Academic Research Portals:
Integrating Librarians and Academic Programs

Introductions
Administrative Context
Technology
Demo and Discussion
Q&A
Administrative Context

President’s Library Task Force (2005/2006)

University Libraries 2010 Plan

Structure & Resources

John Zenelis
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“The library will strengthen its academic collaborations by developing research portals for digitally-based scholarly resources tailored to specific disciplines or academic programs.”

“Customized services will be developed for patron groups and/or academic units …”

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from President’s Library Task Force Report (2005/06)
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University Libraries 2010 Plan
Section II. Support Student and Faculty Research Productivity, Item F:
“Complete redesign and reengineering of website, including implementation of dynamic content research guides and research portals. Establish research portals for at least each academic unit that offers a master’s or doctoral degree program.”

Assessment

Indicator 1: Complete implementation of systems architecture for generation of dynamic content research guides and research portals in FY08 …”

Indicator 2: By the end of FY10, a specialized library research portal for each of the graduate academic programs in the University will be in place.

Indicator 3: The Libraries will administer the LibQUAL survey … survey results will demonstrate improvement over 2006 baseline performance in the information control and affect of service domains.”

from University Libraries 2010 Plan
Structure & Resources
Liaison Librarian Program (3 teams):
- Sciences, Engineering/Technology
- Social Sciences, Business
- Humanities, Arts

Human Resources:
- 20+ Liaison Librarians
- 8 Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs)
- 1 Systems Librarian, 1 Programmer (GRA)

Technology: Existing infrastructure

Budget: None currently; anticipate allocating $15K annually

Project Management: AUL/Digital Programs & Systems
Currently Active Research Portals
• Bioinformatics
• Global Research and Education

Nearing Launch
• American Colonial / Revolutionary History

Under development
• Atmospheric / Climate Science
• Bioengineering
• Conservation Biology
• Economic History
• Educational Research
• Neuroscience
• Nursing
Technology

```c
#elifdef TRACE
    if (!(fpm = fopen("ppmenc.doc", "wb"))
    {
        fprintf(stderr, "\nError: Cannot write to file\n\nexit(2);
    }
#endif

/* allocate 'order+1' elements
   -1() is used to store the
```
Design Goals

• Ease of use important for librarian “curators”
• Personalization not a requirement
• Must offer way to engage various web services
• Must produce as well as incorporate RSS feeds
• Reasonably simple implementation for Library IT
• Low Impact / Low Maintenance / Low Cost
Software
Solution?

Combine several OSS packages into a single "virtual" platform
Drug Information Portal
November 19, 2008 - 3:31 pm

A new version of the National Library of Medicine Drug Information Portal was released in October 2008.

The Drug Information Portal is a free Web resource that provides an informative, user friendly entry way to current drug information for over 16,000 drugs. It also provides links to sources within the National Library of Medicine, the National Institutes of Health, and other government agencies and to current information regarding consumer health, clinical trials, AIDS-related drug information, PubMed biomedical literature, and physical properties and structures of drugs.

Posted in News | No Comments

Discover DOE Data Explorer
November 17, 2008 - 5:47 pm

DOE Data Explorer (DDE) is a research tool that indexes collections of scientific research data, figures and plots, numeric files, scientific images, interactive maps, multimedia, and computer simulations.

The data collections themselves reside on various servers in numerous possible locations such as national laboratories, data centers, colleges and universities, corporations, or international organizations, just to name a few.

One of the data collections include DOE Joint Genome Institute's (JGI) Genome Web Portal. The JGI makes high-quality genome sequencing data freely available to the greater scientific community through its web portal.

Access to all the data collections is free; however, some may require password registration.

Posted in News | No Comments

New tools @ NCBI
November 11, 2008 - 3:10 pm

NCBI News
Colonial & Revolutionary History Portal

October 13, 2008 - 11:46 am

This portal is currently under construction. When completed, its main purpose will be to help graduate and Ph.D. students locate and utilize primary sources in Early American History.

The portal will contain sources pertaining to all aspects of life in Colonial America through the Revolutionary Era. The date range is roughly 1619 to 1825.

The sources are a mixture of Mason Library databases and online digital collections.

The title is temporary as are the various widgets shown at left. Melissa Johnson will serve as curator of this portal.

mjohnsh@gmu.edu

Posted in Uncategorized | Edit | No Comments »
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Posted in: Uncategorized.
By admin — October 13, 2008

No comments

About American Colonial & Revolutionary History

The Early American History research portal combines the features of a blog, search engine, resource database, and more. It includes: Resources: annotated web sites, databases, e-books, image collections, etc. Includes a classification schema that categorizes resources into one or more hierarchical category trees. To view the entire classification scheme in a single list, click on the “Show Entire Classification” link [...] more →
MagpieRSS

Bioinformatics
http://bioinformatics.oxfordjournals.org/archive/

BioSystems
http://www.science-direct.com/science/journal/03032647

Biotechnology and Bioengineering
http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/jws/journal/71002188

BMC Bioinformatics
http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcbiinformatics/

Cell
http://www.science-direct.com/science/journal/00928674

ChemBioChem
http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/jws/journal/72510898

Computational Biology and Chemistry
http://www.science-direct.com/science/journal/14769271

Computer Methods and Programs in Biomedicine
http://www.science-direct.com/science/journal/01692607

Current Opinion in Biotechnology
http://www.science-direct.com/science/journal/09561669

Current Opinion in Cell Biology
http://www.science-direct.com/science/journal/09550674

Current Opinion in Chemical Biology
http://www.science-direct.com/science/journal/13673931

Current Opinion in Genetics & Development

Current Opinion in Structural Biology
http://www.science-direct.com/science/journal/0856448X

DNA Repair
http://www.science-direct.com/science/journal/15687854
Bioinformatics - current issue

- Smarter clustering methods for SNP genotype calling
- Artemis and ACT: viewing, annotating and comparing sequences stored in a relational database
- Specific alignment of structured RNA: stochastic grammars and sequence annealing
- Position-dependent motif characterization using non-negative matrix factorization
- Protease substrate site predictors derived from machine learning on multilevel substrate phase display data
- A novel method for comparing topological models of protein structures enhanced with ligand information
- Improving 2D-DIGE protein expression analysis by two-stage linear mixed models: assessing experimental effects in a melanoma cell study
- Inferring population history with DIY ABC: a user-friendly approach to approximate Bayesian computation
- A better block partition and ligation strategy for individual haplotyping
- MetDB: a software platform for the analysis and integration of metabolomics experiment data
- Optimal stepwise experimental design for pairwise functional interaction studies
- Systems-level modeling of cellular glycosylation reaction networks: O-linked glycan formation on natural selectin ligands
- Stochastic dynamics of genetic networks: modelling and parameter identification
- Impact of dimeric organization of enzyme on its function: the case of photosynthetic water splitting
- A bioinformatics analysis of the cell line nomenclature
- The Protein Feature Ontology: a tool for the unification of protein feature annotations
- CNVDetector: locating copy number variations using array CGH data
- Efficient mapping of Applied Biosystems SOLID sequence data to a reference genome for functional genomic applications
- POPE—a tool to aid high-throughput phylogenetic analysis
- Searching protein structure databases with Dalilite v.3
- MSX-3D: a tool to validate 3D protein models using mass spectrometry
- GSEA-SNP: applying gene set enrichment analysis to SNP data from genome-wide association studies
November 24, 2008 – 8:15 pm

The newest (60th) edition of the Yearbook of the United Nations is available online in a browseable PDF format!


Access this publication as part of the complete collection (1946-2005) here: http://unyearbook.un.org/

Posted in [Uncategorized] | Edit | No Comments »

New study examines the role of technology in documenting human rights abuses
November 6, 2008 – 11:57 am

Global Resources News: Preserving Electronic Documentation on Human Rights

Many major research universities, such as Columbia University, Duke University, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of California, Berkeley, Yale University, McGill University, and the University of Connecticut, collect and preserve the papers of human rights organizations, jurists and activists. Many more universities support the training of human rights lawyers and advocates. Hence we are happy to report that the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation recently awarded the CRL Global Resources Network funding to support a two-year project to examine the use of technology by human rights organizations to document human rights abuses.

Sponsored by the foundation’s Human Rights and International Justice Program, the GRN project will analyze technologies used by human rights monitoring and activist groups in three world regions to identify ways in which documentation produced with those technologies can be maintained and protected for long-term use. GRN will work with Human Rights Watch, WITNESS, the International Center for Transitional Justice, and other human rights organizations on the project.

Read the rest of this entry »

Posted in [Uncategorized] | Edit | No Comments »

FOCUS on Global Resources newsletter-Fall issue
November 1, 2008 – 8:28 pm

New Fall issue of "FOCUS on Global Resources", from the Center for Research Libraries, highlights primary resources on the Manhattan Project

http://www.ctl.edu/ftoc/TPC.asp
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Search American Memory

American Memory provides access to written and spoken words, sound recordings, still and moving images, prints, maps, and sheet music from the Library of Congress collections that document the American experience.

Search all collections

Search Portal Resources

Advanced Search

Recently Added Resources

History of the Colonies Planted by the English on the Continent of North America

Reminiscences of the Last Sixty-five Years: Commencing with the Battle of Lexington

wordpress widgets
LeRoy LaFleur
• President’s Library Task Force Report
• Global Research and Education--A Mason Spire of Excellence

Project Team

• LeRoy LaFleur - Head, Arlington Campus Library
• Melissa Johnson - History and Public & International Affairs Liaison
• Beth Roskowski - Public Policy and Management Studies Liaison
• Elena Landry - Global Programs / Foreign Languages Liaison
Production and Process

- Meetings with faculty and “global” centers
- Surveyed activities at other academic libraries
- Established a classification scheme for resources
- Identified resources for inclusion in portal
Current information blog
Search functions
Classified resource list
RSS feeds
Table of contents feeds
Useful links
Discussion forum
Calendar
Opportunities, Thoughts and Challenges

- Interdisciplinary nature of the social sciences
- Global Research and Education
- Research libraries in the academy
Change Management
Librarian buy-in: Getting beyond “Why do we need to do this?”

Adding higher level of attention to graduate support / research

Organizational Turbulence: Scaling up to full production and maintenance mode

Paradigm shift for Librarians: Adjusting to a new way of fulfilling their function

Assisting/training less technically oriented librarians to succeed

We’re doing something new and success or failure will have a highly visible metric: usage

A successful research portal is not a single event. It requires ongoing maintenance and addition of new content

The research portal will replace the library website for specific audiences

We’re moving from “helping with research” to “improving researcher productivity”
We began this project in response to a recommendation from the President’s Library Task Force (a year-long planning process involving senior faculty and university administrators). A key finding: our libraries must do everything we could to assist both faculty and students to become more productive in their respective endeavors. We took this as a “directive” and challenged ourselves to develop discipline-based research portals for all academic graduate programs by the end of 2010, a daunting challenge given that their number.

We have two goals for this initiative. First, we’re trying to respond to our faculty’s request that we strengthen our academic collaborations with their disciplines (by offering tightly-focused portals to digital scholarly resources) and, second, to provide our 20+ liaison librarians with a mechanism that can foster closer cooperation and better integration with the department/academic program.

We assume the decline in users actually entering our physical libraries will continue and view this portal technology as a way for librarians to meet and serve their audience where most already are—on the net.

We’re starting with the notion of a subject guide and then stretching it into something more. Admittedly it’s not quite a virtual departmental library but in the hands of a dedicated librarian curator, we’re getting closer.
Academic Research Portals: Integrating Librarians and Academic Programs