



DIRECTOR'S COLUMN:
Assessing the Library Collection

One of the initiatives in the university's new strategic plan for 2004-2008 is to assess library materials and collections. Based on the results of this assessment, the plan calls for increasing library holdings as needed, and improving the accessibility of materials in Zahnow Library and in other libraries via technology.

The recently-completed evaluation of our current print journal subscriptions has given us a good head start in undertaking the more comprehensive collection assessment this strategic planning initiative entails. So, how will we go about assessing the library collection as a whole?

Just as we did with the evaluation of our print journals, we will ask for input from faculty. The Library Committee and I have already begun drafting an online survey to be sent to faculty early this semester. The survey will ask them to rate the adequacy of the library collection in their discipline at various levels of teaching and research, such as undergraduate teaching and research, graduate teaching and research, etc. Faculty will also be asked to identify areas in which library holdings should be increased, providing us with valuable information to be used in justifying adequate annual increases in the

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KEN FOLLETT DONATES MANUSCRIPTS TO ZAHNOW LIBRARY

The papers of British author Ken Follett are now available in the University Archives located in Zahnow Library. The collection currently consists of over 44,000 items housed in twenty-nine boxes.

The Ken Follett Collection contains screenplays, manuscripts, correspondence and other material related to books written by Mr. Follett over two decades. Titles included are: *Eye of the Needle* (1978), *Triple* (1979), *The Key to Rebecca* (1980) and *the Man from St. Petersburg* (1982). A virtual exhibit highlighting a sample of the collection can be viewed at www.svsu.edu/library/follett/exhibit2/vexmain2.htm. You can also access the exhibit from the Melvin J. Zahnow Library's home page by clicking on the "Archives" and then "Virtual Exhibit" links.



During Mr. Follett's visit to Saginaw Valley State University in December 2004 he was shown the room where the collection will be permanently housed. He found the virtual exhibit so enjoyable that he had links added to his web site to both the virtual exhibit and to Saginaw Valley State University, www.ken-follett.com/home/index.html.

While part of the collection is already available for browsing, Jack G. Wood and Dr. Carlos Ramet (the Follett scholar principally responsible for SVSU's selection as the document repository) are in the process of setting up guidelines and procedures for using additional materials from the Ken Follett Collection.

If you are interested in researching how Mr. Follett created a number of his best-selling books, or if you want to know why H. Ross Perot cared so much about his employees (*On Wings of Eagles*, 1983) come to the Melvin J. Zahnow Library and visit the Ken Follett Collection. Please direct any questions to Jack G. Wood at 964-7097 or jwood@svsu.edu

FIRST ANNUAL FACULTY AUTHORS RECEPTION

Monday, February 14, 2005 ~ 4:00-5:30pm
Zahnow Library ~ Roberta Allen Reading Room

*Please join us in celebrating
publications authored or co-authored by full-time SVSU faculty
from 2002-2004, including books, textbooks, chapters of books and
articles in peer-reviewed journals*

Send your submissions to Linda Farynk by January 31
248 Zahnow Library ~ lfarynk@svsu.edu ~ ext. 4236

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library acquisitions budget to fill in those gaps.

In addition to the results of the online survey, we will also be collecting and studying other data to help us assess the library collection as a whole. We will consider, for example, the number of books purchased for each academic department over the past several years, circulation statistics, and the age of the collection in each subject area. We also hope to take advantage of a new online collection analysis service that will enable us to compare our collection with the collections of up to five other libraries of our choice, as well as to various recommended collection development lists.

A truly comprehensive collection assessment project will undoubtedly take more than a semester to complete. Nevertheless, this strategic plan initiative demonstrates the university's commitment to providing adequate funding for a collection of library resources that fulfills the teaching, learning and research needs of our students and faculty.

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MAKING THE MOST OF COURSE RESERVES

Course reserves to be used during the winter semester can now be submitted to the Circulation Department. Those wishing to place items on Reserve should deliver copies to the Circulation Desk and fill out a Reserve form. Reserves will be made available to your students at the Circulation Desk and through Blackboard. Please be prepared to sign an acknowledgement of copyright and have a citation for each item to be placed on Reserve.

For more information visit: www.svsu.edu/library/circulation/faculty.htm

VIDEOS AND DVDs READY FOR CLASSROOM USE

If you would like to view videos and DVDs in your classroom, you can "reserve" them ahead of time. Simply stop by the Circulation Desk with the title of the item and the date you would like to use it. Reservations including the above information can be sent via email to circadmin@svsu.edu. A reservation will ensure that the video is available to you when you need it.

DONATE PAPERBACK BOOKS

New and used paperback books are being sought for the Cafe collection in the Book Nook Cafe. Contact Linda Farynk, Library Director, for details, ext. 4236



CQ RESEARCHER AND SCIFINDER SCHOLAR ADDED TO LIBRARY DATABASE COLLECTION

The CQ Researcher offers comprehensive coverage of today's most important issues and events as they occur. A single topic is covered weekly with online access available back to 1991. Coverage includes a wide range of social, economic, political and environmental issues. Four issues each year are expanded for more in-depth reporting and discussion.

SciFinder Scholar is the web-based version of Chemical Abstracts that is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It contains citations and abstracts of journal articles, patents, technical reports and more published from 1907 to the present. The library is in the process of creating links between the journal articles cited in SciFinder Scholar and the full text of those articles in the electronic journals to which the library subscribes.

Access the two new databases via the library's DATABASES page at library.svsu.edu. For questions or a demonstration of CQ Researcher or SciFinder Scholar, please visit the Reference Desk.

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY CENTER HOURS CHANGE

The Student Technology Center assisted a record number of students during the Fall 2004 semester. Due to the increased usage the STC will be open an additional evening during the Winter 2005 semester. For the new STC hours, visit the STC homepage at library.svsu.edu.

The STC staff works with both students and faculty to provide training on a wide range of software applications. The most common in-class training requests include; MS Frontpage, MS PowerPoint, MS Publisher, MS Excel and Blackboard/M Drive overviews.

Please contact Tammi Waugh at x4036 or tjwaugh@svsu.edu to schedule an in-class training session or visit the STC website at www.svsu.edu/library/stc/faculty.htm#request to complete an on-line request form.

CHANGES MADE TO LIBRARY COMPUTER LAB SCHEDULING

To ensure the availability of the library computer lab (Z111) for online exams exceeding 40 students, the procedures for scheduling have changed. Please visit the library homepage "Quick Links" option for the most up-to-date scheduling policy, (library.svsu.edu).

WINTER FACULTY WORKSHOPS OFFERED

Several workshops sponsored by the library and the Student Technology Center will be held during the Winter semester.

In January 2005 look for ...

"Linking Journal Articles"
"How can the STC help you and your students?"
"Finding Scholarly Resources with Search Engines"

For the entire list of workshops with dates and location visit, www.svsu.edu/workshops/.

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