New Books

Technical Tidbits

So we like print books. That doesn’t mean we don’t like tech gadgets, too! Check out the list of Apps for the library on our iPad guide at http://lib.pstcc.edu/ipad. We’ve got apps for audio books, e-readers, finding libraries, getting articles, and more, for Apple and Android devices.

EasyBib is a citation manager that can make it, well, easier. With EasyBib, you only have to create the citation one time. If you need to change your citation style, just click a button.

Whether you are using print books and articles or electronic resources from the PSCC Databases – or images, audio, or video – EasyBib can cite it in the style you choose.

Export citations for articles directly from the PSCC Databases to EasyBib, and it will generate the citation for you.

EasyBib will also create your works cited page automatically, and you can export it to Microsoft Word to paste it right into your paper.

Use EasyBib to avoid accidental plagiarism, too. Use the Notes and Outlines to organize your research and keep from making mistakes about the origins of your information. And best of all – there’s an app for that!

Please send comments, corrections, questions, and suggestions to Miranda Orvis (Editor) at morvis@pstcc.edu.

What is this Circulation Desk at Hardin Valley I’ve been hearing about??

Do you need to check out a book, use a textbook for your class, or get a UT library card? Does your instructor keep telling you to go to a place called “Reserve” to find a sample test, a box of rocks, or a skeleton?

For all those things and more, come to the library’s Circulation Desk – immediately on your right as you enter the ERC Building.

At this desk you can check out and return print-format books from the circulating collection and items placed on reserve by instructors. You can also check out and return laptops and iPads for use in the library.

PSCC students, faculty, and staff can get a TBR/UT (TALC) borrower’s card for visiting UT’s library, and community members can get a PSCC Borrower’s card.

The staff also provides general information, assistance in requesting intercampus loans and interlibrary loans, and help with overdue and billed materials.

Circulation services are also available at the ERC service desk at other campus locations.

For more information, call us at 865-694-6516 or go to http://lib.pstcc.edu/circ.

Stuff for Students

Everyone knows you have to cite your sources for an assignment or a paper. But with all those styles – MLA, APA, Chicago – it can get so confusing! We can help.

EasyBib can cite it in the style you choose.

Export citations for articles directly from the PSCC Databases to EasyBib, and it will generate the citation for you.

EasyBib will also create your works cited page automatically, and you can export it to Microsoft Word to paste it right into your paper.

Use EasyBib to avoid accidental plagiarism, too. Use the Notes and Outlines to organize your research and keep from making mistakes about the origins of your information. And best of all – there’s an app for that!

Just click the EasyBib logo under the main search box in the middle of the library homepage to open our EasyBib Help Guide, where you can create a free account, get instructions for using EasyBib, view tutorials, and see our FAQs.

For face to face help, ask about EasyBib at the Reference Desk.

And don’t forget to check imported citations for accuracy and formatting.

More…
**Director's Notes**

With the disappearance of some faculty office spaces and Adult Ed instruction room in the Library’s ER 120 space, we have added furniture that is ideal for student collaboration activities.

The space consists of 9 tables and 32 chairs, 2 whiteboards on wheels, and 2 smart LCD TVs (1 mounted on the wall, the other on wheels).

The tables, chairs, whiteboards and one smart TV are all on wheels, so they are infinitely configurable – you can move them anywhere you want in the room to accommodate your group’s needs.

The space is available on a first come, first serve basis. Give this space a try, and remember to use it for your collaboration and study needs.

To go to the ER 120 area, enter the library and go straight back past the bathrooms to the end of the library hallway.

**More…**

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**Common Book, Common Experience**

Laurel Winters, Reference Librarian

Each year, Pellissippi State chooses a common book for all new students to read. Through this exercise, students can discuss new ideas and create new learning experiences with each other.

This year’s common book is *The Best Science and Nature Writing of 2013*, edited by Siddhartha Mukherjee. The anthology contains many interesting creative nonfiction pieces on topics ranging from communicating with dolphins (“Talk to Me”) to preserving whole ecosystems for biodiversity conservation (“Which Species Will Live?”).

Mukherjee, the editor, is a cancer researcher and professor whose previous work explored the history of cancer as a disease in his widely acclaimed book *The Emperor of All Maladies*. All of the articles he chose are well-written explorations into the nature of scientific curiosity. There is a sense of wonder, even a sense of the bigness of the world, reminding the reader that science is not just equations or lab work, but involves real passion, dedication and beauty.

Our Common Book Guide is online at [http://lib.pstcc.edu/commoncomm2014](http://lib.pstcc.edu/commoncomm2014). **More…**

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**Staff Picks: Our Favorite Databases**

We asked PSCC librarians which Databases they like best, and why. Here’s what they said:

**LyndaCampus** helps me when I wipe out formulas in Microsoft Excel!  
– Nina McPherson

**ARTstor** has wonderful photographs of contemporary and classic artwork from around the world. It also includes photos of archaeological museum objects like armor and earthenware.

– Laurel Winters

**CQ Researcher** has great depth of coverage on contemporary societal issues.

– Rick Bower

**OmniFile Full Text Mega** is easy to use, with full text scholarly articles on many subjects.

– Miranda Orvis

**Global Issues in Context** is easy to navigate, and the topic pages are amazing! The content also doesn’t have too much jargon, and it’s on a good academic level for our students.

– Jennifer Mezick

**Columbia Granger’s World of Poetry** is an easy-to-use resource for finding the full text of thousands of poems.

– Jean Jackson

**U.S. History in Context** is easy to use and has a variety of types of information resources including scholarly articles, primary sources, and media resources. It’s useful for a wide range of topics.

– Jean Jackson & Jennifer Mezick
Focus on Faculty

The Library has many tools and services designed to support faculty in their teaching and research activities.

We have recently put together a guide about Open Educational Resources (OERs), including information about OERs, links to OER collections and Open Textbooks, and Open Access library resources.

OERs are resources for teaching, learning, and research that are in the public domain or have been published in a way that allows their free use and re-purposing (open access). They include complete courses, course materials, interactive lessons, modules, textbooks, videos, assignments, tests, worksheets, and more, on a wide variety of topics.

To visit the Open Educational Resources Guide, click Faculty Services in the left-side menu on the library homepage, then select Open Education Resources on the left.

The below textbooks, from the Open Textbook Library of the University of Minnesota (http://open.umn.edu/opentextbooks), are just a sample of the many OERs available. More...

New Books, Videos, & More

These are a few of the new items we've picked up recently – look for these books in the Library, visit the databases online, and see the movies in the PSCC Educational Technology Services in Goins 244!

New Books This Month
The Book of Trees, by Manuel Lima
American Christianity: The Continuing Revolution, by Stephen Cox
Common Nonsense: Glenn Beck and the Triumph of Ignorance, by Alexander Zaitchik
Redcoats & Rebels, by Christopher Hibbert
Tangled Roots: The Appalachian Trail and American Environmental Politics, by Sarah Mittlefehldt
GPS Declassified: From Smart Bombs to Smartphones, by Richard Easton and Eric Frazier
Total Sportscasting: Performance, Production, and Career Development, by Marc Zumoff and Max Negin
Organic: A Journalist’s Quest to Discover the Truth behind Food Labeling, by Peter Lauffer
The Bet: Paul Ehrlich, Julian Simon, and Our Gamble over Earth’s Future, by Paul Sabin
Keith’s Radio Station: Broadcast, Internet, and Satellite, by John Hendricks and Bruce Mims
The New Rules of Retail: Competing in the World’s Toughest Marketplace, by Robin Lewis and Michael Dart
The Norm Chronicles: Stories and Numbers about Danger and Death, by Michael Blastland and David Spiegelhalter
Dark Forces: The Truth about what happened in Benghazi, by Kenneth Timmerman
License to Wed: What Legal Marriage Means to Same-Sex Couples, by Kimberly Richman
Getting Schooled: The Reeducation of American Teachers, by Garret Keizer
How to Watch Television, Edited by Ethan Thompson and Jason Mittell
Garden of Dreams: The Life of Simone Signoret, by Patricia DeMaio
The Mockingbird Next Door: Life with Harper Lee, by Marja Mills
Climate and Ecosystems, by David Schimel
The Compatibility Gene: How Our Bodies Fight Disease, Attract Others, and Define Ourselves, by Daniel M. Davis
American Spies: Espionage against the United States from the Cold War to the Present, by Michael J. Sulick
Joomla! 3 Explained, by Stephen Burge

New Databases This Fall
Artemis Literature Sources
Oxford African American Studies Center
Smithsonian Collection Online

New Movies This Fall
All Quiet on the Western Front
The Apostle
Away from Her
Battle of the Bulge
Black Hawk Down
Boys Don’t Cry
Breakfast on Pluto
Cider House Rules
The Crying Game
Death and the Maiden
The Elegant Universe
The Great Debaters
House of Sand and Fog
Invictus
Jane Eyre
The Laramie Project
The Machinist
Playboy of the Western World
Rabbit-proof Fence
Snow Falling on Cedars
Thin Red Line
V for Vendetta
Zoot Suit Riots
Did You Know?

Searching for books and scholarly articles in the Library is not the same as doing a Google search.

For one thing, most of the items you’ll find here have been selected by the librarians, so you don’t have to worry about hoax websites or other problems you find in Google.

That doesn’t mean everything we have is scholarly or peer reviewed – but it does mean it’s easy to check!

You also have to choose your words more carefully when you search the Library – you have to pick keywords.

In Google, if you search “How did they make mummies in Egypt?” you get over 400,000 hits and the top 10 are all relevant, even if they are not all “good” sources.

If you do the same search in the Library Catalog to find books at lib.pstcc.edu/books, you get a lot of hits, but half of the top 10 are irrelevant, including books about marijuana, nuclear energy, and Burma.

If you search for the keywords (the most important terms, connected by AND – in this case, mummies AND Egypt) you get better results. Now all of the top ten are relevant!

Our Library Databases work the same way. Try using keywords next time you search for scholarly articles in the library!

More…

What’s Up @ the Library

We have three new Databases this fall! Here are two of them – visit us at http://www.lib.pstcc.edu/az.php for #3, and a complete list of our databases.

For Leisure or Research

The Smithsonian Collections Online provides access to Smithsonian Magazine and Air & Space Magazine from 1970 to the present. Fun to read and informative, the articles are useful for many topics. The images from the print magazines are beautifully reproduced, and both magazines can be searched by keyword or browsed by issue.

Air & Space Magazine Cover, April-May 2014. Retrieved from Smithsonian Collections Online on 10/9/14.

A One Stop Shop for Information on the African American Experience

Oxford African American Studies Center has biographies, primary sources, multimedia, maps, statistics, timelines, country profiles, family trees, interviews, photo essays, and also includes subject entries like you’d find in a traditional encyclopedia – even links to credible web resources.

This should be your go-to source for African American topics. And for professors, OAASC also has lesson plans and ideas for engaging learning.

More…

In Memoriam: Nina McPherson

It is with a real sense of sadness that I write to let you know of the passing of Nina McPherson. She was one of the first “Pellissippi” people I met when I started at Division Street nearly 17 years ago. She was our longest serving employee, having been with us from our beginnings as State Technical Institute. She served a number of important roles at Pellissippi State, as library director, dean of the ERC and dean of the site campuses. Most recently, she served as a faculty librarian and was very involved with faculty senate and student services.

I carry many fond memories of my conversations with Nina over the years… She rightly took great pride in Pellissippi State and her work here. I am glad she was able to share some of that with us at our opening in-service session this fall. She will be greatly missed.

Jennifer Mezick, Cataloging Librarian

L. Anthony Wise, Jr., Ph.D., PSCC President

Visit the Newsletter online at http://lib.pstcc.edu/about_library/publications for more!