

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Library Hours:**
Mon-Thurs 8am-10pm
Friday 8am-4:30pm
Saturday 10am-2pm
Sunday 1pm-6pm
- **GGC Library Website:**
www.gpc.edu/gusclib
- **GGC Website:**
www.ggc.usg.edu
- **Library Address:**
1000 University Center
Lane
Lawrenceville, GA
30043
- **Telephone:**
678-407-5064

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- GIL Express 2
- Course Reserves 2
- Google & Libraries 3
- Library Instruction 4

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SPRING 2006

From the Library Director...

Welcome to the inaugural issue of LIBMatters, the Georgia Gwinnett College Library (GGCL) Newsletter.

Within these pages, we will provide updated information on the library, its services and collections, feature stories, and upcoming events

We invite you to review our newsletter and let us know what you think so that we can make this publication more relevant and entertaining to you, our library users. And we encourage you to send us library relat-

ed stories, news from your departments, or any information which you think would be of interest to the diverse communities on this campus.

Please let us know how we can better inform you of our services through this newsletter or its distribution.

If you would like your own personal copy distributed to you or your department directly, please contact the editor, Jessie Copeland, 678.407.5337. We would



be happy to include you on a distribution list for printed copies. Please look for our newsletter again this upcoming summer.

Gene Ruffin, GGC Library Director

New Book Titles

The new added link to the Georgia Gwinnett College Library Homepage <http://www.gpc.edu/gusclib/> is to new titles.

You simply click on the link from the library's homepage under *New Titles*

Once you accessed the page you are presented with several options.

You may search by location and you may also specify how many items to list on your screen. Other features allow you to search by call number or by title. There is also a keyword searchable input box in case you are looking for a specific item.

This new link will help faculty, staff and students track new and exciting items added to our library collection.

The new titles include books, serials, videos, maps and etc.

Please take a look at this wonderful website service addition.



Jessie Copeland,
Information Services/
Outreach Librarian

Access Services

GIL Express



*"It's easy to use."
"The convenience of working at home."
"The accuracy of the account and the ability to check personal accounts."
"The ability to check out so many materials – especially good for those of us working on dissertations or other projects."
"Its deep resource base."
"I recommend it to students a lot."*

What do all of these quotes represent you might ask? Well, these are the things your colleagues are saying about the GIL Express service. Now you might just be asking what is GIL Express? GIL Express is a service being offered at all libraries within the University System of Georgia (USG). The service is an innovative re-

source sharing initiative that allows students, faculty and staff access to all eligible circulating material at all USG libraries. Gil Express is available to all eligible patrons through both an on-site (walk up) service and a remote requesting service.

How does GIL Express work? Search your local catalog and if you do not find the item you are looking for you may perform a search in the Universal Catalog:

<https://giluc.usg.edu/> . From there you may place a request for the item. Once an item arrives at your desired pickup location it is held for ten days. Come to the selected library to checkout the item and you may keep it for

28 days. You may renew it twice through your GIL account. When you are finished with your item you may return it to any USG Library. There are no fines associated with using GIL Express, but if an item becomes overdue you are blocked from using your library account until the item is returned.

If you would like to learn more about GIL Express and the Universal Catalog stop by the Reference Desk on the second floor of the Library or call 678-407-5064.

Joy Garmon, Coordinator of Access Services

"WebCT is the preferred method for making class notes and photocopied assignments or readings available to students."

Course Reserves at the GGC Library?

Faculty members may place material from a personal collection or from the Georgia Gwinnett College Library on reserve at the GGC Library Circulation Desk. Please complete a Reserves form and submit it along with the materials. Library Reserves forms are available at the Georgia Gwinnett College Library Circulation Desk and in the Georgia Gwinnett College UGA Administrative Office and UGA School of Social Work Office. Due to a growing number of reserve shelf placements, please allow for a processing time of two days before sending students to the library to use the materials.

Faculty placing copyright-

ed materials on reserve must sign in the appropriate location on the Library Reserves form accepting responsibility for any violations of copyright. We may accept up to 3 copies of photocopied material per class. Please supply all the copies to be placed on reserve in appropriate folders or binders.

The library will send out an email at the end of every semester reminding faculty to collect personal reserve materials. If personal materials are left in the library beyond the semester they were placed on reserve, they may be discarded. Library staff will return library-owned items to the proper collection.

WebCT is the preferred

method for making class notes and photocopied assignments or readings available to students. This allows students to access course materials anytime, anywhere, and to print them for free from home if necessary.

Other alternatives to print reserves include posting reserve materials online via personal websites or electronic reserves. All GPC faculty members are provided with personal webpage space that can be used to post class materials. UGA faculty members can contact the UGA Main Library in Athens to place materials on electronic reserve.

Terese Scheiderich, Library Assistant III.

“...not everything is in Google.”

If you've read any recent news about the Internet and research technology, you've likely heard of Google Scholar. You've probably also heard librarians say that libraries have vast collections of journals, magazines, databases, books, theses and dissertations, CDs, videos, DVDs, and audio materials that you can't get from the Internet. Popular search engines are wonderful tools, and properly used can be an excellent step in the research process, but librarians and information professionals know “not everything is in Google.”

What is Google Scholar?

In the late 2004 Google introduced a beta service called Google Scholar that began the process of providing access to research quality resources. Google Scholar enables specific searches of scholarly literature previously available only via subscription.

Recently an institutional access feature was added to Google Scholar, which links its users to electronic and print versions of journal contained in library collections. By partnering with Google Scholar, libraries can have their materials included in the results of a Google search. Students and faculty with library privileges can access these resources without having to pay fees to download search results.

Sounds like a great idea and looks good on paper! But before you fire up the Google search engine, it's important for you to know that Google Scholar is still in beta testing.

What Google Scholar can not do

As the Google scholar beta database grows, it is unclear when or how frequently it is updated. The lag time between publishing and getting items into the database is resolved. And most importantly, the criteria used to decide what will or will not be included in the database has not been finalized. In fact, rather than an editorial department or a publisher making these decisions, it is the Google machine itself doing the resource selection.

Librarians testing Google Scholar have found that it rarely includes all the offerings from publishers. As a result, it frequently misses many of the quality resources that are accessible to researchers in solid library collections.

Although Google Scholar claims to cover broad areas of research, early evaluations reveal an emphasis on science and technology, with lighter coverage on the arts, humanities, and social sciences. Medical researchers and physicians in particular have been cautioned by medical associations not to rely on Google Scholar exclusively.

In his recent column On the Net (ONLINE magazine, July/August 2005), librarian and author Greg Notess had this to say in comparing Google Scholar to Scirus, another web-based research tool:

For the unaffiliated scholar, these tools provide both opportunity and frustration. The opportunity? These scholars can use both tools to search for resources. The frustration comes when a specific document is found, but it is available online instantaneously only for those willing and able to pay. Strangely enough, both of these tools may work better for the affiliated scholar. With all the subscriptions available on campus based on IP access authentication, the campus-based researcher finds that the links in Google Scholar work seamlessly, providing direct access to the full-text articles.”

What it means to you

The search engine technology and concept behind Google Scholar and its library partners hold great promise for everyone. As the service matures and processes are refined, locating information in any library anywhere anytime will become easier and more robust.

Until Google moves from its beta test phase into a refined service, here are a few tips to keep in mind:

Recognize that Google Scholar is another tool available to you as an information user. It is not the end all—be all.

Listen to your librarian. Ask if the resources you need are available through Google Scholar.

Never assume your research is complete if you use Google Scholar. Check other resources and compare results.

Value your library and its collections. The fact that Google is bringing libraries into its circle of resources and working with librarians confirms there is more valuable information beyond what a popular search engine can find.

“Although Google Scholar claims to cover broad areas of research, early evaluations reveal an emphasis on science and technology, with lighter coverage on the arts, humanities, and social sciences.”

END

Craving the Help of the Library with Your Classes?

The library is pleased to offer and provide library instruction for any class instructor or faculty member requesting it. There are some rules about obtaining these classes that you should be aware of before scheduling.

To place a request for instruction, please use the **online form** at http://www.gpc.edu/gusclib/interact/online_forms/online_forms.html to request classes. You can also access the form from the library's home page under *Interact* (toward the far right hand side of the page) and then clicking on *Online Forms*. This needs to be done because of the increase in the number of requests for classes and for the library's tracking purposes.

Requests for classes cannot be accepted via phone or e-mail. Since the library maintains statistics on the classes, it is required that you use the form. Also, if for some reason the Instructional Services Librarian is out of the office, the request is also sent to other librarians so that there is no back log of requests.

You need submit your request for classes at least **two weeks** in advance. Since the library has many different instructors for our classes, the advanced time makes sure there is an instructor available to teach the class. Everyone's schedules are different, so the library has to work with that as well. You can actually apply for a class well in advance. This is strongly suggested so that you have a better chance at obtaining your first date choice. Also, it is to your benefit to choose at least two different dates for the instruction class. As the semester progresses, dates tend to fill up quickly. Our busiest days tend to be Tuesdays and Thursdays.

If you have a specific project or area of study you would like the instructor to focus on, please be sure to place that information in the box labeled "Specific database/information sources to be covered" or you will get the "generic all purpose class." As an example, if you are teaching an English 1101 class and are having the students write an argumentative paper, there are specific databases you will want to be sure are covered. If you need to make sure the instructor covers how to find primary sources, be sure to put that information in the box.

There are online quizzes for GIL and/or GALILEO that can be given to your classes, so be sure to let the library know if you would like those included with the class. The two quizzes are rather short, but can give you a feel for who was paying attention and who was busy checking their e-mail. The scores from the tests are sent directly to you via e-mail.

Last, but not least, the library *strongly* encourages you to also attend the instruction sessions with your class. Students tend to pay closer attention and take the sessions more seriously if their instructor is present. It shows your students that this is something important and not just something you're having them do when you cannot be present to teach a class.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Instructional Services Librarian, Jessie Copeland. She can be reached at jcopeland@guc.usg.edu or extension 5337.

Michele James,
Information Services/
Serials Librarian



Georgia Gwinnett
COLLEGE

Georgia Gwinnett College

1000 University Center Lane
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
Phone: 678-407-5000