



MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Photo by Tara Spies Smith

PACE and the Library

NATIONAL EVIDENCE SHOWS that students who successfully complete their first year of college are more likely to graduate. Here at Texas State University, PACE helps students develop a plan for academic and career success.

PACE stands for Personalized Academic and Career Exploration and was created as part of the University's [Quality Enhancement Plan](#) for SACS accreditation. The PACE curriculum is delivered to students as part of their US 1100 seminar, but students will continue to be tracked throughout their college career.

The University Library supports the PACE initiative in a variety of ways. Instruction librarians created an online [PACE Career Guide](#) to help students locate information about careers. We have also added print and electronic materials supporting career exploration, and this collection will continue to grow. Behind the reference desk on the 2nd floor, you'll find our new **Career Guides Collection**. Come take a look or browse the catalog using "career guides collection" in a key word search.

Of special interest, [Career Guides databases](#) were purchased as a collaborative effort among the Library, Career Services, and PACE. Here are some I especially encourage you to explore: [Candid Career](#) contains interviews with professionals in various fields and information on particular professions. [InterviewStream](#) allows students to record themselves, then assess and improve their own interview skills, with interview tips and tutorials included. [Job & Career Accelerator](#) supports personalized investigation of careers, matching careers to your individualized profile, and offers resources to help with actual job searches.

PACE students will be using the new ePortfolio system, and library staff can help. In particular, computer lab staff on the 4th floor and some 2nd floor reference staff have been trained in this system.

Questions about PACE or suggestions about what the Library should do to support this initiative? Please don't hesitate to [contact me](#).

Joan Heath
Associate Vice President and University Librarian, University Library

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Collections Spotlight

We have 2 new collections: Career Guides & Graphic Novels.

Library Instruction

It's not too late for faculty to schedule a library session for your class.

News from the North

Request books to be sent from Alkek to Round Rock.

Copyright Corner

Use YouTube in your class, legally.

Meet Our Staff

Charles Allan is our Business Librarian, ready to help with your research.

Hey Undergrads!

Alkek has a new Undergraduate Librarian, and she wants to help you!

At The Wittliff

Learn about our distinct heritage as Texans.

Gov Info

Find geography resources, including maps and GIS software.

Texas State University History

Learn all about Commons Hall.

Editorial team

Sarah Naper, chair
Kay Hetherly, editor
Anthony Guardado
Misty Hopper
Jessica McClean
Michele Miller
Liane Taylor
Tara Spies Smith, photographer

COLLECTIONS SPOTLIGHT

by Misty Hopper

Career Guides Collection

WANT TO KNOW what careers are available in the field you're interested in? Need help finding a job and writing a resume? Need to know the best way to perform in an interview? Alkek Library can help.

We created a Career Guides Collection

to support our University's PACE initiative. This Collection is located behind the Reference Desk on the main floor of the Alkek Library. The Collection includes books that discuss career choices, resume tips, job hunting, and interview skills to help you decide where to go

from here.

Feel free to come in and use the collection whenever you need to. To find out what titles we have, you can search "Career Guides Collection" in our [library catalog](#). Good hunting!

Alkek Library has a New Graphic Novel Collection!

SOUTH OF THE Reserve, Periodicals, and Media Desk on the third floor of Alkek Library, a new collection has grown. It is the Graphic Novel Collection, bringing together the works of graphic novel writers and artists such as Will Eisner, Alan Moore, Chris Ware, Harvey Pekar, Jaime and Gilbert Hernandez, R. Crumb, Art Spiegelman, and more.

This collection was developed by Reference and Art Librarian Tara Smith to create an inviting space where graphic novels could be displayed to their best advantage. It is also a one stop shop for art students, literature students, and all fans of this fascinating literary genre. Graphic novels often present adult subjects such as racism, poverty and hardship, politics, or religion as well as unique art and graphics.

Want to learn more about graphic novels? Check out our online [Graphic Novels](#) research guide. You may also request a graphic novel you think we should acquire by using the online [request form](#). Want to know what graphic novels we have? Search "Graphic Novel Collection" using quotes in the [library catalog](#). Enjoy!

Photo by Hithia Davis



Art Librarian Tara Spies Smith with our new 3rd floor Graphic Novels Collection

LIBRARY INSTRUCTION

by Lorin Flores



Photo by Tara Spies Smith

Librarians can help Faculty with classes

MID-TERM IS UPON us, but it's not too late for faculty to request customized library research sessions for their classes. A single 40 to 50 minute session introduces students to the wealth of credible academic sources available via the library's web site, and also teaches

search skills and techniques to help students find the information they need more quickly and efficiently. Librarians are available to meet with classes in Alkek Library or other campus classrooms with Internet access.

Faculty may also embed a librarian right

in their TRACS site by request. This includes a link for chatting with a librarian and a customized library course guide for each class.

Fill out our [online form](#) to set up instruction session appointments and request other available services.



NEWS FROM THE NORTH

by Anthony Guardado

I'm in Round Rock but what I need is at Alkek Library...

HAVE YOU EVER used the library's catalog to find the perfect item and wanted that item shipped to the Round Rock Campus? We have the service for you: Document Delivery. You can submit an online Document Delivery request to have most items retrieved from Alkek or the Music Library and shipped to Library Services at RRC. Our goal is to have these items at RRC within two business days.

How do you initiate a request? Great question. Go to the [RRC Library Services home page](#) and look for the menu option for Document Delivery near the top of the page. Once you hover your mouse over this option you should then click on "[Alkek to RRC Delivery Form](#)." Fill this out as completely as possible. If you fill in all the necessary fields, you should then receive a confirmation e-mail letting you know we received your request.

How do you know when to pick it up? Another great question. Once your item arrives at RRC you will receive an automated e-mail message. That e-mail indicates a PICKUP BY date so you know how long you have to retrieve it.

So, save gas money and driving time by using Document Delivery.

RRC Library Services. Come in and find out more.



COPYRIGHT CORNER

by Brad Nichols

Photo by Tara Spies Smith



Copyright and YouTube

I WAS RECENTLY asked whether one can show videos from YouTube in class for instructional purposes without worrying about copyright concerns. Generally, the answer is yes. It is permissible to show YouTube content in class or link to such content for viewing outside the classroom.

However, just as with any resource, reasonable efforts should be made to ensure that the video does not contain infringing content. Simply because the material is posted on YouTube or the Internet does not mean it is necessarily free to use. YouTube attempts to limit infringing content, but the ultimate responsibility rests with those who upload videos to verify that they do not contain such material.

Some YouTube videos are licensed under a Creative Commons license, and there is an advanced search filter on the site that allows you to search for these. These videos may often be used freely so long as the creator receives attribution and the video is not used for commercial purposes.

Another way to use YouTube content is to simply link to it. Using YouTube's embedded code for linking is appropriate as well. Linking is especially easy and useful while loading content on to TRACS. A very good explanation of linking is provided by the [Citizen Media Law Project](#). Linking does not violate copyright unless the material linked to is clearly infringing, such as linking to a full length film from a commercial studio.

Next time: Use of video materials in class and on TRACS

Please contact [Brad Nichols](#) with any copyright related questions you may have.

Meet Our Staff

by Kay Hetherly



Photo by Tara Spies Smith

Charles Allan, Business Librarian



Photo by Tara Spies Smith

“Learn a lot so you can think creatively.”

IF YOU’RE TAKING business classes at Texas State, you may have already met Charles Allan. As Alkek’s business research expert, he is in high demand by students and professors at the reference desk and in the classroom.

Charles is a big advocate of reading widely both in your field and beyond. When preparing for research, he advises, “Give it time. Slow your brain down. Learn some conceptual background by reading strategy and classics in your field. Once you have the background knowledge, research will be much easier.” But don’t stop there. Also read a lot of fiction and history to help you think creatively. “Learn to imagine things that aren’t there—that kind of thinking leads to developing new products or new approaches.”

“Don’t Google,” Charles adds. People think Google will save them time in the research process, but the opposite is actually true. With Google, you’ll get a lot of “low quality information.” You’ll be much better off using scholarly resources the library pays for—information that doesn’t come up in a Google search. If you need help with these resources, “talk to the business librarian,” says Charles. If you don’t see him at the 2nd floor reference desk, make an [individual appointment](#) with Charles using our online form.

You may even be able to find the answer to your question without meeting a librarian. Charles has his own searchable [blog](#) on our library website that answers frequently asked questions, gives research tips, and introduces a lot of interesting, less well-known information. He updates the blog regularly. He also makes [video tutorials](#) that will walk you through some of the more complex databases, like his own favorite, [Simply Map](#).

Charles’s final advice for doing great research? “Get the TV and Xbox out of your apartment!” I think we all know what he’s getting at.

HEY UNDERGRADS!

by Jessica McClean



Photo by Tara Spies Smith

“Come find me if you need anything!”

WE ARE APPROACHING the midpoint of the semester, and now those major assignments that seemed so far away in August are coming on like a freight train. Trust me, I know how you feel. It wasn’t so long ago that I was in school—just last semester, in fact—so I vividly remember that sense of dread that comes with looming deadlines.

But now I’m your new Undergraduate Instruction & Outreach Librarian, so my focus is on helping you nail your assignments instead of working on my own.

If you haven’t started your research yet, I really recommend you start as soon as possible. Part of the fun of library research is that it never goes quite like you expected, but that’s also what can make it frustrating. By starting sooner rather than later, you’ll be able to navigate those research hiccups more easily.

If you do find yourself frustrated or at a dead end, don’t be shy about asking for help. The [Ask a Librarian](#) service allows you to contact a librarian by email, chat, phone, or text, whichever is easiest for you. Drop by the

reference desk when it’s open ([check the hours here](#)) to talk to someone face to face. And if you’re really at a loss for where to start, consider scheduling an [individual research consultation](#) to get some in-depth assistance from a librarian.

Don’t forget, helping undergraduates is my job—no question or problem is too small or silly, so come [find me](#) if you need anything! I’m excited to meet as many of you as possible and find out what interesting topics you’ll be researching this semester.

AT THE WITTLIFF



Global Odyssey: From Texas to the World and Back

“...our homeland sticks to the bottom of our shoes”

IN CONCERT WITH the 2012–2013 Common Experience, the Wittliff Collections present *Global Odyssey: From Texas to the World and Back*, an exhibition created from rich literary holdings.

As Texans, we share a distinct heritage that we carry with us in all we do. Often, it is impossible to realize how much of our homeland sticks to the bottom of our shoes until we venture off to new places.

While the items on view are from all corners of the world, the feel of this exhibition is distinctly Texan. Old photographs, travel writing, passports, and other materials and memorabilia from the journeys of renowned writers exude a feeling of familiarity as well as a sense of adventure. Though each journey was different and each resulting piece of writing distinct, the featured authors all used this life experience as inspiration to write the literature of our state.

For example, Stephanie Elizondo Griest lived and worked in Russia and China as she observed, firsthand, the dissolution of Communism from a uniquely Chicana perspective. Stephen Harrigan began tracking the origins of his grandmother’s kolache recipe and found himself greeting distant relatives in the city of Brno in the Czech Republic—which resulted in a very engaging [story he published in Texas Monthly magazine](#).

Curated by Steve Davis with assistance from other Wittliff staff, *Global Odyssey: From Texas to the World and Back* runs through May 10, 2013.

Admission to the Wittliff is free. For details about [exhibitions and events](#), visit the Wittliff Collections online at www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu, or call 512-245-2313.

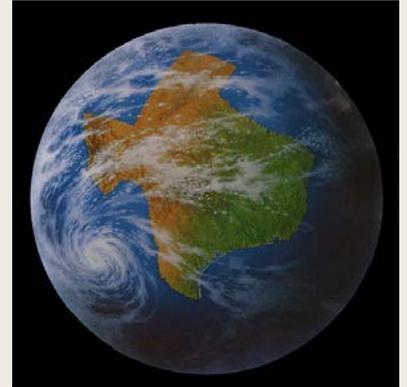


Image from the cover of *Texas Monthly's* 20th anniversary issue



GOV INFO

by Sarah Naper



Photo by Tara Spies Smith

GIS & Much More!

TUCKED AWAY IN the southwest corner of the fourth floor, Government Information provides access to a wide range of state and local government resources. However, today’s column focuses mainly on geographic information sources, including maps, reports, and GIS software.

Many print maps are available in the collection, including various sizes of U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps and many National Park Service maps and guides. If you have a print map that you need for a course,

Government Information staff will print you a color copy of the map, at no charge. You can even [request your map online](#).

The collection also includes many technical reports that are helpful for researchers. *Climatological Data*, *Soil Surveys*, *Water Resources Data*, and various *Water Resources Investigations* are a few examples of titles that have proven popular.

New this semester, the Unit has eight computers with ArcGIS software loaded on them. These computers are available whenever

the Library is open, with priority for GIS or government researchers. GIS software enables the management and analysis of geographically referenced data. It also allows users to link geospatial data with numeric data to see relationships and patterns. GIS has many applications across a variety of disciplines.

GIS software is very complex. To effectively use it, a researcher would need to invest time in a tutorial that Government Information staff could direct you to, and perhaps even enroll in a GIS class.



Commons Hall under construction, from the 1951 *Pedagog*

Texas State University History



*Kristine L. Toma, CA
University Archivist & Records Manager*

Photo by Tara Spies Smith

The Many Faces of Commons Hall

by Jared Schampers

THE CURRENT CONSTRUCTION boom on campus is reminiscent of an earlier flurry of construction that began in 1950. Commons Hall, one of several buildings undergoing renovation at the moment, was constructed during that earlier boom.

Like many of our buildings, the role of Commons has changed several times over the years to meet the evolving needs of the University. Always intended as a dining hall, Commons opened in 1951 with seating for 588 students. The old cafeteria, in what is now Lampasas Hall, could only accommodate 312.

For the first 25 years Commons also served as a dormitory with housing for 40 students and four faculty apartments. Commons housed upper-classwomen most of the time, but it briefly housed junior and senior male athletes in the 1970s.

One of the most surprising facts about Commons is that it once contained a rifle range. The range was constructed in the basement of the building in 1952 in order to provide a practice area for the ROTC rifle team. Cadets fired .22 caliber rifles into sand bags placed against one of the walls.

Commons is not the only campus building with an interesting and varied history. Information on buildings and other university related material is available in the University Archives. For questions or to make a research appointment, please contact UnivArchives@txstate.edu.