



Point and Click

The Libraries' Information Connection

Volume 3, Issue 1

Elsa Schwartz
Editor

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Heart of the Haven

Tara Lynn Fulton, Dean of Library Information & Services

Heart of the Haven

At 7:10 p.m. Student A approaches the reference desk. She is intellectually motivated to investigate a topic, and wants some guidance on search strategy. She develops a relationship with a librarian, and is in periodically over the next few months reading, digesting, and learning. She is also talking with a faculty member about doing an independent study next semester on the topic.

At 7:20 p.m. Student B approaches the reference desk. He is working on a group project, and needs some statistics. His class had been in earlier for library instruction, and the faculty member had required that a draft be handed in last week, so the group is well along in their work, but are fine tuning their arguments for their presentation.

At 7:30 p.m. Student C approaches the reference desk. She has a paper due tomorrow and can't find anything on Yahoo. As the librarian engages in conversation, it becomes clear that Student C is not only not interested in her topic, but doesn't even know what it means, because she chose it off a list. Student C also confides to the librarian that she only needs a C in the course, so one or two sources will be plenty.

These three scenarios point out some conclusions I believe we can draw about how library faculty and classroom faculty can work together to better prepare our students for the information society. Below are some assumptions I make and some assertions I believe are true.

- * Part of our responsibility is to help students find the spark of motivation and curiosity.
- * Personal contact with faculty is important to student engagement.
- * Library instruction makes a difference.
- * Coordination between the classroom faculty, librarians, and students is important to the realization of research assignments.
- * We are most effective when we start with each student's ability and interest level, and try to build from that point.
- * Students need active practice with locating, evaluating, dissecting, synthesizing, and applying both information and the recorded knowledge of humankind.

The expectations of classroom faculty, and the assignments they construct, determine to a large degree how often and in what depth students make use of various sources of information and knowledge. (Student A is such a refreshing exception!) Library faculty serve as partners in this process, both for classroom faculty and for students. As another academic year begins, please let us know how we can work with classes and individuals to achieve our goals for not just an information literate, but an information savvy campus!

Stevenson Library

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401 North Fairview Street
Lock Haven, PA 17745
(570) 893-2309
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Clearfield, PA 16830
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Public Relations

Team:

- Bernadette Heiney*
- Cheryl Reynolds*
- Elsa Schwartz*
- Cathy Weglarz*

Who's on First?

Tara Lynn Fulton
Dean of Library Information & Services

Please join us in welcoming two new librarians.

Cathy Weglarz is the new Health Sciences Librarian. Besides service to those departments and programs, she will take the lead with the libraries' presence for distance education students as well as coordinating journals/serials. She comes to us with years of experience in both medical and academic libraries, and with vast amounts of enthusiasm.

Many of you know Stephanie Kulas for the several temporary roles she has played over the past few years and for her special expertise with social work, instruction, and web design. She is now in a tenure-track position as the Clearfield Campus Librarian. She has also graciously agreed to serve as the webmaster for the Clearfield Campus.

Jamie Foor will be moving from the Clearfield Campus to the position of Education Librarian. Obviously he will spend most of his time doing collection development and instruction for those departments, as well as overseeing the Children's/Curriculum Library, but he will also coordinate book collection development.

If you have any questions about who can help you with what at either library, just call or send one of us email, and we'll get you to the right person!

Library Exhibit Area

By Bernadette Heiney, Information Services Technician

This is a reminder that one of the many new and exciting services offered by Stevenson Library is the exhibit area located in the Meet and Greet area of the first floor. The exhibit space, which includes two large glass display cases, one large table display case, and three double-sided cloth boards, is available to University faculty, staff, departments and programs for the display of educational cultural, intellectual and aesthetic materials. The exhibit space is available throughout the year and is reserved for one month at a time. If you are interested in using this area, please contact Bernadette Heiney at 893-2545 or bheiney@lhup.edu.

Changes in Stevenson Library's Media Services Area!

Marsha Ann Tate
Media Services Librarian

As promised in an earlier newsletter, a number of changes are underway in Stevenson Library's Media Services area (formerly Audiovisual) including --

- Over the next few months, the Learning Resources Center (LRC) (including the Center's videocassette collection) currently located in Robinson Hall will be moving to the Library's Media Services area. In it's new home, we plan for LRC's services to be available during additional hours throughout the week.
- The creation of an area for individual/small group viewing of television programs, videocassettes and DVDs
- The purchase of a music listening carrel for individual/small groups to listen to CDs, cassette tapes, and 33 1/3 phonograph records
- The purchase of new television sets as well CD, DVD, and videocassette players.

Thanks to the generosity of several retired faculty members, Stevenson Library also has a growing collection of music CDs available for Lock Haven University students, faculty, and staff use. The Library also recently received a gift of over 800 classical music LPs that will also soon be made available for patron use. Opaque projectors, a record player, screen, and cassette tape players are also available for use in the area.

LRC services (and Sandy Probst) will continue to be available 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. To access to the Media Services Area of the library, just present your LHU identification/library card at the Library's Circulation Desk and checkout a key.

Stevenson Library continues to welcome other expressions of interest in helping bring the Media Services Area to life. The Library also welcomes any comments or suggestions from the Lock Haven University community regarding the project and/or answer any questions individuals may have about it. Queries/suggestions can be forwarded to Marsha Ann Tate (mtate@lhup.edu or by calling 893-2468).

A Review of Facts.Com, Stevenson Library's Newest Database

By Kristen Rook and Rick Lilla

~Facts.Com comes "highly recommended" by *Library Journal*

What is it?

Facts.Com is a full text database containing print information from *Facts On File* since January 1, 1940. Also available on this web site is information from six other reference databases. They are *World News Special Features*, *Reuters News*, *Issues and Controversies*, *Today's Science*, *World Almanac*, and *Funk and Wagnell's World Almanac Encyclopedia*. The news articles provided by Facts.com are retrieved from over 100 newspapers, magazines, periodicals, government, and online sources, and are cross checked for accuracy. This database divides itself into two indexes: 1940-1979 and 1980-present. The *subject index* takes the information provided by *Facts On File World News Digest* and categorizes the articles by subject. This index is the one that stores all stories collected from January 1, 1940 to the present. The *top news stories* index stores all major and pressing news stories from the past year. The information contained in this index is updated every week.

Why search Facts.Com?

All Lock Haven students and faculty can find plenty of reasons to use this database. In addition to this great archive of news going back to 1940, it also includes high quality charts and graphs from its *Issues and Controversies* database. It provides users with local, national, and international maps. The *Today's Science* database gives excellent overview material that would be well-suited for secondary students and for our student teachers in preparing lesson plans. And finally, for those who would like immediate access to the newest World Almanac, Facts.com provides it.

Facts.com has two big weaknesses. First, the pictures and overall visual look of the web site: the photographs are often stretched and squeezed into available space with no thought given to how they will appear. As a result, this website could stand a designer with some aesthetic taste. The second weakness is that Facts.com is based on the very poor *Funk & Wagnalls New Encyclopedia* that seemingly couldn't be given away in all those grocery store promotions of years gone by.

Ways of Searching

Searches can be completed one of three ways, and the information you seek usually appears in two, out of the following three, search methods:

1. **Keyword Searching.** Keyword searching is the quickest method of retrieval and can be accessed at any point while searching the Facts.Com database. It will retrieve all relevant information which can be sorted chronologically or reverse chronological order and by overall relevance;
2. **Index Searching.** This method searches the Facts.Com indexes. This is good to use for a broad topic or area of interest;
3. **Overview Articles and Graphics.** Using this search method will result in background information and the most important stories and relevant events.

Introductory information provides readers with significant people, places of development, and cultural distinctions. The following pages are broken down by various topics. The topics include: GREAT EMPIRES, NEW PEOPLE, CHRISTIANITY OF EUROPE, INDUSTRY, AND WAR. Throughout the reading, important terms are placed in bold face print. In the index of the text, under WORLD HISTORY, there are two subsections. The first subsection in the text is chronology which is followed by historical figures.

Facts.Com, A Review (continued)

Through Facts.com, 43 documents were retrieved in one of the following subtitles: Did you know?, Chronology, U.S. History, and World History. All of the world history links are exact replicas of the *World Almanac's* print text. The Chronology feature offers more updated and current information than what is available through its print counterpart. These links also feature additional links to national, international, and general information from various time periods. The U.S. history links, as well as the Did you know? links, provide users with other important facts from that year and/time period

The *The World Almanac and Book of Facts, 2002* provides readers with the essential information necessary to answer an inquiry. The *World Almanac Reference Database* may have the exact information for world history, however, the chronology topics have more to offer with the additional links. Although the website may take an extra minute to search, in the end it can provide more specific information.

The Comparison of *Facts On File* to *Facts On File News Archive*

The topic selected for this search was BOSNIAN WAR CRIMES AND TRIALS. In the *Facts On File* text you must first find your topic by searching through the index. The index page will present readers a brief description related to their topic. Also on the second page will be the page number of a relevant article.

By searching online at the *Facts On File News Archive Database*, simply type in the topic. For this topic, BOSNIA was entered. A total of 69 documents were retrieved. At first glance only two articles appear to be relevant. These two articles were organized into sublinks which retrieve the relevant parts of the article, if the contents of the entire article is not necessary. The other articles include topics such as WORLD WAR II and other events occurring within Yugoslavia. These articles were relevant. They also established for the reader what is going on at the current time in Bosnia and allowed a comparison of the past with the present.

In conclusion, the *Facts On File News Archive Database* appeared to be much easier to use. Students unsure of the exact topic can enter an inquiry and a broad range of information will be retrieved. As for the *Facts On File* text this appeared to be more difficult to use simply because a reader will be redirected from page to page. With the added databases of *Issues and Controversies*, *Today's Science*, and *The World Almanac*, **Facts.com** is definitely worth a look!

Point and Click welcomes feedback or suggestions from its readers. Please contact the Stevenson Library Central Office at (570) 893-2310, or Elsa Schwartz :eschwart@lhup.edu or (570 893-2652)



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The Libraries' Information Connection

This newsletter will be published once a semester.

At Stevenson and Clearfield Libraries we are dedicated to traditional values and contemporary services. We are your link to information services and technology.

Stop by and see us.

Fines and Fees for Faculty and Staff

By Brenda M. Corman, Access Services Librarian

Library fines and fees provide incentives for people to return library materials so that they can become available for others to use. All library users, including faculty and staff, are subject to fines and fees.

Faculty and staff have extra borrowing privileges for library books. They may renew books up to three times before the items must be returned to the library and checked in. Faculty and staff also receive a courtesy notice shortly before their items come due. This is not an overdue notice, it is a reminder that books will soon be due, so they should be returned or renewed.

Books that remain overdue following three notices are regarded as lost and a cost for replacing the books is calculated by the library system. You will be blocked from checking out additional items until the materials are returned or paid for. Please avoid this problem by promptly returning or renewing your books.

Faculty and staff may also borrow certain items that generally do not leave the library, such as reference books and current periodicals. These four-hour loans allow use of the materials in the classroom and photocopying on a departmental copier. These high-use materials are subject to fines and fees if not returned on time.

Replacement fees are charged when a faculty or staff member loses or damages a library item.

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welcomes feedback or
suggestions from its
readers. Please contact the Stevenson
Library Central Office at (570) 893-
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893-2652)



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