

ASL LIBRARY NEWS

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What's New in the Library?

- Welcome back! We've had a little time to make some changes to the Library. Our display case exhibit shows off some of our amazing new Appalachian materials. The Appalachian Collection itself is right around the corner from the display case, next to the elevator. These books do circulate for two weeks, so if you see something you like, we'll check it out to you! We've also cleaned the study rooms and the Seminar Room to get them in shape for the upcoming semester.
- The Circulation/Reserve Desk will have limited hours on Monday, January 19 (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day). We will only be staffed from 1 pm until 5 pm. You will still be able to access the Library with a valid ID card from 6 am until midnight.
- Just a reminder that inclement weather may be on its way during the early part of the Spring Semester. If classes are cancelled, the Library may operate on a modified schedule – we might open later than usual, or we might close early. Again, ID card access will not be affected. Please don't wait until the last minute to use any Reserve items, especially if you see the snow flying outside!
- We have another high-speed laser printer for LexisNexis access. The new printer is located in the Library Seminar Room. We'll post instructions on how to print directly to that printer and post them on our web site, as well as send them to all students via e-mail. Thanks, LexisNexis (and rep Scott Hite, who pulled a lot of strings to get the printer)!
- Speaking of electronic research services we will post "office hours" for our Westlaw and LexisNexis student representatives as soon as we get them. Watch the bulletin board across from the first floor photocopier.
- We've been creating "new book lists" for a while now, but if you haven't noticed them, they're on our "Publications" web page (<http://www.asl.edu/library/publications.php>). During January, we'll be updating this page, as well as our link to our online catalog, to promote some of our lesser-known collections, like the Appalachian Collection.
- While cleaning the Library, our staff noticed that some students have been using the trash cans as spittoons. Other than being non-sanitary and non-hygienic, that's just plain nasty. Don't let us catch you doing it.

Other News

- We've gotten a few suggestions in our suggestion box to share (including the one that asked us to "answer the suggestion box"). One person was concerned about group study rooms being "taken" by students who leave their belongings in the rooms and then disappear. Our policy does state that students are not allowed to "reserve" rooms in this way (a copy of our Library policies is on our web site at <http://www.asl.edu/library/>). During the upcoming semester, we will be doing random "sweeps" of the group study rooms – and carrels too – and we will remove unattended items. We've started doing that already, as we've removed items that were left unattended over Winter Break.

Another student asked "Is there even one quiet place to study in this library?" We, too, have noticed that the noise levels have increased over the semester. Please remember that we're just doing our jobs when we have to "shhhh" you.

We often get comments requesting better computer equipment in the Library. Since we're not in charge of that part of the budget, we pass those along to the President's Office.

- The Virginia General Assembly begins another year of creating legislation for the Commonwealth on January 14, 2004. Keep up with the legislature as the members must deal with the vital issues of our time – like whether to abolish the Virginia Sweet Potato Board (HB13) – by accessing their web site at <http://leg1.state.va.us/041/lis.htm>
- A quick reminder: Last month, we told you that CALI was modifying their web site. The "makeover" is complete, so you will now need a secret code to get access to the site. If you accidentally threw away last month's newsletter (shame!), that code is **[not available in online version]** You'll be asked for your ASL e-mail address and a password only you will know, as well as the secret code. Stop by the Circulation Desk if you need assistance.
- Did Santa bring you a new computer over Winter Break? If so, you'll want to be sure that you're protected from nasty computer viruses that will certainly eat your thirty-page brief the night before it's due. The magazine PC World recommends any of these four FREE anti-virus programs:
 - * Alwil's Avast 4 Home Edition: http://www.asw.cz/i_idt_153.html
 - * Grisoft AVG FREE Edition (v. 6):
http://www.grisoft.com/us/us_dwnl_free.php
 - * H+BEDV Datentechnik's AntiVir Personal Edition: <http://www.free-av.com/>
 - * Softwin BitDefender Free Edition (v. 7):
http://www.bitdefender.com/bd/site/products.php?p_id=24