Federated Searching Initiative

As the number of electronic information resources and databases available through Murphy Library continues to grow, finding the best resources in which to find information can become daunting for many students. Librarians looking for strategies to assist students in navigating the digital information terrain have advocated federated search software. Federated search software has a number of features that add value to and facilitate the research process— one is enabling searchers to use a single, unified interface to search across multiple licensed databases and resources such as e-journals and digital libraries.

After the UW Libraries Strategic Directions for 2001-2003 included federated search software as a key initiative, a UW-System task force was formed last spring to evaluate products that would provide "federated" or "broadcast" searching capabilities and "context-sensitive linking." Context-sensitive linking identifies relevant links to full-text articles, interlibrary loan/document delivery services, book reviews, etc. Having assessed the RFP documents and vendor demonstrations, the committee will make a recommendation to the Council of University of Wisconsin Libraries this month. Implementation would begin in 2004.

Although some advanced features of the native interfaces of individual resources may not be available in the federated search, the convenience and efficiency of searching once across multiple resources will simplify the search process and encourage the use of many locally owned and remote resources, including the sometimes overlooked library catalog.

Federated search software merges search results and presents the user with many options, including the ability to save searches and re-run them periodically.

System-wide projects such as the current federated searching initiative require intensive cooperative work among UW campus librarians and UW-System support staff. These efforts in recent years have resulted in a series of major new or greatly enhanced services, including Universal Borrowing (patron initiated checkout of materials at other UW-System campuses); an improved Interlibrary Loan interface, ILLiad; and the University of Wisconsin Digital Collections, officially launched this fall.

by Anita Evans, Library Director

During early fall semester 2003, ITS installed 5 wireless hubs (supporting over 35 users each) in Murphy Library serving the following areas: the general access lab (153) and classroom (150) and special collections on the main floor; the electronic classroom (273) and curriculum areas on the second floor; the east end of the library, including the graduate carrels in the basement and the reference area on the main floor; People can now use their own Windows 2000 and XP laptops with wireless network cards to gain access to the campus network and beyond. Instructions on configuring wireless network settings are available at an ITS Support web page. Or call them at 785-8774 for help.

The library also has three active network jacks for patrons to plug in their laptops. These traditional network jacks are located on the main floor of the library near the bound periodicals.

If you have any questions, please contact William Doering by email or phone at 785-8399.

by William Doering, Systems & Technology Librarian
or by phone at 785-8739.

Galadriel Chilton

Began her new position as Electronic Resources Librarian on October 27, 2003. Galadriel’s duties include managing the library's databases, providing information and analysis on product use, providing database training to the campus, and more.

Galadriel earned her MLS from Indiana University in 2000. Before coming to UW-La Crosse, Galadriel was Technology & Outreach Coordinator at Viterbo University in La Crosse.

Please welcome Galadriel in her office at Murphy 113, via email or by phone at 785-8738.

Oxford English Dictionary

Where did the phrase **bad hair day** originate? How did the movie, *A Clockwork Orange* influence the English language? If you have an interest in words, you'll probably want to have some fun exploring the Oxford English Dictionary.

The Oxford English Dictionary (OED), with 23 volumes, looks more like a set of encyclopedias than a dictionary of words. There is no other English-language source with as much information about how words are pronounced and used, how they have influenced language, and where they originated.

Through a UW-System subscription, the entire 23 volumes are available via the web. Because the dictionary includes so much varied information about words, and because the online version offers many ways to search, you can use the dictionary for more than just finding word definitions and pronunciations.

The best searching seems to be in the Advanced Search area, where, for example, a search for "Mick Jagger" leads to 18 entries, including words such as "popocrat," "washboard," and "sashay."

The OED also allows you to enter words or phrases and find historical quotations of when they were first used.

As long as you are on the UW-L campus, you will be able to get in without a password whether you go through the library web page or if you just go to the dictionary’s commercial site.

People without this kind of institutional subscription pay $295 per year for individual subscriptions. To get to the OED off campus, enter through the library website and give your UW-L email username and password.

The online Oxford English Dictionary is temporarily featured on the library home page, and can always be found in the library's list of all databases. In addition, the library has the printed 2nd edition in the reference area. Material from the upcoming 3rd edition is available in the continuously updated online version, especially important because the print 3rd edition is not scheduled for completion until 2010.

by Stefan Smith, Outreach Librarian

Student Artwork in the Library

In recent years, more and more student artwork has been appearing in Murphy Library. Some pieces, such as the painting to the right, have been purchased through the Murphy Library Endowment Fund, some have been donated, and others are on display temporarily through the Art Across Campus program. In this and future Fine Prints we will feature temporary and permanent art on display in the library.

The works below are currently hanging in the southeast corner of the 1st floor reference area, near the atlas collection. The work on the right is on permanent display along the east wall of the 1st floor.

Click on any of the pictures to see a larger image.

Permanent Display

**Foc Voluerunt**
Kim Van Someren
2002
Oil On Canvas
Purchased by Murphy Library Endowment

Periodicals

Planning Effective Library Assignments
Cancellation Project
FY04 Update

At the beginning of each summer, the library receives a quote for the renewal of its periodical subscriptions. Over the past five years, that quote has risen by approximately 8% each year. As the library’s budget has not kept pace with this inflation rate, we have canceled subscriptions each year in an effort to stay within our budget. Although librarians have targeted for cancellation low-use/high-cost titles and microfilm subscriptions, the library’s remaining subscriptions are primarily well used, critical journals necessary to support the university’s curriculum.

With the guidance of library liaisons, librarians canceled 199 periodical subscriptions effective January 2004. Of these cancellations, 104 were microform subscriptions; many of these canceled microform subscriptions were duplications of print subscriptions which continue either in print or electronically. Although the library saved $57,490.09 from these cancellations, we anticipate having to cut additional titles from our periodicals collection each year that we do not get an increase in our acquisitions budget.

You may view a complete list of titles cancelled by department.

by Jen Holman, Acquisitions Librarian

A good library research assignment is an essential component in helping students to acquire the information literacy skills they will need for professional and personal growth. Here are a few suggestions to consider when planning assignments that require library research.

- Give your students a list of suggested sources. This is particularly important when the assignment is complex.
- Check the resources you expect students to use to see if anything has changed. Online databases, journal titles, formats and availability are all in a state of constant change.
- Consult a librarian. Not only would we be happy to check titles for changes, we might also be aware of new resources. Collaboration with faculty members on assignments also gives us an opportunity to be pro-active in building a collection that better fulfills your needs.
- Define terms such as journal, trade journal, peer reviewed article, primary literature, and secondary literature so that students clearly understand what your requirements are for sources.
- Send a copy of the assignment to the Reference Department as a heads-up for our reference desk staff.
- Consider the need to put circulating books or journal articles on course reserve.

You may view a complete list of titles cancelled by department.

by Jen Holman, Acquisitions Librarian

Top Ten Multimedia Circulations /Total Number of Circulations

1. One flew over the cuckoo's nest [video] / 46 circulations
2. Lola rennt [video] = Run Lola run / 39 circulations
3. My left foot [video] / 37 circulations
4. Clockwork orange [video] / 36 circulations
5. Stepford wives [video] / 33 circulations
6. Who’s counting? : Marilyn Waring on sex, lies & global economics] [video] / 32 circulations
8. Blazing saddles [video] / 30 circulations
10. Children of a lesser god [video] / 28 circulations

Undergraduate Use by Discipline

Graduate Use by Discipline

Faculty/Staff Use by Discipline

Fast Facts:
The library has or has ordered all Academy Award winning films of the last decade. Older titles are being ordered.
The library has 1,741 multimedia items.
66% (1,152 titles) have circulated at least once.
The collection includes an increasing number of international titles.

by Cris Prucha, Instruction Librarian
August Moon
by Michael Blaser

This magnificent oil painting, commissioned for Murphy Library, hangs in the library’s Special Collections area.

Limited edition prints are available for sale.

More information is available through Murphy Library, (608)785-8511, and at the library’s August Moon Website

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Murphy Library Endowment Fund Makes a Difference!

Maintaining the level of excellence expected in our academic community creates challenges for today’s university libraries.

In 1989, Murphy Library at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse established an endowment fund to support and enhance the special needs of the Library. Help make a difference in the 21st century!

For information and donation instructions, visit the library Endowment Fund website

Fredricks Memorial Endowment Fund in Oral History

The Fredricks Memorial Endowment Fund was established in 1994 in honor of history professor and oral historian Howard Fredericks. The fund supports the university’s oral history program, which is an active and useful primary resource for the region.

Contributions are greatly appreciated and may be sent to:

UW-L Foundation-Fredricks Fund
Murphy Library Resource Center
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
1631 Pine Street
La Crosse, WI 54601-3792

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Library Hours

**Regular Academic Year Hours**

- Monday - Thursday: 7:40 a.m. – Midnight
- Friday: 7:40 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday: Noon – Midnight

**Reference Desk (Regular Academic Year)**

- Monday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Sunday: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Area Research Center (Regular Academic Year)**

- Monday - Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Saturday: 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Sunday: Closed

**Intersession hours as posted**

**Finals Weeks and Holidays**

- Thanksgiving Recess: The library will close at 4:30 on Wednesday, November 26, and remain closed until noon on Sunday, November 30.
- **Finals Week:** Special Hours are in effect. Visit the [Hours link](#) on the library home page for more details.
- **Finals Week:** Reference Service will be available 10:00 – 3:00 p.m. Intersession hours as posted at the [Hours link](#).
- **Finals Week:** The Extended Hours Study Room will be open until 2:00

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**Library Contacts**

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<tr>
<td>Acquisitions</td>
<td>785-8395</td>
<td>Hours</td>
<td>785-8808</td>
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<td>Administrative Office</td>
<td>785-8520</td>
<td>Gov. Documents</td>
<td>785-8513</td>
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<td>Automation</td>
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<td>Interlibrary Loan</td>
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<td>Instruction</td>
<td>785-8637</td>
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<td>Circulation &amp; Reserves</td>
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<td>Outreach</td>
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<td>Collection &amp; Res. Dev.</td>
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<td>Periodicals</td>
<td>785-8510</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curriculum Center</td>
<td>785-8651</td>
<td>Reference Desk</td>
<td>785-8508</td>
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