FOOTNOTES[1]

Pew Study Finds Searcher Misperceptions

A recent study by the Pew Internet and American Life Project on search engines found "Internet searchers are confident, satisfied and trusting – but they are also unaware and naïve" (*http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/ r/146/report_display.asp*).

Surprisingly, only 1 in 6 users of Internet search engines can tell the difference between unbiased search results and paid advertisements. This is despite the fact that major search engines usually label the items which are sponsored links.

Other findings include:

- Internet users are very positive about their online search experiences.

- Searchers turn to search engines for both important information and trivia.

- Nearly all searchers are self-assured in their search abilities with 52% reporting they are "very confident." These are more likely to be young, better educated, and have a higher income. Of these, 60% are men.

- Most consider themselves to be successful searchers. For the most successful, online searching is more ingrained in their daily lives. Successful searchers are also confident searchers.

- The Report acknowledges concerns that many searchers believe success at searching is so attainable that legitimate research standards have been lost or compromised. In support of this position is reference to a recent Wellesley study which found that students typically stop their searching once the first answer is found instead of pursuing multiple sources (*http:// www.wellesley.edu/CS/pmetaxas/ CriticalThinking.pdf*).

- More than half of the searchers reported they liked using search engines, but could revert to the "old" ways of finding information.

- Most searchers report using one or maybe two favorite search engines.

- 68% reported that search engines are a fair and unbiased source of information. Those using only one search engine were more likely to trust its results.

- Some 43% of respondents stated they are aware of the issues of tracking users of search engines.

The full report can be found at: *http:// www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Searchengine_users.pdf*

Annual Friends Dinner

The annual Friends of the Libraries dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13th, in Room 306 of the Kent State Student Center. There will be a cocktail hour from 6:00-6:45 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m.

This year's speaker is Duane Webster, Executive Director of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), an organization of 123 major research libraries whose mission is to identify forces and influence events influencing the future of research libraries. ARL offers programs that strengthen members' ability to provide equitable access to recorded information and to promote national and international collaborative programs for library development.

In his 25 years at ARL, Mr. Webster has been the driving force behind several important initiatives including establishment of the ARL/EDUCOM/CAUSE Coalition of Networked Information; the National Initiative for a Networked Cultural Heritage; and the Scholarly Publishing & Academic Resources Coalition. Mr. Webster's topic will be "Challenges Facing Research Libraries."

The cost per person is $20. For reservations, contact the Office of the Dean of Libraries & Media Services (330-672-1680, lpapoi@lms.kent.edu).

Database Updates

Makeover: OhioLINK Digital Media Center

The home page for OhioLINK's Digital Media Center (*http://dmc.ohiolink.edu/index.html*) has a new look.

The home page describes the purpose of the DMC, provides information for contributors, and lists all of the available collections. Images and sample clips are included for each collection, and scope notes have been updated and expanded. A current news box has been included to provide information about the Digital Resource Commons (DRC) and future changes to the DMC.

New Search Interface for *Business Source Premier*

A new interface is available for *Business Source Premier*. The Business Searching Interface is designed specifically for business researchers, resulting in a streamlined appearance and faster searching capability. Highlights include:

- New source types will include Academic Journals, SWOT Analyses, Trade Publications, Industry Profiles, Company Profiles, Market Research Reports and Product Reviews.

- Easy access to search options for Company, Industry, Author, Subject, and Publication lists will be available from the Basic Search Screen.

- An optional *Pre-Selected Find Fields* Advanced Search Screen style will simplify researching by company, industry, author, or publication, separately or in conjunction with keyword searching.

- The new Company Profiles display will be cleaner and easier to use, with added features such as related search links from the Company Profiles detail screen.

- Users will enjoy direct access to screens for browsing Company or Industry Profiles, Country and Market Research Reports.

Education Abstracts Expands Full-Text Coverage

Beginning in 2005, indexing for 49 journals, along with full-text access, is being added to *Education Abstracts*. The new additions are expected to provide about 1,500 additional items per year. The subject coverage provided by the newly added journals is wide-ranging in scope, with substantial attention to such topics as international education, educational technology, special education, and distance learning.

Encyclopedia Britannica Online School Edition Aligned to State K-12 Standards!

It is now possible to access all state K-12 curriculum standards and benchmarks, with links to supporting encyclopedia articles from *Compton's Encyclopedia by Britannica* and instructional activities. Access is by state, subject, and grade level.

To access through the Libraries' Web site, go to the alphabetical listing of Research Databases at: *http://www.library.kent.edu/page/10078* and choose *Encyclopedia Britannica Online School Edition.* When connected, click on the "Resources for Teachers—Helpful Information" link at the bottom right-hand corner of the page. On the next page, you will see a link to "Browse Curriculum Standards."

ITER: Gateway to the Middle Ages and Renaissance

The ITER Gateway provides a bibliography of literature pertaining to the Middle Ages and Renaissance (400-1700). ITER includes citations for books, essays and journal material, indexing 1,026 journal titles published since 1842 and 51,000 monograph titles. For a list of titles indexed by ITER, go to *http://www.intergateway.org/titlesindexed.htm*. This new subscription also includes access to an online edition of Paul Oskar Kristeller's *Iter Italicum*, a finding list of previously uncataloged or incompletely catalogued Renaissance humanistic manuscripts found in libraries and collections all over the world. ITER also provides online access to *Renaissance Quarterly.*

ITER may be accessed from the Libraries' Web site, under the alphabetical listing of Research Databases at: *http://www.library.kent.edu/page/10078*

Database Title Changes

- The major index to dissertations is now going by the name of *Dissertation Abstracts (ProQuest Dissertations & Theses).* Until recently, this was called *Dissertation Abstracts (Digital Dissertations).*

- The *NewsBank* database has been renamed *America's Newspapers.* The database contains the full-text of 17 Ohio papers, including the *Akron Beacon Journal*, *The Toledo Blade*, *The Cleveland Plain Dealer,* and the *Dayton Daily News*.

- *America's Newspapers* also provides content from major newspapers from across the nation, including *The Chicago Tribune*, *The Washington Post,* and the *Los Angeles Times*. It is possible to search for articles across Ohio and/or national papers or browse by publication.

More on Resources
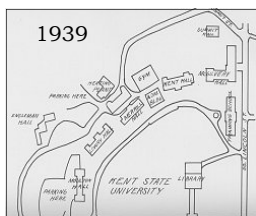
KSU Campus Map Collection

Libraries and Media Services recently launched an online collection of Kent State University campus maps. The site documents the growth and development of Kent State since its founding in 1910.

Selected aerial views of all Kent State campuses are also available. Each map is available as a high-resolution JPEG file for online viewing and as a PDF file for easy downloading and printing. The maps and aerial photographs were provided by Special Collections and Archives and the Map Library. The campus map collection is available at *http://www.library.kent.edu/ campus_maps* .

OhioLINK Electronic Reference Books

The OhioLINK collection of electronic reference books (*http://rave.ohiolink.edu/ebooks/reference/home*) has now grown to over 400 titles. It is possible to search by a specific title or author or within the full-text of all books. It is also possible to find these books through the OhioLINK Library Catalog. Recent additions include:

- *Ancient Canaan and Israel: New Perspectives*
- *Antisemitism: A Reference Handbook*
- *Conservative Christians and Political Participation: A Reference Handbook*
- *Encyclopedia of World War II: A Political, Social, and Military History*
- *Freedom of the Press: Rights and Liberties under the Law*
- *Global AIDS Crisis: A Reference Handbook*
- *Holy People of the World: A Cross-Cultural Encyclopedia*
- *Human Evolution: A Guide to the Debates*
- *Latino Americans and Political Participation: A Reference Handbook*
- *Pop Culture Arab World!: Media, Arts, and Lifestyle*
- *Poverty: A Reference Handbook*
- *Weapons of Mass Destruction: An Encyclopedia of Worldwide Policy, Technology, and History*
- *Women and Science: Social Impact and Interaction*

A New Mapping Tool from Google Labs

Google recently debuted a test version of its mapping tool to rave reviews. Take a look (*http://maps.google.com/*), and you will find highly readable maps that can fill as much of the screen as you wish. By dragging the image, you are easily able to scroll across the map's landscape to move to adjacent parts of the map.

Other features, as related by Google, include:

Search results from Google Local-- To find a pizza shop, for example, in your local area, type *pizza* and your zip code to see pizza locations on the map. Phone numbers for each location will appear on the right side of the page. When you click on locations on the map, you will also find address information.

Single search box-- Users can type search terms into a single search box under the Maps tab for local search results and driving directions. For example, typing [great sushi in New York] will display great sushi restaurants located in New York. Typing [Manhattan to Brooklyn] shows directions from Manhattan to Brooklyn.

Turn-by-turn directions-- Users may type in an address and Google Maps plots a route, displaying it visually on the map itself, together with step-by-step directions for getting there (or back from there). When users click on one of these steps, they will see a magnified view of the area mentioned in the directions.

Keyboard shortcuts-- Users can use the arrow keys to pan left, right, up and down; pan wider with page up, page down, home and end keys; and zoom in and out with the (+) and (-) keys.

Hot Topics on KentLINK

Through KentLINK you can access "Hot Topics" lists that highlight books in the Libraries' collections. These can be accessed by going to KentLINK (*http:// kentlink.kent.edu*) and in the right-hand column select "Tools" and then "Hot Topics."

Current lists include:

- Academic achievement/Motivation in education
- Kent campus bestsellers added since July 1, 2004
- Physical fitness/Weight control
- Recent Kent Campus audio visual item acquisitions
- Tsunamis

From the News

Report on the Future of the Internet

The Pew Internet and American Life Project recently released a report on the Future of the Internet (*http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Future_of_Internet.pdf*). In a survey, technology leaders, scholars, industry officials, and analysts evaluated how the Internet may develop over the next ten years.

The most agreement (66%) was for the expectation of at least one devastating attack on the network infrastructure or the nation's power grid. There was strong support that the Internet will be more integrated into our physical environment and that high speed connections will be common. Also, the respondents believe that the dawning blog era will bring radical change to the news and publishing industry. The least impact is expected on religious institutions.

Other predictions receiving majority support from respondents included:

- more government and business surveillance will occur as computing devices proliferate and become embedded in appliances, cars, phones, and even clothes.

- virtual classes will become more widespread in formal education and that students might at least occasionally be grouped with others who share their interests and skills, rather than by age.

- with an increase in telecommuting and home-schooling, the boundary between work and leisure will diminish and family dynamics will change.

- anonymous, free, music file-sharing on peer-to-peer networks will still be easy to perform a decade from now.

Policy on Enhancing Public Access to Archived Publications Resulting from NIH-Funded Research

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced its policy on enhancing public access to archived publications resulting from NIH-funded research. Beginning May 2, 2005, NIH-funded investigators are requested to submit to the NIH National Library of Medicine's (NLM) PubMed Central (PMC) an electronic version of the author's final manuscript upon acceptance for publication, resulting from research supported, in whole or in part, with direct costs from NIH. The author's final manuscript is defined as the final version accepted for journal publication, and includes all modifications from the publishing peer review process.

This policy applies to all research grant and career development award mechanisms, cooperative agreements, contracts, Institutional and Individual Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards, as well as NIH intramural research studies.

The policy is intended to: 1) create a stable archive of peer-reviewed research publications resulting from NIH-funded research to ensure the permanent preservation of these vital published research findings; 2) secure a searchable compendium of these peer-reviewed research publications that NIH and its awardees can use to manage more efficiently and to understand better their research portfolios, monitor scientific productivity, and ultimately, help set research priorities; and 3) make published results of NIH-funded research more readily accessible to the public, health care providers, educators, and scientists.

For more details about the announced policy, go to: *http://www.nih.gov/about/publicaccess/index.htm*

Teleproductions' Video Wins National United Way Award

The 2004 United Way of Portage County campaign video recently won first place in the "Best Video" category of the United Way of America Communications' Contest. This competition featured videos from 110 local United Way chapters. The award marks the first time that the Portage County chapter has won a national competition. Special thanks are extended to Mark Warzinski. (Senior Producer/Director of Teleproductions) who produced, directed, and edited this excellent video.

Hottest Journals of the Millenium

Science Watch has compiled a listing of the top science journals in 11 broad fields ranked by impact factor. Data is based on the papers published and cited from January 1999 to August 2004 as reported in the tool *ISI Essential Science Indicators.* Impact ranking is determined by each journal's citations per paper score. Fields examined include: biology and biochemistry, chemistry, molecular biology and genetics, neuroscience and behavior, physics.

The report can be found at: *http://www.sciencewatch.com/jan-feb2005/sw_jan-feb2005_page1.htm* .

A Life of Courage...What Students Should Learn in School

"Act well your part; there all honor lies"
-Alexander Pope

I. Recently, I came across a discussion of the New Humanism. As a movement, it came into a very modest prominence in the 1920s and is now almost completely forgotten. Indeed, today if we should mention the term, "New Humanism," many would think we are talking about secular humanism or its cousin ethical humanism. Secular humanism is often the home of atheism or agnosticism. Three major organizations represent this important strain of thought.

First is the American Humanist Association. The AHA publishes *The Humanist* magazine and also certifies humanist ministers to conduct nonreligious life cycle ceremonies such as weddings and funeral or memorial services. Corliss Lamont, author of *The Philosophy of Humanism*, was long associated with the AHA.

Second, the Council on Secular Humanism offers a secular humanist perspective. It publishes the magazine *Free Inquiry* and also runs Prometheus Press. Paul Kurtz, long its leader, has written many books, including *In Defense of Secular Humanism*. While one may not feel especially comfortable with the strong current of atheism or agnosticism that runs through both organizations, secular humanism does often exhibit a healthy skepticism of new intellectual trends, fads and waves that often come to academic life. Prometheus Press has published a number of books that champion the liberal arts, offer a defense of science and rationality, and suggest that texts actually mean what they say. It is clearly a defense of the modern against the postmodern.

The third organization is the American Ethical Union. Its orientation might best be called ethical humanism rather than secular humanism. Best known as the Ethical Culture movement, its founder was Felix Adler (1851-1933), about whom I wrote two issues ago. Adler was not an atheist. Rather he was a religious man who wanted a new American religion to be based not on those pesky questions of whether or not there is a god, but rather on service to humanity or what we would call today, social justice.

Of the three organizations, local ethical culture societies most closely resemble traditional churches or synagogues in structure if not in doctrinal content. The societies call themselves congregations and have "Sunday Schools" for the children of members. Cleveland has had several humanist organizations in the past. The Cleveland Ethical Society existed from 1947 until 1980. The Ethical Society of Cleveland was started in 1997 and died in 2003. There are also secular humanist groups such as South Shore Skeptics and The Free Inquirers of Northeast Ohio (FINO). The Jewish Secular Community of Cleveland and sometimes Unitarian congregations qualify as "humanist."

These newer humanist organizations saw humanism as a kind of social philosophy of life. However, the New Humanism as propounded by such thinkers as Paul Elmer More (1864 -1937) and Irving Babbitt (1865 –1933) offered that reform of one's inner life is as important as the impulses for social reform evident in the other strains of humanism. Proponents of the New Humanism saw the study of literature as a context for character development and for cultivating the impulses of moderation.

II. In a time of romanticism, relativism, and fundamentalism, perhaps we would do well to reflect on this now-forgotten movement and what it just might have to say to us and to our students. Well, to begin with, Humanism is not the same as humanitarianism. It is not a plan for saving people in general from different undesirable fates. Instead, it asks students to relate to each other and to their teachers. It challenges them to cultivate the skills of the conversational arts...the joys of intelligent conversation and the discipline of attentive listening to arguments and then formulating a response. In addition, it would teach our students that life is basically not fair. This may seem like a harsh pronouncement that is too pessimistic. It is neither. It does not deny that many good outcomes happen in life. It simply and (I believe) realistically asserts that the world is not ordered and inherently fair. The lions do not lie down with the lambs. There is much darkness, and what we look for is the light. I hope that our students grasp this.

So what kind of life do we hope that our students will live? A life of faith? If this is their choice...fine. However, the life that I hope our students live would be a life of courage. What might be some elements of this life? Here are four:

1.) <u>Face Reality Directly</u>: In living a life of courage, I would hope our students would learn to face reality squarely whether it is pleasant or unpleasant. This means accepting that life doesn't always conform to what we want it to be. Each of life's episodes does not always have a happy ending for us. Sometimes, because much of life is a kind of a sum zero exercise, a desirable outcome for us means that there will be a less than desirable situation for someone else. Since there is no over-arching harmony, much of life involves negotiating with others whose agendas don't necessarily match ours.

2.) <u>Improvement vs. Utopia</u>: In this world, the most that we can hope for is a kind of steady improvement in public affairs. This is the opposite of utopianism or messianism that sees fundamental sweeping change

occurring just when things couldn't seemingly get any worse. Some force will appear at this time and make everything right. Students need to realize that every decision that they ponder will have both advantages and disadvantages. Each reform in public life, no matter how badly it is needed, always has disadvantages. There are no perfect solutions. The best we can hope for is a solution that offers the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

3.) <u>Accept Responsibility for Our Actions</u>: Our track record as role models on this is not very good. In too many situations, bad decisions are blamed on subordinates or on other people or on environmental circumstances. What students need to realize is that their success depends on their efforts. If they succeed, it is to their credit. If they fail, it is their responsibility. There are two additional parts of this principle that we need to mention. It is easier for young people to take responsibility for their successes and their failures if a single standard applies to them. When they are undertaking an effort and they see that different standards apply to different people, then the principle of hard work and taking responsibility for one's actions is often undermined. Also, taking responsibility for one's actions means teaching students to be honest with themselves about conditions or circumstances that they cannot change...whether this be a task or a terminal illness. The old serenity statement about understanding what we can change, knowing what we cannot change, and knowing the difference between the two applies here.

4.) <u>A Sense of History</u>: A final area that a young person who wishes to live a life of courage needs to cultivate is a sense of history. This becomes easier if young people attend colleges and universities that require them to take courses in history. Too many students seem to live only in the present. We need to impress upon them that they are the inheritors of traditions and principles developed by those who went before them. In a sense, we stand on the shoulders of those who came before us. Students need to understand the tradition and values that undergird both the history of the United States and the larger Western tradition. A sense of history is important if we are to resist efforts to "revise" history and to view it through ideological lenses.

The New Humanist tradition that we discussed earlier had, as one of its tenets, teaching students to have the skills needed to live an ordinary life with responsibility and honor. Four elements of this effort might be facing what is, embracing incremental change, accepting responsibility for our actions, and cultivating a sense of the past. Our task might become easier if we understand that as educators we prepare students not for jobs but for life. The distinction is critical.

Books Available on the Free Web

Although Google will soon begin a project to scan a vast number of books that are in the public domain, there are several ambitious book digitizing projects that have been underway for a number of years. These include:

Electronic Text Center at the University of Virgina (*http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/*)has 10,000 publicly accessible texts in the humanities in several languages and 164,000 images.

Internet Archive includes the Open-Access Text Archive (*http://www.archive.org*) which includes over 23,000 items. Included, for example, is the "I have dream speech" by Martin Luther King, Jr.—both text and audio versions.

Project Gutenberg (*http://www.gutenberg.org/*) is the oldest project. Relying on volunteers, it has produced a collection of more than 13,000 e-books. Most are older literary works that are in the public domain in the United States. All may be freely downloaded and read, and redistributed for non-commercial use.

The Universal Library, hosted by Carnegie Mellon University (*http://www.ul.cs.cmu.edu/html/index.html*), strives to create "the Universal Library with a free-to-read, searchable collection of one million books, primarily in the English language, available to everyone over the Internet."

ABC-CLIO Award Winners in 2004

The following award winning books from ABC-CLIO are available online and can be accessed by title through KentLINK.

Outstanding Academic Title 2004 (*Choice*)

Alcohol and Temperance in Modern History: An International Encyclopedia :

Colonialism: An International Social, Cultural, and Political Encyclopedia:

Exploring Polar Frontiers: A Historical Encyclopedia:

Best of Reference 2004 (New York Public Library)

Men & Masculinities: A Social, Cultural, and Historical Encyclopedia: