



Cheryl Kern-Simirenko

On my mind, a message from the dean ...

As I contemplate the many complex issues raised by the proposed Google Book Search Settlement (GBSS), I'm reminded of the movie theme song, "What's it all about, Alfie?"

There has been extensive coverage of the proposed GBSS in various media, as well as the ubiquitous full-page ads directed to authors and publishers, advising them of their options under the GBSS. What it means for academic libraries and scholars is not clear. The settlement hearing is scheduled for October 2009, in the U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York, so at this writing the outcome remains hypothetical.

The Google Book Search Project is a massive effort to scan the book collections of the nation's largest academic libraries. Stanford University, University of Michigan and University of Virginia are among the partner libraries. The project applies the powerful Google search engine to the entire contents of digitized books, effectively creating a database of monographs and making that content searchable in ways not previously possible.

Not surprisingly, copyright concerns led The Author's Guild and the American Association of Publishers to file a class action lawsuit against Google, on behalf of copyright holders, in September 2005. In October 2008, the proposed settlement was announced — with far-reaching implications for authors, publishers, libraries, researchers and readers. It does not apply to works published after Jan. 5, 2009, and focuses on works that remain protected by copyright, but which are no longer commercially available (out-of-print).

Key elements in this settlement include:

- Users can search the book database at no cost, with no-cost display of full-text available for public domain books;
- Users can purchase perpetual online access to the full text of in-copyright, out-of-print books, but not download them;
- Free access, but not downloading, available on one terminal at each not-for-profit higher education institution with fee-based printing of portions of in-copyright, out-of-print books;
- Subscription services to in-copyright, out-of-print

- books for academic libraries, with pricing based on student FTE. Generation of revenue via sale of full-text display of content and via advertising (37 percent to Google and 63 percent to copyright owners);
- Creation of a Book Rights Registry, funded by Google and run by authors and publishers, for the purpose of distributing payments to copyright owners.

Google Book Search is undeniably a powerful tool for identifying the existence of potentially relevant content, down to the paragraph and sentence levels. However, the focus on revenue generation basically turns Google into a bookseller.

A major concern is the apparent monopoly Google will have when the copyright holders of in-copyright, out-of-print books cannot be identified or found. These are commonly known as "orphan works" — numbering in the millions by Google's estimate — 70 percent of published books. A 2006 report by the U.S. Copyright Office resulted in the introduction of legislation to enable users to make reasonable use of such works after a diligent effort to locate the rights holder. This legislation has not passed. The GBSS would make Google the exclusive rights-holder for orphan works, based on the opt-out requirements for authors/rights holders. While these works would be widely available, Google and the Book Rights Registry would set prices.

Pamela Samuelson, director of the Berkeley Center for Law and Technology, says this virtual monopoly "...is a major restructuring of the book industry's future without meaningful government oversight." Kenneth Crews, director of the Copyright Advisory Office, Columbia University, suggests that it ultimately bypasses the copyright principles that otherwise apply to these works for both owners and users.

In May 2009, the American Library Association, Association of College and Research Libraries, and Association of Research Libraries filed a joint brief with the court. These associations do not oppose the GBSS, but are concerned that it could compromise equal access to information, patron privacy and intellectual freedom. Six areas of concern are outlined and close oversight by the court is requested to mitigate the impact of lack of competition.

Opposition to the settlement has escalated as the hearing date approaches. Complaints have

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SERVICES

Government information goes digital

Shari Laster, government documents librarian

The Government Printing Office (GPO), which administers the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP), has launched a digital system to fulfill its mission to manage government information. Called FDSys, it integrates four major functions: publishing government information products in digital format, full-text and metadata-supported searching of these items, preserving these items through technology changes and managing multiple versions.

FDSys, currently in public beta, will host the content that is now available through GPO Access. Collections already available in FDSys include the Budget of the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, the Compilation of Presidential Documents, Federal Register and Economic Indicators from the Council of Economic Advisers. Items are available in PDF or plain text format and include descriptive metadata.

Future plans for FDSys include a documented interface (API) for developers to reuse the content; the ability to harvest documents from agency Web sites and expansion to add digitized legacy federal publications to the collection.

For more information or to give the system a try, visit: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/>.

Pilot Program: Doing the Flip

Phyllis O'Connor, associate dean

This fall, University Libraries has 15 Flip Camcorders available for UA students to borrow as part of a pilot program.

Made by Pure Digital Technologies, this inexpensive digital video device is small enough to slip into a pocket. It's a simple point-and-shoot device — just point the lens and microphone toward a subject and push the record button. A retractable USB plug on the device allows it to attach directly to a computer for file transfer. Built-in software simplifies the transfer so users can easily upload videos to any computer without installing special software.

There are assignments and even entire courses where the mastery of a skill or a concept can best be assessed by demonstration. Providing students with an unintimidating instrument to make a short video allows them to focus (no pun intended) on the outcome and not be distracted by complex equipment.

We anticipate that students in nearly every discipline will use these camcorders— to document clinical and lab procedures, to capture field-based experiences, to conduct interviews and oral histories, or to critique classmates' presentations. By making a new tool easily accessible to students, University Libraries hopes to encourage them to apply technology in their learning process and to use digital technology to create information — both indicators of digital literacy consistent with the goals of the Learning Commons model.

The pilot phase of this program will allow us to assess the usefulness of the camcorders and the reliability of these particular units. In addition, we'll learn what kind of help students need in using videos in their assignments and identify what kind of questions arise with regard to privacy and intellectual property.

The Flips may be checked out on a first-come, first-served basis from the Bierce Laptop Lending desk for one week, with no renewals.

Reserves for Public Health Program

Carla Myers, library specialist

University Libraries has agreed to host electronic reserves for the Consortium of Eastern Ohio Master of Public Health (CEOMPH) program. Founded in 2003, the program's current partners are The University of Akron, Cleveland State University, Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy, Ohio University and Youngstown State University. Studies focus on public health practice and prepare students for leadership roles in state, federal and international health programs.

The CEOMPH program is geared toward working professionals; core courses are taught on Saturdays by interactive videoconferencing and through Web-enhanced teaching. University Libraries' electronic reserves system provides these busy distance-learning students with convenient, 24/7 access to required reading materials.

We are excited to provide electronic reserves in support of this program and look forward to working with program directors and instructors to ensure CEOMPH student success!

“Learning without thought is labor lost; thought without learning is perilous.” — Confucius





COLLABORATION

Disaster Preparedness is the Plan

S. Victor Fleischer, UA archivist and head, Archival Services

The University of Akron Libraries (UAL) has a comprehensive disaster preparedness and recovery plan in place for all its facilities — Bierce, Science and Technology, Archival Services, Law, Wayne and the Archives of the History of American Psychology.

The disaster plan addresses prevention of, and response to, natural and man-made disasters such as water, fire, mold and hazardous materials affecting collections, office files

and equipment. It includes guidelines for the recovery and rehabilitation of a variety of library and archival materials.

Staff members from each library served on the Disaster Plan Working Group, which also included Mark Beers, UA's emergency management coordinator. UAL staff who worked on the plan were Vic Fleischer, chair, Susan Ashby, Don Appleby, John Ball, Rachelle Davis, Maureen Lerch, Peter Linberger, Teri Mackey, Kyle Passmore and Rhonda Rinehart.

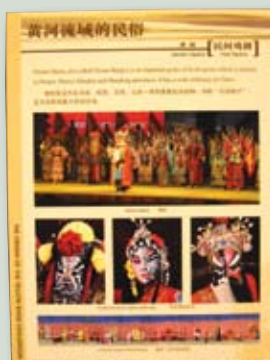
UL and the Confucius Institute

Susan Ashby, head, Library Systems and interim head, Cataloging

UA's Confucius Institute (CIUA) opened on Nov. 17, 2008, with a traditional ribbon cutting and Festival of Chinese Culture. The Confucius Institute, a worldwide program supported by the Chinese Ministry of Education, was established in 2004 to teach and promote Chinese language and culture. Over the past year, University Libraries has partnered with the CIUA on three projects.

Diana Chlebek, associate professor of bibliography, worked with the CIUA to create two exhibits. This spring, "Sharing Dreams and Glory," a collection of photos from the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympic Games, was on display at Bierce Library. The second exhibit was on the history of the Yellow River, which is known as the source of Chinese civilization and the cradle of Chinese culture. UA's sister institution, Henan University, is located in Kaifeng, a historic city on the southern bank of the Yellow River.

Planning began over the summer for an interactive Chinese Culture Exhibition Center to be located outside Media Services on the ground floor of Bierce Library. The Confucius Institute headquarters in China will provide a 50-inch touch screen LCD TV, audio system, computer and interactive software. Installation of the center will be complete by late fall or early winter.



One benefit of being a Confucius Institute is the gift of 3,000 books and media for the support of courses and community-based teaching opportunities. Some material will be used in the CIUA offices, but numerous titles will be accessible in University Libraries. You can view the growing Confucius Institute Collection at: <http://library.uakron.edu/search/t?SEARCH=Confucius+Institute+&sortdropdown=-> or enter a title search for Confucius Institute.

Focus on Records Management

S. Victor Fleischer, UA Archivist and head, Archival Services Jim Hilliard, manager, University Records

On April 8, 2009, Archival Services officially launched a revamped records management program at a meeting of University vice presidents and deans. UA follows the recently revised Inter-University Council (IUC) records retention manual for public colleges and universities in Ohio. The program is designed to achieve compliance with state law and University policy, reduce costs, minimize risks and liabilities, and identify records with historical value.


Archival Services is systematically putting IUC best practices in place to improve the management of University records. Guidelines and forms for transferring records to Archival Services and for records destruction are now in use.

Currently, Archival Services is auditing its inventory. Each University unit will appoint records coordinators and their training will begin soon so that an audit of records stored throughout the campus can be implemented.



"Books are trees made immortal."

— Lawrence Ferlinghetti



"Wonder rather than doubt is the root of knowledge."

— Abraham Joshua Heschel



SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Friends Aid Archival Services

S. Victor Fleischer, UA archivist and head, Archival Services



Poems: Chiefly in the Scottish Dialect by Robert Burns, 1786, showing damaged headcap

The Friends of University Libraries has been very generous in its support of two important projects in Archival Services. The group funded a part-time temporary position to process and preserve the records of Akron mayors John S. Ballard, Roy Ray and Tom Sawyer. Mark Bloom, who earned an MLIS at Kent State University, was hired

to process the records. He has completed the arrangement, description and re-housing of Ballard's records into acid-free boxes and folders, and is now processing records from the Ray administration.

Funding from the Friends also has made conservation work possible on all pre-1800 imprints from the Herman Muehlstein Rare Book Collection. The HF Group has completed the work on half the volumes and returned them to the archives. The other half will be completed by year's end.

Funds are being sought for conservation work on the post-1800 imprints. In 2008, every volume in this collection was placed in a custom-made phase box for preservation purposes, and records for each title were added to the online catalog.



Photograph showing repaired headcap

The Muehlstein Rare Book Collection and the records of the three former mayors are available to researchers at Archival Services in the Polsky Building.

UA Strikes Chord with Online Archives

Lisa Lazar, performing arts librarian

University Libraries is pleased to announce that the Guitar Foundation of America Online Archive Web site is now live. Made possible by a National Endowment for the Arts grant, a searchable database of 270 digitized public domain guitar scores has been created from the GFA archives at UA. Scores may be browsed or searched by title or composer.



The digitized scores are in PDF format and may be downloaded. Many pieces also feature 30-second .mp3 audio clips recorded under the direction of UA guitar professor Stephen Aron. The site will continue to expand thanks to a second NEA grant awarded in April 2009.

Please go to <http://www.guitarfoundation.org/gfaa/> to explore this fun and valuable site.

For more information, please contact Lisa Lazar, performing arts librarian, at llazar@uakron.edu.

Friends Celebrate Active Year

Julie Gammon, head, Acquisitions

The Friends of the University Libraries held its 67th annual dinner meeting on May 20, 2009, at Martin University Center. President Steve Love announced that the executive board had approved 13 faculty grants and eight applications for library purchases. Two purchase of special note were on display — the "North American Women's Letters and Diaries," an electronic database spanning 300 years of women's history, and "Earth," a limited-edition, 70-pound atlas.



Aaron Vandersommers

Aaron Vandersommers, Goodyear photographer, entertained the audience with the multimedia presentation, "A Gift of History: A Century of Goodyear Photographs," celebrating The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company's donation of this vast collection of photographs to University Libraries.

Carla Myers was awarded a Friends Scholarship of \$1,500 to help defray tuition costs for her M.S. in Library Science at Kent State University's School of Library and Information Science. Myers is a library specialist in the Bierce Library Circulation Department. The Friends recognized two Outstanding Student Employee award winners who both joined the department in 2005 — Mary Murray and Kenny Zufall. Each received a certificate and a check for \$1,000. Murray, who graduated this spring with a bachelor's degree in communication, assisted in filling interlibrary loan requests. Zufall, a senior in the College of Nursing this fall, has worked in OhioLINK lending, government documents and laptop computer circulation.



Carla Myers



Mary Murray

Officers elected for 2009-2010 were Steve Love, president; Barbara Heinzerling, vice president; and Julia Gammon, secretary-treasurer. Board members are Mitchell Allen, Thomas Bacher, Ronald Cable and Andrea Klein.

The group's annual dues are \$45 for an individual membership and \$75 for a family membership. For more information, call 330-972-7224 or visit http://www.uakron.edu/libraries/bierce_scitech/about/friends_of_library.dot.



Kenny Zufall

KUDOS



Don Appleby on ALAO Board

Reneé Wilson, coordinator of events



Don Appleby, library specialist in Bierce Circulation, has been elected by his peers to a two-year term as a board member-at-large of the Academic Library Association of Ohio. Appleby, who recently attended a leadership retreat for a meet and greet with former and current board members, had served on the ALAO conference planning committee for three years.

In his new role, Appleby will represent the views of academic libraries' support staff.

Laursen Acknowledged



Chris Laursen, science and technology librarian and ACS Rubber Division librarian, was recognized for his research assistance in preparing a history of the Rubber Division. Henry J. Inman, author of "Rubber Mirror: Reflections of the Rubber Division's First 100 Years" (UA Press, 2009), acknowledges Laursen in his preface: "I couldn't have done it without him."

Who asks, finds."

— Arabic Proverb



Promotions

Five University Libraries faculty members were promoted this year. Pete Linberger now holds the rank of professor and Ann Bolek and Jeff Franks are associate professors. Frank Bove and Mike Tosko were promoted to the rank of associate professor and granted indefinite tenure.



Pete Linberger is geography and maps bibliographer and interim head of collection management. His work with Geographic Information System software

and the introduction of mapping products supports the entire campus. As a representative on OhioLINK's Cooperative Information Resources Management Committee, he is the voice of University Libraries in collective purchasing decisions. Linberger's publications demonstrate his strengths in data-intensive areas of librarianship and electronic resources, and have been recognized for their importance to practicing librarians.

Ann Bolek is physical sciences bibliographer in the Science and Technology Library. Her expertise in patent searching and research-intensive knowledge of chemistry resources support research and instruction across several departments and colleges.



Bolek's publications and presentations reflect her expertise in scholarly communication access in the physical sciences. She is an active member of the

American Chemical Society (ACS), serving her third term as councilor for the Akron Section. She received the Akron Section's Brown Distinguished Service Award in 2004.



Jeff Franks is head of Bierce Library's reference and bibliographer for library science, anthropology and archaeology. He has championed virtual reference initiatives,

especially IM (instant messaging) reference service. His contributions to OhioLINK's User Services Committee are recognized for their positive impact on all its users. Franks has shared his expertise in implementing IM reference with colleagues across Ohio through presentations and invited workshops. His recent publications focus on learning commons functionality.

Frank Bove is electronic resources librarian and philosophy bibliographer.



He has helped move University Libraries through two generations of e-serials management software. His publications reflect his strengths in electronic

resources and user access. Bove has served the profession through his work with the Academic Library Association of Ohio and his visit to China in 2006 as a member of the People to People College and Research Libraries Delegation. He currently serves on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.



Mike Tosko is information literacy coordinator, history bibliographer, and interim head of teaching and training. He teaches the Information Tools course and creates materials

for use across the curriculum. Tosko's publications reflect his expertise in information literacy instruction and student learning. He is a member of the Library Instruction Roundtable of the Association of College and Research Libraries, serving on the Transitions to College Committee.

NEW FACULTY

John Vincler Named Special Collections Librarian

Kaye Ketcham, administrative assistant senior



John Vincler joined University Libraries on Aug. 17 as special collections librarian and assistant professor of bibliography. His areas of specialty include rare books, archives and special collections.

Originally from Detroit, Vincler earned an MLIS at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2008) and an M.A. at the University of London's School of Advanced Study, History of the Book (2005). He completed a B.A. in honors English at Loyola

University. While in London, Vincler studied and researched many book history-related topics with leading scholars in the field.

Vincler worked several years at the Newberry Library in Chicago as special collections reference assistant and later associate director of development. He produced exhibits both on-site and online. He wrote a series of multimedia features called "Book Arts" for the Poetry Foundation Web site. Vincler also taught at Oakton Community College and was a writer and managing editor for Another Chicago Magazine. In addition, he organized special projects, such as the "Community as Intellectual Space" symposium at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, which integrated the library, academia and community with local arts and culture.

Vincler and his wife, Kate Zambreno, now reside in Akron's Highland Square neighborhood. They look forward to investigating the book scene in Ohio and finding new art exhibitions. They already enjoy running the Towpath Trail together. Vincler also says he enjoys biking and aspires to find a safe route to ride to work.

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included the orphan works monopoly and coordinated pricing. The Register of Copyrights testified before the Congressional Committee on the Judiciary that some terms of the settlement "... would encroach on responsibility for copyright policy that traditionally has been the domain of Congress." In September 2009, the US Department of Justice filed a Statement of Interest with the court, indicating that the settlement raises serious legal issues. Google and the plaintiffs have petitioned the court for a postponement while they work on an amended settlement.

However the GBSS is modified, it seems certain that everyone involved in scholarly communications - authors, publishers, libraries, researchers, readers - will continue to be affected by the transformational impact of the Google Book Search Project. The ability to search the vast storehouse of content digitized to date has already created a new playing field for identifying content relevant to user needs.

What's it all about? You can learn more at: <http://www.arl.org/pp/ppcopyright/google/> and <http://books.google.com/googlebooks/agreement>.

**"Books are
humanity in print."**

— Barbara Tuchman



Other contributors: Diana Chlebek, Caroline Cox, Peg Goodman

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