

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Theresa Byrd, Director of Libraries
cc: Public Services Staff

From: Tom Green, Associate Director of Libraries and Head of Public Services

Date: May 8, 2007

Re: **SPRING 2007 PUBLIC SERVICES HIGHLIGHTS**

More than two dozen Ohio Wesleyan University faculty and staff were recognized at the fourth annual Celebration of Scholarship. This annual event, held during National Library Week, featured books, articles, chapters, performances, exhibitions, and invited commentaries published during 2006-07. Dr. Anne Fry was also recognized for completing a book and CD of the *Ohio Wesleyan Magazine Subject & Author Index Aug 1958-May 1983*. Public Relations and Development each have a copy of the book and CD for their offices. Three new READ posters were hung above the Beeghly Circulation Desk featuring the following faculty members: Dr. Edward "Jed" Burt, Cincinnati Conference Professor of Zoology; Dr. Mary Howard, Chairperson and Professor of Sociology-Anthropology; and Dr. L. Trace Regan, Chairperson and Charles Warren Fairbanks Professor of Journalism.

Jillian Snyder received this year's Libraries and Information Services Research Award and a check for \$500 at the Celebration of Scholarship. Her paper, "Dictatorship, Disappearance & Democracy: The Role of the Malvinas War as Catalyst for the Human Right Movement and the Reemergence of Democracy in Argentina," was one of eight original works of scholarship submitted by graduating seniors. The award recognizes a paper that demonstrates full and complete use of a critical research process that includes a well-developed search strategy and appropriate database selection as well as use of diverse library resources in multiple formats. This year's judges included Tom Burns, English; Paul Burnam, LIS; Dr. Theresa Byrd, LIS; Tom Green, LIS; Dr. Heather Grunkemeyer, Chemistry; Ülle Lewis, Writing Resource Center, Corinne Lyman, the Friends, Deb Carter Peoples, LIS; Bo Rabby, Theatre, and Pete Szabo, LIS.

Academic Complete, a subscription database from ebrary that includes some 34,000 electronic books, was added to our offerings after Spring Break. More than 260 publishers are making their books full-text searchable using the ebrary platform. The collection includes science, technical and medical titles (33%); history and humanities (23%); social and behavioral sciences (20%); business, marketing, and economics (15%); education (5%); Reference and other titles (5%). About a third of the collection was published 2004-2006, another third 2001-2003, and the rest 2000 and earlier. There are numerous ways to navigate through a document: go to each occurrence of a search term; flip through the pages, one-by-one; go to specific page numbers; or through the table of contents.

Ebrary has sophisticated tools for conducting research such as an InfoTools menu that activates selected words of interest to additional, relevant information from an online dictionary, an online encyclopedia, online map websites, online biographical information, searching in JSTOR and the

OhioLINK catalog. Students and faculty can select text with their mouse and copy and paste into a Word document or e-mail message and ebrary formats a bibliographic citation and provides a URL hyperlink back to the source. Readers can save their personal notes with a link to any given page. Selected text in the document can be highlighted (yellow, pink or blue) and highlights are automatically stored on a personal bookshelf.

This summer another cutting edge technology, MetaLib, will be added by the CONSORT Colleges. MetaLib provides a consolidated search environment for remote information resources, helping users find the information they need quickly and effectively. It streamlines the discovery process by presenting content from multiple information providers in one clear, familiar user interface. It eliminates the need to learn different search methods and interfaces, while searching multiple information resources such as catalogs, reference databases, citation databases, subject gateways, and e-journals. This technology, known as federated searching, retrieves results in a manageable, unified format.

We administered a web-based quantitative customer survey to see how students, faculty, and staff use and evaluate the services of our merged library and computing units. The survey, known as the Bryn Mawr Survey of Merged Information Services Organizations (MISO), focused on use of services and resources with particular emphasis on classroom technology and administrative support. An e-mail message from Dr. Theresa Byrd, Chief Information Officer and Director of Libraries was distributed to all students and employees on Feb 5. All faculty and staff and a sample of 700 students received the initial e-mail letter and a link to the survey on February 8. A

first reminder was sent on February 13, a second reminder sent on February 16. The survey closed on February 19 with responses from 44% of the faculty, 34% of staff, and 21% of the student sample. We expect to review the results over the summer.

Each semester we have special guests and other staffing notes. Dr. Patricia Graham, University of Kansas, visited Special Collections as part of the Luce grant. Joy Gao provided instruction for a dozen Delaware Hayes English AP students. Deb Carter Peoples hosted a visit by librarians at Miami University of Ohio who will be involved in a move of their Science Library. The search for a public services librarian conducted during the semester did not result in a hire and the position will be readvertised this summer.

Five faculty workshops (44 participants) were offered this semester. Dr. Tim Rhodus, The Ohio State University professor of Horticulture and Crop Science, discussed "Podcasting? What's the Buzz?" Chuck Della Lana demonstrated "Digitizing Audio: Getting Started." Dr. H. Lewis Ulman presented "Scholarly Communication: New Developments." Patty Bisker shared how to "Smooth Technology 'Bumps' By Backing Up!" Staff from the University of Cincinnati provided training on Blackboard, the course management system that allows faculty to post course content, communicate with students, set up quizzes or surveys, and manage grades online. There training was divided into three sessions: "An Overview of Blackboard," "Creating Assessments," and "Creating Assignments and Using the Gradebook."

The following in-service training sessions were held:

- Paul Burnam explained “Let’s Chat About Meebo.com.”
- Francoise Crowell, Yankee Book Peddler regional manager, introduced the new GOBI and reviewed our profile.
- Tom Green offered “Firefox: Browser Power Tips.”
- Xudong Jin informed us about “What’s the Impact From LC [Library of Congress] No Longer Creating SAR [Series Authority Records].”
- Michael Zeoli, ebrary’s eastern regional manager, outlined features in ebrary.

Public services library staff members are involved in many professional activities. Some activities within the University community included:

- Paul Burnam served as the affirmative action representative on a Physical Education Department faculty search.
- Dr. Byrd, Tom Green, and Carol Holliger attended the semi-annual meeting of the Joint Archives of Ohio United Methodism.
- Chuck Della Lana served on the Reclassification Committee.
- Joy Gao served on the President’s Commission on Racial and Cultural Diversity.
- Tom Green served on the Executive Committee of the Faculty and was elected to a three year term on the Committee on Honorary Degrees. He was the administrative representative on the University Appeals Board and continued as co-advisor of the Bishops Chess Club. He served as the affirmative action representative on the search committee for an LIS Programmer/Analyst. He was inducted into the local chapter of Theta Alpha Kappa, the National Honor Society for Religious Studies and Theology.
- Pete Szabo was the affirmative action representative for a Music Department faculty search.

Consortia activities included:

- Paul Burnam continued service on the OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons Steering Committee. He also attended meetings of the OhioLINK Lead Implementors and the Five Colleges of Ohio Reference and Instruction Subcommittee. He served on the OhioLINK portable devices accessibility task force and the OhioLINK User Services Committee’s Web Reference task force.
- Dr. Theresa Byrd, Chuck Della Lana, Bernard Derr, and Marsha Zavar hosted a Five Colleges of Ohio Access Services Subcommittee meeting.
- Joy Gao and Clint Baugess attended Five Colleges of Ohio Government Documents Subcommittee meetings.
- Joy Gao and Xudong Jin attended Five Colleges of Ohio Catalog Subcommittee meetings.
- Tom Green attended OhioLINK User Services Committee meetings. He served on the OhioLINK coordinated book buying task force. He also attended meetings of the CONSORT Colleges MetaLib installation team.
- Tom Green and Xudong Jin hosted one and attended another Five Colleges of Ohio Collection Development & Management Subcommittee meeting.

Professional meetings and workshops included:

- Paul Burnam attended an OHIONET workshop on “Tools for Managing Electronic

- Resources.” He attended a Five Colleges of Ohio Reference and Instruction “Information Commons” program featuring Scott Bennett. He serves on the Academic Library Association of Ohio (ALAO) Government Relations Team.
- Dr. Theresa Byrd and Tom Green attended the 13th ACRL national conference “Sailing into the Future – Charting our Destiny!” in Baltimore.
 - Joy Gao is the Treasurer/Secretary of Ohio GODORT (**G**overnment **D**ocuments **R**ound **T**able), and attended Ohio GODORT executive meetings.
 - Carol Holliger created a Charles Wesley display and bibliography and presented two workshops at the United Methodist Historical Society of Ohio (UMHSO) annual meeting. She attended the East Ohio Commission on Archives & History and hosted both the West Ohio Commission and the UMHSO Executive Committee meetings. She also provided a tour for the ALAO Support Staff Interest Group’s Spring Workshop.
 - Kristine Kinzer was a member of the local arrangements committee for the Midwest Archives Conference.
 - Pete Szabo attended the Music Library Association Conference in Pittsburgh.