

CCSU Library Newsletter



Bulletin of the Elihu Burritt Library, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT 06050

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The Library's Book Budget: It's Not Really Just For Books

--contributed by Charles Marlor, Acquisitions Librarian

Each year the Elihu Burritt Library is allotted a certain amount of money with which it is expected to buy materials for the collections that support the curriculum and faculty research at CCSU. It's a simple process really- the Library Director submits an annual budget request to the University based on things like projected inflationary increases, the current publishing climate, collection development goals, new academic programs- the list goes on. The University reviews this annual budget request. It is presented to the Connecticut State University as part of the total CCSU budget package. The final figure, often not as much as requested, is then returned to CCSU and the library. The scenario is no different at CCSU than it is at any other academic institution, and it presents a variety of challenges for academic librarians charged with making sure that the research needs of the University Community are well served.

Gone are the days when the library book budget meant that, in order to expend available funds, librarians would simply select books that were published by reputable publishing houses, written by scholars, and well reviewed. They would type up order forms, put them in an envelope, and mail them off to the publisher. Spending the "book" money today means evaluating an enormous number of available resources, from the traditional print book to the online full-text database to the electronic journal aggregate, and then working to identify a combination which best serves the needs of researchers and which is within the library's financial reach.

Today's Library Director must first decide what portion of the available funds will be needed to cover continuing commitments to such traditional resources as journal subscriptions and print Reference tools. She must then appropriate the remainder to develop the library's book and media collections and to pay for costs associated with the many electronic resources on which researchers now rely so heavily. Once that has been done, the balancing act begins!

Several "behind the scenes" professionals are responsible for administering the library's materials budget. The Collection Development Librarian allots dollar amounts for

new purchases to academic departments based on past expenditure patterns and on the physical format (print, CD, audio/visual, microform etc.) usually required by academic departments. The Acquisitions Librarian orders all materials selected by librarian academic department liaisons and by department faculty, always striving to obtain the most speedy delivery possible while doing business with materials vendors which provide the library with maximum buying potential. The Acquisitions Librarian is also responsible for monitoring the library materials budget in order to ensure that over-expenditures do not occur. The Serials Librarian coordinates the receipt and distribution of thousands of periodicals and other continuations to which the library subscribes.

As access to the world's information explodes, the library is faced with a relatively stagnant budget from which it must purchase many types of materials, all vying for the largest piece of the pie. CCSU Librarians must be more careful than ever that titles added to the collection be of the highest quality and the most appropriate for curriculum support. Statistical reports generated by CCSU's online system indicate that the library pays approximately \$37.00 for the average monograph, a significant portion of which is paperbound! Librarians must also be more careful than ever when committing to new subscriptions that will establish recurring annual costs, especially when journal costs are increasing 6-7% annually. They must evaluate online databases on their content, on the quality of their search engines, on the flexibility of the database distributor to negotiate terms that meet access requirements and budgetary limitations, and on a host of other criteria. Librarians must choose whether to offer a journal in print or electronically; the "book" budget rarely offers the luxury of format duplication. The librarian must do all this with a very limited amount of money, and must do it while ensuring the development of a collection that is balanced, which serves the needs of all academic disciplines, and to which access is intelligently delivered.

-- continued: please turn to page two --

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CCSU faculty is encouraged to actively participate in this process. Getting to know one's colleagues in the library will serve you, your department, and the University well. Faculty is more than welcome to meet with librarian liaisons, or with Collection Development and Acquisitions staff to discuss new purchases and to evaluate existing resources. Establishing a dialog with colleagues in the library will help us know that we are on the right track as we develop our collection and strive to provide access to the best collection that CCSU's "book" budget will allow.

Related:

What's New for You at the Library

-- contributed by Lynn Johnson-Corcoran,
Collection Development Librarian

Wondering if that book you ordered is in the Library yet? Curious as to what books and videos have been purchased for your department recently? Now there is a convenient way for you to find out.

Last year the Library's System Librarian, John Rutherford, developed a **Library Liaison Web page** which provides information on recently acquired books, videos, and CDs. You can access it by going to the Library Web page* and clicking on the Library Liaisons* topic, which is found on the left side of the page under Library Services. The list is arranged alphabetically by department name and provides the names of the Library Liaisons in each department and their counterparts among the Library Faculty who coordinate purchases for their assigned subject areas. By clicking on the **Materials Received** category for each department you will retrieve the list of materials acquired within the time frame designated. The lists are updated periodically. Some Library Faculty Liaisons also provide the option of keying in a book or tape request online. If that option is not yet provided for your department and you would be interested in using it, please contact the Librarian assigned to your department about adding that feature.

This web page has been designed to help faculty easily discern **what's new at library** in their field. Check it out – if you have any questions or suggestions about accessing the information on the page or enhancing the information provided please let us know!

*Library Web Page:
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*Direct Link to Liaison Page:
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New Databases

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Another new database is **Criminal Justice Abstracts**, which indexes international journals, books, reports, dissertations and unpublished papers on criminology and related disciplines from 1968 to present. Created in cooperation with the Criminal Justice Collection of Rutgers University library, **Criminal Justice Abstracts** covers crime trends, prevention and deterrence, juvenile delinquency, police, courts and sentencing.

Web Search Engine News: Familiar Resource Offers New Options

Google (<http://www.google.com>) has added two new options to the array of features that has made it one of the most popular search engines on the Internet.

You can use <http://images.google.com> to locate thousands of image files from all over the World Wide Web. Google's technology takes your keyword query and looks for pages that have occurrences of the keyword PLUS image file extensions. For example, a search for the keywords "toxic waste dump" would look for web pages containing those words combined with web pages that had files that ended in graphic file extensions such as .jpg or .gif, etc. Naturally, it would also look for files actually named toxicwastedump.jpg as well. Google's image search works well! (note: for more image search engines see page 4)

Generating speculation that Google is becoming "commercial," the search engine recently unveiled the "Google Catalog Search" at <http://catalogs.google.com/>. The catalog search help page states: "Google has made it easy to find information published in mail-order catalogs that were not previously available online. Our exclusive Google Catalog Search includes the full content of hundreds of mail-order catalogs selling everything from industrial adhesives to clothing and home furnishings." The catalog search is another option that could facilitate educational goals inasmuch as equipment catalogs, etc. are available.

The reference librarians at the Burritt Library handle approximately 24,000 questions each year. Many times they are relatively simple requests from students. There's the recurring "I need an article from a scholarly journal on counterbohemianism." Sometimes it's "I need to find the mission statement for Ultracrepidarian, Inc." Then there's always, "Where can I find the annual report for MicroManage?" But occasionally we receive questions that allow us to flex our research muscles a tad harder. During the "Winter Session" we fielded many questions that afforded us opportunities to discover some websites that answered some interesting queries. You may find them useful, too. If so -- bookmark it!

United States Department of Secondary Education Campus Security
Website <http://ope.ed.gov/Security/>

- The OPE Campus Security Statistics Website is your direct link to reported criminal offenses for over 6000 colleges and universities in the United States. According to the home page, "If you are thinking of attending college in a large urban city, a small liberal arts college, a specialized college, or a community college you can find their security statistics here." To search by name of institution, type of institution, geographic region, city, state or outlying area, and number of students enrolled, go to <http://ope.ed.gov/Security/Search.asp>

United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/homicide/region.htm>

- Based on *FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-99* this site shows homicide trends in the United States including regional trends and state trends (state trends require Lotus spreadsheet software).

Connecticut State Department of Health Main Web Page

<http://www.state.ct.us/dph/index.html>

Connecticut State Department of Health Physician Profile Search Page

http://www.state.ct.us/dph/MD_Profile/hlthprof.htm

- At the State Department of Health's site researchers can locate individual physician for all Connecticut-licensed physicians. These profiles include information on the physician's education, post graduate training, specialty, hospital and nursing home affiliations, malpractice information, and Connecticut licensure disciplinary actions.

Internal Revenue Service Forms and Publications

http://www.irs.gov/forms_pubs/

- Ready or not, you may need to visit this site to read, download or print instructions and tax forms for your 2001 taxes. This is the site the Burritt Library reference librarians use when asked, "Do you have income tax forms?"

Bookmark It

Unusual Words (from the *OED*)

contributed by Joan Packer, Reference Department

According to Simon Winchester the average person has a vocabulary of about 20,000 words. Winchester is the author of *The Professor and the Madman*, a bestseller about the story behind the creation of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, now in its second edition (1989). The *OED* is the accepted authority on the evolution of the English language, tracing the usage of words through 2.5 million quotations taken from a wide range of international English language sources. The *OED* currently lists over 500,000 words, which it defines as the “entirety” of the English language. That means that most of us only know about 4% of the language. Of course, this list is being added to all the time, as the *OED* is again being revised for a 3rd edition to be published in 2010.

The 2nd edition of the *OED* is now available online from the CCSU library homepage at <http://library.ccsu.edu/lib/> It is updated quarterly and contains draft material from the revision program. Originally the *OED* was published in parts called *fascicles* between 1884-1928. Supplementary volumes came out in 1933, and 1972-1986. Throughout its history the dictionary has been enhanced by “evidence” contributed by readers. Over 120 years ago James Murray, the original editor, launched an appeal for words to be included in the *OED*. The current editor has launched a similar appeal for new words and information on words that the editors have included in an *appeals list* on the *OED* website at <http://www.oed.com> Readers are asked to find printed evidence of new words from magazines, newspapers, book, song lyrics, practical manuals. Slang and dialect are of interest as well as words from the past that have so far escaped inclusion in earlier editions of the dictionary. In addition, the editors are always seeking earlier evidence of use of a word than currently appears in the dictionary.

Two examples of unusual words one can find in the *OED* online, which includes everything in the printed edition:

Abecedarian, adj., of or pertaining to the alphabet; arranged in alphabetical order, as *abecedarian* psalms, like the 119th.

As a noun, *abecedarian* refers to a person occupied in learning the alphabet. In 1880 *The New England Journal of Education* quotes a school timetable as specifying that a young *abecedarian* engage in at least four recitations each day, beginning with a ten-minute exercise every morning at 9.15.

Contumely, adj., insolent reproach or abuse; insulting or contemptuous language or treatment; scornful rudeness; now, esp. such contemptuous treatment as tends to inflict

dishonour and humiliation. This word was perhaps most notably used by Shakespeare in Hamlet’s soliloquy, Act.III. scene 1: “For who would bear the whips and scorns of time, the Oppressor’s wrong, the proud man’s Contumely,” according to the Riverside edition of Shakespeare. The *OED*, however, has it as the “poore man’s contumely.”

Birds of North America Species Accounts: Your Bird Questions Answered

contributed by Sylvia L. Halkin, Professor of Biology

Want to know how old cardinals can get in the wild? Whether it’s unusual to see a flock of robins in winter? How big mockingbird territories are? The first place to look for scientific information about the natural history of any wild North American bird species, is the Birds of North America species accounts. They’re kept in black magazine files on shelves directly behind the Reference desk on the third floor of the library. They’re published as they’re completed, so you’ll need to check the latest index (kept at the end of the last shelf of files) to find the account number for the species that interests you. The accounts are written by researchers who study the species they’ve written about, and are a major project of the American Ornithologists’ Union, the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, and the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. They are written in pamphlet form, and each includes sections on migration, habitat, food habits, vocalizations, territorial and breeding behavior, population trends, range, taxonomic relationships, and conservation and management.

To write the Northern Cardinal account, my co-author and I spent three years reading all the published scientific literature on cardinals— hundreds of research articles from the last two centuries— and condensing relevant information into a jam-packed 32 pages. Although I already knew a lot about vocalizations, my own area of research, it was a real education to learn about all the other areas covered by the account. Some were things I’d always wondered about, and others I’d never thought about, but both ended up giving me new ideas on how vocalizations may function.

The last series of life histories of North American birds, written by Arthur Cleveland Bent and collaborators, was published by the Smithsonian Institution between 1919 and 1968. Although much of the information in that series is still relevant, a great deal has been discovered since it was written. It’s been an honor and a privilege to contribute to the next generation of reference literature, to help people interested in birds go beyond the information in field guides, to provide the background for wise management decisions, and to help other scientists find the information they need to make their research as productive as possible.

Finding Image Files on the Web

contributed by Nick Tomaiuolo, Reference Department

Researchers may find various uses for “image files” (graphics/photos/pictures, etc.). Web search engines are beginning to offer new capabilities that focus on locating these types of files. Here’s a list of some places to begin your image searches. Of course, be aware that many image files may be copyrighted; before you use one, be sure to check or obtain permission from the copyright owner.

AltaVista Image Search <http://www.altavista.com/sites/search/simage>

AltaVista wouldn’t share the number of images it archives, but the retrieval from some eclectic searches (e.g., Baron von Richtofen, reclining Buddha, Sydney Harbor Bridge) indicated that coverage is extensive. Besides a thumbnail, image size and format is stated, and a link to the hosting URL is provided. AltaVista allows users to search by color/black and white, photos, graphics, and buttons and banners. Retrieval may come from personal or commercial websites, or AltaVista partners such as Corbis or *Rolling Stone Magazine*.

Ditto <http://www.ditto.com/>

Ditto.com delivers relevant thumbnail images and a link to the relevant sites that host the original images. If the user chooses to see a “detail view”, Ditto shows filename, file size, provides a link to the original URL, and provides keywords to which the image is indexed. The user can click on keywords for related images. Ditto says, “...we have compiled the largest searchable index of visual content on the internet via proprietary processes, nearly 6 million thumbnails selected and evaluated from over 115 million images.”

Excite <http://www.excite.com/search/>

Select the “Photos” radio button. Excite has two image indexes. “Member Photos” are comprised of user-posted images. “News Photos” originate at Reuters and the Associated Press. Results of image searches may be from professional collections (free to download as wallpaper or send as an e-card, and usually accompanied by an offer to buy the photo as a poster) or free from a member of the “Webshots” community, or a news photo that usually links to a news story but cannot be freely downloaded.

FAST Multimedia Search <http://multimedia.alltheweb.com/>

FAST offers an easy image search; clicking on thumbnail provides larger image and details including file size, file format, image size, and a link to the hosting URL. Accompanying most thumbnails is the statement: “This image is copyrighted to its rightful owner(s).” Use the Fast Advanced Multimedia search (<http://multimedia.alltheweb.com/cgi-bin/advsearch>) to narrow to file type, color/black and white, etc.

HotBot <http://hotbot.lycos.com/>

Go directly to the Advanced Search where you can specify file type, domain, page depth and more. Type your keyword in the Word Filter (“Must Contain”) box and enjoy.

Ithaki Image and Photo Metasearch <http://www.todalanet.com/images/>

Ithaki is a metasearch tool that covers some of the Internet’s well-known engines (i.e., Fast, Google, Hotbot, Altavista etc) and directories (i.e., Yahoo, Dmoz, Looksmart, etc.) Advanced search is available where users can choose options such as Boolean, phrase, or natural language.

IXQUICK <http://www.ixquick.com/>

By selecting the “pictures” radio button, the searcher uses IXQUICK to metasearch AltaVista, Art.com, FAST, and Yahoo. The only limitation with IXQUICK is although it may state it has retrieved a specific number of results, it will only show the user a small fraction of the retrieval. For example, although IXQUICK found numerous images of “Ben Stein”, it displayed only “21 unique top-ten images selected from at least 875 matching results.”

Lycos Multimedia Search <http://multimedia.lycos.com>

To limit to still images select the “pictures” radio button. Search is by keyword. A copyright notice appears with most of the photos as does a “license professionally” link.

Picsearch <http://www.picsearch.com>

search engine for pictures and images and has many features which make it unique. It has a relevancy unrivalled on the web due to its patent-pending indexing algorithms. Picsearch sates that it has a “family friendliness” that “allows children to surf in safety as all offensive material is filtered out by our advanced filtering systems.” Use the Advanced Search to limit to animations, specify size of the images retrieved, and limit to color or black and white.

Yahoo Picture Gallery <http://gallery.yahoo.com/>

The Yahoo Picture Gallery is searchable or browseable by category. According to Yahoo: “From the Dalai Lama to baby llamas, we have an incredible variety of pictures that you can use in a number of ways.” Having a primary partnership with Corbis, most of what you retrieve from Yahoo is going to be from Corbis and, therefore, be usable in limited ways according to the terms and conditions.

Big Search Engine Index to Images http://www.search-engine-index.co.uk/Images_Search

If you want to save some time, you may wish to bookmark the “Big Search Engine Index’s” link to 19 engines. Besides most of the aforementioned services, Big’s links include Photo Disc (www.photodisc.com) and the Animation Factory (www.animationfactory.com).

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Internal Revenue Service Forms and Publications

http://www.irs.gov/forms_pubs/

- Ready or not, you may need to visit this site to read, download or print instructions and tax forms for your 2001 taxes. This is the site the Burritt Library reference librarians use when asked, "Do you have income tax forms?"

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Unusual Words (from the *OED*)

contributed by Joan Packer, Reference Department

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As a noun, *abecedarian* refers to a person occupied in learning the alphabet. In 1880 *The New England Journal of Education* quotes a school timetable as specifying that a young *abecedarian* engage in at least four recitations each day, beginning with a ten-minute exercise every morning at 9.15.

Contumely, adj., insolent reproach or abuse; insulting or contemptuous language or treatment; scornful rudeness; now, esp. such contemptuous treatment as tends to inflict

dishonour and humiliation. This word was perhaps most notably used by Shakespeare in Hamlet’s soliloquy, Act.III. scene 1: “For who would bear the whips and scorns of time, the Oppressor’s wrong, the proud man’s Contumely,” according to the Riverside edition of Shakespeare. The *OED*, however, has it as the “poore man’s contumely.”

Birds of North America Species Accounts: Your Bird Questions Answered

contributed by Sylvia L. Halkin, Professor of Biology

Want to know how old cardinals can get in the wild? Whether it’s unusual to see a flock of robins in winter? How big mockingbird territories are? The first place to look for scientific information about the natural history of any wild North American bird species, is the Birds of North America species accounts. They’re kept in black magazine files on shelves directly behind the Reference desk on the third floor of the library. They’re published as they’re completed, so you’ll need to check the latest index (kept at the end of the last shelf of files) to find the account number for the species that interests you. The accounts are written by researchers who study the species they’ve written about, and are a major project of the American Ornithologists’ Union, the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, and the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. They are written in pamphlet form, and each includes sections on migration, habitat, food habits, vocalizations, territorial and breeding behavior, population trends, range, taxonomic relationships, and conservation and management.

To write the Northern Cardinal account, my co-author and I spent three years reading all the published scientific literature on cardinals— hundreds of research articles from the last two centuries— and condensing relevant information into a jam-packed 32 pages. Although I already knew a lot about vocalizations, my own area of research, it was a real education to learn about all the other areas covered by the account. Some were things I’d always wondered about, and others I’d never thought about, but both ended up giving me new ideas on how vocalizations may function.

The last series of life histories of North American birds, written by Arthur Cleveland Bent and collaborators, was published by the Smithsonian Institution between 1919 and 1968. Although much of the information in that series is still relevant, a great deal has been discovered since it was written. It’s been an honor and a privilege to contribute to the next generation of reference literature, to help people interested in birds go beyond the information in field guides, to provide the background for wise management decisions, and to help other scientists find the information they need to make their research as productive as possible.

Finding Image Files on the Web

contributed by Nick Tomaiuolo, Reference Department

Researchers may find various uses for “image files” (graphics/photos/pictures, etc.). Web search engines are beginning to offer new capabilities that focus on locating these types of files. Here’s a list of some places to begin your image searches. Of course, be aware that many image files may be copyrighted; before you use one, be sure to check or obtain permission from the copyright owner.

AltaVista Image Search <http://www.altavista.com/sites/search/simage>

AltaVista wouldn’t share the number of images it archives, but the retrieval from some eclectic searches (e.g., Baron von Richtofen, reclining Buddha, Sydney Harbor Bridge) indicated that coverage is extensive. Besides a thumbnail, image size and format is stated, and a link to the hosting URL is provided. AltaVista allows users to search by color/black and white, photos, graphics, and buttons and banners. Retrieval may come from personal or commercial websites, or AltaVista partners such as Corbis or *Rolling Stone Magazine*.

Ditto <http://www.ditto.com/>

Ditto.com delivers relevant thumbnail images and a link to the relevant sites that host the original images. If the user chooses to see a “detail view”, Ditto shows filename, file size, provides a link to the original URL, and provides keywords to which the image is indexed. The user can click on keywords for related images. Ditto says, “...we have compiled the largest searchable index of visual content on the internet via proprietary processes, nearly 6 million thumbnails selected and evaluated from over 115 million images.”

Excite <http://www.excite.com/search/>

Select the “Photos” radio button. Excite has two image indexes. “Member Photos” are comprised of user-posted images. “News Photos” originate at Reuters and the Associated Press. Results of image searches may be from professional collections (free to download as wallpaper or send as an e-card, and usually accompanied by an offer to buy the photo as a poster) or free from a member of the “Webshots” community, or a news photo that usually links to a news story but cannot be freely downloaded.

FAST Multimedia Search <http://multimedia.alltheweb.com/>

FAST offers an easy image search; clicking on thumbnail provides larger image and details including file size, file format, image size, and a link to the hosting URL. Accompanying most thumbnails is the statement: “This image is copyrighted to its rightful owner(s).” Use the Fast Advanced Multimedia search (<http://multimedia.alltheweb.com/cgi-bin/advsearch>) to narrow to file type, color/black and white, etc.

HotBot <http://hotbot.lycos.com/>

Go directly to the Advanced Search where you can specify file type, domain, page depth and more. Type your keyword in the Word Filter (“Must Contain”) box and enjoy.

Ithaki Image and Photo Metasearch <http://www.todalanet.com/images/>

Ithaki is a metasearch tool that covers some of the Internet’s well-known engines (i.e., Fast, Google, Hotbot, Altavista etc) and directories (i.e., Yahoo, Dmoz, Looksmart, etc.) Advanced search is available where users can choose options such as Boolean, phrase, or natural language.

IXQUICK <http://www.ixquick.com/>

By selecting the “pictures” radio button, the searcher uses IXQUICK to metasearch AltaVista, Art.com, FAST, and Yahoo. The only limitation with IXQUICK is although it may state it has retrieved a specific number of results, it will only show the user a small fraction of the retrieval. For example, although IXQUICK found numerous images of “Ben Stein”, it displayed only “21 unique top-ten images selected from at least 875 matching results.”

Lycos Multimedia Search <http://multimedia.lycos.com>

To limit to still images select the “pictures” radio button. Search is by keyword. A copyright notice appears with most of the photos as does a “license professionally” link.

Picsearch <http://www.picsearch.com>

search engine for pictures and images and has many features which make it unique. It has a relevancy unrivalled on the web due to its patent-pending indexing algorithms. Picsearch sates that it has a “family friendliness” that “allows children to surf in safety as all offensive material is filtered out by our advanced filtering systems.” Use the Advanced Search to limit to animations, specify size of the images retrieved, and limit to color or black and white.

Yahoo Picture Gallery <http://gallery.yahoo.com/>

The Yahoo Picture Gallery is searchable or browseable by category. According to Yahoo: “From the Dalai Lama to baby llamas, we have an incredible variety of pictures that you can use in a number of ways.” Having a primary partnership with Corbis, most of what you retrieve from Yahoo is going to be from Corbis and, therefore, be usable in limited ways according to the terms and conditions.

Big Search Engine Index to Images http://www.search-engine-index.co.uk/Images_Search

If you want to save some time, you may wish to bookmark the “Big Search Engine Index’s” link to 19 engines. Besides most of the aforementioned services, Big’s links include Photo Disc (www.photodisc.com) and the Animation Factory (www.animationfactory.com).