FROM THE DEAN’S DESK - DR. CELINE LANG

The Evans Library - Phi Eta Sigma – Crosswinds Youth Services Partnership

The Library, Phi Eta Sigma, and Crosswinds Youth Services have entered into a partnership for transfer to Crosswinds of hundreds of gift materials (books, textbooks, periodicals, and multimedia resources) inappropriate for addition to the permanent collection of the University. The first transfer took place on March 26.

Crosswinds Youth Services was founded nearly 30 years ago to provide safety and support to Brevard County’s youth in crisis. Since then, tens of thousands of local youth have received life-changing services from Crosswinds. The Crosswinds mission is to provide our local young people with effective programs to help them succeed in family life, in school, in their careers, and in their community. Under the leadership of President/CEO Jan Lokay, Crosswinds serves more than 4,200 youths in 2003 alone. Crosswinds has been named by the National Network for Youth peers as the “best organization in the nation serving runaway, homeless, and other youth in crisis.” Florida Today named Crosswinds Youth Services the 2003 Volunteer Organization of the Year.

The Florida Tech chapter of Phi Eta Sigma, the national scholastic honor society for freshmen, will transport gifts of library materials to Crosswinds on a regular and continuing basis. Niraj Patel, President, and the students of Phi Eta Sigma, under the guidance of Rodney Bowers, Director of Florida Tech’s Academic Support Center, are the critical link in this new program. The idea for the program came from the Phi Eta Sigma students, who conducted a textbook drive on behalf of the Library in the fall of 2003.

Ilona Mueller, Patron Access Librarian, coordinates the program with Crosswinds and Phi Eta Sigma, on behalf of the library.

POPULAR DISPLAYS CONTINUE

“Everything that can be invented has been invented.”
- Charles H. Duell, Commissioner, U.S. Office of Patents, 1899

This quote sets the stage for “Innovations spelled I-N-V-E-N-T-I-O-N,” a continuing first-floor lobby display. Little did Mr. Duell know what lay ahead in the twentieth century and beyond. Featured is information about inventions that are mundane, life-altering, ridiculous, and, no doubt, sublime. Related books, government documents, and Internet sites will enlighten Library visitors about Edwin A. Link and his air and sea inventions, the patent process, a myriad of interesting inventions, Florida Tech patents, and more!

Can you identify this invention? Learn more about this remarkable device and others on the LINK at the Evans Library Display site.

“A Generation of Poetry” also continues in the Library’s lobby. This information resources display reviews aspects of the last thirty years in the literary world. Far from the simple rhymes of childhood, this display’s collection of Pulitzer Prize winners, government information, and Internet sites integrates Florida Tech course requirements, a campus-wide commemorative poetry contest, and overall enjoyment of poetry. Visual poetry also makes its mark. Included in the display is the 2003 title, Reflections of Blue Cypress: Photographs, History, and Poems of the Headwater Lake of the St. Johns River, authored by Juanita Baker, School of Psychology, and Richard Baker.

Located near the north foyer is an on-going display featuring the Library’s cookbook, Cook It by the Book II. To order, individuals may send an email message to Natalie Madden at nmadden@fit.edu, call 321-674-8086, stop by the Library, or complete an online order form in the LINK’s Library News section.

SUMMER 2004 GRADUATE RESEARCH WORKSHOP

Registrations have begun to come in already for the Library’s Summer 2004 graduate research workshops. These workshops will be held Thursday, June 17, from 5:30 - 9:00 pm, and Friday, June 18, from 8:45 am – 12:15 pm. For more information or registration, graduate students who are interested may visit the Library’s workshop site or may contact Joanne Savage, Instructional Programs Technician, at jsavage@fit.edu or at x7656. Reservations must include name, the last four digits of the Florida Tech ID number, email address, phone number(s), modules desired to attend, date of requested workshop, and student’s program of study.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER

The Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) has begun a series of changes that will affect both its content and access to it. On March 18, the U.S. Department of Education announced that Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) of Rockville, MD will develop and operate a new ERIC database system, the goal being quicker access to more materials via the Internet. Users will be able to go to one Web site to search for journal articles and document abstracts and, for the first time, directly access full text. The database will include as much free text as possible, and links will be provided to commercial sources so that users can purchase journal articles and other full text immediately. ERIC database will continue to be available at http://www.eric.ed.gov.

Through the Federal Depository Library Program, Evans Library has been receiving 10% of the documents published by ERIC. This is the number provided free to depository libraries by the Government Printing Office. Faculty and students can access the database online, determine document numbers, and check in the microfiche drawers on the third floor to see if the Library owns them. Because most ERIC documents (EDs) are privately published and are purchased by libraries, they cannot be obtained through interlibrary loan. A personal visit to another library may be required for access to certain documents. ERIC documents can also be found at the Brevard Community College/UCF Joint Use Library in Cocoa (all EDs from #348,466) and at UCF’s main campus library in Orlando (all EDs from #1).

TAX FORMS AND PUBLICATIONS STILL AVAILABLE

As the April 15 deadline approaches, the Evans Library’s government information program continues to offer a wide selection of U.S. income tax forms and publications. All are welcome to take any needed forms or publications from the display near the first-floor stairwell. Publications and forms that are not readily available in the Library can be accessed at the IRS site at www.irs.gov, where search help is available. Also, CCH Tax Research Network, one of the LINK’s specialized databases found under LINK - Research Resources - Databases/Indexes, includes the latest tax news, recent legislative developments, and related full-text periodicals, tax guides, and codes.