New & Noteworthy

Digital Collections Grow. Metadata and Digital Library Services and other collaborators in the library have been hard at work during the past year expanding the library’s ever-growing digital collections. Several new collections have recently been made publicly available.

- Ullmann Photograph Collection
- Picturing the Cayuse Region (Valla, and Umatilla Tribes)
- Historical Photograph Collection
- Wesley Waters
- Scholars’ Bank
- Northwest Digital Archives
- e-Asia Digital Library
- School of Journalism and Communications Advertising Archive

All these collections can be accessed at the Digital Collections homepage, http://libweb.uoregon.edu/diglib/search.html.

Recent Endowment Increases Map & GIS Access. A gift from Dave and Petronus, longtime university and library supporters, will allow the UO Libraries to hire a specialist to manage, enhance, and increase access the library’s map and aerial photography collection, the fourth largest set of cartographic materials in the U.S. and Canada. The library hopes to fill the position by January 2005. The library’s Maps and Aerial Photography homepage is at http://libweb.uoregon.edu/map.

Labor History Site Launched. Researching labor history using materials in the UO Special Collections and University Archives became much easier with the launch of The Labor Project, a new web resource that includes a searchable online catalog of major holdings in the history labor collection. Visit http://libweb.uoregon.edu/speccoll/exhibits/labor to use the new resource.

IT Directory Launched

The UO Libraries’ Interactive Media Group, now part of the Center for Educational Technologies, recently launched a new web resource (http://itdirectory.uoregon.edu) that matches up educational technology users with relevant services. Targeted primarily at instructors, the Instructional Technology (IT) Directory project is a direct response to faculty requests for a comprehensive, user-friendly guide to the many educational technology service providers scattered across the UO campus.

The directory design emphasizes nontechnical terms and carefully developed category searching, so users can find the help they need even if they aren’t familiar with the latest ed tech jargon and organizational labels.

For example, the new finding aid uses service categories and subcategories to initiate the search. Users can personalize their searches on several levels, or select technology service providers scattered across the UO campus.

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“IT Directory will make it much more efficient for those in need of technology services on campus to identify and locate the best providers,” says Kirstin Hischolzer, project manager for the IT Directory.

If you’d like to have your technology service included in the directory, contact Andrew Bonamici, associate university librarian for instructional services, 346-2682, bonamici@uoregon.edu.

Open Access Moves Forward

Faculty, librarians, granting agencies, and advocacy groups are giving growing support to the concept of open access to published research. Open access is an effort to address the dysfunctions in the current publishing model, that is, problems associated with affordability and dissemination of information.

Open access is an alternative business model, where readership is free and the costs associated with publishing are covered up front by fees other than subscriptions, e.g., author fees, institutional memberships, and grant funding.

There are currently more than 1,200 peer-reviewed open-access journals linked through the UO catalog and literally dozens of open-access coalitions, working groups, protocols, and experiments under way internationally.

The UO Libraries has provided signature support to several initiatives. It has also provided membership support to the Public Library of Science, which gives UO faculty reduced author fees for publication in its journal, PLoS Biology.

But the biggest development happened in September, when the House Appropriations Committee passed legislation that would require the published results of all NIH-funded research to be deposited in the open access archive PubMed Central, which is managed by the National Library of Medicine. If the legislation passes the Senate, it will represent a watershed in access to research material. If other agencies follow suit—and many believe they will—the scholarly community and the general public could have more affordable access to publicly funded research.

More information on open access and NIH can be found at http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/fosblog.html. The UO Libraries has provided signature support to several initiatives. It has also provided membership support to the Public Library of Science, which gives UO faculty reduced author fees for publication in its journal, PLoS Biology.

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CET Opens Doors

UO faculty and GTFs who want to better integrate technology into their teaching will be happy to learn about the newly established Center for Educational Technologies (CET) at the UO Libraries. CET blends several instructional technology services previously offered by the library into a single unit that will provide start-to-finish assistance to UO instructors interested in using technology as part of their teaching strategies.

The library’s academic education coordinator, KJ Johnson, will head up the new unit. “Our mission is to promote active learning through innovative uses of technology,” says Johnson. “CET brings together a wide array of services under one roof, with the goal of better serving instructors who want to use technology in their UO courses.”

The center’s staff will offer training, consulting, media production, and project management as needed to address instructional goals. Areas of expertise include:

- Blackboard, the university’s course management system
- Graphics and digital images
- Digital video and audio
- Scanning
- Instructional design
- Web design and development
- Powerpoint and other presentation technologies

Andrew Bonamici, associate university librarian for instructional services, says that in addition to providing direct production assistance and training, CET can help faculty members identify other units on campus that may cater more directly to their specific instructional needs. “Our library staff networks extensively with many different technology units on campus, so we have a good knowledge of where to refer people if we’re not able to serve them directly,” says Bonamici.

CET is located in Knight Library, Room 19. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. The web address is http://libweb.uoregon.edu/cet. For more information, contact KJ Johnson, 346-1746, kjjohnson@darkwing.uoregon.edu.

Welcome to FYI, an annual publication of the UO Libraries. FYI keeps you informed of library services and activities that further the university’s missions of teaching, research, and service.
New Databases

In the past year, the library has continued to add powerful new databases and other electronic research aids to its collections. Many new databases are being acquired through the library’s collaborative efforts with other Oregon libraries to license databases for statewide use through a single vendor, EBSCO Publishing. The new program, administered by the State Library in Salem, saves the state nearly $10 million annually in database licensing fees.

In the past year, the following databases were added to the library’s collections as a result of its participation in the program:
- All Health Watch
- Computer Source
- Legal Collection
- Military and Government Collection
- Professional Development Collection
- Psychology and Behavioral Science Collection
- Religion and Philosophy Collection
- Vocational and Career Collection
- Other databases or upgrades acquired individually by the UO Libraries in the past year include:
  - All Academic
  - Chicano Database
  - FIAR—International Film Archive
  - JSTOR, Arts & Sciences III (Scholarly Journal Archive)
  - SourceOECD

The databases listed above typically provide full-text content for several hundred journals in each discipline. For more information on specific database content, go to the alphabetical listing for databases on the Databases & Indexes: Introduction page (http://libweb.uoregon.edu/databases/indexes.php). The database will continue to expand on the more than 100,000 records currently included. Increased capabilities for direct keyword searching of the texts is also planned. Access to this database was made possible in part by a gift to the UO Libraries from Tom and Mimi Hartfield.

Web of Science
Thanks to a collaborative purchase by the UO College of Arts and Sciences, UO Graduate School, and UO Libraries, access to records in the Web of Science database is now available for articles going back to 1973. Web of Science covers about 7,600 journals in the hard sciences and social sciences. This upgrade brings more than 33 million additional records into the database. “Students and faculty in interdisciplinary programs such as environmental studies find Web of Science especially useful,” says Victoria Mitchell, head of the Science Library. “It’s one of our most heavily used research tools. This upgrade will be a boon to researchers in many different fields.”

Full-Text Articles in Psychology
Full-text online access has been added for the contents of 53 journals published by the American Psychological Association and its affiliates. A listing of the journals can be found at http://www.apa.org/pysarticles/coxlist.html. To access the full text of an article of interest from these publications, click the FindText button on the library’s home page (http://libweb.uoregon.edu/) and conduct a FindText search for the article. The results will provide links to full-text versions.

New and Upgraded Electronic Resources

Early English Books Online (EEBO)
EEBO contains digitized facsimiles of all printed materials published in Great Britain between 1473 and 1700 and materials published elsewhere in the world in English during the same period. Materials include books, tracts, pamphlets, advertisements, ballads, rhymes, and other ephemera. William R. Rockett, associate professor emeritus of English, has used EEBO to demonstrate to his students how interpretations of passages from Shakespeare’s plays hinge on variations in the printed text of the playwright’s work. EEBO is a great teaching tool and a great research tool,” Rockett says. “It makes it possible to have easy, immediate access to original texts that heretofore were very difficult to find.”

The University Archives is the official repository of university records dating back to 1873. It contains paper records, university publications, student theses and dissertations, photographs and negatives, audiocassettes, films, and various memorabilia relating to the UO. The archives currently occupy more than 19,000 linear feet of space and more than 12,000 boxes of materials.

UD students, faculty members, and the general public now have better access to materials held in University of Oregon Archives, thanks to a $1.4 million gift from Richard and Mary Corrigan Solaris to endow the university’s historian-archivist position.

“The Solaris gift gives us the capability of making our archival collection more visible and accessible to the campus community as well as to the general public,” says UO Librarian Deb Carver. “The archives collection represents the history of the University of Oregon. Within that history is an enormous wealth of information, not just about the campus but about higher education, student life, and the impact of world events.”

Serials Changes Under Way

Upward spiraling subscription costs for journals published by large for-profit publishing houses are sapping the budgets of research libraries nationwide. The UO Libraries is, of course, no exception. For the past two years, the library has consulted with individual departments to develop a multipronged approach in its battle against budget cuts, inflation, and increased subscription rates for serials. Strategies have included elimination of duplicate titles, increased reliance on online journals, subscription cancellations, and increased resource sharing and collaborative subscription arrangements with other state institutions, and development of Scholars’ Bank, an online repository for the results of research conducted at the UO (see article on facing page).

Despite these efforts, the financial picture for serials is expected to remain gloomy in the foreseeable future as many publishing companies continue to increase prices beyond inflationary norms, eating up more and more of the library’s serials budget.

To address this issue long term, the library, working in tandem with individual departments, has developed a new business model for serials. The goals of the new approach are to maintain a diverse journal collection; support society-owned, nonprofit journals; target the highest-priced, less frequently used titles; and use electronic media to deliver journal content more cost effectively.

Under the new plan, the library will restructure its subscription agreements with some publishers. Beginning in January 2005, as many as 300 high-use titles will be moved to an online platform, thus providing deeper archival coverage and broader access to content. A similar number of low-use titles will moved to a pay-per-view format.

“We believe the new model strikes a good balance between providing full access to a broad range of important research journals and supporting more fiscally responsible forms of scholarly publishing,” says Payne Chadwell, head of collection development and acquisitions at the UO Libraries. “The support of faculty in this process is crucial if we are to overcome the financial challenges we face in this area of collection development.”

For more information on the restructuring, contact your subject specialist in the library. A list of the library’s subject specialists can be found at http://libweb.uoregon.edu/colldev/general/special.html.

http://libweb.uoregon.edu

Scholars’ Bank Opens

UO faculty members are encouraged to use the newly developed Scholars’ Bank (http://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu), an institutional archive for UO research in digital form, including preprints, technical reports, working papers, student terminal projects, data sets, and more.

Scholars’ Bank is a tool for collecting, disseminating, and preserving the intellectual output of the UO community. Built around the concept of research communities, Scholars’ Bank gives users easy remote access and the ability to read and search items generated at the UO from one location: the World Wide Web. The service offers standardized digital preservation, presentation, and distribution of many forms of data, including text, audio, video, images, datasets, and more.

For information on establishing a research community for Scholars’ Bank, contact Carol Hixson, project coordinator, at 346-3064, chixson@uoregon.edu.