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Once a decade, the ACS is sent to a rolling sample of addresses every year, essentially the same questions as the long form. But rather than using all addresses, the Census Bureau launched the American Community Survey (ACS) in January 2005. After a decade of testing and development, the Census Bureau found that a continuing basis as part of the American Community Survey provides us with the information we need to make informed decisions about the nation, its communities, and the way we live. By 2010, the new survey will yield current annual data for all geographic areas of the country in the form of single- or multiyear estimates. For more information about the American Community Survey, please visit the Census Bureau Web page at http://www.census.gov/acs.

The American Community Survey has two different forms: the short form, which focuses on the population count and some housing characteristics, and the long form, which includes additional questions on socioeconomic and housing characteristics. Nationwide, about one-in-six addresses in 2000 received the long form. Together, the two parts of the decennial census showed not only the number of people living in America but also the way we live: education, housing, jobs, and more. This information will still be part of the decennial census, but it will be collected on a continuing basis as part of the American Community Survey.

Although the U.S. Census Bureau’s Population Estimates Program provides estimates of population and housing in the years between censuses, there were no updates on the estimates for the long form’s characteristics data. Our nation is not static, however, and communities need current data to make informed decisions. After a decade of testing and development, the Census Bureau launched the American Community Survey (ACS) in January 2005. The ACS is officially part of the decennial census and includes essentially the same questions as the long form. But rather than once a decade, the ACS is sent to a rolling sample of addresses every month, every year, throughout the nation. By 2010, the new survey will yield current annual data for all geographic areas of the country in the form of single- or multiyear estimates. For more information about the American Community Survey, please visit the Census Bureau Web page at http://www.census.gov/acs.

TOPICS IN THE 2010 CENSUS: Demographic Characteristics: Age | Sex | Hispanic Origin | Race | Relationship | Home: Owned or Rented?
ADDITIONAL TOPICS IN THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY: Social Characteristics: Marital Status | Marital History | Fertility | Grandparents as Caregivers | Ancestry | Place of Birth, U.S. Citizenship | Year of Entry | Language Spoken at Home | Educational Attainment | School Enrollment | Residence: 1-Year Age | Veteran Status | Disability Rating and Period of Service
Economic Characteristics: Income | Food Stamps Benefit | Labor Force Status | Industry, Occupation, and Class of Worker | Place of Work and Journey to Work | Work Status Last Year | Vehicles Available | Health Insurance Coverage
Housing Characteristics: Year Structure Built | Unit in Structure | Year Moved into Unit | Rooms | Bedrooms | Plumbing | Kitchen Facilities | House Heating Fuel | Telephone Service Available | Home Value | Rent | Mortgage Status | Selected Monthly Owner Costs
RWU Library is a proud 2010 Census partner. Contact John Fobert at jfobert@rwu.edu for more information.

Connections Co-Editors:
John Fobert, Serials/Government Documents Librarian & Veronica Maher, Media Services Librarian

From the Dean’s desk...

Moving Ahead

Some may assert that the new decade really begins one year from now (January 2011), but for the University Library there are sufficient conditions impacting library services and facilities to warrant a major transformative initiative. Having made significant progress in establishing the principles and practice of a learning Commons, we are continually assessing its success and making changes to ensure our services are relevant and responsive to today’s student and faculty information needs. We are ready to revist the library mission, refine our vision for the future, and align anew our fundamental priorities and goals with those of the University.

The dynamic services and inviting spaces of the Learning Commons reflect the values and program goals of the Library’s information literacy program. As the University’s general education curriculum develops and the program is implemented, the Library staff will work to integrate information literacy principles and learning outcomes throughout the curriculum’s (introductory, intermediate, advanced and capstone) configuration of public space, the incorporation of Academic Technology and Instructional Design, and the important partnership with the Center for Academic Development extends the ability of Library and Media Services to serve both student and faculty information needs. The consolidation of check-out and information referral services at the Information Desk reflects the library’s commitment to facilitate use of the library in response to Fall 2009 student and faculty group feedback. The library will administer the national LibQual+ survey in March and the survey will give the University community an opportunity to suggest additional improvements to library space and services. Consolidated public printing and copying for the University community, while centered in the University Library, are managed at all academic locations by combined library and Instructional Design staff and supported by student learning Commons Assistants (ICAs). These extended services are represented, for instance, by the first floor location of a writing support consultation desk, and, more recently, the improved efficiencies of an integrated public service staff.

Peter Deekle, Dean of University Library Services

NEW JSTOR COLLECTIONS
By John Fobert, Serials/Government Documents Librarian

The Library is pleased to announce the expansion of our JSTOR collections with the addition of two new collections. Extending JSTOR’s coverage in disciplines across the social sciences, the Arts & Sciences VI Collection features clusters of titles in economics, education, linguistics, political science, and area studies. As its completion in 2010, the collection will include a minimum of 120 titles. This group of important and often interdisciplinary journals broadens the archive’s body of research in core social science disciplines and expands its range of international scholarship.

With a minimum of 140 titles by its completion in 2011, the Arts & Sciences VIII Collection will broaden JSTOR’s coverage of core humanities disciplines including history, language & literature, art & art history and education. It will include a group of rare 19th and early 20th century American Art periodicals digitized as part of a special project undertaken with the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Frick Collection and the Brooklyn Museum. It will also include journals in philosophy, classical studies and music. These collections can be accessed through the library homepage (Library.rwu.edu) or directly at www.jstor.org.
RESERACHING MADE EASY WITH RWU LIBGUIDES
By Susan McMullen, Information Resources Librarian

Feeling overwhelmed by research?
Want to search library databases more effectively?
Want to find scholarly journal articles online?
Need help with MLA or APA citations?
Want to ask a librarian a question online?

RWU Libguides simplify research by providing a customized guide to resources for specific class assignments or majors. Utilizing the web 2.0 applications provided by the Libguide software, librarians have embedded videos to help you navigate the library web site, effectively use the HELIN library catalog for finding books, and learn advanced search strategies for locating journal articles in library subscription databases. Librarians have integrated the use of RWU Libguides into all library instruction classes – eliminating the need for paper handouts! With nearly 12,000 hits since their debut in September, these guides have proved to be a very effective way of helping students find the research help and information resources they need. Faculty members who would like to request a RWU Libguide for a particular course should contact a librarian today! To see a complete list of available libguides go to http://rwu.libguides.com. Each guide contains contact information, so please do not hesitate to send us your questions, suggestions, or comments.

BIRSS MEMORIAL LIBRARY EXHIBITION TO CELEBRATE THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD BY HARPER LEE
By Christine S. Fagan, Collection Development/Acquisitions Librarian

The tenth annual Professor John Howard Bisss, Jr. Memorial Library Exhibition will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the publication of To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee. This exhibition will take place in the library foyer from February 1 through March 14, 2010.

This exhibition is produced in conjunction with the Professor John Howard Bisss, Jr. Memorial Lecture which will take place on February 24, 2010. The speaker will be Dr. Alice Farley, Professor Emeritus of English Language and Literature at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. Dr. Farley is a nationally recognized scholar in English literature and author of several books under the name of Alice Hall Petry, including On Harper Lee: Essay and Reflections (2007).

Other related events include a literature/faw panel sponsored by the Feinstein College of Arts & Sciences, a book discussion to be lead by Professor Dianne Comiskey sponsored jointly by the Honors Program and the RWU Library; and the Bisss Competition sponsored by the Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences. In addition, Professor Comiskey taught a one-credit course on Harper Lee and To Kill A Mockingbird during the fall semester. This course will be offered again in the spring semester.

Since this is the 10th anniversary of the Bisss Memorial Lecture/Exhibition, it is fitting to reflect on this event over the course of its history. Previous works celebrated include:
- Moby Dick by Herman Melville (2001)
- Uncle Tom’s Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe (2002)
- Leaves of Grass by Walt Whitman (2005)
- The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck (2006)
- On the Road by Jack Kerouac (2007)
- Night by Elie Wiesel (2008)
- Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain (2009)

The Professor John Howard Bisss, Jr. Memorial Lecture and Professor John Howard Bisss, Jr. Memorial Library Fund were established by University alumni, Robert Blais ’70, to honor Professor John Howard Bisss, Jr., nationally recognized for his knowledge of first editions.

MDID MEETS ARCHIVISION’S 40,000 IMAGES
By Christopher Straubhaar, Visual Resources Curator

Recently the Visual Resources Center added its newest collection of images to MDID. The new group is the Archivision Image Collection, which features over 40,000 high-quality digital art and architectural images. With the addition of Archivision, the number of images in MDID more than doubled, bringing the total collection to almost 80,000 digital images.

While Archivision has been accessible through ARTstor for some time, having the images in both databases provides easier access for faculty and students to build presentations and integrate with old ones. From MDID, you can do searches just from the Archivision collection in any number of fields, or you can do a simple keyword search in both the Archivision and the VRC.

MUSIC ONLINE IS GOING MOBILE!
By Veronica Mahler, Media Services Librarian

What’s better than hundreds of thousands of audio recordings, videos, scores, and pages of full-text music reference? How about accessing it all on the go? Alexander Street Press has announced that they will release a free iPhone application in early 2010 that will make their complete line of online streaming music collections—including Classical Music Library, Jazz Music Library, and Smithsonian Global Sound® for libraries—fully accessible on iPhone and iPod Touch handheld devices. With subsequent releases, patrons of subscribing libraries will also be able to access all Alexander Street video collections, such as American History in Video and Theatre in Video.

In case you haven’t heard the library already subscribes to Music Online and several other Alexander Street Press products including Dance in Video, American History in Video, Theatre in Video, and Counseling and Therapy in Video.

About the Database
Music Online, provides the most comprehensive database in streaming audio, video, reference, and scores on the web. Music Online allows users to cross search all of the music databases published by Alexander Street Press. Music Online brings together on a single cross-searchable platform the entire suite of Alexander Street Press music products that RWU subscribes to.

Music Online can potentially cross-search any combination of these databases:
- African American Music Reference, American Song, continued on back page