MANN GOES MOBILE

Power users of the Mann Library website—those who find themselves needing to check on a catalog item, course reserve reading or laptop availability while on the go, go between the classes, meetings and other demands of their busy day will have recently noticed a welcome change in their smartphone view. Mann’s mobile website is now providing streamlined access to the most heavily used library services and information pages customized specifically for small screen viewing. The mobile Mann website will display automatically with any smartphone or other networked handheld device when visiting mannlib.cornell.edu.

Find yourself with a small screen but still wanting the full website view? No problem. The “Full site” link in the footer of the mobile site will get you there. By design, eReaders, iPads and other tablets will automatically display the full Mann website.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY JOINS THE BIODIVERSITY HERITAGE LIBRARY

A rich stream of historical life sciences literature from Mann Library’s renowned collections will soon be online, free and available to the public, as part of the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL). Mann is spearheading the new partnership between the BHL and Cornell University Library, which opens a new chapter in scholarly access to important treasures in the literature of the biological sciences. The BHL — www.biodiversitylibrary.org — is a nonprofit consortium of museums and libraries that cooperate to create a digital “biodiversity commons” of historic scientific literature.

As a cooperative consortium, the Biodiversity Heritage Library aims to unlock historical literature in the biological sciences that would otherwise be highly fragmented or possible to view at only a limited number of physical libraries. Continued on pg. 3

BOOK TALK: ACCUMULATING INSECURITY

Accumulating Insecurity: Violence and Dispossession in the Making of Everyday Life
Thursday, April 5, 12-1pm
Mann 160

Security is often sought through armaments and containment, which can lead to the impoverishment rather than the nourishment of laboring bodies. Under increasingly precarious conditions, governments oversee the movements of people, rather than scrutinize and regulate the movements of capital. Join Shelley Feldman and Charles Geisler, both professors in the Department of Development Sociology, for a “Chats in the Stacks” talk about their new book “Accumulating Insecurity: Violence and Dispossession in the Making of Everyday Life,” (University of Georgia Press, March 2011). The book is a collection of essays and brings together cutting edge scholars around the theme of accumulating insecurity and securing accumulation, focusing on the world’s growing social and economic crisis that leads to the insecurity of civilians and civil society. “Accumulating Insecurity” examines the relationship between these two contemporary phenomena: a fixation on security that justifies global military engagements and the militarization of civilian life, and the dramatic increase in insecurity associated with crises in health care, housing, incarceration, personal debt, and unemployment.

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A POWERFUL NEW WAY TO FIND ARTICLES & EBOOKS

It’s officially called Summon, but it’s probably better to think of it as “what you get when you search for articles and ebooks on the library’s home page.” As of January 2012, the Find Articles & Ebooks search on the Cornell Library’s homepage has a new search engine behind it, and it’s like saying you traded in your LED pocket light for a search beacon—while the old find articles was quite good at shedding light on our resources, this new version is far broader and more extensive in what it retrieves for you.

The new site searches approximately 700 million items, including, but not limited to, scholarly journal articles, newspaper articles, ebooks, audio files and video files. As the colorful venn diagram here suggests, it covers almost all of the journals and ebooks Cornell subscribes to; you can, for example, access all the journals indexed in databases ranging from Web of Science and Pubmed to Sociological Abstracts and Econlit. For those who like details, see the full list of all journals indexed in Summon as well as details of database coverage.

One particularly helpful feature here is the ability to find full text articles from encyclopedias and entire ebooks on a subject. So, for example, if you’re searching for research on Integrated Pest Management in Asia, Summon would help you find and gain instant access to not only loads of articles from scholarly journals and magazines/newspapers, but also ebooks like “Integrated Pest Management: Dissemination and Impact” or the full text of a chapter on IPM in the edited book “Urban and Community Forestry in the Northeast.” The range of full text scholarly information in such ebooks is extensive, but often so hard to find that they’re effectively hidden from Cornell patrons (until now).

While the CUL library catalog itself is not being searched by Summon at this point, several other local Cornell Library resources are in there, including eCommons, the repository of Cornell-related digital content, and arXiv.org, which provides open access to e-prints in the physical sciences. And more are on the way. “The goal is to provide access to more Cornell-maintained resources,” says Jesse Koenecke, E-Resources librarian and a senior member of the Summon team. Those resources could include digital libraries like CHLA and HEARTH, as well as, yes, the library catalog. For now, to find print books and other physical items that are not included in Summon search results, users should continue to check the Library Catalog or the Classic Catalog.

Want to know more? Try it yourself at library.cornell.edu—just select “Articles. Ebooks” on top of the page. You may also find more detailed instructions online at http://www.library.cornell.edu/searchtips#articles.
CORNELL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY JOINS THE BIODIVERSITY HERITAGE LIBRARY

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BHL strives to ensure the global accessibility of this literature, operating on the principles of open access and responsible use. It works with the international taxonomic community, rights holders and other interested parties and collaborators such as the Internet Archive. Participating institutions — all of whom contribute content to BHL’s online library — hail from the U.S., Europe, Australia and China and include the Smithsonian Libraries, the American Museum of Natural History, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and the Chinese National Committee for Diversitas, among others. Cornell is the second academic institution to become a member of BHL, joining Harvard Libraries as a contributing consortium partner.

“Our partnership with BHL will significantly increase the visibility and accessibility of Mann’s collections for a global community of researchers,” said Mann Library Director Mary Ochs ’79. “I’m really pleased that this partnership will in turn help connect Cornell scholars with the amazing body of biodiversity-related literature available at all the remarkable institutions that make up the BHL consortium.”

Cornell University Library’s entry as BHL partner has already achieved an important milestone: When more than 4,000 digitized life sciences titles from Mann Library’s collection joined BHL in early January, the additions put the online repository over the 100,000 mark in the number of digitized volumes in its online collection.

The next focus of Mann’s participation will be the digitization of Cornell’s entomology collection, which is one of the largest and finest in the world. Mann has already digitized more than 190 titles from the Library’s special collections of rare entomology works — including beautifully illustrated gems such as Dru Drury’s 18th-century “Illustrations of Natural History” and Jacob Hübner’s late 19th-century “Geschichte Europäischer Schmetterlinge” — which will soon be added to the BHL site and will fill out a major area in BHL’s wide-ranging coverage universe of biodiversity literature.

WEBCAST SERA YOUNG

Craving Earth: Understanding Pica, The Urge to Eat Clay, Starch, Ice and Chalk
November 3rd, 2011
mannlib.cornell.edu/podcasts

Pica—the urge to eat clay, starch, ice and chalk—has been a phenomenon among humans, particularly women, for a very long time. Dr. Young’s study seeks to answer why some people engage in this curious behavior, also shedding light on the properties that the non-food substances associated with pica possess. Touching on the history of medicine and drawing from a global body of literature, she constructs a bio-cultural framework for understanding pica, identifies its most avid partakers (pregnant women and young children), tests scientific hypotheses, and describes the potentially healthful and harmful effects.

EVENTS

February 22nd, 4pm
Book Talk by Karl Pillemer
30 Lessings for Living: Tried and True Advice from the Wisest Americans
Room 160 Mann Library, 1st floor

March 1st, 4pm
Book Talk by Valerie Reyna
The Adolescent Brain
Room 160 Mann Library, 1st floor

March 8th, 4pm
Book Talk by Per Pinstrup-Andersen
Food Policy in Developing Countries: The Role of Government in Global, National, and Local Food Systems.
Room 160 Mann Library, 1st floor

April 5th, 4pm
Book Talk by Shelley Feldman and Charles Geisler
Accumulating Insecurity: Violence and Dispossession in the Making of Everyday Life
Room 160 Mann Library, 1st floor

Book talks can be downloaded as podcasts at: http://www.mannlib.cornell.edu/podcasts

EXHIBITS

December 14th - February 27th
Mann Gallery
Cornell Timescapes: Fine Art Photography by Thibault Roland

March - April 2012
Mann Lobby and 1st Floor
The Other Side of What? Adventures in Fungal Wonderland

Online Exhibit
Inland Waters
James G. Needham & the Origins of Cornell Limnology
WE DO DATA MANAGEMENT: AN UPDATE

Facilitating data sharing among researchers continues to be a priority service that librarians at Mann and other Cornell University Libraries offer to the research community. We’re happy to report some recent activities:

In response to the new policy on data management plans adopted by the National Science Foundation in January 2011, Cornell University Library is offering data help to faculty in formulating robust data management plans through the Research Data Management Service Group. The RDMSG website provides links to specific services, including storage, help with developing metadata, and information on protecting intellectual property and copyright. The RDMSG is also hosting live informational sessions reviewing the new NSF requirements, scheduled for December 5 (12:30-1:30pm, 206 Hollister) and December 6 (12:30-1:30pm, 102 Mann Library). Slides from these sessions are available for online review as well.

Mann Library’s DataStaR project, designed to help Cornell researchers store, share and work across data sets more easily, is helping support a new language research initiative in Sri Lanka. Cornell professor of human development Barbara Lust is working with language researchers in Sri Lanka to study language acquisition among Sinhalese speaking children of the island nation. As data is gathered from the field, cyber tools developed at the Cornell Language Acquisitions Lab will help collaborating researchers share and analyze the information. For more information on the Sinhala language acquisition project, please see the Cornell Chronicle article.

On November 7, a one-day workshop at Mann introduced librarians from several institutions across New York to the use of the Data Curation Profiles Toolkit. The kit is an interviewing tool that helps librarians elicit from researchers the “story” of a data set, which is to say, in describing a dataset’s origin and life cycle throughout the course of a research project. This information can be used to inform the development of data management services to support data sharing—a requirement that many funding agencies, such as the National Science Foundation, are now attaching to grant proposals. Twenty-six librarians from a dozen institutions, including Columbia, Syracuse, RPI, Hamilton, Colgate, Binghampton, Buffalo and Cornell, attended. For more information about Data Curation Profiles and the tools available to create them, please visit datacurationprofiles.org.