



# BOOKMARKS

## ALKEK LIBRARY NEWS

Texas State University-San Marcos

### Albert B. Alkek Library Organizational Change 2002-2009

*Editors' note: Recently AVP Joan Heath was asked to comment on how the Alkek Library has changed over the last eight years. We thought it worthwhile to include her remarks in Bookmarks.*

Organizational change in the Alkek Library has been substantial over the past eight years driven by a number of factors including, first and foremost, advancements in information technology which affected all functional areas of the library. Other significant changes include an increasing focus on the "library as place" and the competing needs of learning services and collection storage. Collaboration with faculty and outreach to the campus community is more actively pursued. Significant attention to special collections raised the library's profile both on campus and beyond through collection acquisitions, programming, exhibitions, and publications. The breadth and depth of the library's collections grew in other ways, responding to new university programs particularly at the graduate level, development of the Round Rock Higher Education Center, attention to the University Archives, and a new role supporting and advancing scholarly communication through eCommons, the institutional repository.

It was a period of significant transition from print to electronic resources and the availability of remote access to resources (databases, ejournals, ebooks), and remote access for library users from their offices and homes. Availability and use of electronic resources and services increased hugely:

number of databases increased 319%; number of ebooks increased 228%; laptop circulations increased 355%; number of pages printed (not photocopied) increased 158%; number of reference questions answered electronically increased 3,850%; and the use of electronic resources overall increased 441%. Physical use of the library also increased though not as much.

The number of library users (door count) increased 16% (note university enrollment increased nearly 13%). The number of items circulated increased 18%. On the down side, the number of seats available to students decreased 2% and the number of in-person reference questions decreased 36%.

All library services are now supported by web-based applications (i.e., online catalog, virtual reference service, ILLiad for interlibrary loan, eRes for electronic reserves). The library has increasingly adopted the learning commons concept modifying spaces and services. Public workstations are no longer limited to library specific functions. Digital media production support for students is being explored. Renovation of existing library spaces, an upgrade of the telecommunications infrastructure, and an offsite repository for print collections are needed to ensure the library remains a thriving intellectual center for the campus.

***The library has been responsive to a changing environment and is fairly well positioned to continue evolving. The staff has an open mind set. Our commitment to public service and information literacy is strong.***

Significant time and resources have been expended for staff training and professional development. A restructuring of library administrative positions is in development to better manage the growth and changing scope of library services. As we move forward, adjustments to positions at the paraprofessional level may be needed to support our technologically savvy end user. At the professional level, further development is needed to promote and increase awareness and integration of library resources and related issues (i.e., copyright, scholarly communication) into the academic and research programs of the university.

The library has been responsive to a changing environment and is fairly well positioned to continue evolving. The staff has an open mind set. Our commitment to public service and information literacy is strong. Fiscal and administrative support has been good. Some of the issues before us as we look to the future include funding for renovation and collection storage, further definition of the learning commons, acquisition or licensing materials versus pay-per-view, the role and scope of collaboration with IT staff, the future of cataloging and metadata services, collection digitization, our future as a federal depository, GIS services, research and publication support services including exploration of the library as digital publisher for scholarly works, and redefining appropriate services for an academic library at a university with the mission and size of Texas State University.

*- Joan Heath, Assistant Vice President, University Library*

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## Clickers in the Library Instruction Classroom

Audience response systems, or “clickers,” are an interesting feature in many campus classrooms. They are generally small remote control-sized (or smaller) devices that allow students to interact in unique ways in the library classroom. For instance, during an instruction session a librarian can quiz students over material that was just covered using clickers, and students can see their individual grades as well as the question and the percentage of answers on the projector screen. Alkek Classroom 101 is equipped with clickers that are connected to the classroom software and are integrated in classroom activities. In addition, a clicker set is available for faculty to check out in the Instructional Technologies Support office.

One drawback of traditional clicker systems is that students must either be provided with or bring their own clickers, and they work with proprietary software. Web-based services have popped up that allow polling via cell and smartphones. One such service is Poll Everywhere, which allows polling and open text questions to be answered via cell and smartphones, web and SMS texting.

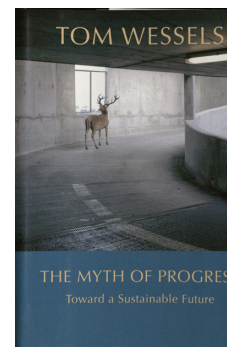
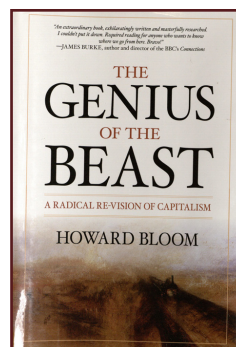
Users can create an account at [polleverywhere.com](http://www.poll Everywhere.com) for free, but polls are limited to 30 respondents. For larger groups users can purchase various levels of membership based on the amount of respondents. For more information, visit <http://www.polleverywhere.com>.



~ Lorin Flores, Coordinator,  
Information Literacy Program

## New Books on Display

Approximately 800 new books are added to the Alkek Library collection each month and we think you would be interested to see some of these titles. Therefore, we invite you to browse our New Books Collection in the Alkek lobby. This collection contains a small sampling of recently purchased books. We hope to showcase the variety of our collection by selecting a few titles each day to share in this temporary home. Much of this collection will be books of general interest to the university community including literature, art, social issues, sports, children's books, biographies, history and many other topics. A few examples are: *Louis Vuitton: Art, Fashion and Architecture*, with contributions by Simon Castets... [et al.]; *The Genius of the Beast: A Radical Re-vision of Capitalism* by Howard Bloom; *The Myth of Progress: Toward a Sustainable Future* by Tom Wessels, and *The Pursuit of Pleasure: Drugs and Stimulants in Iranian History, 1500-1900* by Rudi Matthee.



The collection is located in two bookcases on the right side of the lobby as you enter the library. The books can be checked out according to normal circulation policies and can be renewed online through the “My Library” menu on the library webpage. When the books are returned, they are taken to their permanent home on the regular shelves. The books are rotated often but most titles will stay in the New Books Collection for approximately one month. You can also view the extensive list of new titles by going to the library online catalog and clicking on the “New Titles” link on the top menu bar. We hope you enjoy browsing the collection and reading the interesting titles our library purchases.

~ Jan Tidwell, Reference and Instruction Librarian

## Embed a Librarian in Your TRACS Site

Since the Fall of 2008, instruction librarians have been working on the Embedded Librarian program. The program entails working with classes beyond the instruction session via their class TRACS site. A librarian added into the TRACS site adds library content and provides a means of communicating with students via instant messaging. The project has been evolving over the years as the TRACS system adds new capabilities that librarians can use. Early on librarians began by posting content like research guides to help students start their research. The resources and services we suggest are tailored to their research needs and are outlined either in a document uploaded to Resources or in the TRACS Wiki. Librarians can use the Mailtool function to e-mail the entire class information not covered in the instruction session.

A popular feature of the Embedded Librarian project is the functionality added by librarians that allows students to instant message with either a specific librarian or staff at the Reference Desk. The instant messaging service is anonymous and private. It also shows the status of the librarian as Available (online) or Unavailable (offline). If the service is Unavailable, students may submit their question using a form (Offline message) the librarian receives as an e-mail. As of Fall 2009, the new TRACS interface includes a link to the library homepage in the upper right hand corner, and it appears on all TRACS class sites.

~ Arlene Salazar, Reference and Instruction Librarian

The screenshot displays the TRACS (Teaching Research Collaboration) interface. On the left is a navigation menu with items like Site Info, Home, Drop Box, Forums, Mailtool, Resources, Roster, Syllabus, Wiki, and Help. The main content area shows a chat window for 'Arlene Salazar' with a status of 'Available'. Below the chat window is a link: 'If I'm Unavailable for chat send me an Offline message'. A yellow callout box points to this link with the text: 'When clicking on "send me an Offline message" the form below displays for the student to fill out and submit.' Below the callout is a form titled 'REFTRACKER' with a 'statement' section containing three required fields: 'Your name', 'Your email', and 'Question'. To the right of these fields is a large text area for the question, preceded by the instruction: 'Please enter your question in the space provided and I will reply to you as soon as possible. Thank you'. At the top right of the interface, there are links for 'Library', 'SLAC', and 'Writing Center', and a 'MORE SITES' dropdown menu.

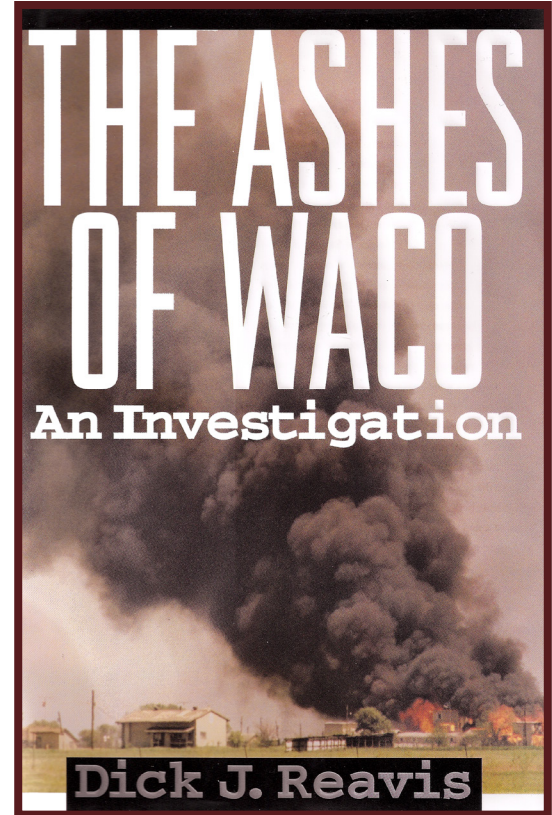


## The Wittliff Collections Launch The Ashes of Waco Digital Collection

The Wittliff Collections at the Alkek Library recently launched *The Ashes of Waco* website and digital collection, funded by a \$20,000 TexTreasures grant through the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC). The digitized materials originated from the Dick J. Reavis Papers and relate to his research for his book, *The Ashes of Waco: An Investigation*, which Simon & Schuster published in 1995 and Syracuse University Press continues to print. Widely published as a journalist, Reavis has been donating his papers to the Wittliff's Southwestern Writers Collection since 2001, and his archive opened for research in 2006.

Reavis's book is one of the most comprehensive and balanced accounts of the highly controversial 1993 incident at the Mount Carmel Center. Connie Todd, emeritus director of the Wittliff Collections, said at the time of the launch, "The raid, siege, and burning of the Branch Davidian complex outside Waco continues to generate a great deal of interest and remains a highly controversial subject. We are delighted that, with the grant from TSLAC, we can provide such a wide variety of digital materials for researchers."

In early 2009, Digital Repository Intern Kurt Johnson helped digitize hundreds of documents, visual images, videotapes and audiotapes, and create metadata records for them all. Then Web Design Intern Aniket Kulkarni helped create the portal website and customize the CONTENTdm site that hosts the digital collection. Archivist Joel Minor managed the project, and he continues to add content to the digital collection: <http://ashesofwaco.library.txstate.edu>.



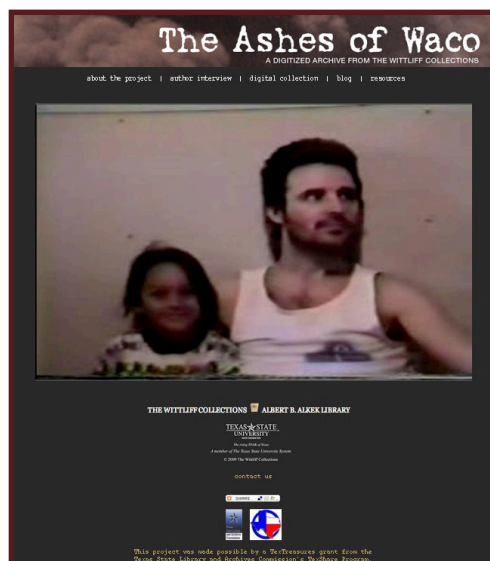
The launch of *The Ashes of Waco* site marks the beginning of an on-going effort to provide online access to such highly-requested items as recordings and transcripts of negotiations between the FBI and Branch Davidians, videos taken by federal agents and Branch Davidians during the siege of Mt. Carmel, David Koresh Bible studies and music recordings, and correspondence between Mr. Reavis and surviving Branch Davidians.

Interested persons should bookmark the website and/or digital collection to stay updated on newly added materials, or add any of them to a favorite RSS feed. The website also includes a transcribed interview with Dick Reavis, and further information on the author, project, and subject matter.

As with most archives at the Wittliff Collections on the library's seventh floor, the original materials are available to students and scholars for research. Request an appointment at <http://thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research.html>.

Contact Joel Minor at 245-3229 or [minor@txstate.edu](mailto:minor@txstate.edu) to learn more about the collection or the project.

~ Joel Minor, Archivist, the Wittliff Collections

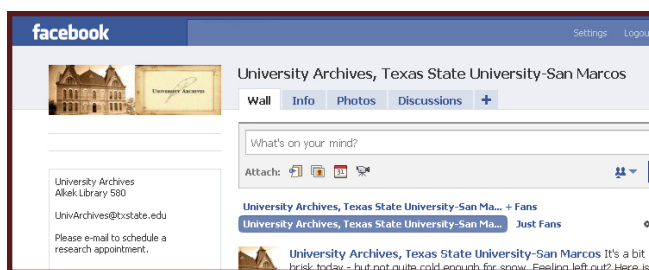


## University Archives Offers History via Social Networking Sites

Now that the University Archives is settled into its new home, the work of gathering and organizing university history continues in earnest. The potential of discovering something interesting about the history of the campus adds to the excitement of each processing project tackled by graduate students and every new donation received. In an effort to share this information and make our history relevant, the University Archives is working to connect with the Texas State community.

Sharing historical information is one of the primary goals of the University Archives. With a physical home on the fifth floor of the Alkek Library, the Archives now has an exhibit space in which to feature campus history. The exhibit case is drawing the attention of staff and students, who often stop to look at the materials on display. But a physical exhibit is static – it must be announced to the community, it is only seen by people who are in the same physical location, and the nature of an exhibit does not invite the viewers to interact with what they see.

In January 2010, the University Archives began posting to Facebook and Twitter. These social networking services offer additional ways for the University Archives to connect with a virtual community – not just current students, but faculty, staff, alumni, parents and others who are interested in the history of Texas State. New exhibits are announced to both sites, along with photographs and more detailed information about featured artifacts. Notes about campus history, along with related images, are posted as well. Occasionally there is a note about resources available in the archives.



Along with the opportunity to offer information to the community, Facebook and Twitter also encourage interaction and feedback. Facebook seems to be the more reticent community, as only a few conversations have been generated so far. However, within two weeks of establishing a regular Twitter feed, followers were responding to @UnivArchives postings. A photograph of snow on campus in 1960 was re-tweeted with comments that it also snowed in 1996. A photograph of Brogdon Hall decorated for a past Mardi Gras also generated several re-tweets and comments.

Anyone who wants to learn more about the history of the Texas State campus is encouraged to become a fan of the University Archives on Facebook and to follow @UnivArchives on Twitter.

*~ Kris Toma, University Archivist*

## Streaming Media Online

We have several new databases available that offer a fabulous wealth of streaming media on audio and video. The [Classical Music Library](http://clmu.alexanderstreet.com) (<http://clmu.alexanderstreet.com>) is one of the largest multi-label databases of classical music recordings. This collection offers 60,000-plus tracks of streaming audio. Coverage includes a range of music from Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, 20th century and 21st century. Repertoire includes vocal and choral music, chamber, orchestral, solo instrumental, and opera.

We also have [Counseling and Therapy in Video](http://ctiv.alexanderstreet.com) (<http://ctiv.alexanderstreet.com>) which offers streaming video footage of actual therapy sessions or re-enacted counseling sessions, demonstrations, consultations, lectures, and interviews; all with synchronized full-text transcripts. The collection provides 284 videos on subject areas covering social work, psychotherapy, psychology, and psychiatric counseling.

*~Misty Hopper, Media Cataloging Librarian*

## Historical Collections Online

Looking for historical pamphlets, sermons or early English books? Several new online collections are now available to Texas State faculty and students which may pique your interest. Whether you are researching a topic or just want to peruse for fun, these collections provide digital images of materials created as early as 1450 through the 1800s.



*"There was a time when researching the Early Modern period was a laborious process," lecturers at the University of Toronto recall. "Trawling through facsimile copies at a university library or funding expensive trips to the British Library in London were necessary activities for Early Modernist scholars."*

Dr. Georgia Wilder, University of Toronto

### Early English Books Online (EEBO)

<http://eebo.chadwyck.com>

EEBO offers digital facsimile images of virtually every work printed in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and British North America, as well as works in English printed elsewhere from 1473 -1700. From the first book printed in English by William Caxton, through the age of Spenser and Shakespeare, through the tumult of the English Civil War, this collection now contains about 100,000 titles covering various subject areas including: English literature, history, philosophy, linguistics, theology, music, fine arts, education, mathematics, and science.

### Eighteenth Century Collections Online

[www.gale.cengage.com/EighteenthCentury](http://www.gale.cengage.com/EighteenthCentury)

ECCO contains every significant English-language and foreign-language title printed in Great Britain during the 18th century, along with thousands of important works from the Americas. Subject areas include history, geography, social sciences, fine arts, literature, language, religion, philosophy, law, medicine, science, and technology. The collection has over 180,000 full-text books, pamphlets, essays, broadsides, Bibles, sheet music, sermons, advertisements and other ephemera. The database offers full-text searching, image gallery, chronology, and advice on searching.



### Making of the Modern World: The Goldsmiths'-Kress Library of Economic Literature, 1450-1850

<http://www.gale.cengage.com/DigitalCollections/products/ModernWorld>

This online collection offers researchers new ways to understand the emergence of modern economics and other social sciences. The database provides access to the theories, practices, and consequences of economic and business activity in the West, from the last half of the 15th century to the mid-19th century. The collection has 61,000 full-text political pamphlets, broadsides, government publications, and proclamations plus a wide range of ephemera published from 1450 through 1850, and 466 pre-1906 serials.

~Misty Hopper, Media Cataloging Librarian



## Alkek Library Staff News

### Recent Additions to the Alkek Library Staff

Liz Ackert - Head Government Information Assistant  
 Brad Ballard - Systems Support Specialist  
 Julie Chapa - Reference/Instruction Librarian - RRHEC  
 Rory Elliott - Evening Reference Assistant  
 Frank Guevara - Stacks Maintenance Assistant  
 Kristin Harrell - Authorities Cataloging Assistant  
 Pat Hawthorne - Director of Research and Learning Services  
 Kay Hetherly - Periodicals Bindery Assistant  
 Scott Johnson - Systems Support Specialist  
 Liane Taylor - Serials Acquisitions Librarian  
 Gilda Mortenson - Administrative Assistant II: Wittliff Collections  
 Sarah Naper - Government Information Librarian  
 Scott Pope - Separates Acquisitions Librarian  
 Heather Proctor - Serials Standing Order Assistant  
 Patricia Sicari - Night Circulation Assistant  
 Molly Thompson - Items Cataloging Assistant



Several new staff members enjoy the landscape surrounding the library. Front: Kristin Harrell and Heather Proctor. Back: Liz Ackert, Molly Thompson, Kay Hetherly, Sarah Naper and Frank Guevara.

*Photo by Tara Spies*

### Student Appreciation Award Recipient

The Alkek Library hosts a Student Appreciation Recognition & Reception each year for library student workers. This year's reception was held on April 7, 2010. Pictured at left are Joan Heath, Assistant Vice President, University Library and the Library Outstanding Student Service Award recipient for 2009, Amy Bartley. Amy works in the Cataloging & Metadata Services department.



*Photo by Carla Ellard*

### 2010 Staff Recognition and Awards Recipients

The Staff Recognition and Award Program was established in 1997 to encourage retention of excellent employees, to reward excellent performance, to improve the quality of library service by linking performance to reward and recognition, to strengthen morale by honoring and publicly appreci-

ating library staff, and to increase commitment to the library by providing direction and reward for excellence. Award Recipients for 2010 are: Unclassified Staff, Katie Salzmann; Classified Staff, Cliff Wood; Bright Idea, Scott Pope; and Outstanding Team Award, Reserves, Periodical & Media Desk, and Media Catalog Unit (members are John Brunson, Hithia Davis, Guy Dore, Amy Eoff, Lisa Francis, Kay Hetherly, Selene Hinojosa, Misty Hopper, and Debbie Monosmith).

**Staff Recognition & Awards Committee members for 2010:**  
 Arlene Salazar, Karen Cowen, Terry Hernandez, Charles Allan,  
 Lisa Francis, and Carla Ellard.

*Photo by Kris Toma*



## Library Research Grants Awarded for Spring 2010

Fourteen faculty members were awarded Library Research Grants last spring. The grants are used to purchase library materials to support their research projects. Grant applications are submitted each fall and reviewed by members of the Library Committee, the library's faculty advisory group. For more information about the grant application process, visit the Acquisitions Department webpage at <http://www.library.txstate.edu/about/departments/acq.html>. Congratulations to the following 2010 recipients:

Jonathan Babcock, Dept. of Music  
 Ulrich E. Bach, Modern Languages  
 David R. Butler, Geography  
 Sindy Chapa, Journalism & Mass Communication  
 Kyong H. Chee, Sociology  
 Gail Dickinson & Emily Summers, Curriculum & Instruction  
 Charles R. Hurt, Music  
 Niem Tu Huynh, Geography  
 Matthew Juge, Modern Languages

Kerry P. Lewis, Anthropology  
 Leah Renold, History  
 Rachel Robillard, Educational Administration & Psychological Services  
 Ram Shanmugam, Health Administration  
 Garland R. Upchurch Jr., Biology  
 Jo Webber, Curriculum & Instruction  
 Tanya Weimer, Modern Languages  
 Pamela J. Wuestenberg, Health, Physical Education & Recreation  
 Qiang Zhao, Mathematics



*Photo by Tara Spies*

**TEXAS STATE**  
 UNIVERSITY<sup>®</sup>  
 SAN MARCOS  
*The rising STAR of Texas*

A member of The Texas State University System

### Alkek Library Hours

Weekdays	First three weeks of Fall/ Spring	Starting 4th week of Fall/ Spring
Monday	7:30am - 1:00am	7:00am - 3:00am
Tuesday	7:30am - 1:00am	7:00am - 3:00am
Wednesday	7:30am - 1:00am	7:00am - 3:00am
Thursday	7:30am - 12:00am	7:00am - 12:00am
Friday	7:30am - 10:00pm	7:00am - 10:00pm
Saturday	9:00am - 6:00pm	9:00am - 6:00pm
Sunday	1:00pm - 1:00am	1:00pm - 3:00am
For Interim, Holiday, and Summer hours, check the Library homepage at <a href="http://www.library.txstate.edu/about/hours.html">www.library.txstate.edu/about/hours.html</a>		

### The Wittliff Collections Hours

M-T-F	8:00am - 5:00pm	(8:30 - 4:30 for archives & research)
W-TH	8:00am - 7:00pm	(8:30 - 4:30 for archives & research) exhibits open all day until 7:00pm
Saturday	10:00am - 5:00pm	exhibits only
Sunday	1:00pm - 5:00pm	exhibits only

The Wittliff Collections hours vary -  
 check the webpage at

[www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/about/visit](http://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/about/visit)

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