



MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Photo by Tara Spies Smith

Leaps and Strides for Alkek Library

WITH SMALL STEPS and big leaps the University Library is evolving, fueled by growth in university enrollment and academic programs, as well as changing technology and social trends. While the library's mission remains the same, to advance teaching and research through collections, services, and learning spaces, how that is achieved is changing rapidly.

Progressive academic libraries are transitioning from storage facilities for books to knowledge creation centers providing a broader array of tools needed to support multi-media learning, literacy, and research. The library has undertaken a significant shift to electronic resources, but still retains access to print resources, especially to meet new academic needs. Library use has grown with the number of annual library users increasing 72% since 1990, when the Alkek Library opened its doors.

A feasibility study conducted by Boston consultants, Perry Dean Rogers Architects, confirmed the library is undersized and needs to expand over the next 10 years. To address this need and update Alkek in order to remain the intellectual center of campus, two facility planning initiatives are included in the library's strategic plan:

- Construction of an offsite, climate-controlled collection repository for low use materials
- Development of a learning commons to provide students and faculty access to technology and digital resources for teaching, learning, and research

While fundraising for these facilities continues, library staff is making incremental changes to collections, services, and spaces and gaining input from the campus community, including a student forum held last month and the upcoming launch of the LibQUAL service quality survey. Other new directions include:

- Increased Digital Collections content, including scholarship produced at Texas State and materials from the University Archives and the Wittliff Collections
- Upgraded computer hardware in the computer lab and GIS software in Government Information
- Technology Rooms with space and equipment for practicing presentations, web-conferencing, collaborative work on projects, and more

We're excited about the coming changes at Alkek and hope you will be too.

Joan Heath

Associate Vice President and University Librarian, University Library

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**eNEWS SURVEY (very short!):
Please tell us what you think.**



HEY UNDERGRADS!

by Jessica McClean

Please Be Safe, Inside and Outside the Library

Photo by Tara Spies Smith

WE'RE ALL SETTLING into our Spring semester routines, and those routines include plenty of sleep, right? If not, you probably know that Alkek Library stays open until 3AM Sunday through Wednesday and midnight on Thursday.

We're more than happy to host your all-nighters, but be cautious if you're leaving the building in the wee hours of the morning. If you feel uncomfortable walking alone to your car or residence hall, call **Bobcat Bobbies**, a service of University Police—the Bobbies will provide a safety escort upon request, any time from dusk till dawn. Add their number (512.245.SAFE) to your phone contacts, or check out the fliers at the Circulation Desk when you need an escort.

Even in the daylight, it's important to be safety-conscious and aware of your surroundings. Never leave your belongings unattended in the library—even if you trust your classmates implicitly, remember that the library is a public building. Lost and found items are usually held at the Circulation Desk, or you can call UPD at 512.245.2197 to see if your belongings were turned in.

The library has security guards who can respond to any issues in the building. If someone is making too much noise on a quiet floor, for example, call the Circulation Desk (512.245.3681) or Reference Desk (512.245.2686), and they will relay your message to the security guard. If you have an emergency, you may decide it's better to call

UPD or 911. UPD has a [useful tip sheet](#) on what to do if you find yourself in an emergency situation.

Here at the library, we strive to create a comfortable, safe, and productive atmosphere for our campus community. Still, it's always wise to be prepared for the unexpected, just in case.



BOBCAT BOBBIES @ 245-SAFE

STEP UP YOUR RESEARCH

by Margaret Vaverek

Faculty Focus: Using eBooks for Class Readings

AS FACULTY PREPARE materials for classes, there are a lot of options for assigning class readings these days. One of the newest options is to use an eBook that the library owns, especially for supplemental readings. Using eBooks may be a good way to save students time and money.

A good strategy for using these online books for class readings is to assign several different eBooks that could be used for a given project. Students will then have the convenience of accessing the book from any computer and at any time of the day or night.

We don't advise using eBooks as textbooks or in other situations where several students will need access to the same book at the same time. Sometimes, our licenses only allow one person at a time to be using an eBook. Even when the license says "unlimited simultaneous users" that usually means about five people

will be able to access one book simultaneously.

The library buys eBooks from several different companies, and each has different terms of use, depending on the license. Information that specifies single or multiple use of a given book may be available from our [eBook list](#) on the library's research database page. Click on the small circled "i" after the database name to see the terms of use.



Or, give us a call with any questions and we will be glad to help you find what will work best for your students in each case.

To make an entire textbook available to all class members, our [traditional Reserve service](#) is still the best option. Putting a print copy of the book on Reserve will give students equal access to the material. Library books as well

as personal copies of books may be placed on Reserve for student use. [Electronic Reserve](#) is also available for articles or individual chapters of books, as well as the option of providing links to articles yourself on your [TRACS](#) site.

Please [Ask a Librarian](#) if you have any questions about eBooks or any other library resources. We are happy to help at any time.

Reference and Instruction Staff



Photo by Tara Spies Smith



NEWS FROM THE NORTH

by Anthony Guardado

Library Instruction at RRC Library Services: Oh Yes, It Happens

OH WONDROUS FACULTY at Texas State University. Have you taken advantage of bringing a class to Alkek Library for research instruction guided by a skilled and knowledgeable librarian? If you have then you know how beneficial this can be for students. Well, this service is also available for classes offered at the Round Rock Campus.

One of our goals at RRC Library Services is to support Round Rock courses and their research assignments. A great way to help with this process is to provide library instruction sessions for a wide variety of classes. Our

preferred format is for faculty to make arrangements to bring a class into the library on a pre-determined date and time.

We have a room, Avery 255D, which was designed to hold library sessions. The room includes stations for 27 participants and a SMART Board for interactive fun. Our preference is to conduct a session and then give students time to practice searching techniques. We encourage at least an hour for this. If that is not an option for you, we have been known to go to classrooms for 5 minute presentations, telling students about some of the services we

can offer. In either case, it is a good idea to have a library session at the point when students will begin research for a specific project. If we hold the session too early, students may forget some of what they experience in the session by the time they actually start their research.

Arrangements for a session can be made by sending an e-mail to rrelibrary@txstate.edu. Make sure to list your preferred time and date and include the related assignment and/or course syllabus.

RRC Library Services. Come in and find out more.



COPYRIGHT CORNER

by Brad Nichols and Don Volz

Photo by Tara Spies Smith



Copyright Alert System Revised

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY, like many colleges and universities in the United States, serves as an independent Internet Service Provider (ISP) for students, faculty and staff. University based ISPs are required by federal law to implement copyright infringement deterrence plans, and you can find [Texas State's plan](#) on the University website. Some observers predict that university ISPs may see an uptick in illegal P2P file-sharing as the country's major ISPs will soon initiate the "Copyright Alert System" (CAS).

CAS is a "six strikes" initiative intended to combat copyright infringement via file-sharing networks. The system, backed by the Obama administration, Hollywood, and major record labels, was four years in the making and set to begin this past fall, but was delayed by damage

caused by Hurricane Sandy.

CAS includes participation by major ISPs (e.g., AT&T, Cablevision Systems, Comcast, Time Warner Cable, and Verizon) in partnership with the primary content owner organizations MPAA and RIAA. Under CAS, the content owners contract with third parties to monitor file-sharing networks and forward the IP addresses of suspected infringers to their ISPs. The ISPs issue up to six copyright alerts to suspected infringers, who are expected to respond by eliminating the source of copyright infringement on their systems. Beginning with the fourth alert, the ISP is expected to initiate mitigation measures, such as noticeable reductions in connection speed. Persistent offenders could ultimately have their accounts terminated, but CAS does not require such drastic

action.

CAS already encountered some bad press when its independent reviewer turned out to be a prior lobbyist for the RIAA, a fact that was **purposefully not disclosed**. The partnership has now elected to use the American Arbitration Association as its dispute reviewer but only if an individual is willing to pay a \$35.00 fee.

Most expect CAS to be ineffective against professional pirates who will simply switch to non-participating ISPs or use technical measures to avoid detection. Texas State has had few problems in the past with illegal file sharing activity due to taking preventive measures, and there is no expectation that actions taken by other ISPs will have any impact on our university network.

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

Special thanks to guest writer, Don Volz, special assistant to the Vice President for Information Technology

COLLECTIONS SPOTLIGHT

by Liane Taylor

New Digital Scholarly Content

THE LIBRARY HAS recently acquired several collections of digital content that will greatly expand access to many areas of scholarship.

First, the library has purchased all of **SAGE Publications' journal backfiles**. This collection consists of approximately 450 SAGE journals across all disciplines, and extends our online access to almost every single SAGE journal published from its first volume up to

its most recent volume. To browse these titles, go to the library's Research Databases page, click on "S," and then click on SAGE Journals Online.

Second, the library now subscribes to the **Taylor & Francis Humanities & Social Sciences Journals Collection**, which gives you online access to 1,100 journals within the humanities and social sciences, with coverage



Photo by Tara Spies Smith

from 1997 to the present. To browse our Taylor & Francis titles, go to the library's Research Databases page, click on "T," and then click on Taylor & Francis Journals.



AT THE WITTLIFF

by Katie Salzmann, Lead Archivist



The Wittliff Collections Make Global Connections

THE WITTLIFF'S SOUTHWESTERN Writers Collection is home to the creative materials and works of our region's renowned writers, filmmakers, and musicians. Yet the significance of these treasured cultural archives, preserved on the seventh floor of the Alkek Library, extends far beyond the American Southwest—in fact, the importance of these resources is now recognized world-wide.

Over the past several years, scholars from all over the United States and from the countries of Australia, Canada, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Mexico, and Scotland have made the trek to San Marcos to work with the collections at the Wittliff.

Global interest surged with the opening of the Cormac McCarthy Papers in 2009. This Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist's archive remains the most frequently requested by international scholars, with the papers of Sam Shepard, who is also a Pulitzer winner, coming in a close second as biographers and theater scholars delve into the career and creative processes of this actor, author, and playwright. The 1993 Waco siege at Mount Carmel, well documented in the Dick Reavis Papers, continues to fascinate the international community, and

documentary filmmakers have come from as far away as the United Kingdom to make use of photographs, interviews, and other records housed in Reavis' archive.

People who travel great distances to conduct research at the Wittliff typically spend anywhere from a week to several months

immersed in the archives. Texas State faculty, students, and staff can access author and artist materials right in the library, and we encourage anyone interested in the literature, music, film, or cultural heritage of our region to make the short trip across campus to explore the [Wittliff's extraordinary collections](#).

[View the full version of this clickable map showing global interest in the Wittliff Collections](#)





Photo by Tara Spies Smith

Scott Pope, Monographic Acquisitions Librarian:

“We encourage lots of requests!”



Photo by Tara Spies Smith

IF YOU WERE in Alkek during finals last December, you may have indulged in some free candy. Putting candy out for students studying those long hours was one of Scott Pope’s ideas for making the library homier.

In fact, Scott always seems to be plotting ways to get good stuff for our library users. He describes his acquisitions librarian job as “bargaining with vendors to get good deals” on materials like books, eBooks, audiobooks, and DVDs.

One of Scott’s projects is the library’s **Leisure Reading collection**. He orders the top 10 *New York Times* bestsellers in fiction and nonfiction weekly. That includes biographies, romance, and popular mystery writers like Janet Evanovich and James Patterson, as well as the Charlaine Harris Southern Vampire series. Located on Alkek’s second floor behind the central staircase, this collection features easy to browse shelves and a comfortable space for relaxing.

Scott is also a big fan of eBooks. The library has “hundreds of thousands of **online books** that you can access even when we’re closed, so you can do your research 24/7.” It’s important for users to understand that all you need to view these books is an Internet connection and Texas State NetID. You don’t need an app or special eBook reader, just a web browser, explains Scott. We also have brand new children’s eBooks that are “short and fun to read.” Just search the **library catalog** for any subject or title, limit your search to “E-books,” and you’ll find a link for online viewing.

And here’s another important link to know about: “**Recommend a Purchase**,” right on our homepage under “Your Library.” Did you know that whether your status is faculty, staff, or student, you can request items you’d like the library to buy? Feel free to recommend research materials (excluding textbooks) as well as graphic novels, DVDs, music, magazines, or whatever you like. Books related to Texas State curriculum do get priority, but according to Scott, “We just encourage lots of requests.” And the best news is 95% of them get approved.



GOV INFO

GPS Units for Check-Out



by Sarah Naper



Photo by Tara Spies Smith

DID YOU KNOW that you can now check out GPS units from the second floor Circulation Desk at Alkek? We have **two Garmin devices** that you can borrow for 4 days, with 3 renewals.

These GPS units are especially valuable for geography assignments but can also be used for geocaching or other mapping needs. Geocaching is an increasingly popular “real-world outdoor treasure hunt.” Players search

for hidden containers using the GPS units or smartphone applications.

Learn more about **geocaching in general** or read a **Texas State geocaching story**. And don’t forget to check out these new, cool devices!



COUPON FOR FREE ALKEK TOTE BAG

- *Check out at least one item from the Library & get a free tote bag.
- *Limit one bag per person, while they last.
- *Bring in this paper coupon or show it to us on your mobile device.



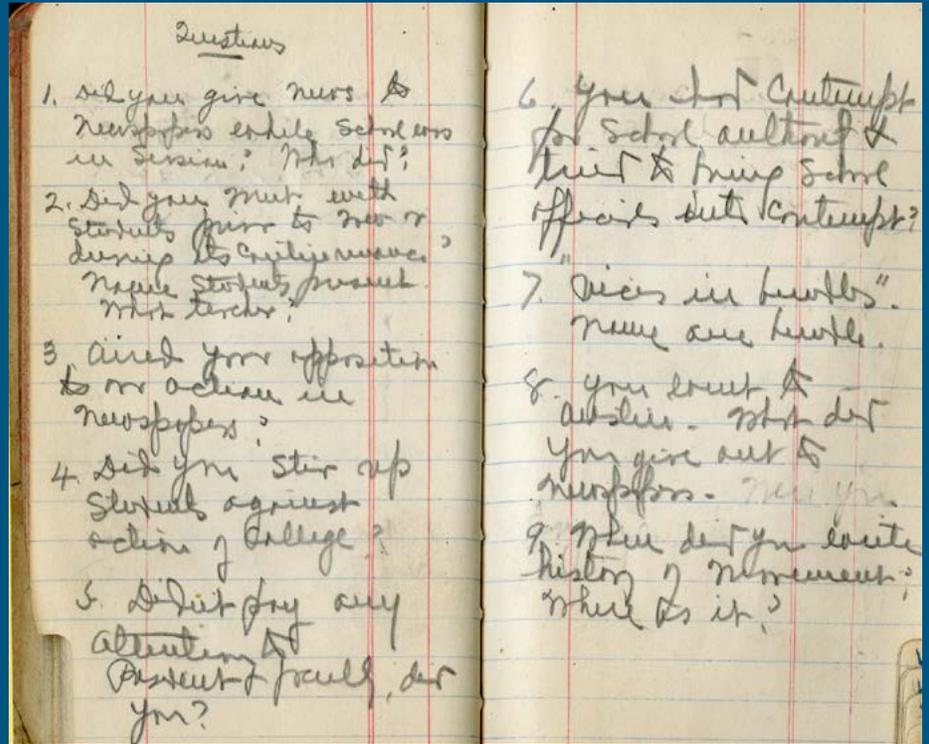
TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY



Photo by Tara Spies Smith



Evans with notebook



Red Book 1926

Texas State University History

President Cecil Evans and his Little Red Books

by Jarad Schampers

CECIL EVANS SERVED as president of Southwest Texas State Normal School in San Marcos from 1911 through 1942. When he started, the college consisted largely of a single building and granted only teaching certificates. By the time he retired, the school had changed names twice and was granting masters degrees. The rapid expansion of the college was concurrent with tumultuous change in the world at large. Evans' tenure saw the college through two world wars, the passage and subsequent repeal of prohibition, and the education of a future U.S. president, Lyndon B. Johnson.

President Evans was in the habit of carrying a vest-pocket sized notebook with him at all times. The books varied slightly in size and color, probably based on what was available, but were usually red. Evans went through several books a year, filling them with addresses, appointments, notes, financial information, and even jokes. The president wrote down anything he thought important enough to revisit later. The red books served as an extension of Evans' brain and were a recognizable symbol of his presidency.

Evans' handwriting can be difficult to decipher, and many of his notes lack context.

Nevertheless, the red books provide a valuable insight into the president's personality and the issues that were on his mind on a day to day basis throughout his thirty-one year tenure. The Evans Papers contain about 200 red books, dating from 1909 through 1948. The books, along with other papers pertaining to Evans' presidency, are housed in the University Archives on the fifth floor and are available for research by appointment.

Jared Schampers is a graduate assistant working in University Archives.

To inquire about historical materials or to request a research appointment, please contact UnivArchives@txstate.edu.

Kristine L. Toma, CA
University Archivist & Records Manager



Photo by Tara Spies Smith