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Library Tech Notes

The UNLV Libraries Technology Committee

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It has been a busy summer with progress being made on several fronts.

**INNOPAC**
Innovative Interfaces' Web interface to the online catalog is here. From Netscape you can take a look at our catalog at http://webpac. This address is for library staff use only. See my email message of July 11 for more details. We have discovered a few problems, some which may be corrected with Release 10 expected in September. If you come across anything unusual with WebPAC, please send me an email message describing the search terms you used, etc. The rest of the recently ordered Innovative Interfaces products have been received, including circulation notices via email, BIP+ interface, additional ports for staff at UNLV and DRI, two new light pens for Reserves and Government Publications, and new laser scanners in trade for the light pens that were in use at the Circulation counter. We are still testing table of contents (TOC) records from Blackwell North America which Innovative Interfaces is loading for us. They have been very helpful in removing glitches we have discovered with the loading of the TOC records. It is expected to take a week or more to load all of the records. This will be done during regular hours and we shouldn't see any degradation in response time.

**NEON**
A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the two University libraries and System Computing Services for work on NEON II, a graphical, Web interface to NEON. If all goes as planned, NEON II will be ready for testing in August or September. We were hoping to use Lynx to access OCLC's FirstSearch databases on NEON, but the FirstSearch screens are not designed well at all for a character-based browser like Lynx. We've gone back to the drawing board and expect to have 15 FirstSearch databases on NEON shortly using telnet. (This is what's used to access FirstSearch on NEON in Reno. It works okay except patrons will have to use the [PmtScr!] key instead of the Print function.) Other NEON resources like UnCover, Britannica Online, and of course our INNOPAC are available graphically via the Web, so once NEON II is up and running, we will be able to access the Web version of these electronic resources.

**EQUIPMENT**
Staff who had 486 machines with 4 MB of RAM have had their machines upgraded to 8 MB or 12 MB depending on whether the machine was an SX or DX model. Unfortunately we overlooked four SX machines, and 4 MB upgrades were ordered for them this week.

Nonbook has received a new Pentium PC for patron use with a 17" monitor and three CD-ROM drives. It has been set up in their staff area during the summer so that they can become familiar with the software and the CD-ROM titles in the collection. The machine will be moved out on the floor near their service counter when fall semester starts.

A color scanner has been installed in ILL for use with their new Ariel workstation. Ariel is used to transmit and receive scanned articles via the Internet. Although Ariel is not yet up and running, the scanner is. It has standard scanning software from Hewlett Packard that allows users to save files in a variety of formats. We also purchased an upgrade to the OCR (optical character recognition) software that came with the scanner. The software is called OmniPage Professional and is a well known OCR software package. Staff who are interested in working with the scanner should check with ILL.

**SOFTWARE**
All of the Microsoft software that was on order has been received and installed. Three sets of software manuals have been purchased for Microsoft Office Professional with Access, Microsoft Word, and
PC Mechanic
Our New Web Site

This month I'm going to deviate from the usual "Uh oh" format, and take you through some of the goodies hidden in the James R. Dickinson Library's new World Wide Web site at http://www.nscee.edu/unlv/libraries/libhome.html (whew!). If you haven't had a chance to explore yet, you might be surprised at what's already been built in.

The first thing you'll see is our new home page, including the graphic with the library picture at the top. The headings here are "hot," meaning you can click on them like any other link. They're duplicated below, so that users with only a text browser can also use our site (this is especially important for visually impaired users who use software that reads pages aloud).

The "Welcome to UNLV Libraries" page includes links to the main library, with a brief history of JDL, as well as the Architecture, Curriculum Materials, and Music Libraries. You'll also see a button at the top of the page labeled "University of Nevada, Las Vegas Libraries." This button is present on almost every page in our site, and will always return you to the Library home page without further ado.

At the bottom of (almost) every page are five other buttons, with links to the UNLV home page, a Help/Search page, a Comments page, NEON (which runs in a window of its own for now), and (again) to the JDL home page. No matter how a user stumbles into our site (such as via a link from another Web page), they can find their way to our home page without difficulty.

Every page also lists a "content originator" at the bottom. This is the person to contact if you have questions, comments, or corrections for that page, and their email address is included.

Clicking the "Comments" button on any page brings up a form allowing you (or anyone else) to send a message to the Library. We've already received messages from Argentina (or was it Chile?), showing that it really is the World Wide Web.

Clicking the "Help/Search" button takes you to what could eventually be the most exciting part of all. Here the user has a choice between "Where is...," "What is...," "Who is...," and "How do I...," "Where is..." takes you to a list of places in the Library, and clicking any of these links brings up a customized map of the appropriate building and floor with the target highlighted in color. Eventually, a similar set of maps will show the user where any call number range or other shelving location can be found. "What is..." brings up the Glossary of Library Terms. "Who is..." takes you to our staff directory, with your choice of listings by name or by section. "How do I..." is empty at present, but could be the most exciting part of all, as all of us create pages for virtually anything a patron might want to know how to do (look up a chemical formula, find a topographic map, apply for a library card). Only our imagination limits us here.

By the way, you'll find that all of the pages you reach via the "Help/Search" button except the main one have a "HELP!" graphic at the top next to the Libraries button; clicking this takes you to the main Help! page. Whenever you're browsing around within a section (such as the Architecture Library pages or the Circulation policies) you'll find a second graphic like this which takes you to the main page for that section.

Getting back to the home page, "What's New" includes links to the gallery exhibits (we now have two; Mr. Curley's flower photography and the Savage/Burton watercolors), and to lists of recently cataloged items in the library. The latter are arranged by month and by subject area, so if you want to find out what was added to the Fine Arts collection in April, you'll find it here.

"Information" now includes maps of all 7 floors of the library. By the way, these maps are "clickable," so clicking on a stairwell will take you up or down a floor, clicking on a section will take you to that section's home page, etc. Speaking of sections, every section now has a home page. Some are already very well fleshed out; if yours isn't, ask why not!

"Resources by Subject" takes you to the online versions of the many bibliographies prepared by our staff and formerly available only as printed brochures. Finally, detailed instructions on using NEON are available from the "Search NEON" selection, and links to useful Web pages can be found via "Internet resources."

What's missing? Whatever you'd like to see that's not already there, of course. Make it happen!}

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Kathy Rothermel

Page 2
Tuma's Wondrous Web Sites

PCN (PointCast Network)
Profile your own news server! PCN is definitely the hottest new offering on the web today. PCN resides on your PC and offers instant information in the following categories: News, Weather (you determine which cities), Lifestyle (your choice of chat information, horoscopes), Pathfinder from Time Warner, Companies, Industries, Sports and more. The latest (never more than a 20 minute delay) in stock market information such as NASDAQ and NYSE scrolls by on the screen. This free service is an important indication of where the WWW is going. While you're there, check out the reference section before you download the software.
http://www.pointcast.com

The Salary Calculator
This nifty calculator allows you to determine the salary you would need to make in a new city based on cost-of-living differences. The next time you see a job announcement for a lower paying job, check out the Salary Calculator. You may find you can live on much less in other cities.
http://www.homefair.com/homefair/cmr/salcalc.html

MAPIT
MapIt is a software tool, created by Chris Smith as a Senior project in Computer Science at Taylor University, that will perform map projections. Chris has made MapIt free on the Internet, and it is available on many sites. What's so neat about it? You simply type in a street address, city, state and zip code, click MapIt, and receive a handy map that you can print and carry with you on your next trip across town or across the country! Try this one out, you'll be impressed! Yahoo's MapIt Site (My favorite, fast response, larger print)
http://www.proximus.com/yahoo/
Lycos' site is called Road Map
http://www.proximus.com/lycos/index.html
The fanciest site allows you to mail or save the maps-
http://www.mapblast.com/

Washoe Public Library Internet Branch
John Kupersmith has done a nice job on this virtual library, the first public library web site in Nevada. Drop by, browse the stacks, and drop John a note - he'd love to hear from you. Tell him Kay sent you!
http://www.washoe.lib.nv.us/

"Alix of Dreams"
I first heard about this adult novel written for the WWW on Web-4-lib, that list where the oh-so-technie librarians live. It was being touted as an excellent example of web publishing. If you are interested in web publishing, or curious about the readability of novels on the web, check out B. Clifford Shockey's Alix of Dreams.
http://www1.pimenet.com/~ciaran/

The Katharine Sharp Review
This peer-reviewed e-journal is devoted to student scholarship and research in the field of library and information science. I have found several relevant and important articles at this site. The current issue contains three articles: "Accommodation to Persons with Disabilities: A Census of Ohio College and University Libraries," "Multimedia in Higher Education," and "The Work of Patricia Knapp: Relevance for the Electronic Era." All issues are archived at the site.
http://edfu.lis.uiuc.edu/review

"The hottest new offering on the web today"
"We have received a 50 user license for a memory management software called Netroom."

Microsoft Excel. One set is in the computer room, one set is in Technical Services and the other set is on Reserve for library staff use only. You can find these copies under my name "Wallin, Camille Clark" as Professor or you can search "Microsoft Office," "Microsoft Word," "Microsoft Excel" or just "Office Professional," "Word" or "Excel" under Course Name. In addition, copies of trade books for Word and Excel have arrived and have been distributed to staff who use these products heavily. Two dozen or so copies of a trade book on Office Professional that were on order were declared out of print so we have reordered a different title. These books will be distributed to staff who have Office Professional. Some copies will be shared by staff in open office settings.

We have received a 50 user license for a memory management software called Netroom. Martin has begun installing this on a number of staff machines. This will allow staff to access the CD-ROM network who have been unable to up to this time due to "lack of memory" error messages.

We have finally received stand-alone copies of Lotus Organizer for testing. This calendar manager software allows one to set up a schedule of appointments for themselves and to print out their appointments and "to do" lists. The potential of Lotus Organizer is realized in the network version which we recently received. The network version works with cc:Mail and will allow users to view other staff calendars. Thus one could see if a staff person from another section is on annual leave for the day or they may only see that time has been blocked out from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. next Thursday without a description. This helps maintain privacy while still sharing information about our schedules with our coworkers. The other exciting use for this software is that we can create library conference rooms and classrooms as "individuals" who have calendars or appointments! Selected staff will be able to update these calendars while the rest of us can "view only." Stand-alone copies are being tested by Systems staff and Lee Scroggins. The network version will be tested initially by Administration staff and for scheduling the classrooms for fall semester. After that time we will know how much disk space is used for the program's data and then we will be able to expand use to all interested library staff.

I have been spending a significant portion of my time on work for the new building. This should slow down after August. Thanks for bearing with me during this critical phase of the new building project!

Camille Clark Wallin

Software Experts List

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<th>DATATIMES:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DIALOG:</td>
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<td>Quinn, Tuma</td>
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<td>P. Nelson, Quian, Tuma</td>
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<td>L. Nelson, Taranto, Pitt, Freeman, L. Nelson</td>
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*These people are willing to serve as resource people for the library staff. Many do not feel they rate the title of expert. However, they are knowledgeable in the areas indicated.

**Kay should be contacted with any problems or questions you may have about the net or the web (including eml, gopher, Netscape, UNIX, tis, information resources: Alta Vista, etc.).

Kathy Rothermel
**Virus Checking Instructions**

for networked PCs: UNLV Libraries

1) At the C:\> prompt, type f: and hit enter

2) At the F:\> prompt, type login library/checker

3) Password is spaceman
   -- this takes you to the Virus Checker's Menu

4) You will check the C drive or hard disk; press 1 and hit enter
   
   Note: you can also use this program to check diskettes; type the number for the appropriate option and hit enter
   
   -- Your computer will now check the drive for viruses
   - the bottom line will scroll continuously as files are checked
   (this step may take several minutes)

5) When virus checking is done, your screen will read "Press Esc to stop - any other key to continue"
   - Press any key to continue
   
   -- Your screen should read "No viruses or suspicious files/boot sectors were found. Press any key to continue . . ."

   - If any other message appears, indicating a virus was found, you must call the Systems Department (John Fox, x3049; Martin Hellmann, x4290) before continuing. If you cannot locate them, call Library Administration (x3286). They will contact John or Martin for you.

6) If no viruses were detected, press any key to continue

7) At the Virus Checker's Menu, type 1Q to Logout and hit enter

8) At the F:\> prompt, type c: and hit enter