



Engineering Library News

September 1999

For more information on any topic please see our Web site at <http://www.lib.washington.edu/engineering/> or email us at englib@u.washington.edu.

You may be interested to know...

NTIS Announces Closure

www.ntis.gov

Recently the Commerce Department announced its intention to close NTIS, disbanding some of its services and relocating others. The National Technical Information Service (NTIS) of the U.S. Department of Commerce is the federal government's central self-sufficient source for the sale of scientific, technical, engineering, and related business information produced by or for the U.S. government. The NTIS also maintains and sells a database, which is the only available collective source for information about new government R&D and technically focused efforts.

The UW Engineering Library purchases access to the NTIS database, and receives thousands of government technical reports on microfiche each year from NTIS. We know of no substitute for these services. For more information on the NTIS closure please see the NTIS web site at www.ntis.gov, or the Friends of NTIS site at ntis.webjump.com

NEW This Month

Proxy Server – Remote Access to Library Services

www.lib.washington.edu/help/proxy.html

Do you have a high speed connection from your home or off-campus office? Ever wish you could use that connection to visit the Library's databases and electronic journals instead of dialing in over a slow phone line? Well, your wish has come true. Beginning Fall quarter the Libraries proxy server will be available for you. To use this server, first configure your browser. (See the instructions at www.lib.washington.edu/help/proxy.html). Then, point your Web browser at a restricted site, like a database or an electronic journal. You will be prompted for authentication using your library barcode and PIN.

Q. Why does the Library restrict access to certain types of materials?

A. We limit access because we purchase access for current faculty, staff and students. The licenses we sign when we make the purchase commit us to limiting access to this group.

Q. Where is my library barcode? How can I get a PIN?

A. Your library barcode is usually the number on the back of your UW ID. You can get a PIN by asking at any library circulation desk, or by visiting www.lib.washington.edu/services/barrow/barcode/bar.html. We require the use of a PIN for some services in order to protect your privacy and make sure you are the only one who has access to your library record.

Q. Why does the system use patrons' library barcode instead of their email account name and password to authenticate?

A. The Library must restrict access to many of its resources to current faculty, staff and students. The servers used to distribute campus email give access to many more groups of people. So for now we're obliged to use the barcode/PIN system. We're working towards a one-password solution.

Q. Can I still use the modem pool to access Library resources?

A. Yes, access via modem will continue to be available. For more information on the modem pool see the "Connecting From Home or Office" section on the web page www.lib.washington.edu/about/new.

Science Direct

www.sciencemag.org

Recently the Libraries purchased access to the Web version of Science. You can find *Science* directly at www.sciencemag.org, or you can find it through the UW online catalog and access the online version from there. Like any other electronic resource restricted to the campus, use is controlled by IP address. From off-campus you can use restricted resources by dialing in, or by using the proxy server (see above).

We welcome comments on items in this newsletter, or on any library topic. To reach us, please send email to englib@u.washington.edu. If you'd like to be on our mailing list please email pzilius@u.washington.edu.