University of Alaska Southeast William A. Egan Library

Technical Services Librarian Wayne Haas Hired

Wayne Haas has begun work at the Egan Library as the new Technical Services Librarian and liaison to the Social Sciences Department. Wayne comes to Alaska from his most recent position at the South Dakota State Library in Pierre South Dakota.

Originally from Canada, Wayne feels glad to be back in a familiar landscape. When asked why he chose to move to Juneau Wayne replied "I was impressed by the town, the campus, and most of all by the people I met while visiting for my interview. I'm very happy to be here".

Please help us welcome Wayne to UAS!

Covered Coffee OK in the Library!

People who have not visited the Egan library in awhile might be surprised to see how bustling it has become. Many things have contributed to this shift according to Carol Hedlin, Library Director. "The opening of the new classroom addition has changed the flow of students on campus, making the library a more centralized location." Hedlin remarked.

The new Spike's Coffee Bar location at the level-2 entrance also attracts students to the area. "We're pleased to continue our policy of allowing beverages in covered containers in the library; it's working out very well," Hedlin said. "However, food and uncovered beverages need to remain outside the library."

Library staff enjoys the increasing activity and hopes that students will visit often to study and make use of library resources. Group study rooms are usually available and research and database assistance close at hand.

Faculty Resources Page

The faculty resources page on the Egan Library's website is the library's primary communication tool with faculty. It includes links to trial databases, a troubleshooting page for database access issues, as well as updated information about copyright and intellectual property rights.

An FAQ page answers such questions as how to place items on reserve, who to contact for ordering books for your classes, how to get library assistance and materials to distance students and much more. Please check this page regularly for updated information about what the Egan Library can do for you and your students.

http://www.uas.alaska.edu/library/faculty/index.html

ScienceDirect Trial

Coming in fall will be a limited-time trial to ScienceDirect. "Since its commercial launch in 1999, ScienceDirect has evolved from a web database of Elsevier Science journals to one of the world's largest providers of scientific, technical and medical (STM) literature."

Feedback regarding the trial should be directed to Lynn Shepherd, the Natural Sciences liaison, at ex. 6515.

PIN Numbers

Students, faculty and staff who do not have a pin number for their library cards may get one at the Circulation Desk. A PIN number is needed to renew books online, check due dates, and place holds using the Capital City Libraries catalog.

Group Library Instruction and Individual Research Sessions.

Last semester librarians taught forty-one research sessions, including five sessions for distance students. Courses ranged from ENG111 and BIO105 to GOVT393. Individual sessions are designed to support a specific assignment or ongoing research.

"In the past it was necessary for students to attend sessions in the library" says Elise Tomlinson, head of Instructional Services for the Egan Library. "Now with the wireless laptop lab available it is much easier to take instruction sessions to the classroom. Students are able to observe new searching techniques and then immediately put the information to use on a current assignment."

Librarians also offer library tours and one-on-one consultations with students who are starting projects that require a variety of resources. Students can make an appointment to practice search & navigation techniques, locate resources, & evaluate information for a particular assignment. Students often tell librarians that these sessions are invaluable for getting them started on a difficult task, saving them much time & frustration.

Library Information Literacy for Distance Students

There will be a new library science course taught this fall specifically designed for distance students. It concentrates on resources geared toward the virtual library environment.

There is a new section of the library website for instruction, including information about credit library science courses, forms for setting up library instruction sessions for individual students or for classes, as well as guides used for class assignments & specific resources. http://www.uas.alaska.edu/library/instruction/index.html or contact Elise Tomlinson at ex. 6440

Electronic Books

Egan Library has recently acquired a three-year license to **ebrary**, a collection of over 10,000 scholarly and popular titles from academic, trade, and professional publishers. The UAS Faculty Senate approved the purchase from faculty development funds.

This collection of electronic books is available from the Egan Library homepage to anyone who is affiliated with UAS. Click on Electronic Books > ebrary collection and download the ebrary reader to your computer the first time you gain access. Set up a user account with ebrary to take full advantage of options. You may browse subject collections or search the full text of ebooks.

Unlike netLibrary ebooks, these ebooks do not get "checked out" for periods of time and are therefore available 24/7 by multiple users. They're now included in the library's catalog.

Our electronic books collection also includes a link to the **National Academies Press**, publisher for over 2,500 titles from the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, National Research Council, and Institute of Medicine. This collection is a rich source of current literature on social issues and public policy-making in the United States. Titles are not yet included in the library's catalog.

Another link to **online science and medical textbooks** provides access to a web directory of texts that may provide useful supplementary reading and reference materials for students.

New Databases added to the "Databases for Alaskans" Statewide Initiative

The Databases for Alaskans project includes a collection of 31 individual databases available for use by all Alaskans and Alaskan affiliates. The project was developed through the efforts of the University of Alaska, the State Library, and libraries statewide with funding support from the State Legislature. This July, several new databases were added including the following:

Academic Search Premier - Information in academic journals and magazines for college level research.
Religion & Philosophy Collection - Focusing on Religious and philosophical publications.
Psychology & Behavioral Sciences Collection - Focusing on social science publications.
Regional Business News - Information from local business publications in the U.S.
Business Source Premier - Information on business.
TopicSearch - Information on current events topics.
Learn-A-Test - Test preparation materials and practice exams for academic, civil service, military, and professional licensing and certification exams.
NoveList K-8 - Reader's advisory information for students. **NoveList** - Reader's advisory information.

Access at the Egan Library "Databases by Subject" page http://www.uas.alaska.edu/library/search/databases/index.html or from the State Library Electronic Doorway at http://sled.alaska.edu

OCLC FirstSearch Databases

Egan Library belongs to a consortium or 'buying club' in order to gain affordable access to OCLC's FirstSearch databases. In June, we were faced with substantial price increases when it came time to renew licenses for AY'04 -- +29% if we were to maintain access to the same number of databases as last year!

After looking at the last three years of usage statistics and considering UAS program needs, Egan Library chose to continue subscribing to several 'base packages' offered by OCLC. In addition, librarians chose to purchase a block of 3,000 searches @ $0.85/search for selected high-usage FirstSearch databases that are not included in the base packages. **Alternative Press Index and Archives** and **Media Reviews** are two new databases added this fall.

In making these choices, we hope to satisfy the greatest number of database users while meeting the current budget constraints. So, you'll notice changes in our lists of databases. Please let us know if your needs are not being met – we can suggest alternative databases.