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Library app will improve access to content

Edmonton—Since the MacEwan University ‘MacEwan Lib’ app was launched last fall, the library has made a few updates to the app. The biggest change is the addition of an e-reserves functionality, which means students will never miss a reading assignment.

Launched in 2013, the library’s e-reserve service allows faculty members to place materials (book chapters or articles) for their class on reserve in a digital format. Library staff scans the item to a PDF and host it in the e-reserve system, which students in that class can access through the library’s website or via the app on their iOS device.

“A number of things had to come together to allow e-reserves,” said Sonya Betz, web and user experience librarian. “For example, new copyright legislation allowed us to digitize materials for educational purposes and we developed a new work process for getting it done efficiently. Launching the system itself was a major undertaking,” added Betz.

While the app is currently only available for iOS devices, the library is developing an online web environment that will be responsive to all devices (including Android, Blackberry and Microsoft). In the meantime, students will be able to go to the library website and have the same functionality of the app, but through the browser on their smartphone or tablet.

Founded in 1971, MacEwan University inspires its students with a powerful combination of academic excellence and personal learning experiences. Offering more than 65 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training, the university provides a transformative education in a creative, collaborative and supportive learning environment where creativity and innovation thrive. Located in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, MacEwan University offers a unique student experience that opens up diverse pathways for achievement and growth.

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