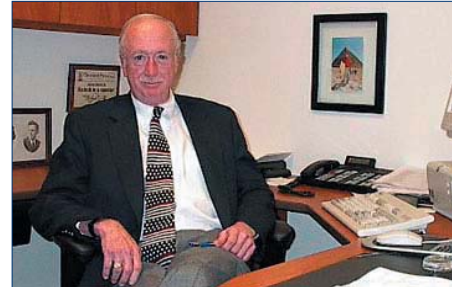


FOOTNOTES¹

News from Libraries and Media Services
Vol. 15, No. 4 March 2006

This Year's Friends' Lecturer -- Brent Larkin



For many years, Libraries and Media Services has sponsored an annual Friends of the Library Dinner. This year, for the first time, LMS will hold the Friends of the Library Lecture. We hope that those who have attended the dinner in years past will enjoy this year's program.

On Thursday, April 20th, at 7:30 p.m., Libraries and Media Services will present its first Friends of the Library Lecture. The program will feature *Plain Dealer* Opinion Editor Brent Larkin speaking on "Ohio Politics 2006: Issues and Races." Mr. Larkin is known for his entertaining and hard-hitting political commentary. A lively evening is assured.

The lecture will be held in Room 306 of the Kent Student Center. It is free and open to the public. For further information, contact Mark Weber at 330-672-2962. We hope you can join us.

Also, the *Friends of KSU Libraries and Media Services Newsletter* is now part of *Footnotes*. See page 6 for more details on this new way of communicating with our Friends.

Supporting Student Presentations

The Libraries regularly get asked by students if there is a place they can go to practice their PowerPoint presentations. Similarly, faculty have commented to us that a number of students do not have experience doing presentations and would benefit from more practice.

To meet this need, there are now two portable presentation units available in the Main Library for use in the building. Called PALS+ for projector and laptop and tabletop screen, the units can be checked out from the 3rd floor Audio Visual Services counter for two hours. The computer has PowerPoint and other Microsoft Office applications (but is not network accessible).



The equipment is made available in a suitcase on wheels. A student can then go anywhere in the building where a table and an electrical outlet are available and set up the equipment.



Students can then have members from their group join them and practice their presentations. This service has been a success at the library at Colorado State University, and we look forward to introducing it here at Kent State.

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A Book Lover's Delight

Quick Search @ OhioLINK “Google Simplicity, Library Quality”

One of the biggest challenges facing libraries and database vendors is how to simplify the search protocol needed to obtain information. Can we offer a more “Google-like” search screen for use when appropriate to the need? OhioLINK has introduced Quick Search @ OhioLINK as just such a solution for straight-forward information needs.

Quick Search @ OhioLINK provides simple, Google-like searching with reliable, library-quality results that are appropriate for class and research. Quick Search helps the user save time by searching multiple resources simultaneously and receiving results in a unified display.

Students should try Quick Search @ OhioLINK when they are:

- working on a class assignment and don't really know where to begin
- looking quickly for a few articles and don't need the most scholarly or complete results
- used to searching Google

Who is not well served by using Quick Search?

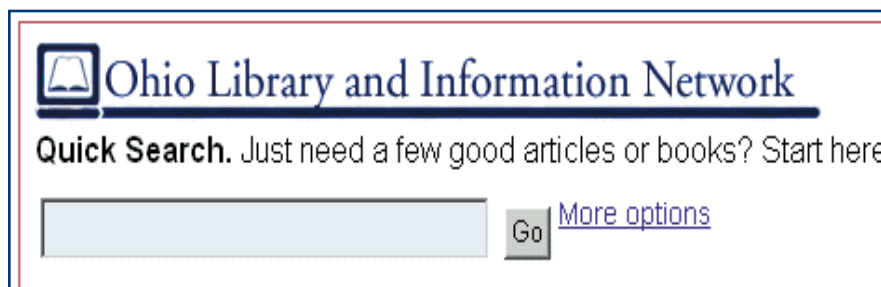
Quick Search is not the tool for “power” searching. Graduate students and researchers who need the most comprehensive and authoritative results are better served by the specialized databases in their field. Only a specialized database interface can provide sophisticated tools such as a thesaurus, proximity operators, specialized limits, complex export options, etc.

Quick Search Options

To obtain a few article and book citations, use the one input box. Just as Google offers several search approaches--the “one box” option and the varying search approaches through “Advanced Search”--Quick Search offers several possibilities as well, ranging from a very general search to a search of resources in a specific subject or discipline.

Option 1: From the OhioLINK homepage (<http://www.ohiolink.edu>)

Search terms entered here will retrieve article citations from *Academic Search Premier* and the *Electronic Journal Center (EJC)*, as well as book citations from the *OhioLINK Library Catalog*.



The screenshot shows the Ohio Library and Information Network logo at the top left. Below the logo is the text "Ohio Library and Information Network" in a serif font. Underneath that is the text "Quick Search. Just need a few good articles or books? Start here". Below this text is a search input box with a "Go" button to its right. To the right of the "Go" button is a link labeled "More options".

Option 2: Click on the “More options” link to the right of the box above (or go to <http://rave.ohiolink.edu/qs/quick>) for more expanded choices ...

...more on Quick Search @ OhioLINK

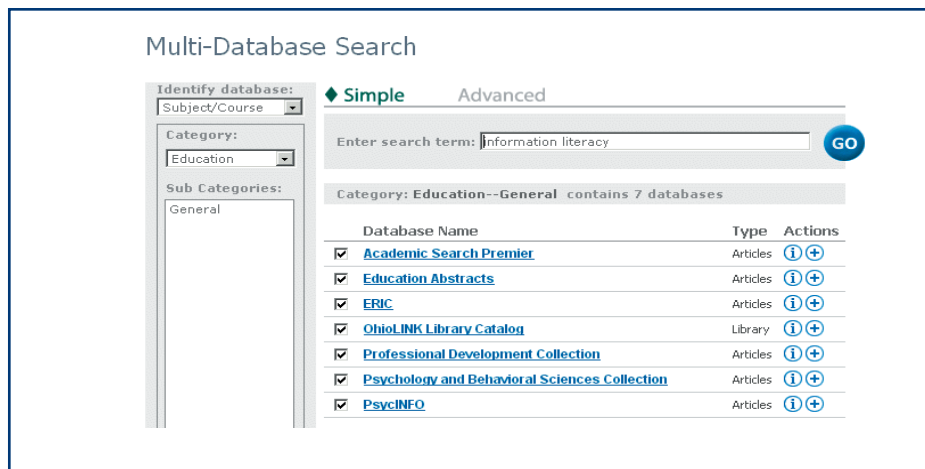
Option 2, continued

This option takes you to a screen which enables you to choose from several “Quick Set” subject areas. By selecting one of these, you are able to search multiple databases at one time. Items retrieved are displayed in relevancy order along with a “Find” icon which links to full-text or other available information.



Option 3: Click on the “Multi-Database Search” link (as shown on the top of the Quick Search screen located above)

Multi-Database Search allows you to select from a Subject/Course category listing, which is similar to the Quick Sets seen above, but offers more database choices for that discipline. The example below is for Education. This option also offers additional functionality, such as summary of results by database and the capability to return to results of a previous search.



More News



KentLINK Now Supports Online Payments

KentLINK, our online library catalog (<http://kentlink.kent.edu>), now supports online credit

card payments with VISA and Mastercard. You can pay your library fines and fees online when you login to Your KentLINK Record at <https://kentlink.kent.edu/patroninfo>. All transactions are secured with a 128-bit SSL encryption certificate from GeoTrust. Payments are processed through Verisign Payflow Pro, the payment processor used by the largest e-commerce vendors. With your security in mind, none of your credit card information is saved or stored on KentLINK or any other University system.

The new payment system allows you to pay fines and fees on all or just some of your items. It automatically sends you an email receipt of your transaction. There are no additional fees and no minimum payment.

If you owe fines and fees beyond a given amount, you may find that your KentLINK account is blocked and you are unable to check out library materials. Now, with online payments, you can eliminate that block on the spot and get on with the important work of reading and research.

For more detail, see this page on KentLINK: <http://>

Declassification in Reverse

You may have heard the recent news report of a significant federal program to reclassify over 55,000 pages of records that had been on open shelves at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Included were some 50-year-old documents that had been published in the State Department's historical series *Foreign Relations of the United States*. The report that broke the news of this previously secret reclassification program is available from the National Security Archive (<http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB179/>).

#1 Word of the Year for 2005

Merriam-Webster Dictionary reports the word most frequently looked up at their site in 2005 was *integrity*. The next most frequent were *refugee*, *contempt*, *filibuster*, *insipid*, *tsunami*, *pandemic*, *conclave*, *levee*, and *inept*.

New! Laptop Support Now Available in the Student Multimedia Studio

The Student Multimedia Studio just completed the installation of a new workstation area for students with laptop computers. Students working on projects can now come to the SMS where they can plug in their own laptop and get help from a Multimedia Consultant with their digital presentations. Students can use easily installed equipment available at the workstation to scan pictures or capture video from VHS or MiniDV tapes directly to their laptop then print them to the black and white or color printers in the Information Commons or record their finished video from their laptop to videotape.

The laptop workstation is equipped with a power strip, optical USB mouse, flatbed scanner, and a MiniDV/VHS deck and television monitor with firewire connectivity. Also available is a CD with drivers for the scanner that can connect wirelessly to the Information Commons printers. Free software is available to capture video directly to Windows Media Video. The Video can be used in PowerPoint or Web presentations.

Yahoo Local Maps beta

Check out Yahoo Local Maps beta (<http://maps.yahoo.com/beta/>) as another good online mapping resource. In this version Yahoo has worked to integrate its local search capabilities for entertainment, restaurants, etc. Of particular interest is the new interface that provides more visual options for searching and moving around without the need to type.



Yahoo Local Maps beta also makes it easier to manipulate the position and scale of a map. By clicking on a location the screen refreshes with that position centered on the map. You can also use the "hand" tool to move to a new location. Of particular interest is an overlay or map slider tool that shows the relative location of the current view on a larger scale map. This overlay tool also provides easy-to-use zoom controls.



A Note from the Dean

Mark Weber, Dean of Libraries and Media Services

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Health Care and Higher Education

At a holiday party, I was subjected to the view that health care, in the form of market medicine, was the best system for health care delivery that one could possibly imagine. The purveyor of this now-familiar public policy perspective was none other than a salesman (excuse me...I mean manufacturer's representative) who sells such big-ticket medical equipment as MRI machines. After extolling the virtues of market medicine ("...nobody has a right to good health...we all have the right to purchase the best health care that we can afford..."), he described in breathtaking detail the deal he had just finalized to sell an MRI machine to a small hospital just west of Cleveland. Since I am frequently slow on the uptake, I asked a forbidden question: "Interesting, but does this hospital really need an MRI machine?" For a moment, there was silence. Then our manufacturer's representative responded with considerable velocity; "That is really beside the point; it is all a matter of a hospital remaining competitive!" Then, he administered the coup de grace: "This is America, not Canada for G-d's sake!" Apparently judging me vanquished, he stalked off to freshen his drink. I have since recovered from my forensic pummeling, but the issue still bothers me a bit. Why is duplication of programs in higher education such a pressing concern in Columbus while duplication of health care services in hospitals is a topic about which the majority of our legislators appear to have little to say?

II.

Yes, this is the United States and not Canada. But what about the Canadian approach to health care insurance cost and coverage? In June, 1944, a Baptist minister named Tommy Douglas led the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) to a landslide victory in provincial elections for the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan in western Canada. It was under the leadership of Douglas that this prairie province enacted the first system of publicly funded health care in Canada. It was implemented in Saskatchewan in 1962 and later became a federal program that covered all of Canada. In 1968, Prime Minister Lester Pearson, who had long admired the Saskatchewan experiment, introduced legislation in the federal parliament in Ottawa that created Canada's current national health care system, called Medicare. What is commonly called the "Canadian Model" is not socialized medicine. Instead, it is socialized coverage of medical expenses.

III.

So now let us return to higher education in the United States. In colleges and universities from 1988 to 2002, health benefit expenses for full-time faculty have increased by almost 34 percent. There has been no way that institutions can keep up with these increases except by cutting services or coverage or by increasing the level of faculty financial contribution in paying for their own health care. It is understandable that faculty and other university employees often fault their institutions for this inflationary cycle. However, universities

are not in control of their own destinies on this issue. As it is with scholarly communication, so it is with medical care; the system is broken because it can no longer be financially sustained. Yet, we have a very puzzling situation: while there is very little outcry on college campuses about journal costs, there is virtually no protest over the costs that market medicine imposes on universities and, by extension, on the people who work for the university. Why is this? Why are university administrators together with private sector business owners who pay health care costs not joining a movement for some kind of "single payer" national health insurance? Too radical? Too "political" (whatever that means)? Too much concern about offending our "friends" in the insurance industry? How can an idea be so widely accepted north of the border and yet be so widely feared south of the same border? Well, it is past time for legislators in Columbus to recognize that employers, nonprofit or profit, cannot continue to keep up with rising health care costs. In the case of universities, if legislators regulate tuition increases, why don't they also regulate health care costs? Is this idea too radical? It ought to be the goal of most intelligent conservatives to preserve the social order of the middle class. A "single payer" system is a way to start.

IV.

It is important not to confuse universal health care based on the Canadian "single payer" model with the efforts of the Clinton Administration in 1994 to pass the Health Security Act. This ill-fated effort aimed at health care reform included "employer mandates" to require health coverage at the work site. This proposal did not address the need to sever the connection between health care coverage and employment. Despite the efforts to pass the Health Security Act and despite polls showing that a majority of citizens favored a universal health care plan, the insurance industry was able to mount a successful ad campaign to discredit the proposal by playing on the fears of citizens that health care reform would mean a reduction in coverage and in benefits. As a result, we lost an historic opportunity to reform health care in the United States. When will the next opportunity come? It is hard to say, but we need it now!

In most states that have public sector collective bargaining laws, health care is considered a "mandatory" subject of bargaining. In fact, health care costs, services, and coverage drive collective bargaining much more than wages and salaries do. This is especially true in public higher education where revenue sources are limited to a capped student tuition, a shrinking state-assisted subsidy, and modest private donations. Hopefully, the higher education community and its allies can come together behind this badly needed effort at health care reform. As for me I will be hitting the books, so that when I argue health care policy with the MRI salesman, I won't take such an intellectual drubbing.

FRIENDS' CORNER

The Friends Newsletter Joins Footnotes

Libraries and Media Services has been exploring ways to improve and expand communication with our supporters. We would like to give our Friends a broader perspective on the services, programs, and collections that make up Libraries and Media Services. Toward that goal, we will now publish information formerly printed separately in the *Friends Newsletter* in each issue of *Footnotes*. We think you will enjoy this update on the resources, services, and related information tools that are available to the University community.

We value our Friends and welcome your input on this new format. Please contact Mark Weber (330-672-2962 or mwweber@kent.edu) with any comments or suggestions.

A Book Lover's Delight

It is almost time for the Akron Antiquarian Book Fair. This will be the 24th annual event bringing together over 60 book dealers who offer old and rare books, books for reading and collecting, and maps and prints.



April 7th and 8th, 2006
Friday 3:00 - 8:30 pm
Saturday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Note that this year the Book Fair will be held in a new location-John S. Knight Center, 77 E. Mill St., in downtown Akron. Convenient parking is close by (free after 6:00 pm and on weekends). Donation: \$4.00

The Book Fair is sponsored by the Northern Ohio Bibliophilic Society. For more information, call 330-865-5831 or go to <http://www.nobsweb.org>.



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Libraries and Media Services

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