

BOSTON COLLEGE LIBRARIES FACULTY NEWSLETTER

Faculty Contribution: Scholarly Electronic Publishing

Prof. Walt Haney and Prof. Mike Russell, Lynch School of Education



For 500 years, scholars have communicated with the broader world mainly via printed text, that is via books and scholarly journals. In the past 10 years, however, we have been witnessing a revolution in the means of scholarly communication. Scholarly publishing via telecommunications, and specifically the world wide web (WWW), is allowing scholars to communicate not just among themselves, but also with the broader world, with a speed, capacity, reach, and impact heretofore impossible. In this commentary, we summarize some of our own publishing experience in these respects. We are both professors in the Lynch School of Education, so most of our examples come from the realm of educational research and publishing. Since this newsletter is intended for the broader community of Boston College faculty, staff and students, we also summarize a little of what we know of “epublishing” across the arts, sciences and humanities. In conclusion, we comment briefly on the issue of scholarly “standards,” which often seems to arise at a time when anyone with Internet access can “publish” anything they want to the entire WWW world.

Speed

Our first experience in publishing research findings via a scholarly on-line journal nicely illustrates this feature of electronic publishing. We refer to “Testing writing on computers: An experiment comparing student performance on tests conducted via computer and via paper-and-pencil,” published in *Education Policy Analysis Archives* in January 1997. Under the editorship of Gene V Glass for ten years, *Education Policy Analysis Archives* <<http://epaa.asu.edu/epaa>>, has grown into the pre-eminent scholarly electronic journal in the field of education. The speed with which our initial submission to EPAA was reviewed and published was absolutely astonishing. Five reviews were received within one week of submission of the manuscript and after revisions, the article was published January 15, 1997, less than one week after submission. So the entire process of peer-review and publication took less than a month. In contrast, in our experience, traditional peer-review for professional paper journals takes six months or more, and the time from acceptance to actual publication is often a year or more.

Capability

A second obvious benefit of scholarly publishing is that it provides the capacity to publish far more than ever possible via paper journals. One example comes from our 1997 EPAA article. In addition to publishing our experimental findings, we were able to publish the entire data set that led to the findings. Less than a week after publication of the article, we received a note of congratulations from a Canadian colleague, who added that he had downloaded our data set for use in his statistics class. Another example of the capacity of electronic publishing comes from our study of Massachusetts’ students’ drawings of themselves taking the MCAS (the state’s high stakes test). In publishing results of this study <<http://www.tcrecord.org/Content.asp?ContentID=10634>> in TCRecord.org (the on-line version of the venerable *Teachers College Record*), we were able to reproduce more than five dozen examples of students’ color

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drawings. This would have been prohibitively expensive to do in a traditional paper journal. A third example comes from “The myth of the Texas miracle in education” <<http://epaa.asu.edu/epaa/v8n41/>>. To this article (regarding which one reviewer chided us as not really being an article but a book masquerading as an article), we were able to add eight appendices including a key data set, a survey instrument, full text of all written responses to the survey, and the entire text of a federal court decision which motivated the study.

Reach

A third general benefit of electronic publishing is that it allows scholars to reach audiences that extend far beyond the bounds of traditional academic journals. One example of this is from our 1997 EPAA article. As of September 1, 2003, this article had been retrieved more than 22,000 times. In contrast, the entire circulation of many academic journals does not exceed a few thousand. Another example comes from a recent report of the National Board on Educational Testing and Public Policy <<http://www.bc.edu/research/nbetpp/>>, by Kathleen Rhoades and George Madaus. The report, “Errors in Standardized Tests: A Systemic Problem” was released in May 2003. By September 15, 2003, it had been downloaded more than 20,000 times from the National Board web site. The reach of the report was doubtless aided by its being cited in a front page article in the *New York Times* (September 2, 2003) and being mentioned in a TV documentary broadcast on the Discovery-Times cable channel the same day. But this simply illustrates another aspect of the reach of electronic publishing. Articles published on the web can be (and are being) accessed not just by academics but also by policy-makers, journalists and citizens literally around the world.

The latter point may be illustrated by recounting the experience of Gene V Glass, editor of EPAA, and also another electronic journal, *Current Issues in Education*. In an article on the “new day in how scholars communicate” <<http://cie.ed.asu.edu/volume2/number2/>>, Glass pointed out that analysis of “access logs for EPAA for one weekday in August 1999 (a notoriously slow month for academic work in the Northern Hemisphere)” revealed that in a single day the journal had been accessed by nearly 1,000 persons from over two dozen different countries. As Glass commented “The connections from the Philippines, Turkey, Thailand, Columbia, Hungary, Indonesia, Nepal, Mauritius, Brazil and Chile represent accesses to scholarly literature that has often been beyond the reach of these individuals, because commercial publishers charge libraries as much as \$200 U.S. for journals of fewer than 300 pages.”

Impact

A fourth benefit of electronic publishing is to provide research findings in a timely manner so that findings can have a more immediate impact on policy decisions. The speed with which findings can be reviewed, published, and disseminated is particularly important for research in fields that evolve rapidly. As an example, the speed with which we were able to publish our original findings on testing writing via computer in a peer-review journal enabled us to acquire additional funding and conduct follow-up studies in a short period of time. In turn, the speed with which we were able to publish findings from follow-up studies created a sufficient body of research to spur the National Assessment of Educational Progress Validity Panel to establish “the delivery of a computerized writing assessment...as a high priority issue” (Duran, 2000, <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/200316.pdf>). While a substantial amount of research must still be conducted before the national writing test is administered solely on computer, it is unusual in the field of education for a small group of researchers to have such influence on a national research agenda in such a short period of time. We believe this influence occurred, in part, because of the speed and reach with which findings from multiple studies, and the data upon which they were based, were presented in a peer-reviewed format that was freely available to a broad audience.

Scholarly standards

A final issue worth addressing on the topic of scholarly electronic publishing is that of “scholarly standards.” When anyone with a computer and an Internet hook-up can “publish” anything they want to the WWW, does electronic publishing count as scholarship? To this question we offer two observations.

First, our experience in scholarly electronic publishing echoes the sentiments of Gene Glass who has found that the peer review process for his e-journals is typically far more rigorous than that for paper journals he has edited in the past:

I have edited three journals on paper, going back to 1968 with RER [Review of Educational Research]. None of them has had peer review even remotely approaching the quality of what my editorial board

gives me on my electronic journal. (If Ken Strike will forgive me for divulging that which could not possibly do him any harm, his article in my journal two years ago received 14 peer reviews in two weeks; he said it was one of the most rigorous and helpful experiences of his publishing career.) <<http://glass.ed.asu.edu/gene/papers/epub.html>>

Second is evidence regarding scholarly citations. Anyone who has ever served on a university promotions and tenure committee knows that someone inevitably will ask about candidates' lists of publications: "Yes, but apart from quantity, what about quality, what impact has his (or her) work had on the field?" There are a number of ways of addressing such a question. One of the ways in which the influence of a scholar is regularly measured is by how often his or her work is cited in the scholarly literature, for example as indicated by the Science Citation Index (in the "hard" sciences), the Social Sciences Citation Index or SSCI (in the "soft" sciences), and the Arts & Humanities Citation Index (in the non-sciences). Such citation indexes are used not just to judge the scholarly productivity of individual faculty members but even whole departments and institutions, so it is worth recounting evidence on the relationship between electronic publishing and scholarly citations. On the local front is Walt's experience. For many years the most frequently cited article by Walt (as judged from SSCI data) was a 1981 article in the *American Psychologist*. This is not surprising since the *American Psychologist* is the flagship journal of the American Psychological Association. But since publication of "The myth of the Texas miracle in education" in EPAA only three years ago, SSCI citations of this article rival the number of citations of an article published more than two decades ago.

The other piece of evidence regarding scholarly citations comes from a 2001 article in the journal *Nature*. <<http://www.neci.nec.com/~lawrence/papers/online-nature01/>>. From an analysis of citation rates of articles in computer science and related disciplines (computer science not surprisingly is way ahead of other disciplines when it comes to electronic publishing), the author, Steve Lawrence of the NEC Research Institute, concluded that "Articles freely available online are more highly cited." Lawrence concluded with a recommendation with which we heartily concur: "For greater impact and faster scientific progress, authors and publishers should aim to make research easy to access. Free online availability of scientific literature offers substantial benefits to science and society. To maximize impact, minimize redundancy, and speed scientific progress, authors and publishers should aim to make research easy to access."

Walt Haney and Mike Russell are professors in the Lynch School of Education. Mike is editor of the electronic *Journal of Technology, Learning and Assessment* <<http://www.bc.edu/research/intasc/jtla.html>> founded with generous support from the William and Flora Hewlett and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundations.

Electronic Publishing Symposium

Boston College Libraries, Academic Technology Services, and Information Technology Services are sponsoring an Electronic Publishing Symposium on Thursday, 11 December. The goal of the Symposium is to bring options and opportunities in electronic scholarly publishing to a faculty and graduate student audience. The Symposium will be a mix of plenary sessions and break-out sessions that will allow focus to be paid to "big topics" as well as to demonstrations and discussions of practical e-publishing endeavors both at Boston College and elsewhere. Among the subjects addressed will be the place of e-publishing in the academy; different types of e-publishing; the benefits of e-publishing vis-à-vis traditional print; how the Library, ATS and ITS can assist BC faculty in their e-publishing endeavors; the relationship between e-publishing and the academic reward structure; the American Council of Learned Societies History E-Book Project; the Lynch School of Education's new peer-reviewed e-journal *JTLA*; BC's digital dissertation initiative; multi-media textbook CDs/e-books; BC's new *Front Row* e-publishing project; open-access principles; BC's proposed institutional e-repository; *RePEc*, the Economics disciplinary e-repository; the Sloan Work and Family Research Network's e-publishing projects; Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress) and electronic journals. For more details please see the Symposium's program at <http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/ulib/epub/>. RSVP required for lunch.

Brendan Rapple
Collection Development

Research Collections: Pruning for Growth

For many years, and especially in the past ten years, Boston College has provided strong support to its Libraries for collections. The University has continued support even into the economic downturn of the last two years. Thus, we have been far more fortunate than many other institutions in that funding for the Library's materials budget has continued to see modest growth while many of our peer institutions have had to endure major reductions in funding.

Despite the continuing growth of the materials budget, inflationary increases for library materials have far outpaced our available funding. The recent journal cancellation project (2002-2003), while useful, simply delayed the necessity to take a comprehensive view of what the Libraries purchase and why. Over the course of this academic year we plan to engage in several small projects designed to identify duplicate or unneeded materials that can be discontinued with little or no impact on the academic and research needs of the University. Descriptions of these projects follow.

- **Newspapers:** O'Neill currently receives over 100 newspapers, several of which are not used at all. The Library has determined which of the newspapers are available electronically. This information, along with scope, intended readership, and interest to the Boston College user community, will be evaluated. Those titles identified as possible cancellations will be shared with the faculty for their input before any cancellations are effected.
- **Standing Orders:** Over the years, the University Libraries set up standing orders with a number of vendors to send on a continuing basis every volume published for a given series or multi-volume set (e.g., *Advances in...*; the new edition of the *Oxford English Dictionary*). Bibliographers will be reviewing some 1600 titles to determine their relevance to current and anticipated future academic and research needs. Faculty will be consulted before any final decisions are made.
- **Duplication of Print and Electronic Journals:** The inflationary increase for serials this coming subscription year is expected to be between 10-12%. Foreign subscriptions will be particularly hit hard because of the relative weakness of the American dollar on the international market. In order to identify funds to meet this increase without further eroding book allocations, the Libraries will review our journal subscriptions for unnecessary duplication between print and electronic formats. There may be valid reasons for retaining both formats, such as presentation of graphs and charts, formulas that don't display well in electronic format, absence of key content in the electronic format, etc. We will attempt to identify and to consider carefully all such content issues, and of course bibliographers will consult with faculty before final decisions are made.

The Libraries' goal in these projects is to make certain that the materials budget is being expended responsibly in support of current and anticipated future programs. Decisions made many years ago may no longer be valid. In order to be sure that we can continue to support today's curricula and research endeavors, we believe an ongoing evaluation of our budget utilization is essential. With faculty participation, the choices we make will continue to build a premier research collection for the University.

Geri Linkins
Associate University Librarian, Collection Services

LibQUAL+ update: What did we hear?

Last Spring the Boston College Libraries participated in the LibQUAL+ assessment survey. The survey, coordinated by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), had 308 participating libraries in addition to Boston College. Participating in a large assessment effort like this one gives us the opportunity to compare our services to those at other institutions.

We are in the process of analyzing the results, but we do have some preliminary feedback for you. First of all, we would like to thank you for taking the time to participate in the survey. Of 600 randomly selected faculty, 166 returned surveys. We are very pleased with this response, as well as with the cross section of survey returns we received.

As you will recall, the survey asked that you respond to 25 questions that address four major areas of library service: *Affect of Service*, *Library as Place*, *Personal Control*, and *Access to Information*. There was also an opportunity at the end of the survey to enter comments. The comments are also a rich source of information on how library services and collections are perceived by the Boston College community.

What did we hear from you?

We heard that you place a very high priority on access to resources and services from your home and office, that you are supportive of the library's work to make as much available electronically as possible, and that you want a library web site that is designed to make this access simple and seamless. You are comfortable with the physical state of the library and perceive our hours to be appropriate. The survey results hinted at some frustration at being able to use the electronic resources effectively, either due to connection problems, lapsed subscriptions, poor interface, or a need to talk with someone about using a specific resource. There was a sense that the library could do a better job of, as we say in the library profession, putting a human face on the technology.

Graduate students had some of the same concerns as faculty, but with a greater desire for a more comfortable library, increased and enhanced group study rooms, more attention to the print collections in some areas, and a desire for more contact with the library staff.

Undergraduates were, generally, less demanding and their desires differed slightly. While interested in online access, undergraduates also wanted more group study space, a more comfortable environment, and longer library hours. The daily use of the library web site by undergraduates is very low and perhaps tells us that undergraduates do not think of the library as a place for resource discovery.

Library users overall spoke of the need for quiet space. There was a desire for the library to deal with the issue of cell phone conversations and to investigate the possibility of coffee service in the library.

What have we done to date in response?

In response to feedback about computers on levels 4 and 5, we have upgraded the computers. To date, these machines are working well and some offer e-mail access, another issue we are addressing.

We recently migrated to a newer version of MetaQuest and have reconfigured the way in which our online databases page is created. We are also planning to move to a different method of listing e-journals, which will result in a more efficient and timely delivery of information. This new version of MetaQuest also provides access to e-journals, which increases its utility as a resource management system. We are also reviewing the Quest interface and functionality as we prepare to migrate to a frameless version and to a brand new release in the summer of 2004.

More information is now available about databases with Information screens for each title. We continue to add links to database tutorials when available. We changed the name of SFX to FIND IT and early data indicates that users are connecting more frequently to resources via the "FIND IT" option.

Databases that we have on trial are now available to the Boston College community and we welcome your feedback on these. We are putting in place an online form so that access problems with databases can be more easily submitted, logged, and tracked. The LibQUAL+ survey indicated that users are still frustrated with database access problems. We need to know the nature of these problems and the new online form will improve how we track and respond the access problems.

We are experimenting with a new design for our **Research Guides** page, enhanced links to subject specialists, a markedly improved and more accessible How Do I? page, and aggressive marketing of our remote reference services.

The O'Neill Library Reference Department met with staff of the Office of Residential Life to learn more about student life outside of the library and how the library might better connect with the students. We are experimenting with reference service in different areas, such as the Academic Development Center.

The Media Center in O'Neill has expanded its hours and its connections to the curriculum by streaming sound clips for music classes via WebCT.

We plan to continue these conversations with users in a variety of venues as we continue to work on meeting the library needs of the Boston College community.

Ed Tallent
Head Librarian, Research & Instructional Services

Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery – How are we doing?

The O’Neill Library participated in a study with 71 other research libraries across the country to assess the performance of interlibrary loan and local document delivery operations in research and academic libraries. The purpose of the study was to collect local performance data, such as turnaround times, but the survey will also identify and describe characteristics of effective operations. It also allows us to compare ourselves against the other research libraries participating in the survey.

The Assessing ILL/DD Services Study collected borrowing and lending data on three performance measures – cost, fill rate, and turnaround time. Cost data and fill rates were collected from the library’s most recent fiscal year; a random sample of approximately 100 borrowing and lending requests collected in spring 2003 was used to collect data on turnaround time.

O’Neill Library Performance Highlights

- Interlibrary Loan (Requests from BC users for material not owned or unavailable at BC)
 - 10,867 books, photocopies or scanned items were delivered to students, faculty and staff from other libraries during 2002/2003
 - Average turnaround time for borrowing – 8 days
(From when a user places a request until they are notified that the material is available for pick-up or it is sent e-mail. All ARL libraries average: 7.77 days)
 - Average fill rate – 88%
(88% of all requests are filled. All ARL libraries average: 86%)
- Document Delivery (Requests from BC users for copies of articles in the O’Neill Library using the Locate and Copy Service)
 - 2,484 items were retrieved, photocopied and/or scanned for students, faculty and staff from the O’Neill Library collections during 2002/2003
 - Average turnaround time - .8 days (about 19 hours)
(From when a user places a request until they are notified that the material is available for pick-up or it is sent e-mail. All ARL libraries average: 1.89 days)
 - Average fill rate – 80%
(80% of all requests are filled. All ARL libraries average: 86%)

What Did We Learn? How Can We Improve Performance?

Although the O’Neill Library performed well in all areas, including unit cost of these two services, we are examining the areas of the study where our performance falls below that of the ARL library average, especially those areas involving fill rates. For instance, if other ARL libraries are able to fill 86% of the requests for materials from their own collection as part of a local document delivery service, why is the O’Neill Library fill rate only 80%? There are many variables impacting the fill rate for interlibrary loan and document delivery and the data from the study is structured in such a way that it is possible for library staff to analyze individual areas of the workflow to determine where potential problems may be.

Margie Fiels
Head Librarian, Access Services

A Collection Highlight from Microforms: Irish Newspapers

Irish Political and Radical Newspapers of the Twentieth Century (IPRN) is a collection of Irish newspapers on microfilm categorized into nine sections. (Civil War 1921-1923, Cultural Nationalist/General Nationalist, Cumann Na Ngaedheal/ Fine Gael/Blueshirt, Labour/ Socialist/ Communist, Miscellaneous, Post-Civil-War Republican/ Fianna Fail, Sinn Fein/ Republican, Suffragette Movement and Unionist) There are over 120 individual titles in this important and historical primary source collection. See Quest, the library catalog, to find the call number for the titles. You can scan, read or print the materials from microfilm on the 1st floor of O’Neill Library.

Kathy Berry
Documents and Microforms Librarian

New Reference Books of Note

CQ ALMANAC PLUS: 107TH CONGRESS, 2ND SESSION
Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly, Inc., 2003 [Ref. JK1 .C66]

CQ Almanac Plus provides “a detailed look at each major bill considered in 2002, whether or not it became law. It examines how the bills were shaped as they moved from committee markup to floor votes and conference negotiations. The stories also identify and explain the main provisions of the bills and look at the roles played by individual members of Congress”.

Includes narrative accounts of every major piece of legislation considered by lawmakers in the second session; a glossary of terms; a list of House and Senate members; vote studies; key votes; key documents (e.g., presidential statements); public laws; state-by-state results of the 2002 midyear election, and results of special elections; and a complete set of roll call vote charts for both chambers.

A DICTIONARY OF ISLAM: BEING A CYCLOPAEDIA OF THE DOCTRINES, RITES, CEREMONIES AND CUSTOMS, TOGETHER WITH THE TECHNICAL AND THEOLOGICAL TERMS, OF THE MUHAMMADAN RELIGION; WITH NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS.

Lahore, Pakistan: Premier Book House, 196- ? [Ref. BP40 .H8]

“Thomas Patrick Hughes’ *The Dictionary of Islam* was originally printed in London in 1885. The author was a clergyman who was engaged in missionary work in Peshawar for a period of twenty years. The volume is the first notable study, giving a concise account of doctrines, rites, ceremonies and customs, together, with the technical and theological terms of Islam.”

Includes illustrations and short biographical notices of persons connected with the early history of Islam.

DICTIONARY OF CHRISTIAN BIOGRAPHY
Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 2001 [Ref. BR1700.3.D53]

The *Dictionary of Christian Biography* contains brief biographies of over 6,500 Christians, who are not just ‘professional’ Christians – i.e., theologians, saints, bishops, and pastors – but also those “whose professional lives ... have been affected by their Christian faith” although they did not “earn their keep from the profession of their religion”. The latter include lawyers, politicians, architects, educationalists, composers, and painters, who lived in different centuries and in different parts of the world.

Also listed are reference works for further information on the lives of most of the individuals who are included in this dictionary, and indexes of dates of death and places of death.

EASTERN EUROPE, RUSSIA, AND CENTRAL ASIA, 2003
London, U.K.: Europa Publications, 2002 [Ref. HC244.A1E293]

The third edition of *Eastern Europe, Russia, and Central Asia* provides comprehensive descriptions and analyses of the twelve member states of the Commonwealth of Independent States, which emerged from the disintegration of the USSR in 1991, placing them within their international, regional and historical context.

Includes articles on various topics of relevance to the region; surveys of each of the twelve states; political profiles of the region; information about principal organizations and research institutes; and select bibliographies of books and periodicals.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF POLITICAL THOUGHT
New York, NY: Facts on File, 2001 [Ref. JA61.E52]

The *Encyclopedia of Political Thought* is “intended to present, in clear and concise form, the many ideas, concepts, persons, and movements in the world’s political history. It covers everything from abstract

ideals (like *freedom* and *justice*) to major thinkers (Aristotle, St. Thomas Aquinas, Locke, Marx) and contemporary movements (feminism, environmentalism, pacifism) from around the world (Western, Indian, Islamic, Chinese)”.

Includes a list of classic books in political thought and a chronology of political thought and events.

GALE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH
Farmington Hills, MI: Gale, 2002

[Ref. RT21.G353]

The *Gale Encyclopedia of Nursing and Allied Health* “provides in-depth coverage of specific diseases and disorders, tests and procedures, equipment and tools, body systems, nursing and allied health professions, and current health issues”. It is designed as a ready reference source and is intended both for the layperson, as well as for the beginning student.

Includes cross-references to direct readers from alternate names and related topics to entries; a list of key terms defining unfamiliar terms or concepts; a resources section containing additional sources of medical information on a topic; contact information for medical, nursing, and allied health organizations; and a comprehensive general index. Also includes photographs, illustrations, and tables.

HANDBOOK OF AMERICAN WOMEN’S HISTORY [2nd edition]
Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2000

[Ref. HQ1410.H36]

“In keeping with the design of the first edition as a reference to assist students, teachers, and librarians who are new to the field of American women’s history, the *Handbook of American Women’s History, Second Edition* offers introductory and fundamental information necessary for a general understanding of the field through a readily accessible collection of summary definitions for crucial concepts, events, organizations, and various historical persons.”

Includes basic bibliographies, and a listing of reference works, monographs, and collections of primary sources. Expanding upon the first edition, this edition includes additional illustrations and new entries.

HOLOCAUST LITERATURE: AN ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WRITERS AND THEIR WORK
New York, NY: 2003

[Ref. PN56.H66]

Holocaust Literature presents in two volumes “critical analyses and assessments of literary representations of the Holocaust and its consequences. The alphabetically arranged bio-critical essays of 1800 to 8000 words cover the writing of over 300 memoirists, poets, novelists, dramatists, and a small number of influential religious and secular philosophers and theorists”.

Includes a comprehensive index; a glossary of terms; ghetto and camp maps; and appendices covering author birthplaces, language of composition, genres, literary themes, ghettos and camps, historic events, and historic figures treated or mentioned in the literature.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: A DICTIONARY AND DIRECTORY [5th edition]
New York, NY: Palgrave, 2001

[Ref. JZ4838.S344]

“*International Organizations* is the essential, authoritative source of information on over 200 international agencies and major consultation forums”. It contains contact information, the structure and activities of the organizations, bibliographical references, and analyses of the organizations’ origins, development, and objectives.

Includes a classified index; indexes of acronyms and full names; regional membership tables for key organizations; and a chronological listing of foundation dates.

AN INTERPRETATION OF THE QUR’AN: ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF THE MEANINGS. A BILINGUAL EDITION.
New York, NY: New York University Press, 2002

[Ref. BP109 2002]

“One of the most widely read books in the world, the Qu’ran has been translated into almost all the languages of mankind. A large number of translations have appeared in modern times ... the translation in this bilingual edition [attempts] to give as faithful an English rendering of the Arabic text as possible ... in simple, readable English idiom.”

Includes explanatory notes.

IRISH LITERARY MAGAZINES: AN OUTLINE HISTORY AND DESCRIPTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY
Portland, OR: Irish Academic Press, 2003

Irish Literary Magazines is “a work of reference and a guide [which] provides a high-level overview of the history and development of Irish literary magazines ... charting the most significant features ... of format, linkages and distribution. It provides the most comprehensive, most accurate and most up-to-date descriptive bibliography of the field”.

Includes illustrations; a bibliography; distribution maps, including locations and starting dates for the magazines; and chronological charts indicating the number of new titles which started in the each decade of the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries.

SUPREME COURT JUSTICES: A BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY
New York, NY: Facts on File, 2001

[Ref. KF8744.H35]

Supreme Court Justices provides biographical profiles of the 108 men and women who have served as justices on the Court. It also discusses the most important cases that they have decided.

Includes portraits; suggested further readings; a chronology of the political history of the United States from the Revolution to the presidency of George Bush; a listing of all the justices by the president who appointed them to the Court; an appendix of important cases; a glossary; and a bibliography.

UNITED STATES PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, 1788-1860: THE OFFICIAL RESULTS BY COUNTY AND STATE
Jefferson, NC: McFarland and Co., Inc., 2002

[Ref. JX524.D778]

United States Presidential Elections, 1788-1860 offers “the most comprehensive and accurate set of returns for the presidential election for the period from 1788, the first, through 1860”.

Includes an overview on the choosing of presidential electors; maps; a bibliography; an index of electoral candidates; and an index of presidential and vice presidential candidates.

WAR MONUMENTS, MUSEUMS, AND LIBRARY COLLECTIONS OF 20TH CENTURY CONFLICTS: A
DIRECTORY OF UNITED STATES SITES
Jefferson, NC: McFarland and Co., Inc., 2002

[Ref. E745.R35]

A unique state-by-state reference work covering “monuments, memorials, museums, markers, statues and library collections that relate to the veterans, weapons, vehicles, airplanes, victims or any other aspect of 20th century wars in which the United States participated”.

Intended for researchers and travelers alike, this directory includes street addresses, phone numbers, Internet sites and e-mail addresses, days and hours of operation, admission fees, and a brief description of each site.

WORLD’S MUSIC: GENERAL PERSPECTIVES AND REFERENCE TOOLS
New York, NY: Routledge, 2002

[Ref. ML100.G16]

This is the tenth, and final, volume of *The Garland Encyclopedia of World Music*. It compiles the reference sections of Volumes 1 through 9, and also “offers a glimpse of the fabric and work of conducting the research presented in those volumes”. Part 1 of the two parts of this volume “presents a select

group of ethnomusicologists who describe ... how they entered the profession and how they have carried out their research, teaching and publication”. Part 2 contains resources and research tools: a comprehensive glossary of terms for the ten volumes, and guides to reference sources – including publications, recordings, films, and videos — for each of the regions covered in the volumes.

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