

LIBRARY NEWSLETTER
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Library



The last few months have been particularly productive ones for the University Library. A variety of new services have been introduced, and the Library's electronic offerings have continued to grow at a truly impressive rate. The development of a Three-Year Plan represents one of the Library's most important recent initiatives. Library staff devoted considerable time and energy to the creation of this planning document to provide direction and focus to the Library's development in the near term.

This edition of the Library Newsletter provides a brief update on some of the services and resources mentioned above. It also introduces a major new province-wide initiative, the *Scholarsportal*, in which the Library is an active participant. More details will be provided on this very exciting project in the coming weeks and months.

Margaret Grove
University Librarian

Large Format Printing Now Available

As a service to faculty, students and staff, the Library has acquired a large format printer that produces colour posters, banners and other large format prints of excellent quality. Photocopy Services staff, located on the 5th floor, will accept requests on cd, diskette or as an e-mail attachment (libphoto@spartan.ac.brocku.ca). This high quality service is very favourably priced (<http://www.brocku.ca/library/pricelist.htm>). Additional details are available on the

Photocopy Services web site
(www.brocku.ca/library/services/abtptcy.htm)
or by contacting Ext. 3263.

Remote Access to Library Databases Simplified

This spring the Library beta tested and implemented new proxy software making it much easier for valid Brock faculty, students and staff to access Library databases from remote locations. Remote users with Internet service providers other than Brock are simply prompted for their name, barcode and PIN, and provided that these are valid, gain immediate access to the Library's restricted databases. Further details are available on the Library home page.

"My Library" Account

Several new online services are available through "My Library Account", accessible from the catalogue web page (<http://brain.biblio.brocku.ca/>). This function allows borrowers to review their loans, holds, and overdue items, update their personal information, change their PIN, and renew items online without coming to the Library. When the online renewal capability was introduced in late February, it was immediately popular with library users. The majority of renewals now take place online.

Shelving Expansion on Floors 5 and 9

The Library is adding shelving capacity on both of these upper floors this summer to relieve the intense pressure on the collections. By providing additional shelving sections and

ranges where possible, 1400 new shelves will be made available. On Floor 5, the microfilm readers have been relocated, and the orientation of the shelving has been changed, resulting in a much-improved physical layout.

Canadian Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement Established

As a result of an unprecedented agreement among the four regional academic library consortia, it is now possible for faculty, students and staff to borrow books in person from most university libraries in Canada. All that is required in most instances is a valid ID card from the home institution or a consortia card. Further details are available from the Circulation Department.

New Electronic Resources

Some of the highlights are mentioned here. The Library database page (<http://www.brocku.ca/library/dbase.htm>) provides a complete, up-to-date list of databases and publisher suites of electronic journals. Nearly all of these new resources have been made possible through the Library's participation in consortium agreements. The shift from print to electronic journals has accelerated dramatically in the past year: the Library now provides access to the full text of roughly 7500 journals and maintains subscriptions to approximately 1640 print titles.

New products acquired in the last few months include the full suites of journals from *Wiley Interscience*, *Kluwer*, the *American Psychological Society* (*PsycARTICLES*), the *American Physical Society*, and all titles published by *Annual Reviews*. Gale's *Literature Resource Center*, which includes the *MLA International*

Bibliography as well as roughly 150 full text Humanities titles, *Compustat*, a major Business database, *BioOne*, a collection of full text Biology journals, and some important resources for Nursing (the OVID version of *CINAHL*, *Evidence-Based Medicine Reviews*, *The Cochrane Databases*) are also now available.

As a result of two major new agreements, the **Map Library** is now able to offer access to all digital topographic data for Canada, and has acquired complete Canadian map coverage for land-based data. This wealth of digital material will provide enhanced support to the University's teaching programs and will permit innovative research for a broad range of diverse applications. Additional information is available from the Map Library web site (<http://www.brocku.ca/maplibrary/>) or by contacting Colleen Beard at Ext. 3468.

Scholarsportal

The *Scholarsportal* initiative is an exciting collaborative project among all provincial university libraries, that will take shape over the next 3-4 years. Funded by the Ontario Innovation Trust, the *Scholarsportal* is intended to bring order to the growing array of scholarly digital resources by providing a common interface, creating coherence and linkages among disparate sources, and establishing a secure archival record by loading content at the University of Toronto. This project will have immeasurable benefits for Ontario students, faculty and researchers, and represents collaboration at its very best. Many more details on the *Scholarsportal* will be provided as the project unfolds.

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