

FOOTNOTES¹

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Survey Results on the Use of Information Technology

The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) is administered each year to undergraduates at four-year colleges and universities across the country to determine the extent to which they engage in effective educational practices. The 2003 survey included questions about the use of information technology. Results showed that 72% of all students spent more than 5 hours per week online for any reason; 39% spent more than 5 hours per week online doing academic work.

The Web was used frequently to obtain needed resources by 82% of the students; 75% reported making evaluative judgments about the quality of those resources. Of concern was that 87% of student respondents indicated that their peers at least occasionally copy information from the Internet and use it without citing. This was the response from 34% of education majors and 24% of arts and humanities, engineering, physical science, and social science majors. The overview of the 2003 survey is at: http://www.iub.edu/~nsse/2003_annual_report/.

Tutoring Services in the Information Commons

Students made good use of available tutoring in the Main Library during fall semester. Please advise them of services available this spring offered by staff from Undergraduate Studies and the Writing Center:

Academic Advising (Q & A)

[Provided by Undergraduate Studies]

Tuesday, 5 – 8 p.m.

Tutoring for Math 10004 through Math 12003

[Provided by Undergraduate Studies]

Monday through Thursday, 2 – 7 p.m.

Writing Tutoring

[Provided by Undergraduate Studies and the Writing Center]

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 5 – 7 p.m.

Just a reminder that these services are complemented by the personalized assistance students can receive at the Reference desk to help them get started doing library research, finding needed materials, and more. Encourage them to seek out assistance.



Join Us in Celebrating Black History Month

Robert Moses, a towering figure of the civil rights movement of the 1960s and founder of the Algebra Project, will speak on “The Civil Rights Movement and its Relevance for Today” on Monday, February 23rd, at 7:00 p.m., in Room 306 of the Kent Student Center.

As a field secretary for the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and director of its Mississippi project, Moses was the driving force behind the Mississippi Summer project of 1964 and the organizer of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. From 1969 to 1975 he worked for the Ministry of Education in Tanzania, East Africa, where he was a teacher and chairperson of the math department at the Samé School.

Moses returned to the United States in 1976 to pursue doctoral studies in Philosophy at Harvard University. As a MacArthur Fellow from 1982 through 1987, he worked as a volunteer teaching algebra to seventh and eighth grade students. This experience was the seedbed of what became The Algebra Project, which seeks to make poor minority children math literate before they leave high school. Moses’ lecture, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by Libraries and Media Services.

Online Tools

The Libraries’ Website offers several online tools to aid students:

Website evaluation criteria and form: <http://www.library.kent.edu/internet/criteria.html>

Style manuals and writing guides: <http://www.library.kent.edu/readyref/style.html>

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The New Year Brings New Databases

OhioLINK will provide access to the following databases in 2004:

American Humanities Index (AHI): This index complements *MLA International Bibliography* and the *Humanities Abstracts*. AHI contains indexing and detailed bibliographic records for more than 750 journals back to 1975.

Communication & Mass Media Complete (CMMC): CMMC incorporates *CommSearch* (formerly produced by the National Communication Association) and *Mass Media Articles Index* (formerly produced by Penn State) along with numerous other journals. Many major journals have indexing, abstracts, PDFs, and searchable citations from their first issues to the present (dating as far back as 1915). The database also includes:

- cover-to-cover indexing and abstracts for 306 journals
- selected coverage of more than 100 additional journals
- full text for nearly 200 journals
- sophisticated controlled vocabulary
- extended abstracts for numerous top journals from January 1, 2004 forward
- searchable citations (i.e., linked cited references) beginning on January 1, 2003, for all peer-reviewed journals covered as "core" in the database
- coverage of grey literature, including monographs, conference proceedings, working papers, etc.

William Butler Yeats Collection

William Butler Yeats Collection is a complete electronic edition of Yeats' work, bringing together 22 printed volumes and including critical and fictional prose, poetry, plays, and autobiographical works. It is available through the Libraries' Website or at: <http://rave.ohiolink.edu/ebooks/ch/yeats>.

Chat with a Librarian Expands

In Spring semester, two pilot programs will allow OhioLINK users to chat with business and health sciences librarians for specialized online research assistance.

The new Healthsci Queue, staffed by health sciences librarians from 12 OhioLINK institutions, will provide assistance to researchers in the health, allied, and life sciences. Hours will be Monday through Thursday, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and also from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. To chat with a health sciences librarian, go to <http://chat.ohiolink.edu/healthsci>.

The Business Queue, which was first offered last fall by business librarians from around the state, will be available Monday through Thursday, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. To chat with a business librarian, go to <http://chat.ohiolink.edu/business>.



We've Got Color

This Spring we are offering self-service color printing and photocopying in the Information Commons. The color printer joins our black and white printer near the Reference desk on the 1st floor. Color printing is 14 cents per page (compare to 7 cents for black and white). A Flashcard with Flashcash is required.

Color photocopying is available in the Periodical Reading Room on the 2nd floor. The cost for these copies is 20 cents per page. Either a Flashcard or coins will work. Users with more complex color copy needs can take advantage of the services offered by the Copy Center on the 3rd floor.

Online Journal Availability

The Libraries now provide online access to over 10,000 journals. Because of licensing arrangements, these are accessed through several different pathways. To determine if the journal you need is online and to gain access to it, use these tools:

- OhioLINK Electronic Journal Finder (<http://www.ohiolink.edu/resources/ejournals.php>): lists journals whose full-text can be found online in one of these OhioLINK databases--*Academic Search Premier*, *Electronic Journal Center*, *LexisNexis Academic*, *Humanities Abstracts*, *Education Abstracts*, and *Business Source Premier*. Use this tool to determine if a specific journal is available online.
- KentLINK (<http://kentlink.kent.edu>): KentLINK links to all electronic journals subscribed to by the KSU Libraries, as well as to many of the OhioLINK journals. Do a title search on the journal name. This is also the way to determine what print holdings the Libraries have.

New Resource for K-12

Two databases designed for a K-12 audience: *MAS Ultra: School Edition* (for high school students) and *Middle Search Plus* (for middle school students) now include the *Our States* reference book series from Great Neck Publishing. This resource will soon be added to *MasterFILE Premier* (popular magazines) as well.

Our States has carefully-written, in-depth articles covering each state's history, economy, geography, natural resources, wildlife, state flags and landmarks. Biographical information is included as well. All records in *Our States* contain Lexile Reading Levels. Information is updated quarterly.

Access is from the Libraries' Website through either the *MAS Ultra School Edition* or *Middle Search Plus* databases.



A Note from the Dean

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Some Thoughts on the USA Patriot Act

David Tell, Opinion Editor of *The Weekly Standard*, wrote in a recent issue that bipartisan support among prominent politicians for the USA Patriot is growing.¹ Perhaps that is so. Perhaps not. However, the principal issue for me as a librarian is not how many political heavyweights are supporting the USA Patriot Act (USAPA) but rather what are potential problems that could result from some of the provisions of the act. I am not alone. The American Library Association (ALA) and its 64,000 members are very concerned about the implications of some of the Act's provisions and have called for the repeal of the USAPA.

In part, this concern stems from the hurried nature of the way in which the anti-terrorism legislation that later became the USAPA was introduced. The anti-terrorist bills that became the USAPA were introduced in late September 2001 and enacted into law less than one month later. However, the abbreviated process of the legislative review is less important than the substance of the new law itself.

First, the USAPA has an inhibiting effect on freedom of speech. In addition, the Act allows the Presidency to monitor the reading preferences of citizens with no oversight by the courts. Finally, the USAPA removes executive accountability for its actions through a gag rule and links accountability with criminal penalties.

When the government investigates the reading habits of citizens, it suggests that some reading topics are approved while others are off limits. As a librarian, I believe such an approach is both threatening and doomed to failure. Recently I spoke with a young woman who was doing research on the unsuccessful effort by the anarchist "Peter the Painter" to blow up the Greenwich Observatory in London more than a century ago. The young woman was not interested in making bombs; she was interested in studying the British labor movement and the influence of anarchism. Under the USAPA, an FBI agent in charge of a branch office can authorize an inspection of this young woman's library records without her knowledge. Under Title II, section 215 of the USAPA, a judge must authorize such a search request. There is no meaningful judicial oversight in these cases. A further danger arises in section 213 of the USAPA. In this section we see the introduction of "sneak and peek" searches where agents can enter someone's home or office without notification. However, library record searches also present opportunities for similar activities by agents.

The most sinister aspect of the USAPA is the gag rule which eliminates the important ingredient of accountability. If an FBI agent orders a librarian to produce the circulation records of a library user under

the terms of the USAPA, the librarian cannot discuss this demand with anyone except his/her attorney. If this agent comes to a library at Kent State and demands to see the circulation records of faculty member XYZ, it is a crime for me to discuss the matter with any other person. This provision removes any notion of accountability from the work of an agency that, however well intentioned, has the capability to abuse its power and authority. Of course, it should be understood that this gag rule does not only apply to libraries. It also applies to student records, faculty or staff personnel files, telephone records, computer files, bookstore records...the list goes on!

We all understand the need for confidentiality when an investigation is underway. However, there is no legal precedent for a gag rule that silences people about an investigation that has taken place. Such a provision in the USAPA is a violation of the right of free speech guaranteed in the Constitution. Such a right is the cornerstone of a free society.

Yes, perhaps the editors of *The Weekly Standard* are pleased that many people are beginning to support the USAPA. However, for better or worse, this librarian is not among them.

¹ David Tell. "The Patriot Act's Surprising Defenders." *The Weekly Standard* (November 3, 2003) pp. 9-10.

Useful Resources on the USA Patriot Act Website

ALA's Website on the USAPA provides links to a variety of sites, including:

- *Guidelines for Librarians on the USA Patriot Act: What to do Before, During and after a "Knock at the Door?"* January 19, 2002. <http://www.ala.org/washoff/patriot.html>
- *Confidentiality and Coping with Law Enforcement Inquiries: Guidelines for the Library and its Staff* April 2002 *Practical advice for before, during and after.* <http://www.ala.org/alaorg/oif/guidelineslibrary.html>
- *Policy Concerning Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information about Library Users.* 1991. http://www.ala.org/alaorg/oif/pol_user.html

Mary Minow. *The USA PATRIOT Act and Patron Privacy on Library Internet Terminals.* <http://www.llrx.com/features/usapatriotact.htm>

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The New and Improved Student Multimedia Studio

The Student Multimedia Studio (SMS), now part of the Information Commons on the 1st floor of the Main Library, experienced a “build it, and they will come” response this past fall. More than 1,100 students signed-in to work on technology-based presentations assigned to them by more than 140 KSU faculty. The two digital video

editing systems were reserved well over 90% of the time by students working on projects for 23 different courses. In addition, staff lent the 5 digital camcorders more than 340 times during the semester.

The feedback from students concerning the vastly improved working environment and longer hours of operation has been overwhelmingly positive, although the general consensus is that there should be more of everything.

How to make it even better...together

1. **Give the SMS advance notice** if you plan to have your students work on projects that require significant staff support or the use of SMS equipment. This is especially true if your class is working on projects that require the use of camcorders or digital video. We can then reserve camcorders, video editing workstations, and mass storage drives for your class. This enables your students to have access to our resources when they need them.
2. **Take advantage of available guides and Web resources**, especially for assignments to create Web pages or PowerPoint presentations. Often, students get hung-up on a project simply because they don't know what software to use, how to use it, or how to prepare their digital content properly. The SMS can provide you with handouts or links to Websites that explain everything your students will need to know to complete their project on time.
3. **Check the “Equipment and Software” link on the SMS Website** (<http://www.library.kent.edu/avs/sms>) to see what software titles and versions are available. This is especially important if your department/course is Mac-based, since the SMS only has PC equipment and software. If we don't have it, let us know, and an effort will be made to get it. Once a student shows up at the SMS to work on their project, if we don't have the software they need, it's generally too late to get it in time.
4. **Consider requesting a special seminar for your class.** The creation of an electronic presentation, whether for the Web, multimedia, CD, DVD, or video, can be a complex and often confusing process for students. In addition to providing handouts, we can give a special seminar just for your class to clarify the steps involved and the best software and equipment to use. There are limited possibilities for hands-on seminars, but in-class demonstrations are very doable.
5. **Most importantly, contact the SMS to coordinate your class assignments.** The manager of the SMS, Gary Mote, can be contacted directly at gmote@kent.edu, or x.21851.

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Rosanne M. Cordell. **The USA PATRIOT Act: What Libraries Should Do NOW and ALWAYS.** Indiana University South Bend. <http://www.ilfonline.org/Units/Associations/IALA/patriotact.html>

USA Patriot Act and Library Confidentiality: Questions and Answers. <http://www.multcolib.org/news/patriotact.html>

Also, consult the Website of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU): www.aclu.org Go to “Hot Topics” and click on “USA PATRIOT Act.”

Care and Handling of CDs and DVDs

Concerned about the longevity of your CD collection? A new guide from the Council on Library and Information Resources and the National Institute of Standards and Technology offers current, practical advice on the care and handling of optical media. *Care and Handling of CDs and DVDs: A Guide for Librarians and Archivists* is available at <http://www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub121/pub121.pdf>.