

Behind the Scenes in Systems and Technical Services

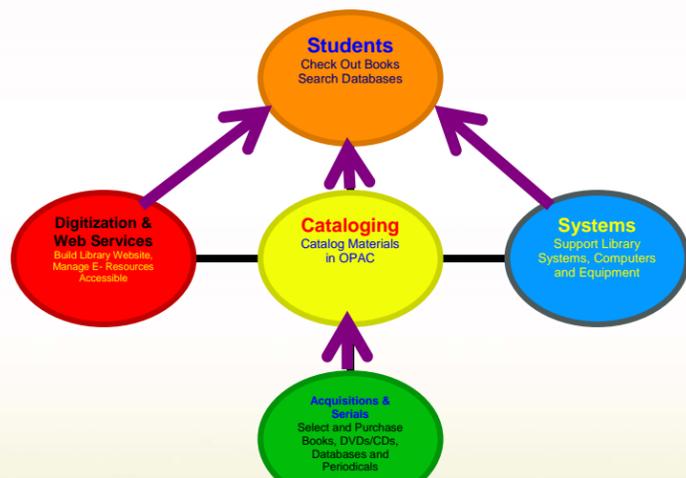
Dr. Sharon Hu

Ever wonder how a book gets to the shelf in the library? Or who keeps library Website up and running so that you can access research databases from home at Midnight? Working behind the scenes and tucked away on the first floor of the library is The Department of Systems & Technical Services (LISTS) team.

The Department of Systems & Technical Services department is comprised of four units.

The **Acquisitions & Serials** and **Cataloging** units select, orders, organizes, processes all types of materials—books, journals, databases for the library collection and ensures public access to these resources. The **Library Systems Unit** maintains the library integrated management system (ExLibris Voyager), the Automatic Storage and Retrieval System (ASRS) and other library services related applications systems. The **Digitization and Web Services unit** maintains library web pages and digital projects, supports and develops information technology activities in Library and Instruction Services.

Here's how it all works.



And here are the people who make it all happen!



1st row: Beverly Bond, Valerie Anderson-Bush, Gayle Porter, Vickie Richards, Martin Kong, Azungwe Kwembe, Dr. Sharon Hu. 2nd Row Joslyn Banks, Oscar Hernandez, Lorraine Lazouskas, Kay Jones. 3rd Row Michelle Adams & William Graham.

Save the Dates

National Library Week 2011



April 10-16

NLW is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. CSU Library is planning a week full of activities. Check our Website for Details

<http://library.csu.edu/>

Celebrate the life & accomplishments of Dr. Julian Scheinbuchs

Tuesday, May 24, 2011
11:00a.m. – 1:00 pm.
Library Auditorium

CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY

The LISTSening Post is the Official Newsletter for Library & Instruction Services

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LISTening Post

Library & Instruction Services Newsletter, Spring 2011

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Remembering Dr. Julian Scheinbuchs

Dr. Richard Darga



Dr. Julian Scheinbuchs

"There will be no more Distance Learning," an impassioned Dr. Julian Scheinbuchs said whenever anything, no matter how remote, threatened the viability of his Distance Learning operation at Chicago State University.

I had the pleasure of working with Julian for nearly seven years here at CSU. In addition to being colleagues, we were friends as well as a neighbors and often car pooled together.

Julian was a native son of Chicago and grew up on the South Side, not far from CSU.

He graduated from South Shore High School and University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign where he met many of his lifelong friends. He later earned Masters and Doctorate degrees in Microbiology from Loyola University.

After graduation, Julian relocated to Southern California where he made additional life long friendships. He loved Southern California and shared many stories of the warmth of the climate as well as the people. Despite his love for the West Coast, his heart was in Chicago, and he returned to work at Northwestern University before coming to CSU to teach in the Biological Sciences Department.

During his 14 year tenure as a professor, Julian developed an interest and a forte in on-line instruction. In 2003, he transferred into a leadership position as the Director of Distance Learning. He took a small developing program and transformed it to a successful department in Library & Instruction Services.

Julian was an inspiration to me as he stoically battled cancer. A strong-willed man, he never asked for help as his health deteriorated. However, on a Saturday morning, I received a call from him and with slurred speech he mentioned that he thought he had a stroke, but was fine and wanted to wait until his next doctor's appointment on that Monday for a check-up. This did not happen; I rushed him to the hospital for treatment. The incident made me realized how strong he was. Julian bounced back from that setback and continued to work until just a few weeks before he made his transition.

Julian was well known and liked by students, faculty and staff here at Chicago State University, he considered CSU his family. He told me about a week before he died that his plan was to give back to Chicago State all the money he had earned here over the course 21 years. And his thoughtful endowment to the university of \$1 million dollars did just that.

Rest my friend... you have earned it. And from now on... We will always have Distance Learning!

Government Documents Goes Digital, Cleans up Act

The Chicago State University Library has been a federal depository for over 50 years. In that time, the collection has weathered changes in political and university administrations, moves from campus to campus and from building to building, and changes in policies and staff.

The biggest change of all, said Gabrielle Toth, government information coordinator, has been in the format of the documents themselves. What once was analog is now digital.

"Our move to digital began under my predecessor, Mariana Herrera, Toth said. "She moved the current collection from all paper to mostly electronic by favoring elec-

tronic documents, rather than paper documents, in her selection process. These electronic documents show up in our catalog and can be accessed with a click. This saves the library space, time, and allows our patrons access to these documents 24/7 from any computer on earth."

As a selective federal and state depository, the CSU library receives thousands of government documents for free each year. Every summer, the government information librarian selects which documents should be sent based on user needs and interests. As mandated by federal law, the collection must serve not only the CSU community, but the entire Second Congressional District, as well.

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Employee Spotlight: Antoinette Whitfield

Charlene Snelling & Gabrielle Toth

Some people question why they come to work each day. That is not the case for Senior Library Specialist Antoinette Whitfield, who works at the reference desk on the second floor of the Chicago State University Library.

"I asked the Lord, why am I here?," Whitfield said. "And He showed me that I was here for the students. They're going to need me not only to help them in what I'm doing here as a worker, but they're going to need me outside of that. And I have found that to be totally true."

Since joining the staff in 1990 as a Clerk II in the Circulation Department Whitfield has known without a doubt her reason for working in the library was to help students. She gives practical, common sense advice and support to her Chicago State University family. She is known on campus, in church and in the community as "Mama Toni".



Toni Whitfield speaks to students at Information Fair. Photo by Brent Jones

Continued on pg 3

We remember our beloved colleagues who served the CSU community for over 30 years.

Jesse E. Johnson Sr.
1954-2009

Ivo Miletich
1936-2006



Second Acquisition of The Thomas H. Wirth Collection Strengthens Collections in African American Studies

Tarshel Beards

Chicago State University Library acquired the second installment of the Thomas H. Wirth Collection, a rare book collection of African American studies in March 2009. The collection is now available for viewing in the Archives and Special Collections Department.

Phase 1 of the initial acquisition includes 400 works in eighteenth and nineteenth-century history, literature, sociology and journalism. It includes slave narratives, anti-slavery tracts, novels, newspapers, journals and sheet music.

Some highlights include first editions of Phillis Wheatley's "Poems on Various Subjects;" William Wells Brown's "Narrative," Henry O. Flipper's "The Colored Cadet at West Point;" David Walker's "Appeal;" and the "Narrative of Sojourner Truth."

Wirth, an independent scholar, a bibliophile, union organizer and publisher from Elizabeth New Jersey began collecting books in African-American history and literature in the 1960's. His interest grew out of his experiences teaching at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HCBUs) and living in black



Thomas H. Wirth speaks to the CSU community.

Photo by Brent Jones.

communities in the South.

"Living in the black community during the Civil Rights Movement was like receiving a second graduate education," said Wirth. "Reading books about the black experience was important to learning more about history and community. It helped me establish and maintain a connection with the people."

Subsequently, Wirth discovered that many of these historical materials were not widely available in bookstores and at libraries. Circulation was not encouraged because of fear of civil unrest from students. He began by collecting popular books from the time period, such as "Invisible Man" by Ralph Ellison, and gradually began assembling a comprehensive collection of first edition materials so that they would be adequately preserved for future generations.

Wirth's collection is now over 8000 volumes, spanning all eras of African-American history and culture, with a major emphasis on the Harlem Renaissance and extensive Langston Hughes materials, as well as original book jackets designed by Aaron Douglass, a famed painter and muralist.

"I'm very pleased that the CSU Library has part of my collection," said Wirth. "My hope is that faculty will use the materials in their classes and that the information will be included in their curriculum. Historical rarities are important to a community's cultural past. Viewing and using these rare texts is an experience that all students should have so that they may put their own lives into context."

CSU Authors Honored at Illinois Library Association Conference

Tarshel Beards

Chicago State University student Matt Jordan, and Professor Quraysh Ali Lansana were honored last fall for their literary accomplishments during the Illinois Library Association's Annual Conference at Navy Pier in Chicago.

The annual Authors' Dinner is the opportunity for libraries to sponsor local authors and introduce them to a network of library and information professionals. "How cool is it that we were able to sponsor a student and faculty member this year?" Richard Darga, Ph.D Interim Dean of CSU Library said. "It is an honor to showcase the work of Matt and Quraysh and have them represent CSU"

Jordan, a sophomore and chemistry major at CSU, self-published "The New Earth Saga" in 2009. The idea for the novel, (the story of four boys living under torment and humiliation, after a dream by the main protagonist the boys are transported to a new world, New Earth) began after a series of eight dreams after each night he documented all of the events that occurred.

"The ILA dinner was, without a doubt, one of the greatest experiences of my life," Jordan said. "I had to admit, I was a bit amazed at some of the authors that were there in my presence. Prior to the night, I wasn't aware of the names of some of the authors that were there. But I had to admit, they were all quite impressive. They've made progress into areas that I am still working on getting into, and they have my utmost respect."

Quraysh A. Lansana, Associate Professor of English and Director of the Gwendolyn Brooks Center for Black Literature and Creative Writing is the author of five poetry books, a children's book, and the editor of seven anthologies. He was honored for his latest publication (co-authored with Georgia A. Popoff) "Our Difficult Sunlight: A Guide to Poetry, Literacy & Social Justice in Classroom & Community." (Released January 2011)

"Georgia and I have spent the last two decades in classrooms across the country, from K-12 to graduate school, working with students and teachers regarding best practices for utilizing the reading and writing of poetry as a means to greater understanding of the human experience, in addition to language arts/reading constructs," Lansana said. "The book is for teachers and teaching artists, and aims to aide in the value of poetry in an effort to access meaning, knowledge and global awareness."

The Illinois Library Association is the voice for Illinois libraries and the millions who depend on them. It provides leadership for the development, promotion, and improvement of library services in Illinois and for the library community in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all.



Quraysh A. Lansana and Matthew Jordan sign copies of their books at the ILA Authors reception and dinner.

Photo by Tarshel Beards

Moodle Launch Successful

Tarshel Beards & Dr. Elizabeth Osika

The start of Fall 2010 began with many changes in Library & Instruction Services, including a shift from usage of Blackboard to Moodle for all online courses. In addition, Dr. Elizabeth Osika began as the Interim Dean of Instruction Services and took over the leadership to help the campus transition to the new course management system.

At the start of the semester, online usage was at an all time high and to keep that momentum, the teams' focus was customer service and communications.

The marketing campaign included yard signs, buttons and palm cards to announce the transition to Moodle, followed by weekly email messages to faculty to share news and information. In addition, the staff participated in many campus wide events, such as New Student Orientation to highlight the new system and address any issues, such as access/log-in.

Providing superior customer service that would promote faculty and student confidence was key to a successful transition. For instance, faculty and students who emailed questions received a response within 12 hours, often times instantly. Instruction staff became highly visible on campus by providing training in classrooms and working individually with faculty during their office hours. In addition, staff focused outreach efforts on faculty members new to online course management systems by sending letters and email messages to encourage them to use Moodle and offer whatever support they needed. The response from faculty and students was positive.

The goals for Spring 2011 are to enhance faculty training and increase usage of the Moodle. Instruction Services has an open-door policy for students and faculty who need support. In addition, the staff will focus on more providing online and in-person training sessions. Finally, communications efforts will continue with more email blasts and targeted marketing materials.

Employee Spotlight cont. from pg 1

Prior to coming to Chicago State, Whitfield spent many years as a senior supervisor at Blue Cross and Blue Shield in the Records Management Department.

"I've always been a trouble-shooter," she said. As a Senior Library Specialist, Whitfield beefed up the quantity of reports detailing student use of the department and in instruction sessions, adding to the array of statistics collected and reported.

Having graduated from Chicago State University in May 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Liberal Arts, Whitfield

knows the challenges students face in the classroom and skillfully helps them navigate the many library resources available to them. Students are thankful to Toni for help at the Reference Desk with their questions on academic papers and projects. Whitfield began working toward her B.A. degree in Fall 1993.

"I feel that, because of me attending school while the students are coming to talk to me at the reference desk, I can say to them, I understand, and they can feel good and they can feel like they can continue on." Whitfield said. There are a lot of them who have told me, if it hadn't been for me attending school and having the same

Government documents from Pg. 1

"While the focus of my work, and my heart, is with our students and faculty, I am eager to reach out to the greater community to ascertain what types of government materials, instruction, and programming would be most useful to them," Toth said.

"It's a balancing act - my job as an assistant professor and librarian is to create and protect resources for our students' use. So I have written policies to ensure that, while all of my government documents patrons are welcome and well-cared for here, CSU students are never hindered in their access to materials, computers, and the like," she said.

Toth was appointed government information coordinator in 2008, but only fully assumed the position in August, once new reference and instruction librarian Rosalind Fielder was hired.

"We have been working hard to get the paper portion of the collection in order. It's a monumental task. For one thing, thousands, maybe tens of thousands, of documents need to be removed from our collection because they are old or out-of-

date. Some of these materials are available online, and all are available from other libraries, so this is not a loss to our collection," Toth said.

Federal law allows for documents older than five years to be removed from a collection, provided that certain rules are followed. Toth and her staff are working on moving the most recent documents, those dated from 2000 to the present, onto the shelves in good order. That, she said, is the first task in making the collection as beneficial to the campus as it should be.

Toth has drafted updated policies for the collection. Those policies will be available online. Before the Fall 2011 semester, subject guides highlighting government documents useful to each of CSU's colleges will be up, as well, with more subject-specific guides to come.

"My hope is that, by Fall Semester 2011, the collection will be in good order, rudimentary guides and tips will be available, and I can begin working one-on-one with teaching faculty to determine how government documents might better serve their teaching and research interests," Toth said.

New and Expanded Electronic Resources @ Your Library

Learning Express Library

Learning Express Library provides access to a broad range of online practice tests (over 300) based on the official exams. This resource provides practice tests and preparation materials for tests such as the ACT, SAT, GED, MCAT, ASVAB, Firefighter, Police Officer, and many more. Includes interactive skill-building courses, comprehensive courses in math, reading, writing, resume writing and workplace skills enrichment.

Dissertations and Theses: The Humanities, Social Sciences & Sciences Collection

This resource provides 2.4 million searchable citations to dissertations and theses from 1861 to present and features 1.2 million full text dissertations from 1997 that are available for viewing or downloading. More than 60,000 new full text dissertations and theses are added to the database each year.

Access these databases and more @

<http://library.csu.edu/cgi-bin/eresources/eselect.py?title=All%20Databases>