Academic Research Portals: Integrating Librarians and Academic Programs



Coalition for Networked Information, Project Briefing, December 8, 2008

Wally Grotophorst LeRoy LaFleur Victoria Shelton John Zenelis 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

"Mason's library system is transforming itself, moving beyond its continuing repository function to a digital portal..."

"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 ..."

"Liaison librarians will actively participate in the curriculum where the skills of information and knowledge management are taught to the students."

"Librarians will streamline the library research process to help improve students' academic performance and learning outcomes, as well as faculty research productivity." "Mason's library system is transforming itself, moving beyond its continuing repository function to a digital portal..."

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"... create specialized research portals, pathways, or 'views' tailored to specific disciplines ..."

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 I: 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)
- I Systems Librarian, I 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

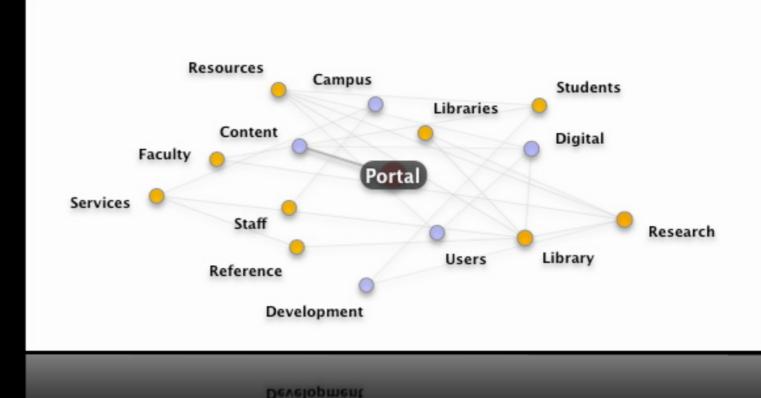
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Technology

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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 000

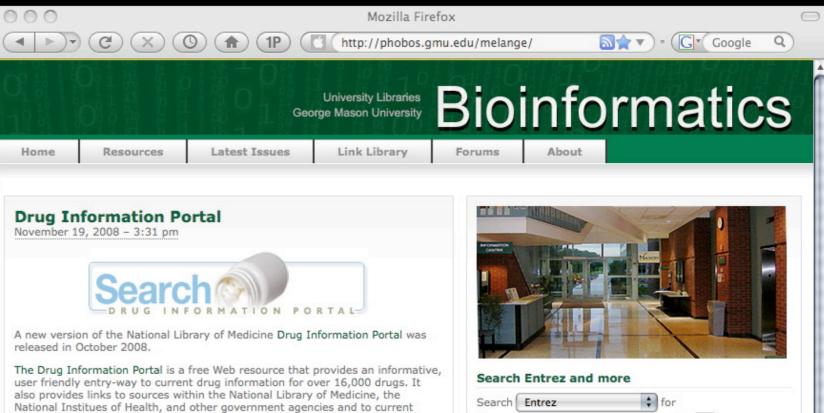
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Access to all the data collections is free; however, some may require password registration.	Search Portal Resources
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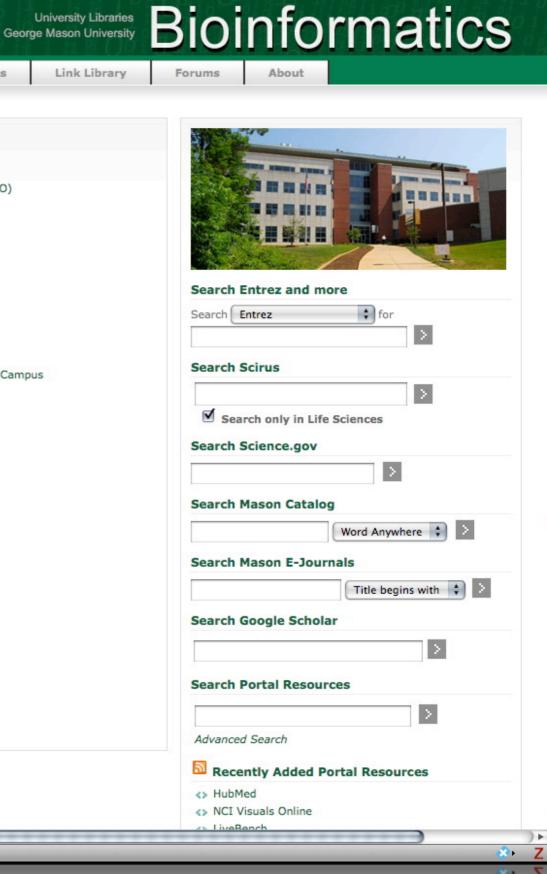
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October 13, 2008 - 11:46 am

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The portal will coch in 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

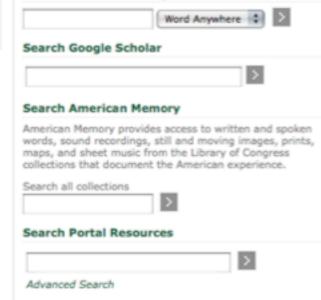
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History of the Colonies Planted by the English on the Continent of North America

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- Reminiscences of the Last Sixty-five Years: Commencing with the Battle of Lexington
- History of Virginia, from Its First Settlement to the Present Day
- History of Massachusetts
- History of Virginia from Its Discovery Till the Year 1781
- Complete History of Connecticut

Search Mason's Catalog



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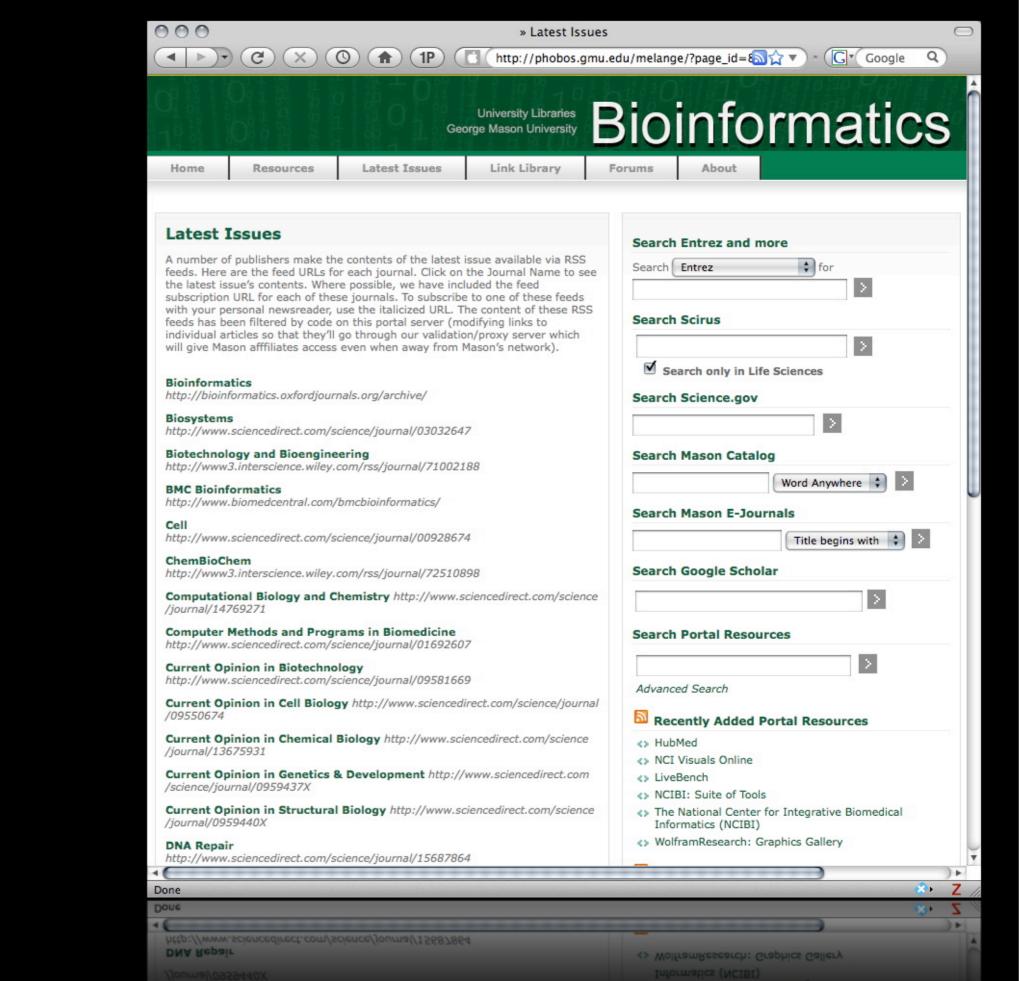








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Bioinformatics - current issue

- 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
- <u>Position-dependent motif characterization using non-negative matrix</u> <u>factorization</u>
- Protease substrate site predictors derived from machine learning on multilevel substrate phage display data
- <u>A novel method for comparing topological models of protein structures</u> 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
- MeltDB: 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
- <u>Stochastic dynamics of genetic networks: modelling and parameter</u> <u>identification</u>
- Impact of dimeric organization of enzyme on its function: the case of photosynthetic water splitting
- A bioinformatics analysis of the cell line nomenclature
- <u>The Protein Feature Ontology: a tool for the unification of protein feature</u> annotations
- <u>CNVDetector: locating copy number variations using array CGH data</u>
- <u>Efficient mapping of Applied Biosystems SOLiD sequence data to a reference</u> 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

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genome-wide association studies

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New online edition of the Yearbook of the United Nations (2005)

Latest Issues

November 24, 2008 - 8:15 pm

Home

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

"The Yearbook of the United Nations is the principal reference work of the United Nations and provides a detailed overview of the Organization's activities. Each Yearbook is fully indexed and includes all major General Assembly, Security Council and Economic and Social Council resolutions." Access this publication as part of the complete collection (1946-2005) here: http://unvearbook.un.org/

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Resources

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.

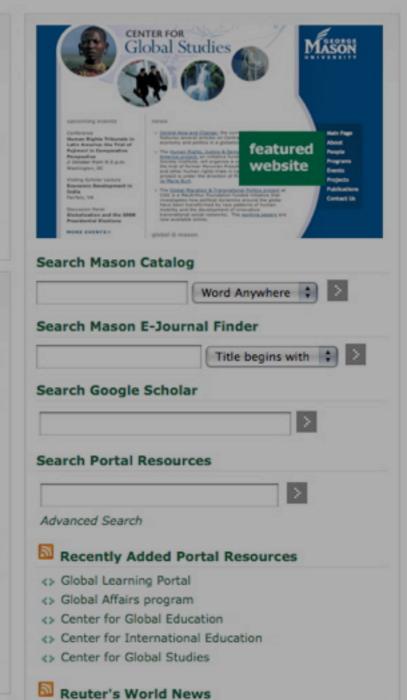
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FOCUS on Global Resources newsletter-Fall issue November 1, 2008 - 8:28 pm

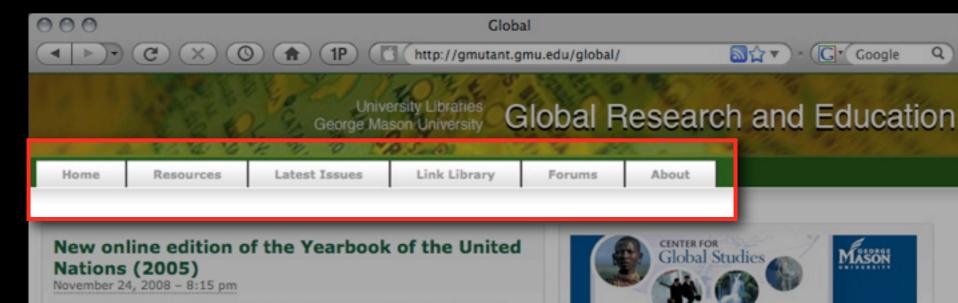
New Fall issue of "FOCUS on Global Resources", from the Center for Research Libraries, highlights primary resources on the Manhattan Project

http://www.crl.edu/focus/TOC.asp



About

- Angry India admits security lapses in Mumbai attacks
- U.S. says Mugabe's time is up
- <> Patriarch who revived Russian Orthodox Church dies
- Politics on hold as Thais pray for ailing king
- <> Congo agrees to peace talks with eastern rebels



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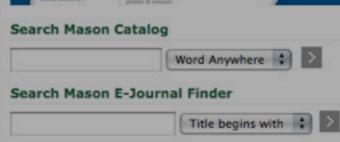
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Reuter's World News

- Angry India admits security lapses in Mumbai attacks
- U.S. says Mugabe's time is up
- <> Patriarch who revived Russian Orthodox Church dies
- Politics on hold as Thais pray for ailing king
- <> Congo agrees to peace talks with eastern rebels



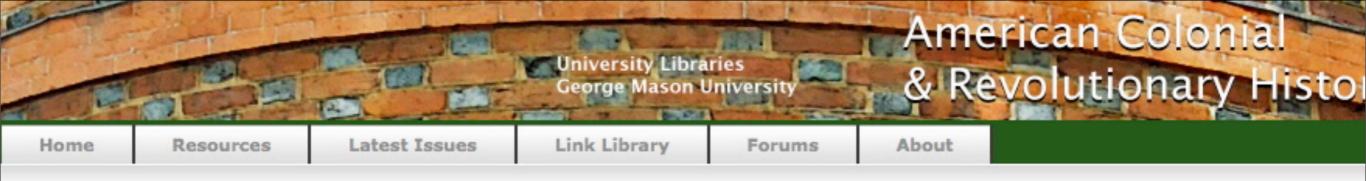








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Colonial & Revolutionary History Portal

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 1660 to 1825.

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

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Melissa Johnson will serve as curator of this portal.

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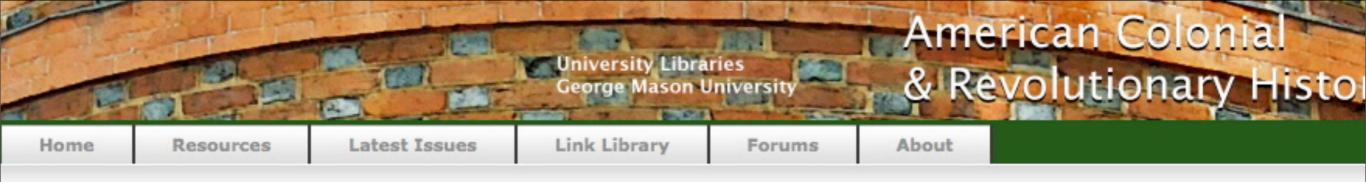
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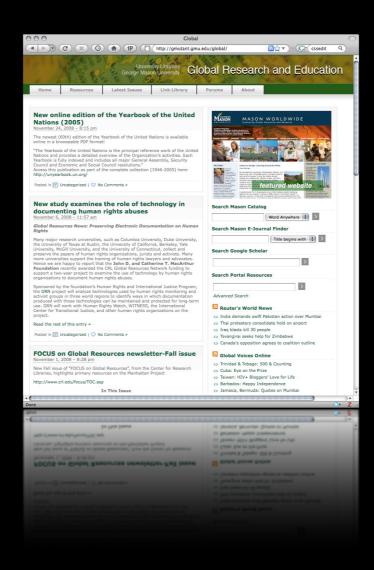
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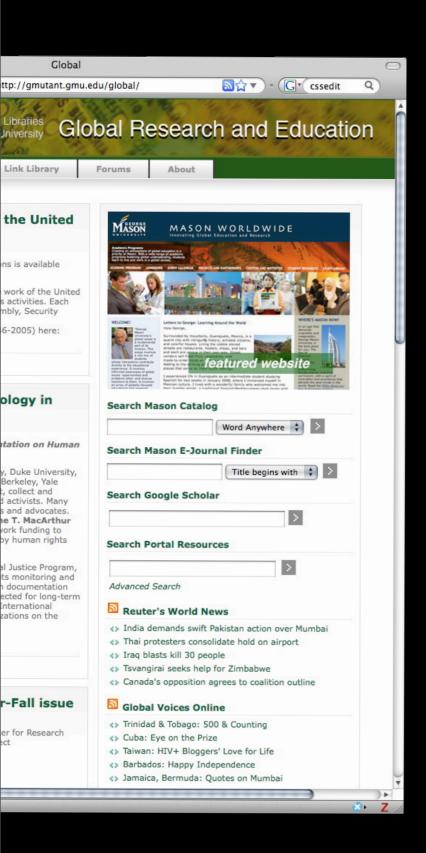
LeRoy LaFleur



- President's Library Task Force Report
- Global Research and Education--A Mason Spire of Excellence

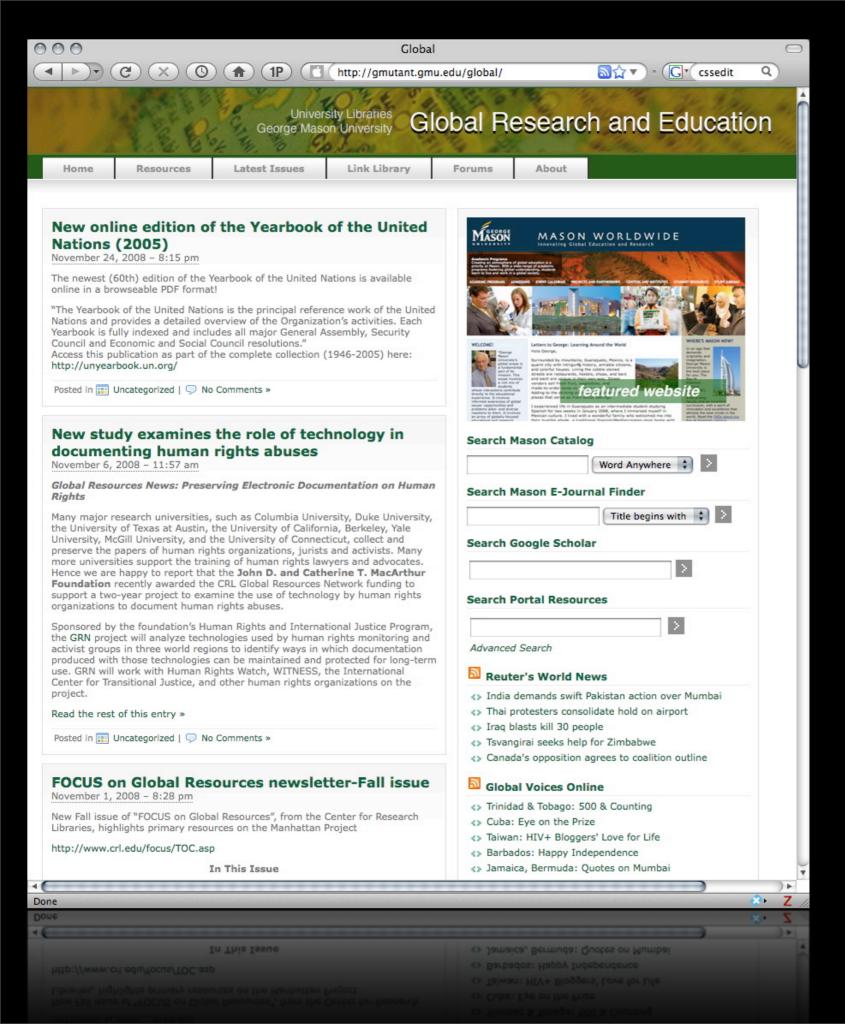
Project Team

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

Assisting/training less technically oriented librarians to succeed

Adding higher level of attention to graduate support / research

Change Management

Organizational Turbulence: Scaling up to full production and maintenance mode We're moving from "helping with research" to "improving researcher productivity" A successful research portal is not a single event. It requires ongoing maintenance and addition of new content

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

The research portal will replace the library website for specific audiences



MASON UNIVERSITY

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.

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Academic Research Portals: Integrating Librarians and Academic Programs



Coalition for Networked Information, Project Briefing, December 8, 2008

Wally Grotophorst LeRoy LaFleur Victoria Shelton John Zenelis