From the Director
by Joanne Lerud

It must be spring, as the flowerbeds outside the Library are showing new growth. However, in spite of the bright spring flowers, there are some black clouds on the horizon. Daily newspapers keep us appraised of the State revenue situation that will certainly affect the Colorado School of Mines budget, including the Library.

What can be expected if the Library is negatively affected by a CSM budget shortfall?

Any budget cuts will be painful. However, the Library is and has been very careful in its spending. Thus, we are adept at receiving the best value for each dollar spent. If journal cuts are required, we have in place a process that involves direct input from departments. Each department reviews journals appropriate for their discipline as well as the looking at the entire list. The Library is currently only collecting core journals, so any cuts would be detrimental to the quality of the collection. Any cuts in this collection will directly impact the school’s curriculum and research. If necessary, the Library staff would additionally look at access and associated costs as another area for potential savings. Depending on current contracts, the Library might be able to gain financial savings by cutting back on the number of simultaneous users or by changing the format(s) a particular journal is purchased in.

In the event that budget cuts impact our collection, librarians will continue to help you find the information you need and Information Delivery Services will continue to use all avenues available to acquire the information you need that is not currently available in the Arthur Lakes Library.

In case you have not noticed, the Library staff is providing free coffee and coffee mugs for students during finals week. We tried this out with great success during Fall 2001. We are using funds that would otherwise be expended during the annual CSM Celebration of Mines. Our thinking is that students might appreciate coffee during their marathon study sessions more than any little trinket we have given away during Celebration of Mines. We
are also talking with Student Life about the possibility of making coffee available for sale in the Library on a more permanent basis. Stay tuned for more details.

Electronic Journals: the Story Behind the Links

HISTORY
Printed scholarly journals have been around for over 100 years. A library routine was fairly well established - libraries paid for a subscription for a year in advance, checked in each issue as it arrived, claimed missing issues, updated catalog records, shelved and reshelved it, and bound it between durable covers when all issues had been received.

But the advent of scholarly electronic journals changed just about everything. Electronic publishing is a chaotic new world, with technical, legal, and economic complications. Each e-journal publisher is unique in how it embraces the electronic age [or is dragged into it by library and customer demand]. Each publisher makes its own rules and decisions, on its own distinct timeline.

LIBRARY ACCESS
Scholarly electronic journals provided by Libraries are not free Internet resources. Electronic access represents a lot of work behind the scenes by different library departments. Many steps are required before CSM patrons can use e-journals. For example:

• "Payment" is not straightforward. Some publishers bundle electronic access with print subscriptions, others charge extra, or make some issues free for some period of time, or offer e-access only to individual subscribers but not to libraries, or offer e-access only if you buy a package of their journal titles, etc. Library staff sort through the options to get the best available combination.
• Publishers require signed License Agreements, which limit e-journal access to current students, staff, and faculty, and (in most cases) to "walk-in" users who are physically present on campus. Library staff review, sign, and enforce these agreements.
• Electronic access is limited to those who have paid for it. At this time, IP-address recognition is the preferred method for validating access. Library staff provide IP-address data to publishers.
• Creating electronic access for patrons is different than getting print issues to a shelf. Electronic links need to be made from an e-journals list (see http://www.mines.edu/library/reference/ejournal.html), and/or from the online catalog. Sometimes finding the correct URL and figuring out what years you are entitled to can be a challenge. Library staff create and maintain the web pages, and add records to the online catalog.
• E-links are “black holes” for time management. Publishers generally do not let libraries know when they redesign their websites and change their e-journal links (Let us know about broken links at libref@mines.edu); for some publishers that may mean hundreds of links for library staff to check and change, perhaps several times a year.

COPYRIGHT
Although the method of access has changed from print journals to electronic journals, there are legal restrictions on use. In the print age, library patrons read the journal in the library, or photocopied pages to read later. One user, one copy, used for personal research, therefore allowed under the “fair use provision” of the US Copyright Law (see http://www.loc.gov/copyright/title17/92chap1.html#107).

In the electronic age, copyright laws still apply, and legally binding contracts exist between libraries and publishers. Publishers of scholarly e-journals are trying to maintain their subscription base and financial stability. They can and do monitor e-journal usage by libraries, and can suspend e-access if they see violations. As stated on the Arthur Lakes Library e-publications page:

"Use of e-journals is subject to copyright laws. Use and copy for individual and collaborative scholarship is expected, however, systematic downloading and/or redistribution to non-subscribers is prohibited."

Electronic versions of journals are popular on the CSM Library pages, and worth the work behind the scenes to make them available. We hope to add more titles ourselves and in conjunction with other Colorado libraries.

Catalyst Upgrade
This spring we upgraded the software that runs our online catalog, Catalyst. The latest software release focuses on extending patron empowerment functions in the user interface. One of the new features, MyOPAC, offers a wide range of options that will enable you to establish a personalized custom searching profile. For example, do you always use the Custom Search tab? You will be able to customize Catalyst to open that tab automatically.

Similarly, you will also be able to set a default index to search, such as Author or Subject. The “Saved Search” feature permits you to establish frequently used search queries and store in your profile, making it easy to re-execute those searches in future sessions without rekeying. Finally, a state-of-the-art Selected Dissemination of Information (SDI) feature will enable you to receive information automatically about newly cataloged items by automating the search process. Using saved searches, SDI will, at intervals defined by you, search the database and report via an email any matches.
Sargent, Inge Twilight over Burma My Life as a Shan Princess University of Hawaii Press 1994.
Call number DS530.8.S45.K937 1994

Inge Sargent gives a description of her life in the Shan state of Hsipaw in northeastern Burma in the 1950s and early 1960s through the eyes of an Austrian woman who married the ruler of Hsipaw and lived there for 12 years.

Inge Sargent met Sao Kya Seng while they were both foreign students studying in the United States; Sao Kya Seng was a mining engineering student at the Colorado School of Mines. The couple married in Denver and only when they arrived in Rangoon did Inge discover that her husband was the Prince of Hsipaw, an autonomous state in Burma's Shan mountains. Inge lived the life of a Shan princess for 12 years, learning the Shan and Burmese languages and working with her husband to improve the lives of the Shan people through improved methods of agriculture and health care. There are vivid descriptions of the local people, travel around the mountainous countryside, gambling festivals and interesting historical information about Burma.

This fairy tale existence came to an end in 1962 with a military coup and the arrest and disappearance of Sao Kya Seng. Inge waited desperately for news of his survival. Finally, friends convinced her that he had been murdered and that Sargent and her two daughters should escape back to Austria. Sargent, now living in Boulder, continues to fight against the current regime's human rights abuses and repression of the Burmese people. Several years ago a German film company made a movie "The Last Mahadevi" based on this book, it was shown at the Denver International Film Festival in 2000, part of the movie was filmed on the CSM campus.

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Library Notes

Pam Bloome has joined the staff as the Library's Cataloger. A native of Illinois, Pam received a BA in History from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, and a MA in Library of Science from University of Arizona. She previously worked in Yuma, Arizona for the Northern Arizona University.

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Library Directory

Director............................... (303) 273-3690
Circulation........................... (303) 273-3698
Information Delivery/ILL...... (303) 273-3699
Information Delivery/Photocopy..............
                     (303) 273-3899
Reference....................... (303) 273-3694
Government Publications...... (303) 273-3695
Maps............................... (303) 273-3697
Acquisitions.................. (303) 273-3691
Cataloging........................ (303) 273-3692

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Library Hours (School Term)

Monday-Thursday................7:30 AM to 12 Midnight
Friday................................7:30 AM to 6:00 PM
Saturday.................................9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Sunday.................................1:00 PM to 10:00 PM