



LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

**James A. Gibson
Library**

Number 9, April 19, 2004

This last newsletter of the 2003-2004 academic year brings good news about e-Books and a major agreement with Blackwell Publishing, some important information about information literacy, and more. You can catch up on news you may have missed by consulting the archive of newsletters on the Library's web site. I encourage you to visit our web site often and to contact us if you have comments, questions or suggestions regarding any of our services.

Margaret Grove
University Librarian

eBooks Now Available

The Library's collection of electronic information resources continues to grow with the addition of eBooks from netLibrary. By joining a provincial consortium agreement, the Library is able to offer access to over 4000 licensed and over 3000 publicly available eBooks. The eBooks are electronic versions of printed books that can be viewed online by members of the Brock community, one user at a time. The Library's initial eBook collection covers a broad range of disciplines, with a concentration in the humanities and social sciences. If you wish, you may create a netLibrary account to take advantage of some of the personalization options and more sophisticated features of the search interface.

The Brock Library's e-Books are accessible both on and off campus from the netLibrary link on the Databases page at www.brocku.ca/library/databases/. The "Help" link on the NetLibrary site offers some useful tips and an outline of the features. The eBooks have been catalogued in full and are also accessible from the Library catalogue.

Table of Contents Service Expands

Libraries and database providers have done a wonderful job of making journal literature available to faculty and students on the desktop. However, there is a vast quantity of information contained in books on library shelves that is much more difficult to find. Subject and keyword indexing helps a great deal, but is often unable to unlock the contents of book chapters.

The addition of searchable electronic tables of contents to catalogue records represents a major step forward in making book chapters more accessible. The Library has been adding enriched records to its catalogue, when they are available, for currently acquired books since the summer of 2003. These records provide an online contents display, and support chapter-level title, keyword and author searching.

As a result of the extremely positive reaction to the table of contents service, the Library has recently loaded available retrospective records from 1998 on. There are now roughly 20,000

enhanced records in the catalogue, and more records are being added every week.

Blackwell Access Coming Soon

The Ontario Council of University Libraries has just concluded a major agreement with Blackwell Publishing to provide access to its full suite of 660 peer-reviewed titles. Blackwell publishes important titles in most disciplines in partnership with over 500 academic and professional societies. The agreement includes retrospective coverage through 1997-98 in most instances.

One of the most important aspects of this agreement is the right to load the journal content on the Scholarsportal server at the University of Toronto. This provision protects ongoing access to the archival content, and enables Ontario academic libraries to continue the development of federated search capabilities. Federated search simplifies the information seeking process by allowing *simultaneous* searching of content from multiple publishers using a common interface.

Blackwell Publishing will be joining such important publishers as Elsevier, Wiley, Kluwer, Oxford, Cambridge, Springer, the American Chemical Society and the American Psychological Association whose journals are accessible to the Ontario academic community from Scholarsportal.

Blackwell titles will be available once they have been loaded on Scholarsportal. Further details will be posted on the Library web site shortly.

Web of Science Access Expands

As a result of its participation in the Canadian National Site Licensing Project, the Library is now able to offer expanded access to the *Web of Science*, with coverage extending from 1971 to the present. *Web of Science* includes the *Science Citation Index Expanded*, the *Social Sciences*

Citation Index and the *Arts & Humanities Citation Index*.

The 3 major *Web of Science* indexes can be searched separately or simultaneously, and enable you to discover who is citing your research, measure the influence of other scholars' work, verify the accuracy of references, and track a topic through years of research literature. *Web of Science* is accessible from the Databases page at www.brocku.ca/library/databases/

E-Journals - did you know . . . ?

That the Library offers access to more than 10,000 e-journals. Our print subscriptions number roughly 1600 titles.

That all of our e-journals are accessible through the Library catalogue.

Information Literacy Revisited

The importance of providing students with the knowledge and skills to conceptualize information seeking as an intellectual process was highlighted in the January 2004 issue of the *Library Newsletter* in a piece entitled "Integrating Library Instruction into the Curriculum". This short article emphasized the need to treat information literacy skills as a critical issue for the entire academic community.

Since the publication of the January *Newsletter*, the Library has finalized an information literacy policy document, with the support of the Senate Library Committee. The document is available at www.brocku.ca/library/infolit.htm. The subject specialist for your department or program can provide you with additional information and collaborate with you to develop approaches to address this critical issue.