Library Software Upgrades

In 2001, the Myers Library acquired Sirsi library software to run its online library catalog, do its circulation tasks and complete a myriad of statistical reporting and cataloging tasks that were needed to run the library. Back then the Myers library started out running the 99.4 version of the Sirsi software. Now, two years later, we are still using this dinosaur software and we badly need to upgrade. When we chose to buy Sirsi software we only acquired one of the ten or more modules of the system, which would be able to do all the minimum circulation tasks that the library needed. With only the Sirsi circulation system in place, the library could only catalog books and place them in the online catalog, but it was not possible to catalog the 104 periodical titles that the library needed. With only the Sirsi circulation system in place, the library could only catalog books and place them in the online catalog, but it was not possible to catalog the 104 periodical titles that the library needed.

For six months, the new library director, Gloria Creed-Dikeogu, has been planning to upgrade the system to the newest 2003 Sirsi software version and add the serials module. An LSTA grant was written, making it possible to add the new serials module to the Sirsi system, so that the library will be able to add its serials holdings to its library catalog, starting in 2004. With the addition of this module of the Sirsi system, the library will now be able to do a double upgrade; upgrading not only its new serials module and software version and the circulation module of the system to the 2003 version.

There will also be computer-related some other changes in the Myers library when students return in the Fall. A new computer table will house six computers and a laser printer and all the library computers will be upgraded to the Microsoft Windows system from the old NT.

Library Notice: The Library has three LCD projectors available for faculty and staff use in the classroom, along with one laptop computer. Call the library to make a reservation at X5444.

KU Museum Studies Student Does Summer Internship at the Myers Library

There is a new face at the Myers Library this Summer. The Myers Library will play host to an Intern from the Museum Studies Program at the University of Kansas, this Summer. Emily Hughes Dominick started her internship on the OU campus in the first week of June and will continue on for the rest of the summer semester. She will be very busy learning about the collections and she will spend her summer, describing, labeling, preserving and researching the museum and textile collections that are presently housed jointly in the Myers Library and in OU Chapel. For several years, these collections were worked on by the OU Art Department and this current venture is a collaboration between the Art and Library Departments.
LIBRARY HUMOR

There’s a humorous website that I would like to share with you if you want to read about some of the funny questions librarians have to answer at the reference desk.

Here’s one of the questions that appears on a site called” Misconceptions in Libraries”: I work at a community college in California. A few years ago I had a male student ask me for the "IUD" - I was about to send him to the local Planned Parenthood office 'til I figured out he wanted the OED. (Oxford English Dictionary)

From: http://home.hawaii.rr.com/kingcharles/Library/mis-lib.htm

Here is a list of things that some librarians have found in books after they have been handed in at the circulation desk at public and academic libraries when patrons were done with them:

- Hair
- Spoon
- Dead Bugs
- Half a dead Cochorach
- Bird Poop
- Half eaten candy
- A flat letter opener
- Eyeliner Pencil
- Divorce Papers
- Pins/Nails
- Cool Aid packets/sachets
- Jello Sachets
- Telephone Bills
- Cheques
- Fully addressed letters

NEW STAFF ADDITIONS TO THE MYERS LIBRARY

Two new librarians started working at the Myers Library at the end of the Spring. They are Jana Werner and Mary Markwalter. Jan Werner will be working 20-hours a week at the Library, while Mary will be working 10-hours a week.

Jana Werner is the College’s interlibrary loans librarian and she will also supervise the library’s students aides. In the Fall. Jana Werner has a Masters Degree in Education and is certified as a library teacher. She also works at the Paola Library where she presently manages the Children’s Department. Students, especially those in the OU education department will find that she is extremely knowledgeable about juvenile literature; and she will be purchasing the Juvenile books for the library.

Mary Markwalter’s title is Projects Associate. Mary is the College’s Archivist. She will be cataloging, researching and archiving the university’s Archives. She also will be managing student aides at the library some evening and some weekend hours during the Fall semester. Mary Markwalter also works in Topeka for the SRS, where she works with the disabled. She is a registered social Worker. Mary is also presently working on her Masters Degree in Library Science at the ESU’s School of Library and Information Management. Here is an invitation to OU students, faculty and staff to come and visit us at the Myers Library during the Summer or the Fall and come and meet our new library staff members. I am sure you will find them both very willing to Help you with your endeavors.

WORLD NEWSPAPERS ONLINE

Do you like to read the Newspapers on a daily basis? Here are some Websites that can help you find the daily and weekly news from countries across the globe.

- Newspapers by continent http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/
- Internet Public Library World Newspapers http://www.ipl.org/div/news/
- Principal Newspapers from around the world http://www.geocities.com/~oberoi/newspapr.html
- African Newspapers http://www.iol.co.za/
- Hispanic Newspapers http://www.hispanicsurf.com/newspapers_surf.htm
- Native-American News Online http://www.nativeweb.org/resources/news_media/

The Myers Library at Ottawa University