



THE LIBRARY LINK

Gingrich Library, Albright College
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Ed Tech Workshop Arrives Early in 2007

The 2007 Spring Educational Technology Workshop sponsored by the Gingrich Library will be held on Monday March 19th, the first week-day of Spring Break. The Library is still inviting suggestions on what to feature in this year's workshop and we are already planning several new sessions as well as repeating some popular favorites. New sessions include making use of the new Blackboard upgrades (especially in replacing the Digital Drop Box with an improved Assignment Manager), understanding the potential of shared work by using Google Docs and Spreadsheets, using ILLiad to generate interlibrary loans, creating research alerts in library databases as well as seeing demos of search options in the newer library databases like Science Direct and SciFinder Scholar. The keynote speaker has not been finalized yet.

Why offer the sessions during Spring Break? The Library is moving the workshop to the first day of the Fall and Spring Break in hopes of reducing the annual conflict that arose between the two-day Ed Tech Workshop held in May and the deadlines for faculty to turn in grades and for administrators and staff to clean up end-of-year fiscal issues and evaluations. Coordinators **George Missonis** and **Rosemary Deegan** hope that this change will lead a greater number of Albrightians to participate and learn how technology can improve communication, help us all teach and learn more efficiently and create more polished and professional communication products.

Contact a coordinator or email av@alb.edu with your conference suggestions!

Enhancements to InterLibrary Loan Service on the Horizon

ILLiad is coming!! ILLiad is coming!!
So what is ILLiad?

ILLiad is the online system you will use to request an item through Interlibrary Loan/ Document Delivery. And as you might expect, ILLiad is an acronym and stands for InterLibraryLoan internet accessible database.

You may notice some differences since your last InterLibrary Loan. Behind the scenes there is even more happening.

First, ILLiad integrates borrowing and lending all materials, (books, cd's, journal articles, DVD's and more) into a single application. This makes placing and tracking orders much easier and faster for you.

Each user will create a personal account and will be able to check the status on all their items anytime and anywhere they have access to the Internet.

Although testing is not yet complete, we hope that most of our online databases will automatically fill in the ILLiad request form for you once you log into the system. That means no more filling in green/orange sheets or typing in long online forms for most requests.

ILLiad is hosted off site by a company which supports many other institutions. As a result it is stable and dependable. We expect few, if any, interruptions in service and if they do occur, they should be minimal and resolved quickly.

We are attempting to reduce our use of paper and to speed up the process, we will deliver that item electronically. The articles you receive electronically will be stored on the secure server so you will not be using email space. With every gain in efficiency and productivity there

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Harken, Bibliophiles! Or, Help for the addicted.

By Sue Gallagher

I am an addict. I am unable to enter a bookshop, whether online or in person, and not buy a book. I hide them in my car until nobody is home and sneak them in privately. I squirrel them away in every nook and cranny of my home, or car, or office. I carry multiple books around with me just in case I am stuck in traffic.

My collection has overpowered my ability to keep track of it. I spent that horribly rainy day in July at home creating an Excel file of my titles. I carry it with me at all times so that I can avoid buying duplicates. Still, I have difficulty locating the books that I know I own and avoiding buying books I already have. Then I leaned about LibraryThing.com.

LibraryThing is a cataloging tool for keeping track of personal libraries. For a small fee, one can join in this biblio-social network and create a catalog of one's own book collection. The system works by pulling data about the books from sites like Amazon.com and many libraries' catalog records. Participants can't "tag" their books, that is create their own subject headings to describe the book's content. One can use this tool to find related books through a "Suggester" or books that you should avoid through an "Unsuggester." You can connect to others who share your reading interests and you can even see a display of your personal library by the book covers. You can sort and view your library in many different ways and you can even download your library to a cell phone or PDA. Coming soon, you can scan the barcodes of your new purchases right into your LibraryThing catalog.

I love my books. LibraryThing.com is giving me a way to enjoy and organize them in a way in which I have long dreamed.

Library Weeders Wanted!



Just like a garden, a library needs to be weeded in order to keep its collection in top notch form. It is a necessary process to provide users with the best materials possible, to make room for new materials and to use space more effectively.

So far in 2007, we have been working with faculty from biology, political science and sociology on weeding projects and we thank them for their hard work.

We are looking especially for weeders in the Humanities. So if you are interested in helping us with our "garden," please contact Sandy Stump (sstump@alb.edu, x7205) or your department's library liaison. *Please note that we are experimenting with different procedures to make the entire process as easy for faculty as possible. You can even help us from your computer desktop!*

Bringing the inside out

The library has been trying to make its collection more useful by adding descriptions of the contents of books to the online catalog. When you go to the OPAC, you can search for an item by title, author, subject, series, publisher, call number or "any" of these indexes. We have started a project to expand the information found in the TITLE and ANY indexes so that you will locate more of the materials that might be of interest to you in your search.

For example, last year, if you had put the name "John Updike" into the search block and used the ANY index for your search you would have gotten 90 results. Today, if you do the same search, you will get 109 results, many of the additional items found are chapters about John Updike in series like the *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, which included him in the volume on *American Novelists since World War II*. You will be able to search deeper inside these books because of our efforts to add information from the table of contents to our existing records.

Many of the new books that we buy already have this information listed in their electronic records that we add to the Albright Library's OPAC. This project allows us to add this information to the electronic records from our older titles so that our searching tools and our collection become more useful. Some of the records that have been upgraded so far include the *Dictionary of Literary Biography* series, *Best plays of...* series, anthologies, collected stories, and other books where the contents are not truly reflected in the electronic record. Should you come across a book whose record does not reflect the wealth of works and authors inside, please alert Sue Gallagher in our Technical Services Department (sgallagher@alb.edu, x7208).

Enhancements to InterLibrary Loan Service on the Horizon

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are some costs. ILLiad makes heavy use of email which means that users will need to keep their email addresses current and choose an email location that is dependable and easily accessible.

ILLiad also makes use of pdf files, so you will need Adobe's Acrobat Reader, available free many places including <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

Testing of the new system will begin in early February with a rollout by the end of February if possible. We are looking for people to help us test the new system. Please contact Pat Brosenne at 610-921-7212 or pbrosenne@alb.edu if you are interested in participating.

Science Direct Arrives at Gingrich Library

In January, the Library welcomed a new database to our collection: *ScienceDirect, College Edition*. This superior research tool contains journal articles, reference sources and citations in the physical and life sciences, including mathematics and health sciences from the many publications supplied by Elsevier. But it's not just for science. Additionally, the database provides access to information from sources in the social sciences and in the humanities as well. Browsing the list of titles on the home page will uncover more than 2500 journals and reference sources across all disciplines. Our College Edition subscription provides full text access to over 1600 of these titles published in the current year and four previous years. For a number of journals, articles in press are also available.

From the ScienceDirect home page you can run a quick search to see what might be in the database and from the search screen you can perform a "Basic" or "Advanced" search for a more sophisticated strategy. With registration, which is free under our subscription, you can set personal preferences to get your results presented to your specifications. You can choose to include abstracts with the lists of citations in your results page and, with the full text articles you find, you can choose between the .pdf page-image version or the web-based full text version containing hot links to other parts of the paper and to other journals cited, if they are also part of ScienceDirect. You can print citations and articles or email them to yourself or a colleague. The help screens and online tutorials are excellent for assisting you in searching the database and getting the results in the format you need.

If you register with ScienceDirect, you have a lot of options, including setting personal preferences for your search sessions. Search alerts allow you to run a search strategy, then get periodic updates with new results by e-mail. You can also opt to receive predefined topic alerts. If you wish to receive a table of contents notification, you can select any of the journal titles and receive an e-mail of the table of contents as soon as new issues are available. A citation alert allows you to designate a particular article, then notifies you when that article is cited.

As you can see, ScienceDirect is a powerful tool for information and it is a complement to Gingrich Library's other databases. Through our library consortial buying, the discounted price of this database is about \$30,000 a year and, after a detailed cost analysis, the Library was able to cancel all 28 of our current print and microfiche Elsevier-supplied titles and convert them to online access via *ScienceDirect*. This work saved over \$29,000 per year in renewal costs and added another 1500+ online journals for our faculty, students and staff to access in the library or from off-campus. With an additional \$1,000 in other microfiche title cuts (of items also available in full text in the library), this new service was added in a very tight budget year. Because of this high investment, we hope that you will fully use its many features and benefits, and encourage your students to do the same.



If you have any questions about ScienceDirect, or if you would like to have a librarian present this valuable tool to your class, please stop by the Reference Desk or contact us at libraryref@alb.edu or 610-921-7211.

Library Seeks to Create Leaner, Space-Saving Browsing Collection

The library is trying to re-arrange the first floor to make it a more inviting place. To this end, we need to recover a little more space. Several of our colleague institutions have begun to keep only a minimum of current periodicals on the first floor for browsing purposes—other current titles are sent to the serial stacks as soon as they are checked in. This model has the advantage of keeping most items together so you only have one place to look. And in our case, it would have the advantage of giving us some much needed space on the main floor.

Since the browsing of current print periodicals has declined in recent years and since we would like to encourage browsing of our popular journals, news magazines, and newspapers, we are seriously considering this move within the next 6 months. We would like to maintain a browsing collection of about 75-100 titles.

We are trying to get input from the campus constituencies about their needs. So, our questions to you are—What library periodical titles do you personally browse on a regular basis and if you are a faculty member, what titles do you require your students to browse on a regular basis? Once we have a proposed list, we will share that with you to make sure we have a lean and mean browsing collection that includes your favorites.

Please note that we are not proposing cancellations, but rather relocation to the third floor serial stacks. Thanks for your careful consideration of this issue. Please send feedback to Associate Director, Sandy Stump (ssump@alb.edu, x7205) by Friday, Feb. 16.



GINGRICH LIBRARY,
ALBRIGHT COLLEGE

Albright
COLLEGE

You can find it @ your library!

Albright College Library
P.O. Box 15234
13th & Bern Streets
Reading, PA 19612-5234

Circulation Desk: 610-921-7517
Reference Desk: 610-921-7211
Email: libraryref@alb.edu

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.ALBRIGHT.EDU/LIBRARY

Changes in Printing Must be Made to Control Costs

At the start of the Spring 2007 semester, the Library was hit with an unexpected deluge of students printing over 24,000 pages within the first two weeks. The cost of the excess printing prompted Library Director, Rosemary Deegan, to send the following message to all faculty:

Dear faculty,

During the last week, Library staff members have detected many students in the library printing large numbers of articles and long reports listed on course syllabi. We are concerned about this issue since we see more and more students using the library for creating, what is in essence, a free course pack. In addition the number of students printing long research reports and PowerPoint presentations that they need, a single frame per page, is also growing. Since the library's paper and toner budget has not been increased to meet this demand, we need to discourage students from printing 100+ pages of content since they are also printing large amounts of additional online journal and web materials that they find from researching topics in the library.

I am asking you at this time to be aware of our problem and understand why we may have to stop students from printing large stacks of items (and ask them to email them to themselves) since we cannot keep supporting that print level and still have the

resources to continue free printing for the entire semester. We have already taken steps to minimize the growth in student printing by replacing our printer with one that prints in duplex (on both sides of the paper) and changing the printer to print in draft quality. Even these 2 steps have not cut back the amount of paper and toner that we use on a monthly basis.

I need you to support the library in this decision to restrict our policy of virtually unlimited student printing and ask that you encourage students not to depend on the library for their entire printing needs, especially when they are this big. This increasing demand is making us re-think the need for limits to the free printing available to each student, at least in the library. We hesitate taking this step (which is in almost every academic library I know), but our support for this volume of printing is unsustainable for the library budget. I will be asking the IDC to consider this issue at their February or March meeting to see what can be done to improve the situation for next year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly.

Thanks,
Rosemary

Anyone with questions, comments or suggestions may contact Rosemary Deegan at rdeegan@alb.edu or 610-921-7202.