The new building is here. It is bright, shiny and has that new smell. There are many new features to enjoy. This facility not only houses the Library but also E-Learning, Assistive Technology, the Honors College, Information Commons, and the 700 Perk cafe.

However, a good library requires more than just a new facility. A good library must offer good resources and provide good services to the community it supports.

The new Dean is here. One of her goals is to spend the next semester reviewing the library’s resources, services and overall organizational structure. When necessary there will be changes and updates to ensure that the organization functions as an academic library should. This review will incorporate a survey of library staff skills and abilities as well as a survey of library users.

Currently, the Library staff is working hard to introduce new services such as a Media Center, iPads that can be checked out, and a redesigned webpage.

As for how you can contribute to successful library operation, we ask the NSU community to use this facility and give us feedback not only on the new building but on all that we are doing.

Your suggestions can be sent to Library@nsu.edu.

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The secret of happiness is freedom, and the secret of freedom, courage.

– Thucydides
The Lyman Beecher Brooks Library will soon begin lending iPads.

NSU students, with their Spartan card, will be able to check out an iPad3 from the Circulation/Reserves desk for a five-day period. These new machines are loaded with a variety of apps, video and audio applications, and all the regular iPad functionality. Make sure to check out the library’s website for information on when this new program begins.

Need an academic, scholarly, or peer-reviewed journal article for an assignment? Check out the resources below to find the information you need anytime, anywhere.

**Heritage Quest Online**

Have you ever needed to research the family history of a historical figure or wanted to find out more information about your own family tree? Through the library’s newest database, Heritage Quest Online, researchers can access U.S. Federal Censuses from 1790-1930, more than 25,000 family and local history books, U.S. Revolutionary War records, the Freedman’s Bank records which can aid in tracing African American ancestors prior to and directly after the Civil War (1865-1874), as well as numerous memorials, petitions, and private relief actions of the U.S. Congress.

**INSPEC**

The library has a new comprehensive STEM database called INSPEC. This resource covers areas in physics, electrical engineering and electronics, computers and control, information technology for business, mechanical and production engineering and more.

**Marcive**

Want a one-click way to find documents published by the U.S. federal government? Marcives integrates federal government documents into the library’s catalog. This means that users can now search the library’s catalog for federal agency publications, annual reports, Congressional hearings, and statistical publications. Additionally, if the full text of the document is available online, there is a direct link to it in the catalog record. This service vastly increases the amount of material users can access from reliable, public domain sources.

* The purchase of the above resources was made possible by a Title III grant.
Research Checklist

by Lyman Beecher Brooks Library

Not sure where to begin finding information for a research paper or class project? Follow the checklist below to make sure you access all the resources you’ll need to get an A!

- Choose an appropriate subject
- Think about what you already know about your topic
- Pose a question about your topic
- Use the catalog on the library’s website to find books about your research subject
- Look through the “Databases by Subject” list on the library’s website (under the search dropdown box), and choose the academic discipline related to your topic to find scholarly journal articles
- Use Boolean operators (AND/OR/NOT) to narrow your search results
- Evaluate the information you find
- Cite the resources that you use

If you need further assistance e-mail a librarian at libraryinfo@nsu.edu, call the information services department at 757-823-8517, or stop by the information services desk on the first floor of the library.

POP Culture with Current Periodicals

by Cyanna Rodney-Hill

What’s a periodical? According to the Merriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary, a periodical is defined as [a newspaper, journal, gazette, etc.] published with a fixed interval between the issues or numbers. If you need a study break or want to stay connected to current events, try reading one of the periodicals the library owns that are listed below.

- Black Enterprise
- Essence
- Forbes
- Newsweek
- New York Times newspaper
- Science
- Sports Illustrated
What is a Digital Object Identifier (DOI)?

by C. Lynne Harrison

A DOI provides a means of identifying a specific article or document and of creating a persistent link from the internet to the article/document. The identifier contains both letters and numbers, and is used to identify the publisher as well as the specific document. As more publishers assign DOI's to the articles in their journals or to specific documents which are available in electronic format, more databases include the DOI in the information they provide. Ways for the DOI to be used as a search tool are also being developed.

Some organizations, like the American Psychological Association, have already begun to require the inclusion of DOI’s – when they are available – as part of the citation for an article.

The ACM Digital Library (computer science), IEEEExplore, PsychNet and SpringerLink (e-book collection), are four databases which include DOI’s as part of their advanced search strategies. If you know an article came from one of these databases, you may locate it using only the Digital Object Identifier.

Archives Update: Digitization

by Cyanna Rodney-Hill

The digitization of select collections in the University Archives continues. Digitization allows items such as original archived legal documents, audio interviews, and correspondence to be accessed by patrons online. The first collection to be completed, the Dr. J. Jasper Freedman collection, is now available online. Dr. Freedman was a prominent leader as pastor of Queen Street Baptist Church and a community activist in the Norfolk and Tidewater area during the civil rights era.

Another collection that includes digitized items is the Professor James Brown collection. Prof. Brown served the University from 1968-2009 and still serves as a volunteer curator. He collected numerous flyers, papers, conference programs, studies, and more from NSU student clubs and Norfolk area community organizations.

The next collection to be digitized is from Virginia State Senator Yvonne Miller. The recently deceased Sen. Miller donated materials from her campaigns, correspondence with constituents and personal papers to the University Archives.

Mr. Josephs, metadata librarian and lead for the project, says that the University Archives’ digitization project’s “…goal is to open up the archives to students…to show the curation of Tidewater history that exists at Norfolk State…”

Access the digitized materials by using any computer in the library and enter in contentpro.nsu.edu/iii/cpro/app into your favorite web browser. This project is funded by a Title III grant.
Sins of the Mother, by Victoria Christopher Murray, is a powerful book from the “Christian fiction” genre that provokes a lot of feelings. The main thing I had a hard time with was that I didn’t like a main character, Jasmine, but I really liked the book. I know you might wonder; how do you like a book and not like one of the main characters? Well, the truth is, even though I did not like or truly approve of Jasmine, there were things about her I could relate to. I can only imagine how it feels to have a child go missing and Jasmine’s motherly love shows through even when other moral issues rise up. I was relieved at the end of the book to read the interview questions with the author, Victoria Christopher Murray, and find that she doesn’t really like the character, Jasmine, either.

This is not Ms. Murray’s first book with Jasmine; she is featured in several earlier books. I read the first book in the series Temptation before reading Sins of the Mother. I may not like Jasmine but I am intrigued by her and after reading this novel I know I like Victoria Christopher Murray’s writing. She tells a story well and will keep you engrossed from the first page to the last.

I also like how real her characters appear. They are everyday people (even the TV preacher, Hosea, Jasmine’s husband), fighting everyday temptations and feelings.

If you are expecting Christian fiction, you will get it in her stories, but I don’t consider this to be traditional Christian fiction. This is the newer Christian fiction, it’s more modern (today’s reality). There is a message and it comes through loud and clear, but the story line and some of the situations are a little rawer than straight Christian fiction.

Overall, I thought this was a very good book. I went through so many emotions with this one and could not stop turning the pages. Take a chance with this one; I don’t think you will be disappointed.
LIBRARY HOURS
SPRING 2012 & FALL 2012

Monday—Thursday
8 a.m.-11 p.m.

Friday
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday
2-9 p.m.

Remember to check the library's website for special hours during holidays and semester breaks.

Library Contact Numbers

Circulation/Reserves
757-823-2418

Information Services
757-823-8517

University Archives
757-823-2002

Office of Library Dean
757-823-8481

Office of Information Technology (OIT)
757-823-2916

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Have suggestions for the next issue of Check It Out? We want to hear from you!
Email: Libraryinfo@nsu.edu
Phone: 757-823-8517