

# Unplugged

Issue 17, Fall 2005

NEWS FROM THE RONALD WILLIAMS LIBRARY

FROM THE DEAN

## LIBRARY AS LEARNING COMMONS

I am pleased to announce plans for a complete renovation of the fourth floor of the Ronald Williams Library, with construction set to begin in early 2006. This remodeling project will greatly improve the overall environment on the floor with the installation of new carpeting, new study furniture and new ceiling tiles. Finishes will match work that has been completed on the first and third floors of the Library. At the same time, the renovation project will enhance the Library's functionality as a *learning commons* for the University. The Library, of course, has always been a key resource and facility to support the campus mission of teaching, learning and research. In the past decade, the role and reach of the Ronald Williams Library in other key academic support areas has increased as additional functions have been located in the Library. This includes the Center for Teaching and Learning and the Multimedia Learning Resource Center, both of which are housed on the third floor of the Ronald Williams Library.

The fourth floor remodeling plans call for creation of a larger and more integrated suite of offices for the Tutorial Center, the Math Lab and the Reading Lab, which are already housed on the fourth floor. This expanded learning support unit will provide office and teaching spaces much better suited to Academic Development staff needs for serving NEIU students. A common reception desk for the three units and a mix of private tutoring spaces will improve service delivery. The biggest change on the floor will be the construction of a new Language Learning Lab in the space currently occupied by an Academic Computing Lab. This new lab will feature 30 new PCs tied together with a new digital language lab application for supporting the teaching and learning of foreign languages. The new language lab includes space for staff and tutors who support the lab and foreign language students.

The open, public use areas on the fourth floor will feature new oak study tables, each equipped with electrical outlets. The fourth floor will retain its current designation as a group study floor where collaboration among groups is supported and encouraged. Wireless network access points are planned for both the third and fourth floors to support student use of laptops anywhere on the two floors.

The Library eagerly anticipates completion of the fourth floor remodeling project sometime early summer 2006. Rather than merely housing academic support units, Library faculty and staff plan to partner in new ways with NEIU academic support staff as we together build an effective *learning commons* in the Ronald Williams Library to serve the University Community.

Brad Baker  
Dean of Libraries and Learning Resources



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## NEW DATABASE FOR THE LIFE SCIENCES



The Library is pleased to announce that we have added *Biological Abstracts* on Thomson's ISI Web of Knowledge platform to our list of online databases. This database indexes over 3,700 scholarly journals from around the world and is considered a key resource for finding information in the life sciences. Coverage of the Library's subscription to *Biological Abstracts* online goes back to 1969.

### LIBRARY AND PROVOST HONOR RECENT NORTHEASTERN FACULTY AUTHORS

Pictured is Dr. Lorie Annarella, one of eighteen Northeastern faculty members honored at a reception for recent publications. This event, the second of its kind, was co-sponsored by the Library and the Provost Lawrence Frank. Other NEIU authors were Barry Birnbaum, Kathy Cowan, Marian Gidea, Maureen Gillette, Renny Golden, Mary Kimble, Elyse Mach, Mostafa Maksy, Elizabeth Marino, Dragan Milovanovic, Kumarss Naimipour, Richard Neapolitan, Beverly Otto, Roger Reinsch, Sara Schwarzbaum and Anita Jones Thomas. Congratulations to our latest authors!



Dr. Lorie Annarella (left) with Suzanne Benson

### LINKING CITATIONS TO FULL TEXT

As the Library continues to increase the number of databases and full text online journals each year, the need for providing easier access to them becomes more critical. As a result of this need, the Library is implementing a new service that will improve access to the thousands of full text journal articles currently available from our Web site. The new product is an OpenURL resolver which allows the library user to link to a full text article from any of the databases that the Library subscribes to, even if the database only includes citations. Finding a full text article is as easy as clicking on the "Get This Item" button that displays on each citation in all of the Library's databases. A set of links for accessing full text will be displayed and the user can then choose any of the available sources. If full text is not available, there will be a link to search for a paper copy of the journal in the Library catalog or, if the Library does not own the journal, to request the article through ILLiad Interlibrary Loan, the Library's online interlibrary loan service.



Getting a journal article is now easier than ever. Look for this button when searching a database to easily GET the full text article you are looking for.

## SEARCH OVER 100 LIBRARY DATABASES WITH *ONESEARCH*

Do you ever wonder which of the Library's many electronic resources you should use? The Library now offers a new search interface which allows you to simultaneously search over 100 of the Library's databases with just one click of your mouse. We call this search interface, *OneSearch*. When you use *OneSearch*, you can search almost all of the Library's databases by author, title, keyword, or abstract using one simple search. If you need to search the Library's databases on a research topic but are not sure which database to search — use *OneSearch*! If you are looking up information on an interdisciplinary topic and want to quickly search a variety of databases – use *OneSearch*!

*OneSearch* is based on a technology known as “federated searching” that uses a search engine developed by a company called WebFeat. When you use *OneSearch*, you can choose to search all of the listed databases, select individual databases by name, or select a group of databases by general discipline. *OneSearch* takes your search term(s) and simultaneously sends out a search to each selected database's native interface. *OneSearch* then builds a list of all the results as they are returned from each of the databases.

Because there are slight variations in the search syntax required by each database, the results returned by *OneSearch* may not be as comprehensive or accurate as results you would find if you searched each database separately. Therefore, if your research requires a comprehensive or highly accurate search, please search each database individually using its native interface.



## PRINT MANAGEMENT COMES TO THE RONALD WILLIAMS LIBRARY

First implemented by Academic Computing in campus computer labs last year, the *GoPrint* print management system is reducing printing costs across campus by 30-50 percent. The same print management system has been installed for printing on all the public computers throughout the Library.

The simple process for printing in the Library is identical to printing in the computer labs across campus. Print jobs from any Library computer will be sent to a nearby print release workstation before they can be printed. Users can then select whether to continue or cancel printing. At present, black and white printing will continue to be free for NEIU students, faculty and staff. Using an NEIU account login and password when printing will allow free printing on any of the black and white printers in the library.

Library users that are not currently affiliated with NEIU will be charged \$.12 per page for black and white printing.

*GoPrint* also manages color printing available in the Multimedia Learning Resource Center (MLRC). While black and white printing is free in the MLRC, there is a \$.25 per page cost for color printing. Students, faculty and staff must add value to their NEIU ID cards in order to print in color in the MLRC.

Future plans are to have a second color printer on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Library for printing documents from research sites and databases. The same \$.25 charge for color printing will apply when the additional color printer is installed.

## ONLINE FULL TEXT JOURNAL COVERAGE GROWS



### Academic Search Premier

In September, the Library's subscription to EBSCOhost's *Academic Search Elite* was upgraded to *Academic Search Premier*. According to EBSCO, this database is "the world's largest scholarly, multi-disciplinary full text database."

The upgrade from *Academic Search Elite* to *Premier* increased the number of journals indexed from 3,485 to 8,035; the number of peer reviewed titles from 1,507 to 3,630; and the number of full text journals included from 2,053 to 4,515.

Last year, the Library reported 17,428 online titles. With the upgrade to *Premier*, the Library is pleased to report that we now have 21,668 online titles.

#### IN THE EXHIBIT SPACE: NOVEMBER THROUGH DECEMBER

11/7 - 11/27	NEIU's Joe Davis and Matt Byerly, (Photo/Design/Graphics), Photography
12/5 - 12/17	Robert Oslon, Senior Art Student Paintings



Library Viewed from New University Commons  
November 2005

### LIBRARY WELCOMES NEW BUSINESS LIBRARIAN HENRY OWEN III

Henry received his MLIS from the Dominican University Graduate School of Library and Information Science in 2003, and just completed the two-year Academic Resident Librarian Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Before attending Dominican, he worked in corporate business operations and in information systems for several major Chicago-area corporations—after receiving his MBA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The theme underlying most of his corporate career was using technology and operations management techniques to solve business problems and to improve business processes.

While working in corporations, he moonlighted as an associate faculty member at Chicago State University, where he taught evening undergraduate operations management courses in the College of Business and critiqued operations management textbook manuscripts for John Wiley.

Before getting his MBA, Henry was a Peace Corps volunteer in Liberia, West Africa.