New Cross Search tool simplifies database searching

Would you like your searches for information at the library to be more efficient? Are you starting a research project, but unsure which library databases to use? The library web team has created a new tool, Cross Search, that can help.

Cross Search lets you search many databases at once, casting a wider net that can generate more results than you’d get by searching an individual database. Simple and intuitive, Cross Search makes searching fast and easy. The feature is accessible on the “SJSU Research Topics—Articles & Databases” pages of the library’s website at http://www.sjlibrary.org. While the tool can be used with any search, it’s especially effective for searching within multiple databases when a research topic is obscure, because it significantly broadens search results.

Within each of the “Research Topics” web pages, subject librarians have selected a list of databases that contain appropriate sources for the specific academic discipline. For example, from the “Education” page, Cross Search simultaneously casts a Title, Author, or Keyword search across Academic Search Premier, Education Full Text, Eric via Ebsco, Google Scholar, and PsycInfo. As the researcher, you have the option of searching within each of these sources or removing databases you don’t wish to include.

An example of Cross Search use

Let’s say you need information on attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and teaching methods. With Cross Search, you have several options for launching your online search. By default, Cross Search will query all the databases listed on the “Education” page. Alternatively, you can exclude Google Scholar or PsycInfo from the search, limiting a foreseeably large set of results.

Once you’ve launched the search, you’ll get a list of relevant articles that contains links to the databases. The search results provide links to full-text articles when available, or a “Check for Availability” link that points to the database in which the article is located. When articles are not available, the “Check for Availability” link will let you know.

You’ll also have the ability to save and retrieve a list of records that you can email or download to a text file.

More information

To give Cross Search a try, go to http://www.sjlibrary.org/research/databases/, select “SJSU Research Topics,” and choose your subject area. A Cross Search toolbar will appear at the top of a list of databases related to your subject. If you need assistance, check the “Search Tips” box or contact a reference librarian.
MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library has recently been the site of a number of exciting and informative events. Exhibits and programs have included a fascinating collection of pop-up books, photographs of peregrine falcons, an Asian and Buddhist art exhibit, a photographic display depicting the black community in the Santa Clara Valley, and a photography collection chronicling jazz as an American musical genre. On a regular basis, our Special Collections Unit presents First Thursdays lectures and the library cohosts the University Scholars lecture series. Many faculty members recommend these programs to students as unique learning opportunities—and yes, sometimes for extra credit.

The King Library will continue to provide meeting room space for a variety of cultural and educational events, offering students and the general public valuable learning experiences. If you would like to present a program or exhibit in the library's spaces, contact Candice McGee at (408) 808-2011.

When you send your students to the library to view an exhibit or participate in a program, be sure to tell them about Student Library Computer Services on the lower level, where they can check out laptop computers. Students can also reserve one of 37 study rooms, take advantage of the scanning services available in the periodicals room, visit the Novel Café for snacks and coffee, and get assistance using the library’s 400+ databases. They’ll also enjoy the library’s best sellers and recreational materials, the public art installations, and the very special collections in the fifth-floor Special Collections suite. As you walk through the library on a busy weekday during the academic semester, you will see hundreds of students filling the study rooms, carrels, and open seating area.

Visit the library often, and give your students reasons to visit as well. There is a wealth of information resources and opportunities for learning that can take them far beyond their expectations of a library.

Ruth Kifer
SJSU Library Dean

RefWorks makes it easy to track research citations

Any student who has ever struggled with creating properly formatted bibliographies for research papers will welcome the library’s recent purchase of a license to the citation management software RefWorks. RefWorks is an online tool, accessible from the King Library website, that helps store, organize, and format references. Because RefWorks is web-based, it is accessible from any computer—whether users are in the library, at home, or elsewhere. When universities like SJSU subscribe to RefWorks on behalf of their students and faculty, the software links to electronic journals to which the university libraries hold subscriptions.

RefWorks makes it easy to import research citations directly from the library’s electronic databases. Alternatively, users can manually input citation information. Students may also use RefWorks capabilities while writing papers: A subprogram of RefWorks, Write-N-Cite, can be incorporated into the user’s Microsoft Word program. This feature automatically inserts stored citations for footnotes or in-text references into the research paper.

To start your own personal citation database, access RefWorks through the “Articles & Databases” page on the library website (http://www.sjlibrary.org/research/databases). RefWorks is freely available to all SJSU faculty, staff, and students. No more scrambling for stray index cards and loose notes!
SJSU professor helps Mexican Californios tell their stories


SJSU professor Gregorio Mora-Torres launched the spring First Thursdays program in February with the presentation, “A Soldier and a Collegian Remember Their Nineteenth-Century California Homeland: The Memoirs of José María Amador and the Diaries of Jesús María Estudillo.”

Although people of Mexican ancestry were the first non-indigenous people to explore and settle California, most contemporary Californians are not aware of their history, according to Mora-Torres. Yet Mexican Californios have been actors in the history of their homeland, and since the late 1800s have insisted that they, too, have stories to tell.

Mora-Torres is helping to tell those stories. A professor in SJSU’s Mexican American Studies Department, his research interests include nineteenth-century Sonora, Mexico, and nineteenth-century California history as well as Chicano history. The author of Californio Voices: The Oral Memoirs of José María Amador and Lorenzo Asisara, Mora-Torres is currently preparing to publish the 1861–1862 diaries of Jesús María Estudillo, a Californio who attended Santa Clara College, and is also researching and writing a two-volume history of Mexicans and Mexican Americans in the Santa Clara Valley during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Pop-up books donated to SJSU

In August 2006, Jeanne Rose (class of 1960) donated her large collection of pop-up books to SJSU’s Special Collections and Archives. Rose’s collection includes more than 400 pop-up books and cards on a variety of subjects: art and architecture, history, science, religion, music, and popular culture.

Pop-up books, also known as “movable” or “mechanical” books, have a long history. The earliest known movable books were produced in Spain in the eleventh century, and public fascination with this book-art form continues today. Early versions required readers to erect the three-dimensional pieces, while later versions were designed with elements that popped up on their own.

The Jeanne Rose Pop-Up Book Collection is a fine example of the diversity of this book format. Part of the collection will be on display through the end of April in the Special Collections lobby on the fifth floor of the library.

“This book collection has found a good home at SJSU,” says Danelle Moon, director of SJSU’s Special Collections. “It ties directly to student learning in library science, art, and literature. All of these programs have classes that relate to the history of the book, the art of the book, or the conceptualization of book binding formats, paper, and fine printing processes. Each semester we host instruction sessions introducing art and literature students to our rare and unique book collection. Students use these collections to study and create their own book art, which may include unique construction and elaborate bindings, paper, poetry, and print and digital art.”

“Book art” is an umbrella term used to convey the craftsmanship behind book binding and printing; the term represents the unification of text, design, and binding. “The pop-up form is often described as ‘visual literature,’ where the construction of the book is a vehicle for the presentation of images and ideas, but there is no single definition that can be easily applied to this genre,” says Moon. “The Jeanne Rose Collection is an important addition to our growing collection of artist books.”

For more information on accessing the Jeanne Rose Pop-Up Book Collection or to learn more about Special Collections instruction sessions, contact Moon by phone at (408) 808-2061 or by email at danelle.moon@sjsu.edu.
PROGRAMS

Coming events and exhibits

For more information on these public events, visit the Special Collections website at http://www.sjlibrary.org/research/special/special_coll/.

liberARTE: The art of Xico González

In April and May, the Cultural Heritage Center will host “liberARTE,” an exhibit featuring recent works of artist, poet, and political and cultural activist Xico González. The politically charged serigraphies on exhibit were produced while González was an MFA candidate at the University of California, Davis (2005–2007). Most of the pieces were printed and given out during immigrants’ rights rallies. González, a protégé of the Royal Chicano Air Force, currently teaches in the Chicana/o Studies Program at Sacramento State University. The exhibit will run through May.

Black Community in Santa Clara

After a successful two-month run, “The Reconstruction of the Black Community in Santa Clara Valley” will continue through the summer with an enhanced display on the library’s fifth floor, in the exhibit area directly across from the elevators. Since the exhibit’s opening, the Sourisseau Academy has met with many community members and received many more pictures and documents. The expanded exhibit will continue to offer glimpses into the personal lives of several black individuals and families from San José, and to provide a snapshot of the black community in early twentieth-century San José.

The Devil in Silicon Valley

On April 24 at 4:00 p.m., the Cultural Heritage Center will welcome Stephen J. Pitti, professor of history and American studies at Yale University, who will read from his book The Devil in Silicon Valley: Northern California, Race, and Mexican Americans. This sweeping history explores the growing Latino presence in the United States over the past 200 years. Pitti argues that ethnic Mexicans—rather than computer programmers—should take center stage in any contemporary discussion of the “new West.” This event is sponsored by the College of Social Sciences and the Department of Mexican American Studies in collaboration with National Hispanic University and DeAnza College.

DID YOU KNOW?

Last year SJSU librarians taught 828 library instruction classes, reaching 21,833 university students.

Beethoven lecture

On May 1, the Ira F. Brilliant Center for Beethoven Studies will host a lecture by Alessandra Comini, “The Beethoven-Goethe Conundrum: Of Musical and Nonmusical Visitors to Goethe’s Weimar,” along with a special exhibit of Goethe items from the Paul and Joan Kaufmann Collection. The lecture will run from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Schiro Program Room on the fifth floor of the library. Admission is free, but seating is limited. This presentation is part of the Special Collections Unit’s First Thursdays program, a series of public lectures and presentations supported by the Friends of the King Library.

Galarza Symposium

In honor of the beloved Chicano scholar and local social justice activist Ernesto Galarza, the Chicano/Latino Faculty and Staff Association will host the Galarza Symposium on May 8 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For the last 22 years, the association has given annual scholarships to SJSU students. This event marks the twenty-third celebration of the recipients and the presentation of the 2008 Galarza Scholar award. A reception will follow the symposium in the Cultural Heritage Center.

DID YOU KNOW?

The library currently provides access to 37,000 ebooks, 80,000 ejournals, and more than 300 digital databases.
New online databases facilitate research

Electronic databases provide access to information and scholarly research in many disciplines, and the SJSU library continues to add new online resources for faculty and students. Like other library databases, the resources listed below may be accessed from both the library’s online catalog and the library’s “Articles & Databases” web page at http://www.sjlibrary.org/research/databases/.

Featured databases

**ARTstor** is a digital library of 550,000 images from major museums collections in the areas of art, architecture, the humanities, and social sciences. The high-quality images of paintings, sculpture, photographs, illustrations, and art objects are searchable by title, creator, type of work, and date. Members of the SJSU community can create personal profiles within ARTstor to create folders of images. To learn more about ARTstor, visit http://www.artstor.org or the ARTstor news site at http://artstor.wordpress.com/. Art and design librarian Rebecca Feind (rebecca.feind@sjsu.edu, 408-808-2007) is also available to answer questions and demonstrate features of the database.

**PapersInvited** was developed to assist researchers of all kinds—scientists, professors, postdocs, and students—who seek publishing opportunities for their research papers. It presents a list of calls for papers issued by professional bodies, journal publishers, and conference organizers in all disciplines. Users can set up alerts to receive the latest updates via email.

Other recently added databases

**American Song** contains 50,000 tracks of music from America’s past. The database includes songs by and about American Indians, miners, immigrants, slaves, children, pioneers, and cowboys. Also included are songs of the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, Prohibition, the civil rights movement, political campaigns, and antiwar protests.

Formerly known as AccuNet/AP Multimedia Archive, **AP Images** includes photos, images, and audio files from the Associated Press. The collection features international and Euro-Asian photo archives, including state, regional, and national photos from North America. **Contemporary World Music** is a streaming audio database of 50,000 tracks of contemporary and traditional world music recordings from labels throughout the world. Types of music include reggae, worldbeat, neotraditional, world fusion, Balkanic jazz, African film, Bollywood, Arab swing and jazz, and other genres such as traditional Indian classical, fado, flamenco, klezmer, zydeco, gospel, and gagaku.

**International Index to Music Periodicals (IIMP Full Text)** indexes more than 430 international music periodicals and includes the full text of 125 journals. The database includes citations and abstracts for more than 600,000 articles on music, covering both scholarly research and popular publications.

**NoveList** provides subject headings, reviews, and annotations for more than 135,000 fiction titles. It also includes other content of interest to fiction readers, such as book discussion guides, book talks, and annotated book lists.

**Library, Information Science & Technology Abstracts with Full Text** includes more than 600 periodicals plus books, research reports, and proceedings extending back as far as the mid-1900s. Subject coverage includes librarianship, classification, cataloging, bibliometrics, online information retrieval, and information management.

**Proquest Asian Business and Reference** offers detailed information on companies, economies, markets, and overall business conditions throughout the eastern hemisphere. More than 295 journals provide information on international trade from 1972 to the present.

Now upgraded with full text, **SPORTdiscus** covers subjects related to sports, physical fitness, exercise, sports medicine, health, recreation, tourism, and much more. This database includes more than 750,000 records, with journal and monograph coverage going back to 1800.

A companion to **Mental Measurements Yearbook, Tests in Print** serves as a bibliography of commercially available tests currently in print in the English language. Database records provide test purpose, test publisher, in-print status, price, test acronym, intended test population, administration times, publication dates, and test authors.

For more information about these and other online resources, contact a reference librarian online at http://www.sjlibrary.org/services/reference/, by phone at (408) 808-2100, or in person at the reference desk during regular library hours.
Library faculty and staff news

Rob Bruce, SJSU librarian and accessibility specialist for the Center for Faculty Development, and librarian Sue Kendall recently gave presentations on using Google Scholar at the College of Education and the Center for Faculty Development.

Peggy Cabrera, Rob Bruce, and Frances Howard recently presented “Peer Mentors and Writing Center Tutors: What Our Collaborations Taught Us about Serving the SJSU First-Year Students” at the First-Year Experience conference. Their presentation examined the impact of the collaboration between the Library Outpost (the university library satellite in the Clark Hall Academic Success Center), the Peer Mentors program, and the Writing Center. The First-Year Experience conference examines how colleges and universities can facilitate students’ transition from high school to college and engage them in learning and the academic experience.

In December 2007, Rebecca Feind presented a paper titled, “Results of a Phenomenographic Investigation of How Faculty and Staff Perceive, Engage In, and View Information Literacy,” at the E-Learning Symposium held at RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia. Her research will be published in a forthcoming issue of The International Journal of Learning.

Librarian Sue Kendall was invited to present “Access Denied: Government Websites: The Disappearing Act?” at the Nevada Library Association state conference. Kendall discussed how government websites are being removed from the web and addressed librarians’ efforts to archive those disappearing sites.

At the Popular Culture Conference, Susan Klingberg presented “Why I [Still] Want a Wife: Have Attitudes about ‘Women’s Work’ Really Changed?” Presenting with Klingberg was Judy Brady, who wrote the classic feminist essay, “Why I Want a Wife,” in 1970. The presentation traced the influence of the essay since its publication. As part of the program, Toby Matoush, subject specialist for English, served on a panel of responders.

As a Fulbright senior specialist, Mengxiong Liu visited Montevideo, Uruguay, in November 2007. While evaluating the library programs at the Latin American Center for Human Economy, the University of the Republic, and the British Schools, Liu delivered a seminar on “Curricular Trends in the Digital Library” and made presentations on information literacy in higher education and secondary education.

Librarian Susana Liu was honored with a 30-year service award at a recent Faculty Service and Recognition Awards event. Liu is currently serving as a business and social work librarian. She earned a BA from National Chung Hsing University, an MS in library science from Case Western Reserve University, and an MA in instructional technology from SJSU.

Nyle Monday recently published several reviews in Historical Diver, the preeminent journal on the history of diving, a chapter in the 2008 Diving Almanac & Yearbook, and contributions to the Encyclopedia of Invention and Technology and Diving Pioneers and Inventors. He is currently working with the Historical Diving Society and the Association of Diving Contractors International on a joint conference being held in Monterey in April 2008.

Colleagues Mary Nino, the SJSU library’s director of outreach, Shannon Staley, digital technology and social sciences librarian, and librarian Sue Kendall recently published an article on using wiki technology to facilitate strategic planning in the Journal of Web Librarianship.

Jeff Paul was one of the 40 distinguished alumni recently honored by the SJSU School of Library and Information Science on its fortieth anniversary. In 2007, Paul was one of 150 members of the American Library Association invited to attend the Feria Internacional del Libro (FIL) conference, one of the world’s most important gatherings of Spanish-language publishing, in Guadalajara, Mexico, as an ALA-FIL Special Guest.

Shannon Staley is now a digital technology and social sciences librarian for the university library. In addition to overseeing the design of user-centered, web-based applications, Shannon provides instruction, collection development, and research services for the Departments of Psychology, Economics, and Geography. Shannon has a master’s degree in library and information science from SJSU and a BA in English literature from UC Berkeley. She previously served as the library’s website coordinator.

Business librarian Diana Wu is presently on sabbatical in Taiwan doing research on aligning information literacy with workplace expectations. Wu will visit companies in the Bay Area and Asia to get a perspective on cross-cultural views. The recipient of the 2007 American Library Association Research Grant Award, Wu was one of 40 alumni honored in celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the SJSU School of Library and Information Science.

Library student assistants honored

At an April 3 reception, the university library honored more than 20 graduating student assistants. Several of the student assistants had been working at the King Library for most of their SJSU college careers. After being introduced by their supervisors, the student assistants received awards of recognition and appreciation. Each student was also given the opportunity to choose a book in his or her field of study to add to the library’s collection, and to autograph a bookplate that will be affixed to the book in the student’s honor.