

# NEWS *from* FONDREN

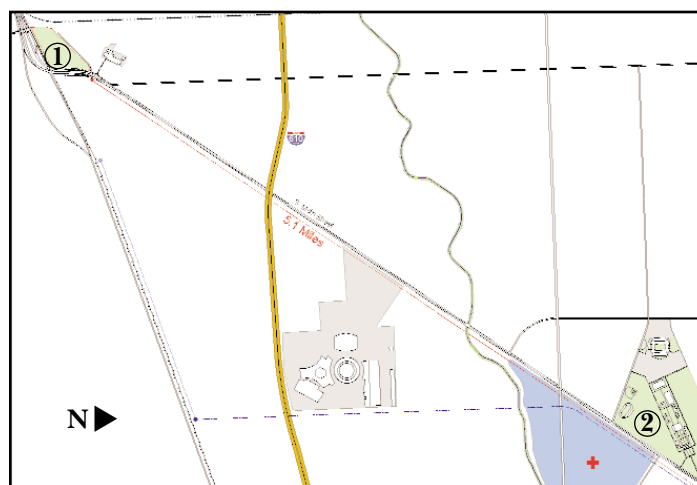
A LIBRARY NEWSLETTER TO THE RICE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

## FONDREN LIBRARY PIONEERS THE SOUTH CAMPUS WITH THE LIBRARY SERVICE CENTER

Construction is slated to begin shortly on Fondren Library’s new building—the Library Service Center. The facility, scheduled for completion in November 2003, will be the first building on the thirty-acre south campus of Rice University. The Library Service Center will substantially enlarge the space available both for library collections and library users.

### THE BACKGROUND

The Library Service Center will be a high-density library storage facility measuring eighteen thousand square feet, with an anticipated capacity of 1.75 million



Location of South Campus

1. South Campus Plot
2. Rice University Main Campus

DRAWING BY CARLOS JIMENEZ STUDIO

volumes. The Rice Library Service Center will be the latest example of the library storage model first developed in 1985 at the Harvard University Libraries. The model has subsequently been polished at Harvard and at over a dozen additional locations in North America, including Cornell, Duke, Indiana, and Yale. (In addition to these individually managed high-density storage sites, there are multi-institutional “depositories” serving Northern and Southern California and Ohio and a cooperative enterprise of Princeton, Columbia, and the New York Public Library.)

Fondren Library’s space needs have long been a recognized issue. Several rounds of intense strategic planning during the 1990s clarified further issues related to preservation and use of library collections, as well as the valuable

role of Fondren Library’s central-campus location and the constraints (aesthetic and functional) of that location. As the utility of this approach at other research institutions was documented, Rice University in 2001 committed to the building of a high-density library storage facility as one tool in expanding and improving library spaces.

Raymond Brochstein’s donation of a tract of land to Rice University in 2000 provided a perfect location for the future Library Service Center. (See map.) The site is a mere 5.1 miles south of the main Rice campus. Planning for the Library Service Center was incorporated into the larger process of developing a master plan for this “south campus,” which included planning

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## INSIDE *this* ISSUE

*Rice to Host Digital Conference* . . . . pg. 3  
*Distinguished Employee Award* . . . . pg. 4  
*Access to Government Information* . . pg. 5  
*Tax Time is Here Again!* . . . . . pg. 7  
*Mine for Buried Treasure!* . . . . . pg. 8  
*Books Needed for Fall Book Sale* . . . pg. 8  
*Woodson Research Center* . . . . . pg. 9  
*Collection Specialists* . . . . . pg. 10  
*Did you Know?* . . . . . pg. 12

---

---

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

proper site drainage; placement of buildings, services (power, telecommunications, etc.), roads, and parking facilities; and security. Future Rice “residents” of the south campus—when identified—will have the benefit of this initial overall site planning as they develop their own buildings on the new campus.

## THE FACILITY

The Rice University Library Service Center facility will be a unique structure which follows the well-tested model established at Harvard University. The architect for the library project and site master plan is Carlos Jimenez, a member of the faculty of the Rice University School of Architecture and owner of the Carlos Jimenez Studio. Jimenez is charged with designing a building that fulfills the unique structural requirements of a high-density library storage facility, encapsulated in a structure that matches the Rice standard for architectural distinction and offers a pleasing work environment for the Library Service Center staff and visitors.

As seen in the schematic drawings and elevations, the building will consist of two parts: a two-story office and processing area (the second story of this area, not needed for Library Service Center functions, will be unfinished, but its negligible cost affords great savings for an as-yet-undetermined “resident” of the south campus) and a nearly three-story section, which is actually a single open space. The office section of the building will include loading docks, book cleaning and processing spaces, and reading rooms for visitors. The taller section of the building—with a thirty-five-foot ceiling—will be the heart of the

Library Service Center: the storage vault.

The storage vault of the Library Service Center will be an intensely environmentally controlled, high-density storage facility for lesser-used and/or fragile materials from the Rice University library collections. This area will house rows of thirty-foot-high modular shelving. The vault will be maintained at a constant fifty degrees and 30 percent humidity—a temperature which is ideal for long-term preservation of paper products (extending the useful life of book papers by over 200 percent) and which is better for film-based materials (microfilm, videotapes, etc.) than the environmental conditions in Fondren Library.

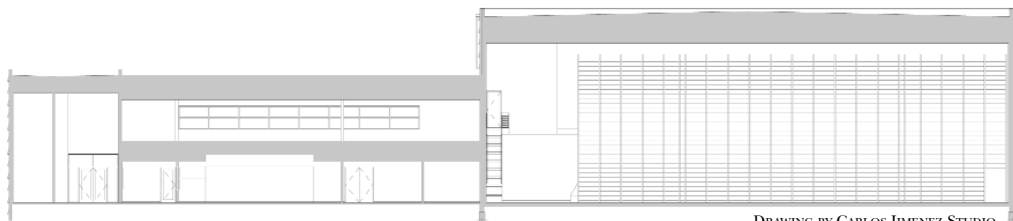
Employees who will work exclusively with the Library Service Center will be charged with moving library collections into the new storage facility. Books will be cleaned, sorted by size into acid-free trays, and, using especially designed inventory software, assigned to an appropriate shelf based on size. The special inventory software, developed at Harvard University and in use at most of the other high-density storage sites, includes a number of redundancies and cross-checks that reduce the chances of misplacing an item. After sixteen years of operation with this system, Harvard’s high-density storage site, which houses an estimated five million volumes, has only two books that are “temporarily alternately located” (i.e., lost). Library Service

Center staff will use hydraulic man-lifts to carry book trays to their assigned shelves and to retrieve books from the shelves when requested for use.

## HOW THIS WILL AFFECT YOU

Planning for the new library facility continues as this issue of *News From Fondren* goes to press, but much is known. Selection of materials for storage at the Library Service Center will begin during the spring 2003 semester, and the subject librarians will be seeking your assistance in identifying what materials can be stored. Criteria which will be used to select materials for preliminary consideration have been developed and are posted in full online at <http://www.rice.edu/fondren/lsc/ProceduresforSelection.htm>. Faculty and other members of the academic community will be given the opportunity to review titles proposed for storage and identify individual volumes which should remain in Fondren Library. Additional, specific details regarding the mechanism of this review will be forthcoming.

We are making provisions for easy use of materials stored in the Library Service Center. Requested items will be retrieved to Fondren Library with no more than twenty-four hours (one working day) delay. Visits to the Library Service Center and use of materials onsite will be by appointment only. (Access to the book vault will be

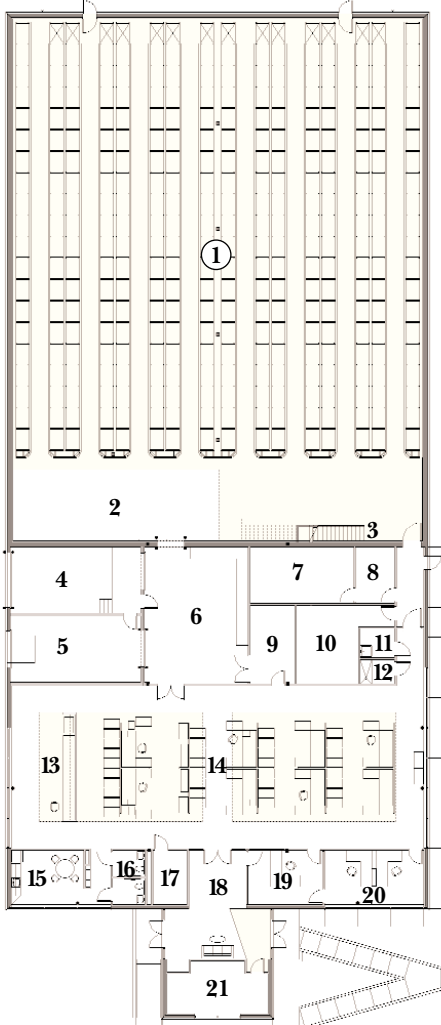


*Cross-Section of Library Service Center*

DRAWING BY CARLOS JIMENEZ STUDIO

Floor Plan of Library Service Center

DRAWING BY CARLOS JIMENEZ STUDIO



**FLOOR PLAN LEGEND**

- 1. Book Storage Area
- 2. Mechanical Mezzanine
- 3. Stairs to Mechanical Mezzanine
- 4. Van Dock
- 5. Truck Dock
- 6. Receiving Area & Supply Storage
- 7. Fire Protection Room
- 8. Electrical Room
- 9. Cleaning/Vacuuming Room (for Incoming Materials)
- 10. Mechanical Room
- 11. Janitor
- 12. Shower
- 13. Interlibrary Loan/Storage
- 14. Processing Area
- 15. Staff Break Room
- 16. Restrooms
- 17. IT Room
- 18. Entry Vestibule
- 19. Supervisor's Office
- 20. Reading Rooms
- 21. Storage

restricted to ensure safety for both people and collections; the storage of collections by size and as much as thirty feet above the ground will make browsing impossible.)

The library will be pursuing an aggressive schedule for identifying and transferring materials to the Library Service Center, with the aim of providing additional user spaces here in Fondren Library. Our goal of transferring approximately 450,000 volumes during the first year of the facility's operation will undoubtedly cause additional pressure for the entire community, but it will enable us to more quickly offer you the benefit of a renovated Fondren Library. Conversations currently are underway to clarify how the existing library can be renovated to achieve some of the

objectives described in recent library planning: user spaces that are pleasant, spaces that offer flexibility for the individual or group, and easier navigability both through the building and to library services.

Additional information about the development of the Library Service Center will be provided through the facility's Web page (<http://www.rice.edu/fondren/lsc/>), and via e-mail, print mailings, and campus publications. Members of the library staff will also be contacting individual faculty and/or departments to discuss how Fondren Library may better serve you and our students.

Kerry Keck  
Assistant University Librarian,  
Collections  
[keckker@rice.edu](mailto:keckker@rice.edu)

## RICE TO HOST MAJOR DIGITAL LIBRARIES CONFERENCE

On May 27-31, 2003, Rice University will host the third annual Joint Conference on Digital Libraries (JCDL), a major international forum focusing on digital libraries and associated technical, practical, and social issues. JCDL examines many aspects of digital libraries, examining "new forms of information institutions; operational information systems with all manner of digital content; new means of selecting, collecting, organizing, and distributing digital content; and theoretical models of information media, including document genres and electronic publishing." Cosponsored by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and the IEEE Computer Society, the conference typically attracts between three hundred and five hundred computer scientists, librarians, and information scientists from around the world. Topics covered at the conference include digital library infrastructure; institutions; metadata; content; services; digital preservation; system design; implementation; interface design; human-computer interaction; evaluation; collection development; intellectual property; privacy; electronic publishing; document genres; multimedia; social, institutional, and policy issues; user communities; and associated theoretical topics. Geneva Henry, executive director of Rice's Digital Library Initiative, is serving as general chair of the conference. For more information, see the conference Web site at <http://www.jcdl.org/>.

---

---

## JOHN HUNTER RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED EMPLOYEE AWARD



On November 20, 2002, Science and Engineering Librarian John Hunter was honored with Rice University's Distinguished Employee Award at a surprise reception held in Fondren Library. This award is given by Human Resources on behalf of the university to honor and recognize employees who are willing to go above and beyond the call of duty, who share and support the mission of Rice, and who enhance and improve their work environment and the lives of their coworkers. The award is based on nominations from an employee's peers or supervisor.

An East Texas native, John has worked at Rice for nearly twenty-one years. He holds a B.S. in biology from Wiley College and is certified to teach grades seven through twelve, which he feels has enhanced his ability to communicate with individuals of varying academic experience and skill. While at Wiley, he also worked as a nursing assistant at a

local hospital, sparking a lifelong interest in health care. Because environmental issues and resource conservation have also been a strong interest, John later earned fourteen hours credit in environmental health.

John received a master's degree in library science from Indiana University. He has worked in health science, law, and public libraries, as well as in several academic institutions (including Virginia Polytechnic, University of Texas, Houston Community College, and Prairie View A&M). In addition to his reference duties at Fondren Library, he currently has collection development responsibility for the Computational and Applied Mathematics, Computer Science, Earth Science, Electrical Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science departments at Rice.

John enjoys building collections and helping users identify and take advantage of ever-changing resources as they become available. He sees the librarian of today as an information interpreter or "handler" and feels that his chief function is to enable people to utilize information. "More navigators are needed on the information highway; information today is not always at a specific location: it is virtual," he explained.

Sara Lowman, Director of Fondren Library and Associate University Librarian, said John was the sort of person who was always willing to do whatever needs to be done. He is the first to volunteer to stay late or back up coworkers who are sick. As an example, he often volunteers to lead special Saturday tours for high school stu-

dents during the summer. "He works well with all patrons, from a junior high school student doing a paper to graduate students or professors in one of his departments," she said. Lowman also praised John for his pleasant and cooperative attitude and his many efforts to enhance morale and improve employee relations, noting particularly his orienting and mentoring of new staff members. "He is a good committee member who contributes useful ideas and respects his coworkers' opinions. He is an integral part of the department," she said.

For John the award came as a complete surprise. He was gratified by the number of people around campus who congratulated him after having seen the announcement in the *Rice News*. Receiving this award has made him want even more strongly to contribute to the university community and its mission and to help move the library forward, so that it can become an effective vehicle for information in the twenty-first century. But, ever the team player, he stressed that he didn't earn the award alone, saying, "Things are not done in a vacuum, but with the support of coworkers. It's not a 'me-thing'; it's an 'us-thing'."

Alice Rhoades  
Serials Catalog Librarian  
alicer@rice.edu

---

---

# ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION: CURRENT ISSUES

## INTRODUCTION

Fondren Library, as a federal depository library, receives approximately 40 percent of U.S. government publications through the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP), which is part of the Government Printing Office (GPO). The FDLP distributed approximately 14,700 titles in paper, microfiche, CD-ROM, and DVD-ROM formats to more than thirteen hundred libraries in fiscal year 2001. Through *GPO Access* ([http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/)) it provides online access to more than 200,000 titles. A new administration, increased online access, and the events of September 11 have presented challenges and difficult issues for those dedicated to providing access to federal government information.

## GOVERNMENT PRINTING

Title 44 of the United States Code requires that executive agencies use the GPO for printing their publications and mandates distribution by the GPO of copies to depository libraries. On May 3, 2002, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Mitch Daniels issued a memorandum (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/m02-07.pdf>) directing heads of executive departments and agencies to consider private contractors for printing their publications. The OMB adopted the position that the Title 44 provision requiring use of the GPO is unconstitutional and instructed agencies to disregard that provision of the law and seek bids from private companies.

This issue came to a head

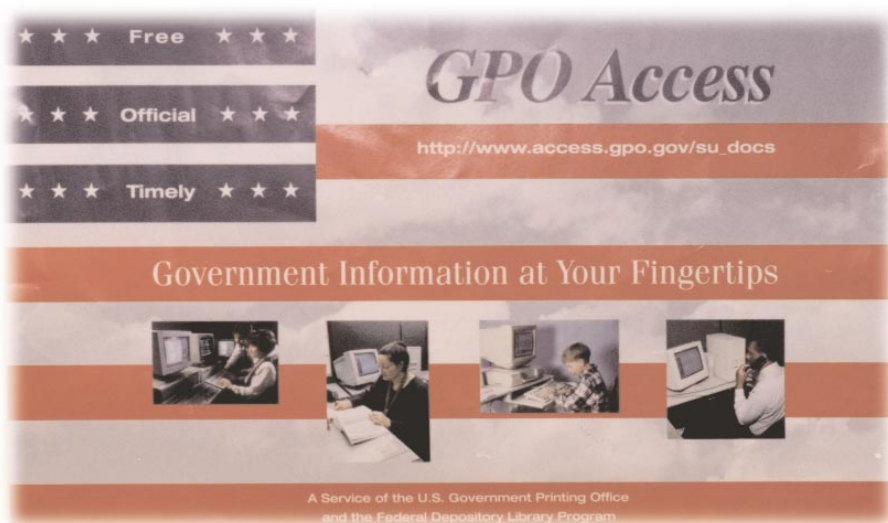
when the time came to print the federal budget in fall 2002. On October 29 the OMB announced that it would be seeking bids from the private sector for printing of the budget, in spite of Title 44 and a Congressional order to the contrary. That particular issue was settled in late December, when the printing job was awarded to the GPO.

The future of government printing is still in question. Libraries are particularly concerned about loss of access to government information if such information no longer goes through the GPO for printing and is no longer distributed through the FDLP. An excellent collection of Web sites on this issue is available at <http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/GODORT/legislation/#omb02-07>.

## REMOVAL OF INFORMATION FROM AGENCY WEB SITES

Due to security concerns arising from the events of September 11, federal agencies have deleted a significant amount of information that had previously been available on their Web sites. For a list of some of the online information that has been removed in the wake of September 11, see the OMBWatch site at <http://www.ombwatch.org/article/articleview/213/1/104>. Approximately nine thousand documents were removed from the Department of Energy Web site, and more than six thousand documents were taken off the Department of Defense Web site.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



Poster Promoting the GPO Web Site.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

In October 2002 the Department of Education announced that it would be removing from its Web site information which does not support the “priorities, philosophies, or goals” of the current administration. In response to concerns expressed by the education and library communities, Education Secretary Rod Paige said that the information would be moved to section archives. It remains to be seen whether that information will be truly accessible to the public.

On November 4, 2002, the Department of Energy discontinued its PubSCIENCE database despite several hundred comments protesting its demise and only four comments supporting discontinuance. PubSCIENCE was a free searchable database of journal citations and abstracts in the physical sciences and energy-related disciplines. It was an extremely popular resource, with approximately sixty-three thousand hits each month. According to information from the Department of Energy,

14 percent of those hits were from government, 19 percent were from education, and 67 percent were from the public. See <http://www.ala.org/washoff/pubscience.pdf> for the combined comments filed by the American Library Association Washington Office, the American Association of Law Libraries, the Association of Research Libraries, the Medical Library Association, the Federation of American Scientists, and other organizations.

On December 18, 2002, Representative Henry Waxman and thirteen other members of the House of Representatives wrote a letter protesting the removal and alteration of information on Department of Health and Human Services Web sites on grounds that the information was removed because it conflicted with the current administration’s political agenda. Specifically at issue are fact sheets about condom use and a report debunking earlier information linking abortion to breast cancer. See [http://www.house.gov/reform/min/inves\\_admin/admin\\_hhs\\_info.htm](http://www.house.gov/reform/min/inves_admin/admin_hhs_info.htm) for copies of the correspondence and examples of information that was altered.

On December 24, 2002, Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao announced that the Bureau of Labor Statistics “Mass Layoffs Statistics Report” would be discontinued (see <http://www.bls.gov/bls/mlsdiscontinued.htm>) due to a cut in funding for the report. This monthly report on mass layoff actions has been published since 1994 and was a valuable source of information about labor and the economy. Archived issues of the report are available at <http://www.bls.gov/mls/>.

#### WITHDRAWAL OF INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL DEPOSITORY LIBRARIES

In response to the events of September 11 the U.S. Geological Survey requested that the GPO instruct Federal Depository Libraries to destroy a particular CD-ROM title on water supplies. Libraries were so instructed by the GPO Superintendent of Documents. The Association of Research Libraries requested a report on this issue, which is available online at <http://www.arl.org/info/frn/gov/Susman.html>.

#### ACCESS TO PRESIDENTIAL RECORDS: EXECUTIVE ORDER 13233

Under the Presidential Records Act, President Reagan’s papers were scheduled for release in February 2001, but release was delayed. On November 1, 2001, President Bush signed Executive Order 13233 restricting access to the papers of former presidents by giving veto power to incumbent or former presidents. In response, the Presidential Records Act Amendments of 2002 (HR 4187), containing language that would nullify EO 13233, was introduced in Congress. The



*Rice Senior Tiane Burk consults Government Information Librarian Ruth Stiles.*

Bush administration wrote a letter attacking the bill as unnecessary and unconstitutional, but the bill was approved by the House of Representatives Committee on Government Reform on October 9 and, on November 22, was reported to the House. (See [http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/cpquery/R?cp107:FLD010:@1\(hr790\)](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/cpquery/R?cp107:FLD010:@1(hr790)) for the full text of the report.) However, November 22 was the last day of the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress, and the bill has not been reintroduced in the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress. Although many of President Reagan's papers have been released, the effect of EO 13233 on President George Bush's papers, due for release in 2005, remains an issue for concern.

## HOMELAND SECURITY

In March 2002 Andrew H. Card, Jr., Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff, issued a memo to the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies containing a document entitled "Safeguarding Information Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction and Other Sensitive Records Related to Homeland Security." This memo appears to create a new category of information for "sensitive but unclassified information."

The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296) created an exemption from the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) which states: "critical infrastructure information (including the identity of the submitting person or entity) that is voluntarily submitted to a covered Federal agency for use by that agency regarding the security of critical infrastructure and protected systems, analysis, warning, interdependency study, recovery, reconstitution, or other informational purpose ... shall be exempt from disclosure ..." Among other things, the Act gives private industry the power to limit public access to some government information.

For additional information on these and related issues see <http://www.ala.org/washoff/lessaccess.html#legis>.

## CONCLUSION

These issues involve the balance of power between the executive and legislative branches of government and reflect the tension between the need for increased security and the importance of an open government. The administration's legitimate desire to have government Web sites reflect current policy and agencies' need to have up-to-date Web sites should not impair permanent public access to government information. Our

increasing reliance on online formats as a sole distribution method makes information easily removable and limits accountability for that information. The E-Government Act of 2002 is a step in the right direction. This law creates a new OMB position for an Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government and focuses on public access to information (see <http://www.ala.org/washoff/egovact.html>).

Note: The information in this article is current only through January 2003. For more recent updates on the issues discussed above see the following Web sites:

<http://www.ala.org/washoff/governmentinfo.html>

<http://www.ala.org/washoff/>

<http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/GODORT/legislation/>

Esther Crawford  
Head of Government  
Publications and Microforms  
[crawford@rice.edu](mailto:crawford@rice.edu)

## TAX TIME IS HERE AGAIN!

Tax forms and publications from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) are available in the Government Publications and Microforms Department, located in the basement of Fondren Library. If you need assistance preparing your tax return, we have a list of free tax preparation sites in the Houston Metropolitan Area. Live telephone assistance is also available from the IRS at 1-800-829-1040.

A great source of information is the IRS Web page: <http://www.irs.gov>. You can find answers to

frequently asked tax questions, and there are tax forms and publications that can be printed from the Internet. A list of other helpful Internet resources is located on the Government Publications and Microforms Department Web site: <http://www.rice.edu/fondren/tax.html>.

The Office of International Students and Scholars has assembled tax information packets for international students. These packets will be available in the library for distribution.

For more information call 713-348-5483.

## MINE FOR BURIED TREASURE!

Did you know that Fondren Library receives *JAMA*, *Journal of the American Medical Association* and *Birders' World*? These are just two of the many online journal titles accessible through TDNet, an electronic journals management system available now via the library's Web page. TDNet provides increased access to online journals available to Fondren Library users; 99.9 percent of these titles are listed in TDNet, compared to just over 50 percent that are cataloged in the library's catalog, WebCat. Included are previously "hidden" titles, part of large vendor aggregates such as Lexis-Nexis and Gale, which have not been individually cataloged because of the constantly changing content of these databases and the sheer number of titles involved.

### FINDING A JOURNAL

To get to TDNet from the Fondren home page, click first on "Collections" and then, under "Online Resources," click on "Journals." You can search for a journal by typing the exact title or the first part of the title in the "quick search" box or by selecting the beginning letter of the title from the alphabetical list located below the "quick search" box.

Detailed entries for each title provide the dates of online coverage, an indication of whether the access is full or partial text, and a link to WebCat information on any print holdings in Fondren Library. An "i" icon links to additional notes about remote/proxy access and password information (when necessary).

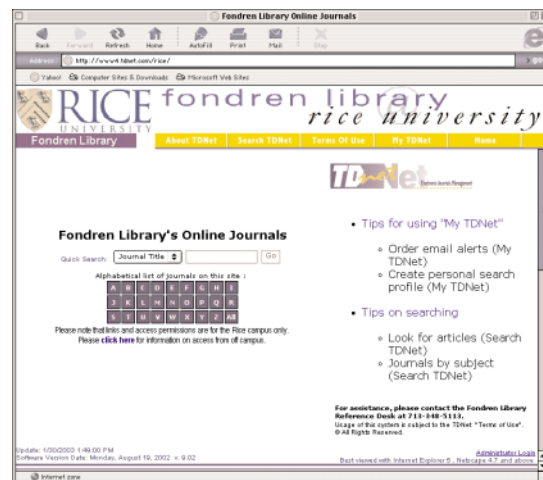
### TOC (TABLE OF CONTENTS) ALERTS

TDNet also provides access to the most recent eighteen months of the tables of contents (TOC) for many journals. Users can view TOCs of specific titles, search TOCs by keyword, or establish a profile that will provide e-mail alerts when a new TOC becomes available. To establish a user profile click on "My TDNet" at the top right of the TDNet home page. Check "Tips for using 'My TDNet'" to the right of the "quick search" box for helpful information in setting up a profile.

Make TDNet your first stop for accessing online journals!

Sandra Edwards  
Head of Reference  
edwards@rice.edu

Jane Segal  
Humanities and  
Social Sciences  
Librarian  
segal@rice.edu



TDNet Home Page

## BOOKS NEEDED FOR FRIENDS OF FONDREN FALL BOOK SALE

It's not too soon to prepare for the next Book Sale sponsored by the Friends of Fondren Library and scheduled for October 24-26, 2003. The event will again be held in the Grand Hall of the Rice Memorial Center. Proceeds from the biennial book sale help fund library projects.

Donate your surplus books: literature and popular fiction, nonfiction, children's books, cookbooks, books about hobbies and gardening. Paperbacks and hardbacks are needed, especially paperback mysteries. Unfortunately, the Friends cannot accept technical books, textbooks, magazines, outdated travel books, and materials that are damaged or unsightly.

Books are being collected and stored at Star Motor Cars at 7000 Katy Road. Lee and Glenn Seureau have generously provided not only the storage space for the books, but the manpower to help move them for sorting. Books can be dropped off at Star between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday-Friday.

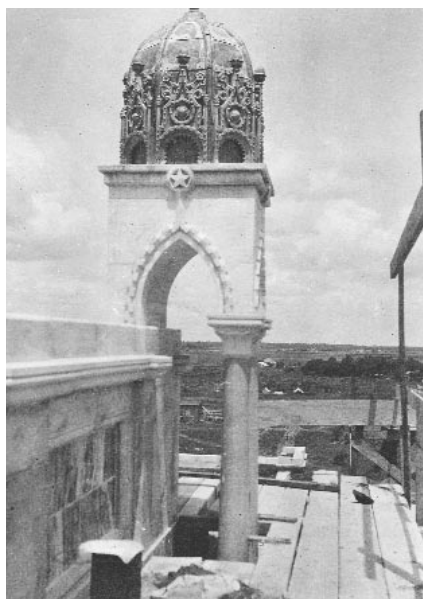


---

---

## WOODSON RESEARCH CENTER OFFERS A WEALTH OF INFORMATION

When the Rice community begins celebrating the centennial of the 1912 opening of the university, the first place to which researchers will turn for information will be Fondren Library's Woodson Research Center (WRC). The WRC contains a rich lode of artifacts, documents, and images surrounding the creation, construction, and opening of Rice in 1912—just the materials needed to recall the pageantry of the opening almost one hundred years ago. In conjunction with the centennial, Fondren Library, the University of Houston, and the Houston Metropolitan Research Center are digitizing the documents and images associated with the work of William Ward Watkin (architect and chairman of architecture at Rice University from 1912 to 1952), many of which are preserved in the WRC.



*A view of one of the tabernacles above the Sallyport on the east side of Lovett Hall.*

FROM THE WILLIAM WARD WATKIN PAPERS, MS 352

The Woodson Research Center collects, organizes, preserves, and describes the official records created or used in the course of university business. The materials in the archive range from the original Rice charter of 1891 to a more recent donation—the papers of former Rice Provost Neal Lane, who served as chief science advisor to President Bill Clinton and director of the National Science Foundation. The WRC holds a rich history filled with the artifacts and documents of personalities and events.

The WRC does more than serve as the official university archive. It also houses a collection of rare books and special collections of interest to the Rice community and scholars throughout the world. Presently, archivists are pursuing acquisitions in the following areas of interest: Rice personalities; history of science, engineering, and humanities; history of the South and the Civil War; British history and drama; Houston and Texas entrepreneurs, business, performing arts, religion, and political activities.

Among the WRC's recently acquired materials are the papers of Billie Carr, a longtime political insider of the Texas Democratic party; the portrait photography of Vera Prásilova Scott, who photographed Rice faculty, spouses, and children from 1924 to 1932; early Texas papers from the Townsend family; and the Civil War papers of the Hutchinson family. Purchases consist of Aldous Huxley letters written during his stint as a Hollywood scriptwriter and additional Larry McMurtry papers, including the handwritten draft of his biography of the great



*A portrait of Mary Ellen Lovett, wife of Edgar Odell Lovett.*

FROM THE VERA PRÁSILOVA SCOTT PHOTOGRAPHS COLLECTION, MS 497

Sioux leader, Crazy Horse.

A driving force at the Woodson Research Center is the need to improve access for scholars and researchers to university records and to numerous manuscript collections. To meet that need the WRC is participating with the Texas Archival Resources Online (TARO) Project to provide information about collections on the Web. In 2003 Woodson and cataloging staff members have set a goal of adding eighty-two manuscript finding aids to the library's Web site and the TARO Web site. In addition, the Woodson Research Center plans this year to develop about one hundred new, fully descriptive online catalog records for OCLC (the Online Computer Library Center) and Rice's online catalog, making it easier to locate the WRC's manuscript collections through library catalogs.

Philip Montgomery  
Special Collections Assistant  
[pmontgom@rice.edu](mailto:pmontgom@rice.edu)

---

---

# COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT SPECIALISTS

MANDY YORK

Mandy York returned to her hometown in November 2002 to work as the Archivist/Special Collections Librarian in Fondren Library's Woodson Research Center (WRC). Born and raised in Houston, Mandy left at age eighteen to attend college in Washington, D.C. Her high school experience as an international exchange student in Spain had inspired her to attend college at Georgetown University, known for its language programs. But her focus changed, and she graduated from Georgetown in 1992 with a B.A. in art history.

During her years at Georgetown, Mandy worked in the undergraduate library and became interested in the library profession. From 1992 to 1994 Mandy attended library school at the University of Maryland at College Park, where she received an MLIS with a specialization in archives and manuscripts. While a library student, Mandy was able to work in the National Public Broadcasting Archives on the Pacifica Radio records, and she also visited National Public Radio to survey the NPR records.

After graduation from library school, Mandy returned to Texas as a Project Archivist for the Frank Erwin History Project and Co-Archivist for the Alfred A. Knopf Publishing House Project at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas in Austin. Working with the Knopf corporate archives gave her the rare opportunity to read editorial correspondence between editors and authors such as Julia Child and John Updike.

In 1997 Mandy left Texas again to accept a position as Photographs Cataloger and Librarian at the Oregon Historical Society. There she cataloged and provided reference service for a large public history photo bank used for many purposes, from scholarly research to home décor. Her responsibilities included both cataloging and providing reference for the collection. She particularly enjoyed helping people connect with their history.

But Mandy couldn't stay away from Texas for long. In 1998 she returned to work in the Albert B. Alkek Library at Southwest Texas State University (SWT) in San Marcos. As the Archivist/Special Collections Librarian, she processed manuscript collections, created department policies, managed group projects, prepared finding aids, and provided reference service. While at SWT, Mandy prepared a Texas Country Music Collection exhibit which is

currently in place at the Texas State History Museum. Some of the items in the exhibit are Willie Nelson's "Songbook," written at age eleven; Bob Wills's fiddle and jacket; and various western swing costumes. That Mandy was a valued employee at the Alkek Library is attested by her receipt of several Library Staff Recognition Awards, as well as the Librarian of the Year Award for 2001.

Now hard at work in the Woodson Research Center, Mandy's goal is to improve access to Fondren Library's manuscript collections. In 2002 about 8 percent of the collections were represented by finding aids. By the end of 2003 Mandy, working with cataloging staff members, expects to have online finding aids for 24 percent of the collections.

Mandy has recently received certification by the Academy of Certified Archivists. She chairs the Public Relations Committee of the Archivists of the Houston Area and is also active nationally as a member of the Society of American Archivists and the Society of Southwestern Archivists.

Outside of the workplace Mandy shares her home with a mastiff named Astro and a black lab named Grace. She enjoys baking and quilting, prefers reading historical fiction, biographies, and Texas history, and takes pleasure in cruising on her Honda Shadow 750 motorcycle. Her newest creative hobby is knitting, which she is learning from Woodson colleagues Barbara Kile and Rose Graham.



---

---

## SAMANTHA HAGER

A newcomer to Fondren Library, but not to government documents librarianship, Samantha Hager accepted the position of Government Information Librarian in November 2002. She coordinates the Government Publications and Microforms Web site at <http://www.rice.edu/fondren/gov/>, provides reference service at both the Government Publications reference desk in the library's basement and the main reference desk on the first floor, and is responsible for the United Nations microfiche collection and for maintaining access to government resources on CD-ROM and DVD-ROM.

This spring Samantha assumed collection development responsibility for Hispanic Studies, a duty for which she is well-prepared. Samantha received a B.A. in Spanish, with a concentration in music, from Kalamazoo College in 1992. Prior to that—from September 1988 to March 1989—she studied at the International Institute in Madrid, Spain.

During her college years Samantha worked at the Kalamazoo Public Library. In her position as a Reference Assistant she discovered an affinity for public service that would eventually lead her to a career in library and information science. In this period, Samantha also helped create the archives collection at W.E. Upjohn Institute for Unemployment Research by acting as the “eyes” for an archivist with macular degeneration.

After college Samantha moved to Colorado, where she



worked for the Colorado School of Mines as secretary to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Although this was valuable experience in the workings of a university, Samantha decided to resume her education.

In 1998 Samantha earned her MLS from the Indiana University School of Library and Information Science in Bloomington, Indiana. While a library student, Samantha worked as an intern in the Indiana Room of the Monroe County Public Library, where she answered reference and genealogy questions and indexed oral history transcriptions and local newspapers. She gained government documents experience in the Government Publications Department of the Indiana University Library.

After graduation Samantha accepted a position as the International Documents Librarian at Dallas Public Library, where she also worked with the patent and trademark collection.

A subsequent move to Houston, where she was employed in the Business, Science, and Technology Department of the Houston Public Library, earned her a “Rookie Employee of the Year” commendation for 2002.

In keeping with the diverse interests and talents of Fondren Library's staff members, Samantha is a gourmet cook, musician, and sailor. Her experience as a college student, living with a family in Madrid and traveling to as many European countries as she could manage, awakened an adventurous culinary spirit. She and her boyfriend, Damon, enjoy cooking recipes and sampling foods from many different countries. Samantha regrets a missed opportunity to sample “tatu” (grilled armadillo) during a recent trip to Bolivia.

Because Samantha studied flute in college, the library staff is hoping that she will add her talents as a classical flutist to future performances of Fondren musicians. Sailors on the staff may also hope for a chance to sail with her on her nineteen-foot catamaran, which is housed in the Texas City area. Tai chi, which she has been studying since living in Colorado, is an additional interest. It's no surprise that one of the things Samantha enjoys most about working at Rice is the opportunity to be creative!

Esther Crawford  
*Head of Government Publications  
and Microforms*  
[crawford@rice.edu](mailto:crawford@rice.edu)

---

---

NEWS from FONDREN  
Volume 12, Number 2, Spring 2003

*Editor*  
Elizabeth Baber  
baber@rice.edu

*Newsletter Committee*  
David Bynog  
Esther Crawford  
Kerry Keck  
Alice Rhoades  
Lisa Spiro

*Graphic Designer*  
Jana Starr

*Photographer*  
Jeff Fitlow  
(unless otherwise noted)

*Drawings of Rice Library Service Center*  
Carlos Jimenez Studio

*Proofing*  
Joe Hatfield

*For information, contact*  
Elizabeth Baber  
Rice University  
Fondren Library—MS 44  
P.O. Box 1892  
Houston, Texas 77251-1892  
713-348-3749

© 2003 Rice University  
034.03

## DID *you* KNOW?

A proxy server service now permits easy access to Fondren Library's online resources when using DSL or cable modem. There are no special account requirements, eliminating the need for advance planning, for example, when you travel. For more information, see: <http://proxy.rice.edu/>.



The Rice University community has benefited for several years from over \$400,000 worth of online resources provided courtesy of the Texas State library consortium program, known as Texshare. Unfortunately, funding for this program—which has been drawn from cell phone taxes—is being redirected by the state to other programs, and access to these resources will probably be lost in fall 2003.



The latest information about the Library Service Center is available online through the official project Web site (<http://project.rice.edu/lsc/>) and through the library's departmental page (<http://www.rice.edu/fondren/lsc/>). The library's page also includes online postings of titles proposed for transfer to the center.



The Electronic Resources Center is actively involved in development of an online gateway focusing on innovations and innovators in technology. This work is supported by the recent grant award of \$100,000 from Microsoft Research.



RICE

Rice University  
Fondren Library—MS 44  
P.O. Box 1892  
Houston, Texas 77251-1892

---

---