OTTAWA UNIVERSITY

MYERS LIBRARY

DVD'S TO
CHECKOUT!

InTouch Newsletter

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THIS

OBEDIENCE

FRANKENSTEIN

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PERSUADERS

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Library gets wireless additions

Months ago, the Myers Library was fitted with wireless access points. This allowed some library patrons to be able to use their laptops in the library, while others constantly complained of not being able to login to the wireless network and reach the sites they needed on the Internet. Wireless access was so poor on some days, that it was becoming a major problem for some library patrons who were very frustrated because they were not having any luck when they brought their laptops to the library and were set on getting some of their work done, but

Librarians were used to seeing groups of people with stony, worried looks on their faces, or library patrons sitting at a library

couldn't.

table for only a short while and then leaving to go elsewhere in a hurry, with their laptops, because they did not get to login to the Internet and do what they



Myers Library

needed to do.

Finally, the day has come for library patrons to be much happier with their network access when they visit Myers Library!!

The Myers Library has now been completely hard-wired so that patrons can make seamless wireless connections when they use their laptops in the library or just outside the library building and connect to the Internet.

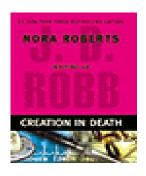
What does wireless mean to you?

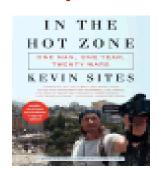
Wireless is the wave of the future....

Wireless is Poetry in Motion....

Three New Books in the Library







THE MYERS LIBRARY, BLOGS AND FACEBOOK

It is common place these days for librarians to attend conferences and find that several offerings are available that present what other academic libraries are doing with their websites in Facebook or their Blogs on the Internet.

It is always interesting to see that the largest libraries in Kansas have spent their time and energy to create blogs and that students, faculty and interested friends are regularly contacting librarians to talk about pictures or events or are even willing to share their own when they go on line and chat with librarians via their blogs.

Blogging is becoming quite the rage in the field as well, as librarians are also placing personal and professional blogs on the Internet. Professional blogs often talk about topics that are important to librarians such as technologies, trends, continuously debated topics in the field and librarian frustrations. On the personal side, librarians are using blogs to communicate with family in other states, friends overseas, libraries in other states, and constantly communicate their news and share their photographs online. They are also library proud and so they often share their library photographs at the professional level, and also information about programs and activities on their blogs so that other libraries can see what is being done with specific programs and how to go about presenting similar programs at their libraries.

Facebook websites are also becoming the new craze for librarians at the present time. Libraries, colleges and universities are now in the process of putting their websites on Facebook because they believe that this is the best way to make contact with their students online and also let them know about activities on their campuses, activities in the library and keep them abreast of how they can access library resources and make contact with the library and specific librari-

ans who have become characters on Facebook, and who also enjoy their own interactions and social conversations with friends, contacts and colleagues online in the Facebook environment.

Even though both Blogs and Face-book are what has been done before, these are fairly new media for librarians in the Myers Library, who also feel that it is necessary to make contact with Ottawa University students, staff and faculty online; and also keep in contact with past graduates of Ottawa University and alumni who live in other parts of the country and the world.

Fitting into this puzzle, librarians have decided to do what they can to reach out to their patrons at Ottawa University and start a library Blog in Blogspot. Actually, the OU Library Blog was created back in 2007, after librarians were exposed to blogs and blogging at several library conferences and were watching closely what their colleagues in the library field were doing. Back then, it was not at all



PIECING THE OU ARCHIVES PUZZLE TOGETHER

possible to link the Ottawa University Myers Library Interactive Blog to the OU website because it did not fit the specifications that were required for it to be linked to the website. Since then, librarians have added to the blog happenings and events to the blog but of course go no reactions to these because no-one had the Blog link and no-one really knew that it existed online. Now, since the library has been given access to the new library portal and can place links on these pages for patrons to access, it will attempt to link the updated Blog to the portal and students and faculty can see that the library and its staff have finally arrived in the 21st century.

When it comes to talking with students and socializing with them on Facebook, the library has built web presence on Facebook, but has not yet gone live with it, because the webpage is still being built and not all the links have been added yet. Besides, it is important that if it is to be a legitimate OU resource, and an OU presence, that the current administration be aware that it exists and are willing to give the library the necessary permissions before it can actually go live.

Until then, the Facebook page and the library Blog are just important links to the future that should be pursued, provided that our current administrators feel that this is the right thing to do, and that it fits in with the mission of the library and also with that of Ottawa University.