BOSTON COLLEGE
LIBRARIES
FACULTY NEWSLETTER

Boston College Now a Member of the Association of Research Libraries

The Boston College Libraries have been accepted for membership in the prestigious Association of Research Libraries, the organization of the leading research libraries in North America. One hundred and eleven academic libraries are members of ARL. Selection is based on the quality of collections and services, and on the regional and national leadership displayed by the staff. The academic library must be within a doctoral granting research university.

Membership in ARL is important not only for the national recognition it affords, but for the leadership the Association exercises in shaping the future of research libraries. Numerous forces are affecting the role of research libraries in scholarly communication. Participation in ARL is an opportunity to provide advocacy and education within the research community and in legislative circles regarding copyright, information and telecommunications policy, intellectual property issues, and support for Federal programs of importance to research libraries. For example, it is very important that fair use and other copyright doctrine be extended into the digital era, and that education and research be protected from the loss of intellectual property rights as networked commerce develops. ARL is working to achieve these goals.

ARL's Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC) is creating alternative models for research publication by facilitating the evolution of online scholarly publishing. The ARL Foreign Acquisitions Project is intended to ensure continuing and expanded access to foreign publications. Boston College provides Federal Depository Library services, and ARL has worked for an orderly transition to electronic distribution of government information through the Federal Depository Library Program.

ARL helps to improve research library performance through workshops and consulting on a range of topics and through programs of direct support for service innovations. Management training, surveys of practice, and publications address new approaches and models for measuring and improving library service effectiveness, diversity and leadership. The North American Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Program engaged thirty library computer system vendors in setting standards and meeting functional needs for cost-effective interlibrary lending. The GIS Literacy Program provided grants to stimulate new applications and new capabilities in research libraries for Geographic Information Systems. With the two leading academic computing associations, Educom and CAUSE (now EDUCAUSE), ARL created the Coalition for Networked Information in 1990 to influence the development of networked information services in research institutions, and to improve academic productivity through networking. ARL's interest and support for research materials preservation goes back to the 1930's, and is one more reflection of the Association's concern for the physical, intellectual, legal, and linguistic accessibility of research information.

You can learn more about the Association of Research Libraries at www.arl.org

Jerome Yavarkovsky
University Librarian
October 27, 2000

Fall 2000

ARL Application Process

The electronic portfolio submitted to ARL as part of our application process may be viewed online at http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/ulib/port/protof/portfolio.html.

Virtual Private Network Technology Expands Access to Library Resources

Off-campus access to Web-based library databases has been significantly enhanced this Fall through the introduction by Information Technology of a Virtual Private Network (VPN) service to members of the Boston College community. The Boston College Libraries currently subscribe to more than 180 online research databases, most of which are by contract restricted to users who can be authenticated by the database vendor as being part of the BC community of students, faculty, and staff. The method most vendors have implemented to ensure that database use is restricted to paying subscribers is IP authentication, which involves checking the IP address of the computer workstation that is connecting to the database against a table of authorized customer IP address ranges. If the IP address is included in the authorization table, the user is allowed to search the database; if the IP address is outside of the ranges in the table, the user is denied access to the database.

In practical terms, this has in the past meant the any computer that is physically connected to the BC network, and therefor has a BC-assigned IP number, can be used to access any of the databases to which the libraries maintain a subscription. Off-campus computers owned or used by BC students, faculty, or staff could not be used to access these databases, unless they were connected to the BC network via BC's aging, often busy dial-up modem pool.

With VPN, users connect to the Internet through their normal Internet Service Provider (ISP), then connect to the BC VPN using special client software. After they log into the BC network using their normal BC UserID and PIN, their workstation appears to any external servers to be a part of the BC network, with a BC IP address. This allows them to connect to the full range of databases offered to on-site library users.

While the new VPN service extends library-database access to many offsite users, it does not completely solve the offsite-access issue. VPN is not compatible with all ISPs, and there are hardware and software requirements that must be met in order for the VPN client software to work. The libraries are actively evaluating other options for broadening access to all of the libraries' electronic resources, including restricted databases.

For more information about the VPN project, check the IT website at http://infoeagle.bc.edu/bc_org/tvp/vpn/ . VPN client software for Macs and PCs is available through the BC Tech Products Store.

Bob Gerrity
Head of Systems, O'Neill Library

New Web Databases

Many new databases have been added to the Libraries web site since the spring. We have highlighted a few in this issue. Click on New Databases on the Online Database page to find out more about these files.

The following databases have been added: Historical Index to the New York Times; Official Index to the Times; Palmer's Index to the Times; Goethes Werke im WWW; Luthers Werke im WWW; Schillers Werke im WWW; Kafkas Werke im WWW; Bertolt Brechts Werke im WWW; Teatro Espanol del Siglo de Oro; Art Index Retrospective; Bibliography of Asian Studies; Iter; History of Science, Technology and Medicine; Periodical Contents Index (PCI) Full Text; Social Services Abstracts; Political Science Abstracts; Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts; International Index to Music Periodicals Full Text; Acta Sanctorum; Times Literary Supplement Centenary Archive; American Film Institute (AFI) Catalog; E*Subscribe; and World Government Documents Archive Online: Declassified Documents Reference System-US.

The following databases that cover electronic journals have been added: IDEAL (Academic Press journals); ACS (American Chemical Society) Journals; Science Direct (Elsevier journals); OCLC ECO; and Journal Citation Reports (ISI).

Marilyn Grant
Senior Reference Librarian/Bibliographer

Early English Books Online

Boston College Libraries recently purchased the database *Early English Books Online* (EEBO). This is a digitized version of the Early English Books microfilm collection. EEBO contains over 125,000 titles listed in *Pollard & Redgrave's Short-Title Catalogue (1475 - 1640), Wing's Short-Title Catalogue (1641-1700),* and the *Thomason Tracts (1640-1661).*

Early English Books Online brings nearly every English language book published from the invention of printing in 1475 to 1700 to the Internet. Works by Shakespeare, Spenser, Bacon, More, Erasmus, Boyle, Newton, Galileo; musical exercises by Henry Purcell and novels by Aphra Behn; prayer books, pamphlets, and proclamations; almanacs, calendars, and other primary resources are all in full facsimile. The works cover a wide range of subjects such as English literature, history, linguistics, religion, the fine arts, and the history of printing.

With this collection, scholars and students of literature can examine the earliest editions of such classics as Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* and Malory's *Morte d'Arthur*. Textual scholars are able to compare variations in the early quarto editions of Shakespeare's plays with the renowned First Folio edition of 1623, and the great Renaissance authors can be studied in light of lesser-known literature from the era.

Historians have access to the original, printed version of royal statutes and proclamations, military, legal, Parliamentary, and other public documents reproduced in the collection. Social historians may gain insight into the lives of the common people through almanacs and calendars, broadsides and popular pamphlets.

Scholars and students of religion will find a host of sermons, homilies, saints' lives, liturgies, and the *Book of Common Prayer* (1549). The King James translation of the Bible (1611) may be studied in relation to earlier English translations, and Latin, Greek, and Welsh translations invite comparison with the English version.

Early English Books Online also provides science historians with the beginnings of modern science, political scientists with debates on the divine right of kings, classicists with Greek and Latin authors in influential Renaissance translations such as Chapman's *Homer*, linguists with definitive data for the study of Early Modern English, musicologists with numerous early English ballads, and art historians and bibliophiles with a unique opportunity to analyze early typefaces and book illustrations.

For physical scientists, the collection includes books by Boyle, Newton, and Galileo, as well as popular scientific tracts such as Nicholas Culpeper's *The English Physician* (1652). Students of women's studies may consult the editions of works by Aphra Behn, Anne Killigrew, and Margaret Cavendish.

To access: Go to the Online List of Databases page from BC Libraries homepage. Scroll down to the *Early English Books Online* entry.

Please note: to display the images provided by this service, your browser (probably Netscape) needs the DjVu plug-in. When you request an image for the first time, you will be prompted to download the plug-in. This is quite easy to do.

We are presently working hard on having the records of all the entries in this database (125,000 titles) catalogued in *Quest* soon. We consider this a critical feature.

Brendan Rapple
Collection Services Librarian, O'Neill Library

New Databases for Theater and Film

Two new electronic databases with particular interest for research in Theater and Film have been added to the Library collection. The International Index to the Performing Arts is a full text database covering a broad spectrum of the arts and entertainment industry-including dance, film, television, drama, theater, stagecraft, musical theater, broadcast arts, circus performance, comedy, storytelling, opera, pantomime, puppetry, magic and more. IIPA Full Text draws its content from more than 200 scholarly and popular performing arts periodicals, and also indexes a variety of documents such as biographical profiles, conference papers, obituaries, interviews, discographers, reviews and events.

The online version of the American Film Institute (AFI) catalog draws its content from the six printed volumes that document every American film from 1893 to 1970 (except 1951 to 1960). Each film record has been compiled by the editors and filmographers at the American Film Institute. The AFI Catalog provides comprehensive filmographic information on over 45,000 films, including more than 17,500 made in the early years of film from 1893 to 1910. The approximately one million personal name entries include more than 500,000 actor entries and 27,000 director entries. Most records include extensive plot summaries.

Claudia Semper
Media Center Manager/Bibliographer, O'Neill Library

Two New Databases for African-American Studies

The Libraries now have access to the International Index to Black Periodicals (IIBP) Full Text and History Universe-African American Studies. Click on Online Databases on the Libraries home page to connect to these files.

IIBP Full Text covers over 150 international scholarly and popular periodicals in the fields of art, cultural criticism, economics, education, health, history, language and literature, law, philosophy, politics, religion, and sociology. Records from 1998 to date contain abstracts. Pre-1990 records cover material from 43 journals. From 1998 forward, 93 journals are covered with 21 journals available in full text. The following journals are available in full text beginning with the 1998 volume(s): *AME Church Review, Afro-Hispanic Review, Black Issues in Higher Education, Challenge: A Journal Of Research on African-American Men, The Griot, Health Quest, Howard Law Journal, International Journal of African Historical Studies, International Review of African American Art, Journal of African American Men, Journal of American Ethnic History, Journal of Religious Thought, Langston Hughes Review, Latin American Research Review, MELUS, Michigan Citizen, National Political Science Review, Obsidian II, Obsidian III, Review of Black Political Economy, Western Journal of Black Studies.*

History Universe-African American Studies covers a variety of primary and secondary source materials. Major Federal legislation relating to the slave trade, colonization, Reconstruction, civil rights, affirmative action, and issues related to race relations are included for the years 1792-1994. U.S. Supreme Court Decisions on constitutional and statutory issues relating to slavery, Reconstruction, Jim Crow laws, school segregation, job and housing discrimination, and affirmative action are covered for the years 1806-1997. The database also has information on colonial legislation and colonial court cases for the colonies of Massachusetts, New York, South Carolina, and Virginia.

History Universe-African American Studies contains autobiographies of prominent African-Americans, manuscript materials such as the crusade to ban "The Birth of a Nation" and civil rights activities in the Kennedy-Johnson White House, and reference articles on major historical figures, events and court decisions. The database includes scholarly articles from academic journals, photographs, notable speeches, and government documents. The various collections in the database may be browsed or searched by keyword or subject.

Marilyn Grant
Black Studies Bibliographer

New Quest Up and Running

The new Quest, the library's state of the art integrated library system, is constantly evolving and developing. Positive changes can result from feedback that you provide us. Over the summer, the library team working on the public catalog sponsored a successful faculty focus group to gauge faculty response to the system and to garner feedback. Considerable valuable information, such as the way researchers use a catalog, what information they want displayed (and where they want it displayed) and what issues should be priorities was collected. Changes were made based on this feedback. Of course, opportunities always exist to give the library feedback on the system. Please take the time to click on the feedback button in the upper frame or contact your department bibliographer and talk about the system.   We are particularly interested in such areas as: What do you like/not like about Quest? Which functionalities do not work as well as they should? What can you not do? What is non-intuitive about its structure? What do you think of the screen design? There are a host of other questions and topics. Please share your views on them with us.

Ed Tallent
Head of Reference and Instructional Services, O'Neill Library