

NEWS FROM OWEN LIBRARY

Vol. 1, No. 1

Fall 2008

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Owen Library Newsletter Debuts

It is with pleasure the inaugural issue of *News from Owen Library* is introduced. This is the first Owen Library newsletter. It will be published at least twice a year for the purpose of sharing library news with the UPJ campus community. It will be accessible in the future electronically from the Owen Library website at:

<http://www.library.pitt.edu/john/owen.html> by clicking on *What's New*. Print copy of the issues will also be available in the library.

In this issue's *Check It Out* column, we announce the introduction of laptops for use in the library. The Open Sessions for fall term are also announced. First offered last year, they have expanded this year to include an additional topic session on using citation resources. Everyone is welcome to attend. The new interlibrary loan procedure *Get It!* is unveiled in another article.

With these and other articles, we hope you will find the newsletter helpful and informative. §

-Deborah Rinderknecht
Director, Owen Library

NEW ELECTRONIC RESOURCES: A SELECTED LIST



Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS)

This database is a collection of English-language transcriptions of media content from around the world collected by the U.S. intelligence community.

Gmelin

This chemistry database is the online version of *Gmelin Handbuch der anorganischen Chemie* and contains references back to 1772. Available on library computers only.

Literature Criticism Online

This database provides electronic access to important many of the Gale literature criticism series titles, including *Contemporary Literature Criticism*, *Twentieth-Century Literature Criticism* and others.

PsycEXTRA

This companion to the *PsycINFO* database contains gray literature, including newsletters, reports, and consumer brochures.

Theatre in Video

This database contains more than 250 definitive performances of leading plays and over 100 film documentaries, all online in streaming video.

Washington Post Historical (1877-1991)

This historical archive provides editorials, photo essays, investigative reporting, and more.



Calling all Pitt Johnstown Enthusiasts!

We need your help! The Owen Library is the home of the UPJ Archives. Some faculty and staff in old photographs housed in the Archives collection are yet to be identified.

Can you help us identify individuals in any of these photos? If you're a "veteran" of UPJ and interested in helping, stop by Owen Library and see how many faces and dates you remember! The display case is set up opposite the Circulation Desk on the first floor.

Come to Owen Library to experience a blast from the past!

Check It Out @ Owen Library: Laptops and Portable DVD Players Available

Do you have a written assignment due today and the computer lab is full? Would you rather watch a DVD in a more private area of the Library? Coming in fall term 2008, Owen Library will have portable DVD players and wireless laptops available for **IN-LIBRARY** use by current University of Pittsburgh students with a **current** PITT ID card. The portable DVD players may also be used **IN-LIBRARY** by current University of Pittsburgh faculty and staff.

The portable DVD players may be used anywhere within the Library to watch a DVD or

listen to an audio CD. They are due 4 hours after they are checked-out, with no renewals. Headphones or ear buds must be used with the players at all times. If you do not have a personal pair of headphones, one can also be checked-out to you at the Circulation Desk.

The wireless laptops enable students to access the Internet, the MS Office suite of applications – including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access – and ULS databases. Laptops may be checked-out for 4 hours, with no renewals. Data can be saved on disc or

flash drive, sent to an e-mail account, or printed.

For more information about either of these new services, please visit the Circulation Desk on the first floor of Owen Library. §



Open Sessions Announced for Fall Term

→ Looking for ways to improve your research skills?

→ Wondering how to get ahead in class or at work?

Then check out...

Owen Library Open Sessions

In each session, you'll learn tricks and tips for making the research process easier and more effective.

Finding a Needle in a Haystack: Tips for Effective Internet Research (Owen Rm. 209)

Monday, September 22nd 3:00 pm
Tuesday, September 30th 5:00 pm
Wednesday, October 8th 4:00 pm

Getting the Most Out of Google (Owen Rm. 209)

Tuesday, September 23rd 3:00 pm
Wednesday, October 1st 5:00 pm
Tuesday, October 7th 11:00 am

Citations Made Easy (Owen Rm. 209)

Monday, October 20th 3:00 pm
Wednesday, October 29th 11:00 am
Tuesday, November 4th 2:00 pm

Understanding Plagiarism: What You Need to Know (Owen Rm. 208)

Wednesday, October 22nd 6:00 pm
Tuesday, October 28th 4:00 pm
Monday, November 3rd 3:00 pm

Everyone is welcome, but seating is limited, so please **sign-up** at least 1 week in advance. We'll have completion certificates available for students attending as homework or for extra credit for class. Sessions are approximately 1 hour duration. **Sign up by calling Melissa Mallon at x7287 or stop by Owen Library's Circulation Desk to sign up!**

Information Literacy Demystified

You may have heard of information literacy in the past, and while it may be a somewhat familiar topic, you might still be wondering: why does it matter to me? As a refresher, information literacy is defined by the Association of College and Research Libraries in their *Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education* as “the set of skills needed to find, retrieve, analyze, and use information.” Since information literacy is the basis for life-long learning, these skills are crucial for students to possess as they finish their academic careers and move into the workforce.

The most effective way to teach information literacy skills is through integration into the curriculum. The University Library System (ULS) is committed to collaborating with faculty to make

sure students are gaining the information skills they need. Librarians are willing and available to collaborate or partner with faculty on developing library assignments and tools (such as quizzes or research guides) which support information literacy standards, and to discuss other ways of integrating information literacy into courses.

To assist in teaching individual information concepts and skills, the ULS has developed a set of information literacy online tutorials. While these tutorials will benefit any student looking to increase their information skills, they are targeted at the undergraduate level. Each tutorial (described in the column to the right) includes an interactive quiz that reinforces what students have learned. A grade report sheet at the end

of the quiz may be printed off and turned in as part of a homework assignment. Tutorials can be linked to CourseWeb or accessed directly via the Owen Library homepage.

For more information and resources related to information literacy (including an updated and expanded Faculty Toolbox), check out the Faculty Express Information Literacy & Assessment web page: <http://www.library.pitt.edu/services/classes/infoliteracy/>. For additional information, or to discuss ways to assess students' information literacy skills, faculty can contact Melissa Mallon, Library Instruction Coordinator, at x7287 or mnmallon@pitt.edu §

-Melissa Mallon

Information Literacy Online Tutorials

From the Owen Library homepage (<http://www.library.pitt.edu/john/owen.html>), click the “Online Tutorials” tab.

Avoiding Plagiarism

Avoiding Plagiarism presents the concept of plagiarism and ways to avoid inadvertent plagiarism.

Keyword Searching

Keyword searching basics and how to select appropriate keywords for searching are covered.

Using Databases

This tutorial discusses the value of article databases and basic database searching techniques.

Scholarly Information

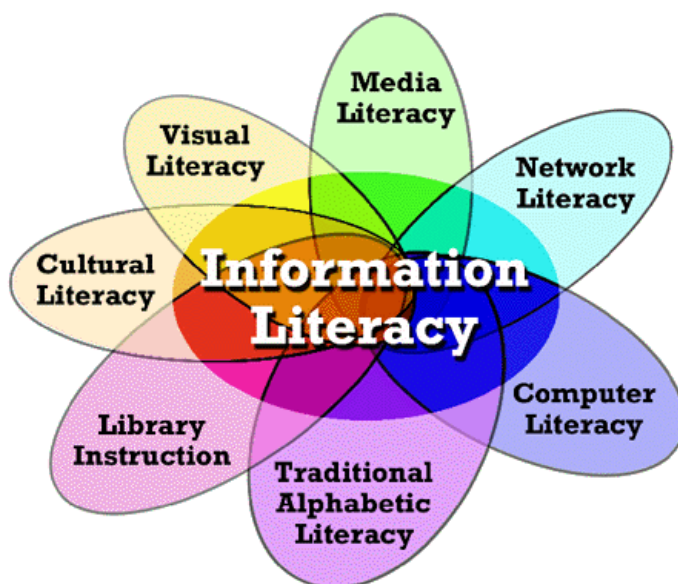
An introduction to identifying scholarly or peer reviewed literature.

Developing a Research Topic

How to get started with a research paper.

Surfing the Cyber Library

Surfing the Cyber Library was created to introduce students to the basics of evaluating information found on the Web. This interactive tutorial site covers such topics as using search engines, steps in evaluating Web information, and correctly citing Web information.



Faculty Spotlight on E-Reserves

In addition to placing print materials on Course Reserves, faculty may choose to use Electronic Reserves, thereby making course materials available to students 24 hours a day via PITTcat from any networked computer.

For complete guidelines on submitting material for Electronic Reserves, please refer to the *Course Reserves Guide for Faculty* <<http://www.library.pitt.edu/john/coursefaculty.html>>.

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Bowers, Course Reserves Coordinator, at x7300.

Get-IT!

With a Little Know-how, We Can All *Get it!*

Have you ever needed material for research or a project that was not available at Owen Library? If you have, odds are that you used Owen Library's Interlibrary Loan (ILL) service to get your hands on that resource. The process may have taken a little or a lot of time depending on where you were when you discovered your need for an item. You may have filled out a paper form or submitted a request form online. When you submitted that request, you probably had to log on to PITT*Cat*, search for the record, and copy all of the necessary information onto a form. You may also have been informed, after painstakingly filling in your request form, that you had not provided enough information for library staff to obtain the item for which you were searching. Sounds a

little cumbersome, doesn't it?

Fortunately, borrowing materials from within the University of Pittsburgh Library System (ULS) has become more user-friendly. **Get it!** is a new service that allows patrons to request materials from anywhere within the ULS right from the item's PITT*Cat* record. To borrow materials via **Get it!**, complete the following steps:

1. Search PITT*Cat* for the item.
2. From the list of search results, select the appropriate title. This will bring up the item record.
3. On the item record screen, select **Get it!** from the menu centered near the top of the screen.
4. Enter University ID number (2P000#) and last name.

5. Complete the appropriate fields on the request form, being careful to select the appropriate pick up location.
6. Click **Submit**.
7. A message will be generated regarding whether or not the request has been successfully submitted.

This service is available to all University of Pittsburgh faculty, staff, and students and can be accessed from any computer with an Internet connection. Items borrowed via **Get it!** are subject to the same loan/renewal periods and policies as items borrowed from a patron's local campus library. In the event an item is unavailable through any ULS library, patrons are encouraged to use E-Z Borrow. §

New Faces in Owen Library: Meet William Caldwell

Meet Owen Library's newest staff member: William Caldwell, Evening Circulation Supervisor. William holds a BFA in Ceramics from Wichita State University. Whether he's assisting students, faculty, and staff at the Circulation Desk or processing new books, William's creativity and friendliness have made him a valuable addition to the Library. When he's not at the Circulation Desk, William enjoys exploring the Pennsylvania wilderness. He's also a musician, writing songs and playing a variety of musical instruments.

Please stop by to say hello and welcome William to UPJ!



Owen Library Hours Fall Term



Sunday

1:00 pm - 12:00 Midnight

Monday - Wednesday

8:00 am - 12:00 Midnight

Thursday

8:00 am - 11:00 pm

Friday

8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday

10:00 am - 6:00 pm

**** Computer lab closes 15 minutes prior to closing of the library.**

****Hours vary during holidays and between terms.**

Owen Library Contact Information

Patricia Balko	Collection Management Librarian	x 7290	balko@pitt.edu
Laura Bowers	Senior Circulation Assistant	x 7300	lagibson@pitt.edu
William Caldwell	Night Circulation Supervisor	x 7300	woc7@pitt.edu
Julie Dewey	Administrative Assistant	x 7289	judewey@pitt.edu
Sara Herr	ILL/Circulation Assistant	x 7292	herr@pitt.edu
David Kupas	Access Services Librarian	x 1983	dmk24@pitt.edu
Jim Langan	Technical Services Librarian	x 7298	jlangan@pitt.edu
Melissa Mallon	Library Instruction Coordinator	x 7287	mnmallon@pitt.edu
Regina Matthews	Collection Management Assistant	x 7280	buterbau@pitt.edu
Johanna Pedrazzani	Reference Specialist	x 7880	ppedrazz@pitt.edu
Deborah Rinderknecht	Library Director	x 7288	drinderk@pitt.edu