

# Library Connection

Vol. 17, No. 1/4

Spring 2003

Colorado State University Libraries



## Full Text at Your Fingertips

Linking to the Library's full-text electronic journals is now easier than ever. SFX is an exciting new service that works with our catalog and online databases to help you readily find what you need. It provides a link from a record in a database to the full text of the article, if available, or to a list of other options for obtaining it. A click on the SFX symbol next to a citation takes you to a menu screen that lets you:

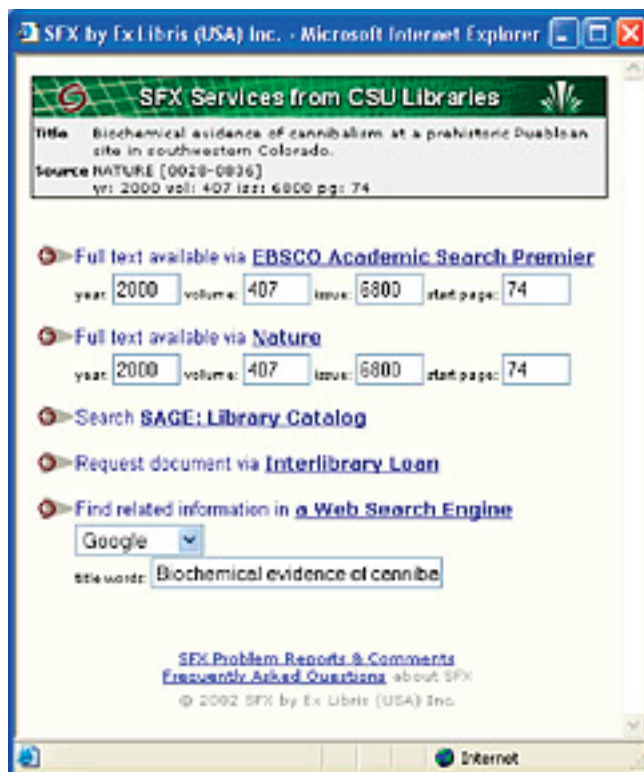
- View the full text of an article online if it is available electronically. SFX will get you as close to the article as possible. Journal publishers decide how their titles work with SFX so there are variations. Instead of a direct link, you may get a journal's table of contents.
- Check the Library's catalog to see if CSU owns the item you want.
- Check Prospector, a combined catalog of major Colorado libraries, to see if another library owns the item. You usually receive a book ordered through Prospector in two to four working days.

- Request delivery of the book, article or document on interlibrary loan if it isn't available in the Library's collections.

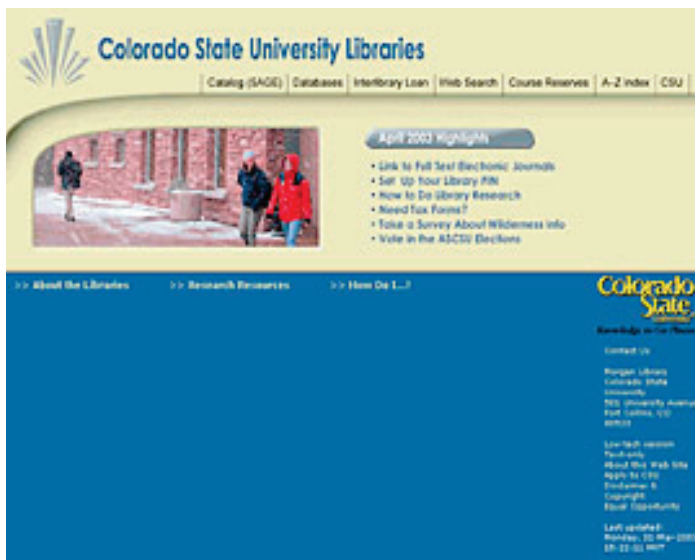
Clicking on this link will automatically fill out our online interlibrary loan form with the necessary bibliographic information. You only have to enter your ID number and last name.

- Search the Web. When possible, SFX provides links that allow you to automatically complete a Web search for the title of the item you want.

The number of options in the SFX window will vary because the system provides available services on an item-by-item basis. If an article is not available online, for example, you can quickly check our catalog to see if there is a print version here.



For more information about SFX, see <http://lib.colostate.edu/sfx/about.html> or contact Michelle Wilde at [sfx@manta.colostate.edu](mailto:sfx@manta.colostate.edu).



## New Library Web Site

Check out the Library's new Web site <http://lib.colostate.edu>. It was redesigned last summer to improve access to the many resources it contains for library users. Since the last major redesign in 1999, Web site content tripled and now includes over 5,000 pages. Due to this huge growth, some resources were difficult to find and library staff agreed that the old home page no longer reflected everything the site offers.

Under the leadership of Web Librarian Lori Oling, staff discussed site content and format, reviewed suggestions from users, and studied data including site use statistics (it receives an average of 2.4 million hits every week). Three student employees, Victor Gonzales, Paul Whyman, and Kathy Plate used their expertise in Web development and graphic design to help the Library Web Team transform their ideas into reality.

The Web site provides round-the-clock, round-the-world access for CSU students, staff and faculty to electronic journals and books, the Sage library catalog, about 400 databases, subject-based research guides, tutorials, electronic course reserves, and interlibrary loan. It also contains unique digital materials like the Garst Wildlife Collection and the International Poster Collection.

The new home page covers a wide variety of basic information about the Library and research resources, and includes answers to basic questions about library services. Across the top, there are links to the catalog, databases, interlibrary loan, Web search engines, course reserves, and the comprehensive A-Z list that covers everything from Agricultural Economics Resources to Statistical Sources and Web Site Help.

The Library's Web site is definitely not a static document. Changes, modifications and editing are ongoing, and users have already made many valuable suggestions that

were readily incorporated. Comments about the new site are always welcome. Please send them to the Library Web Team at: [web@lib.colostate.edu](mailto:web@lib.colostate.edu). For more information contact Michelle Mach at [Michelle.Mach@ColoState.EDU](mailto:Michelle.Mach@ColoState.EDU).

New Web pages are continually designed and linked. Here are just a few examples of recent additions:

### Archives

<http://lib.colostate.edu/archives>

### Cooperative Extension Resources

<http://lib.colostate.edu/research/coopext>

### Vet Teaching Hospital

<http://lib.colostate.edu/branches/vet/>

### Digital Projects at CSU Libraries

<http://lib.colostate.edu/digital.html>

### Environmental Health Research Guide

<http://lib.colostate.edu/research/envhealth/>

## Library Instruction Tutorials

Want to learn some advanced searching techniques? Having trouble figuring out how to use interlibrary loan? Try one of the new library instruction tutorials available on the Web at <http://lib.colostate.edu/tutorials/>.

Designed for quick, point-of-need instruction, each tutorial takes five minutes or less to complete. Approximately half of the tutorials are specific to local services, while the other half are applicable to any library research setting. The CSU-specific tutorials give step-by-step instructions on how to complete tasks like placing materials on electronic reserve or requesting books from other Colorado libraries through Prospector. The research-oriented tutorials often use a combination of humor and practical examples to illustrate concepts.

Currently, there are ten tutorials available:

- Choosing a Database
- Using Electronic Reserves
- Using Prospector
- Proxy Server Setup (for off-campus access to databases)
- How to Use Zap (interlibrary loan)
- Boolean Searching (basics)
- Advanced Boolean Searching
- Five Steps to Better Research
- Truncation

Comments about the tutorials and suggestions for future tutorial topics are welcome. For more information, please contact Michelle Mach at [Michelle.Mach@colostate.edu](mailto:Michelle.Mach@colostate.edu) or 491-2286.

## Employee News



### Tami Morse McGill

The Library welcomes Tami Morse McGill, a new faculty member and database management specialist. A former software developer, Tami brings to CSU enormous expertise to address the many challenges in our highly automated environment. Tami is a recent graduate of the library school of San Jose State University where she developed a foundation

in traditional librarianship and archives to supplement her technical background. Her research interests include library catalog quality and use. She has a special interest in applications of emerging technologies in the library environment including the usability of and enhancements to library management system software. Tami may be reached at 491-1822 or [tmcgill@manta.colostate.edu](mailto:tmcgill@manta.colostate.edu).

## Citation Linker

Citation Linker, another SFX component, searches the entire collection of electronic journals by specific periodical title. The heading “Electronic Journals,” just added to our catalog’s main menu, takes you directly to Citation Linker.

## ER: Electronic Reserve

New expanded Electronic Reserve, ER, was launched this fall and includes electronic access to journal articles, book chapters, homework solutions, sample exams, and class notes. Books and other non-print formats continue to be available through traditional Reserve services at the Loan/Reserve Desk.

ER is now the default mode for Reserve and all appropriate material is scanned and uploaded for easy Web access. Gone are the days when a student has to shuffle through syllabi and attempt to figure out the course number they are in or the name of their professor. ER is designed to present a customized package of course readings; the system immediately identifies the correct class sections based on the student’s name and ID.

Prior to ER, the majority of reserve items were available only at the Morgan Library Loan/Reserve Desk and students needed to visit during open hours hoping their particular choice of course material wasn’t checked out by another student. No more. Now, ER is available 24/7 on the Library’s website for convenient access from any location. Instructors can use online submission forms to indicate what items should be made available for their students.

## ER Statistics

**Current number of items on ER:**

3,464

**Current number of items on traditional Reserve:**

2,722

**Average logins per day:**

482

**Number of unique visitors to date**

11,940

**Day of week with most activity**

Mondays, 19.72%

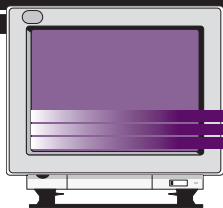
**Hour with most activity**

3:00-4:00 p.m., 9.61%

ER is receiving heavy use and many positive comments. Peter Newman, Professor in Natural Resources Recreation and Tourism, writes:

“Once my students learned the ropes, the Electronic Reserve system received very good feedback. They were able to read and print selected articles and chapters from a variety of places giving students greater autonomy but also fewer excuses for not obtaining and reading the class materials.”

To learn more about ER, visit the web at <http://lib.colostate.edu/access/ereserve> where you will find additional information and a short tutorial to show you how it works. For questions, contact ER staff at 970-491-1564 or Lynda Melby at [Lynda.Melby@colostate.edu](mailto:Lynda.Melby@colostate.edu).



## On Your Desktop . . . [lib.colostate.edu](http://lib.colostate.edu)

### New Electronic Resources

Three new EBSCO online databases were recently added to the Library's collections: *Academic Search Premier*; *Business Source Premier*; and *Regional Business News*.

*Academic Search Premier*, specifically designed for college and university use, is an exciting broad-based, multi-disciplinary database that provides indexing for 4,500 scholarly journals and full-text access to 3,500 of those titles. It covers almost every area of academic study, from the humanities, social sciences, arts, language, to engineering, physics, chemistry and medicine.

*Business Source Premier* indexes 3,350 scholarly journals; 2,800 are full text. The database covers management, economics, finance, accounting, and international business,

and includes a wide range of economic reports, including individual countries and the world's 5,000 largest companies.

*Regional Business News*, a much smaller database, covers seventy-five local business journals, newspapers, and newswires.

The interfaces are very easy to navigate and users can limit searches to peer reviewed titles, specific journal titles, specific dates, and full-text availability. Many full text articles are available in PDF format. SFX and its "Citation Linker" work with them, helping users efficiently locate full-text when it is not offered by EBSCO (please see articles on SFX and Citation Linker). Adding these EBSCO databases greatly increases access to scholarly, full-text articles, and helps all segments of the University community with their research needs.



Colorado State University Libraries  
1019 Campus Delivery  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-1019

*Knowledge to Go Places*

*Library Connection* is published each semester during the academic year to acquaint users with the resources of Colorado State University Libraries. Requests to be placed on the mailing list or comments about the newsletter should be referred to the Newsletter Editorial Board: Julie Wessling, Chair (491-1838 or [jwessling@manta.colostate.edu](mailto:jwessling@manta.colostate.edu)), Allison Cowgill, Tom Delaney, Pat Vandeventer, and Michelle Wilde.