

CORNERSTONE

Reinert - Alumni Memorial Library

Is “Average” Good Enough for a Regionally Dominant, Nationally Prominent University?

Project

SAILS

Results:

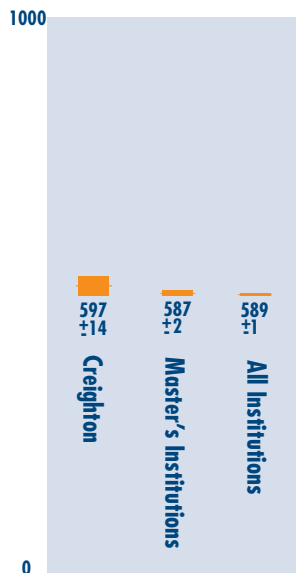
The Reinert - Alumni Library conducted an assessment of student information literacy skills during the fall semester of 2007. One hundred ninety students participated in Project SAILS, the Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy Skills. Developed at Kent State University, Project SAILS measures students' abilities to recognize when they need information and to locate, evaluate and use information effectively. First-year students were targeted for assessment to determine the information literacy skill levels of students when they arrive on campus.

students at these other institutions do not excel at these skills either. As you can see in the graph, Creighton students scored about the same as others on the important skill of evaluation of information sources. Note the scale however; Creighton students' average score was 597 out of a possible 1000. Obviously there is a lot of room for improvement throughout their college career.

We feel that being average isn't good enough for Creighton students. Librarians will be examining their teaching practices to better address each of the SAILS skill sets in our information literacy instruction classes. We will also be working with faculty and staff on campus to develop an information literacy program that reaches every student with high quality instruction. Any input from interested faculty and staff is welcome.

To facilitate that input and encourage further discussion, Reference/Instruction Librarian Nathan Morgan will be presenting detailed findings of Project SAILS at the Office for Academic Excellence and Assessment's “Time-out for Lunch” series, April 28, 2008, in the Skutt Student Center, Room 104 at 11:30. For more details about the Project SAILS assessment, contact Nathan at #2927 or nathanmorgan@creighton.edu.

Evaluating Sources



The SAILS results are divided into eight skill sets ranging from the ability to develop a research strategy to understanding the economic, social and legal issues surrounding the use of information. Creighton students were compared to other master's level institutions that have participated in Project SAILS. The results show that Creighton freshmen perform about the same as their peers at other institutions on seven of the eight skill sets. Creighton freshmen outperform their peers on developing a research strategy. On skills such as searching, evaluating and documenting information sources they perform on par with other master's level institutions. Unfortunately,

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Nathan Morgan

New Electronic Resources

■ Blackwell and Springer Journal Packages

The Reinert Alumni Library and the Health Sciences Library are participating in the Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA) consortium for two online journal packages. The Springer Publishing package provides access to 1,383 journals in the subject areas of science and business with access from 1997 to the present. The Blackwell Publishing package contains 797 titles in business, science, social science, and the humanities. Online access is also from 1997 to the present.



■ Cambridge Companions Online Complete

273 titles from the Cambridge Companions series in the subject areas of literature, classics, philosophy, and religion. It contains over 2,700 essays on major writers, artists, and philosophers in a cross searchable online resource.



■ Ebrary Academic Complete EBook Collection

The collection contains over 35,000 ebook titles from academic publishers including John Wiley & Sons, Springer, Kluwer Academic and university presses from around the world. The content is fully searchable and covers a wide variety of disciplines. Individual accounts can be created in order to add highlights and notations to a title. Access is not restricted by the number of users or time limits.

■ Literature Criticism Online

Gale's familiar criticism series so heavily used by undergraduates is now online. This database provides an extensive compilation of introductory commentary on works of literature from 1400 to the present, including novels, poetry, drama, and short stories. Included are such titles as *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, *20th Century Literary Criticism*, *Poetry Criticism*, *Short Story Criticism*, and more.

Sally Gibson & Mike Poma

Archive's Update

There are currently 1026 images in the "Historical Photos of Creighton University" collection on Contentdm. We recently began adding images to "Jesuits at Creighton University" and have over 90 online so far.

<http://reinert.creighton.edu/archives/archives.htm>

Debra Sturges

Creighton CORNERSTONE

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Have You Searched for a Book Lately?

Depending on how one searches the Lexis-Nexis Academic database, in the past 12 months there have been between 75 and 120 articles written about the Google Book Search. Library books are being scanned or digitized at a rapid pace and made available on the web with various levels of restriction. While most media outlets are focusing on Google Book Search, it is not the only player in this Sisyphean task of digitizing the worlds' library collections.

Early digitization projects were small-scale operations such as the University of Virginia's E-text project (<http://lib.virginia.edu/digital/collections/>). Second-generation efforts, for which Google Book Search is currently the best-known, include Microsoft Live Book Search, and the Open Content Alliance from the

Why Use a Book Search at all?

- Exposure to titles one wouldn't otherwise be aware.
- Although limitations of copyright exist, there is a greater chance of serendipitous discovery.
- Lesser known works stand on almost equal footing with highly regarded works.
- One way to "browse the electronic bookshelves" and rekindle an enjoyment of books.

Internet Archive. All are working with university libraries to make their collections readily available on the web. One such collaboration is that between Google and the University of Michigan, which has scanned one million titles to date.

While Google will not reveal much about its scanning operation, it has several agreements with library partners worldwide. The University of California system delivers 3,000 books a day for scanning. The University of Wisconsin has been delivering truckloads of books since April 2007. Even the Bavarian State Library in Munich, Germany, will be sending 1,000,000 out-of-copyright books in German, English, French, Italian, Spanish, and Latin. Google accepts public domain and

copyrighted material. The copyrighted material is listed but does not include a full view of the material. The limited view for copyrighted material permits the reader to look at a few pages which are labeled as "popular passages."

Microsoft Live Book Search (<http://books.live.com>) has agreements with the British Library, New York Public Library, and Cornell University. The search interface has been in beta for over a year. At the moment it is a simple search box without an advanced search option or links to publishers and library websites. When attempting to view a book in limited preview Microsoft requires the reader to sign in. The reader is able to view a limited number of pages and the restriction is set by the publisher.

The Open Content Alliance adds 12,000 books a month to its collection. Thanks to a \$1,000,000 grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation back in 2006, the Open Content Alliance began digitizing materials from special collections, such as The James Birney Collection of Anti-Slavery materials from Johns Hopkins University Libraries. All of the titles digitized by the Open Content Alliance are housed at the Internet Archive (<http://archive.org>), available in the public domain, and are accessible with any search engine. Currently there are 331,342 items in the text archive.

The race to digitize has resulted in some duplication of effort. Some titles have been scanned by all three projects, however it is not possible to search all three collections simultaneously. Titles scanned by Google or Microsoft are only available in their respective search engines. Titles in the Open Content Alliance are available through any search engine.

How do the three discovery tools compare?

The biggest difference seems to be copyrighted materials. The Open Content Alliance/Internet Archive does not scan copyrighted materials. Essentially, that is anything published prior to 1923. Microsoft Book Search and Google Book Search are scanning copyrighted materials and making them available on a limited basis, per publisher's agreements. In January 2008, four titles were tested with all three tools to see what the differences were.

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Editor's Note

The February 2008 issue of [KMWorld Magazine](#) reported that Carnegie Mellon's Million Book Project reached a "milestone of having digitized 1.5 million books" in 20 different languages. All can be accessed through yet another Book Search tool at <http://ulib.org> the Universal Digital Library Collection.

My Antonia by Willa Cather:

Google (<http://books.google.com>) - Full view offered for a 1918 edition, Limited Preview offered for a 2003 Scholarly Edition.

Microsoft (<http://www.live.com>) - 100% viewable available for 1918 edition.

Internet Archive (<http://archive.org>) - 1918 edition available via Project

Gutenberg (http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main_Page).

Hamlet by William Shakespeare:

Google - Full view offered for several editions, some for limited preview, some with no preview (just bits of bibliographic information) (Note: 16,200 results returned).

Microsoft - First two results (of thousands) are 100% viewable, next listing requires sign-in, some subsequent results are 100% viewable literary criticism.

Internet Archive - many versions available for download from Project Gutenberg.

Seven Habits of Highly Effective People by Stephen Covey:

Google - First four results are snippet view only or no preview. The next two results are books citing Covey's book.

Microsoft - First sixty results only show inside other books where Covey was cited or referred to.

Internet Archive - No results.

Big Brown: the Untold Story of UPS by Greg Niemann:

Google - No results.

Microsoft - One result which is 20% viewable if the reader signs in.

Internet Archive - No results.

These three tools plus a host of others have one goal in common: make as much information as possible available in an easily accessible format. In many cases, a Book Search tool acts as an index for the books that have been digitized. Increasing the awareness and usage of these tools represents a balancing act for libraries and librarians. Discovering information via a Book Search tool is great unless only part of it is accessible. When you need all of it - that's when you go to the stacks.

Chris Carmichael and Sally Gibson

We Say Hello ...



Lacy Schommer joins the staff in February as Reference Specialist, replacing David Buffington. Lacy is well prepared for her new position, with nine years of experience at the Norfolk Public Library and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Wayne State College. In addition to staffing the Reference service desk, Lacy will provide support in the areas of library outreach and collection management. She comes highly recommended for her dedication to customer service, her ability to learn new skills, and her innovation. Please join us in welcoming Lacy to Omaha!

Mary Nash

We Say Goodbye ...

This year the Library bids good-bye to Reference Specialist **David Buffington**. David has joined the library staff at the University of Arizona, Tucson, a city he already knows and loves. In his four and a half years with the Reinert-Alumni Library, David distinguished himself as a dedicated, energetic, and creative team player with a boundless sense of humor. David will be missed, but we wish him well in his new career.

Mary Nash

Book Research Resources

For more information on book search tools, contact the Reinert-Alumni Library at 280-2227 or see the articles listed below:

- Cross, L. (2007, January). Race to Digitize Books Heats Up. *GraphicArtsMonthly.com*, pp. 11.
- Hafner, K. (2007, October 22). Libraries Shun Deals to Place Books on Web. *New York Times*. Retrieved January 4, 2008, from Lexis-Nexis Academic database.
- Johnson, M. (2007, May 11). Will Googling Books be Page in History or Footnote? Some say Web Project is a Revolution; some are Skeptical. *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. Retrieved February 5, 2008, from Lexis-Nexis Academic database.
- Kelly, K. (2006, May 14). Scan This Book! *New York Times*. Retrieved from <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/05/14/magazine/14publishing.html?ex=1305259200&en=c07443d368771bb8&ei=5090>
- Schaffhauser, D. (2008, January 1). Google Book Search: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly. *Campus Technology*. <http://campustechnology.com/articles/57064>

Professional Notes and Notables

- **Michael LaCroix** - elected to a four-year term on the Board of Directors of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL).
- **Sally Gibson** - elected to Vice Chair/Chair Elect of NLA Technical Services Round Table.
- **Cindy Schuller** - presented "Morale, Motivation, and Mental Health Issues in the Workplace" at the NLA Conference in Kearney on October 25, 2007. Elected to a two-year term on NLA Publicity Committee beginning 2008.
- **Nathan Morgan** - is the Treasurer for NLA's New Members Round Table.

ILL Statistics for Aug - Dec 2007

We borrowed:

Loans: 991

Copies: 580

Of those copies:

490 were received via ARIEL

42 were received via FAX/EMAIL

48 were received via Mail

We loaned out:

Loans: 845

Copies: 989

Of those copies:

877 were sent ARIEL

104 were sent via FAX/EMAIL

8 were sent via Mail

Lynn Schneiderman

Important Events/Reminders

Friday, March 7th. Department chairs are encouraged to expend departmental allocations as soon as possible to ensure materials arrive before the end of the fiscal year. Please submit orders to Marcey Gibson, Acquisitions Specialist, Technical Services Department.

National Library Week

April 13-19, 2008

Mark your calendars for April 14, 2008, the Reinert-Alumni Memorial Library's annual unveiling of our National Library Week Stars.

March is Women's History Month.
Watch the library windows!

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