



# LIBRARY MATTERS

Bruce T. Halle Library

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## News from the University librarian

Rachel Cheng, University librarian

We all have to deal with price inflation in our daily lives. For the library, our biggest concern is the annual price increase of journals and databases. The average scholarly journal, costing \$351 in 2001, costs around \$495 in 2005. The average annual inflation rate for journals between 2001 and 2005 is 9 percent. Some electronic databases are increasing in cost at a much faster rate. For example, ABI Inform is an essential full text business database that rose in price from \$33,474 in 2003, to \$40,870 in 2005, a 22.1percent increase from 2003 to 2005.

To cope with this, we have taken measures to eliminate inefficiencies and redundancies, and have streamlined acquisition procedures. Some specific examples:

- We have instituted a one-format policy, with electronic format the preference. This allowed us to cancel the print versions of online journals, indexes, abstracts and reference databases.
- We have created statistical databases to track long term usage of journals, indexes and databases.
- Working with academic departments, 148 journals were cancelled in 2004 and another 315 titles are targeted for cancellation in January 2006. (Go to [www.emich.edu/halle/journalcancellation.html](http://www.emich.edu/halle/journalcancellation.html) to see the complete list.)

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• We have negotiated favorable licensing contracts individually or as a consortium with our publishers and vendors.

• We have dramatically increased and improved our interlibrary loan services in order to speedily provide our students and faculty with books and articles the library does not own.

Working with the Michigan Library Consortium, we are in the process of subscribing to a package deal that will give EMU access to the entire journal collection published by Blackwells, around 750 titles, for a bit more than the cost of our current 131 subscriptions. This venture will also give us the nine journals requested by the Chemistry, Economics, Nursing and Political Science departments that we haven't been able to fulfill previously. The one downside to this kind of package deal is that we lose the ability to add or cancel journal title by title.

Assuming the library receives no budget increases, we must cut between \$150,000 and \$200,000 worth of library collections annually, due solely to inflation. Tying up more and more of the library collection budget with package deals like this makes it harder for the library to trim its collections and still balance the overall needs of academic programs.

This is just one of the decisions we make on your behalf that have a direct impact on the quality of teaching and learning at EMU. The library has and will continue to make wise use of the resources it is allocated. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to better meet your needs. ♦



## New Research Tools

by Keith Stanger, Public Services librarian

### **RefWorks@EMU**

RefWorks is a Web-based bibliographic management service that can not only store and organize the references you collect in the course of your research, but can also format bibliographies according to many different styles, such as the MLA and the APA citation styles. While you can enter references into RefWorks manually, in most cases references can be imported directly from electronic databases. No (or minimal) typing! References are stored on the RefWorks server and can be accessed from any location with an Internet connection. EMU's Graduate School and the Halle Library have together purchased a one-year subscription to the service.

RefWorks makes it easy to create and manage a personal database of references. You may save an unlimited number of references in a RefWorks account and create an unlimited number of storage folders. The notes, abstract and user definable fields of a record are limited to 1 gigabyte of information.

RefWorks can also be used to support group projects. You can:

#### **Create a separate group account**

RefWorks does not limit the number of accounts you can create. All members of your group can have equal access to all citations by creating a RefWorks account with a "group" name, e.g., Quality Production Group. Tell group members the RefWorks login and password. E-mail regarding the account will be sent to the member who set up the account.

#### **Create read-only access to a personal account**

In your personal account you can create a read-only password that

allows others with RefWorks accounts to access your citation database in read-only mode. They will be able to search your database, export data, and create bibliographies. They will not be able to edit references, import references or change folders.

#### **Export your personal citations for workgroup members to import into their personal RefWorks accounts**

For RefWorks to generate bibliographies and footnotes that accurately reflect the styles of academic publishers, you do need to know the requirements of a given style and you must review, and often "tweak" the data that is automatically transferred into RefWorks from the database(s) you searched. For creating stylistically accurate bibliographies, RefWorks is a very helpful tool but not a "magic wand."

What if you invest the energy and time to create a personal database of references in RefWorks, and then leave EMU or the University is unable to renew its subscription after the first year? You can purchase an individual subscription to RefWorks (at this time, \$70 per year) or, if you prefer, export your entire database into a format that is compatible with other bibliographic software, e.g., EndNote or ProCite. You can also export the data to use in some other type of database program.

Register for RefWorks through the link at [www.emich.edu/halle/refworks.html](http://www.emich.edu/halle/refworks.html).

If your RefWorks questions are not answered there, or by the collection

of short video tutorials developed by RefWorks, [refworks.com/tutorial](http://refworks.com/tutorial), contact Keith Stanger at [keith@stanger.com](mailto:keith@stanger.com) and a member of the Library's RefWorks Support Team will respond.

### **Google Scholar@EMU**

Google is the first place many people go to find information on the Internet. Results often include enough full text to satisfy the searcher. However, academic research requires the discovery and examination of items in scholarly journals, reports and books. These materials are often not available at "no charge" on the Internet and the original Google search service does not index the servers that hold these materials. University researchers have turned to specialized academic indexes, purchased by university libraries, to discover scholarly material.

In late 2004 Google introduced a test (beta) service called Google Scholar at [scholar.google.com](http://scholar.google.com) or through a link at the main Google site. With Scholar, Google has refined its search algorithm to identify on the free, public Internet, "scholarly literature, including peer-reviewed papers, theses, books, preprints, abstracts and technical reports from all broad areas of research." It has also developed a way to extract citations to books and articles from the bibliographies of the materials it indexes. These citations, while listed on Google Scholar result screens, do not link directly to additional information. As the "About Google Scholar" page notes, "[t]his means your search results may include citations of older works and seminal articles that appear only in books or other offline publications."

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Google Scholar organizes search results by relevance that takes into account the full text of each article (when available), as well as the article's author, the publication in which it appeared and how often it has been cited in the other materials in the Google Scholar index. It displays the number of times items have been cited and provides links to the materials where the citations appear.

Google Scholar provides access to content not available from the Google Web search service before—information about articles, reports, and books stored on the Web servers of scholarly commercial publishers. While in some cases Google has been permitted to display the full text of these materials, in many more cases, only a description is available. So, while Google Scholar can now alert you to the existence of some potentially relevant research items, when you navigate to them the publisher says “to read this you have to pay for it.” This is not what most have come to expect from the original Google service. It is important to realize that the EMU Library might

have already paid for and can provide access to the commercial material found in Google Scholar. And if we have not already paid for materials, the library's Interlibrary Loan Service can probably acquire for you, at no cost, the full text of the items you desire.

How do you determine whether the library provides access to the full text you want? Some good news! Using Google from on-campus or from off-campus using the link on the Google Scholar EMU page [www.emich.edu/halle/googlescholar.html](http://www.emich.edu/halle/googlescholar.html), the “EMU FindText+” link will help you find any available format of the materials sought.

Does the existence of Google Scholar mean the library does not need to subscribe to its broad array of academic indexes? Absolutely not! Google has not been forthcoming about who its information partners

are and what sources are indexed. In addition, reviewers have found that for those partners who are known, e.g., Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), arXiv, Blackwell-Synergy, IEEE, Institute of Physics, PubMed, RePEc (Research Papers in Economics), Springer and Wiley Interscience, the Google Scholar depth of coverage is not as great as on the original sites. That is, you discover significantly more material from a search on a native “partner” site than when you perform a search for their material on Google Scholar. Google Scholar is not a reliable alternative to the Library's licensed databases.

Why use Google Scholar? Its vast index of many types of publications often means you will turn up some new perspectives that you did not uncover using more narrowly focused research tools. It is, therefore,

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## Group Study Rooms

by Scott Muir, associate University librarian

Students using the library would like more group study rooms, but often there are not enough rooms available. Most groups looking for rooms are small—approximately three to five people. Other students have expressed interest in more quiet study areas. We've made some changes to try to please both groups.

Four additional rooms have been turned into space for small groups of student to use, and we continue to look for other ways to provide group study rooms. Also, the large open area on the south side of the main level has been designated a group study area.

We have tried to improve signage reminding people that the study

rooms are for groups. If a group needs a room, an individual studying alone may be asked to move. But since individuals need study space too, we have set up two rooms with carrels for up to six students each. These rooms are for totally silent study: no cell phones, no laptops, no music headsets, no talking. These are rooms 205H and 307C on the second and third level. Handouts will be available showing the new areas.

We continue to try to make the quiet areas truly quiet by asking cell phone users to follow our long standing policy and go to the stairwell, the first floor atrium, and the ground floor. Cell phone users may also use any available group study room. ♦

### **Library Matters**

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## News and Notes

Linda Shirato, Information Services librarian

### **Graduate Student Library Survey Drawing Winners!**

Congratulations to the winners of a \$25 gift certificate to Amazon.com: Alicia Mann, Department of English Language and Literature; Tom Mitchell, School of Technology and Jennifer Patterson, Department of Music and Dance

The library thanks all the graduate students who participated in the survey. We appreciate your input and look forward to reading your suggestions. Results will be available on the library website and discussed in the next issue of this newsletter. Do you have ideas for improving our services or resources? Let us know your suggestions for improving services by completing a suggestion form (at the library) or by using our online suggestion box at [www.emich.edu/halle/halle\\_suggestions.html](http://www.emich.edu/halle/halle_suggestions.html).

**Online Research Guides Available!** Our library offers tremendous resources to researchers. Check out our guides to recommended indexes, databases, reference materials and online collections. Some are created for specific courses while others are subject specific. View them at [caxton.emich.edu/guide](http://caxton.emich.edu/guide). Suggestions for guides? Contact Linda Shirato, instruction librarian, at 487.0020, extension 2130 or [ls Shirato@emich.edu](mailto:ls Shirato@emich.edu).

### **New Librarians**

Welcome to three “new” librarians this fall who were with us last year as temporary lecturers. Suzann DeVries ([sdevries@emich.edu](mailto:sdevries@emich.edu)) will become the education librarian, Paula Storm ([pstorm@emich.edu](mailto:pstorm@emich.edu)) science librarian and Sarah Fabian ([sfabian@emich.edu](mailto:sfabian@emich.edu)) will become the First Year Experience librarian. All three competed in a national search and were considered the best candidates for the job. Congratulations to all.

### **Complaints!**

You may have noticed that we have a suggestion box in the lobby and a board behind it where answers are posted. Associate University Librarian Scott Muir answers these questions because he is responsible for the physical condition of the building. The two biggest complaints are:

- Old computers that don't work
- Noise — especially from cell phones

Scott and others have been busy trying to address these problems. We are happy to report that there will be a number of newer computers by fall, and that we are working hard on the noise. There are designated quiet study areas and cell phone usage areas. Locations are posted in the stairwell on each floor. If you observe violations, please feel free to ask the librarian at the information desk or the supervisor in client services to enforce the policy. Cell phone noise is a pervasive problem everywhere (and not too likely to go away soon), but we will do our best to enforce policy. For more on quiet areas and group study areas, see the “Group Study Rooms” article on page 3.

### **Google® Digitizes Michigan's Library**

Remember those news reports about the digitization of the U-M (and other) libraries by Google? Well, it's true, and it's really happening! Librarians Linda Shirato and Rikhei Harris attended a meeting of the American Society for Information Science and Technology at the University of Notre Dame in June and got the full story from John P. Wilkin, Michigan's associate university librarian. Digitization of the library's collection has been in process for some time (they won't share exactly how they do this!), and some results should be available online by late this year. The project originally planned to digitize all books but make only

copyright free and books for which permission had been granted fully accessible. (In August, Google suspended digitizing of copyrighted books because of concerns from publishers—they still hope to work out agreements making full digitization possible.) The U-M library is one of the largest libraries in the United States and this will be a wonderful boon to scholars. You'll be able to search Google for books in the same way that you now search for Web sites. If the book is copyright free or if permission has been granted, you'll be able to read it or copy it online. Read more and look at samples at [www.lib.umich.edu/mdp/index.html](http://www.lib.umich.edu/mdp/index.html).

### **Fact and figures from our program review**

- From fall 2004 to the end of winter 2005, 646,496 people used the library building, 71,000 more than in the previous year
- Halle Library has the largest amount of traffic though one door on campus and the most computer network traffic
- 1,238 classes were held in computer classrooms and 1,984 meetings were held
- While students would like the building open 24-7, it would cost \$130,000 a year just to pay for the student help for those hours ♦

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### **New Research Tools** (Continued from page 3)

another tool you can use to facilitate your discovery of illuminating resources, but not the only tool. ♦