



USC Libraries

Marje Schuetze-Coburn
Dean

MEMORANDUM

To: Academic Deans and Faculty

From: Marje Schuetze-Coburn *MS*
Dean of the USC Libraries

Barry Glassner *BG*
Executive Vice Provost

Date: January 8, 2007

Subject: RIP VPN and other USC Libraries News

We're pleased to highlight a few recent additions to the roster of USC Libraries electronic resources and services. These and other initiatives reflect our commitment to providing both a deeper electronic research environment and easier, broader online access to faculty and students.

The drive for continual customer-service improvement also informs the ongoing enrichment of USC Libraries e-resources. As expected, our most recent Association of Research Libraries LibQUAL survey indicates a strong preference among faculty and students for obtaining information online and a consistent demand for electronic journals.

Among the USC Libraries' new electronic acquisitions and services are:

1. a service that makes remote access to electronic research materials as easy as signing in to Web mail;
2. electronic delivery of USC Libraries' print holdings to faculty and distance-learners;
3. a database of full-text dissertations and theses.

Details on these projects, including URLs, follow below. We encourage you to e-mail schuetze@usc.edu if you have questions or comments about these services or the LibQUAL survey results.

Proxy server simplifies remote access to e-resources.

The USC Libraries' proxy server provides access to electronic library resources without using the virtual private network client, a piece of software that allows secure connections to subscription databases but often presents technical challenges to everyday users working away from campus.

Now remote users simply log in to the proxy server with a USC user name and password and enjoy the same secure, fast access as anyone working from the USC campus. Anyone with a valid USC user name can use the proxy server at libproxy.usc.edu/login. Background information on the proxy server project is available on the USC Libraries [Web site](#).

Document Delivery supports faculty and distance-learners with electronic delivery of print materials.

The USC Libraries' Document Delivery service provides electronic copies of journal articles and chapters of books that are already part of the libraries' collections. Library staff scan requested items, post them to a library server, and deliver them via an e-mailed link. The service is available to all faculty as well as students enrolled in distance-learning programs such as the USC Viterbi School's Distance Education Network.

Faculty and eligible students can request electronic document delivery using [ILLiad](#), the familiar interlibrary loan system.

New database provides 750,000 full-text theses and dissertations.

The recently acquired ProQuest database includes more than 2 million dissertations and theses, 750,000 of which are available online as full-text PDF downloads. This resource's search capabilities reach beyond standard subject and keyword searches to allow users to find dissertations published by students at a particular school, for example. This creates opportunities to investigate up-to-the-minute research by scholars working at leading institutions in specific fields of study.

The ProQuest database is available through the USC Libraries' [e-resources portal](#).

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