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Collection Assessment: College of Education, USFSP, 2010: B.S. in Education at Pasco County at Pasco-Hernando Community College

Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

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SACS Requirement -- The institution, through ownership or formal arrangements or agreements, provides and supports student and faculty access and user privileges to adequate library collections as well as to other learning/information resources consistent with the degrees offered. These collections and resources are sufficient to support all its educational, research, and public service programs.

Students enrolled in USFSP’s Bachelors of Science in Education program at Pasco-Hernando Community College (PHCC) have access to a wide array of library resources and staff. These include the resources of USFSP’s Nelson Poynter Memorial Library and the libraries of the entire USF System, as well as the libraries of PHCC’s four campuses.

USFSP students based at PHCC have access to the full suite of electronic resources available through the USF System - over 800 databases including EBSCO's Academic Search Premier, Business Source Premier, Web of Science, ProQuest Dissertations and Theses Full Text; over 26,000 electronic journals; over 353,000 electronic books; and 1,348,700 art images. Key resources essential to education students such as ERIC, Education Full Text, JSTOR Education, PsycINFO, and the Mental Measurements Yearbook are all available in an online format that can be accessed from any location using a student’s netID. Students in the M Ed in Educational Leadership Program may find it useful to conduct research in some of the 375 full-text electronic journals focused on education, such as American Journal of Education, Child Development, Educational Leadership and Administration, Educational Researcher, Journal of Educational Measurement, Journal of Leadership Education, Learning Disability Quarterly, The Phi Delta Kappan, Reading Research Quarterly, The Reading Teacher, etc. Electronic resources also include 1800 electronic books focused on education, a wide array of reference materials available online, as well as the Annenberg Media collection with 50 education documentary series available online through streaming media.

Students needing books and articles that are not available online may request materials through interlibrary loan. PHCC-based students enrolled in the Bachelors of Science in Education receive a higher level of service in some respects than do St. Petersburg-based students: books and articles will be mailed to a student’s home address if they do not attend any classes on the USFSP campus and if they have identified themselves as a distance learning student. USFSP students also have direct, on-site borrowing privileges at Pasco Hernando Community College Library, or any other state university/community college library, should they need materials more quickly than they can be provided via interlibrary loan.
In support of the USFSP College of Education, the Nelson Poynter Library holds 13,067 monographic titles (Library of Congress “L” classification for education) with an additional 31,177 monographic titles in education subjects across disciplines. Within the USF System, students have access to more than 58,000 print books in education.

A reference and instruction librarian at USFSP’s Poynter Library, Kaya van Beynen, is assigned to support specialized collection development and library instruction for the College of Education. Distance education courses and programs also receive reference and instruction support from Gary Austin, the Poynter Library’s Distance Education librarian. Students needing research assistance can contact the USFSP Poynter Library distance learning librarian via phone, chat, text, or email. The Poynter Library also participates in the statewide Ask-a-Librarian service which offers online reference assistance 84 hours a week including evenings and weekends. The virtual reference desk is staffed by Poynter librarians when they are available and reverts to highly trained statewide librarians the rest of the time. Should students need more extensive instruction—either individually or for an entire class, a Poynter librarian may use Elluminate Live to provide virtual training.

The libraries at the four PHCC campuses are supported by 21 staff, including 11 librarians. The Library Director, the two assistant directors, two associate directors and six other librarians are all in possession of a master’s degree from an American Library Association-accredited institution. The College's libraries are open Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The West Campus library is opened on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Since all of the College's libraries have their collections indexed through the institution's web-based online public access catalog, patrons on any campus have access to all material from any of the College's campuses within twenty-four hours.

To further enhance access and user privileges, the College is a member of Florida's College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) [1]. The mission of CCLA is to provide service and leadership in statewide, automated library and information resources to enhance the educational experience at Florida's community colleges. CCLA provides access to shared information resources; ensures effective use of technology through training, support and consultation; promotes research and implementation of suitable new technologies; and encourages library advocacy for issues of concern to community college libraries. The College is also a member of the Tampa Bay Library Consortium (TBLC).[2] TBLC is a non-profit, multi-library cooperative that fosters collaboration, resource sharing, staff development, and innovations to ensure that its patrons receive excellent, up-to-date library services and have access to the world of information.

The PHCC libraries’ collections (85,865 books, 3816 audio-visual materials, 668 print serials) are searchable through LINCC Web (Library Information Network for Community Colleges), which is an online resource that provides access to the print and audiovisual materials in Florida's 28 community college libraries and to the on-line catalog of Florida’s state university libraries. LINCC also provides a connection to over 135 electronic databases and more than 71,000 electronic books.

2. Tampa Bay Library Consortium  http://www.tblc.org/