

NEWS *from* FONDREN

A LIBRARY NEWSLETTER TO THE RICE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

IS IT EBOOKS? OR E-BOOKS? OR EBOOKS?

However you want to spell them, Fondren Library has begun adding online electronic books to the collection. The library has chosen to begin with titles purchased from netLibrary.

Founded in 1998, netLibrary is widely regarded as a leader in electronic distribution of full-text electronic books to libraries. netLibrary provides a wide range of scholarly, reference, and professional titles from many of the world's leading commercial publishers and university presses, as well as a public collection (i.e., items not covered by copyright) of over four thousand classic works of fiction, speeches, government reports, and other electronic texts.

Fondren Library selected several hundred copyrighted elec-

tronic book titles for purchase during summer 2000. Our personalized collection emphasizes computing "how to" manuals, employment resources, and general reference titles.

netLibrary offers a level of intellectual access to books not previously available. The books contained in netLibrary may be searched across their full-text content; see the library's Web page

The screenshot shows the netLibrary website interface. At the top, there is a search bar with a "Keyword" dropdown and a "go!" button. Below the search bar are links for "log in", "create account", "my eBooks", "help", and "home". The main content area features the Rice University logo and the Texas State Library logo. A search form titled "Search for eBooks:" includes fields for Title, Author, Keywords, Full Text, and Publisher (with a "Choose a Publisher" dropdown). There is a "Search" button and a checkbox for "Include public eBooks". To the right of the search form, there is a note: "To search fill in one or more of the search fields. Can't find what you're looking for? Search tips are available. Try the Power Search for more search options." Below the search form, there is a section titled "Learn More About netLibrary" with links for "Reading eBooks online", "Downloading eBooks", "eBook Collections", and "Full-text searching". To the right of this section is a graphic of an open book on a small stand, with the text: "Dictionary at your Fingertips We've added The American Heritage® Dictionary to our new Online eBook Reader, which means that you can now instantly look up the definition of any word while reading an eBook! Learn more..."

netLibrary Home Page

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FINDING INFORMATION

We are cataloging our electronic book purchases in the same way we catalog our traditional books. However, when using Webcat, you will be able to click on the Web address in the catalog record and connect directly to the work. (Do a keyword search on "netlibrary" to find a sample electronic book.)

under "Electronic Texts" for links that search only those books which you may access full-text *or* the entire netLibrary collection. Using the netLibrary full-text searching, you may be able to identify finer concepts and relationships within works than previously possible through online databases (including the library catalog).

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FONDREN LIBRARY PROJECT UPDATE

During the past six months library working groups and project architects have continued to address planning and design issues of the interior spaces of the proposed expansion and renovation of Fondren Library. At the same time, options for the exterior design of the new library building received consideration by the Rice University Board of Trustees.

While working with the project design architect, Robert Venturi, it became increasingly apparent to the Buildings and Grounds Committee of the Rice University Board of Trustees that the expansive scale of the new addition was far greater than originally imagined. It was also felt that the traditional guidelines and expectations for Rice architecture might not be compatible with the Venturi proposal. "The last several months have been a time of education for us," said Kent Anderson, chairman of the committee. "The library is, by far, the largest building on campus and is in a central location. Those two facts present challenges not present in any other project."

After much consideration, the Buildings and Grounds Committee concluded that alternative approaches to the design of the library needed to be considered. Acknowledging the leadership of Robert Venturi in this planning process, the trustees plan to explore alternatives with other prominent architects. Although the project time line could be affected somewhat, the library project continues to move forward as extensive planning continues.

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USING ELECTRONIC BOOKS

Use of the library electronic book differs somewhat from use of the personal electronic book, just as use of traditional printed library books differs from use of printed personal books. Some of the features of this specific collection of electronic books may seem restrictive or odd. netLibrary attributes several design decisions to concerns from the publishers about revenues and retention of the intellectual property in these works.

The electronic books purchased from netLibrary will be available to you from any location, twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week—with restrictions. Readers of electronic books may preview the title (multiple readers may preview at the same time) or "check it out" (access to the book is restricted to one reader). The online checkout period is two hours. If you are informed that a book is checked out by another reader, the notice should also indicate when the book will be available once more. (The system will automatically "check in" the electronic book—no overdues in the online world!)

In order to check out an electronic book from netLibrary, you will be asked to complete a personal registration process. As part of this process, you may ask the system to notify you by e-mail about new books on subjects of interest.

netLibrary has developed mechanisms for limiting the copying and printing of electronic books. Readers can copy or print single pages, just as people can photocopy single pages of a printed book. If a user is rapidly viewing multiple pages of an elec-

tronic book—a pattern that indicates the possibility of page-by-page printing—netLibrary will display a copyright notice and instruct the user to discontinue his or her actions. If the pattern continues, netLibrary will disable the account for a period of time.

See <http://www.netlibrary.com/overview.asp> or contact Fondren Library for more information about netLibrary's features.

THE FUTURE IS ... ?

Fondren Library will be tracking the use and benefits/challenges of providing electronic books. We speculate that this medium will help address specific needs for the Rice community, such as reducing frustration about accessing certain popular materials. The library cannot, for example, seem to buy a large enough quantity of O'Reilly and Associates' books. Perhaps online access, combined with a two-hour maximum "check out," will improve the odds of a would-be Java or Perl student getting programming questions answered.

We also hope for increased intellectual access to scholarly and professional books through the full-text indexing offered by this medium. The potential impact on the character of scholarly inquiry could transform the electronic book collection from a mere convenience to a serious research tool. We look to Rice faculty and students to help quantify the utility and nature of electronic books and to guide development of this latest library collection.

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DID you KNOW?

Per the most recently published federal survey*:

- Academic libraries reported a gate count of about 16.5 million visitors per week (about 1.6 visits per total FTE enrollment). By comparison, Fondren Library's gate count equates to 3 visits per FTE enrollment.
- The median number of volumes held per FTE student by academic libraries was 58.2. The median ranged from 19 volumes per FTE in institutions offering less than four years of study to 111.2 in doctorate-granting institutions. By comparison, Fondren Library has 492 volumes per FTE.
- The three largest expenditure items for all academic libraries were salaries/wages (50 percent), current serial subscriptions (18 percent), and books (11 percent). By comparison, Fondren Library spent 34.8 percent on salaries/wages, 27.9 percent on current serial subscriptions, and 19.6 percent on books for the collection.

* Source of comparison data: National Center for Education Statistics, *Library Statistics Program*.



It is possible to link from some of the library's journal indexes to the full text of the journal online. Examples include linking from the *FirstSearch* indexes to a variety of humanities and social science journals and linking from *Current Contents* to many science and engineering journals.

Some of these links are easy to achieve, as when the index and online journal are available from the same source (e.g., *FirstSearch*), but others require Fondren Library to work through the technical and market barriers of linking multiple information vendors (e.g., OVID and Academic Press). We continue to strive, however, to make your information gathering more straightforward.



A variety of new literature databases is available, including *Contemporary Authors*, *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, and *What Do I Read Next?* The state of Texas's Texshare system has made these databases—as well as *Biography & Genealogy Master Index*, *Discovering Science*, *Texas Almanac*, *InfoTrac News*, and a new interface to *Books In Print* (which often includes book reviews)—available to all Texas libraries.



Fondren Library is now benefiting from several new endowments. They include:

- Adele Cambielh and Charles Arthur Gehret
- Lackner Endowment for Special Collections
- Francis Loewenheim Endowment
- Schiffick Endowment for Scholarly Materials

CHINESE ROMANIZATION SYSTEM CHANGES

Fondren Library and other American libraries, in cooperation with the Library of Congress (LC), are currently in the process of converting Chinese names and Chinese-language catalog records from the existing Wade-Giles spelling to the spelling used in the Pinyin system of romanization. The name of the ancient Chinese philosopher, Lao Tzu, illustrates the kind of change that can be expected. When the project is complete, the library user will have to look under the Pinyin form “Lao Zi,” instead of the Wade-Giles form “Lao Tzu.”

For many reasons, the Library of Congress has delayed for years the undertaking of this massive project and is, at present, behind most other institutions in the adoption of this standard. Many U.S. government agencies and magazines (such as *Time*) adopted Pinyin romanization more than a decade or two ago, while in some countries it was adopted even earlier. The British Library, for instance, switched to Pinyin in 1966 for the cataloging of new Chinese acquisitions.



Jiun Kuo and Dr. Lilly Chen consult Chinese text in Fondren's collection.

gological tool to teach students to read Chinese script. Books, dictionaries, maps, etc., coming out of China use the Pinyin system for romanization of Chinese characters. Pinyin is what Western tourists see written on street signs below the Chinese script street names. This system has been used worldwide as an educational tool to learn the sounds of Mandarin Chinese. (The Rice Chinese language program, for example, has been using Pinyin ever since its beginning in the early 1980s.)

WHY PINYIN?

Like the Wade-Giles system, Pinyin (literally, “spell sound”) uses the Latin alphabet to spell Chinese words based on the pronunciation of the Beijing (or Northern Mandarin) dialect. Following different rules, the same speech sound is spelled differently in the two systems.

Why has Pinyin come to be regarded as the preferred romanization standard, rather than Wade-Giles or some other romanization system that has been used for Chinese names? The answer is that Pinyin is the official romanization system for spelling Mandarin Chinese in the People's Republic of China. In elementary schools in China, Pinyin is used as a peda-

HISTORY OF CHINESE ROMANIZATION

Romanization of Chinese came about as a solution to the problems facing Chinese script—namely, the Chinese writing system is neither alphabetic nor purely syllabic (in which syllables and symbols have a one-to-one correspondence, as in the case of Japanese kana). Chinese script is morpho-syllabic; therefore, it needs many symbols (called characters). It takes years for the learner to master the characters. To be literate, a Chinese needs to be able to read and write at least two thousand characters, as listed in Saomang Yongzibiao “list of characters to eliminate il-

literacy” (Zhong 1995:15). According to a survey on the number of characters contained in publications in social and natural sciences, conducted by the National Committee on Chinese Script (Sun 1995:19), the average newspaper or magazine contains three thousand to seven thousand distinct characters.

The first person to use the Latin alphabet to transliterate Chinese was Matteo Ricci, a Catholic Jesuit priest who lived in China for thirty years prior to his death there in 1610. In 1605 he published a book, since lost, using the Latin alphabet to provide pronunciation for four Chinese character texts (Ni 1958). The missionaries who came to China after the Opium War in 1842 looked upon the Chinese script as something that needed to be bypassed if the masses were to be taught to read the Bible and hymnal in a relatively short time. They successfully used the alphabet to spell the local dialect of the people. While they had an evangelical purpose in mind, some Chinese intellectuals were

COMPARISON OF WADE-GILES AND PINYIN

Below are some examples of Wade-Giles and Pinyin correspondence:

WADE-GILES	PINYIN
Teng Hsiao-ping	Deng Xiaoping
Ch'in-shih-huang	Qin Shihuang
jihli	rili
hsiat'ien	xiatian
ch'angtu	changdu
Peking	Beijing
ts'ungming	congming
Chungkuo	Zhongguo
Ch'ung Ch'ing	Chongqing
Ssu Ch'uan	Sichuan

An obvious visual difference between Wade-Giles and Pinyin is the presence of apostrophes and the set of consonant clusters *ts, tz, ss, sz*, which are absent in Pinyin. Syllables beginning with the letters *z, x, q*, as in *zeng, xi, qiao*, are Pinyin. Chinese romanization guidelines developed by the Library of Congress are available at <http://lcweb.loc.gov/catdir/pinyin/romcover.html>. A Wade-Giles to Pinyin table can be found at <http://sun3.lib.uci.edu/%7Eoclcck/wgtopy.htm>. The conversion chart is also available at http://www.pantheon.org/mythica/miscellanea/conversion_chart.html. Conversion charts and links to other Pinyin-related sites are provided at <http://lang.rice.edu/lchen/Pinyin/PinyinConv.html>.

inspired by the “spelling” aspect of alphabetic writing and began to devise their own method of teaching reading of Chinese characters, using either the Latin alphabet or a limited number of simple components of some characters as sound symbols to spell a word (much like the Japanese syllabary). More than one hundred spelling systems were proposed between the waning years of the Imperial Qing (1644-1911) and the year 1958, when Pinyin was formally approved by the National

dictionary in 1892 and thus became known as the Wade-Giles system. As mentioned above, Pinyin was formally adopted as China’s official romanization system in 1958. In 1975 the Chinese State Council decided that all personal and geographic names should be spelled in the Chinese phonetic alphabet, i.e., Pinyin. In 1977 the United Nations adopted the Chinese Pinyin as the international standard in romanizing Chinese geographic

People’s Congress. Of these systems, the Wade-Giles became the most widely adopted and remained the most-used system in the West until it was gradually replaced by Pinyin, as LC is doing now. The Wade-Giles system was designed by the British sinologist Thomas Francis Wade, who lived in China for decades. The system, as given in his *Peking Syllabary*, was first published in 1859. It was slightly modified by Herbert A. Giles, a British sinologist, in his Chinese-English

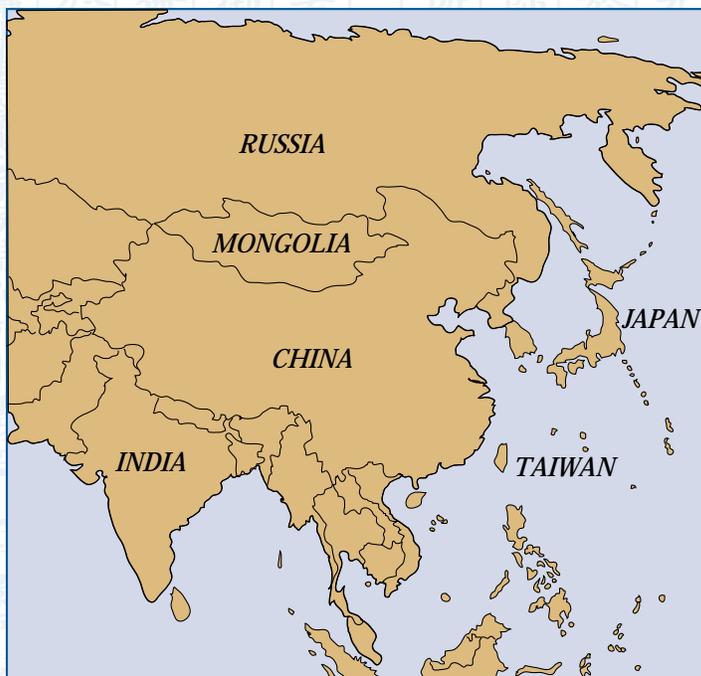
names. In 1978 the State Council announced that the alphabetization of Chinese names of persons and places in Pinyin should be applied to all languages using the Roman alphabet, including English, French, German, and Spanish. These official decisions help to end the quandary of the last hundred years, namely, the existence of several competing alphabetic systems for transliteration of Chinese names and places.

FONDREN'S CONVERSION PLANS

Fondren Library anticipates a challenging, but smooth, transition from the Wade-Giles system to the Pinyin romanization system. The switch to a different system will necessitate changes in thousands of records, both those in Chinese and those in other languages that have names, added titles, subjects, or notes in Wade-Giles form. Because of the complexity of the project, Pinyin conversion has to proceed in multiple phases at both national and local levels.

In May 2000 a Pinyin Conversion Working Group was charged with planning Fondren Library's implementation of the conversion project. The group has closely monitored the activities of the Library of Congress, the

Research Libraries Group, and the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), who are spearheading this effort. The group has also consulted with other leading research libraries whose experiences might be instructive in Rice's planning. In accordance with national



project directives, Rice began cataloging all new Chinese-language materials in Pinyin on October 1, 2000.

In September the working group's focus shifted to options for the conversion of existing Chinese-language records and the conversion of non-Chinese records containing Chinese data. National project guidelines call for individual libraries to complete conversion of existing records by October 1, 2001. Fondren Library will probably be working with OCLC to convert the forty-two hundred Chinese records in our catalog which are cataloged under the Wade-Giles system.

EXCEPTIONS TO PINYIN CONVERSION

There are a number of exceptions to the conversion of Chinese-language names from Wade-Giles into Pinyin. Some personal names will continue to use the Wade-Giles form, either because they are very well-known in this form or because the person has specified that the Wade-Giles form is the preferred form. The Library of Congress has compiled a list of twenty-five hundred personal names that will not be converted to Pinyin.

Although Pinyin will be used for all place names in mainland China, place names in Taiwan will continue to be romanized using the Wade-Giles system. (The Board of Geographic Names has not approved any

change in form of Taiwanese place names at this time.) Place names in Hong Kong and Macao form other exceptions to the Pinyin rule; they will use either the Cantonese form or some other irregular form.

In cases of conversion to Pinyin form, there will be references from Wade-Giles forms of personal and place names to the preferred Pinyin form of heading. However, references from variant forms of corporate names (i.e., government bodies, businesses, schools, etc.) will be given only in Pinyin; no references from old Wade-Giles forms of names will be used.

CALL NUMBER CHANGES

The Library of Congress, whose classification system is used by Fondren Library, will continue to classify Chinese literary authors (PL), philosophers (B), scholars (C), artists (N), and statesmen (DS) under already established Wade-Giles forms of names. References will be made from Pinyin forms of name where necessary. For works on persons new to the LC classification schedule, numbers will be based on the Pinyin form of name. Place names in the DS classification schedule will be changed to the Pinyin form of name, which may cause books about the same place to be shelved in two locations.

HOW TO PROCEED NOW

During the time the conversion is in progress, catalog files will be split; it will be necessary to search under both Wade-Giles and Pinyin forms of names to be sure all information has been located. Users' guides and other relevant hand-outs will be prepared to assist in searches. A user will also need to be aware of both forms of name when browsing the stacks, as books may be arranged under the Wade-Giles form of name, the Pinyin form of name, or both.

Fondren Library has made a strong commitment to the Pinyin conversion project and has begun the work needed to carry it out.

We are confident that, when the project is completed, it will greatly benefit our users by providing more consistent and enhanced access to the Chinese-language materials in our collections.

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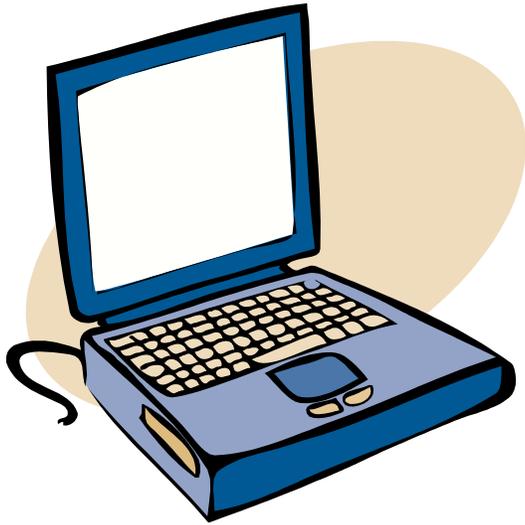
Text from
Ssu K'u
ch'üan shu
(Wade-Giles
romanization).

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FONDREN LIBRARY GOES WIRELESS

Have you ever wished you could just sit down at one of the tables in the library, turn on your laptop, check your mail, or start searching for that article or book you need, without having to plug in anywhere? Later this year your wish will become a reality, at least in some areas of Fondren Library. The library's Information Technology (IT) staff has been busy all summer installing a wireless network in the main public areas. Using it, you will have the same access to campus networks from your laptop as you now



have from your office computer. With a login and password to an OwlNet account, you will be able to check your mail, surf the Web, and search the library catalog and CD-ROM collection, without having to worry about finding a free terminal.

The wireless technology that makes this possible is already fairly ubiquitous. We are using it for our cell phones, digital pagers, and Palm Pilots to do minimal Web searching and e-mail. The leap from scrolling through a brief e-mail message line by line (as on a pager or cell phone) to seeing the whole message on one screen, and even being able to respond, is greater in the convenience it affords us than in the technology required. It is hoped that in ten years wireless access will be available campus-wide, so that you will be able to start your laptop anywhere on campus and access the Web, e-mail, and the various Rice networks without having to plug in (except to charge your battery once in a while). A wireless network has been in place in Duncan Hall for most of the summer and has been functioning quite well there.

LIBRARY PLANS AND PROBLEMS

As is planned for the campus as a whole, wireless network access in Fondren will initially start in one area and spread as budget and construction allow. Wireless access will first be available in the reference and periodicals areas at the front of the first floor and on the second-floor balcony. Access from study areas on other floors may be added later, depending on the library building project schedule.

A library is an ideal place to have wireless access for a laptop, but the very nature of a library also makes it a particularly difficult place to install it. Wireless technology is based on the transmission of radio waves, and dense stacks of shelving and books block lower frequency radio waves almost as well as a lead shield. Transmitters installed at the ceiling cover the large open areas very well but do not penetrate the stacks. For this reason, areas deeper in the stacks do not receive as strong a signal as the more open reference and periodicals areas.

NETWORK CARDS

In order to receive a signal, laptop users will need to install a WaveLAN network card in their computers. The cards are available at the Circulation Desk and can be checked out for the semester; they will be due back at the end of each semester. This will ensure that there are cards for everyone who wants to use them and also allow IT staff to update and replace cards as needed.

Cards are available for PCs, MACs, and machines running LINUX. Installation of the card is simple, although some configuration changes must be done on the laptop. Instructions for installation and configuration will be distributed with the network cards, and members of the Fondren IT staff can help with any problems. Once the card is installed and the configuration changes made, you should be able to log on to your laptop, sit down at a table in the reference area, and have the campus network at your fingertips.

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NEW DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT POSITION CREATED IN LIBRARY

To help the library meet the financial challenge posed by plans for its expansion, Mary Bixby has been appointed to the new position of Director of Development—Library. This position closely parallels similar positions recently created for development purposes for the Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Administration, the School of Humanities, and the School of Natural Sciences.



Mary Bixby hangs picture of library where she grew up.

Besides raising the \$87.5 million presently allocated for the renovation and expansion of Fondren Library, the Director of Development—Library will also raise money for new and ongoing library programs, such as endowments and lectureships. This will be accomplished through a combination of identification, cultivation, and solicitation of potential donors and a program for recognition of donors. A leadership committee of volunteers, consisting of alumni and friends of Rice University, will be formed to assist in this effort. Mary will work with other university development officers to identify volunteers interested in contributing to the library fundraising campaign.

Mary comes by her interest in libraries naturally, having been raised by a librarian in a library. As Mary tells the tale, her mother began working in a library while still in high school. After she married, Mary's mother ran a bookstore in her home, and it was not un-

usual for her children to fall asleep on a low bookshelf. When Mary was in the second grade, the town's librarian died. According to the will of the donor of the library, the librarian had to live in the library. Thus, when Mary's mother accepted the job of librarian, the family moved to an apartment in the library building, where they lived until Mary was in the ninth grade. While there, Mary and

her brother enjoyed twenty-four-hour access to all the books, although her mother made them use a flashlight after hours in order not to excite the envy of other townspeople.

Mary's educational background includes a B.S. degree in history from East Tennessee State University and an M.L.S. degree from Sam Houston State University. She has worked in fundraising and development for several nonprofit organizations and also as a librarian at Pennzoil. Mary came to Rice as the Executive Director of the Friends of Fondren Library in fall 1996. She will continue to hold this title and have overall responsibility for the Friends, while also assuming her new duties as Director of Development—Library.

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LIBRARY'S CATALOGING SECTION EXPERIMENTING WITH METADATA

Fondren Library's Cataloging Section, the unit of the Technical Services Department charged with providing bibliographical access to all library materials, is actively engaged in two experimental projects designed to allow successful retrieval of materials in digital formats.

COOPERATIVE ONLINE RESOURCE CATALOG

Since early 2000 Fondren Library has been participating in the Cooperative Online Resource Catalog (CORC) project sponsored by the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) in Dublin, Ohio. More than 150 other libraries joined in the initial phase to help test and evaluate the cooperative CORC database.

CORC is a Web-based, metadata-creation system designed for creating bibliographic records and subject bibliographies (called "pathfinders") for electronic resources. The system features many automated record creating and editing features, including data harvesting, multiple record creation, and mapping between various formats, such as MARC (Machine-Readable Cataloging) and Dublin Core (a developing standard for describing digital resources).

After the initial test phase, the CORC system was made available to all OCLC member libraries in July 2000. CORC will provide an infrastructure for experimenting with new standards and technologies, and Fondren Library will continue to explore its uses and possibilities.

RICE UNIVERSITY STREAMING AUDIO AND VIDEO ARCHIVES

Fondren Library is also exploring the possibilities of using metadata to manage the RTV (Rice University Streaming Audio and Video Server) archives. There are currently approximately fifty speeches available through the RTV Web site. It is thought that putting descriptive information about each speech into Dublin Core format would improve current access and future searching options as Web search and retrieval mechanisms mature.

If initial experiments prove successful, Dublin Core might also be useful in describing and providing access to other archived Rice content, such as faculty multimedia and Web projects. Dublin Core is only one of many new techniques for creatively dealing with the growing and increasingly complex body of information available today.

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COLLECTION MANAGEMENT PROJECT MOVES FORWARD

This summer the Collection Management Project began barcoding and inventory of materials in Storage. From the start it was clear that this effort was worthwhile. Besides inputting the storage location into the online record, we were able to check and, if necessary, correct holdings and locate volumes that had become separated from the rest of a set. The linking of the barcodes to the correct bibliographic records makes it easier for a user to quickly identify what volumes are available in this remote location. The student team which worked this summer completed seventy-six sections or about 16 percent of the project. Temporary help will be hired to complete this task.

Barcoding of unbarcoded volumes in the Fondren stacks and linking of these barcodes to their online bibliographic records continues. Serials have been completed, and monographs barcoding is underway. Monographs volumes in call numbers A-N are finished; P is in progress.

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LIBRARY GAINS NEW TENANTS

If you visited the library this past summer, you may have noticed a great deal of activity taking place. Movers, dollies, bookcases, and other items moved in and out of the library as various departments relocated around campus. The majority of the activity in Fondren Library occurred on the fourth, fifth, and sixth floors. Members of the History Department vacated the fifth floor as they moved into the new Humanities Building next door. Taking their place were the faculty and staff of the Hispanic and Classical Studies and English departments; they are expected to stay until scheduled renovations to Rayzor Hall are complete. Remaining on the fifth floor are the Jefferson Davis Association and the Journal of Southern History.

LANGUAGE RESOURCE CENTER

The largest renovation occurred on the sixth floor, where space was remodeled to accommodate the Language Resource Center (LRC) during Rayzor Hall renovations. Some offices were removed, and floor space was rearranged to form three classrooms and office space for the LRC. The three classrooms include a traditional audio/video room with eight carrels equipped with VCRs, monitors, and audio equipment; a Macintosh room with eighteen machines; and a general teaching lab with eighteen computer stations.

The general teaching lab features new machines equipped with Windows 2000. These computers offer a significant number of features (including spell check and grammar check) in several languages, as well as programs allowing students to type in lan-

guages such as Arabic and Chinese. The LRC offers software programs in numerous languages and materials in multiple formats, including DVD. Many of their materials and some equipment may be checked out to faculty and staff.

The LRC recently received a number of grants, enabling them to further pursue their goal of digitizing audio and video materials that accompany and enhance language courses. First-year Spanish and first- and second-year German students can view and

listen to related audio and video files directly from the teaching lab's computers. These materials are also accessible outside of the LRC on computers around campus and in students' dorm rooms. This allows students greater access to materials when the LRC is closed and helps accommodate more users.

LIBRARY STACKS

Still on the sixth floor are the Center for Study of Cultures and the Center for Study of Languages, as well as library books with "A" call numbers.

The stacks are a little harder to find now, but signage to the right of the elevator will lead you down a new hallway to their location. Access to the sixth floor is available via Elevator B and Stair D, both located in the center of the building near the Circulation Desk. Additional changes on the sixth and fourth floors included re-assignment of various offices and carrels to members of the School of Humanities.

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Director Claire Bartlett helps Katherine Whaley in Language Resource Center.

BEHIND THE SCENES: REFERENCE/COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

Do you need to find critical reviews of the second volume of the *Cairo Trilogy*, by Najib Mahfuz, or recent newspaper articles on volcanic activity in Japan? Perhaps you need to look up chemical registry numbers and physical constants and want to know if there are any electronic sources. The staff of the Reference/Collection Development Department is there to help you find the best information, regardless of format, for your needs. To this end, staff members are available at the Reference Desk over eighty-three hours per week. (The desk is presently staffed from 8:30 A.M. to 11:00 P.M. Monday through Wednesday, 8:30 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. on Thursday, 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. on Friday, 9:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Saturday, and 12:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. on Sunday.)

In addition to the personalized help available at the Reference Desk, the reference staff offers an e-mail reference service designed to handle typical questions, such as phone numbers, verification of publishing information, word definitions, and other simple questions. The form is available at: http://www.rice.edu/Fondren/Forms/refer_assist.html.

The reference staff also offers a full range of instructional programs and services, including course-related instruc-



John Hunter and Sara Lowman consult on reference question.



Sandi Edwards and Paul Orkiszewski at Reference Desk, with student Isamu Nigro in background.

tion sessions, information technology workshops, research consultation appointments, and electronic tutorials and guides. Members of the campus community may schedule individual appointments with the reference staff to discuss specific research or information needs, to identify specific reference sources, to receive assistance with and instruction in the use of information technology, or to help work out research strategy parameters of thesis or dissertation questions.

Besides reference, teaching, and consultation duties, the reference staff is responsible for collection development. Librarians work as subject specialists, in cooperation with faculty from the various campus departments, to acquire the materials needed to build general and specialized library collections in a variety of formats. The reference collection, for example, includes traditional print sources and electronic resources in both CD-ROM and online formats, as well as customized guides and handouts for using these resources. Information and lists of electronic resources are available at: <http://www.rice.edu/Fondren/Indexes/>.

Sara Lowman
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LIBRARY LIAISONS

Subject

Anthropology
Architecture
Art History
Biochemistry
Biomedical Engineering
Chemical Engineering
Chemistry
Civil Engineering
Classics
Computational & Applied Mathematics
Computer Science
Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
Economics
Education
Electrical Engineering
English
Environmental Engineering
French
Geology
German
Health & Human Performance
History
Linguistics
Mathematics
Mechanical Engineering
Music
Philosophy
Physics/Space Physics
Political Science
Psychology
Religion
Slavic
Sociology
Spanish
Statistics

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COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT SPECIALISTS



Denise Arial

DENISE ARIAL

Last November Denise Arial joined the Fondren Library staff as a government information librarian. Denise provides reference assistance, teaches patent searching classes, coordinates Fondren's government publications Web site, and troubleshoots CD-ROM workstations in the Government Publications and Microforms area. She also works about four hours each week at the general reference desk in Fondren.

Along with her other duties, Denise recently accepted collection development responsibility for education materials. She is looking forward to working with members

of the Education Department and welcomes feedback and suggestions. Denise enjoys the collegial atmosphere at Rice and the opportunity to work directly with faculty and students.

Denise hails from the Toronto area in Canada. She grew up in Orangeville, Ontario, and attended college at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. After receiving a B.A. in history in 1997, Denise moved to Toronto, where she earned a Master of Information Studies from the University of Toronto in 1999.

A library veteran since the age of twelve,

Denise brings a broad range of library experience to Fondren. She worked as a student assistant in a public library during elementary and high school. Her library experience during her undergraduate and graduate studies included time working in a business and a music library. She also has experience as a cataloger of books and maps. During graduate school she worked in the Data, Map, and Government Information Department at the University of Toronto.

Denise is a very active member of the library profession. Besides serving on a number of committees within the library, she acts as the liaison from the Texas Library Association's New Members Round

Table to the New Members Round Table of the American Library Association (ALA). She is also a member of the Education Committee of ALA's Government Documents Round Table. Outside the library, Denise's interests include literature, gardening, and continuing studies in political science. In addition to participating in a book club, she is also taking a course in international relations theory this semester.

ANNA (ANAHITA) YOUSSEFI

Anna Youssefi joined Fondren Library's professional staff this summer as the subject specialist for history, classics, German, and Slavic studies. Before coming to Rice, Anna was a reference librarian and subject specialist in history, political science, anthropology, and Mexican-American studies at the University of Houston. While at the University of Houston, Anna coordinated a reading series, "Poetry & Prose: Creative Writers at the University of Houston."

Originally from Iran, Anna moved to the U.S. during the Iranian revolution in 1979 and grew up in the Washington, D.C., area. Anna attended college at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, and received a B.A. in history in 1994. In 1998 Anna graduated from Simmons College in Boston, Massachusetts, with an M.S. in library and information science.

As a college student Anna worked in the library at Brown University. She continued her library work after graduation from Brown and while commuting to



Anna Youssefi

graduate school in Boston. Anna's commitment to lifelong learning and her student library job contributed to her decision to become a librarian. Anna is a member of the American Library Association and writes book reviews for *Library Journal*.

Anna's academic interests center around literature and foreign languages. She has advanced reading skills in German and Spanish, intermediate reading skills in Russian and Farsi, and some knowledge of modern standard Arabic.

In addition to her ongoing language studies, Anna is currently taking a painting class at the Glassell School of Art. Outside the library Anna's attentions are claimed by a four-and-a-half-year-old Norwegian elkhound named Pasha. Anna also enjoys weight lifting in her spare time.

Esther Crawford
*Head of Government
Publications and Microforms
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ILL PREPARES FOR ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT DELIVERY

Fondren Library's Interlibrary Borrowing (ILL) unit is now preparing to beta test Prospero, an exciting new software system that will allow patrons to use their own PCs to retrieve documents from a secure server and print those documents at their convenience, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

For some time, ILL has been receiving scanned documents via ARIEL, a software product designed to facilitate scanning and FTP delivery of documents from one library to another. ILL prints the ARIEL documents and notifies the patron that they are ready for pickup. The patron must then come to the library to obtain the document.

Prospero, an open-source product created at the Ohio University Medical Library, is able to convert the ARIEL document into an Adobe Acrobat PDF file, place that file on a Web server, and notify the patron via e-mail that the document is ready to view or print. The e-mail will include a PIN to control access to the document.

The combination of ARIEL and Prospero represents a major step forward in convenience to our patrons, because documents will be available at any time, and trips to ILL to pick up photocopies will no longer be necessary. In addition, ARIEL/Prospero helps to reduce turnaround time for photocopies, getting materials to the patrons who need them in a faster, more efficient manner.

Lee Hilyer
*Interlibrary Loan Librarian
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NEWS *from* FONDREN

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RICE UNIVERSITY FONDREN LIBRARY

Regular Hours

September 6, 2000–December 17, 2000
and
January 16, 2001–May 8, 2001

Open 24 hours, Sunday noon–Friday 10:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m.

Library hours are modified during the following periods:

Labor Day Week

Saturday, Sept. 2–Monday, Sept. 4

Spring Midterm Recess

Friday, March 2–Saturday,
March 10

Fall Midterm Recess

Friday, Oct. 13–Monday, Oct. 16

Spring Recess

Wednesday, Apr. 11–Sunday,
Apr. 15

Thanksgiving Recess

Wednesday, Nov. 22–Friday, Nov. 24

Spring Final Exams

Friday, Apr. 27–Sunday, May 6

Final Exams and Holidays

Friday, Dec. 8–Monday, Jan. 15

Summer Hours

May 9, 2001–September 4, 2001
Monday–Friday 7:00 A.M.–8:00 P.M. Saturday–Sunday 10:00 A.M.–6:00 P.M.
(Closed May 26–28, Saturday–Monday, for Memorial Day)

Please call 713-527-4800 for information. Library hours are subject to change.



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