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An e-newsletter for ASU faculty from the Dean B. Ellis Library

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IN THIS ISSUE:

- Library Wins ALA/NEH Grant
- Library Use Continues to Rise
- Schedule a Class Session @ Your Library
- Departmental Subscription and Allocation Deadlines
- Advanced Notice – Ebooks in the Library

LIBRARY WINS ALA/NEH GRANT

The Dean B. Ellis Library is one of 65 public, academic and community college libraries throughout the United States awarded grants by The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the American Library Association (ALA) to host public reading and discussion programs related to the Civil War in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

In accordance with the grant, in Spring 2012 the Dean B. Ellis Library will host a five-part series of reading and discussion programs using around the selected texts to explore different facets of the Civil War experience. Discussions will be led by project scholar [Dr. Gary Edwards](#), Associate Professor of History, and will be coordinated by project directors [Linda Creibaum](#) and [April Sheppard](#) of the Dean B. Ellis Library. Additional assistance will be provided by the Library's partnering organizations: the ASU Heritage Studies program and the Arkansas History Commission.

"Let's Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War" is supported by NEH's We the People initiative, which aims to stimulate and enhance the teaching, study and understanding of American history and culture.

Additional information on the project is available at: <http://www.ala.org/civilwarprograms>.



LIBRARY USE CONTINUES TO RISE

Statistics for the 2011-12 academic year show that library holdings and usage continue to rise.

During the past year, 446,560 people entered the library compared to 431,086 during the 2010-2011 academic year. That's an average of over 1,320 a day! Students also used more material than in the previous year: 39,213 books checked out (5% increase) and 15,220 items used within the library (30% increase). In addition, databases searches increased from 1,169,388 searches to 1,362,289 for a 16% increase.

During the last year, the Library also greatly increased its collection through purchases and database subscriptions. ASU staff, students and faculty now have access to 643,148 books, 33,458 current periodicals, 534,172 government publications and 28,372 audio/visual items.

SCHEDULE A CLASS SESSION @ YOUR LIBRARY

Do you wish your students knew how to better use the library? Do your students need help with research? If so, schedule a one or two class bibliographic instruction session. You can bring over your entire class to one of our instruction rooms to learn about what the library has to offer, or we can come to you if you would prefer. Students will learn how to use the latest library resources, such as subscription library databases for locating scholarly journal articles and the library catalog for locating print and electronic books. We can tailor the class to fit your needs or around an assignment. For more information, contact your departmental liaison or Robin Payne, Coordinator of Bibliographic Instruction, at (870) 972-3346 or rpayne@astate.edu.

DEPARTMENTAL SUBSCRIPTION AND ALLOCATION DEADLINES

Departments should send in any subscription cancellations as soon as possible to ensure the publishers are able to accommodate them, but all subscription changes must be in by November 15. The deadline for changes to Elsevier journals has passed. The deadline for departments to encumber 50% of their book/media/new subscription funds in November 15.

ADVANCED NOTICE – EBOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Over the next few months, the Library will be adding tens of thousands of eBooks. Look for announcements as these new titles become available.

To submit feedback or ask questions about topics covered in this newsletter, contact April Sheppard, Newsletter Editor, at asheppard@astate.edu or Jeff Bailey, Interim Dean, at jbailey@astate.edu.

All back issues of this newsletter may be viewed online at <http://www.library.astate.edu/newsletter>.
