United Nations Gopher.
Access: gopher://gopher.
undp.org. *Contact:* UNDP
gopher administrator, root@
undp.org.

Electronic access to
United Nations documents
has two obvious advantages
over print: timeliness and
ease of distribution. The
United Nations gopher rep-
resents a commitment to
both and, although still rela-
tively small, promises im-
proved access to information
generated by and about this important interna-
tional body.

The opening menu features 14 choices. Al-
though there is no menu item offering a key-
word search of the directories, files, or con-
tents of the U.N. gopher, the available categories
are clearly labeled and organized. The first—
"The United Nations, what it is and what it
does"—provides the full text of the U.N. Char-
ter, the Statute of the International Court of Jus-
tice, and the Universal Declaration of Human
Rights, as well as folders of additional material
describing the U.N. system, organization, re-
sources, and peacekeeping functions.

The second item on the opening menu links
the user to the daily journal and to press brief-
ings and releases, current-year Security Coun-
cil resolutions, and statements by the Secretary
General. Users with only a vague idea of when
the Security Council passed a particular resolu-
tion may find the chronological ordering cum-
bersome as they work first through filenames
such as "94-03: March 94/" and then through
files labeled with resolution numbers rather than
with topical keywords. The rapid availability
of the resolutions probably outweighs such in-
conveniences for many researchers, however.

Menu categories for General Assembly and
Security Council material and documents from
such widely publicized meetings as the Inter-
national Conference on Population and Devel-
opment contribute to the gopher's usefulness.
The United Nations Economic and Social Coun-
cil has its own spot on the menu; it includes a
link to the Commission on Sustainable Devel-

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**Internet
Reviews**

Sara Amato, editor

opment gopher complete
with an excellent users'
manual. Another main menu
heading, "United Nations
Development Programme
(UNDP) Documents," pro-
vides the UNDP's statement
of purpose, a description of
the organization, a well-or-
ganized collection of state-
ments by officials, and simi-
lar documents. The U.N.
gopher also makes it easy to
connect to the gophers of
the International Atomic En-
ergy Agency, International Telecommunication
Union, North Atlantic Treaty Organization,
United Nations Children's Fund, the World
Health Organization, the World Bank, etc.

Two items on the U.N. Gopher main menu
lead to directories and a telecommunications
catalog for phone numbers and e-mail addresses
of individuals affiliated with the U.N. Selections
for environmental information, other gopher
servers, and external public databases provide
connections to networked resources beyond
those offered by the U.N., while two final menu
items celebrate the organization's 50th anniver-
sary and announce new developments.

As the UN gopher continues to grow, it will
serve as a timely and easily accessible alterna-
tive to the rather slow publishing program of
the organization and its many affiliated agen-
cies. College students, Model U.N. participants,
researchers, and the librarians who serve them
will find much to appreciate about the U.N.
Gopher.—*Cheryl Knott Malone, University of
Texas at Austin; ckmalone@mail.utexas.edu*

**Chorus: A Resource for Academic and
Educational Computing in the Arts/Hu-
manities.** *Access:* http://www.peinet.pe,ca:
2080/Chorus/home.html.

Chorus, according to its own introduction,
"is a resource for academic and educational
computing in the arts/humanities. (The terms
'arts' and 'humanities' are used to refer to the
study of language, both modern and classical;
linguistics; literature; history; philosophy; ar-
chaeology; religion; ethics; the history, criticism,
and theory of the arts; those areas of education
and social science which have humanistic con-
tent and/or employ humanistic methods; and,

theology." The project is coordinated by Todd J. B. Blayone, faculty lecturer at McGill University. His previous experience in presenting material of this type comes from a stint as guest editor for *Offline: Computer Research for Religious Studies*.

Chorus is not envisioned as a serial publication, but as a site, in the true sense of a place, which will evolve and grow over time and as more and more people contribute. The resource offers feature articles, software reviews, book reviews, and links to other resources in the fields of humanities and humanities computing, and is actively soliciting qualified contributors and section editors at present. The editorial team, as it stands, comprises an impressive array of personnel, including faculty from Yale, the University of Connecticut, McGill, the University of Durham, Notre Dame, and other schools.

The initial feature articles include "Electronic Shakespeare: Making Texts Compute" by Eric Johnson, and "Towards a Virtual University" by L. Gregory Bloomquist.

This is a promising site, especially exciting in its incipient ability not only to describe, but to demonstrate principles of computing applications vis-à-vis the humanities. The design of Chorus is professional and attractive as well as easily navigated. Care is given to the citation of sources, and to the credentials of the contributors.—*David Dodd, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs; ddodd@serf.uccs.edu*

City.Net. *Access:* http://www.city.net/.

Those who recall a frantic rustling of *Newsweek* pages in the days following last year's South African elections, when students rushed in to locate the new flag of the nation, might enjoy examining the many sites accessible through City.Net. A wide variety of questions may be answered using this web server operated by City Net Express of Portland, Oregon. Begun in 1994 by former Intel systems engineer Kevin Altis, this rapidly growing site arranges and provides links to city, regional, and country home pages around the world.

The simple name belies the real strength of this resource in that it functions as an electronic hybrid of many kinds of reference materials—part atlas, part gazetteer, part almanac, and much more. This resource will appeal to a multidisciplinary audience, and could be an appropriate stop for undergraduates seeking data on travel and tourism, marketing, demographics, government and politics, and social and cultural topics. City.Net also may prove to be of equal value to librarians seeking answers to ready-reference or "stumper" questions.

This graphic is from the Fairbanks, Alaska, University Park Elementary School's home page, a link from City.Net.

The resource is well organized and extremely easy to browse, and the screen displays for the home pages of sites are simply designed. There are links at the bottom of each home page back to the index from which one began a search, along with four alphabetical indexes to cities, states or provinces, regions, and countries. While there is no online help, one should remember that this is essentially a directory; such help is likely unnecessary. The site administrators have placed clearly marked links on the home page that users may select to post questions to City.Net. And this reviewer consistently has received a response to all of his queries within a matter of hours. The chief flaw in this resource appears to be a bug in the keyword search engine, which presently returns zero hits with some frequency. City.Net staff are currently working to correct this problem.

The typical city page offers one or more city guides from which to choose, along with maps, transit schedules, and other general information. The guides, and the city pages themselves, typically include a mix of travel, business, and entertainment materials most of interest to business, marketing, or travel students. And while there is substantial data in some city pages, the real value of this resource lies in the vast amount of information included in the many links to foreign countries. By browsing the country pages one may locate an astounding variety of eclectic facts, from summary tables of the 1991 India census, to 1811–1991 population tables for Scotland. Need to know the state flower of Malaysia? Try City.Net. And don't forget—those country flag illustrations are just a mouse click away.—*John Creech, Willamette University Library* ∎