The Latest @ the Library
Spring 2003

It’s All Fun @ Your Library April 7 – 11

Did you miss it last year?!? Don’t make that mistake again when Sojourner Truth Library hosts its 2nd annual National Library Week celebration April 7–11, 2003. National Library Week is a great time for thinking about how books and reading have affected our lives. At New Paltz, it’s also a time to have fun in the library!

Highlights of the week will be campus visits from two well-known authors: Dave Ross and Charles R. Smith, Jr. Both have written award-winning children’s books. Ross’s stories are accompanied by humorous line drawings, while Smith illustrates his text with vibrant photographs. Each author will talk about the creative process of writing and illustrating and then present a hands-on workshop for students interested in children’s literature, drawing, photography, or poetry. These visits are co-sponsored by the Mid-Hudson Teachers Center. Look for posters for specific dates, places, and times.

Here are a few more of the events scheduled for National Library Week 2003:

- READ Poster exhibit featuring New Paltz students
- Music, drama & poetry performed in the STL lobby
- Library career seminar
- Contests, Games & Puzzles - with prizes!
- STL Tattoo Booth
- Food & other free stuff every day!

Keep checking the STL website for an up-to-the-minute schedule.

Got Opinions?

SUNY New Paltz students will have a chance this spring to say what they think about the quality of library services on our campus by taking the online LibQUAL+ survey. In just 10 minutes, students, faculty, and staff can voice their opinions and help Sojourner Truth Library understand what library users want most.

STL is one of 316 college and university libraries across the country – and one of 75 in New York State – to participate in the LibQUAL+ research study. The goal of the survey is to determine the minimum expectations of library users, as well as their desired level of library service. Those expectations are then compared to how well their local library is actually performing. STL will use the survey results, available this summer, to see what improvements might need to be made to better serve the New Paltz campus community.

You’ll receive a link to the LibQUAL survey in an email message in mid-April. You can also register for several prizes, given to randomly drawn respondents. For more information, visit the LibQUAL web site at http://lib.newpaltz.edu/spolight.news/libqual.html or send email to libqual@newpaltz.edu.
One-on-One Research Assistance

Do you have a research project that’s giving you trouble? Not sure which research databases to use? Can’t decide on a topic or have one that’s too broad or too narrow? Your instructor says there’s information on your topic, but you can’t find it? Need to use something other than internet sites? Can’t get started?

All these research problems – and more – can be solved in a Research Consultation at Sojourner Truth Library. A Research Consultation is a one-on-one meeting between student and reference librarian where the student’s research project is worked on together. In order to set up an appointment, the student simply provides some background on his/her project: topic description, resources already used, special problems, etc. The librarian will confirm a day and time for the consultation, which lasts about an hour. During the consultation, the librarian will help the student over whatever obstacles have emerged, suggesting useful resources and strategies for completing the project. In-depth instruction in the use of research tools can also be provided.

Don’t struggle on your own when expert research help is only a click or a call away! Request a research consultation online at http://lib.newpaltz.edu/consult.html or call 845-257-3710 or stop by the STL information desk whenever the desk is open.

More PCs in Reference Area

STL has installed four more PCs in the reference area, bringing the total number of internet stations for student use to 26. These PCs replaced terminals that previously accessed only the Dynix library catalog. Look for the additional PCs on the tall tables under the “Online Catalog” sign.

We Can Get That For You

ILLiad makes interlibrary loan easier

Do you need something that the library doesn’t have? A book, article, or other publication that’s not in the stacks or in any online database? Then you need ILLiad, Sojourner Truth Library’s electronic interlibrary loan (ILL) service – where STL gets what you need from other libraries. Simply place your request from the library web page (look for the ILLiad link in the orange bar). Once your account is set up, ILLiad makes ILL very easy.

You can see the status of your requests online, articles can be delivered to you by email, and you can renew ILL books (if the lending library permits). Best of all, all this can be done 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, from any computer with internet access. If you have questions about ILLiad or any aspect of interlibrary loan service, call the ILL Office at 845-257-3680.

Find Full-Text in Serials Solutions

Serials Solutions can be a researcher’s best friend because it tracks down full-text articles in all of the databases owned by Sojourner Truth Library. Once you have a citation to an article you want, Serials Solutions will show if it’s available full-text online.

To use this resource, go to the Databases section of the STL web site.

Under “Database Tools,” click on the link to Serials Solutions. There you can browse alphabetically to find the journal you need. Each journal entry shows the dates of coverage found in each database, and includes a direct link to the database itself. Journals owned by the library are also indicated.

New Research Resources: Biology & Contemporary Issues

Check out the Databases section of the STL web site for two new research databases:

**Basic BIOSIS** is an Ebsco database focusing on general life sciences research from 300 publications. (HINT: Search Academic Search Elite along with BasicBIOSIS to find full-text articles.) Thanks to the Klock Kingston Foundation for funding BasicBIOSIS.

**Opposing Viewpoints** is a one-stop source for information on “hot topics” such as media violence, child abuse, censorship, terrorism, and others. Includes articles, topic overviews, statistics, primary documents, and websites. Great for debates and speeches!