



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Read about the Director's plan about the Central Library
- Reader Services for PSU students
- Know what's new with the Arabic collection
- Why libraries are extremely important

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- From the Library Director 2
- Why libraries matter 2
- Library Staff Profile 2
- Patron of the Month 3
- Readers Program 4
- Library Directory 4
- New Books 4

Library Newsletter

Prince Sultan University

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2008

PSU Librarians attend KSU seminar

Library staff attended King Saud University's Electronic Information Resources Workshop. The morning session was about what various libraries were using in terms of electronic information resources. The afternoon session was more technical in nature with vendors presenting their products. We heard presentations by Elsevier's Science Direct, Sage Publications and other scientific and business publishers. There were a couple of brief sessions on E-learning. I don't think that E-learning has caught on very well yet and it was very basic information.

I spoke with Elsevier's sales people about the possibility of purchasing their database. It was quite pricey costing \$55,000 (U.S.) for the complete Freedom

Collection for the Saudi Arabian University consortium pricing. I would like to get Science Direct as our first database since it covers many disciplines taught here.



A view of the King Saud University Auditorium where the seminar was held.

I have recommended it for purchase to Dr. Feda.

I spoke to a British agent about some business databases for the AACSB and business program. In

order to gain an AACSB ranking for the library we would need the following databases: ABI Inform, Proquest Business Library, Proquest Tax and Accounting Database, and Factiva (Dow Jones). The array of databases would cost around \$80,000 (U.S.) without them the university will not even have a chance at the AACSB designation.

We toured the KSU libraries. Their selection of databases was standard with Proquest, Ebsco, and Gale undergraduate products. All products we need to add as well in the next couple of years. Our cost would be around \$50,000 for the three basic research databases based on the size of our enrollment. I spoke to the Dean of Library Affairs (continued on page 2)

Central Library acquires BookWhere

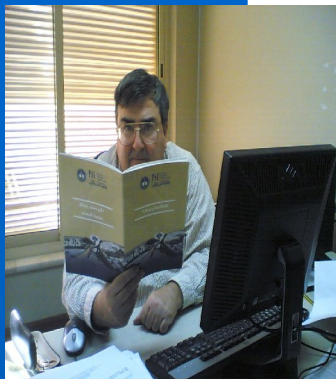
by Benj Requero

The Central Library has recently acquired BookWhere 6.0 software - a software that combines the databases of well-known libraries. The acquisition was formally made on the 26th of November, the same day they provide two sets of serial codes for installation.

BookWhere now supports search, display and export of MARC records encoded using MARC-B, Latin-1 or UTF-8. This is particularly important when working with Arabic, Hebrew, Russian and many other non-Latin based language materials. Instead of consulting the online

public catalog (OPAC) of Library of Congress and OHIO Link, BW produces the same records in a much speedier time, making cataloging faster and more comprehensive for PSU Librarians. If you want to know more about BookWhere, ask your library or visit www.webclarity.info

PSU Librarians...from page 1



Dr. Frank Alan Bruno, PSU Central Library Director

“To add a library to a house is to give that house a soul”
 -- Cicero , Roman statesman and philosopher

Smile Smaeel, Circulation Section Librarian



who said we could join their consortium if we sent a formal letter so we could get reduced pricing from vendors. We would be the only private institution in their group. I find that vendors are not giving very good discounts to the Saudi libraries. They must think we have a lot of money. I spoke to the three or four major database vendors in the kingdom, all which are anxious to get our business. I spoke to Arabian Advance Systems people about the forthcoming

quote on the automation system which is scheduled to be given to us by December 30, 2007.

We will be sending out a database survey to the university as a whole after Advanced Arabian Systems delivers their quote on December 30, 2007. We are anxious to meet the information needs of our students, faculty and administration.

Dr. Frank Alan Bruno, Director of Prince Sultan University Central Library 2007

Why Libraries Matter

by Lennard Plandor

Society is not ready to abandon the library, and it probably won't ever be. Libraries can adapt to social and technological changes, but they can't be replaced. While libraries are distinct from the internet, librarians are the most suited professionals to guide scholars and citizens toward a better understanding of how to find valuable information online. Indeed, a lot of information is online. But a lot is still on pa-

per. Instead of regarding libraries as obsolete, local and federal governments should increase funding for improved staffing and technology. Rather than lope blindly through the digital age, guided only by the corporate interests of web economics, society should foster a culture of guides and guideposts. Today, more than ever, libraries and librarians are extremely important for

the preservation and improvement of any culture.

Library Staff Profile

Position: Librarian - Circulation Section

Graduate of: King Saud University/ Bachelor of Library and Information Science

Last work before PSU: Librarian, Dhahran Ahliya Schools

Best part of the job: Being able to help people with their research

Major challenges of the job: The library is not yet automated and everything has to be recorded manually

Best thing about the Library: The availability of wireless

service for researchers

Worst thing about the Library: old computers

Common questions asked: How to print documents?

Current recreational reading: History of Islam

Special interest: Football

Central Library supports the English Reading program

by Benj Requiero



In support of the PSU's English Reading program, the Central Library has recently created a separate area for fiction and literature books. From its original location in the first floor, the books are now

Separate area for literature and fiction books.

located in the second floor to provide a bigger and quieter space for patrons.

Classes were also held recently to promote reading to students.

Patrons may choose from Shakespeare classics to John Grisham but the most notable readings are the Penguin classics and Penguin Readers, especially for beginners.

These books were currently placed

on the priority cataloging list to answer the high borrowing demands during the Hajj holidays and before the end of semester.

The library plans to acquire more literature books and is open to accept donations from faculty and staff. In fact some members of the English department led by its chairperson, Mr. Peter Gordon have already started the books rolling.

"The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them"

— Mark Twain, American writer and humanist

From the Arabic Collection

by Samawal Ibrahim

The Arabic collection of the Central Library would like to greet the library patrons for the 1st release of the Library Newsletter. As for the faculty, staff and students the section has classified 350 books which will be presented soon.

The Arabic language section has received one of the most famous Arab encyclopedias (Maosua'at Alrwad Lelolom wa Technologia =

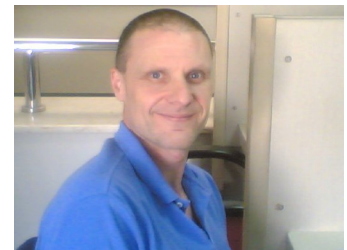
Guinness Pioneer of Science and Technology), also, received last week 4 books concerning the Biography of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) from Dubai International Award for the Holy Qur'an.

Finally, we would like to state that the Arabic collection is trying to satisfy the users' need and interest for various information services.

Patron of the Month

Position: English teacher
 Research Interests: Psychology, statistics
 Special interests: Books about evolution and alien abductions
 Favorite book/ journal: NewScientist
 Current recreational reading: The Freud Wars

Best thing about the Library: a quiet place, not many students
 Worst thing about the Library: noisy students, slow computers, early closing time, too small
 Quotable quotes: "Science is driven by the presumption of ignorance"



Mr. David Shephard takes a break from his research

Who is your librarian?

	Ext No.
Dr. Frank Alan Bruno Library Director fbruno@psu.edu.sa	393
Mr. Lennard A. Plandor Librarian-in-Charge	389
Mr. Benjamin R. Requero English Collection Section	389
Mr. Samawal M. Ibrahim Arabic Collection Section	392
Mr. Abdullah Mohammad Smaeel Circulation Section	332

The Library Newsletter is a quarterly publication released by the Central Library.

Editor:
Dr. Frank Alan Bruno

Layout:
Benjamin R. Requero

Columnists:
Lennard A. Plandor
Benjamin R. Requero
Abdullah Mohammed Ali Smaeel
Samawal M. Ibrahim

For suggestions and comments, or articles that you may want to be featured in future issues, feel free to email us at fbruno@psu.edu.sa

NEW ACQUISITIONS

Guinness world records 2007 (in Español) / Craig Glenday, editor. New York : Guinness World Record Ltd., c2006. Call Number: AG 243 G85 2006

The event marketing handbook : beyond logistics and planning / Allision Saget. Chicago ; Kaplan Publishing, c2006. Call Number: GT 3405 S34 2006

The handbook of physical education / edited by David Kirk, Macdonald Doune and O' Sullivan, Mary. London : Sage Publications, c2006. Call Number: GV 341 H32 2006

Handbook of classroom management : research, practice and contemporary issues / edited by Carolyn M. Evertson and Weinstein, Carol S. New Jersey : LEA Publishers, c2006. Call Number: LB 3013 H336 2006

Cram 101 textbook outlines to accompany life and health insurance / Kenneth Black Jr. and Skipper, Harold Jr. 13th ed. New Jersey : Prentice Hall, c2007 (3 copies) Call Number: HG 8771 B55c 2007

Encyclopedia of business and finance / edited

by Burton S. Kaliski. 2nd ed. Detroit : Thomson Gale, c2007. (2 volumes) Call Number: HF 1001 E466 2007

Who's who in Saudi Arabia 2006 / Asia Pacific InfoServ. Sydney : Asia Pacific InfoServ, c2006. Call Number: CT 1890 W47 2006

Who's who in the Gulf 2006 / Asia Pacific InfoServ. Sydney : Asia Pacific InfoServ,

c2006. Call Number: HF 3762 W47 2006

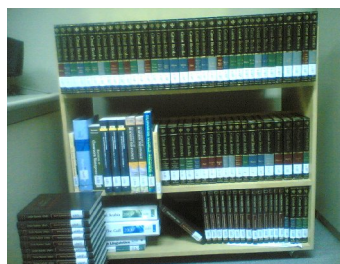
The handbook of English linguistics / edited by Bas Aarts and McMahon, April. Massachusetts : Blackwell Publishing, c2006. Call Number: PE 1106 A27 2006

Internet effectively : a beginner's guide to the World Wide Web. Tyrone Adams and Scollard, Sharon. 1st ed. Boston : Pearson Education, c2006. Call Number: TK 5105.875 I57 A33423 2006

The world book encyclopedia. Chicago : World Book Inc., c2002 (22 volumes) Call Number: AE 5 W55 2006

Great books of the modern world / Mortimer J. Adler, editor-in-chief. 2nd ed. Chicago : Encyclopedia Britannica, 2005. (61 volumes) Call Number: AC 1 G72 2005

Grolier Business Library. Deluxe ed. Hong Kong : Grolier Business International, c2005. (20 volumes) Call Number: HF 5351 G76 2005



A preview of new books to be made available this month.