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Contact Chelsea Julian Telephone (405) 325-2789 Email ChelseaJulian@ou.edu Website Libraries.ou.edu

Government Documents Collection Focus Shifts Online

Norman—OU Libraries announces the closure of its government documents service point on the 4th floor of the Bizzell Memorial Library, effective Dec. 19. The government documents collection will continue to be supported and reference assistance will be available in person and by phone or <u>email</u>.

OU Libraries associate dean for scholarly resources and services, Karen Rupp Serrano, ensures that the closure of the service location will not affect access to the collections, but that downward trends in government documents circulation, reference and instruction reflected the need to shift resource attention online.

"We will continue to build the collection," says Rupp-Serrano. "The vast majority of government publications are now published online, frequently online only."

Physical items can still be accessed by request by using Sooner Xpress, a complimentary document delivery service for the OU community. Microform readers will remain located outside of the current government documents service point and nearby staff will continue to assist users, or users may request assistance by circulation personnel, identifiable by the blue lanyards.

"OU Libraries subject and resource specialists, including our government documents librarian, are available by appointment to help with specific needs," says Rupp-Serrano. "Closing the service point allows our research experts more flexibility in providing assistance by not committing them to a desk during certain hours. They can now spend more time consulting with faculty, staff and students and managing our collections."

To schedule an appointment with OU Libraries government documents librarian Jeffrey Wilhite, call 405-325-1831 or email jwilhite@ou.edu

The University of Oklahoma Libraries is headquartered in the Bizzell Memorial Library, located in the center of the Norman campus, east of the iconic clock tower. University Libraries represents the collective knowledge of the university and provides research and study assistance to facilitate knowledge creation. For accommodations, please contact University Libraries at (405) 325-2611 or visit <u>Libraries.ou.edu</u>