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The Sky's the Limit for Satellite Programming

The Media Resources Center/TLRC and the University Libraries have become the operators for one of the two new Dawn satellites positioned on top of the McCain Library and Archives building. This new equipment, provided through the Office of Technology Resources and Broadcasting and Radio/TV Services, enables University Libraries to present a broad range of programming for the University community.

The three-meter satellite dishes, manufactured in Lake Orion, Michigan, are solid spun aluminum. The set up includes Drake receivers with the capability of receiving analog Ku and C Band transmissions and General Instruments receivers that can downlink Digicipher II digital signals, the newest type of satellite transmission that the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), among other satellite programming vendors, will start using this year.

The new satellite dishes, in addition to an identical unit installed at the Union, were purchased to help fill the University's expanding need for educational programming supplied via satellite transmission. This programming is categorized into three broad areas, including AV resources, usually one- to three-hour prime-time programs such as PBS's Frontline series or Ken Burns' The West; videoconferences, usually live, interactive seminars, lectures, or panel discussions and frequently including the most up-to-date information about topics ranging from cancer treatments to water resource management; and telecourses, classes built around a series of television programs and using accompanying textbooks and other instructional materials, covering subjects from art to accounting.

The University of Southern Mississippi is fortunate to be an associate member of the Adult Learning Satellite Service (ALSS), a division of PBS. PBS-ALSS provides over 2,000 hours each year of educational programming delivered via satellite at a reduced cost to universities and other educational institutions. Some of the many benefits of membership in ALSS include receiving catalogs and other promotional information about future satellite events, having access to free programs and videoconferences, having permission to record programs for preview purposes, and receiving reduced licensing fees for purchased programs. ALSS's programming covers a wide variety of topics and includes all of the types of programming noted above.

Many departments have taken advantage of the wealth of material available via satellite. The library has sponsored two professional development videoconference series, Dancing with Change for professional librarians, and Soaring to Excellence for library staff members. Speech and Hearing Sciences, Nursing, History, the Institute for Disability Studies, Financial Aid and many other departments have sponsored and have participated in videoconferences or have requested taping of AV resource materials. New programming is continuously being made available, and departments are notified of satellite events via informational mailouts from Media Resources or directly from program vendors.

If you would like to preview or purchase a specific program or schedule a videoconference, you can do so by contacting the Media Resources Center/TLRC at 266-4358. Those requesting satellite programming are asked to complete a taping request form prior to the broadcast date. In certain instances, a fee must be paid for a program license; these fees must be paid by the department requesting the program. If a satellite program license is being purchased and the tape will be added to the library's collections, the license fee can be purchased from departmental library allocations. For materials not being added to the collection, an additional charge of \$7.00 will be assessed to cover the cost of the tape and the recording of the program. To arrange a satellite videoconference for which off-campus participants are expected, please contact Continuing Education. The opportunities presented by this latest technology are exciting, and we encourage everyone to take full advantage of them. In terms of potential benefit to USM, the sky's the limit!

—Beverly Sensbach, Media Services Specialis

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Business Resources on the Internet

Need a stock quote? Some ideas for marketing your new business? How about the address of the company that made you mad last night? Where to find it?!

For business information, the answer is increasingly "the Internet." Some of the most current information on companies, associations, investing, industries, and more is available to anyone with world wide web access. Many companies and associations, as well as federal and state governments, have chosen the Internet as a means of information distribution. This information often is easy to access and easy to comprehend.

This does not mean, however, that the information is quick to find. For those experienced with using the variety of search engines available on the web, it may be simple to find a particular company's homepage. But, for the average user, entering "Mitsubishi" may turn up anything from a local dealership to a rant from someone angry at the company to a classified ad from someone selling a 1990 auto. If one is looking for information on a well-known company (or a broad issue), sorting through those hundreds of search results may take a lot more time than coming to the library and going straight to the business reference section in Information Services.

To help search these resources more efficiently, University Libraries has created a Business Resources page that you can search from your home or office. On it are connections to sites with substantial information. You can find everything from company annual reports (Edgar) to the latest Clio-award-winning commercial. You can take a look at the latest Gallup Poll news release, or see what the Mississippi Small Business Development Center has to offer. From stock quotes to the Thomas Register, it's available online 24 hours a day.

Also available is a section called Consumer Information. Under this section you can find the value of that 1990 Mitsubishi (see the Kelley Blue Book Used/New Car Price Guide) or how much you should be paying for the 1998 model and how to negotiate for it (Edmund Automobile Buyer's Guide). You can find forms for federal agencies online (including tax forms), and also see which brand Consumer Reports or other groups recommend when you're buying that new microwave oven or hot tub (Product Review Abstracts). In other sections there are an associations database, a cost-of-living calculator, links to state and local governments, even foreign phrases to use if you'll be taking a trip abroad this summer (Foreign Languages for Travelers). If you'll be looking for a job when you return, there is a Job Hunting section, and if you're thinking about investing in that foreign country you just visited, take a look at the International Business section or connect to the Economic Geography page.

To connect to the University Libraries' Business Resources page, go to the library's webpage at <http://www.lib.usm.edu> and choose the More link under Information Online. From there click on Internet Resources and then Business Resources.

--Claudia Rebaza, Information Services Librarian

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Accessing Electronic Journals at USM

Information delivery has changed rapidly in the last five years. Traditional print sources such as encyclopedias, indexes, books, and journals now come in a variety of formats, including paper, floppy disk, CD-ROM, and even online through the world wide web. This article will examine the web-based electronic journal.

An electronic journal is a periodical published in an electronic format, usually using world wide web technology. There are two types of electronic journals: those that publish concurrently with their print counterpart and those that publish only in electronic format.

An example of the first variety is the Journal of Applied Physiology (<http://www.jap.org/>). The paper and electronic versions of this journal are published at the same time.

LIBRES: Library and Information Science Research Electronic Journal (<http://aztec.lib.utk.edu/libres/>) is an example of the other type of electronic journal. It is a scholarly refereed journal found only in electronic format and is indexed in both ERIC and Library Literature. Another example of a journal found only in electronic format is Conformal Geometry and Dynamics: An Electronic Journal of the American Mathematical Society (<http://www.ams.org/ecgd/>).

Web-based electronic journals also have a wide variety of pricing structures for subscriptions. Some, like LIBRES, are free—there is no subscription price. Others, like Academe Today (<http://chronicle.com.>), the electronic version of the Chronicle of Higher Education, require a print subscription before access is granted to the journal's electronic version.

There are at least four methods of accessing electronic journals at USM. The first is to use the journal's Uniform Resource Locator (URL), also known as the Internet address. Traditional print journals that have an electronic counterpart will usually provide the URL to their web site somewhere within the journal's pages, usually in the table of contents section or in the masthead.

The second method of accessing electronic journals is by searching the web. A web search engine can be used to find a specific journal. For example, a search for LIBRES using HotBot (<http://www.hotbot.com>) locates the journal within the first five hits. Using AltaVista (<http://altavista.digital.com/>), the journal is found in the first 16 hits if "English only" is selected.

Another way to find electronic journals is to use a subject-oriented web site list or an online magazine/journal web site list. For example, to find astronomy journals using the Argus Clearinghouse (<http://www.argus.com>), first select Sciences, then choose Astronomy. The Astronomy page leads to a home page dedicated to astronomy and includes links to over 70 electronic publications focusing on astronomy. One might also look at the Electronic Newsstand (<http://www.eneews.com/>), a large subject-oriented list of electronic journals and magazines. This web site has links to both consumer magazines and scholarly academic journals.

Finally, one can also access specific electronic journals through the University Library's home page. Currently, access is provided through our Electronic Journals page (<http://www.lib.usm.edu/journals/>). The journals found on this page are being cataloged in our library catalog, OSCAR.

Although web-based electronic journals are "new kids on the block," access to journals in the electronic realm will continue to expand as publishers become more comfortable with Internet technology.

David King, Electronic Resources Librarian

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Archives Collects Civil Rights Movement Papers

The USM Archives was honored recently by a visit from Victoria Gray Adams, a native of Palmer's Crossing and a pioneering civil rights worker. When she was a young businesswoman with small children in the early sixties, before the civil rights movement had become formally organized, Mrs. Adams began to offer literacy classes in the evenings to impoverished, disenfranchised African Americans in the Hattiesburg area. She used as her textbooks the U.S. Constitution and the Mississippi voter registration form. She later became a full-time civil rights worker, and she continues today in her sixties as a speaker much in demand on issues of social justice. Remembered by a Freedom School teacher as "that beautiful woman," Mrs. Adams, when asked recently if she would be willing to give lectures at USM, smiled and replied, "As long as I'm walking."

Civil rights materials that have been donated recently to the USM Archives include the Glenda Funchess Civil Rights Collection of material relating to the 1994 reunion of Mississippi civil rights workers. Ms. Funchess is a local attorney who as a child attended a Freedom School in Palmer's Crossing. Dr. Sandra Adickes, a Freedom School teacher, donated her 1964 journal, photographs, correspondence, and her students' newsletter. Dr. Peter Stoner, a Freedom Rider from Chicago who later obtained his doctorate from USM and made his home in Mississippi, donated his 1964 SNCC report.

Dr. Anthony Harris is donating his memoirs of that historic period. Harris, a local African American, was arrested at age thirteen for picketing the Forrest County courthouse during a massive voter registration drive in 1964 and was held in jail until his mother, Mrs. Daisy Harris Wade, demanded his release. Dr. Harris is now Vice President of Texas A&M University.

Bill Dukes, one of the FBI agents who investigated the murder of local African American businessman and civil rights supporter Vernon Dahmer, permitted the Archives to copy his FBI scrapbook. The scrapbook contains letters of commendation from FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover for Mr. Dukes' work on "MIBURN," or "Mississippi Burning," the FBI code for the civil rights period.

These recent acquisitions build on the Archives' existing strong civil rights collections, which include the Mississippi State Sovereignty Commission records in the Johnson Family Papers, the Vernon Dahmer Collection, Professor Neil McMillen's Citizens Councils research collection, the Charles Marx Papers, and the Erle Johnston Papers.

All new collections will be available to researchers as soon as they have been preserved and processed. Additional civil rights materials are being sought by University Archivist Dr. Bobs Tusa. She can be reached at 266-4348 and btusa@lib.otr.usm.edu. The USM Archives website is at <http://www.lib.usm.edu/archives/>.

Bobs Tusa, University Archivist

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The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection

Did you know that Curious George, Peter Rabbit, Mother Goose, Babar the elephant, and other favorite storybook characters from your childhood all reside on the fourth floor of the McCain Library and Archives? They are part of the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, containing more than 55,000 books written for children and young adults, as well as the original manuscripts and illustrations used in the production of these works. The de Grummond Collection is one of the largest such collections in the United States.

The primary purposes of the Collection, begun in 1966, are to document the history of this literary genre and to preserve the artifacts of its rich heritage. The oldest book in the Collection is an Aesop's fable published in 1530 and printed in Greek and Latin. All of the landmark books of children's literature are represented—fairy tales and folklore, primers and schoolbooks, alphabets and nursery rhymes, as well as fiction, nonfiction, science fiction, and fantasy.

Primary source materials include manuscripts, typescripts, galleys, proofs, sketches, dummies, illustrations, and correspondence documenting the entire creative process. Since 1966, more than 1,200 authors and illustrators of children's and young adult literature have chosen to place their original materials in our care. Typescripts created by Newbery Medal winners Madeleine L'Engle, Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, and Maia Wojciechowska provide excellent resources for researchers. Illustrations of contemporary Caldecott Medal recipients Ezra Jack Keats, Barbara Cooney, Marcia Brown, and Gail E. Haley join nineteenth century woodblocks created by the Medal's namesake, Randolph Caldecott.

An exciting new acquisition recently came to the collection from the estate of H. A. and Margret Rey, creators of Curious George and other familiar characters. Included are full-color illustrations, typescripts, dummies of unpublished books, fan mail, publisher correspondence, and other personal papers. Much of their early work is represented, including an extremely rare French printing of their first book, Rafi and the Nine Monkeys.

University personnel are encouraged to use this collection for their classes, for research, or even for personal enjoyment. Even though the collection is limited to children's and young adult literature, there are many related fields such as art, history, family studies, child development, foreign languages, ethnic studies, and music that are represented in the primary and secondary sources.

An Exhibit Room (405 McCain Library) is open to the public from 8 until 5, Monday through Friday, and always contains numerous displays that showcase the riches of the Collection. Stop by to renew some old acquaintances or to form some new friendships.

*Dee Jones, Curator, de Grummond
Children's Literature Collection*

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URL: <http://www.lib.usm.edu/libraryfocus/spring98/spring986.html>

New MAGNOLIA Databases Available

Several new databases are now available through MAGNOLIA, the Mississippi multi-type library consortium funded by the state legislature in 1997. These databases are available to all citizens in Mississippi through public, community college, and university libraries. USM students, faculty, and staff can access all MAGNOLIA databases through the Information Online interface on the public computers in the Cook Library building.

Exploring Poetry and Discovering Most-Studied Authors are two new literary databases available through MAGNOLIA. Exploring Poetry provides information on 200 of the most-studied poems in literature classes. Included are introductions for the poems, critical interpretations, line-by-line analyses, and biographies of the authors. Also provided are an encyclopedia of literary terms as well as a historical and literary time line.

Discovering Most-Studied Authors provides fast and convenient access to information about over 1,200 poets, dramatists, and novelists. The database provides biographical, bibliographical, and critical material on each author.

Another MAGNOLIA database, Facts on File, is a quick source of information concerning U.S. and world news events dating back to 1980. Updated weekly, it provides the full text of new reports on a wide variety of topics, including government, science, and sports. Just like other EBSCOHost databases, Facts on File can be searched from computers in the library and from offices and homes. Call the Information Desk in Cook Library (266-4249) to get a password that will allow searching of all the EBSCOHost databases from off-campus locations.

Sherry Laughlin, Head, Information Services

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