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Editorial team
Sarah Naper, chair
Kay Hetherly, editor
Anthony Guardado
Misty Hopper
Jessica McClean
Michele Miller
Tara Spies Smith, photographer
Director’s Message

Campus Supports Alkek

As the cover images in this issue of eNews show, Alkek@25 has provided great opportunities for the library and campus to connect. The reenactment of the 1990 Book-It Brigade was a spectacular success! On September 23, a human chain of students, faculty, staff, and community members passed six items from one person to the next, symbolizing the move into the Alkek Library. The turnout and enthusiasm that day spoke volumes about the continuing value of the University Library to the Texas State community.

We were thrilled to learn how individuals value Alkek as well. In a recent contest, we asked the Texas State community to “tell us your stories” about the library, another part of the Alkek@25 celebration. Below you’ll find a story written by one of four winners in that contest, and in our spring issues, we’ll feature the others. Thanks to everyone who contributed stories and made us feel appreciated at the library!

Joan Heath
AVP and University Librarian

Tell Us Your Story Winner: Erin Hinga
Communication Studies, undergraduate

How has Alkek helped me? Do you know how many times I have done my assignments last minute and Alkek was there to give me shelter and print out projects? Alkek is my library because of how much time we spend together. I know all the special parts of the library and Alkek knows all about my frustration with group projects and essays gone wrong. We have each other’s backs. Ever since I was a freshman and was getting myself lost on an hourly basis, Alkek was there to give me a sense of direction. Never before has such a building been so helpful to me. If it wasn’t for Alkek, I would have been in debt in printing costs, stressed out of my mind, and not even have known what to do for research assignments. Alkek is special to me. Alkek gives me an opportunity to be the best student that I can be. Thank you Alkek. I will miss you when I graduate.
Procrastination at its Finest

I HAVE CHANGED my major three times, and after three years of attending Texas State, I am still classified as a sophomore. My first couple of years here were long and stressful, so much that I started doubting myself. I never thought that the answer I had been looking for was in between the pages of a random library book.

I sat through social work courses and very frustrating science courses my first two years of college, all of which led me to the library for intense study time. I would sit for hours in silence on the fifth or sixth floors of Alkek, staring at packets of information I had to memorize. It wasn't long until I picked up a stray book and started reading. I read until all lights in the library turned off at 3 am. I was so fascinated by reading books and not by the spiritless slides provided by my professors. Not even Lucy the Skeleton, available on the third floor, could get me to put the books down.

Although I'm still classified as a sophomore and won't graduate as soon as I had hoped, I couldn't be happier with the major I've chosen. Anthropology challenges my comprehension of what is said to be “normal.” It has expanded my mind to the unimaginable, and I have so much more to learn!

I owe all my thanks to David Brooks, the author of *The Social Animal*. This book added color to my black and white reasoning. It opened my eyes to the beauty surrounding me, ranging from the people we share this planet with to each individual diverse mind.

I also owe thanks to the Alkek Library for the millions of books available to distract students from studying and for the new coffee shop. Without coffee, I probably wouldn't have made it until 3 in the morning, reading anything I could get my hands on, except for my class notes of course.

by Melina Trevino, Texas State sophomore & Alkek student worker

Step Up Your Research

Tools to Support Research and Teaching

The university library supports faculty and student research needs in a number of ways. One of those is to watch for and purchase new tools that support research and teaching.

Last year we conducted a pilot project for a tool that helps instructors build a list of assigned readings and includes article links. This is an Ebsco product called Curriculum Builder, now available in TRACS for all faculty to use. We branded Texas State’s version of the tool Reading List Builder, and the library is offering a faculty workshop December 4, 2015, and again January 12, 2016. Sign up here.

Are you preparing course reading lists for your classes? Do you use TRACS? If the answer is yes, then Reading List is for you! In addition to creating a reading list in TRACS, workshop attendees will learn how to link to library resources not included in Start Your Research.

Here are a few other research tools available now or in the near future. Click on the image for information about each one.

by Lisa Ancelet, Head Research, Instruction & Outreach Librarian
As an undergraduate, I started getting ideas for movies and television shows based on people in my life and my own experiences. I purchased a couple of books on how to write screenplays and began writing out story line synopses and developing characters. Now that I work at the library, I see all the resources available to me that I could have also used to write, edit, and protect my writing. I hope my introduction of some of these resources will help other budding writers.

A catalog search from the library homepage brings up a wealth of books, ebooks, DVDs, and more. Those include “how to” help for writing and developing story ideas, information on the business process of selling a screenplay, interviews with screenwriters and biographies, and even grammar help. For a catalog search from the library homepage, use the “Books and More” tab or the “library catalog” link in the quick links box. You can use a keyword search, but the best results will come from a subject search with the phrase motion picture authorship.

One of the best ways to learn how to write a screenplay is by reading other screenplays. Again, the library has what you need. Another catalog subject search using the word screenplays or the phrase screenplays material type will bring up almost 600 results. Many are books available in the Wittliff Collections Reading Room on Alkek’s seventh floor, but others are on the sixth floor or available as ebooks.

Once you have an idea for your screenplay, you may need to do some background research. Try using the library databases for whichever subject you’re writing on. These databases have a lot of subscription content—free to you—that you won’t find on Google.

Finally, get help with copyright or authors’ rights questions from our copyright officer, Stephanie Towery. Or read the copyright guide for insight into legal issues regarding your work, use, and rights.

I look forward to pursuing all these avenues myself so that one day I can hopefully sell a screenplay or TV pilot. And remember that you don’t have to be an English major to be a failed author.

by Joseph Rodriguez, Evening Circulation and Learning Commons Assistant

Want to be a Screenwriter? The Library Has What You Need!

Mango isn’t just a tasty addition to a smoothie anymore. It’s also a fresh, interactive language program free to students, faculty, and staff through the University Library.

Google Translate can take you only so far; Mango takes you to the next level by providing multifaceted, graduated lessons for language acquisition. Not only will you learn vocabulary and phrases, but also cultural aspects of over 70 languages. The lessons are online-based and available on desktop and mobile platforms. This isn’t flashcard style learning either; these lessons are presented with situational and cultural contexts, like law and romance.

Mango lessons also provide interactive anatomies of phrases that teach aspects of grammar and usage. There are even foreign language films available with enhanced, teaching subtitles. Users create a profile which saves your progress, and allows you to study multiple languages. Mango is part of the library’s multi-formatted Language Learning Media Collection, which affords resources to students, faculty, and staff interested in learning different languages.

by Robert Gutierrez, Head Cataloging Assistant

Travel the World Free With Mango Languages

Want to be a Screenwriter? The Library Has What You Need!
GIS Services at the Alkek Library

The Alkek Library now offers GIS Services! We have provided access to ArcGIS, a very popular Geographic Information System (GIS) software, for some years now. Located within Government Information on the 4th floor of the library, eight computers have ArcGIS 10.2.2, Adobe Design, Google Earth Pro, and SPSS.

Now Alkek is also offering guidance on how to effectively use GIS in your research. We provide GIS services for students, faculty, and staff of Texas State University, as well as interested members of the San Marcos Community. The services offered include:

- Guidance with research involving geospatial techniques, including geospatial analysis, map making, data conversion to other formats, and locating/accessing spatial data sets
- Recommendations on data management best practices
- Assistance via in-person consultations, chat, phone, and email
- Workshops on basic geospatial techniques

For people who might not be familiar with GIS, it is simply a computer-based system for processing geographic data or data associated with location information. According to Jack Dagermond, President of ESRI, “The application of GIS is limited only by the imagination of those who use it.” GIS has become part of our daily lives: using GPS devices for directions while driving or hiking, searching places of interest in Google Earth, and geotagging photos on social media are all common examples of how we use GIS in our daily activities. This almost ubiquitous nature of GIS has made it necessary for us to understand it and apply it effectively to solve problems.

Please join the library as we partner with SOGIS (Society of Geographic Information Science) to celebrate GIS Day on November 19. For updates on our GIS Day events, see the SOGIS or the Government Information Facebook pages.

For assistance, please contact Nathaniel Dede-Bamfo, GIS Services Specialist, via email: nd1115@txstate.edu or by telephone 512-245-3216.

by Rory Elliott, Specialized Collections Librarian

Meet Our Staff

Nathaniel Dede-Bamfo, GIS Services Specialist: “GIS is all around us.”

This edition of “Meet Our Staff” introduces Nathaniel Dede-Bamfo, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Specialist. We are excited about offering new GIS services and welcoming Nathaniel to our team to guide patrons through using those services.

Nathaniel is the first to occupy this new position, but he’s no stranger to the field, as he explains: “I have always been fascinated about geographic and environmental issues since childhood. My ambition while growing up was to find the most effective and efficient ways of solving environmental problems. Hence, when I got the opportunity to actually learn GIS during my master’s degree, I went all out for it. It was tough initially for me, but by faith, persistence, and hard work, I mastered it eventually.”

Nathaniel wants readers to know that “GIS is all around us.” It’s related to many of the things we do in our daily lives such as using “Google Earth, geotagging (in Twitter, Facebook, Foursquare), geocaching, searching for directions or local businesses over the web, and 911 dispatching.” But it is also a tool used for sophisticated planning and problem solving.

GIS allows users to manipulate geographic information across computer based platforms, but that simple description belies the vast array of possibilities. Nathaniel tells us, “GIS has been widely used in decisions such as zoning, community planning, resource allocation, health-care access, conservation, and route selection and planning.” Planners use it to visualize real world problems through maps, leading them to better understanding and better solutions.

While the value of GIS is widely acknowledged, many people still don’t fully understand how it works or its application for personal use. And this, Nathaniel emphasizes, is exactly what “GIS Services here at Texas State University seeks to accomplish—guiding people to better understand and use GIS.”

As you can see, Nathaniel brings a wealth of expertise and enthusiasm to this new position. GIS has far ranging applications for all fields of study, so stop by the fourth floor to meet Nathaniel and find out how he and GIS Services can guide you to new landscapes of learning and teaching.

by Robert Gutierrez, Head Cataloging Assistant
In Spring 2016, a 3D printing service will be established for students, faculty, staff, and the Texas State University community. This technology will make it possible to print objects ranging from complex molecular structures to theater set designs to medical prosthetics.

Located in Alkek’s fourth floor computing lab, the printing service opens a fascinating new set of prospects. From learning perspectives, 3D printing is useful to schools and departments extending from Business and Engineering Technology to Education, History, and Art and Design. Businesses creating products today are interested in rapid prototyping, and students can get an edge by having some initial exposure to 3D printing. For Engineering Technology students, 3D printing enables the translation of 2D technical drawings to 3D models so that complex parts fit together correctly or can be modified. Education students learning to teach in the K-12 STEM disciplines will find that 3D printers motivate young minds to learn the complex mathematics and visualization methods needed to create 3D models.

The library’s 3D printing infrastructure and service consists of a Replicator Z18 (Makerbot’s largest 3D printer) and a Next Engine 3D scanner. Students, faculty, and staff may bring in their own 3D objects to scan, and patrons may also send 3D files created elsewhere to the printer. Available software to support 3D printing includes SketchUp Pro, 3D software for file conversion, and Rhino, for design modification and 3D modeling. Higher-end PCs will be available to address processing needs and memory required for 3D work.

Placing the 3D printer in the Learning Commons enables students and faculty from diverse areas to find a third space to dialogue, collaborate, and synthesize ideas. Hopefully, this new technology will lead to rich interdisciplinary collaboration.

As the 3D Printing service gets off the ground, it will be interesting to witness the type of 3D objects our academic community begins to create and print — now in 3D.

by Ray Uzwyszyn, Director, Collections & Digital Services

Upcoming Events!

Long Night @ Alkek

Tuesday
November 17
5pm-2am

Stay up late and meet late night study goals. Track your progress on the leaderboard all night.

Subject Librarians 5pm-7pm
Reference Help 7pm-2am

* Snacks * Coffee * Dance Parties * Coloring *
* Silent Library Game * ... and more!

Finals week stress relief! Love a therapy dog @ the library

Monday/Tuesday, December 7 & 8, 1-3pm
Alkek main floor & SLAC (4th floor)
The Wittliff Collections has acquired the literary archives of internationally acclaimed author Sandra Cisneros.

As one of America’s leading writers, Cisneros helped launch the Latino literary boom and is the recipient of a MacArthur “Genius” Grant. She is the author of poetry, a memoir, essays, children’s books, and fiction, including *The House on Mango Street*, which has sold more than six million copies and has been translated into more than 20 languages.

“We are delighted that Ms. Cisneros’ papers will serve as a foundational archive for the Wittliff Collections,” Texas State President Denise M. Trauth said. “Ms. Cisneros is among this country’s unique literary voices and her writings about the Mexican-American experience are not only relevant to an international audience, but treasured by individuals from all backgrounds.”

Cisneros was one of the first Latina writers to be published by a major press, and hundreds of articles and scholarly studies have been written on her work, testifying to her extraordinary talent, vision, and influence.

Find more info on Wittliff EVENTS and EXHIBITIONS online. As always, ADMISSION IS FREE.

Teaching With YouTube Videos

Welcome to Copyright Corner! I am Stephanie Swenson Towery, your Copyright Officer, and I’m here to help you with all your copyright questions. I’ve noticed many instructors like to use YouTube videos in their classes.

Can I link to a YouTube video on TRACS?

Linking to content is usually okay because a link just points to something already publicly available (like a YouTube video), and a link is not a copy.

But if you link to illegally uploaded videos, you (and the University) may be liable for contributory infringement. If a video looks like it was uploaded by someone other than the owner, it may be a pirated copy. You don’t want to link to it. Try to find an alternate version from the owner.

If you link to pirated video, you cannot claim an exception to infringement under the TEACH Act, and you may not be able to claim an exception under Fair Use.

Can I show a YouTube video in a traditional classroom setting?

Yes, but if you show a pirated video in a class, you cannot claim an exception to infringement under the Face-to-Face Exception.

How do I know if it’s an illegally uploaded copy?

The law holds you to the reasonable person standard. If a reasonable person would know that the video was pirated, then you shouldn’t use it. So if the YouTube Channel is owned by CNN, you are probably in the clear, but if you are looking at a video of a BBC production uploaded by ciggy512, then you probably shouldn’t use that version.

If you need help locating alternate legal versions of pirated YouTube videos, please contact me. I will do my best to find an alternative for you: copyrightoffice@txstate.edu.

Please contact Stephanie Swenson Towery with any copyright related questions you may have.
A Brief History of the Library

Since the very beginning, the library has been an integral part of the Texas State campus. For the first eight years (1903-1911), the library was located in a room on the first floor of Old Main. This small space served the first 303 students who enrolled, but as the student body grew, the need for additional library and classroom space became evident.

The library’s second home (1911-1939) was in Lueders Hall (where Chemistry is now). When the building opened in 1911, the library served 506 students. Within 30 years, the student body more than doubled, and the library eventually took over the entire first floor.

Flowers Hall was built to house the growing library (1939-1969). When it opened in 1939, two stories were dedicated to the library; within a few years, a third story was added. Monumental growth in the student body—from 1,371 to 8,406 students in 30 years—meant the library again needed a larger space to serve student needs.

Construction of the J.C. Kellam Building, originally named the Library Administration Building (1969-1990), allowed the library to expand to the top nine floors. During the 20 years the library was in JCK, the student body doubled in size—from 9,372 to 20,770.

When Alkek Library opened in the summer of 1990, it had twice the collection and study space available in JCK. During the last 25 years, the student body has nearly doubled again—from 20,940 to 38,006 students.

Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the library includes actively planning for the future to better serve the research, collaboration, and study needs of the growing student population.

by Kristine L. Toma, CA, University Archivist and Records Manager

News From the North

Book-it to the RRC Library As Well

We at Round Rock Campus Library applaud the fun and excitement generated by our colleagues at Alkek Library with the recent reenactment of the 1990 Book-it Brigade. RRC Library staff, Anthony Guardado, Head RRC Librarian, Josh Brynildsen, Evening Reference and Instruction Librarian, and Alan Matthews, Library Assistant, requested two of the books used in the Book-it Brigade as part of our library’s Document Delivery service. This is our version of Book-it to the RRC Library.

You too can request materials to be sent from Alkek to the RRC Library for you to check out. The link to the request form can be found in a few places. Perhaps the easiest way to get there is from the RRC Library home page—hover over “Document Delivery” from the top menu and click on the first link, “Alkek to RRC Delivery Form.”

Document Delivery service is available to all Texas State University students, faculty, and staff. Most items from Alkek Library’s collections can be retrieved and sent to the RRC Library, including materials from the General Collection, Juvenile Collection, TCMC (K-12 textbook collection), DVDs (including popular movies), Secured Collection (limited checkout time periods), and many, many more. Materials can also be sent from the RRC Library to users on the San Marcos campus. And, yes, there’s an online request form for that too. Ask someone at any University Library public service desk for more information.

by Anthony Guardado, Head RRC Librarian

RRC Library. Come in and find out more.