



Mannifest

The Albert R. Mann Library Newsletter

Mann Library Gateway and CENET: Putting Knowledge to Work

Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, Mann's electronic library is accessed by Cornellians from their offices, labs, dorm rooms and homes in Ithaca and Geneva. This electronic library, a computer system known as the Mann Library Gateway, is also used in extension offices all over New York State. The Gateway allows patrons to find:

- references to articles in scholarly journals and popular magazines,
- census and climatological data, and
- listings of books at Cornell and other locations.

*"...the Gateway is a pertinent resource
for a professional in the field..."*

Cooperative extension workers on the Cornell campus and across New York State access the Mann Library Gateway through Cooperative Extension's CENET. According to Henry DeVries, computer specialist with Cornell Cooperative Extension, the Gateway is "looked at on a regular basis [an average of 90 accesses monthly from January through March 1993] by folks connected with extension." DeVries anticipates that as the number of extension agents requesting CENET accounts increases, so will use of the Gateway's resources.

DeVries sees continued evidence of "a shift to electronic communications as a professional skill" for extension workers—so his choice, with input from his staff, to include the Gateway as a CENET option is a logical one. "Extension's information span is pretty wide, so that there are not too many things that aren't pertinent...to me, the Gateway is a pertinent resource for a professional out in the field." With the availability of the *Agricola*, *BIOSIS*, and *ABI/Inform* databases through the Gateway/CENET

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Computerized Tables of Contents at Your Desk

You can now browse the tables of contents of over 14,000 journals, in a wide variety of disciplines, without leaving your office. Just use your computer to connect to the Mann Library Gateway and select CARL UnCover from the menu of options.

To browse tables of contents:

- Press the <return> or <enter> key from the CARL introductory screen.
- Select option 1 at the first menu.
- Choose the command "B" (for browse). This permits you to type the name of a journal. The system then provides an alphabetized list of titles from which to select.
- Select a title.
- Use the command "E" to examine a list of the issues available.
- Type the line number for the issue you wish to see. The Tables of Contents online include the same information that would be found in the printed copy: article titles, authors, page numbers and, sometimes, brief descriptions of the articles.

The CARL UnCover database is updated daily with journals received by the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries. Many of the journals are available at Cornell. Articles from journals not owned by Cornell may be obtained through our Interlibrary Loan Services.

For more information about connecting to the Gateway or searching CARL UnCover, contact the Mann Library Reference Desk at 255-5406 or manx@cornellc. Use of the Gateway is limited to the Cornell community.

-Linda Stewart

Since we have no choice but to be swept along by (this) vast technological surge, we might as well learn to surf.
Michael Soule, "Conservation for the 21st Century"



CENET (cont'd)

connection, DeVries feels that there is "a good coverage of the subject matter that extension deals with."

DeVries introduced the Gateway to a broad spectrum of extension staff—professional, administrative, and clerical—through state-wide training sessions held in late November 1992. Most of the agents were already familiar with the services offered by Mann Library staff. Library director Jan Olsen "has worked hard...to extend the library's image." Through orientation sessions held on campus, agents have a "good introduction to the library, to the CD-ROMS [and] access to the Gateway." By all accounts, Gateway's extension users are successful users; DeVries and his staff receive very few trouble calls about using the Gateway.

"...if the users have access to any kind of telecommunications, they have access to the Gateway..."

Accessing the Gateway through CENET is easy; one network address and one password are all that an agent needs to know. The network address is for the CENET computer located in the basement of Wing Hall. In fact, "the only barrier to access is having a PC or Mac on the other end; if [the users] have access to any kind of telecommunications, they have access to the Gateway." DeVries feels that with this ease of access and information availability, he's seeing shifts in where and when extension workers use electronic resources, with agents "sitting at home at night working on the computer"—and accessing the Gateway.

Extension users of the Gateway identify references that they then acquire from Mann, other SUNY campus libraries, or a local library system. Many use Mann's document delivery service for county agents provided through CENET. The agent identifies a reference and requests, via email, a hard copy, available at minimal cost from Mann Library.

DeVries sees a "lot of similarities" between what Mann Library is doing to share information and extension's attempts at being "an information-age organization." As he attempts to "raise the level of consciousness [about] the richness of the information resources that are out there," Mann Library's Gateway is one resource that Cornell's Cooperative Extension will continue to use.

-Leslie Delserone

Items of Interest

■ Mann Library is the 1993 recipient of the Library of the Future award! This award, sponsored by the Meckler Corporation, will be presented by the American Library Association at its annual meeting this summer. Mann staff received the award "for their exemplary work in the development of an overall program that demonstrates the capabilities and applications of information technology. Through partnerships with corporations, government agencies, foundations and professional associations, this library has made impacts beyond the traditional boundaries of the university."

■ Mann and the New York State Library have just completed the most comprehensive preservation project ever conducted for state level agricultural publications. Funded by the N.Y.S. Education Department over the last four years, 2,709 volumes of core historical literature were reformatted to microfilm and microfiche. Initially Mann Library compiled a comprehensive database of publications on New York agriculture and rural life. A panel of agricultural historians then ranked the titles in terms of historical significance. Of the literature judged worthy of preservation, 46% of all serial titles and 88% of all monographic titles are preserved for use by future generations. This project, involving scholars in establishing priorities for preservation, serves as a model for other states interested in preserving their agricultural literature.

A Note to Our Readers:

This is the first issue of *Mannifest*. The newsletter will contain brief articles describing information technology developments, particularly at Mann Library and in the colleges and divisions we serve. *Mannifest* will also contain schedules of workshops at Mann and updates on other library activities. We will also provide "search tips" to help you use computers to find and use information efficiently. We welcome suggestions for future articles on information services and information technology in the fields of agriculture, biology, human ecology, and nutrition.

Mannifest will be delivered to departmental offices and faculty of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Human Ecology, and the Divisions of Biological Sciences and Nutrition. It will also be sent to institutional members of the United States Agricultural Information Network. If you wish to be added to the mailing list, please complete and return the form on the back page.



Free Computer Workshops at Mann Library Summer 1993

The following workshops are open to all members of the Cornell community—students, faculty and staff are welcome. Please note any prerequisites listed in the descriptions. **No registration is required.**

For information, call 5-5406, or email: manx@cornellc.

Introduction to Database Searching on ABI, Agricola, BIOSIS, & ERIC: Hands-on class for those who have little or no searching experience. You will learn how to choose a database, find articles and books at Cornell, enter keywords and do an author and title search.

Wed July 7 1:25-2:25

Advanced Database Searching on ABI, Agricola, BIOSIS, & ERIC: Hands-on class for those who know the basics of searching and want specifics on field searching, thesaurus use, updating prior searches, and effective use of truncation.

Thurs June 24 1:25-2:25
Thurs July 15 8:40-9:30
Wed July 28 2:30-3:30

CARL & RLIN: Learn about two Gateway resources containing journal tables of contents and research libraries' collections, respectively. Specific searching techniques and tips will be provided.

Thurs July 8 12:20-1:20

DIALOG's 140 Databases: Learn how to search databases. These new additions to the Gateway open the door to scholarly information in Medline, PsycLIT, Food Science & Technology Abstracts, etc. **Limited to 10 participants.**

Wed July 14 1:25-2:25
Thurs July 29 10:10-11:10

Newspapers Database: Demonstration of searching and printing articles from over 50 newspapers nationwide.

Wed July 21 10:10-11:10
in Online Classroom, First Floor, Mann Library

DOS Basic Concepts: Hands-on class to enhance knowledge of your IBM PC compatible operating system.

Tues July 27 10:10-12:10

MAC Basics: Geared toward beginners, this will cover working with the mouse and windows, copying files, organizing files on your hard drive, saving files to diskette, and basic word processing, drawing and painting.

Wed June 30 10:10-12:10
in 60 Warren Hall

Spreadsheets Intermediate: Hands-on using *Lotus 1-2-3*, creating graphs, using the database functions, and more. **Prerequisite: Spreadsheets Basics or prior experience with Lotus 1-2-3.**

Wed June 23 12:20-2:20

Word Processing Intermediate: Hands-on course for those who have some experience with WordPerfect software. Designed to prepare you for thesis or dissertation writing. **Some experience required.**

Thurs July 1 10:10-12:10

EndNote: Create a Database of References: Hands-on experience using the *EndNote* reference database program.

Tues July 13 1:25-3:25

**LOCATION: Stone Microcomputer Center, First Floor, Mann Library (exceptions noted under dates).
Attendance limited to 20 (except in *Dialog's 140 Databases*, which is limited to 10 participants).**

Mannifest, a publication of the Albert R. Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, is delivered to departmental offices and faculty 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 institutional members of the United States Agricultural Information Network. If you wish to be added to the mailing list, please complete this form and return it to: Lisa Dayton, Public Services Division, Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 14853, or send email to lld2@cornell.edu.

Please put me on the mailing list for *Mannifest*

Name: _____

Department: _____

Address: _____

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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