

*What's on Your Mind"*  
*December 2005/January 2006*

**"Sometimes when I'm studying I need a way to release my creative energy. I was thinking maybe there could be a hopscotch instead of tile floor in the entryway. It's also a great community builder."**

Well, we're sure that students need to release some of the tension caused from concentrating for exams. Students could take a break in the new Fondren Library Center Student Lounge where they could enjoy a cold drink, snack and colorful posters on the walls. Perhaps we could make the game Twister available for those of you who need more of an aerobic break.

**"The library must open 24 hrs! I'm a pre-med and I have no life."  
"Lesbian strippers....24/7"**

Fondren Library Center was open to SMU students 24 hours from December 3<sup>rd</sup> through December 10<sup>th</sup>. Strippers don't work 24/7.

**"Microwave for cold coffee."  
"Put a microwave in the lounge."**

**"Can you please get a java city in the Library? Thank You."**

Fondren staff have been working with campus dining services staff for several years now to get coffee service in the library. Dining services (which includes campus Java City service) staff have conducted several occupancy and traffic counts and have not found the numbers high enough to support a coffee café installation.

**"I love the new copy card system. Why didn't they think of using PONI money sooner? It's so convenient now. Who carries change now anyway? Good Job SMU!"**

We are so happy you like the new system. Images handles the photocopy system. Students can also use their PONI money to pay library fines.

**"I use Interlibrary Loan all the time w/o a problem. However, this week I received a notice for a book that was 'extremely overdue' w/o having ever received a previous notice. I recognize a late book is my fault, but Betty in the Interlibrary Loan office accepted no responsibility for the lack of a notice & charged me the full fine amount. Every other book I have been sent a notice for & returned on time. I find this unacceptable."**

We are sorry that you had to experience our scary "your book is extremely overdue" notice without any prior warning. Our system is designed to send 3 notices within the first two weeks after the due date, which get progressively less friendly. Unfortunately the interlibrary loan system, unlike our library catalog system, cannot be programmed to send reminders before an item is due. Just remember the loan period is always 3 weeks. If you are unsure of the due date, you can always check the fluorescent flag we put in the book or logon to SMU Interlibrary Loan and select "View/Renew Checked Out Items" from the main menu.

The fines for overdue interlibrary loan items are steep (\$1.00 per day) because many libraries are very prompt to deny future loans to all SMU borrowers (not just you) if we fail to return a book on time.

**“ In the display case to the left of the suggestion box the list of Perrine Medalists omits the 2004 co-winner Henry ‘Buddy’ Gray of Statistics – Prize shared with Thomas R. Arp! Please contact the responsible person and fix it!”**

Thank you so much for pointing that out to us. It has been corrected.

**“Violet was very courteous & helpful.”**

Violet is a dedicated librarian and part of the Reference Services Team. She is also the Electronic Periodicals Librarian.

**“You really need to get some WD 40 for the book carts. They’re ridiculously squeaky & distracting.”**

We have dug out our spray can of WD 40 and sent out a recall for all book carts.

**“For Web Master. I am a visiting student – actually an applicant to one of the programs. I will be interviewing with faculty for entrance. Although I can find articles written by them, why not: A) Have hperlinks to connect to html full text articles or B) have those articles on hand to allow applicants to pick up.”**

Most faculty and department websites provide lists of faculty members' works under their names. From these lists, you can find most faculty publications in our libraries. SMU and its libraries are exploring our options for an institutional repository, which would hold electronic copies of publications from all faculty members who chose to participate in it.

At SMU and other medium-to-large universities, it would be prohibitively expensive to stock multiple print copies of all faculty publications for our patrons. In some cases, there would be copyright problems. Staff at the library will be happy to help you locate any article you may be interested in reading.