

UCSD Library initiates new information service entitled "Plus", available November 1

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UCSD LIBRARY INITIATES NEW INFORMATION SERVICE

A gateway to the rich collections and expert resources of the UCSD Central Library will be available to businesses and individuals Nov. 1 through a new information service.

Entitled "PLUS," the service will provide quick and immediate information by reaching out electronically to most libraries in the U.S., the Pacific Rim and other worldwide locations.

Mary Layman, coordinator of corporate programs for the library, noted that the new fee-based program will permit clients to pay-as-they-go for only those services they require. Research and online searching, photocopying, document delivery, information tracking and interlibrary loan are all available through the PLUS program, she added.

Other advantages, Layman said, are the availability of professional research librarians who work with clients to answer questions accurately and confidentially, and the time savings in not having to visit the library since the information services are available through a telephone call, fax or electronic mail messages.

PLUS is able to locate information on state-of-the-art technology, standards and specifications, research in progress, patents/trademarks, government regulations, biographical data, technical data, marketing statistics and economic forecasts, among numerous categories.

For example, she said, during its start-up tests the service obtained some obscure information for a woman writing a children's book, information on flora and fauna for a man planning a trip to Russia, and a bibliography of current information on a medical topic for a researcher.

PLUS is the newest offering in the UCSD Library's services to businesses and follows the Corporate Associates Program, initiated about four years ago. Corporate Associates members receive borrowing privileges with a number of library cards depending on level of membership, as well as a parking permit and research and online searching services.

Said Layman: "We believe we offer an important service to the business community and are anxious to do our part in contributing to the area's growth and prosperity."

Additional information may be obtained by calling Layman at 534-8622.

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