

Mannifest

The Albert R. Mann Library Newsletter

Mann Library E-Reserves News

Fall 1996 Reserve Web Page

<http://www.mannlib.cornell.edu/reserve>
Fall 1996 reserve policies and submitting reserve lists by email.

E-Reserves Faculty Web Page

Containing the latest information about E-Reserves at Mann, this page will be available mid-October. We will inform you by campus mail and email when it is in production.

What About Scanning for Spring 1997?

We will do all of your scanning for you. We will inform you via the faculty web page, campus mail and email when we are ready to accept photocopies for scanning.

How Will Students Access E-Reserves?

Students will be able to read and/or print the full text of reserve articles in Mann Library. They will be able to view lists of readings and send print commands to Mann Library from remote locations. All E-Reserves printing from either Mann Library or remote locations will be performed on high speed laser printers at the Document Services Desk in Mann Library. The price of printing will be 10 cents for a double-sided page.

Questions?

Please contact either:
Michael Friedman, maf3@cornell.edu (255-5680)
Howard Raskin, hbr1@cornell.edu (255-5680)

Adaptive Technologies

Do you need to convert text to Braille? Would you like to convert text to sound? Would it help you to magnify a page from your textbook for better reading?

Mann Library can help. We now have a workstation that has software that can help you convert text to Braille, scan a document and transform its text to speech, or scan a page and magnify it many times. The workstation is available in the second floor reference area of Mann Library.

Mann Library has been working in partnership with Joan Fisher, Assistant Director of Disability Services in the Office of Equal Opportunity to provide access to adaptive technology that will help people with visual impairments. This technology is

*...convert text to Braille, scan a document
and transform its text to speech, or
scan a page and magnify it...*

also available to administrative units that need to provide materials in alternative formats. The Office of Equal Opportunity was provided with funding to assist persons with disabilities; Mann Library provides space and technical support for the resources. The majority of the funds have come from the Ridley Foundation, which has played a key role in helping Cornell obtain technology to support people with disabilities, and SUNY, which has provided funds to assist services for students with disabilities in statutory programs.

The adaptive technology workstation has several software and hardware components that can assist people needing alternative modes of access to print materials. The station is composed of an IBM PC and has an Arkenstone scanner, a DecTalkPC speech synthesizer, and a Romeo Brailier.

Time's fun when you're having flies.

--Kermit the Frog

(continued p. 2)



Technologies (cont'd)

Two software programs will help you convert text to Braille. A DOS-based program, Jaws, converts text that appears on the screen into sound, thereby reading menu items or text typed into DOS software. This program will help visually impaired users make use of the DOS programs that are on the workstation. MegaDots, another program, enables users to convert ASCII text into Grade II Braille which can be output using the Romeo Brailler.

Another program, An Open Book, enables the workstation to convert text to sound. This Arkenstone product works with a scanner to capture a printed-text image. It runs an optical character recognition program and a word-to-speech converter over the image. These programs allow the speech synthesizer to read the page that has been scanned. The process takes only a few seconds and involves hitting only a couple of keys! Headphones are available for use with the system.

The last element of the station is a magnification program called VisAbility. This program also works with the scanner but allows the user to magnify the page. Like An Open Book, this software is simple to use and takes only a few seconds for the magnification process.

Please contact Tom Turner with questions about these resources or to make an appointment to learn how to use them. He can be reached in the Public Services Department at Mann Library. His telephone number is 255-7960 and his email address is tpt2@cornell.edu.

Tom Turner

Construction Update — Mann Addition and Eastern Ag Quad Loading Dock

Since the passage of the New York State budget, Sarkisian Brothers (the prime contractor) and various sub-contractors have been preparing the construction sites by installing construction fences, removing trees, installing window protection, and placing shoring along the north side of the Headhouse for the Tower Road greenhouse complex. In addition to this visible work, there has been steady behind-the-scenes activity.

The preparations for excavation have included “shop drawings”—detailed plans for how various items will actually be built—and field verifications of existing conditions on and under the construction site. Some of these conditions affect how the building will be constructed and what methods will be used. The contractors must also meet requirements for utilities to be interrupted only at certain times or for specific limited amounts of time.

The delay in budget passage, combined with field conditions, led to the decision to delay major foundation work for the Loading Dock until Spring of 1997.

This news means that the library's new addition site will be the primary focus of work. The list of items to be worked on is lengthy:

- removal of curbing, signage, and pavement;
- installation of new electrical service, removal of outdated wiring and re-routing services for outside safety lighting;
- storm and sanitary sewer construction; and
- water line installations and replacements.

While visible work takes place, detailed preparations will continue for construction of the concrete footers and other foundation components for the library addition. We will keep you updated through print communications and our construction Web-site at: www.mannlib.cornell.edu/~building/. The Web page will be updated with planned construction activity so you can see what will be happening two weeks in advance.

Included with this issue is an information sheet which you can post in your work area so that you will know who to contact with your questions about the building project.

Peter Schrempf

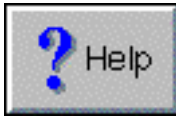
Mannifest On the Web

Mannifest is now available in Adobe PDF format at <http://www.mannlib.cornell.edu/reference/mannguide/mannifest/>. Copies of all issues are provided, with instructions for obtaining Adobe Acrobat (the software needed for viewing Adobe PDF documents on your computer screen).



Highlights from the Mann Library Home Page

URL: <http://www.mannlib.cornell.edu>



Need Help? — There's a Lot of It to be Seen on the Screen

When you visit the Mann Library Home Page at <http://www.mannlib.cornell.edu>, you will find that we provide a generous assortment of onscreen navigational and user assistance. These are all menu choices from the Mann Library Home Page:

- The Mann Library Gateway — This catalog helps in the selection of resources by offering subject, title and keyword access points to the collection. It will guide you to databases that are relevant to your research topics, and then provide a direct connection for you.
- User Guides — This collection of guides will assist you in configuring your computer, searching for information in databases, and printing/saving information. These User Guides are also available on the database description pages under the "help" icon. The "Gateway User's Guide" will give you a basic introduction on system use.
- Helper Applications — You can download application software that is not included in basic Netscape packages (Telnet and TN3270 programs, for example) by using the "Helper Applications" option.
- Announcements — News about the Gateway and supporting services such as software enhancements are included in this section.
- Workshops and Tutorials — Tutorials that are available at your workstation are listed in this section, along with workshops held in the library. Examples of tutorials:
 - Surfing the Internet on the World-Wide Web
 - HTML Workshop
 - Introduction to Literature Searching

- Using EndNote with Mann Library Gateway
- Microsoft Windows
- Introduction to the Macintosh

- Mann_ref@cornell.edu — You can use this email link to send your questions to the Mann Library Reference Desk; you will normally receive a response within 24 hours.

Oya Rieger



What's New on the (Electronic) Shelves at Mann

The "New Book Shelf" is a prominent feature on Mann's second floor. Selections of the library's new acquisitions reside on the New Book Shelf for two weeks at a time. You may put a hold on any of the books to reserve them for your use after the two-week period is completed.

Every two weeks, approximately 20 of the books on the New Book Shelf are selected for inclusion on the electronic New Book Shelf, a menu choice on Mann Library's Home Page (<http://www.mannlib.cornell.edu>). These books are chosen to represent a wide range of interests and for their colorful pictures.

Web surfers can put any of the books seen on the electronic New Book Shelf on hold without leaving the comfort of their computer screens. A digital form allows you to type in your name, id number and email address. You can then select any of the current titles by checking a box next to the title.

Erin DeGross

Visit Mann Library's Home Page at:
<http://www.mannlib.cornell.edu>

Mannifest, a publication of the Albert R. Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, is delivered to faculty and departmental offices of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Human Ecology, the Division of Biological Sciences, and the Division of Nutritional Sciences. It is also sent to Cooperative Extension personnel state-wide and institutional members of the United States Agricultural Information Network. If you wish to be added to the mailing list, please complete this form:

Please put me on the mailing list for *Mannifest*

Name: _____

Department: _____

Address: _____

Return to: Lisa Dayton, Public Services Division, Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 14853,
or send email to lld2@cornell.edu.

We welcome suggestions for future articles about information access, management, technology, and services in the fields of agriculture, biology, human ecology, and nutrition.

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TO:



Mann Library Construction

(www.mannlib.cornell.edu/~building/)

We will try to minimize disruptions while the library addition and loading dock are being built. However, there will be times when people in offices, classrooms, and labs near the construction site will be inconvenienced. We will do our best to address your concerns, so be sure to contact us if you have questions.

For questions regarding library services:

Circulation, Reserve, Interlibrary Loan Desk 255-3296

Information Desk 255-5406

For questions regarding construction:

Statutory Facilities Office

Bob Lotkowitz
5-4461, 5-7784, cell phone 279-1821
315-685-1034 (evenings & weekends)
email: REL2@cornell.edu

Mann Library

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5-2285
564-7300 (evenings & weekends)
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Emergency numbers:

Campus Police 255-
1111

Campus Utilities 255-
5322

