

## OhioLINK Celebrates its 15th Birthday



OhioLINK was conceived in 1989 with the bold vision of creating for Ohio "the most powerful statewide library and information system in the nation." Operations began in 1992 and since then OhioLINK continues to receive rave reviews worldwide as the premier example of an academic library consortium.

### The Changing Information Environment

The rationale for creating OhioLINK was to deal with the print collections filling the State's academic libraries and to utilize emerging technology to deliver information. Today a user in any OhioLINK institution can make an online request for any of the 46 million books represented in the OhioLINK Library Catalog. The item will then be delivered to the user's home library within two to three working days. Recent contracts with major academic publishers will provide online access to thousands of scholarly monographs over this next year.

Over 140 online research databases are available for identifying journal articles. Last year, users downloaded over 5.2 million articles from the more than 12,000 scholarly journals OhioLINK licenses or owns.

OhioLINK is not just books, databases, or journals any longer. The Digital Media Center has an ever-growing collection of a variety of multimedia content. The Electronic Theses and Dissertations Center is the home for undergraduate honors theses, masters' theses, and doctoral dissertations from students at a number of Ohio colleges and universities.

### Challenges: Old and New

Remembering that "Growth is the reconciliation of permanence and change" (Lynch, Thomas T., *Memorials of Theophilus Trinal*, 1850), OhioLINK and its libraries face:

- Rising costs, decreasing purchasing power, and a dysfunctional scholarly publishing system
- An ever increasing amount of information
- Expanding user needs and expectations
- Rapid advancements in Web technology and information delivery
- Changes in Ohio higher education and library funding

These continue to be exciting times.



As we celebrate OhioLINK's 15th anniversary, we want to know what OhioLINK means to you, how it has helped you, or how you'd explain OhioLINK to your peers. We want you to show us in five minutes or less, your OhioLINK story or commercial in a creative video. The winner will receive a new digital video camera or a 160 GB iPod classic.

Current students, faculty and staff members at all 87 OhioLINK member institutions are invited to submit one or more videos. Entries must be submitted by 11:59 pm EST on January 18, 2008. A panel of judges will narrow the entries to three finalists. Votes by OhioLINK users will determine the grand prize winner and runner up. The grand prize winner can choose between a digital video camera or a new 160 GB iPod classic, and the runner up will receive the remaining prize.

More information is at: <http://www.ohiolink.edu/videocontest/scoop.html>.

### Contest Dates to Remember

January 18, 2008: Video entries due

January 28, 2008: Three finalists announced

January 28 - February 8, 2008: OhioLINK users vote!

February 12: Winners announced

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## OhioLINK Top 15 Lists

### Most Popular Digital Films & Documentaries

These are the most used resources from OhioLINK's Educational Films and Humanities Collection (<http://dmc.ohiolink.edu>).



1. **Impressing Their Friends** (Triumph of the Nerds series)



2. **Technological Changes** (Global Business series, 10 parts)



3. **Crimes of Obedience** (Human Zoo series)

4. **The History of Computers**

5. **A History of Antibiotics**

6. **Broken Child: Case Studies of Child Abuse**



7. **Love, Love Me, Do: How Sex Differences Affect Relationships** (Brain Sex: Brain Architecture series, 3 parts)

8. **The Common School: 1770-1980** (School: The Story of American Education series)

9. **Sir Edward Evans Pritchard: Strange Beliefs** (Strangers Abroad series)

10. **Do You Speak American? Up North**



11. **A Separate Peace: Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, and Shintoism** (Religion: A World History series)

12. **Computer Security**

13. **Notetaking** (Academic Success series, 5 parts)

14. **Time Management** (Academic Success series, 5 parts)

15. **Learning to Hate** (Beyond Hate series, 2 parts)



### Most Frequent Article Downloads from EJC Journals

This is the listing of the journals with the most frequent article downloads across OhioLINK from the Electronic Journal Center (<http://journals.ohiolink.edu>) for the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. KSU downloaded 107,046 articles from 5,154 journals during this period. There are 6,850 journals in the EJC.

1. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* (14,248)
2. *The Lancet* (13,078)
3. *American Psychologist* (10,043)
4. *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* (9,228)
5. *Journal of Applied Psychology* (9,126)
6. *Angewandte Chemie International Edition* (8,914)
7. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology* (7,820)
8. *Journal of Advanced Nursing* (7,139)
9. *Journal of Educational Psychology* (6,884)
10. *Psychological Bulletin* (6,720)
11. *Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications* (6,450)
12. *Tetrahedron Letters* (6,204)
13. *Journal of Counseling Psychology* (5,842)
14. *Journal of the American Dietetic Association* (5,720)
15. *Polymer* (5,594)

## The Chronicle of Higher Education -- Online

The Libraries' online subscription to *The Chronicle of Higher Education* makes it available to all 8 campuses (<http://chronicle.com>). This ready access has led some offices to cancel their paper subscriptions. The *Chronicle* is a key resource for news, trends, events, and jobs in higher education.

In addition to reading issues online, you can sign up for a free account at <https://chronicle.com/services/> and subscribe to targeted email newsletters. You can also receive *Chronicle* RSS news feeds on your desktop. Go to <http://chronicle.com/help/rss.htm> to learn more.

The *Chronicle* is linked from the LMS Web site through Research Databases and also under News Sources (<http://www.library.kent.edu/page/10616#Chronicle>). From off-campus, you can access the *Chronicle* by using the proxy server (<http://www.library.kent.edu/proxy>).

## 2007/2008 Research Collection Awards: Call for Proposals

In 1990, as part of a continuing effort to support the research mission of the University, Libraries and Media Services established a budget line with the objective of strengthening library collections in research materials. This year's budget amount is \$15,000.

Faculty members are now invited to submit research collection requests for the purchase of primary research materials. Proposals for secondary research materials, such as journal indexes, or materials requiring a continuing commitment of funds, such as journal subscriptions, are not eligible. Past purchases through this award include *ETS Tests in Microfiche*; *Women's Wear Daily Archival Collection on Microform, 1948-1962*; *Methods of Enzymology*, volumes 158-173; *The Works of Geoffrey Chaucer and "The Kings of Quair": A Facsimile of Bodleian Library*; *The Wife of Bath's Prologue on CD-ROM*; and *Gestalt Therapy Video Collections*.

The deadline for submission of proposals is Friday, February 22, 2008. Please share this information with your colleagues or refer them to <http://www.library.kent.edu/researchproposals>. Contact Melissa Spohn, Head of Acquisitions (330-672-1682, [mspohn@kent.edu](mailto:mspohn@kent.edu)) for further information.



## Library Live II is Coming: February 29

Mark your calendars for the second annual Library Live conference scheduled for Friday, February 29, from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm in the Main Library. The conference will

feature multiple breakout sessions throughout the day highlighting the resources and services of Libraries & Media Services. The conference will provide many hands-on opportunities to learn. Lunch is included, and the time offers a chance to converse with and learn from colleagues. The conference is open to Kent State faculty, administrators, and teaching and research assistants from all Kent campuses.

Registration is free and will open on January 7. To see a list of last year's sessions and to access materials from the conference go to: <http://www.library.kent.edu/librarylivehandouts>.

Participants last year commented:

"Extremely helpful – everyone should come."

"Congratulations to all involved – most impressive."

"I really enjoyed the day and thought it was a great learning experience."

"Thank you for making this day available."

"The hands-on learning is excellent."

## Connecting from Home? Try the New Campus VPN

For off-campus access to online journals and research databases, a new University service from Information Services is available. The Virtual Private Network (VPN) replaces the need for either the proxy server or the OhioLINK Authentication service. VPN is a more robust and more secure technology than those it replaces. It allows you to connect to the campus network from a remote location as if you were on campus. Rather than supporting just Web traffic, like the Proxy Server does, the VPN will support all of your network traffic. In a later update, it also promises to provide access to on-campus file-shares.

### What do I need to do?

1. Perform a simple, one-time installation of the VPN client program. Instructions and the download link are at: <http://www.kent.edu/is/network/vpn.cfm>.
2. When you need access to a restricted resource, run the VPN program, which will prompt you to login with your Flashline ID and password. This will connect you to the campus network. You can connect to the restricted resource (like a research database or an online journal) just as you would from on-campus. No browser configuration is required.

### Questions & Answers:

1. Who can use VPN?
  - Current faculty, students, and staff and only on a University-owned or their personal computer.
2. Will I have to buy this program to install?
  - No. Information Services has licensed it. There is no charge to faculty, students, or staff.
3. When will the University Proxy Server go away?
  - About Summer 2008.
4. Will the VPN provide access to my campus network drives from home?
  - This support is planned for a later phase.
5. When can I try it?
  - VPN is available now.
6. Where can I get help?
  - For support, contact the Campus Help Desk at 330-672-4357.



RefWorks

A Reminder

RefWorks is a Web-based tool for managing references and creating bibliographies based on a given style manual. You can create your personal database by importing references from a database and then select from those to create a bibliography with ease. This service from the Libraries is available to all students, faculty, and staff on each of the eight-campus.

More information and a link for creating an account are at: <http://www.library.kent.edu/refworks>.



## There's more...

### An Example of Teamwork at the Student Multimedia Studio

<http://www.library.kent.edu/sms/>

**The need:** The American Sign Language (ASL) program needed to have student homework, projects, and tests videotaped in order to provide feedback to the students and to grade their work. There were almost 400 students who needed to have this visual recording done. There were no classes within the ASL program to help them accomplish this task.



#### The SMS solution:

Working closely with the ASL coordinator, Robertta Thoryk, and other ASL faculty, the SMS staff created an ASL recording "studio" with adequate space for

up to two people, a pre-set camera, and easy-to-follow directions, all within the SMS lab in the Main Library's Information Commons on the first floor. Now, students can go to the SMS, sit down in front of a video camera, and record their videos in digital format directly to a computer. A CD-R with the video is then turned in to the instructor and, at the end of the semester, a compilation of the digital videos will be uploaded to a Web server for archival and research use by ASL faculty.

**The response:** Professor Thoryk commented, "I cannot tell you how happy this studio has made our instructors...and our students. The ASL instructors have been thrilled to have something like this to use, as it presents opportunities for students and instructors to work together now, instead of on opposite sides of a camera. While testing the studio yesterday, a deaf student, who is NOT an ASL major or minor, noted what we were doing and became curious. When he learned what the SMS had set-up, the student bubbled over with ideas on how he, too, could use it - using it as an accommodation for written reports in his classes for example. There was not enough room in the library for the size of the smiles the SMS' ASL recording studio generated."

**Other needs, other solutions:** The SMS staff is here to provide support and help solve problems. This can include trying to find the most appropriate software for a particular type of presentation project, having easy-to-understand multimedia presentation tutorials created for your specific project assignments, or having someone from the SMS come to your class to help teach "multimedia technologies."

If you have a need, just give the SMS a call. Staff are always more than happy to help out in these ways, and more. Contact: Gary Mote, SMS Manager ([gmote@kent.edu](mailto:gmote@kent.edu)). Additional information is available on the Web at: <http://www.library.kent.edu/sms>.

### Reserves and Course Packets: New Forms

Online request forms for Reserves and Course Packets are now available to all faculty from the Personal Menu on the LMS web page (<https://www.library.kent.edu/personal/login.php>). These forms eliminate the need for the paper Reserves and Course Packet request and copyright forms. The paper Reserves forms will remain available through 2008. Log in with your Flashline credentials to take advantage of the following new online features:

- Create a set of Reserve materials for a new course
- Upload electronic documents for existing Reserve courses
- Create new Course Packets

Staff are available to get you started in the new system. For an appointment, please contact Judy Midamba for Reserves ([jmidamba@kent.edu](mailto:jmidamba@kent.edu) or 330-672-7906) or Fran Burkert for Course Packets and Copyright Clearance ([fburkert@kent.edu](mailto:fburkert@kent.edu) or 330-672-1843).

### Library Skill Modules

Library skill modules provide an option for students to learn basic research and library skills in an online environment at their own pace on their own time. The modules can be assigned by instructors as a course requirement (recommended for English Composition classes). Student usage can then be tracked and reported back to the instructor.

The modules cover:

1. Developing a Search Strategy: Tips and Tricks
2. KentLINK Part 1 -- Searching for Books by Topic
3. KentLINK Part 2 -- Finding Books on the Shelf
4. Research Databases Part 1 -- Searching for Articles by Topic
5. Research Databases Part 2 -- Locating Full Text Journal Articles
6. Evaluating Information on the Web
7. Searching *Education Abstracts*

For more information on how the modules work and procedures for using them with your students visit <http://www.library.kent.edu/page/13596>.

### Did You Know?

- During the last 6 weeks of the term, the Main Library is open until 3 a.m.?
- Students can receive expert research assistance from a librarian by instant messaging the library at IMaKSULibrarian.
- Students or faculty can check out a PALS unit (laptop, projector, and portable screen) for use in a group discussion room in the Main Library. Call x.23456.
- Every department has a liaison librarian to assist students and faculty with their research.



# A Note from the Dean

## Mark Weber, Dean of Libraries and Media Services

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### Some Thoughts on Reading Newspapers

Newspapers have always been an important part of my experience. In the small Wisconsin town where I grew up, my father used to curse the isolationist editorials in the old *Chicago Tribune*. In the 1950's, "the trib" used to have a color editorial cartoon on the front page...not on the editorial page. When I visited my relatives in Chicago, I remember reading all of Chicago's major daily newspapers. After the *Chicago Tribune*, there were also the *Chicago American*, the *Chicago Daily News*, and the *Chicago Sun-Times*. Today, only the *Tribune* and *Sun-Times* remain in business.

When I visited my aunts and uncles in Chicago, we would all troop out together at midnight on Saturday to pick up the Sunday editions of the newspapers as soon as they were delivered. We each carried parts of the papers because the *Sunday Tribune* and the *Sunday American* each weighed about four to five pounds. On Sunday morning, the papers were pulled apart as each relative took the sections that interested them. For the rest of those lazy Sundays, we all read the newspapers. Two of my aunts followed several Sunday comic strips and would discuss them during the week.

Later, I was a paperboy for the *Dubuque Telegraph-Herald*. The "T-H" (as we called it) was an afternoon paper six days a week and a morning paper on Sunday. Each day, bundles were dropped off behind the town post office. Each carrier would open his (no girls were carriers back then) bundle, sort the paper by putting the various sections together, and then deliver them via bicycle. I delivered the "T-H" to homes, businesses, churches, and the town jail. I delivered a paper to Nubs Weaver in his barbershop, and I delivered a paper to the bar in the Hotel Lancaster. The owner of the hotel, Melvin Stocks, could often be found in the bar "three sheets to the wind." A customer would be tending bar and often would give me a significant tip before Mel, his mind befogged by drink, could object.

In college, it was not uncommon for students to line up to read newspapers in the library. On long reading sticks, the papers were passed from person to person. As a reference librarian at the University of Evansville in the 1970's, I remember faculty and students sitting in the crowded newspaper reading room. Of particular note were the faculty carefully scanning the job ads section of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. Many of these faculty had been denied either reappointment or tenure and were thus keenly interested in the Chronicle ads.

#### II.

Things have changed somewhat since those days. Now, many predict the disappearance of newspapers. Increasingly, newspapers are owned by media conglomerates. These folks, like Rupert Murdoch, see newspapers less as a public good and more as a straight and simple source of revenue. If the paper doesn't please the share-holders, then dump it. In the past, some newspaper reporters were heroes...Bob Woodward, Carl Bernstein, and David Halberstam are three that come to mind. Columnists like the late Mike Royko were read on

a daily basis by a large following of devoted readers. It seems to me that journalists are not held in the same high regard. Why? Well, perhaps it is, in part, because of the charges that newspapers are part of the "liberal media." These charges are made by talk-show hosts like Bill O'Reilly. He often says, at the beginning of his show that "the spin stops here." However, isn't rhetoric like "left-wing media" just a different kind of spin? Now, we are told that the Internet has made newspapers obsolete. Comments like this make me smile. It is further proof of the old adage that a little knowledge is a dangerous thing. Search engines like Google and Yahoo rely on the databases of the major newspapers around the country and the world. Without these newspaper files, these much-touted search engines would be quite different operations.

These search engines are not in the journalism business. They are not even in the news business. They are in the information business. Since we are a culture that cannot distinguish information from wisdom, it is not surprising that we also mistake the art and craft of journalism for the mechanical process of conveying facts and bits of information.

#### III.

Many who advocate the Internet as a replacement for newspapers stress its diversity and functionality as reasons for its superiority over print media such as newspapers. Hmmm. Well, if this is true (which it isn't) then why is it that students of the Net generation are so culturally illiterate? Why is it that today's college students with the Internet and cable television know less than the high school seniors of the 1970's and 80's when it comes to basic knowledge and civic literacy? Doesn't exposure to a larger quantity of information mean that you know more? Gee, maybe not. Maybe it has to do with the way in which students engage with electronic media as opposed to newspapers and serious magazines. Increasingly, we contend that obtaining information from the Internet and reading a newspaper or magazine are interchangeable learning activities. Are they different paths to the same goal? Are they both intellectually rigorous? If the answer is no, then they cannot be interchangeable. One is fast and superficial and the other is in-depth and reflective.

American civic and public life have been shaped by great newspapers: *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, *Miami Herald*, *Atlanta Constitution*, *Des Moines Register*, and *Detroit Free Press*.

Often these papers have played heroic roles, such as the decision of the *Washington Post* to publish the Pentagon Papers and the stand of Ralph McGill's *Atlanta Constitution* against lynching.

It was said that in the 1950's, the citizens of Atlanta were divided. Some couldn't eat breakfast until they had read the *Atlanta Constitution*. Others, it was said, could not eat breakfast after they had read it. The point is that what reporters wrote made a difference and was the subject of a healthy public debate. Now that is not the case and we are much, much poorer for it.

# FRIENDS' CORNER

## Two New Exhibits

The Department of Special Collections and Archives is pleased to present two new exhibits: *The Bookseller, Inc.: 1948 to the Present*, and *Dimensions of Wonderland: From Alice's Adventures Underground to Beyond the Moon*. Both exhibits are free and open to the public. For additional information, please contact Special Collections and Archives at 330-672-2270.

### ***Dimensions of Wonderland: From Alice's Adventures Underground to Beyond the Moon***

Featured is Lewis Carroll's classic, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and the many derivative works inspired by the original. The exhibit showcases the evolution of a cultural icon—from the children's story never intended to be published, to the vast and diverse interpretations of Alice through the last one hundred and forty years. Featured are early editions of the book, illustrations by prominent artists, translations, parodies, games, and artifacts.

This exhibit can be seen in the Special Collections and Archives Reading Room, room 1212 of the Main Library, and may be viewed Monday through Friday from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm through June 1, 2008.

### ***The Bookseller, Inc.: 1948 to the Present***

This exhibit celebrates the history of one of Akron's oldest independent antiquarian bookstores. The exhibit focuses on the people and events that have shaped the history of this third-generation bookstore. Opened in 1948 by book collector Clarence Klein with the assistance of his son, Frank Klein, The Bookseller has remained a family-operated business for the past 50 years.

Highlights of the exhibit include examples of the Kleins' fine bookbinding skills, photographs of the cats and dogs that have been an important part of The Bookseller experience and unique bookmarks and holiday souvenirs from the bookstore. Today, The Bookseller, complete with a resident cat, is located at 39 Westgate Circle in Akron. KSU alum and longtime library supporter, Frank Klein, and his daughter Andrea Klein continue to keep The Bookseller tradition alive.

View this exhibit during regular Main Library hours in first floor display cases through December 31, 2007.



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