SFX Name Changed to FindIt @ CSU

In an effort to make the research process more intuitive, CSU Libraries renamed SFX to FindIt. Although the name and look of the button have changed, the same great services are still available.

What is FindIt?

FindIt is a service that simplifies the research process for you by providing access to a variety of library services with the click of a button. Within library databases, the FindIt button automatically appears next to most citations, directing you to available services.

When you click on a FindIt button, a dynamically generated FindIt services menu appears. FindIt menus are customized to provide only the relevant services for a given citation, so the menus will vary. Frequent choices offer the ability to:

- Link to the full text of an article, if available online.
- Search Sage (Library Catalog) to see if CSU owns the item.
- Search Prospector regional library catalog.
- Request through Interlibrary Loan (ILL); also provides desktop delivery of articles available from CSU’s print collection.
- Search Web of Science for other articles by an author.
- Obtain a citation in MLA, APA, Chicago, or CBE style. Note: Citations are only as good as the information that is sent from the database. In many cases, this option will leave out the author.

FindIt is available through most of the library databases, as well as PubMed and Google Scholar. To use FindIt in PubMed, you must access it through the databases link on the CSU Libraries home page. The FindIt button appears on the abstract page within this database. For on-campus users of Google Scholar, a text FindIt link will automatically appear next to results for which services can be offered. Off-campus users can activate the FindIt Link by clicking on “Scholar Preferences” from the Google Scholar home page and selecting Colorado State University under “Library Links.”

Locating Electronic Journals

Electronic journals can be accessed via Sage (Library Catalog), or from the Find E-Journals Web page, accessed via the E-Journals link on the Libraries home page. The Find E-Journals page provides users with a browsable list of e-journal titles and access to the
Electronic Reserve Update

Instructors: As you read this, Electronic Reserve has surpassed 5,000 items online this Spring Semester. This is the highest total of items in the history of the service and rivals the “old days” when a similar number of items used to be available for students on Shelf Reserve. These 5,000 electronic items are now available 24/7 for your students. The statistics indicate that you’ve chosen critical items for your students to read—total use of these items is over 68,000! As noted in a recent article in *Comment* the option for including online documents in color will be available, possibly as soon as this summer. Ask your reserve contact person or e-mail Lisa Arevalos at Lisa.Arevalos@colostate.edu for additional information.

Wireless Apple Laptops

On January 19th, Morgan Library made five wireless Apple PowerBooks available for checkout. This new service took off far beyond expectations. As of Spring Break, the five PowerBooks have been checked out more than 700 times, averaging 143 times apiece. This is an exciting new addition to the popular PC laptop service which includes a fleet of more than 180 wireless machines.

Undergraduates love the wireless laptops—almost 70,000 checkouts were made during the past year. More than 90% of the PC laptop usage this semester has been in the freshmen through senior ranks. The Apple Powerbooks are also popular among undergraduates, but graduate students represent close to 20% of Powerbook use.

One reason for the appeal of the Powerbooks is the focus on high-level graphics applications. Programs such as Final Cut Pro are available only on these Apple machines. The Library hopes to add more Powerbooks to the collection soon. Stop by to check out these amazing machines for yourself.

For more information about the new Apple PowerBooks, contact Jim Farmer at James.Farmer@colostate.edu.

Stay Current with Alert Services

Did you know that Colorado State University Libraries can help you stay up-to-date with new publications in your field? Alert services allow you to save a database search and automatically run the search at designated time intervals. The search results are sent to your e-mail address. Depending on the database you are searching, the e-mail may contain a list of citations, links to full-text articles, or a table of contents listing for the newest issue of a particular journal. Saved Search Alerts and Table of Contents (TOC) Alerts are two ways of staying current without having to regularly access databases. You can set up customized alert services in a variety of databases. This is one of the many ways that CSU Libraries is working to put knowledge at your fingertips—delivering information to your desktop and saving you valuable time.

Instruction Assistance @your library®

Library subject liaison librarians offer library instruction for all CSU courses. Consider asking your subject liaison to teach a session on using library resources when you have assignments that require library research. Your librarian can:

- demonstrate how to use the library catalog and databases
- identify which databases (we have over 400 of them) will be the most effective
- show valuable reference books (in print or online) that students will find useful
- provide URLs for relevant Web sites

There are so many possibilities that visiting the library can be a very effective use of class time. Librarians can teach in one of the Library’s Electronic Information Labs (EIL) or your classroom.

Schedule Ahead

It is a good idea to plan ahead because:

- library labs fill up quickly for popular dates and times
- it allows time to customize the session for your specific course

Start planning now for the summer; during the summer start booking ahead for the fall semester!

Help with Assignments

Your librarian can also help you create effective research assignments that use materials owned by the libraries. There may be additional resources that you can use:

- databases
- full text resources (print and electronic)
- special collections

Assignments should be created with available resources in mind. Advance notice of new and changed courses helps your subject liaison librarian develop the collection to meet your needs.

Keeping Up-to-Date

It never hurts to check that the resources you list on your syllabus are still available:

- reference books may now be online;
- databases may have new name or new look;
- additionally, new library resources are added regularly.

Your subject librarian will be happy to talk with you about possibilities.

For more information on these services contact Patrick McCarthy (Patrick.McCarthy@colostate.edu) or your subject librarian.

Helpful Web Pages

- Subject Guides: http://lib.colostate.edu/research/
- Library Tutorials: http://lib.colostate.edu/tutorials/
- Schedule a Library Class: http://lib.colostate.edu/irs/schedule.html
- Find Your Subject Librarian: http://vulture.library.colostate.edu/stafflist/pub/sublibs.php

Name Change (from page 1)

Citation Linker. The Citation Linker can be used to search for e-journals by title; users who have complete citation information can use the Citation Linker to generate a FindIt menu.

For more information contact Michelle Wilde at Michelle.Wilde@colostate.edu
Database Measuring Journal Impact Now Available Online

Colorado State University Libraries is proud to announce that access to the Journal Citation Reports (JCR) database is now available online via the Libraries’ Web site. This tool presents quantifiable statistical data that provides an organized, objective way to evaluate the world’s leading journals and their impact and influence in the global research community.

Covering more than 7,600 of the world’s most highly cited, peer-reviewed journals in approximately 200 disciplines, JCR ranks journals by impact factor, a measure of citations to articles published in each journal. These rankings can be done broadly across disciplines in the sciences or social sciences or they can be limited to journals in a specific subject area such as soil science. A breakdown of the citation pattern for each journal is also available.

By making JCR available online, the Libraries hopes to provide faculty, staff and students with easier, more immediate access to this important resource that helps to identify journals in which to publish, confirm the status of journals in which one has published, and identify journals relevant to one’s research.

To get to the Journal Citation Reports, go to http://vulture.library.colostate.edu/databases/permlink.php?id=548 or go the Libraries’ home page (http://lib.colostate.edu/). Select “Databases,” then select “J” under “Title” and go to “Journal Citation Reports” or “JCR.” Select to search “JCR Science” or “JCR Social Science.”

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Knowledge to Go Places