

THE HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

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Choosing the Right College

For college-bound students and their parents spring is time to search for the "right" college or university. This time-consuming process can be overwhelming. Decisions must be made: public or private institution? ...four-year or two?...east coast or west?...

small town or big city? The choices are astounding and the importance of the decision immeasurable. At the Humboldt State University Library we provide a wide selection of resources which provide a wealth of information to help you in making that decision.

In the reference section you will find directories and profiles of different colleges and universities across the U.S. in standard sources such as *Peterson's*, *Lovejoy's* and the *College Blue Book*. More specialized sources like *America's Black and Tribal Colleges* or *Wilderness U: Opportunities for Outdoor Education in the U.S.* are also available.

If you would like to take a closer look at a certain college you will find our collection of college catalogs very helpful. We have the print catalogs of the Universities of California, and the 22 campuses of the California State University. The Library also has a complete microfiche collection of college and university catalogs throughout the U.S. as well as some foreign universities.

In speaking about colleges these days we cannot avoid mentioning the cost of higher education and how to get money to pay for it. For information on scholarships, loans and financial aid we have titles like *The Complete Scholarship Book*, *Dan Cassidy's Worldwide College Scholarship Directory*, *Fund Your Way through College* and *Cash for College*.


If you or your child would like to study overseas you can consult useful



Art Major, Leonard McCarthy checks out Humboldt's web site for class schedules.

sources like *The World of Learning* or *Handbook of World Education*. If distance learning is what you are after, there is *The Electronic University: A Guide to Distance Learning* or the *Oryx Guide to Distance Learning*.

And a final note about colleges and universities: did you know that in the September 1996 issue of *Money* magazine our very own Humboldt State was ranked eighth "best buy" nationally? So, as you can see, you don't really need to go far for a "best buy" in the search for knowledge.

 Quynh Schaffer
Reference Librarian

Staying in Touch

Over the past year or so one of our continuing projects has been a survey of our clientele. Last year, we surveyed a sample of students. This year we held a faculty focus group discussion by electronic mail and are now surveying all faculty. While part of our reason for undertaking this effort is to provide data to our accrediting agency (WASC), the original impetus for our study was simply to learn more about and more from those who rely upon our services. That might be harder than you would think.

For many decades, the nature of library services here and elsewhere was quite stable. Everyone knew what to find "at the library." Today, as our traditional library takes on an increasing array of electronic features and many vendors of electronic systems urge us to purchase their digital "libraries," the assumptions of all are challenged. Under these circumstances, it becomes important for the librarians and staff to stay in touch with those whose needs they strive to meet. We try to remain abreast of technological developments in the publishing and information service industry and to match those new products with currents within the CSU system and on our campus. This is a fairly demanding task and is accomplished in many ways, including casual conversations as well as formal committee meetings. However, surveys and focus groups of one kind or another are instruments that we hope will help us in this endeavor. We look forward to pulling all responses together to give us a better picture.

Although at least one effort was made a few years ago to gather community borrower input, we've not attempted a formal study of this smaller group of those who use the Humboldt State University Library. We would welcome any comment.



Rena Fowler, University Librarian

Humboldt Community Information Network Now Available

The Internet is undergoing explosive growth as all types of organizations gear up to add a World Wide Web-based dimension to their service and marketing efforts. In this blossoming of information resources, some communities have undertaken to develop and offer web-based community information networks.

Fine examples include networks serving Boulder Colo., Eugene Ore., Davis Calif., and there are many more. Such networks provide access to information on issues concerning local government, events, business, social services, as well as community calendars listing cultural, educational and recreational opportunities. Some also offer electronic mail and online discussions.

Since Humboldt County is such a large, diverse and relatively unpopulated area, a group of Humboldt State Library staff began work in fall 1995 to try to identify segments of the local communities which might have an interest in helping build such a network for the local area. A Library task force

composed of 14 staff and librarians, chaired by Corryn Crosby-Muilenberg, Social Sciences Librarian, contacted educational organizations, social service agencies, local computer networks, library representatives, and government agencies to ascertain levels of interest and possible engagement in such an effort. Various technical scenarios were explored to identify possible computer facilities for the service.

Finally, on April 24, 1996, the group organized a public meeting at the Humboldt County Library, bringing together over 40 interested people. Ms. Crosby-Muilenberg and several other committee members offered an array of options and possible scenarios, fol-

lowed by vigorous discussion and numerous expressions of support.

The result is an outstanding beginning for the Humboldt Community Information Network (HCIN). Hosted without charge by a local internet service provider, you can find the homepage at <http://www.humboldt1.com/~hcin> on the World Wide Web. There you will find links to files mounted on the servers of several local internet service providers. Included are an events calendar; training, development, and volunteer opportunities; health and wellness information; and resources of interest to families and children.

An interested group of volunteers continues to meet regularly and assists local nonprofit organizations in developing information pages to enrich the site. Between meetings, Humboldt Community Information Network enthusiasts maintain contact via a listserv discussion forum hosted by the Humboldt State Library. Volunteers to develop information files and to help others mount webpages are most enthusiastically welcomed, and should contact Corryn Crosby-Muilenberg at 826-4959 or Casey Meaden at 442-3520 or via email at hcin@humboldt1.com.



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I wish to have library borrowing privileges. Enclosed is my gift of \$75 or more. I understand that \$35 of my gift is not tax deductible. Borrowing privileges are \$35 a year per person. There is an additional one-time charge of \$5 to produce an I.D. card. Please call the Library Circulation Desk at (707) 826-3431 for I.D. Office hours. Please bring in the borrowing verification slip you receive during I.D. Office hours.

 *Mary Kay,*
Collection Development Librarian

The Library Newsletter is a quarterly publication dedicated to library news of interest to the community-at-large. Special thanks to all those who made this publication possible including the Library Faculty and staff, University Relations and University Graphic Services. For additional information on the Humboldt State University Library or to become a Friend of the Library, please call

(707) 826-3441 or e-mail:
friends@axe.humboldt.edu.

Editor: Kitty Yancheff

HSU is an AA/EEO institution.

Recycled Paper

A Trove of Treasure: California Documents

What brands do the families of Ferndale apply to their cattle? That's easy. Just consult the *California Brand Book*, a little-known title in an underused collection – the Humboldt State University California Documents, or "Cal Docs."

As a California "depository library," Humboldt State receives weekly shipments of publications from the State Printer, covering a wide range of topics. Parents and educators, for example, can find education "frameworks" and curriculum guides on virtually every subject taught in school.

Students of natural resources make good use of *Outdoor California*, a beautifully illustrated wildlife periodical, and the more scholarly *California Fish and Game*. The quarterly *California Coast & Ocean* is a "must" resource for those researching state coastal issues.

The California Secretary of State covers political issues in hundreds of legislative-hearing transcripts, and other Senate and Assembly reports.


The *State Transportation Improvement Plan* lists every highway-improvement project in the state, while *Traffic Volumes on California State Highways* reports vehicle-counts in every locality.

Law enforcement and corrections are represented in Cal Docs by annual reports on crime, disposition of cases, automobile accidents, and prison inmate demographics. Special commission reports discuss gangs, orga-

nized crime, violent crime and similar problems.

Health Data Summaries for California Counties is the most comprehensive of literally dozens of statistical reports by the State Department of Health Services. Public Welfare in California is its counterpart for social services.

These are only a small sampling of the 14,000 resources available in Cal Docs. In the last few years of tighter budgets our receipt of free publications from the State Printer has declined forcing us to purchase more titles to maintain the collection.

 *Lincoln Kilian, Library Assistant, California Documents*

Internet a La Carte

Looking for a bargain? Here's one that's hard to beat. The Humboldt State University Library is offering a series of seven internet classes for only \$5.00 per session through University Extension on Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. beginning April 1. Class fees will be waived for those who are Friends of the Humboldt State University Library and who pre-register through the library by calling 826-3441. All others should register through Extended Education at 826-3731.

Members of the Library faculty will demonstrate key electronic World Wide Web resources in six subject areas. Presentations will take place in a computer laboratory so that you may experiment with the sites yourself. Each presentation is "freestanding" or you may choose to attend all seven sessions for a full in-depth view of some of the many resources available.

If you have never used a browser to access the World Wide Web it is recommended that you attend the introductory session on April 1.

Classes will be held in the Science D 017 Lab. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required.

April 1 Basics of Netscape and the Web

April 8 Meeting Uncle Sam in Cyberspace: Government Information on the Internet

April 15 Discovering Data on the Internet: Sources of Geospatial and Numeric Data in the Natural Resources and Sciences

April 22 Mind Your Own Business: Small Business Sources on the Web

April 29 Virtual Culture: Art, Music, Books and Theatre on the World Wide Web

May 6 Kid Stuff: Internet Sites for Children (and Their Families)

May 13 Education Sources on the Internet

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Friends acknowledged above are those who made contributions between October 1, 1995 and December 30, 1996. We have made every effort to be thorough and to represent our Friends' names accurately. We apologize sincerely for any errors or omissions and will appreciate having them called to our attention. Thank you.

Something for Everyone With "Self-Help" Resources

Would you like to follow a path to a healthier and happier life but need a little help along the way? The Humboldt State University Library has self-help resources for almost everyone. From learning to meditate to developing a positive attitude self-help resources are available. There is even a bibliography on the best self-help books: *Self-Help: 1400 Best Books on Personal Growth*.


The most exciting new developments in the self-help field are happening on the Internet. For a list of local and national self-help groups, try the *Self Help Sourcebook Online*: <http://www.cmhc.com/selfhelp/>. Perhaps you're interested in dream analysis. If so, tune into *Dreamlink* at <http://www.iag.net/~hutchib/.dream/>. There are two electronic self-help journals on the Net: *Magic Stream Journal of Emotional Wellness* (<http://fly.hiway.net/~garson/>) and *Self-Help and Psychology* (<http://www.well.com/user/selfhelp/>).

Self-Help and Psychology and webpages such as *Grohol's Mental Health Page* (<http://www.coil.com/>

[~grohol](http://www.cc.columbia.edu/cu/healthwise/)) have chat and question options where you may "ask the experts." Grohol's page also provides a list of self-help newsgroups. Columbia University Health Service's *Healthwise—Go Ask Alice* (<http://www.cc.columbia.edu/cu/healthwise/>) answers your health questions and

provides an archive of previous questions.

For more online self-help resources, check "Subject Resources" under *Information Resources* on the Library's homepage (<http://library.humboldt.edu>) or for direct access to the psychology section of the homepage type: <http://library.humboldt.edu/~ccm/psy.html>.

 Corryn Crosby-Muilenburg,
Social Sciences Bibliographer

Share Your Experience

"Little did I know that I would make library work my career when I was first hired as a student assistant at Humboldt State University Library. I worked under Josh Washburn's supervision 1977-81. Thanks to Josh and so many others, I received the solid training and excellent experience that is the foundation of my work today. In gratitude, I am enclosing a gift for support of the Humboldt State University Library collection."

Carolyn H. Aamot nee Clover, Head, Gift Processing Section
University of Washington Libraries, Suzzallo Library

Do you have a story to share? We'd like to hear it. Tell us how Humboldt State's Library has made a difference in your life. It could be an experience, a book, or information you discovered — let us know. If your story is chosen we will share it with our readers in our next newsletter and donate a book in your name to the Humboldt State University Library collection. A specially designed bookplate will display your name (or the name of your choice) within our selection. Send your stories to: Kitty Yancheff, Development Officer, Humboldt State University Library, Arcata, CA 95521-8299 or e-mail us at friends@axe.humboldt.edu.

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