

CHECK IT OUT

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

The library is beginning a year of transition. In August, Rachel Cheng, Associate University Librarian, left Wesleyan to accept the position of University Librarian at Eastern Michigan University and later this year I will retire after serving as Caleb T. Winchester Librarian for more than twenty three years. To prepare for this transition the library staff has recently completed a departmental self-study. This study along with an evaluation by a visiting committee will provide the information required to plan a smooth transition to a new library administration.

The position of Associate University Librarian will not be filled this year. Instead, several members of the staff have temporarily assumed additional responsibilities. Steve Bischof is overseeing the coordination of electronic resources. Alan Nathanson is responsible for library publications. Ed Rubacha is coordinating the services of the Campbell Reference Center. Pamela Bagley has assumed a greater role in the day-to-day operation of the Science Library and Diane Klare, who completed an internship in the library last year, has returned as a part-time reference librarian. She works in both Olin and SciLi.

The library staff is committed to providing the library services required for your work. If you have special or unmet needs during this time of change please let us know about them.

– Robert Adams, University Librarian

The Mellon Grant for Information Literacy

The explosion of information available in both print and electronic form offers a rapidly expanding array of resources for the library to collect and make available to faculty and students. This has been a great boon to researchers. But at what point does it become a burden, especially when you add in the vast Internet, with its millions of good, bad, indeterminable, and just plain weird sites? It is becoming more difficult to find all the relevant resources, since doing so requires sifting out the unnecessary or unreliable, and then to decide which of those relevant resources are most worth spending one's limited time on.

In addition to acquiring the standards and methodologies of one or more academic disciplines, so that they may become the independent, self-directed, lifelong learners we want them to be, students must know how to access the information from which knowledge in their field is constructed. In other words, students must know not just how to learn, but how to teach themselves. For this, they must be familiar with how professionals in a field keep up to date with, and contribute to the knowledge base of that field. Wesleyan graduates are well skilled in turning information into knowledge. Students must be equally skilled at finding the information they will need to construct knowledge once they no longer have Wesleyan's professors and librarians to rely on as guides.

To address this concern, Wesleyan Library and ITS, along with our colleagues at Trinity and Connecticut Colleges, applied for, and have

just received a grant from the Mellon Foundation for exploring ways to assist faculty in integrating "information literacy" (instruction and practice in successfully navigating the information environment) into the curriculum. Several other consortia of small liberal arts colleges have recently been awarded similar grants. We will begin our efforts with a one-day conference/workshop during the fall semester for interested faculty, librarians, and ITS staff to discuss information literacy as a concept and examine ways it can fit into the curriculum. Over the next five semesters (the grant offers funding for three years), we will launch a series of projects for integrating information literacy instruction into the curriculum.

Librarians and ITS staff will work with interested faculty to assist them in integrating information literacy instruction and training into the curricula of individual courses and clusters of courses. We plan to meet with faculty to discuss what they want their students to be able to do in terms of finding, evaluating, and using appropriate information sources for constructing knowledge, and how we can assist them in teaching these skills to students. Examples of the sorts of knowledge and skills faculty may decide students should learn include: criteria for evaluating sources found (such as knowing what the peer review process is and what it means for a source's reliability), selecting and using appropriate indexes and databases (including search techniques such as Boolean connectors, controlled vocabulary, or

(Continued inside)

Feature Articles

ReferenceNow – LiveHelp!

What Is It, and What Can It Do for You?

SFX Software: Finding Periodicals Made Easy

New and Improved Databases

ReferenceNow--LiveHelp! What Is It and What Can do for You?

At the top of almost every Wesleyan University Library Web page, there is a conspicuous bright blue icon labeled ReferenceNow--LiveHelp! Did you ever wonder what it does? Students and faculty often come to the Reference Desk for answers to quick questions, or for in-depth research assistance on an extensive research project. In the age of the Internet, reference service will still be available in person at the Reference desk, but now information service is also available by computer, in real-time, for greatly extended hours. The idea is to make it easy for library users who need research assistance either early in the morning or late at night from locations other than the library. LiveHelp! is really live and it is interactive. After clicking the icon, a reference librarian will assist you with your reference and research questions in a chat environment. While chatting with a reference librarian on one frame of your computer screen, the librarian will be able to either simply answer your question or "push" you web pages in the second frame that are relevant to the question you have asked. These screens that you receive are live so that you will be able to access the information yourself. The librarian also has the capability to remotely "walk" you through a complex instructional explanation, and demonstrate the efficient use of our extensive indexes, databases, and electronic journals. It is a fully collaborative online session between you and the librarian who will be able to assist you just as though you were with the librarian in person at the Reference Desk. One of the best features about LiveHelp! is that you will no longer be restricted to the times when we have a reference librarian available at the desk in person. Live Help! is available during the academic year Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m., Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. So whenever you need help using the library, navigating the library pages on the Internet, trying to locate a fact, or maybe even just feeling a little lonely, remember, a librarian will be there to help just by clicking ReferenceNow--LiveHelp!

—Alan J. Nathanson, Reference Librarian/Bibliographer

LATEST LIBRARY NEWS

New Photocopy Machines. With a new campus wide lease on photocopy machines, we are upgrading our equipment to provide better photocopy services. There will be four black-and-white photocopiers (two in Olin Library, two in Science Library) and one color photocopier in Science Library. In an effort to better preserve our print collections, all of the black-and-white copiers will have book friendly edges to make it possible for you to copy bound volume without damaging the binding. The new photocopy equipment agreement also requires the library to install new VendaCard vending machines and readers. By replacing the old and discontinued equipment, we anticipate better and smoother operations for our users. The immediate impact is that your old VendaCard will no longer work with our photocopy machines. You can exchange your old card for a new one with the equal dollar amount encoded at the Current Periodicals Reading in the basement of Olin Library and the Circulation Desk in Science Library. If you have questions, contact Helen Aiello, serials librarian, at x3828 or Linda Marquis, Science Circulation Supervisor at x3728.

SFX Software: Finding Periodical Articles Made Easy

Have you ever searched an online database for periodical articles, found just what you were looking for, and wished you could check the availability of the article, right there from the database? With the library's newly purchased SFX software, you can do just that by using the SFX link associated with the article citation. A list of links, customized for the article you want, will be generated by the new software. If the article is available electronically, the link will take you directly to the article, or to a source containing the article. If the article is in a journal listed in the CTW catalog, a link will take you to the catalog record so you can check to see if the library has the volume you need. If Wesleyan has no access to the article in any format, you can click on a link to make an Interlibrary Loan request.

To use SFX, you must search an SFX enabled database. Databases with an SFX icon next to their link on our Indexes and Databases page are SFX enabled. Additional databases will be SFX enabled as implementation by database vendors of this software progresses. After selecting an SFX enabled database, search it exactly as you would normally, and then click on the SFX link to locate library resources for your specific article. The location of the SFX link may vary in different databases. It may appear on the results page, on the detailed record page, or on both. The SFX link is indicated by an SFX button. For the databases that do not allow insertion of graphics, the link is indicated by "SFX" in unadorned hypertext.

SFX software links the subject databases used to search for articles, with the databases containing information about Wesleyan Library's print and electronic holdings. This means that when you click on the SFX link, the new software will go to work searching all potential Wesleyan resources for articles. For electronic resources, SFX maintains a list of journals to which Wesleyan Library has an online subscription, as well as a list of all the journal articles available in the aggregated full-text databases to which Wesleyan Library subscribes. For journals available at Wesleyan only in print, SFX searches for the article's matching journal title, not the journal volume the article is in. You still must check for the CTW Catalog record to determine if one of the CTW libraries owns the volume you looking for. SFX is able to search for the specific volume of the journal in which your article is found, only if the journal is among our electronic resources.

After searching all available sources for the article or journal, SFX generates a list of results. If the article is available through multiple sources, multiple sources will be displayed. The following is a list of possible results:

Full text available via [the name of the full-text database or journal publisher]. This result will only be shown if the article for which you are looking is available electronically in full-text. In most cases, clicking on the link will take you directly to the full-text article, or to a page from which the article can be downloaded. However, SFX is a tool that links databases and some databases do not allow direct linking. In these cases, you will be linked at a more general level, such as to the journal page or to the search page of the full-text database that indexes the journal. If you are not directly linked to the article, use the bibliographic information from your initial search to find the article.

(Continued on back)

truncation), using relevant discipline-specific software applications to analyze and present complex data, and communicating new knowledge to others in various formats, including print and web. Students learn information literacy concepts and skills best when they are taught and practiced in conjunction with assignments which are focused on course content. A wide variety of creative assignments can be used to include information literacy concepts into the course content. While these assignments will involve working with relevant academic content, they also need to include ways of educating and assessing the relevant information literacy skills and concepts. Wesleyan's librarians have created a list of possibilities for such assignments at <http://www.wesleyan.edu/libr/instruction/infolit2.pdf>, and we welcome the opportunity to discuss other possibilities with interested faculty. Please contact your liaison librarian (see the list at <http://www.wesleyan.edu/libr/facliais.htm>) or Kendall Hobbs (khobbs, x3962)

Farewell to Rachel Cheng, Associate University Librarian

Rachel Cheng, Associate University Librarian since 1997 accepted, effective August 15, the position of University Librarian at Eastern Michigan University Library in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Rachel came to Wesleyan University from the University of Connecticut Law Library in 1994 our coordinator for Electronic Resources. Apart from her numerous administrative responsibilities, she has been directly responsible for greatly improving the overall quality of library services at Wesleyan University. Under her administration, the library has undertaken numerous faculty and student surveys, the results of which have led to the implementation of such innovative programs as Personal Research Sessions, electronic reference service on the Internet until 2 a.m., and a closer working relationship between faculty and librarians through the departmental liaison program. All of Rachel's friends and colleagues at Wesleyan and the CTW Consortium wish her the best in her new and challenging position at Eastern Michigan University. We take this opportunity to thank her for her many contributions to Wesleyan. Rachel will be greatly missed by those who have had the pleasure to know and to work with her on a daily basis.

New Databases

AP Multimedia Archive. Photos, text, audio clips, charts, graphs, and maps – the AP Multimedia Archive has them all. Especially strong in public policy and the social sciences, the archive also covers events in science and the arts as well as in business, sports and entertainment. The Multimedia Archive contains the Associated Press' current year's photo report and a selection of images from their vast negative and print library dating from the 1840s. Today, the Multimedia Archive contains more than 700,000 photos, most of which are contemporary images, and it grows daily by the hundreds. The archive features two photo databases: an International photo archive and a Euro/Asian photo archive. The former features state, regional and national photos from North America, as well as the best of the international photo report. The latter features regional photos from Europe and Asia, some with foreign-language captions. The AP Text Database contains more than 700,000 pieces of text from the Associated Press, dating back to July 1997. These full-text articles detail events at the time they occurred, as reported by the Associated Press staffers. The AP Audio Database also contains more than half a million searchable audio clips dating back to the 1920s, with clips as recent as 48 hours. More than 300 news, sports, entertainment and business clips are added to the archive each day. Emotions that aren't easily captured in print or in a photo are clearly communicated with the sound clips. There is a separate database containing tables, maps, illustrations, and charts prepared by Associated Press graphic artists. They can be downloaded and opened as PDF files. The graphics database dates from January 1999 and is updated daily. Before you start searching, familiarize yourself with the online user guides. The AP Multimedia Archive is easy to use; however, not all databases search alike and you'll want to see what features are unique to this database.

China Academic Journals. Scholars of modern China at Wesleyan will be pleased to learn of our recent subscription to the Social Sciences and Humanities components of China Academic Journals (CAJ). CAJ is one of several databases of the China National Knowledge Infrastructure produced at Tsinghua University in Beijing. Wesleyan now has full access to over 2.1 million full-text full-image articles from 1,700 Chinese journals published since 1994. The articles cover the fields of literature, history, Philosophy, economics, poli-

tics, law and education/social sciences. No passwords are necessary. Users directly connected to the Wesleyan University network will be logged in automatically at <http://china.eastview.com> after clicking on the button labelled "IP-Address Access." You will also find China Academic Journals on the Wesleyan University Library's list of Indexes and Databases on the library homepage. The recommended Web browser is either Internet Explorer version 4.0 or higher, or Netscape version 6.0. An English language interface allows users to search in English, simplified (GB) or traditional (Big5) Chinese, or a combination of languages. Pin Yin, Zhu Yin, Wubi, and other common inputting methods are accepted for entering Chinese language searches. First-time users must download the latest available CAJ viewer software by clicking on the HTML link after login. Further questions about accessing China Academic Journals should be addressed to Alan Nathanson at extension 3869.

Digital National Security Archive. From Afghanistan to the Cuban Missile Crisis, Berlin Confrontation of 1962, Iran-Contra, and elsewhere, more than 35,000 declassified documents on U.S. foreign policy are now available online as full text from the Digital National Security Archive, a project of the National Security Archive and ProQuest. Each of the 15 collections, which also include analyses of the USSR, Nicaragua, other geographic areas and issues, and U.S. intelligence operations in general, is accompanied by an introduction, acknowledgments, an essay elaborating upon the issues and/or a photo essay. At the homepage, users can select search, bibliography, chronology, or glossary. Item- and page-level searching, with Boolean and wildcard options, are offered throughout. Useful help screens explain procedures in detail. Once-secret letters, briefings, transcripts, cables, memos, and other communications appear in full-text, though often with text blacked out. Quality of reproduction of the original varies – the PDF is often easier to read than the html. Each entry includes a complete citation, origin of message, recipient, location of original, number of lines excised (if any), and an abstract. Digital National Security Archive is easy to use, and provides an extensive record of primary materials in U.S. foreign and intelligence policy from World War II up to the early 1990's.

EIU CountryData. Among the library's latest database subscriptions is one that is likely

(Continued on back page)

New Databases (Continued)

to attract the attention of economics and other public affairs student –EIU CountryData. It is the product of *The Economist* Intelligence Unit, part of the company that publishes the popular British news magazine, *The Economist*. The EIU has published original research for more than 55 years, citing its reliability and impartiality. The scope is international—more than 100 countries and 40 regional aggregates (e.g. OECD, European Union, etc.) are covered, from 1980 with projections to 2005. Topics include business developments, economic and political trends, and government regulations. Contributors: an international network of more than 500 economists, industrialists, academics and diplomats. EIU states that it checks its statistics for validity and accuracy. This online service offers several ways to select and view data, to tailor analytical functions, and to download data into Excel spreadsheets. It offers Help screens and an explanatory tour.

NetFirst. If you were a frequent user of the NetFirst database, you'll notice that it has disappeared from the Library's Indexes and Databases menu. The name has disappeared, but not the data. NetFirst has now been integrated into the WorldCat database. Virtually all NetFirst records have been part of WorldCat since August 2000. NetFirst began in 1996 as a database of Internet resources – web sites, interest groups, electronic journals, etc. Records contain abstracts and Library of Congress subject headings and they are regularly verified and updated with items' current locations on the Internet. Don't let the number of records in the WorldCat database overwhelm you. Searches for Internet resources in WorldCat can be easily limited to Internet-only records.

Russian Social Science and Humanities Journals.

Scholars working with Russian language journals in the social sciences and the humanities at Wesleyan now have access to this new database of full-text journal articles. Produced by East View Publishing Company, this database provides researchers with access to Russian language and English language articles published in a wide range of the so-called "thick journals." The database also contains the journals of the Russian Academy of Sciences, popular literary publications, and other independent scholarly publications. Texts published since January 1, 1990 to the present date are fully accessible. Both new titles additional retrospective files are added regularly. Full-text and full-image content of the printed editions are available with the original pagination. The user is offered three search options:

1. An on-screen Russian "typewriter" to enter Cyrillic characters.
2. Searching by standard transliteration of Cyrillic characters.
3. English language searches. English language searches will retrieve only English language articles that have appeared in the Russian journals. For additional information about this database, please call Alan Nathanson (x3869) or Ed Allen (x3835) in Olin Library.

SFX Software (Continued)

Title available in the CTW Catalog. SFX searches the CTW Catalog for the journal's ISSN (a unique identifier for each journal). If a match is made, this statement will be displayed. Unlike the search for the electronic version, SFX does not check the dates of the journals held by the CTW libraries. Be certain that you check the catalog record to see which CTW library owns the journal and which volumes of the journal are held. You can also check the CTW Catalog record directly by clicking this link.

Title might be available in the CTW Catalog. This result indicates that SFX did not find a matching ISSN (a unique identifier for each journal) for your journal title. When SFX does not find a matching ISSN, it performs a title search. On rare occasions, such as when the "article" you are searching for is actually a chapter in a book, or when there is an error in the ISSN, a title search will find the appropriate match. You can click on this link to be taken to the closest matching titles in the CTW catalog. This result will be shown whether SFX finds a matching title or not.

Ask a question using ReferenceNow! This option is always on display. If you have a question regarding the use of SFX, or any other library-related question, click this link to establish a ReferenceNow! session.

Interlibrary Loan Requests (ILLiad). Click this link to make an Interlibrary Loan request for the article. Interlibrary Loan requests are filled only for articles that are not available electronically at Wesleyan, or from one other CTW Libraries. The Interlibrary Loan option will not be displayed at all if the article is available electronically. Check availability of the print journal through the CTW Catalog before making an Interlibrary Loan request.

– Pamela Bagley, Science Reference Librarian

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

Olin Memorial Library: (860) 685-2660
Reference and Research: (860) 685-3873
Circulation Office: (860) 685-3877
Reserve Office: (860) 685-3852
Interlibrary Loan Office: (860) 685-3876
Library Office: (860) 685-3844
Acquisition Office: (860) 685-3834
Cataloging Office: (860) 685-3476
Serials Office: (860) 685-3888
Art Library: (860) 685-3327
Psychology Library: (860) 685-2770
Science Library: (860) 685-2860
Scores and Recordings: (860) 685-3898
Special Collections and Archives: (860) 685-3864
World Music Archives: (860) 685-3826

