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A tale of two libraries slated to close: The newest iteration of the Cornell physical sciences library

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A tale of two libraries
slated to close:
The newest iteration of the
Cornell physical sciences library

Upstate NY Science Librarians
25 October 2010

Leah Solla – Chemistry Librarian, Coordinator Clark Library
Dianne Dietrich – Physics & Astronomy Librarian

If you only remember two things...

- The library has cool stuff
- Librarians are friendly
they're also good at
 - finding stuff
 - organizing stuff
 - making stuff accessible

(but if you just remember we're friendly, that's fine)



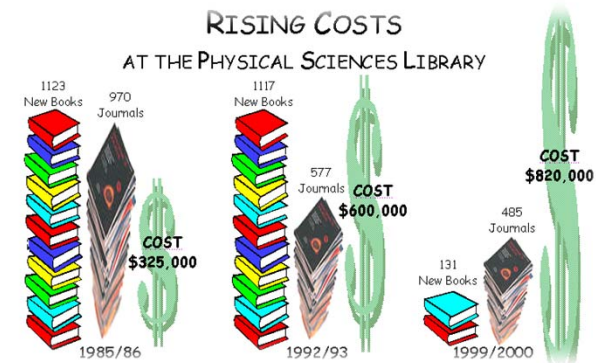
Principles

- Collections – online & hardcopy
- Tools & services – finding & using
- Librarians – coffee & consultation
- Dynamic - evolving with needs & landscape



Users – what were they doing?

- **LOTS** of online activity
- Print charges (includes reserves): **8,000**
- Online downloads (one major pub.): **97,000**
- Studying (quiet & group): **300** users/day
- Reference –print classics, questions steady
- Computing – always busy
- Instruction steady



Users – what were they saying?

Dominoes in the library!

Users – what were they saying?

- Overarching concern: impact on research & teaching
- Collections
 - More online! (some concerns about ebooks)
 - Hardcopy books with like subjects
- Space & computing
 - More computers at Math Library
- Services
 - Reserves & classic texts at Math Library
 - Enhance PSL website for better resource discovery
- Process & communication
 - Increase outreach & promotion of library resources



Virtual Clark

Cornell University
Clark Physical Sciences Library

SEARCH: go

Library pages Cornell more options

Home About Us Services Resources & Collections CUL Catalog

Clark Physical Sciences Library

All PSL subjects All types Go

Browse by Subject

- Astronomy
- Chemistry
- Physics / Applied Physics
- Multidisciplinary / Reference
- More...

Resources

- E-journals
- E-books
- Classic Texts
- New Books
- Databases
- Theses
- Research Guides

Databases

- ADS (astrophysics)
- arXiv
- INSPEC
- SciFinder
- Web of Science
- More...

Quick Tips

Faculty book delivery
Faculty- have library books delivered to your department mailbox

Top Services

- Annex Article Scan
- Connecting from Off-Campus
- Request Items
- Renew Books
- Course Reserves
- Instruction, Classes
- Suggest a Purchase
- Contact Us

News

- SAE Digital Library subscription now online
- ENGnetBASE & NANonetBASE: Two new e-book collections for engineers
- AIAA, ASME, ASTM: An Alphabet Soup of New Resources
- more

Featured Resources

- PROLA: Physical Review online archive (Databases)
- Google Scholar (Databases)
- SciFinder (Databases)
- History of science, technology and medicine (Databases)
- ISI Journal Citation Reports (Databases)

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- e-journals
 - e-books
 - Databases
 - Research guides
 - Theses
-
- Resources organized by subject

<http://physicalsciences.library.cornell.edu/>



CUL New Books

Browse recent additions to the collections of Cornell University Library.

Month:

Location:

Language:

Class:
e.g. DG, N*, QK+SB

Search:
e.g. canada, garden*

July 2010

(13729 titles)

- A. General works (11)
- B. Philosophy. Psychology. Religion (489)
- C. Auxiliary sciences of history (46)
- D. History (911)
- E. American history (133)
- F. American history (194)
- G. Geography. Anthropology. Recreation
- H. Social sciences (1414)
- J. Political science (273)
- K. Law (405)
- L. Education (126)
- M. Music (220)
- N. Fine arts (438)
- P. Language and literature (2009)
- Q. Science (2520)
- R. Medicine (197)
- S. Agriculture (113)
- T. Technology (662)
- U. Military science (61)
- V. Naval science (6)
- Z. Bibliography. Library science (77)
- ... [No Classification] (3238)

Handy tools

Passkey Bookmarklet BETA

A key to getting quick, off-campus access to electronic resources

- Connect to databases and journals without going through the library web site
- Find a link to a licensed article or database, click on the passkey and connect to licensed resources

[More info](#) | [Passkey Help](#) | [Tell us what you think!](#) [Demo](#) | [Demo with audio](#)

Contact Programmer/Analyst: Rick Silterra



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In firefox, drag the icon to your bookmarks toolbar
In Internet Explorer, right-click the icon, add to favorites

Research made easy with LibX BETA

A toolbar for Library catalog searches, whenever or wherever you need them

- Off-campus access to electronic resources
- Full text access to articles
- Quick links in Google, Amazon, & elsewhere to Cornell resources

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Contact Programmer/Analyst: Rick Silterra

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CULite

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Free download at the Apple App Store

JAbbr : Decipher your journal abbreviations

[about](#)

Quick search results for **Rep. Prog. Phys.** : 2 titles found (0.174 seconds)

1. [Reports on progress in physics](#) Vofager
2. [Reports on progress in polymer physics in Japan](#) Vofager

Didn't find it? Try a [deep search](#)

Library: Who?

- Leah Solla
Chemistry Librarian
- Dianne Dietrich
Physics & Astronomy Librarian
- Steve Rockey
Mathematics Librarian
- Jill Powell, Jeremy Cusker
Engineering Librarians



Where to find the library...

- <http://physicalsciences.library.cornell.edu/>
- Help: pslref@cornell.edu, 607.255.4016
- Librarians' Office 283 Clark Hall
- Study Space thru Fall 2010

Books where?	Subjects
Engineering Library	experimental physics & chemistry; all theses
Math Library (closest)	astronomy; theoretical physics & chemistry; reserves
Mann Library (Life Sciences)	organic & biochemistry
Annex (storage)	low use books; all bound journals

Science libraries of the future.....



I think we are building an exciting new model for science libraries... First we are willing to give up the physical libraries to be in tune with our users who are 99% online. Second we invest in our librarians (the intellectual value we bring to the academic endeavor of the university) in the high end of personal reference service, outreach, instruction, orientation for new students/faculty, and the high end of data librarianship and e-science.

Steve Rockey