

A Note from the Interim Dean

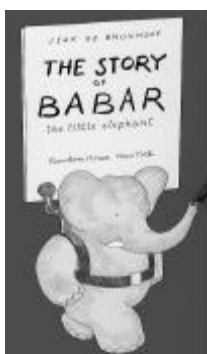
About two years ago, the distinguished historian, Leon Litwick, wondered "has the library lost its soul?" Writing about the library of the University of California at Berkeley, Professor Litwick lamented:

Digital access will come to be viewed as a cost-saving substitute for the expertise of professional librarians. But these changes will enact a heavy price. Our students will be deprived of some invaluable learning opportunities and experiences, and our standing as a major research library will suffer enormously¹

As a professional librarian, I applaud Professor Litwick's belief that the library is central to a university education. However, his view of the future of the academic library now seems overly bleak. Across the United States, academic libraries are developing information literacy programs to bring the professional expertise of librarians to students before they sit down at their computers to do research. The program takes librarians into the classrooms and other areas where students gather. Information literacy combines the values of critical thinking and computer literacy into a set of basic competencies grouped into three categories: information-seeking skills, independent learning skills, and skills related to the responsible use of information. On June 16-21, 2000, 80 academic librarians from across Ohio will journey to Kent for an information literacy training institute sponsored by the Association of College and Research Libraries. Leon Litwick fears that the library has lost its soul. Our soul is not lost, but it is on a journey. This journey will equip us to interact and serve students more effectively in a digital age.

Mark Weber
Interim Dean, Libraries & Media Services

¹ Leon Litwick. "Has the Library Lost its Soul?" *California Monthly*. Vol. 108. Feb. 1998.



Friends' Dinner, Spring 2000

The Friends of the Kent State University Libraries' annual dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12th. The cocktail hour from 6:00-6:45 p.m. in the Rockwell Hall Atrium will feature an exhibit of selected items from the John Boonshaft collection of Babariana. Dinner, also in the Atrium, will be served at 7:00 p.m.

This year's program, which will begin at 8:00 p.m. in Rockwell's Murphy Auditorium, features

Emeritus Professor of English, Ann Hildebrand, and Emeritus Professor of Music, Jerry Davidson. They will collaborate on a reading of *The Story of Babar* (1933), Jean de Brunhoff's delightful recounting of Babar's birth in the great forest, his adventures in the town, and his coronation as king of the elephants. The musical accompaniment, composed in 1940 by Francis Poulenc, perfectly complements all the moods of the book.

Dinner reservations can be made for \$20 per person. For further information or to make reservations, contact Jeanne Somers (672-2962; jsomers@lms.kent.edu).

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Footnotes

News from the Kent State University Libraries & Media Services
<http://www.library.kent.edu/footnotes/>

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Update on Services

Sixty-Minute+ Seminars via Distributed Learning

For the first time, selected Sixty-Minute+ Seminars are being offered via the ILINK technology to multiple campuses. The distributed seminars this spring include: *LEXIS/NEXIS Universe* for Business, Searching *CINAHL* and the Health Databases, and *ERIC*—Key Source for Education Research. Seminar descriptions and the online registration form for all remaining seminars are available at:

Planning to Add a Projector?



If you are planning to add a LCD computer/video projector to your classroom or laboratory, Audio Visual Services is available to help. Classroom Instructional Technologies will assist in the planning, selection of equipment, and installation work.

The LCD projector, which projects computer generated materials and video programs on a large screen, has become the central piece of classroom audiovisual equipment. However, in many cases, it does not stand alone. A full installation may require, a sound system, a VCR, multiple computer inputs, and switching controls. The installation requires a ceiling mount, electricity and cables at the ceiling location, and connections to all the equipment and the University network. All of this equipment must have total compatibility.

For assistance in your planning, contact Bob Minno at 672-3456, ext. 8, or by e-mail, minno@kent.edu.

Voice Mail in the Main Library...

The voice mail system in the Main Library has been deactivated due to technical problems. Departments are making every effort to do "live answering." We ask for your patience.

Spring Break Hours—Main Library

Mon - Thurs (March 20-23)	7:30am – 8pm
Friday (March 24)	7:30am – 5pm
Saturday (March 18 & 25)	9am - 5pm
Sunday (March 19)	Noon - 8pm

At Last! Expanded Access to Microforms!!

The Libraries recently purchased the DigiPrint system for scanning, digitizing, and printing all types of microforms, including opaque microcards, microfiche, and microfilm. Located in the 2nd floor microforms area, Main Library, the DigiPrint scanners are attached to existing microform readers. The DigiPrint scanner scans a microform that has been loaded on the appropriate reader and produces a digital image on an attached computer workstation in the form of a TIFF file.

These files may then be printed on the Libraries' 2nd floor laser printer or saved to a disk and converted to a PDF file. Conversion to PDF format is done using the National Library of Medicine's DocMorph Server <http://docmorph.nlm.nih.gov/docmorph/>. Once converted, PDF files may be read at any workstation that has the Adobe Acrobat Reader software.

This system restores full access to the Libraries' opaque microcard collection. Kent State's titles on opaque microcard include: *Three Centuries of Drama* (English and American), *English and American Drama of the Nineteenth Century*, *Early American Imprints*, and several hundred dissertations.

To schedule an appointment to use the DigiPrint system or for more information, contact Raida Bahhur, Periodicals Supervisor, or Cindy Kristof, Document Delivery Librarian, at 672-2177.

Course Packets and Handbooks

Now is a good time to begin thinking about course packets, class handbooks, and manuals for summer classes and fall semester. The use of these types of publications is an excellent method of providing special materials for your students. If any of the materials used in these publications is copyrighted, it is necessary to secure permission before they are used. The Copyright Clearance Service staff are available to help you review your materials and to do the copyright clearance work.

Because copyright clearance permissions take four to six weeks to receive, adequate lead time is needed. The Copy Center offers a full range of copying services to produce the course packets, handbooks, and manuals. Both units are located in Audio Visual Services, 3rd floor, Main Library. For more information, contact Fran Burkert at 672-3456, ext. 19, or by e-mail at copyright@kent.edu.

Database News

ITKNOWLEDGE.COM

Full-Text E-Books in Information Technology

OhioLINK and the Libraries have subscribed to EarthWeb *ITKnowledge*, the largest online collection of best-selling technical books from the leading publishers of information technology.

ITKnowledge is available through the Libraries' Web site or directly at:

<http://corpitk.earthweb.com/>

It is possible to search for a book by keyword(s), book title, author's name, ISBN number, publisher, or book imprint. One can also search for keywords within the contents of a specific book.

ITKnowledge has books for the highly technical user of information technology, as well as the more novice user.

Categories include:

- Components (Active X, Java Beans)
- Content Management (E-Commerce, Knowledge Management, Web Content)
- Databases (Relational Databases, Programming)
- Fun & Games
- Groupware & Collaboration
- Network Services
- Operating Systems (Linux, Unix, Windows 9x, Windows NT)
- Programming (Languages, Environments, Scripting)
- Security
- User Interfaces (Client/Server GUIs, Web GUIs, Graphic Design, Standards)
- Web Services (HTML & DHTML, Push Technology, Security, Authoring Tools, Browsers, Graphics, Servers)



Web Search Engine News

Northern Light (www.northernlight.com) has established itself as a very responsive Web search engine. In addition to its claims for comprehensiveness, it has received positive reviews for its handling of relevancy ranking and for organizing result sets into

custom search folders. As a continuation of this effort to offer organized, relevant retrieval from the Web, Northern Light has launched its "Special Editions™" series. These are topical areas with filtered selections of relevant links from authoritative Web sites. Links are compiled by Northern Light's staff of librarians and information specialists.

The Special Editions series at this time includes:

- banking industry
- computers and privacy
- 106th Congress
- electronic commerce
- European Economic and Monetary Union
- Linux
- Microsoft lawsuits
- Presidential Campaign 2000

The information on the Presidential campaign is particularly concise and timely. Links include news and analyses from the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and C-Span as well as a host of other authoritative online media resources. Campaign 2000 also provides links to the personal profiles of all the presidential candidates, including Donald Trump. Access to Northern Light's Special Editions is at: <http://special.northernlight.com/>.

ABELL Converted!

The *Annual Bibliography of English Language Literature* is now available through the Dataware interface. This brings to 34 the number of research databases using this same search interface.

Historical Information now in *Art Abstracts*

Historical data going back to 1929 has been added to the *Art Abstracts* database.



Be Counted—Census Day April 1, 2000

On April 1, 2000, the U.S. will undertake its official count of its citizens by mailed questionnaire. Census 2000 will be the largest count in the nation's history and provides an unparalleled opportunity for citizens and localities to secure equality in representation and distribution of public funds.

More information about Census 2000 is provided in the Government Documents display case on the 1st floor of the Main Library. Featured are the answers to some of the frequently asked questions about the census. For additional information, visit Government Documents, 10th floor of the Main Library, during regular business hours: Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

New in Government Documents

Government Documents recently received several audiovisual packages of special note. Each of these is located in Audio Visual Services, Main Library.

Millennium Evenings at the White House is a collection of seven video cassettes documenting a series of lectures and cultural events hosted by the President and First Lady to celebrate and reflect upon the American Century. Each cassette focuses on an individual lecture or event. Topics range from jazz as an expression of democracy to women as citizens.

Pedestrian Safety Toolkit is a truly multimedia package created by the Department of Transportation. It includes a video cassette, CD-ROM, and various pamphlets targeted to many audiences. While the materials are useful to the targeted groups, the package as a whole is a good resource for educators.

Ohio Y2K distributed the *Community Awareness Tool Kit: Meeting the Y2K Challenge*, a multimedia package outlining the steps planned for government and business in Ohio. Guidelines and planning suggestions are provided for Y2K compliance. The package includes a video cassette and handbook. The tool kit is worth noting due to its historical significance.

New on the Reference Shelf

Grendler, Paul F., Editor in Chief. (1999). *Encyclopedia of the Renaissance*. Charles Scribner's Sons. Ref CB 361 .E52

This six-volume encyclopedia, covering the chronological period from approximately 1350 to the mid-seventeenth century, includes almost twelve hundred entries. The encyclopedia concentrates on the daily lives of European men and women, and it seeks to incorporate recent scholarship, particularly in the areas of humanism, social history, and the history of women. A chronological timeline covering politics, society, religion, the arts, philosophy, science and exploration is provided at the beginning of volume one. Black and white illustrations, facsimiles, and maps accompany many of the entries.

This encyclopedia will be useful to students seeking background information on almost any person, event, or topic associated with the Renaissance. Many of the encyclopedia's entries will also prove useful to scholars seeking up-to-date historical analysis of the Renaissance.

Slide, Anthony. (1998). *The New Historical Dictionary of the American Film Industry*. Scarecrow Press. Ref PN1993.5.U6.S530 1998

The New Historical Dictionary of the American Film Industry includes 800 entries on producing and releasing companies, technical innovations, industry terms, studios, genres, and organizations. Entries contain directory information (for companies and organizations), definitions which range from a paragraph to a page in length, and a brief bibliography. Headings are based on the most widely known name of a company, studio, or technical innovation and are thoroughly cross-referenced to all applicable terms and topics. This dictionary is a revised and updated edition of *The American Film Industry: A Historical Dictionary*.