Reading Your News Online


These online editions are well worth looking at: it’s fun to meet the regular contributors or interact with other readers. Other “free” features might include articles from the current issue, tables of contents, reviews of books and movies. They may offer an option to receive e-mail notices or RSS (syndicated content streamed into a news reader). However, at some point you will be blocked from reading articles or searching the Archive unless you are a “subscriber,” as the publication tries to lure you into paying for an online subscription. Before reaching for your credit card, it pays to check with the Library: we may already subscribe to the online text of the publication (caution: you will not be able to get in through the publication’s website).

If the Library subscribes, it takes only 30 to 60 seconds to locate the full text of articles in one of our research databases (hint: use the Journal Finder discovery tool). The New York Times and Wall Street Journal are both PROQUEST databases; Consumer Reports can be read through LEXIS NEXIS; The New Yorker and Computer World are accessible through Academic Search Premier, an EBSCO database. It takes a little practice, but it’s really very easy.

The best in online reading is available to you, without having to spend your own money for online subscriptions. Making savvy use of the Library’s electronic offerings is the key. Ask a librarian to show you how.

—Lesley Jorbin
Humanities & Music Librarian

Second Connection Lounge on the Way

Since its grand opening on August 30, the Library Connection Lounge has been a huge success. Students flocked to the area as soon as it was opened and are often seen plugging in their laptops, studying, and browsing popular reading materials provided by the Cleveland Public Library. The overwhelming popularity of the lounge prompted Provost Chin Kuo to fund a second lounge, to include the same furnishings as the original. The new lounge, to be completed in spring semester, will also include a TV. The primary use of the TV will be viewing news in closed caption format, but the TV will also allow for the viewing of special programming. The new lounge will be to the right of the main entrance, just at the entrance of the current periodicals/microform area.

—George Lupone
Associate Director

Library open until 6:00 p.m. on Fridays!

For spring semester 2006, when classes are in session, the University Library will be open until 6:00 p.m. on Fridays. Increasingly the Library staff have noticed that many more students are using the Library late on Friday afternoons. Also, we have students and faculty who need to make the Library their last stop of the day before the weekend, and frequently arrive just as we are locking up. So, we are offering this extended hour on Fridays as a pilot program to determine whether or not it is beneficial to the University community.
New Distance Learning Technology at CSU

In November, the IVDL personnel met with the distance learning technology committee and unveiled a new standard for distance learning technology for the classrooms on the CSU campus. During the meeting, Tom Kemp, Integrated Systems Manager, introduced a new classroom system called “The Educator,” built by Tandberg, a company that specializes in distance learning technology. The Educator is being used in several other universities in Ohio. Lorain County Community College, Cuyahoga County Community College, Youngstown State University, The Ohio State University, The University of Akron, and Ohio University in Athens all have invested in this technology.

The Educator classroom system will unquestionably be a huge improvement over the current distance learning system that is found in most of the DL (distance learning) classrooms. The new system will be able to be controlled through a very simple touch screen. Through the DL classroom touch screen, the instructor will be able to control a document camera, VHS/DVD combo unit, and laptop and computer inputs. The Educator system automates everything else leaving the instructor free to teach. Additionally, the touch screen can be pulled up from a remote location via the Internet allowing for remote help desk technical assistance. All this is designed to let the instructor concentrate on the aspects of teaching. The classroom “communicates” using a broadband connection to the Internet. The new classrooms will connect to each other using an Internet protocol called “H.323,” now the universal standard around the world for synchronous communication across the Internet.

All of these rooms will be able to be managed from one centralized location known as the Head End and is given this name for the amount of technology that is centralized and capable of being controlled from this one location. The “new” CSU Head End for distance learning will be located in RT 705b. The room has been completely renovated from top to bottom including a power upgrade and new paint on the ceiling, walls, and floor. Accent lighting has been added along with new logos on the walls. Additionally, new rack mount hardware that will make managing all these technologies simpler, has also been incorporated into the room design. Completion for the CSU Head End is expected sometime in March.

At the same time, renovation has also started with RT 801. This room has received new desk furniture with power for laptops, more power added for equipment, new lighting, and an instructor workstation. In the near future, the integration of Educator technology will start with a projected finish date of May 2006. During the summer, 3 to 4 more classrooms are projected to be completed as well. During the fall semester, the East and West centers will receive the newly updated technology.

One other room on the 7th floor has been renovated into the VIP Video Conference Suite. It will be used to hold virtual meetings between campuses and is being offered to graduating seniors to set up job interviews with out-of-state employers.

It is also projected that all 14 distance learning classrooms on the CSU campus will be completed by December of 2007. Each room takes an average of 2 to 3 months to build or renovate so the timetable will be an ambitious one. If you are interested and have some time, come up to the 7th floor and see the changes.

—Tom Kemp
Integrated Systems Manager, IMS

More Journal Titles for University Library Users

The University Library and the Law Library are collaborating on many projects these days, including sharing resources and access tools. As a result, the Law Library has extended electronic access to their subscription to HeinOnline to the University Library. Using the University Library’s subscription to the resource management tool, Serials Solutions, 1000+ periodical titles from HeinOnline have been added to the SCHOLAR online catalog and to Journal Finder, improving access to this electronic resource for the entire campus. CSU users can now find every individual title in the HeinOnline database in either Journal Finder or SCHOLAR.

HeinOnline is an electronic product launched in 2000 and presently contains four major digital library collections: the Law Journal Library which includes more than 1,000 periodicals; the Federal Register Library; the Treaties and Agreements Library which includes all U.S. treaties and agreements, whether in-force, expired, or yet-to-be published; and the U.S. Supreme Court Library which includes every published U.S. Supreme Court decision as it appears in the official U.S. Reports. All of these digital collections are image-based and fully searchable, meaning that they provide exact page images and enable the researcher to view all pages as they originally appeared in hard copy—including all charts, graphs, and photographs! Also, the libraries in HeinOnline provide comprehensive coverage from the inception of each publication, something no other online publisher currently offers.

—Yuezeng Shen Yang
Catalog Librarian

GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Cleveland State University Library will again be offering Information Literacy Small Grants. Grants of $1,000 will be awarded to full time faculty for course development to integrate information literacy instruction into teaching and assignments. The application deadline will be March 31, 2006. Watch your e-mail and the Library web site for additional information.

—Kathy Dobda
Interim Coord., Instruction
Digital Production Unit joins IMS Staff

Evolving technologies coupled with an increasing demand for more digitization services on campus have prompted an exciting move of the Library’s Digital Production Unit (DPU) to Instructional Media Services (IMS). Staff members Vern Morrison and Joanne Cornelius join the existing expert staff in IMS already providing state-of-the-art instructional media services for faculty & staff.

DPU, now conveniently located just outside of the public elevators in RT 807E, provides a variety of digital services to the campus community including:

- Electronic and traditional Course Reserves: Document scanning, PDF creation and media conversion for web streaming, along with processing of traditional book reserves. Professors can now drop their course materials for ECR/Reserves at the counter outside of RT 807E, as well as the 1st floor User Services Center. ECR allows students to access course materials from computers with Internet access anytime, anywhere. For more information regarding using ECR, go to: http://www.ulib.csuohio.edu/ecr/guide.shtml.
- Photo reproduction services. DPU staff will scan your photographs, slides or negatives and reproduce them on glossy paper, large format poster paper, or burn them to CD.
- Digitization and image storage of the Library’s archival collections, including images now showcased in the Library’s Cleveland Memory Project website (www.ClevelandMemory.org).

For more information on all of the products and services Digital Production offers, visit: www.ClevelandMemory.org/reproductions.

—Joanne Cornelius  
Coordinator, Digital Production Unit

Presentation Practice Rooms For Students

The Library now has several centrally located facilities available to CSU students needing to practice presentations, work on group projects or hold small meetings. When not scheduled for class use, the LCLC, located next to Reference on the first floor of the Library, and RT 304, located in Multimedia Services on the Library’s third floor, may be used by students for group work or presentation practice.

Technical assistance is on hand and portable electronic whiteboards (SmartBoards), and other media equipment are available upon request. Students, faculty, and staff may contact Preston White at (216) 687-2377 for information about the LCLC rooms, or Melinda Smerek at (216) 687-9337 to reserve RT 304.

—Melinda Smerek  
Coordinator, Multimedia Services

Friends of the Library Events

On February 28th, Richard Fox, Head of the Popular Library at Cleveland Public Library, will lead a book discussion on the title, *On Bullshit*, by Harry G. Frankfurt. The author, Harry G. Frankfurt, is a renowned moral philosopher and Professor of Philosophy Emeritus at Princeton University. Several copies of this very small, pocket-sized tome, have been ordered rush and will be available for check-out. So pick up your copy and plan to attend this book discussion on Tuesday, February 28th, at 3:00 p.m. in the Library, RT 503. Light refreshments will be served.

On Wednesday, April 26th, Cleveland’s own Maureen McHugh will be the featured author, discussing her very popular book, *Mothers and Other Monsters*, which has been named a finalist for the Story Prize. Ms. McHugh may also give us a preview of the new novel she is working on. This program will be held on Wednesday, April 26th, at 3:00 p.m. in the Library, RT 503. Light refreshments will be served. Attendees will also be able to purchase *Mothers and Other Monsters* at the event and have copies signed. Maureen McHugh’s appearance will be the first in an annual series of presentations, sponsored by Friends and focusing on local Cleveland-area authors.

—William Shorrock  
Friends President

University Library Personnel News

Diane Kolosionek joined the Library in October to serve as the temporary Reference Librarian. She received her BA in Political Science and Sociology from Ohio Wesleyan University and her MLIS from Kent State University. Ms. Kolosionek previously worked as an environmental law paralegal at Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P. and worked as a part-time reference librarian at Cuyahoga Community College for the past two years.

The Library also recently hired Fran Mentch as the Social and Behavioral Sciences Librarian. She was a substitute reference librarian at the Metro and Eastern campuses of Tri-C and was also adjunct faculty in the Human Services Program at Tri-C Metro campus. Ms. Mentch received her MLIS from Kent State University and her MSW from the University of Pittsburgh.

As part of the Library’s job sharing arrangement, Nedra Haymon, who is the Serial’s Associate in the Library’s Technical Services area, will work several hours per week at the new User Services Center and Patrick McIntosh, User Services Assistant, will work several hours per week in the Technical Services area.
New Humanities Resources

New electronic resources for the humanities are a cause for celebration, since these disciplines have lagged behind the sciences for a very long time. Lately, we are experiencing a small bonanza, both in electronic databases and innovative web resources. Two new research databases, acquired through OhioLINK, have been added to the Library’s menus. The International Bibliography of Theatre & Dance (IBTD) from the Theatre Research Data Center at Brooklyn College, an EBSCO database, is a comprehensive multicultural and inter-disciplinary research tool. It provides indexing to more than 60,000 journal articles, books, and dissertation abstracts on all aspects of theatre and performance in 126 countries, including some full text articles. The IBTD will serve as an excellent complement to the MLA International Bibliography, the standard database for literary studies. Although some performance reviews are accessible through the LEXIS-NEXIS database of newspaper articles, until now we have offered no database focusing primarily on theater. Also making its debut on our menus this month is the Humanities International Index, replacing American Humanities Index. A more comprehensive database than its predecessor, Humanities International Index provides indexing and abstracting coverage for more than 1,700 journals, books, essays and reviews, and contains some 1.5 million records. It also features original creative works including poems, fiction, photographs, paintings, and illustrations.

There is even more good news to celebrate with the addition of a major poetry archive from Britain, and two entirely free, web-based indexes. From The Arts Council of England comes The Poetry Archive, http://www.poetryarchive.org/, a searchable collection of famous poets (mostly British) reading their works. From Alfred Tennyson and Robert Browning in the 19th century, through 20th century poets Rudyard Kipling, W. B. Yeats, Allen Ginsberg, and many others—this is a growing resource, important for the study of modern British poetry.

The Literature, Arts, and Medicine Database from New York University’s School of Medicine, http://endeavor.med.nyu.edu/lit-med/lit-med-db/index.html is an annotated bibliography of prose, poetry, film, video and art, covering the medical humanities. In this small but well-focused database, you will be able to locate reviews of creative works having themes related to illness, e.g. discussions of three of Jane Austen’s novels featuring injured characters, descriptions of illness and recovery, and their importance as thematic and plot devices. A large research database, entirely free, is the Index of Articles on Jewish Studies, (RAMBI) http://jnul.huji.ac.il/rambi/ from the Jewish National and University Library in Jerusalem, a bibliography of scholarly articles from 1966 to the present, covering an international range of sources. This is a fine index to supplement our major database in religion, the ATLA Religion Database from the American Theological Library Association.

Newly Cataloged

Balkan Slavic Music Tapes

Interested in Slavic heritage and culture? Did you ever travel with, or know someone who participated in, a “junior tammey” – a tamburitza orchestra – as a teenager? At the Multimedia Services desk on the third floor, you can now listen to live recordings of tamburitza concerts, as well as traditional folk instruments, by American Balkan Slavic groups ranging from the upper Midwest to Canada. These recordings were made for the Greater Cleveland Ethnographic Museum in the 1980s on a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. Ethnomusicologist Walt Mahovlich, founder of the eastern European music band Harmonia, and folklorist Walter March, used the recordings to make the UNESCO-award-winning album “Nova Domovina: Balkan Slavic Music of the Industrial Midwest.”

—Caroline Bruno
Library Volunteer

Library Blog

To find out the latest Library news, developments, upcoming events, and announcements, visit the Library’s Weblog and News page at http://net.ulib.csuohio.edu/scripts/blog/index.php or click on the READ OUR BLOG logo on the Library homepage.