - Legislative Committee, April 1998-April 2005, Chair 2000-2005
  - Secretary-Treasurer, April 2002-April 2003
- Texas Council of Academic Libraries (formerly Texas Council of State University Librarians):
  - Legislative Committee, July 1997-September 2005, Chair, 2004-2005
  - By-Laws Creation Committee for TCAL, October 2003-September 2004
- Texas State Library and Archives Commission:
  - TexShare Advisory Board, September 2001-August 2007
- Learning Resource Editor:
  - "Recently Published Dissertations on Community and Junior Colleges," *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, compile eight to ten columns per annum, fall 1992-present
- Contributing Editor:
  - "Recently Published Dissertations on Christian Higher Education," *Christian Higher Education*, compile two to four columns per annum, fall 2004-present
- Recent and Planned Presentations:
  - Representative Bob Hunter, Rhoda Goldberg, and George Huffman, "TexShare, Reaching Back, Looking Forward," one and one half hours, moderator for a panel discussion, Texas Library Association, Annual Conference, Austin, TX, April 2005
  - "Allocating Resources in an On-line Age," one hour, presentation, Texas Library Association, District 1, Fall Meeting, San Angelo, TX, 2 October 2004
  - "Service and Innovation in a Regional Public University," one hour, presentation, Texas Library Association, District 7, Fall Meeting, Fort Worth, TX, 25 October 2003
- Book Reviews:
  - Corrick, J. A. (2003). *The Civil War*. San Diego: Lucent Books. In *Lorgnette*, 16 (3), 33.
  - Nardo, D. (2003). *The Civil War*. San Diego: Lucent Books. In *Lorgnette*, 16 (3), 103-104.
  - Elster, J. A. (Ed.). (2003). *The outbreak of the Civil War*. San Diego: Greenhaven. In *Lorgnette*, 16 (2), 118.
  - Uschan, M. V. (2003). *The cavalry during the Civil War*. San Diego: Lucent Books. In *Lorgnette*, 16 (2), 160.
- University Committees:
  - Currently serves on 11 university committees

### Angela Skaggs, Head of Access Services

- Texas Library Association:
  - Automation & Technology Round Table, Secretary/Treasurer, 2004-05
  - Co-coordinator for Technology Showcase at TLA's Annual Conference, Austin, April 2005

- Coordinator of Volunteers for the Library Technology Now project, a one-stop resource for library technology news and product reviews written by library people for library people.
- Media & Related Technologies Round Table, Councilor
- TALL Texans (Texas Accelerated Library Leaders) (Texas Library Association leadership development institute; selected for participation in class of 2003)
- TLA District 1, Executive Committee, (District Chair 2003-04; District Chair-Elect 2002-03)
- South Central Voyager Users' Group
  - Planning Committee for SCVUG Meeting 2005 ("Voyager" is the Library's automated system).
- University Committees:
  - Liberal and Fine Arts Curriculum Committee

### **Mark Allan, Head of Reference**

- Texas Library Association, Member
  - TALL Texans (Texas Accelerated Library Leaders) (Texas Library Association leadership development institute; selected for participation in class of 2002)
  - Public Relations Committee, Member, 2003-06
  - Reviewer and Moderator, "Contributed Papers" session, Texas Library Association, Annual Conference, March 2002
- Recent Presentations
  - "Searching the Web, the Shallows and the Deep," one hour, presentation, Texas Library Association, District 1, Fall Meeting, San Angelo, TX, 2 October 2004
- Recent Publications:
  - American Library Association. Reference Collection Development and Evaluation Committee. (2004) *Reference collection development: a manual*. Chicago: Reference and User Services Association, American Library Association. Member of the Committee.
  - "Capital Punishment or Compassion: Executions in the State of New Mexico: the Death Penalty Since Territorial Days" [web page] (<http://www.angelo.edu/services/library/librarians/mallan/capital-punishment-nm.htm>), cited in "Death Penalty Information Center. State by State Death Penalty Information. New Mexico," (<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/article.php?scid=11&did=513>)

### **Janetta Paschal, Government Documents/Reference Librarian**

- Texas Library Association, Member, 1980-present
  - Government Documents Round Table, Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, 2001-02; Chair, 2002-03; Past Chair, 2003-04
    - Bylaws Committee, Member, 2004-05
    - Conference Booth Committee, Co-Chair, 2003-05
    - State Plan for Texas Documents Committee, Member, 2004-05
- Recent Presentations
  - "Government Documents for Everyone," one hour, presentation, Texas Library Association, District 1, Fall Meeting, San Angelo, TX, 2 October 2004

### **Antonella Ward, Electronic Resources/Reference Librarian**

- American Library Association, Member, 1998-present
- Texas Library Association, Member 2000-present
  - Leadership Development Committee, 2005-08
- South Central Voyagers User Group, Chair-Elect, 2005
  - Planning Committee for SCVUG Meeting, 2005-2008 ("Voyager" is the Library's automated system).
- University Committees:
  - College of Science Curriculum Committee
  - Web Oversight Committee
  - Portico Luminis Process Team