Borrow Books from other Libraries

and...Do-it-yourself

First there were self-service gasoline pumps. Then came ATMs. What could be next for the independent consumer in the information age? How about ... do-it-yourself interlibrary borrowing?

The Drexel Library is offering a new service, familiarly known as PALCI, which allows you to search the catalogs of nearly 20 academic libraries in Pennsylvania. Once you find a book you want, you can request that it be shipped to our Library for you to pick up.

Some major collections across the state, including University of Pittsburgh, Penn State, Temple and Carnegie Mellon are included in this service. They also borrow books from us.

Faculty, staff and students who have used this new service tell us they love it. They have the independence and flexibility to search for books they want and then place an order immediately without filling out forms. They receive an email message telling them that the book has arrived at the Library.

If you can't find the book you need on the PALCI system, or if you need a copy of a journal article, our standard Interlibrary Loan service is still available to you. And we have a convenient request form for you to use right on our Web page. (See Web addresses at the bottom).

PALCI stands for Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortium, Inc. Try it today!

Library Friendly to Laptops

We saw it coming - the invasion of the laptops - and we got ready.

Even before the class of 2004 students discovered that owning a laptop would be a requirement for entering Saint Joseph’s, we began to see these little computational power-houses appear in the Library.

So, to prepare for the laptop program we had 60 new network connections installed in public areas of the Library. In addition we began investigating wireless networking that will make the network available from nearly every location in the Library to a laptop with a wireless network card installed. The wireless network will be installed during the fall semester.

To learn how to configure a laptop to print to the Library's public access printers, see the Library's Web site at: http://www.sju.edu/libraries/drexel/

Important Web Addresses

You'll want to bookmark them!

The Drexel Library Homepage for information about the Library and links to many resources:
http://www.sju.edu/libraries/drexel

PALCI - borrow a book from a library in Pennsylvania:
http://www.sju.edu/libraries/drexel/palci

Interlibrary Loan - let us borrow a book or journal article for you from thousands of libraries throughout the world:
http://www.sju.edu/libraries/drexel/ill/ill.htm
New Databases on the Web

We continue to add new databases to our collection of resources on the Web. The following are new this semester. To access any of these databases, start at the Library's databases homepage at: http://www.sju.edu/libraries/drexel/refer.shtml.

- **FIS Online** - a key database for business and financial research. Offers the Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including Annual Reports and 10Qs.
- **MLA International Bibliography** - we have offered the MLA literature and language database on CD-ROM for several years but it is now available on the Web. It indexes nearly 4000 scholarly journals as well as books, dissertations and conference proceedings.
- **Religion Database** - Also formerly on CD-ROM is the ATLA Religion Database. With coverage dating as far back as 1949, the database contains over one million bibliographic records from journals, essays, book reviews and more. It is one of the collection of databases offered through EBSCOhost.

These databases are available via the Web for off-campus use but you will need to configure your browser for the campus proxy server and log in with your campus network account name and password. Instructions for this are at the top of our Databases Web page at the URL listed above.

Behind the Scenes No More, or, What is Resources Management Anyway?

Have you ever said to yourself, “Hmmmm, I wonder what they do in the back room of the Drexel Library?” You know, that big room you pass through to get blue books from the Library’s secretary! Now you can get an insight into that mysterious world of Resources Management through our new pages on the Library’s Web site.

Go to http://www.sju.edu/libraries/drexel/ and click on Services, then Resources Management and you can find some of what we do in Acquisitions, Collection Development, and Archives. For instance, you can access:

- The Library’s Collection Development Policy (why we buy what we do!)
- Library liaisons - both the faculty member and the librarian responsible for your department’s Library interests
- Reviewing sources for new books and videos
- The how-to’s of ordering materials for the Library’s collection and web order forms
- What materials the Library has acquired in the last 2 months (New Acquisitions List)
- A publisher’s URL
- An online out-of-print or foreign language bookseller

And you can now access the SJU Faculty Bibliography from our pages so you can see what your colleagues have published and check that all your recent scholarly contributions are included.

The Resources Management Web pages are a work in progress so we welcome your suggestions and comments as to what is useful for you and what other things you would like to see included.

Ask a Librarian

Connect to the Library’s Web site and click on the new option “Ask a Librarian.” Fill out the form and a librarian from the Reference staff will reply to your question within 24 hours. If you need immediate help with a question call our Reference Desk telephone at 610-660-1904.

Annual Faculty Bibliography

The Annual Faculty Bibliography is beginning its third year on the Web. This year the bibliographies and the online form for faculty to use to submit new citations was added to the Library’s Web site.

Look for the Faculty Bibliography at its new address: http://www.sju.edu/libraries/drexel/faculty/