February Author Talk

By Mary Williams

Our next Author Talk is scheduled for Thursday, February 17. This talk will feature Coach Donna Newberry and Dr. James Chlovechok. Professor Newberry will discuss the unpublished account of her undercover stay at the Betty Ford Clinic. The title of her research is “My Furnace in the Attic.”

Dr. Chlovechok is a sports physician with a practice in Cambridge. He is also the author of the new suspense novel, Game Face. His book is described as, “An edge-of-your-seat mix of medical suspense, forensic investigation, and high stakes sports competition!”

The Author Talk will begin at 3:30 p.m. in the first floor reading area. Please plan on attending this author talk and bring your questions on the writing and publishing process. Refreshments will be available as well as copies of Chlovechok’s book for purchase.

Help Save Your Library Resources

By Dr. Sheila Ellenberger

Did you know that some of the OhioLINK and library resources you currently use are being eliminated? The decline in the Ohio State Budget is having a serious affect on OhioLINK’s resources. There will be no new funds to purchase more databases, electronic journals, e-books, digital videos or other new content our users need and want to support their research.

OhioLINK has repeatedly demonstrated that by purchasing content for statewide use, users get access to more content for less money. Conversely, if OhioLINK funding for a resource is cut, libraries must purchase the resource individually or access is lost. Since library budgets are also limited, local purchase may not be possible. Muskingum College Library does not receive state funding but we depend on the availability of library collections from the state funded universities.

What can you do? Express your support for OhioLINK. Visit Muskingum College Library’s homepage and click on the banner “Help Save Your Library Resources: Support OhioLINK Funding.” From there you will find many ways you can let your voice be heard.

Thank you for your support of a globally recognized example of highly effective and efficient collaboration among higher education institutions: OhioLINK!
Beyond Academic Search Premier

By Andrew Whitis

Spring semester is well underway and that means that it is time to start working on that research paper that is due after Spring Break. I bet that one of your favorite databases to use to find research articles is Academic Search Premier. ASP is a great database to use for many of your classes. However, did you know that there are a number of subject specific databases that may be better suited for your research? If you are in an education class, you might try Education Abstracts and ERIC. Taking Psych? Make sure to check out PsychInfo. If you are a business major, you should check out Business and Industry and Business Source Premier. The ATLA Religion Database is a good start for your religion class. There are subject databases for anthropology, biology, history, political science, sociology, women’s studies, and many others. Check out what’s available by looking at the OhioLINK databases by subject at http://www.ohiolink.edu/resources.cgi?by=subject

Need help? Stop by the Reference Desk.

Chat with a Librarian at 2 a.m. or later!

By Andrew Whitis

OhioLINK has expanded the service hours of Chat with a Librarian to 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The extended operating hours were introduced at the beginning of January through an agreement with KnowItNow, a statewide chat service offered by the State Library of Ohio. OhioLINK librarians will continue to staff Chat with a Librarian service, Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Friday, from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday, from 1-5 p.m.; and Sunday, from 1-10 p.m. KnowItNow librarians will answer questions during the “off” hours. The only thing that has changed is the increase in hours of service. You still access chat the same way, by clicking on the Chat with a Librarian icon on the Library’s home page. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at awhitis@muskingum.edu

Professional Travel and Activities

By Dr. Sheila Ellenberger

This section will keep you informed on the professional activities of the Library staff.

Brian Kern presented on the implementation of Electronic Course Reserves at Muskingum College at the Eastern Great Lakes Innovative User Group meeting on September 24, 2004 in Parma, Ohio.

Zelda Patterson attended the OPAL Circulation Committee meeting on October 21, 2004 in Columbus, Ohio.

Judith Gaydos and Andrew Whitis attended the OhioLINK Reference Rendezvous on October 22, 2004 in Columbus, Ohio.

Brian Kern attended the OPAL Cataloging Committee meeting on October 29, 2004 in Columbus, Ohio.

Sheila Ellenberger, Judith Gaydos, Brian Kern, Andrew Whitis, Mary Williams, and Zelda Patterson attended the 30th Annual Conference of the Academic Library Association of Ohio on November 4, 2004 in Dayton, Ohio.

Mary Williams attended the OPAL Government Documents Committee meeting on November 19, 2004 in Columbus, Ohio.

Sheila Ellenberger attended the OPAL Directors and OhioLINK Directors meeting on December 1-2, 2004 in Columbus, Ohio.

Andrew Whitis attended the OPAL Reference Committee meeting on December 17, 2004 in Columbus, Ohio.

Brian Kern has been accepted to present at the 13th Annual Innovative Users Group meeting on May 1-4, 2005 in San Francisco.

Andrew Whitis has been elected to serve a three year term representing the private colleges on OhioLINK’s Cooperative Information Resources Management Committee.
What Would Higher Education and Research in Ohio Be Like Without OhioLINK?

By Candi Clevenger, OhioLINK

If OhioLINK did not exist academic libraries and their users would be faced with the loss of expanded buying power in electronic research and reference content. Currently more than $30 million that could be spent individually is transformed into more than $100 million in electronic content purchases through collective action. Without OhioLINK libraries would have to pay three to four times more as individual purchasers to keep the same content that is now available statewide. Without OhioLINK, Ohio’s 600,000 students, faculty and staff would have to conduct research in a very different environment than they do today. Specifically:

Ohio’s academic libraries would not have rapid access to a statewide catalog of 43.5 million books and other items. Instead, scholars would be forced to travel for research materials, wait up to three weeks for items via interlibrary loan, or make do with the resources available at their institution.

678,000 requests for books and other library materials would not be filled without the system, infrastructure and funding to support the OhioLINK Library Catalog.

The OhioLINK Electronic Journal Center would not exist. Users would no longer have instantaneous, electronic access to more than 6,000 titles and 5.45 million scholarly articles. In 2004, OhioLINK spent $4.6 million and libraries spent $19.3 million on the EJC. However, it would cost an estimated $95.2 million just to duplicate the EJC in print at the universities.

There would not be 100+ research databases available at all OhioLINK member institutions. In addition, it would cost on average 300% to 400% more to provide statewide access to these databases if they were individually licensed by institutions across the state.

The entire population of Ohio would not have access to the Statewide Core Electronic Information Collection which includes Encyclopedia Britannica, the EBSCOhost collection, the Annals of American History, newspaper collections, Oxford Reference Online and much more. This collection is jointly funded by OhioLINK, OPLIN, and INFOhio with significant support from a Library Services Technology Act (LSTA) grant.

There would not be a Digital Media Center serving the state. This means no digital educational videos, historical and archival collections, AMICO and Saskia art images, LANDSAT satellite images, or foreign language videos available for statewide use. There also would not be an efficient central storage and access system for digital collections from all Ohio’s universities and colleges.

Users would not have access to more than 19,000 e-books and would not be able to make 1.02 million downloads from OhioLINK e-book collections as they did in 2004.

There would not be a statewide online chat reference service staffed solely by academic librarians to meet the special needs of academic library users. More than 20,000 people used Chat with a Librarian from January 2003 to September 2004.

The statewide Electronic Theses and Dissertations Center would not exist and the world would lose instantaneous access, from one Web site, to 5,100 electronic theses and dissertations by Ohio scholars.
Welcome Walter Kreis
By Dr. Sheila Ellenberger
Walter Kreis joined the Library staff at the beginning of January as the part-time Library Instruction Technician. Walter previously worked for Zane State College in a similar role at the Willett - Pratt Training Center in Cambridge. He is responsible for the daily delivery, set-up and return of the Library's circulating media equipment. In addition, Walter will provide maintenance of classroom multimedia equipment and will respond to equipment-related emergencies when possible.

Faculty should contact Walter with service requests to test equipment and/or diagnose problems in multimedia classrooms. Walter can be reached at x8261 or via email at wkreis@muskingum.edu.

Best Wishes Judith
By Dr. Sheila Ellenberger
Judith Gaydos has accepted the position of Reference Librarian/Coordinator of User Education at Frostburg State University in Frostburg, Maryland. Judith’s last day at Muskingum is January 28, 2005. We wish her all the best at the Lewis J. Ort Library.

Muskingum College
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