Gimme a Break

Need a break from the same old routine? Get a breath of fresh air and come to the library during your free period for a cup of coffee or tea. You may even find a cookie, a Tootsie Roll, or a bookmark! If you prefer books to food, we frequently put out free books for you to take, and we have a beautiful periodical and newspaper display area in which you can get comfortable. Our Professional Room houses two easy-to-use cold laminators, a spiral binding machine that the Math Department shares with us, and books of interest to teachers.

New Equipment

The library has added four new computers for student use which should ease the crowded labs. Also, a new photocopier, at 30 pages a minute, allows you to scan documents and then send them to your email, and even prints from the library computers.

Serials Solutions

What if you want to read an article you heard about in a recent Scientific American? Now you can find it easily online with our new search feature, Serials Solutions. From the library home click on Find a Journal Online. This compiles an A-Z list of all the titles in our different databases. So when you look up any of the 12,934 full-text titles, it will take you to the databases which archive that journal.

READ posters

Are you the sponsor of a team or club at MUS? The library staff has the software to create READ posters for display around campus. Last year the swim team had a great group shot of the guys holding their favorite books, plus our championship basketball team posed in the locker room for a highly coveted shot. You can find all these posters hanging up around the library. Now we want your team or club to have their chance to be immortalized! So email the library and we'll arrange it.

Class Projects

Do you have a class project coming up soon? The library has a new form online which allows you to submit to us exactly what your students' research needs will be. Go to the Library website and click on Faculty Support on the left hand side. Click below to request reserve books, library loan materials, and equipment, and you can also send us a copy of your research assignment. When we know what you're asking students to do, we can better help them in their research.

Library Survey

The Hyde Library is now one of the oldest buildings on campus, and although it was built to last, it is facing some space and age issues. We hope to update the building in the next few years, and we need your help to tell us what's important to you in a library. We plan to distribute surveys among students and faculty this fall, and when you get the opportunity, please fill one out and return it.
New Books

This Is Your Brain on Music by Daniel J. Levitin. Neuroscientist and professional musician Daniel Levitin presents a fascinating exploration of the relationship between music and the mind--and the role of melodies in shaping our lives. The snappy prose and relaxed style quickly win one over and will leave readers thinking about the contents of their iPods in an entirely new way.

The Human Voice: How This Extraordinary Instrument Reveals Essential Clues About Who We Are by Anne Karpf. British journalist and sociologist Anne Karpf skillfully articulates the science and anthropology behind the voice from before birth to old age and details changes due to technological advancements. Karpf begins with a description of how the voice actually works, and investigates its vital role in social interaction--from the bond between mother and child to the impact of cell phones on the voice. Karpf's mission is to get people to become better listeners to one another's voices.

Religious Literacy: What Every American Needs to Know—and Doesn't by Stephen Prothero. What grade would you get on the Religious Literacy Quiz? Prothero begins this valuable primer by noting that religious illiteracy is rampant in the United States, where most Americans, even Christians, cannot name even one of the four Gospels. He traces its surprising historic roots ("in one of the great ironies of history, it was the nation's most fervent people of faith who steered Americans down the road to religious illiteracy") and prescribes concrete solutions that address religious education while preserving First Amendment boundaries.

With Speed and Violence: Why Scientists Fear Tipping Points in Climate Change by Fred Pearce. Pearce presents some climate modelers' frightening predictions about the consequences of increased global warming. After studying the history of the earth's climate changes, these scientists have learned that, under pressure from natural forces, major shifts can happen abruptly. Today, with the added stress of human interference, irreversible changes could threaten the habitability of our planet. The science behind climate studies is complex, but Pearce makes it accessible enough to terrify even the most uninitiated layman.

Better Know a Database

Interview with Mrs. Molasky

JSTOR comes to you from the MUS Library Database page and is located at http://www.jstor.org. "What's the deal with JSTOR?"

MM: Originally JSTOR began as an effort to weed out back issues of scholarly journals in college libraries, and was created so that you could access a high-resolution, scanned image instead of finding it on the shelf.

“What can I find in JSTOR?”

MM: The journals archived in JSTOR include literature, the arts, health, social sciences, biology, math, and science, from the Accounting Review to Zeitschrift fur Kungstgeschichte. (Even though no one will probably ever need that last one, it's still cool that it's there.)

“What's so great about JSTOR?”

MM: Accessibility. If you do a regular Google search from anywhere on campus, the results automatically include JSTOR articles. Or you can go straight to JSTOR when you know you need a scholarly article.