



## Greetings From the Director

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all faculty members for their time and consideration as the Library continuously reviews its serials holdings for potential electronic substitution or cancellation. While this is a challenging process, it is essential for the Library to provide the highest level of service within the constraints of the budget. I want you to know how much the Library staff appreciates your participation.

Because of technical changes that have occurred and continue to occur, the three libraries and Information Services are beginning to look at potential replacements for PALS, the automated library system that has served the Creighton University libraries so well for almost a decade. In several years, PALS will cease to exist, and the next generation of library system will incorporate enhanced graphical interfaces for improved ease of use. In addition the newer systems feature enhanced integration of library and Web resources. Even though a change will not take place for a few years, the process of evaluating potential replacement systems, securing budgetary support, negotiating contracts, and installation requires that we begin the sequence in the next few months.

ARIEL, the document delivery system that utilizes the Internet, continues to perform well, providing users with high-resolution plain paper copies. Most of our fellow AJCU libraries and the majority of academic libraries in Nebraska use ARIEL, so we are able to save long-distance phone charges, while providing our students, faculty, and researchers with higher resolution documents.

We are fortunate in Nebraska to have a Library Commission committed to helping all types of libraries offer the highest level of service while simultaneously taking advantage of volume discounts. Through participation in the Commission's group purchase of databases, Creighton will be saving thousands of dollars on the purchase of EBSCOhost, FirstSearch and Britannica Online.

MICHAEL LACROIX

## Essential Services Available via the Web

To make library services more convenient, a number of interactive Web forms are available. Just click on "forms" from the Library's home page to:

- submit a reference query via the ASKUS service;
- request a photocopy from books or journals held by the Library;
- submit an interlibrary loan request;
- place materials on reserve for students to read;
- renew a book;
- suggest a book for purchase; and
- reserve media materials for classroom use.

DAVID SHERWOOD

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## New Databases for Fall

**ABI/Inform** Although not new, this business database has moved to the Web, making it accessible to faculty in their offices. And it now includes full text articles! From the Library's home page, click on FirstSearch, then select "Logon to free databases."

**Alternative Press Index** This new database indexes 250 alternative, radical, and left publications that analyze the practices and theories of cultural, economic, political, and social change. It is accessible from the Library's home page.

**MathSciNet** The literature of mathematics from 1940 to present is indexed in this American Mathematical Society database, accessible from the Library's home page.

**Moody's International Company Data** Users of *Moody's Company Data* will now find the set complete with this international counterpart. The database includes 13,000 non-U.S. public companies. Access is limited to the Library or Wade Center.

**Sport Discus** Exercise science and medical researchers will enjoy this database covering the literature of sports medicine, exercise physiology, biomechanics, training, and fitness. Campus users need WinSPIRS on their computers.

**Wilson Select** This is a new concept in databases. Wilson has culled 430 periodicals from *Readers' Guide*, *Social Sciences*, *Humanities*, *General Science*, and *Business Abstracts* databases, combining them into one file that is entirely full text. Accessible via FirstSearch from the Library's home page. CHRIS LE BEAU

## Keeping Current with Uncover Reveal

Fall is here. Once again there just aren't enough hours in the day to tend to lectures, office hours, meetings, committee work, and all the other obligations of academe. Which of these obligations goes to the back burner? Keeping up on current research. What can you do? Take advantage of UnCover Reveal.

UnCover Reveal is a service that enables faculty to receive automatic, e-mail notification of current tables of contents. Up to 50 journals can be selected from a collection twelve times that of the Reinert/Alumni Library. Reveal can also be used to identify new articles featuring keywords or authors of interest, regardless of the periodical in which they appear.

"It's terrific," says David Dobberpohl in Chemistry. "I think it's the easiest way to keep abreast of the journals I'm interested in." Bob Whipple in English agrees: "I like it a lot. It saves me time in discovering what's out there." And Terry Clark in Political Science calls the service a "God-send."

There are now 40 people using Reveal at Creighton: 22 faculty in Arts and Sciences; three in the College of Business; nine in the health sciences; and six administrators or staff. Since the site license allows up to 100 users, faculty are encouraged to take advantage of Reveal, especially those who currently rely on photocopied tables of contents from the Serials Department.

For step by step instructions, faculty may point their browsers to <http://www.creighton.edu/~askus/reveal.html>. Those who do not have Web access, or who experience difficulty, can contact Mary Nash at x2226 or [mdnash@cu](mailto:mdnash@cu). MARY NASH

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*UnCover has recently introduced Books-in-Reveal, for automatic e-mail notification of new books on a specified topic. Approximately 600 new titles are added each week.*

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### Creighton Cornerstone

Reinert/Alumni Memorial Library Semiannual Newsletter

CREIGHTON  
UNIVERSITY



2500 California Plaza  
Omaha, NE 68178  
<http://reinert.creighton.edu>  
(402) 280-1757  
[clbeau@creighton.edu](mailto:clbeau@creighton.edu)



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**Editor:** Chris LeBeau  
**Design:** Mary Nash  
**Director:** Michael LaCroix  
**Committee:** Mark Bronson  
Jo Browning  
Lauralee Grabe  
Arnette Payne  
Mike Poma  
David Sherwood

## Reinert/Alumni Memorial Library Staff Directory

<http://reinert.creighton.edu/>

GENERAL INFORMATION .....		2705
DIRECTOR .....	Michael LaCroix .....	<i>lacroix@cu</i> , 2217
Director's Secretary .....	Jo Browning .....	<i>joa@cu</i> , 2706
Photocopy Service .....	Jo Browning .....	<i>joa@cu</i> , 2706
Union Pacific Room Reservations .....	Jo Browning .....	<i>joa@cu</i> , 2706
ACCESS SERVICES DEPARTMENT .....	Mark Bronson .....	<i>mcb@cu</i> , 4756
Check-out & Renewals .....	Gerry Chase .....	<i>gchase@cu</i> , 2260
Curriculum Lab .....	Gayle Crawford .....	<i>gaylec@cu</i> , 2627
Evening Supervisor .....	Sinora Garrett .....	<i>sgarrett@cu</i> , 2225
Media Resources .....	Gayle Crawford .....	<i>gaylec@cu</i> , 2627
Reserves .....	Gerry Chase .....	<i>gchase@cu</i> , 2260
ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT .....	Marge Wannarka .....	<i>margew@cu</i> , 2746
REFERENCE DEPARTMENT .....	Mary Nash .....	<i>mdnash@cu</i> , 2226
ASKUS (Reference Desk) .....	Staff .....	<i>askus@cu</i> , 2227
Electronic Reserves (e-reserves) .....	David Sherwood .....	<i>dauids@cu</i> , 2927
Electronic Resources .....	Chris LeBeau .....	<i>clbeau@cu</i> , 1757
Government Publications .....	Dawn Hammel .....	<i>dhammel@cu</i> , 2978
Interlibrary Loan .....	Lynn Schneiderman .....	<i>lynns@cu</i> , 2219
Internet Training .....	David Sherwood .....	<i>dauids@cu</i> , 2927
	Chris LeBeau .....	<i>clbeau@cu</i> , 1757
Library Instruction Classes .....	Mike Poma .....	<i>mapoma@cu</i> , 2298
UnCover Reveal .....	Mary Nash .....	<i>mdnash@cu</i> , 2226
Web Administrator .....	David Sherwood .....	<i>dauids@cu</i> , 2927
SEMINAR ROOM RESERVATIONS .....	Registrar's Office .....	2701
SERIALS DEPARTMENT .....	LaVina Swanek .....	<i>swanek@cu</i> , 2228
Bindery .....	Terri Clark .....	<i>taclark@cu</i> , 1802
Standing Orders .....	LaVina Swanek .....	<i>swanek@cu</i> , 2228
Tables of Contents .....	LaVina Swanek .....	<i>swanek@cu</i> , 2228
TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT .....	Lauralee Grabe .....	<i>lgrabe@cu</i> , 2216
Acquisitions .....	BettyAnn Evans .....	<i>baevans@cu</i> , 2220
	Tracy Morrissey .....	<i>tmorriss@cu</i> , 1265
Cataloging/Processing .....	Arnette Payne .....	<i>apayne@cu</i> , 1806
	Jeanette Hilton .....	<i>jhilton@cu</i> , 1266
	Shirley Golden .....	<i>sgolden@cu</i> , 2830
	Tracy Morrissey .....	<i>tmorriss@cu</i> , 1265
Collection Development .....	Lauralee Grabe .....	<i>lgrabe@cu</i> , 2216

## Faculty Services, Reinert/Alumni Memorial Library

### ACQUISITIONS

Library material is ordered through the Technical Services Department. Please supply all available bibliographic information and the department head's signature on all order forms. You will be notified when material is received and processed, or if the order cannot be filled. Contact BettyAnn Evans: x2220, [bevans@cu](mailto:bevans@cu); or Tracy Morrissey: x1265, [tmorriss@cu](mailto:tmorriss@cu).

### CHECK-OUT

Check-out periods vary with the type of material (periodicals, media, or books). A faculty ID card will be requested at the circulation desk. Student assistants retrieving items for faculty must present the faculty's ID card. Unlimited renewals are granted in person or via the Web. Contact Gerry Chase: x2218, [gchase@cu](mailto:gchase@cu).

### CURRENT AWARENESS

Automatic e-mail notification of tables of contents is free to faculty through UnCover Reveal at: <http://www.creighton.edu/~askus/reveal.html>. For titles held in the Library but not in Reveal, contact LaVina Swanek: x2228, [swanek@cu](mailto:swanek@cu).

### ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

For a complete list of electronic indexes and databases see: <http://reinert.creighton.edu/~clbeau/pubdata.htm>. Customized research assistance is available for all of the above, as well as for Data-Times and Dialog databases, at no charge to faculty. Contact Chris Le Beau: x1757, [clbeau@cu](mailto:clbeau@cu).

### FAX TRANSMISSION

A fax machine is available for faculty use (280-2435). Long-distance charges are passed along to each department or individual; local calls are free. To insure delivery, transmissions must include the name, address and number of both the sender and receiver. Contact Jo Browning: x2706, [joa@cu](mailto:joa@cu).

### INTERLIBRARY LOAN

Books and articles not available at Creighton can be obtained through the Reference Department, usually within ten working days. ILL is provided

at no charge to faculty, including rush delivery as needed (48 hours). Request forms are available in paper or via the Web. Contact Lynn Schneiderman: x2219, [lynns@cu](mailto:lynns@cu).

### LIBRARY INSTRUCTION

Both general orientations and course-specific presentations are available upon request, with accompanying handouts. Demonstrations of the PALS online catalog, electronic indexes and databases, and the Internet are also offered. Contact Mike Poma: x2298, [mapoma@cu](mailto:mapoma@cu).

### MEDIA

Audio and video tapes, CDs, laser discs, software, kits, filmstrips, slides, and calculators are available for check-out. Equipment, including a laser disc player, is available in house. Media may be purchased with the department's library allocation, or rented; rental is handled by the Library and billed to the department. Media may be reserved for classroom use via the Web. Contact Gayle Crawford: x2627, [gaylec@cu](mailto:gaylec@cu).

### PHOTOCOPY SERVICE

The Library supports faculty research by providing free photocopies (within copyright law) of materials in our collection. Request forms are available in paper or via the Web. Contact Jo Browning: x2706, [joa@cu](mailto:joa@cu).

### RESERVES

Any item, including a personal copy (within copyright law) can be placed on reserve for check-out periods of two hours, two hours/overnight, three days or one week. Request forms are available in print and via the Web. Allow four working days for processing. Contact Gerry Chase: x2218, [gchase@cu](mailto:gchase@cu). For electronic reserves (e-reserves), contact: David Sherwood: x2927, [davids@cu](mailto:davids@cu).

### SERIALS REVIEW

A journal subscription list by department is distributed for faculty review every spring. Standing order lists are distributed every fall. Contact LaVina Swanek: x2228, [swanek@cu](mailto:swanek@cu).

## It's Fall 1997 ... Do You Know Where Your Index Is?

As the Internet transforms the research process, students are often frustrated in researching their assignments. Although students embrace electronic media, they need help in setting a research path. Some students come in to the Library with instructions to gather their information *only* from the Internet, while others have been told *not* to use the Internet. When delivery mode outweighs content, students are sometimes led astray.

The "index" species is changing. Some of our standard indexes are both on the Web and in print. Indexes have transformed themselves into "databases" by integrating full text articles. New "indexes" have emerged solely on the Web.

Students who have been instructed not to use the Internet for research may be rejecting a standard research tool. On the other hand, students assigned to use the Internet need guidance as to which Web "indexes" or resources are acceptable.

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*When delivery mode outweighs content, students are sometimes led astray.*

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To help faculty guide students, the Library has developed a "Public Databases" page designed to keep users current on the status of our electronic indexes and databases. See: <http://www.creighton.edu/~clbeau/pubdata.htm>. Hopefully with this tool and with guidance from teachers, students can map out a good research strategy and gain a realistic expectation of the Web that will save them countless hours of random searching.

CHRIS LE BEAU

## Evaluating Web Sites: Let the Surfer Beware

Having trouble deciding if a Web site is reliable? If so, you're not alone. Some information may be outdated, erroneous, or just plain deceptive. Because anyone can publish on the Web, the usual safeguards of the editorial and peer review processes are not necessarily in force.

What's the webbed information consumer to do? Simply be critical! Happily, the same criteria used to evaluate books, newspapers, radio, and TV apply to the new medium:

### Authority

- Search each Web page for author information and follow links to biographical details.
- Examine URLs for origin: educational sites (.edu), governmental entities (.gov), nonprofit organizations (.org), or commercial businesses (.com).
- Beware of misleading URLs: senate.com is not senate.gov, and harvard.com is not the same as harvard.edu.
- Follow links back to home pages to learn about sponsoring organizations.

### Currency

- Look for evidence of currency in the form of a recent date.

### Reliability

- Compare the site to other information resources.
- Spelling and grammar errors suggest that a site may be carelessly maintained.

### Purpose

- Consider the audience; sites intended for children or consumers may not be appropriate sources of information for professionals or scholars.
- Establish the bias or objectivity of the author and sponsoring agency.

These are only some of the considerations Web surfers might use to critique various sites. For more information, consult Nicole Auer's excellent "Bibliography on Evaluating Internet Resources" at: <http://refserver.lib.vt.edu/libinst/critTHINK.HTM>

DAVID SHERWOOD

### Computer Stations Upgraded

The Library again owes thanks to Information Services for the purchase of four new Pentiums, acquired with student technology funds. The new machines provide a welcome upgrade to the networked stations.

## Pick Up a Prizewinner at the Reinert/Alumni Library

The following books have been recognized with various awards, from the Pulitzer Prize to the Bram Stoker Award. The Reinert/Alumni Memorial Library is pleased to make them available to Creighton readers from our collection:

*Alias Grace* / Margaret Atwood. New York : Nan A. Talese, 1996. PR 9199.3 .A8A79 1996

*The Giller Prize: Canada's Premier Literary Prize for Fiction*

*Angela's Ashes* / Frank McCourt. New York : Scribner, 1996. E 184 .I6M117 1996

*1997 Pulitzer Prize for Biography*  
*1997 National Book Critics Circle Award for Biography/Autobiography*

*Ashes to Ashes : America's Hundred-Year Cigarette War* / Richard Kluger. New York : Knopf, 1996. HV 5760 .K58 1996

*1997 Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction*

*Bad Land: An American Romance* / Jonathan Raban. New York : Pantheon, 1996. F 591 .R22 1996

*1997 National Book Critics Circle Award for General Nonfiction*

*Chatham School Affair* / Thomas A. Cook. New York : Bantam, 1996. PS 3553 .O55465 C48

*1997 Edgar Allan Poe Award (Best mystery novel and best first-time mystery novel by an American)*

*Last Orders* / Graham Swift. New York : Knopf, 1996 PR 6069 .W47L3 1996

*1996 Booker Prize for British Fiction*

*Original Meanings: Politics and Ideas in the Making of the Constitution* / Jack N. Rakove. New York : Knopf, 1996 KF4541.R35 1996

*1997 Pulitzer Prize for History*

*Zombie* / Joyce Carol Oates. New York : Dutton, 1995. PS 35065 .A8Z43 1995

*1996 Bram Stoker Award*

LAURALEE GRABE

### Good-Bye

This fall the Library bids good-bye to Dawn Hammel, reference librarian since 1994. Dawn has demonstrated considerable skill in administering the government publications collection. We wish her well, as she departs to focus her time and energy towards another important role, that of parent.

## Creighton Cornerstone



Reinert/Alumni Memorial Library  
2500 California Plaza  
Omaha, NE 68178  
<http://reinert.creighton.edu>

### PALS Notice

IF DIALING IN to the PALS catalog, please select the PALS menu option instead of OWL; OWL is no longer used. For telnet access, the address is: [pals.creighton.edu](http://pals.creighton.edu). The Web version is at: <http://www.creighton.edu/PALS>.