



Ce qui se passe...

The newsletter of

Ellender Memorial Library

Nicholls State University

volume 5 issue 1

www.nicholls.edu/library

Fall 2008

Library Hours

Monday

7:30 am – 12:00 am*

Tuesday – Thursday

7:30 am – 11:00 pm

Friday

7:30 am – 4:30 pm

Saturday

12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Sunday

4:00 pm – 12:00 am

*Reference/Circulation sections only. Others close at 11:00 pm.

Note: For changes to schedule due to holidays or emergency closures, please see the library website. All patrons are asked to leave the library 15 minutes prior to closing. The phone number for library hours is 985-448-4660.

On the Fly Classes

We offer *On the Fly Classes* in *Research Methods, Career Research, Computers and Technology Resources, Literature, Musicology, and Culinary Arts Resources, among others!* Contact **Melissa Goldsmith** at 448-4626 if you have a group of three or more students who would like a session we do not currently offer.

This semester we are offering an encore class in *Becoming a Power User*. We encourage all to take advantage of this opportunity to learn what the library has to offer.

Library Tip #1

When trying to print a web page, it sometimes helps if you first do a Print Preview. This allows you to see exactly what the printer sees, which is necessary considering the complexity of websites today.

Library Wins Award

Near the end of the day, the washboards and cowbells were out in full force, as Library Associate **Danny Gorr** and Circulation Night Staffer **Lady Pierson** danced up a storm with students in the middle of the Bollinger Ballroom floor, Gorr wearing a cardboard pirogue that belonged to “Boudreaux and Thibodeaux.” Meanwhile, back at the Library table, librarians **Melissa Goldsmith** and **Tony Fonseca** donned washboards, playing them with ink pens, drum sticks, and anything else they could get their hands on. Meanwhile, students took advantage of a very easy Find the Frog Game to win prizes. These images were just a few that emerged during the 2008 Welcome Back Day celebration.

As is customary, the library table offered cookies and freezer pops, as well as games, including a bean bag Gator Toss and a Fishing with Magnets Game. The goodies and events were planned by members of the Publicity and Public Relations Committee (PaPR) with the help and participation of many library staff and faculty. At times during the day, students could be seen gravitating towards the merriment and music being created by **Fonseca, Goldsmith, Gorr, and Pierson**, as well as staffers **Cheryl Adams, Debbie Adams, Sandi Chauvin, Deannie Eusea, Sherrill Fauchaux, Angela Graham, Daisy Guidroz, Jolene Knight, Cynthia Marchbanks**, and Library Director **Carol Mathias**. Earlier in the day, **Graham** and **Marchbanks** had taken turns wearing the pirogue.

At the end of the day, Ellender Memorial Library won the award for Faculty and Staff Participation, while the Nursing Department took home the ribbon for Best Opportunity for Student Participation. For the second consecutive year, the Dyslexia Center won the overall award for Most Spirited Organization. On behalf of all who planned and participated, **Gorr** and **Pierson** danced up to the stage to receive the Library’s ribbon.

Love in the Time of Time Traveling: Library Book Club to Meet

Thanks to the help of the Library’s Friends Group, we have an ongoing forum for discussing great works of fiction. After the success of last year’s choice, Yann Martel’s *The Life of Pi* (the 2002 Booker Prize winner), the Book Club is looking forward to another stimulating discussion. The novel of choice this year is *The Time Traveler’s Wife*, a 2003 novel by Audrey Niffenegger which will be made into a film by Director Robert Schwentke (based on a screenplay by Bruce Joel Rubin).

In the novel, librarian Henry DeTamble possesses a genetic disorder that dooms him to an unpredictable life of time-travel. Clare Abshire, his wife who is an artist, is also affected. She must come to terms with Henry’s frequent absences. The narrative takes an interesting form: Henry begins to exist in Clare’s childhood—while simultaneously living with the adult Clare in the novel’s present. Unfortunately, because the future is set in stone, the narrative takes a sad tone, as inevitable tragedy is foreshadowed.

The discussion of Niffenegger’s novel is open to everyone, and will be held on Feb. 12, 2009 at 3:00 pm, in the Archives. To encourage people to read and attend, the Library has supplied six copies of the novel, all available for checkout. Librarian **Van Viator** will be leading the discussion, and he can be reached at 448-4661 if you have questions.

The Spark that Makes Our (Teaching) Ideas Bright

On October 15th, the Library co-hosted The CAFÉ's (Nicholls Center for the Advancement of Faculty Engagement) Second Symposium on student engagement. The theme of the 2008 conference was Teaching Engaged Learning: Engaging Students Through Popular Culture. The day-long event focused on how faculty can move beyond teaching just the facts and impart to their students the thinking skills that will help them to become critical thinkers and independent learners. Presenters offered ideas on using videos, magazines, cartoons, sports, computer games, and movie clips to create an atmosphere of engagement.

Like last year's symposium, which concentrated on learning to understand the worlds of our students, this year's event was based on a simple premise: one of the most effective methods of engaging students is to communicate with them in their own language. Doing so incorporating their worldviews into the knowledge base that is the core of a subject or lesson. The knowledge base of today's students is dependent on our technologically oriented, fast-paced instant information society, filled with an ever-growing number of popular culture icons. If teachers can figure ways to incorporate students' everyday knowledge into the classroom experience, students will be both delighted and enlightened, seeing anew connections between their world and the world of academe.

Five universities statewide were represented, along with one high school system. A multidisciplinary event, the symposium drew interest from Nicholls administrators, faculty, staff, and students, all of whom enjoyed presentations on technology-based learning, teaching experiences, learning and teaching styles, and perspectives on today's students.

The popular culture issues discussed included hip hop music and dance techniques, the use of Youtube (specifically for music video and for Hubble images) in the classroom, and advising students from "Generation XYZ." Other topics included using popular music magazines (like *Rolling Stone* and *Nylon*) in order to teach music theory, text messaging as a method of teaching English composition, the effects of advertising and consumerism on information, using Yahoo and Google to engage students learning about library resources, viewing the film *Fight Club* in a literature course, using film clips to teach physics, using sports to better explain statistics, and engaging students using Adult Swim cartoons. In addition, Dr. Kent White updated the status of Nicholls' virtual community project. Three Ellender librarians, **Van Viator**, **Melissa Goldsmith**, and **Tony Fonseca** presented, as well as four visiting librarians from universities around the state.

Director of the CAFÉ, **Ray Giguette** (Computer Science and Mathematics), along with **Fonseca** and **Goldsmith** again led the organizing committee, working with **Allen Alexander** and the Nicholls' Student Engagement Center to make this year's event a success. Faculty, staff, and students were invited and encouraged to attend this free event.

Two sessions in particular drew outstanding participation from students: **Angela Hammerli's** "Put the Needle on the Track. Skip That. Flip That. Bring the Beat Back: Hip Hop Dance Demonstration and Activity" and a combination of **Fonseca's** "Differentiating between a Reliable Narrator/Reliable Authority and madeupmonkeyshit.com: *The Boondocks*, Literature, Persuasion, and the P.O.V. Waltz" and **Alexander's** "Zapping Zorak: Narrative Dissonance and Postmodern Form in *Space Ghost Coast to Coast*." Reporters from *The Nicholls Worth* were present to videotape the latter session, and interview the presenters.

Want to be published in our newsletter?

We are interested in getting faculty and student opinions of the library and of library staff, and publishing one or two per issue (see page 4 of this issue for the first such letter). Interested writers should e-mail their comments, in the form of a 100-200 word editorial, to Tony Fonseca (tony.fonseca@nicholls.edu). The commentary can be included in the e-mail message, or as a .doc or .rtf attachment.

Reaching Out: The Library's HUMAN Resources

Ellender Library contributes to the life-long learning needs of the university community through hosting a diversity of events and creating displays or exhibits that emphasize access to information. These efforts increase traffic and encourage dialogue. Librarians are often the logical leaders of such programming, since they have multidisciplinary interests. Ellender's librarians realize that hosting outreach programs will change perceptions of the library in a more positive way than simply changing the library's capital outlay (such as introducing a coffee shop), encouraging the university community to see librarians as partners in research, rather than as mere servants who shelve books.

Ellender Library hosts over a dozen outreach programs annually. These library marketing initiatives allow our librarians to go beyond the typical techniques of sending postcards or newsletters, or laying out free pencils which bear the library name, or conducting a never-ending series of user surveys. These events introduce students, faculty, and the larger university community to the scholarly or popular cultural interests of the people who run the Library, letting them know that it is not just a building filled with chairs, tables, and books. The culmination of this effort was the 2007 creation of a Friends Group by Library Director **Carol Mathias**.

Certain Ellender librarians have a long-standing reputation for their hosting activities. For twelve years, **Anke Tonn** has turned her love of Cajun music and culture into the 1st Cajun/Zydeco Festival, an event that now draws over 400 people. Over the past decade, **Van Viator** has used various outreach techniques to help the university with recruitment and retention. **Viator** routinely visits Honors English classes at two local high schools to advocate for the library's literature resources. **Jean-Mark Sens** hosts various poetry readings, and the **Publicity and Public Relations Committee**, our outreach entity, routinely hosts parties and other types of social events for students, faculty, and staff.

Joe the Plumber Meets Hollywood (Book Review)

Bodnar, John. *Blue-Collar Hollywood: Liberalism, Democracy, and Working People in American Film.* 791.436520623 B632b

In some respects, *Blue-Collar Hollywood: Liberalism, Democracy, and Working People in American Film* is a lifelong project for Pulitzer prize nominated historian John Bodnar. Bodnar, after all, is quoted in *Contemporary Authors Online* as having stated “my grandfather was a coal miner and I was raised in a small town in Pennsylvania during a time when the mines were closing and the local economy was declining.” Having come from a similar working class background ourselves, most of us can fully understand Bodnar’s ongoing interest in immigrants, liberalism, unionism, and the public versus the private, all of which seem to inform this 2003 Johns Hopkins

University Press publication.

Blue-Collar Hollywood comes across as timely, necessary, well-written, and accessible. Its conversational tone makes it a good choice for undergraduates studying film or American cultural studies. In addition, the text does seem to fill a hole in that it addresses a grey area: As Bodnar writes in his introduction, “serious political historians almost never took mass culture seriously,” something which he attempts to do here. His task is a rather daunting one, as his goal is to look at how “Hollywood films have represented the individuals and concerns of working-class America since the introduction of sound pictures.” The author deserves kudos to this fifty-year trek through cinematic representation, as he pinpoints a dozen or so lower-class models taken from various films—both box

office blockbusters and little known gems—for each of the five decades.

One particularly admirable element of the text, as identified by Bodnar in his introduction, is the discussion of those movies that set the spotlight on female laborers, or what he calls “workingwomen.” Bodnar works within a well-established framework of examples, discussing films such as *Little Caesar* (1931), *Public Enemy* (1931), *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington* (1939), *The Grapes of Wrath* (1940), *The Fighting Sullivans* (1944), and *On the Waterfront* (1954). The text will not serve as a comprehensive, scholarly film study for use in serious scholarship, but the individual, brief discussions of each film do offer some food for thought.
—Tony Fonseca

Grant Opens a Few “Doors” for Librarian

Reference Librarian **Melissa Goldsmith** recently received word that her desire to find links between Lipton, an American journalist, writer, and beat poet associated with the Venice West writers and idiosyncratic lead singer of The Doors, Jim Morrison, would be made possible. Winning a Research Council Grant from the University, she was able to travel to two archives which house Lipton’s private letters, at The University of Southern California and The University of California—Los Angeles. What she hopes to find, after pouring over literally hundreds of documents, is a “smoking gun” that indicates the two men corresponded with one another, and perhaps influenced each other’s literary and lyrical works.

Even die-hard Doors fans are unaware that Morrison at one point attended classes at St. Petersburg Junior College, later transferring to Florida State University in Tallahassee. But after being arrested for a prank he transferred to UCLA, where he completed an undergraduate degree in film from the Theater Arts department of the College of Fine Arts in 1965. During these years, while living in Venice Beach, he became friends with writers at *The Los Angeles Free Press*, since he remained an advocate of

the underground newspaper, even up until his death in 1971. Lipton, a published Beat poet who eventually wrote for *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Quarterly Review of Literature*, and *The Chicago Review*, also wrote for *The Los Angeles Free Press*, and did local radio talk shows. He is perhaps best known for his pseudo-documentary style study of the Beat Generation, *The Holy Barbarians* (1959). To this date, no scholar has managed to definitively link Lipton to Morrison, despite the many clues that the two may have been friends. Doing so would enlighten studies of both men, perhaps even illustrating lines of influence.

Goldsmith, who has a doctorate in Musicology and a masters in Library and Information Science, sees herself as the perfect type of scholar for this undertaking. The librarian part of her psyche enables her to find relevant information, leaving no stone unturned (and no box of letters unopened), while the musicologist part of her mind gives her an intense interest in music history and the relationship between music and society. It also enables her to see potential connections such as the one between Morrison and Lipton, and to recognize exactly when she has discovered that one piece of evidence that is the smoking gun.

Library Tip #2

For those patrons who want a closer look at the geographical, historical, and cultural uniqueness of the region, a visit to the Archives and Special Collections Department is a must. The department includes collections such as the Allen J. Ellender Archives, University Archives, Regional and Rare Books, and the ever popular Genealogy collection. Other notable special collections include the Evangelical Baseball League Collection, the Shaffer Collection of original 1847 prints by John James Audubon, and the J. A. and J. C. Lovell Collection of local survey maps.

The Genealogy Division contains church and parish records, ship passenger listings, and both regional and national genealogical journals, while the Regional and Rare Books Division includes original titles dating back to the 16th century, along with first editions, autographed copies, and many Louisiana related titles. Archivist **Clifton Theriot**, Assistant Archivist **Neil Guilbeau**, and Library Specialist **Emilie Pitre** are available to help members of the Nicholls community with their research needs. The Archives is open 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. When the University is in session, the department is also open until 9:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and from 12:00 to 4:00 on the first Saturday of the month.

Library News

Cheryl Adams (Circulation), **Sandi Chauvin** (Serials), **Deannie Eusea** (Circulation), and **Jolene Knight** (Multimedia) attended various State of Louisiana Comprehensive Public Training Programs (CPTP), including "Providing Quality Service" and "Developing a Motivated Work Group."

Sandi Chauvin (Serials), **Jeremy Landry** (Automation), **Carol Mathias** (Library Director), **Anke Tonn** (Interlibrary Loan), and **Van Viator** (Reference) attended The LOUIS Users' Conference (LUC) in Baton Rouge.

Tony Fonseca (Serials) presented a workshop titled "Publishing in Fields Tangential to Librarianship" at the Louisiana Chapter of the Association for College and Research Libraries (ACRL-LA) Publish and Flourish mini-conference. He also co-presented at LUC (along with **Melissa Goldsmith**): an encore version of a "Beats and Bongos: Making the Library the Cultural Center of Academe" at LUC.

Melissa Goldsmith (Reference) presented on the state of the statewide LALINC Information Literacy Committee report and article at LUC. She also facilitated one of the ACRL-LA workshops, titled "Publishing Book Reviews and Serving as a Book Reviews Editor."

Danny Gorr (Serials) and **Neil Guilbeau** (Archives) staffed the Library's table during Family Day.

Library Tip #3

Simultaneously searching EBSCO based databases has changed again! To do so now, first choose a database from our database page. After you click on its link, you will be taken to the EBSCO search interface for that database. Above the search boxes you will see the word Searching, followed by a colon, and then the name of the database you're searching. Directly to the right, you'll see a hyper-link labeled Choose Databases. Click here, and then check off the databases you wish to add to your search. Then scroll down to the bottom right, and click OK. It's simple.

New Printing System

By now, students are more than aware of the new printing system being used throughout the University's labs, as well as in Ellender Library. The system may seem complex at first, but it's actually quite simple. What is important to remember is that if you are a student, as soon as you finish logging into a computer, go ahead and log into the Go Print Server (the red icon at the bottom right of the Windows desktop toolbar), and then minimize it. When you send a job (or jobs) to the printer, you then have to maximize the Go Print Server box, and click My Print Jobs to refresh the window. The job(s) you sent to the printer will show up, and you have to click the corresponding box(es) to release those print jobs. If for some reason your print job does not work, click the red icon called Trouble Printing, located on the desktop.

Circulation Policies

Overview

The main circulation desk is located on the second floor of the library. It is the point where materials on the second floor may be checked out. The circulation desk is also where most reserve materials are housed. A student's Colonel Card serves as his or her library card.

Circulation is a privilege granted to all currently enrolled students, faculty, staff, and Courtesy Card holders at Nicholls State University. Most of the items in the library do circulate. However, there are a few that do not, such as reference books and reserve items.

Renewals

As long as another patron has not placed an official request for the item you have checked out, you may renew the item up to three times. This may be done by bringing your Colonel Card to the circulation desk prior to the due date. You may also renew your items online if your account with the library is in good standing. When you do so, remember that your alt ID is your campus ID number, without dashes. Your initial library PIN is

CHANGEME, until you change it.

Overdues

Each item that is overdue accrues a fine of 25 cents per day. If you return the overdue materials to the library in person, you may pay your fines at that time. If you do not pay your fines when the items are returned, the fine will be handled through the Controller's Office.

The chart below enumerates specific borrowing privileges. An asterisk marks items that must be used in the department in which they are housed.

	Students	Faculty / Staff	Courtesy Card Users
Books	3 Weeks	Semester's End	3 Weeks
Most Videos, CD's, LP's	2 Hours *	7 days	2 Hours *
General Videos	7 days	7 days	7 days
Most Reserves	2 Hours *	2 Hours *	2 Hours *

A New Perspective: The Library from a Student's Point of View

Ever since I was in junior high, the library has always been important to me. Back then, it was a place I could go simply to get away from the rest of the student body. It was also a place where I could find a good book to pass the time in gym class and fulfill my silent reading assignments in class. Today, the library is even more important to me. Because of my major, I always have two or three term papers due, and the library continues to be my best friend.

Our Ellender Memorial Library has the largest collection of books I have ever seen. I am currently researching the subject of the Equal Rights Campaign that began one warm summer night in Greenwich, New York thirty-nine years ago. For the most part, our Library has fulfilled my needs. The library staff has provided me with access to databases, and the books I require were obtainable through Interlibrary Loan. My project is coming along nicely. Overall, my experience with our library has been very positive. I get all the help I need from its friendly staff.

— Cade Orgeron

Managing Editor: Tony Fonseca. **Editorial Staff:** Sandi Chauvin, Melissa Ursula Dawn Goldsmith, Danny Gorr, Carol Mathias, Daisy Pope. **Technical Consultant:** Jeremy Landry. Please e-mail comments and/or suggestions to Tony Fonseca (tony.fonseca@nicholls.edu). The statements and opinions included in these pages are those of the newsletter staff only, and not those of Nicholls State University or the University of Louisiana System.