April 21, 2008

For more information: Lea McLees, 404-727-0211, lmclees@emory.edu

For immediate release to CAMPUS AUDIENCES ONLY

PRIMO, NEW LIBRARIES SEARCH TOOL, READY FOR TEST DRIVES
Look for the Yellow Star Icon

If you’ve been using the Emory Libraries web site to finish up spring semester journal papers or research, you’ve probably noticed a bright yellow star icon at the top of the libraries listing page (http://www.emory.edu/libraries.cfm).

That little yellow star is an invitation to try something new: Primo, a new search tool the Emory Libraries are offering to students, faculty and other library customers.

Released in a beta version on April 10 thanks to teamwork from the Libraries information technology staff and University Technology Services, Primo is now available for testing and feedback, says Vice Provost and Director Rick Luce.

“Primo allows the Emory community to discover not just books and the contents of the international databases we purchase, but information from selected Emory local digital collections, as well,” Luce said. “Users get access to all records in EUCLID, plus thousands of records from several Emory digital repositories. They also can search multiple article databases at the same time. In fact, all resources in Databases@Emory are discoverable using Primo.”

Primo differs from EUCLID, the search tool it will eventually replace, because it allows Libraries customers to conduct one search to explore all of these materials. That saves time and makes comparing and contrasting resources easier, Luce said.

“Two key components of the Libraries’ strategic plan are enhancing user services and digital innovation,” Luce said. “Primo greatly improves search options for our customers, and it makes many of our Emory-only digital offerings just as searchable as journals and books.”

Among the advantages Primo offers are

- My Bookshelf, a tool that allows you to save your searches.
- The ability to discover and search digital content that is unique to or originates at Emory, such as www.southernspaces.com, a series of pamphlets from the French Revolution, and the Pitts Theology Library’s Digital Image Archive of more than 19,000 images of
biblical illustrations, portraits of religious leaders, printers' devices, engravings of church buildings and other theological topics.

- The audio CDs of the Smithsonian Folkways American Roots collection.

Primo will be in test mode through the end of July – you can access it and offer feedback on how it works via the Primo home page. To get there, click the yellow Primo star logo, or go straight to http://www.library.emory.edu:32888/DB=primo1.

Changes based on your feedback will be made in late July. Starting Aug. 4, Primo will be a fully functional alternative to EUCLID; it is slated to replace EUCLID as the primary tool for discovering Emory Libraries resources on Jan. 5, 2009, Luce said.

“We encourage you to let us know what you think of Primo – what do you want it to do? Does it meet your needs? Your input will help us refine this tool and customize it to your needs,” Luce said.

Research with students and faculty also continues on developing a special, Emory-centric name for Primo – more to come on that topic later.

For more information on Primo, send e-mail to library-feedback-l@listserv.cc.emory.edu, or call Selden Deemer at 404-727-0271.

###

The Emory University Libraries (http://web.library.emory.edu) in Atlanta and Oxford, Ga., are dedicated to fostering courageous inquiry among students and scholars at Emory University and around the world. The nine libraries' holdings include more than 3.1 million print and electronic volumes, 40,000-plus electronic journals, and internationally renowned special collections.

Emory University (http://www.emory.edu) is one of the nation’s leading private research universities and a member of the Association of American Universities. Known for its demanding academics, outstanding undergraduate college of arts and sciences, highly ranked professional schools and state-of-the-art research facilities, Emory is ranked as one of the country's top 20 national universities by U.S. News & World Report. In addition to its nine schools, the university encompasses The Carter Center, Yerkes National Primate Research Center and Emory Healthcare, the state's largest and most comprehensive health care system. For automatic updates of the latest news at Emory, subscribe to News@Emory RSS feeds (http://news.emory.edu/emory_news_mainindex.xml).