



# Info Navigator

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## Message From the Dean

We're deep into a new academic year with a lot of activities taking place. There are several major happenings in the library. The most major event is the renovation project. We're almost ready to swing into high gear. During the spring the architect selection committee chose the Livas Group as the architect for the library project. Since that time the architects and the library staff have been working on program needs and space requirements. This has turned into a lengthy process since the library isn't gaining space but must reconfigure the current space to better accommodate all current library services, a 24-hour study room, and a 24-hour full service computer lab. The study room and lab were the two most requested features identified through a survey distributed to faculty and students. These features reflect the trend in the renovation of academic libraries across the country.

Of course, the two big questions are when will the renovation begin and where will the current staff and

materials relocate. There are several preparatory steps that must take place before construction can begin including the architectural drawings of the proposed renovation and other site work. A renovation schedule should be ready for distribution by the end of the fall semester. In terms of the relocation of services we are looking at several sites on campus. Lindsay Montague is one building that will be used. In addition, we are looking at other vacant buildings on campus that with some minor renovations can be used to complete the relocation.

We recognize that any renovation will cause some inconvenience. However, we are committed to keeping the heart of the collection accessible and to providing electronic access to major databases. We will all look forward to celebrating milestones along the way.

## Lucy A. Bland Retires



*Left to right, Mrs. Gloria G. Harvell, Mrs. Lucy A. Bland and Dean Elsie Weatherington. Mrs. Bland was one of the honorees at the VSU Retirement Luncheon.*

Mrs. Lucy Anderson Bland, Acquisitions Department, retired from the Johnston Memorial Library after 29 years of service. Mrs. Bland was honored with a Retirement Celebration on March 12, 1999 at The Children's Home of Virginia Baptist.

The entire JML staff gives Mrs. Bland our heartfelt thanks for a job well done and best wishes on her retirement.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Message From the Dean
- 2 Electronic Resources Scene
- 3 Special Collections News
- 3 Government Documents News
- 4 Book and Video Reviews
- 5 Taking in the Sites
- 6 Conference Notes

## The Electronic Resources Scene

### NEW DATABASES!!!

Johnston Memorial Library now offers access to four new databases through the Ovid Web Gateway interface. Users of the World Wide Web will find this interface highly intuitive. All of Ovid's powerful search features are easily accessible through graphical interface components. The Web gateway integrates with a wide variety of web content and resources, runs on all machines with Web access, and addresses the needs of a broad range of users easily, with minimal support. The featured databases are **INSPEC**, National Technical Information Service (**NTIS**), **SPORTDiscus**, and **Ageline**. All databases are accessible from the library's homepage.

**INSPEC** is the leading English-language technical information service produced by the Institution of Electrical Engineers. It provides physicists, engineers, information specialists, researchers, and scientists with access to a wide variety of information. Covered topics include physics, electrical engineering, electronics, communications, control engineering, computers and computing, and information technology. International journals, conference proceedings, reports, dissertations, books, and periodicals are among the printed materials indexed. Producer assigned fields and classification codes include chemical and numerical information, as well as subject specific descriptors and identifiers. The database currently contains over 5 million records.

National Technical Information Service Database (**NTIS**), produced by the U. S. Department of Commerce, is the major resource for locating U. S. Government sponsored research reports and studies in the physical sciences, technology, engineering, biological sciences, medicine and health sciences, agriculture, and social sciences. It also contains the results of government sponsored research and development from countries outside the United States. **NTIS** is particularly useful for scientific and technical professionals and students, or for anyone involved in government research and contracting.

**SPORTDiscus**, produced by the Sport Information Resource Centre, is an international resource for the study of the sports and fitness literature. It contains bibliographic records, many with abstracts, of serial and monographic literature in the areas of sport, recreation, exercise physiology, sports medicine, coaching, physical fitness, the psychology, history and sociology of sport, training, and conditioning.

**AgeLine**, produced by the American Association of Retired Persons, provides bibliographic references and original abstracts for materials related to aging and middle age from an interdisciplinary perspective. Works from the fields of psychology, economics, sociology, gerontology, public policy, business, health and healthcare services, and consumer issues are covered. Documents on healthcare and policy comprise about half the database. Covered document types include journal articles, books, book chapters, reports, and government documents. Journal coverage includes research, professional, and general interest titles.

If you need additional information or assistance in using these resources in the Johnston Memorial Library, please contact a librarian at the Reference Desk or call 524-5582.

### NOTICE

The Graduate Faculty will be surveyed on user satisfaction during the Fall 1999 semester.

### Info Navigator Newsletter Staff

Elsie S. Weatherington, Dean Library and Media Services

Editor ..... Sheila A. Carrington

Info Navigator is published semi-annually by Johnston Memorial Library. The Info Navigator reserves the right to edit and accept materials for publication. For more information call (804) 524-5040 or Fax (804) 524-5482. Email address: [scarring@vsu.edu](mailto:scarring@vsu.edu)

## Special Collections News

The department of Special Collections has acquired the following new collections:

The Vivian Verdell Gordan (1934-1995, Papers).

The John H. Carey papers (two photographs of the classes of 1914 and 1916) of Virginia State University)

The Reverend James Murray Jeffress Papers. Includes articles from the Grand United Order of Moses (1904-1970).

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## JML Staff Updates

Ms. Margo Hill joined the Technical Services Division of the Library as the new Fiscal Assistant in the Acquisitions Department on October 25th. We welcome Ms. Hill and look forward to working with her.

Mr. Eric S. Hughes joined the Public Services Division of the Library as the new Supervisor of Circulation. Mr. Hughes comes to us from Rappahannock Community College, where he was a Library Assistant.

Lucious Edwards, University Archivist presented a paper at the Carter G. Woodson Institute at the University of Virginia in June.

The topic of the paper was: "Rethinking African-American Studies: Archival Research in the Digital Age"

Mrs. Audrey Jones, Cataloging and Mrs. Patricia Briddell, Cataloging, attended the Microsoft Word workshop at the University's Computer Technology Center.

Congratulations to Sandra H. Garner, Executive Secretary, Dean's Office, for being elected Chair of the Staff Council, 1999-2000.

## Government Document News

JML's federal document collection can be accessed through a database called DECKLIST. This database is located next to the Reference Desk. Most government documents can be checked out for three weeks.

### **New Government Documents:**

The following new titles have been added to Government Documents collection:

America's Eating Habits: Changes and Consequences.  
A 1.75:750

Cocaine Abuse and Addiction, Research Report,  
HE 20.8217/3:C 64.

Drug Use Among Adult and Juvenile Arrests, 1998  
J 28.15/2-6:998.

House in Order: Results From the First National Assessment of HUD Housing  
HH 1.2:H 81/92.

Patterns of Global Terrorism, 1998  
S 1.138:998.

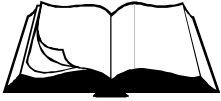
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New subject bibliographies have been prepared citing government databases available on the web. Handouts are located Government Documents area, 1st. Floor of the library. Topics include Career Education, Education Statistics, Employment and Earnings and many more.

Two interesting websites for government information are:

Federal Bureau of Prisons at [www.bop.gov](http://www.bop.gov)  
Public Agenda Online at [www.publicagenda.org](http://www.publicagenda.org)

Stop and take a look at our display on **Race Relations: Then and Now.**



**Books in Review: *Living in, Living Out: African American Domestic in Washington, DC, 1910-1940***

By Elizabeth Clark-Lewis

This oral history portrays the lives of African American women who migrated from the rural South to work as domestic servants in Washington, DC, in the early decades of this century. In *Living In, Living Out*, Elizabeth Clark-Lewis narrates the personal experiences of eighty-one women who worked for wealthy white families. These women describe how they encountered, but never accepted, the master-servant relationship, and recount the strategies they used to change their status from “live in” servants to daily paid workers who “lived out.”

**New & Recommended**

***The Seven Dumbest Relationship Mistakes Smart People Make*** by Carolyn N. Bushong

***The Student Aid Game: Meeting Need and Rewarding Talent in American Education*** by Michael S. McPherson and Morton Owen Schapiro

***Wings of Honor: The Black Sable Chronicles*** by Tom Willard

***The Killing of History*** by Keith Windschuttle

***Your Father, Your Self: How Sons and Daughters Can Understand and Heal their Relationships with their Fathers*** by Barry H. Gordon



**Videos in Review: *A Son of Africa: The Slave Narrative of Olaudah Equaino***

(California Newsreel, 1996, 28 minutes)

The interesting *Narration of the Life of Olaudah Equaino*, or *Gustavus Vassa the African* was the first widely read slave autobiographies. It caused a sensation when published in 1789, fueling a growing anti-slavery movement in the U.S. and England. This BBC production uses dramatic reconstruction, archival material and interviews with scholars to reveal the social and economic context of the 18th century slave trade.

***Metropolitan Seminars in Art***

(The Center for Humanities, Inc, 1996, 100 minutes)

The *Metropolitan Seminars in Art* is a 5 volume video produced by The Metropolitan Museum of Art and written by John Canady, art historian and Senior Art Critic of the New York Times. The videos provides a detailed examination of the myriad aspects of art and art history, as well as an in-depth study of the paintings used in the videos.

**New & Recommended:**

***Nightfighters: Tuskegee Airmen*** (Xenon Entertainment, 1994, 52 minutes)

***The Psychology of Jung*** (Films for the Humanities & Sciences, 1991, 4 Volumes, 240 minutes)

***Midnight Ramble: the Story of the Black Film Industry*** (Shanachie Entertainment, 1994, 60 minutes)



# Taking in the Sites

## **Ask Jeeves:**

<http://www.askjeeves.com>

On the Net, no one speaks your language. They make you speak their language. A language that's arcane, obfuscating, and includes words that no one is entirely sure what they mean. Jeeves says "Enough!" Jeeves lets you ask a question the way you'd ask it in the real world. Jeeves understands your question in your words. Jeeves prefers your question in your words. You don't have to provide "keywords" or, heaven forbid, "Boolean search strings." Instead, you simply type in a question, in your native English, the language you use when conversing the other hours of the day when you're not sleeping, and Jeeves provides a concise list of answers with their exact location, instead of an exhaustive list of matches.

## **Faces of Science: African Americans in the Sciences:** <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/lib/chem/display/faces.html>

Profiled here are African American men and women who have contributed to the advancement of science and engineering. The accomplishments of the past and present can serve as pathfinders to present and future engineers and scientists. African American chemists, biologists, inventors, engineers, and mathematicians have contributed in both large and small ways that can be overlooked when chronicling the history of science. By describing the scientific history of selected African American men and women we can see how the efforts of individuals have advanced human understanding in the world around us.

## **NASIR State Search:**

<http://www.nasire.org/stateSearch/index.cfm>

StateSearch is a service of NASIRE and is designed to serve as a topical clearinghouse to state government information on the Internet.

NASIRE represents state chief information officers and information resource executives and managers from the 50 states, six U. S. territories, and the District of Columbia.

## Conference Notes

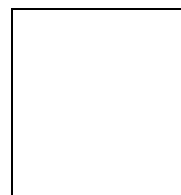
During the 9<sup>th</sup> National Conference of the Association of College and Research Libraries, Michael Walker presented a paper in conjunction with Mona Thiss, Information Services Manager at the Tompkins-McCaw Library of the MCV Campus of Virginia Commonwealth University. The paper entitled "Pay for Print: Implementing Fee for Service Programs" is based on the planning and implementation of this type of service on the campuses of VCU. The objectives expressed in the paper included efforts to recover partial printing costs, improve management of public printing services, reduce wasted printing, increase network efficiency, and utilize card access technology in place at the University. After implementing the pay for print service, it was found that communication was key in the success of the service. Clear communication of the whys and goals of the new service and the development of a marketing plan focusing on the benefits proved valuable assets to the plan's implementation. Although some users expressed their unhappiness over the change from free to fee based printing, the benefits of changing have far outweighed the initial negative reactions of users. A year and a half after the implementation, VCU library staff is faced with few complaints over the fee and pay for print is a comfortable part of the libraries' routine.

The Black Caucus of the American Library Association held its 4<sup>th</sup> National Conference of African American Librarians in Las Vegas in late July. Michael Walker served as Chair of the Conference Job Placement Center. Additionally, he made a presentation with Rochelle Ballard, Assistant Director for Acquisitions at Texas A & M University, College Station and Patricia Kelker, Library Supervisor for the Database and Newspaper Center, Free Library of Philadelphia on the changing electronic environment in academic libraries. The presentation was entitled "Web based or Home based Electronic Resources." The participants presented information about their library's electronic environment and the trends affecting the provision of electronic resources. The central focus of the presentation developed around the migration of resources to web-based formats rather than enhancing CD-ROM technology. Issues of cost effectiveness, ownership, and accessibility were included.

During the American Library Association's Annual Conference in June, Ms. Gail McClenney, Associate Librarian for Technical Services, gave a presentation on "The Role of Technical Services Librarians" during one of the conference workshops.

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