Zahnow Library joins MeLCat

In July, Zahnow Library joined MeLCat (www.mel.org), the new statewide library catalog. The Michigan electronic Library (MeL), which began as a web site to Internet resources and commercial databases, has expanded by creating a large catalog of the collections of participating Michigan academic, public and special libraries (MeLCat). At the end of summer 2005 MeLCat will have almost six million titles and more than nine million items.

A total of 13 academic libraries, 36 public libraries and four school library systems have joined MeLCat at this time. Because of the enormity of the project libraries are joining MeLCat quarterly. Over the next few years it is expected that over 500 libraries will be participating in MeLCat.

When users search CARDCAT, the catalog of Zahnow Library, a MeLCat button will appear at the top of the screen. Clicking on the button will automatically execute the search in MeLCat and retrieve the correct book records if a match is found. If an item is not owned by Zahnow library, it can be requested using the “Get this for me” button, which appears on the screen.

To expedite the delivery time for borrowed items, a courier transports material between libraries, reducing the wait time for a requested book to a few days rather than the usual 2 weeks for regular postal service. Books requested on MeLCat will be delivered to the Zahnow Library and can be picked up at the Circulation Desk.

Users can search MeLCat by title, subject, author or keyword. The entire catalog can be searched or a search can be limited by region, so local or area library holdings can be easily checked.

In addition to Zahnow Library, some of the academic libraries already in MeLCat include Central Michigan University, Ferris State University, Michigan State University, Wayne State University and University of Michigan - Dearborn. Public libraries include Genessee District Library, East Lansing Public Library, Bloomfield Township Public Library and the Library of Michigan.

Faculty interested in finding out more about using the MeL catalog for interlibrary loan may attend the workshop, “MeL versus ILL: Getting What We Don’t Have” in Z111, on either Friday, September 16th from 10-11am or Friday, October 21st from 9-10am.

For questions, call or visit the Reference Desk, (989)964-4242, library first floor.
NEW DATABASES ADDED TO LIBRARY COLLECTION

Four new databases were added to the library collection and can be accessed from the library home page using the DATABASES link.

CCH Tax Research Network
Search the full-text of federal and state tax code including, State business income tax, sales tax and financial and estate planning.

Culture-grams
Entries offer researchers information on the cultures of 187 countries and territories. Statistics, maps, and in depth detail covering 25 categories such as food, social customs, religion, and education are included. A photogallery contains more than 600 images representing over 50 countries.

LLBA : Linguistics & Language Behavior Abstracts
This database indexes disciplines concerned with the nature of and use of language and linguistics. Citations from over 1,200 journals are indexed from 1973 to the present, covering the study of language including phonetics, phonology, syntax and semantics.

Philosopher's Index
Philosopher's Index provides citations for over 500 journals covering all areas of philosophy. Some of the major areas covered include, aesthetics, metaphysics, philosophy of ethics and social philosophy.

FALL LIBRARY WORKSHOPS OFFERED
To register for workshops visit the SVSU Training and Workshops page, http://www.svsu.edu/workshops/#library

Electronic Library Reserves
Wed., September 7th, 3:30-4:30pm
Tues., September 20th, 3:00-4:00pm

Linking Journal Articles in Blackboard
Fri., September 2nd, 10:00-11:00am
Fri., September 9th, 2:30-3:30pm

Library Services for Adjunct and New Faculty
Fri., September 30th, 10:00-11:00am

* all workshops will be held in Z111, first floor, library*

COFFEE WITH THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR
Join Library Director Linda Farynk and liaison librarians for coffee in the Book Nook Cafe and an informal discussion of the results of the collection assessment survey that was conducted online at the end of the 2005 Winter semester. Share your ideas for improving the library’s collections; find out how you can suggest items for purchase; tell us what you think about print vs electronic access; books vs journals and more!

DATES/TIMES
Wed., September 14th and Wednesday, October 12th
10:30am - 11:30am and 3:00pm-4:00pm

LOCATION
Zahnow Library Book Nook Cafe, 3rd floor

LIBRARY COMPUTER LAB SCHEDULING
To schedule the library computer lab (Z111) for classes with computer related assignments or for online exams, contact Kathleen Kroll, 964-7054, kmkroll@svsu.edu