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OlinInfo

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRANKLIN W. OLIN LIBRARY AT ROLLINS COLLEGE

September 2009

Olin Hours — Fall

Mon-Thurs: 7:45 a.m. to Mid-night

Friday : 7:45 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 11:00 a.m. to Midnight

Olin Telephone Numbers

Hours.....(407) 646-2376

Circulation (407) 646-2521

Reference.....(407) 646-2507

Archives.....(407) 646-2421

Ask A Librarian:
askolinlibrary@gmail.com

Facebook:
Olin Library @ Rollins College

Twitter:
OlinLibrary

This edition of our newsletter is in pdf format on our website and most of our readers are receiving it in that format. If you would prefer to receive it in print in full color in the future, send an email to Darcella Deschambault at d-deschambault@rollins.edu. We will be happy to oblige.

R-Search: A New Way of Searching for Information

Google has proven to be a powerful tool for students who want quick and easy access to information. A recent study by OCLC reported that 89% of students begin their research with an internet search engine, and only 2% report beginning with the college library's resources. A challenge for libraries has been to offer a product that can compete with the speed and ease of Google. Selecting the appropriate resource, learning the unique search protocols for each database, and the sometimes cumbersome process of retrieving the full text can be discouraging to students who are accustomed to the ease of Google. Unfortunately, quality information can be drowned out by the deluge of unscholarly or opinion oriented material on the open internet.

This is where a new product called R-Search, a search engine licensed by the Olin Library, comes into play. Like google, R-Search offers a true, one-box search that will collect results from across the spectrum of our library's subscription databases. Article-level results are displayed from our library databases, online subscriptions, and local catalog records.

How is R-Search different from Google: While Google indexes the immense universe of information available on the internet, a huge percentage of its hits will be from unreliable sources. Sub-sections such as Google Scholar will often retrieve only *citations (rather than the full-text)*, thus frustrating users who have grown accustomed to immediate access to items found on the internet.

How is R-Search different from federated search products such as FoxHunt? FoxHunt performed a fresh search of a huge collection of information with each search request. This caused a slow response time and results that were not always displayed by relevancy. The reason Google is so fast is that it searches material that is pre-indexed in a massive database that it is constantly updating. You are never doing a "fresh" search when you use Google, rather you are searching the pre-indexed material which results in a fast, clean search. R-Search uses the same type of pre-indexing. Like Google, the results are fast and displayed by relevance. Unlike Google, R-search gives preferential indexing to the high-quality, peer-reviewed material owned by the Olin Library and cannot be displayed by free tools on the internet.

R-Search is a brand new product released by Serials Solutions, a company that provides resource management tools to libraries. The Olin Library is only the third college to sign on to this innovative product.

We are making a beta version of R-search available to our users and would appreciate any feedback you may have to help us improve its functionality. You can try R-Search at: <http://rollins.summon.serialssolutions.com/>

ONLINE ACCESS TO THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IS NOW AVAILABLE



The Olin Library is pleased to announce campus-wide access to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Widely regarded as the preeminent source for news and information about higher education, you will now be able to access the *Chronicle* from any networked computer by simply logging in with your Novell username and password.

The Chronicle of Higher Education has become a staple of academic information, yet few people know much about its history. The paper had very modest beginnings, when Corbin Gwaltney, the editor of the *Johns Hopkins Magazine* for alumni, brainstormed with other alumni magazine editors to come up with a way to expand their coverage beyond the narrow confines of their own institutions. The first issue of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, a mere eight pages, was released in 1966. It contained no advertising and was funded primarily through grants from the Carnegie Corporation and the Ford Foundation. By 1970 Gwaltney realized that there was a market for a national source for jobs in higher education. The advertisements proved to be not only a huge source of revenue, but it increased paid subscriptions by exposing the *Chronicle* to job seekers who might otherwise never have looked at the paper.

Later in 1970 the *Chronicle* became one of the best sources for the ongoing coverage of the Kent State shootings, helping solidify the *Chronicle* in the minds of academics as the best source for serious, unbiased coverage of news about higher education. In April of 1993 the *Chronicle* became one of the first papers available on the Internet when it debuted as a Gopher service.

The popularity of the *Chronicle* is such that many of our faculty and academic departments maintain individual subscriptions. With this online version, we hope that many can realize a cost savings by turning to the online edition. The *Chronicle* is available for remote access to anyone via their Novell username and password. You can find the *Chronicle* on the Olin Library homepage listed under "Article Indexes & Databases."

THE ULTIMATE IN (RE)CYCLING!

Over the past few years, the diversity of resources that can be checked out from the Olin Library has expanded to include laptop computers, calculators, digital cameras, and even a Wii console. Thanks to the efforts of EcoRollins, a student-led group with a mission to create a greener campus, that list has expanded to include bicycles!

The goal of the Bike Library is to encourage students to consider bicycles as an alternative means of transportation, exercise, or simply a little recreation. Ten bikes have been purchased by the campus administration and are being stored at the Alford Sport Center when not in use. Because the library has plenty of experience circulating items and maintaining records, the library was the logical organization to handle the circulation of the bikes.

Students may check out bikes for a 3-day loan period from the Olin Library circulation desk, where they will be issued the key to a bike lock and safety helmet.



A&S senior Wendy Mays with an EcoRollins bicycle.

THE GUTENBERG ELEGIES: THE FATE OF READING IN AN ELECTRONIC AGE

As the title of his book suggests, literary critic Sven Birkerts believes the digital age is killing print culture, leading us into a world where the value of sustained reading will be diminished by quick bites of electronic media. As the upcoming generation of college students is pulled toward the seductive technologies of instant text-messaging, sound-bites, internet snippets, and hundreds of cable channels, Birkerts predicts "an argument between technology and the soul."

Do you agree? *The Gutenberg Elegies* has passionate advocates as well as people who vehemently disagree with Birkerts' assertions. The book will be the subject of a semester-long discussion group jointly sponsored by the Cornell Fine Arts Museum and the Olin Library. The book group will be open to any interested members of the Rollins community, including students. We will meet at 5p.m. in the Olin Library's Van Houghton conference room on September 22, October 6 and 27, and November 17. There will be refreshments, a chance to meet colleagues, and enjoy lively conversation.

On November 12, author Sven Birkerts will be speaking on the subject of reading at the Cornell Fine Arts Museum. This presentation will be in conjunction with the CFAM's exhibit of legendary Hungarian photographer André Kertész. More than 100 portraits by Kertész feature the power of reading in candid photographs taken in France, Hungary, and the United States.



Photo courtesy of iFatma

The Gutenberg Elegies book discussion group is free and open to the public. The second edition of the book can be purchased from amazon.com.



ANCESTRY.COM IS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE OLIN LIBRARY

Ancestry.com is a collection of over 4 billion records documenting the history of individuals who lived in the United States. The records are classified into three categories: Historical Records, Stories & Publications, and Photos & Maps.

Ancestry.com is best known as a database for people researching genealogy, but the sheer mass of information stored in this database will be useful for students and researchers in a broad range of academic disciplines. The database contains fully scanned U.S. Census Records from 1790 through 1930, providing immense data on the economic, racial, and demographic profile of our country. Other major collections include U.S. Slave Narratives, immigrations records, selected local newspapers, and even high school year-books. There is extensive military information, including Revolutionary Court Martial records, Prisoner of War lists, and the full text of *Stars &*

Stripes, a newspaper distributed among people serving in the U.S. armed services beginning in WWI. A recent addition of more than 11 million records from JewishGen, a Jewish genealogy organization, will shed insight into the Jewish experience in America with immigration records, refugee/displaced person information, photographs, and holocaust survival announcements.

Although the strength of Ancestry.com is in its U.S. birth, marriage, death, immigration and military records, the database is rapidly adding content from Canada, the United Kingdom, and other European countries. You can find the database the Olin Library homepage listed under "Article Indexes & Databases." It is accessible from any networked computer on campus, or off campus by logging in with your Novell username and password.

EXHIBITS IN THE OLIN LIBRARY

Have your students put together a multi-media assignment you would like to showcase? The Olin Library has plenty of space suitable for displaying student projects. This is an excellent opportunity for your students to gain actual experience in mounting an exhibit and gather feedback from their peers. Exhibits can be as small as something to fill a tabletop display case, or as large as something which fills the Bib Lab.

Please contact Dorothy Mays at dmays@rollins.edu if you would like to book a time on our Exhibit calendar for a student or faculty project.



From a senior art display in the Library's Bib Lab by A&S student Elizabeth Rogers



Congratulations!

Wenxian Zhang. (Head of Archives and Special Collections) Wenxian is the 2009 recipient of the Cornell Distinguished Services award. This award is conferred upon a Rollins professor in recognition of a pattern of outstanding service contributions to the college and community. Wenxian has lead a number of college trips to China and is an active member of the Orlando Chinese Professional Association.



Farewells:

T.R. Parker. (Technical Services Specialist). After four years at the Olin Library, T.R. Parker has moved to London for the opportunity to be an intern at a branch of Florida State University's satellite library in London. Upon completion of his internship, T.R. will have earned his Masters degree in Library Science.



Melanie Osborn. We bid a fond farewell to Melanie Osborn, our Interlibrary Loan Specialist. Melanie became a well-known figure to campus faculty who relied on her cheerful and efficient help in getting them quick access to the research they needed. During her two years at the Olin Library, Melanie played a key role in upgrading our Interlibrary Loan software and improving our turn-around rates from two-weeks down to approximately one week. Melanie has moved to western Pennsylvania in order to work on her family's historic dairy farm.



Welcome Aboard:

Cynthia Snyder. Cynthia Snyder has joined the Olin Library as our newest Public Services Librarian, working closely with our Science faculty and students. Cynthia comes to Rollins from Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois where she was Access Services/Science librarian from 2007 to 2009. She received her MLIS from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2006 and her MS in Geography from Northern Illinois University in 1996. Cynthia is looking forward to becoming an active member of the library community in Florida.