

Message from the Director of Libraries

Congratulations to the first graduating class of PMU: we are all very proud of your achievement, and we know that you will continue to grow and develop as leaders and as life-long learners.

To all of our students who are still preparing for exams and working on research papers, I would strongly encourage you to take full advantage of the PMU Library's resources. The Library's E-Resources are available to you both on and off campus, to help you complete your assignments, and the Library has space in which you can work and study. Our Librarians are always available to help you with your research--please do not hesitate to contact them.

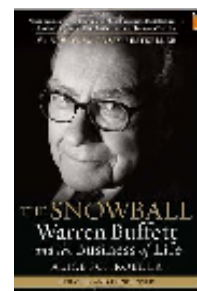
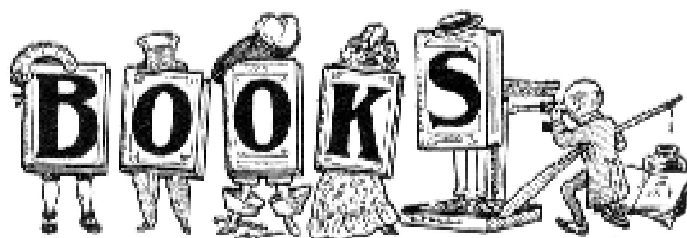
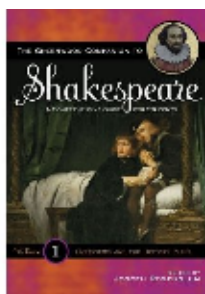
The Library's collection of books continues to grow, and 10,000 new books are being added to our shelves in the course of this year-- nearly 3,000 books have already been added in all subjects, and dozens of new books are being brought-out every single day.

Ultimately, the purpose of both books and education are to expand Life's possibilities: among all of these books and articles, a student might find ideas that could change one's life and improve the entire world. The Library is here to support you not only in your immediate studies, but in this fundamental process of discovery--as you grow to become leaders.

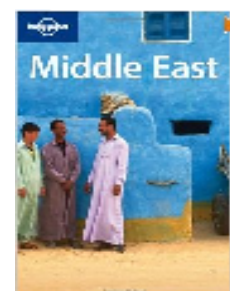
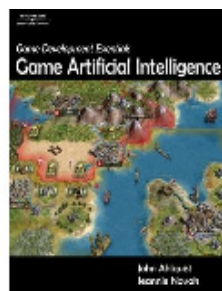
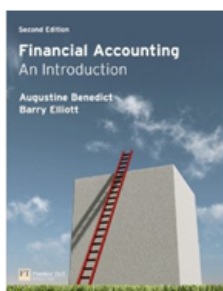


Dr. Jamil Ahmad Qureshy
Director of Libraries

NEW ARRIVALS



STOP, LOOK & CHECK-OUT.



PMU Library Arabic Collection

The PMU Arabic collection encompasses Islam and various aspects of Arabic and Islamic cultural studies, the collection has robust holdings in Islamic religious studies, and we will soon acquire more books in socio-economic studies reflecting the current intellectual output of the Arab world. This Arabic collection will be accessible for PMU users via library's OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) on July, 2011. As of now we have 125 Arabic titles under processing.

PMU library is now a full and contributing member of AUC (Arabic Union Catalog), The purpose of AUC is to serve Arabic culture by creating a cooperative catalog, which enables libraries with Arabic collections throughout the world to share knowledge, and make the Arabic works (in all formats, that are currently dispersed in separate libraries, accessible for all AUC member libraries .

Arabic Union Catalog services are offered free of charge until the end of (2011) and it is expected to be free for the next six years, as a complimentary service granted by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Abdullah bin Abdul-Aziz.

Basim Mohammad Faris
Librarian



LIBRARIANS – World Class Professionals

This will be one of the last articles that I write for the *PMU Library Newsletter* and by the time you, the PMU Community, read this I will be back home in the United States and working for my new employer.

Libraries are not merely buildings which house collections of research materials in print and digital form, but also the people who work in them and use them. World class libraries are not merely excellent and extensive collections of materials but also the world class professionals who work in them. As one of my library school professors used to tell us, "Librarians are the gatekeepers in the halls of knowledge." Ultimately it is the library staff who determines the status of the library because we are the ones who make the library's resources accessible and available to the library's users.

Sometimes librarians forget that librarianship is a service profession, especially those of us who concentrate upon the technical services of the library. We tend to think in terms of books, resources, and computer hardware and software, rather than in terms of people, but librarianship is all about the users and the information that we provide to them. We need to continue to strive to provide the best possible resources in the shortest amount of time to anyone who needs them.

In the little more than two years that I have worked in PMU library, I have had the honor and privilege of working with some dedicated professionals like the Library Director Dr. Jamil Qureshy, Female Librarian Ms. Elvira Zingapan and Assistant Librarian Mr. Johan Mir. Together we have followed the TIEC guidelines and started a new university library. Although the library is not all that it can become, the foundations have been laid and plans are in place to create a truly outstanding university library.

I urge the PMU Community to take the time to get to know the library staff and to work with them to continue the growth of the library. And, working with the library staff will enhance your experience of the library, as they are all dedicated to helping the PMU Community make the best use of the library's facilities and resources.

Farewell and best regards,

Michael A. Sartori
Librarian



2nd PMU Library User Survey

From May 29 through June 23, 2010, the PMU Library conducted its 2nd PMU Library User Survey to determine the PMU community's perceptions of the library, its services, its staff, and its facilities.

First of all, the library staff extends their thanks to everyone who participated in the Survey. We very much appreciate the time that respondents took to provide us with their valuable feedback, and we will work to improve our collections, services, and facilities to meet the users' needs and expectations.

We were very pleased with the response rate: a total of **180 respondents** participated in the survey, almost 6% of the total PMU school student population.

Secondly, we want the PMU Community to know that the responses you provided are taken very seriously. In addition to compiling your responses to the survey questions, we have also read each and every comment submitted. Overall, we are pleased to report that the majority of participants **(77%) Agreed or Strongly Agreed that the Library staff are “—knowledgeable and proficient at finding information.” A solid majority (60%) either Agreed or Strongly Agreed that “--the Library’s services meet my learning/research needs”, with less than 9% Disagreeing.** Among students who felt that the Library *wasn't* meeting their research and study needs, **the greatest complaint was the user’s desire that we should “—add more books to the Library,” and along these lines we have further good news: 10,000 books currently are being added to the collection, and more than 3,000 of these books are already available on the Library’s shelves.**

From the responses and comments in the completed surveys, we also know that there are a number of people who would appreciate further instruction in the availability and use of the Library's resources, and this is something we hope to address on an on-going basis. The majority of the respondents rated the Library's facilities as being comfortable and conducive to studying; however, we are aware that there are some issues regarding the availability and/or quality of certain types of equipment.

The PMU library staff again extends its thanks to everyone who participated in the 2nd PMU Library User Survey Spring 2010.

Elvira A. Zingapan
Librarian



Usage statistics of PMU - Library Electronic Resources

The PMU Library provides on and off campus access to electronic resources, which are full-text databases of articles and books. The Library records information on the number of searches and sessions that occur within each database— we have compiled this data from the time period of June 2010 to May 2011, to give a picture of how these resources are being used by the PMU community.

Using these statistics, the Library staff is able to determine the usefulness of a subscription to a particular online resource. This comparison allows the Library to make an informed decision in retaining current resources, and selecting future subscriptions. With new statistics every year, the process of analyzing the usage of online databases at the Library is a continuous task.

Johan Mohammad Mir
Librarian



| | DATABASE | SEARCHES / Pages Viewed |
|----|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Ebrary | 50,582 |
| 2. | EBSCO | 32,522 |
| 3. | Encyclopedia Britannica | 29,417 |
| 4. | ABI/INFORM Global | 3,080 |
| 5. | Safari Technical Books | 1,256 |
| 6. | ACM | 1,600 |

June 2010 to May 2011

Reading furnishes the mind only with the materials of knowledge; it is thinking that makes what we read ours.
- John Locke

News from the Library

The following short articles contain PMU library related news.

Electronic Resources Available Off-Campus

The library's electronic resources are now easily accessed by all PMU faculty, students and staff users on-campus and off-campus.

To access the library's electronic resources, please follow the steps below:

1. Log on to the PMU website (<http://www.pmu.edu.sa>)
2. Click on the *LRC and Library* button
3. Click on the *Resources* button
4. Click on the link for the database of your choice
5. When prompted, enter your PMU User ID and Password.

If you have any questions or need assistance logging into the library's electronic resources, please use the *Ask A Librarian* button located on each of the library's web pages or call the library (Male Library desk, 849-9225 from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m., Saturday through Wednesday and the Female Library desk 849-9714 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Saturday through Wednesday. For additional technical assistance, please contact the university IT Help Desk at extension 8888.

"He who knows others is clever. He who knows himself is enlightened." – Lao Tzu

New Library Staff

The PMU Library extends a warm welcome to the following new library staff:



Mr. Emmett Charles Denny, Librarian is from the USA. He earned a Master's degree in Library and Information Science from Florida State University and he has over twenty years of professional experience.



Mr. Brendan Smart, *Librarian* is from the USA. He earned a Master's degree in Library and Information Science from Long Island University's Palmer School and he has four years of professional experience.



Miss Rahat Khan, *Assistant Librarian* is from India. She earned a Master's degree in Library and Information Science as well as a Master in Commerce. She has three years of professional experience.

Prominent Visitors

The library continues to be one of the main attractions on the Visitors Tour of the PMU campus. The library was pleased to welcome the following esteemed guests:



University of Leeds (UK) Delegation's visit to PMU, on March 27, 2011.



Taibah University Delegation's visit to PMU, on September 27, 2010.



Mr. Khalid Al-Malik, Director of Al-Jazeera Newspaper and His Delegation's visit to PMU, on January 25, 2011

International Library News

Tokyo International Book Fair (TIBF)

Saudi Arabia was the guest of honor at the 2010 Tokyo International Book fair (TIBF), held in the Japanese capital from July 8 to 11, 2010. Dubbed the “leading publisher’s trade fair” in Asia, the fair attracted visitors from all over the world.

The Saudi pavilion included an area of 400 squares meters and consisted of the Saudi Arabia Book Fair, the Department of Fine Arts Arabic calligraphy and culture test, children’s library, a small theater for cultural competitions, and modern replicas of the Holy Mosque in Makkah and the Prophet’s Mosque in Madinah.

The Saudi Arabian Book Fair displayed 530 titles including 350 titles in Arabic, 113 titles in English and 67 titles in Japanese. The purpose of the Book Fair was to highlight the cultural heritage of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



Library Digitizes Greek Manuscripts

The British Library has digitized over one quarter of its Greek manuscripts (284 volumes) for the first time and made them freely available online at www.bl.uk/manuscripts

The website provides researchers with access to high quality digital images of a major part of the British Library’s Greek manuscript collection, supported by enhanced metadata which enables users to search using keywords.

The British Library holds over 1,000 Greek manuscripts, over 3,000 Greek papyri and a comprehensive collection of early Greek printing. These collections make the library one of the largest and most important centers outside Greece for the study of over 2,000 years of Hellenic culture. The Greek manuscripts contain unique and outstandingly rich information for researchers working on the literature, history, science, religion, philosophy and art of the whole of the Eastern Mediterranean in the Classical and Byzantine periods.

The digitized Greek manuscript collection has many benefits, including the ease of access to readable data. This is important because not every scholar can afford to travel to the Britain to study these documents. Additionally, the British Library has made these documents freely available to everyone.

A batch of about 250 additional documents is scheduled to be published online in 2012.



SLA - AGC (Arabian Gulf Chapter) 17th Annual Conference

The Special Libraries Association from Arabian Gulf Chapter sponsored its 17th Annual conference took place in the heart of the beautiful city of Muscat in Oman, last March 8 – 10, 2011. Hosted by Sultan Qaboos University and the Omani Library Association, this conference was the largest regional gathering of *academic staff, researchers, librarians, and information specialists.*



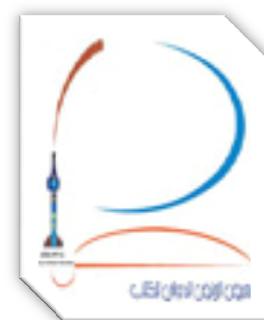
The theme of the conference this year was “**The Changing Role of Information Professionals in the Knowledge Economy: Challenges and Opportunities**”. One of the highlights of the event was the International exhibition on electronic resources and library services supported by vendor product presentation.

Riyadh International Book Fair 2011

The Riyadh International Book Fair 2011, last March 01-12, 2011 was the largest yearly cultural event in the Middle East. It aims to facilitate and promote exchange between authors, publishers, all those professionally concerned with books, and all responsible for reading and culture around the world. India was the guest of honor this year Book Fair.

There were around three million visitors to this year’s fair, and sales exceeded 35 million Saudi riyals.

The best-selling novelists included the great Saudi author Abdul Rahman Munif, as well as Algerians [Waciny Laredj](#) and the powerhouse Ahlam Mosteghanemi. The Syrian novelist Ghada al-Samman, whose [Beirut Nightmares](#) was voted one of the top 100 novels by the Arab writers union, also was at the top of the list, as was Malika Awfiqir.



George Washington owes \$300,000 in Library Fines

The New York Society Library, one of New York’s oldest libraries on April 10, 2010 reported that one of its ledgers indicates that *George Washington*, the first president of the United States, borrowed two books and failed to return them.

The two books borrowed were: the Law Of Nations and a volume of debates from Britain's House of Commons. Both books were due on November 02, 1789 and the overdue fine in today’s currency and adjusted for inflation would be \$300,000.

The Director of the New York Society Library says that the *library is not seeking to claim the overdue fine but would love to have these two items returned.*



Tower of Babel made from BOOKS Homage to the Written Word

Marta Minujin, Argentina's most famous artist, is known for artwork that is both out-sized and outlandish.

Her latest creation might also be described as vertigo-inducing, a spiraling, 25-meter-tall (82-foot) tower meant to pay homage to the written word.

In the Plaza San Martin, in the heart of the Argentine capital, Minujin has erected her latest work, 'The Tower of Babel' built from 30,000 books, have been donated by readers, libraries and more than 50 embassies.



The artist **Marta Minujin**, above, said that building the tower has been a "miraculous experience", suggesting that her role as an artist was to "unite all people".



The 30,000 books which make up the seven stories of the Tower of Babel.

Library Newsletter Information

The *PMU Library Newsletter* will be published once a semester and will not be published in the summer. The Newsletter contains articles written by the library staff to educate the PMU community about the library and library-related issues.

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Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd University

Al Khobar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 31952

Email: library@pmu.edu.sa

Telephone: +966 3 849 9336 / 9714

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VISIT US ON THE WEB @

<http://lrc.pmu.edu.sa/librarya.asp>