

Portland State Library

Fall 2008 Newsletter

<http://library.pdx.edu>



WELCOME BACK!

What's Inside

- Donations Support Student Success!
- Library's Writing Center Outpost.
- Web-Siteings – Surviving School.
- Banned Books Week exhibit.
- Invitation to 10/16 Dark Horse Celebration – Smith Union Ballroom.
- New Scholarly Communication Website!
- Library Assessment.
- New Databases for Fall!

As Fall Term approaches, I hear the same anticipation from Library staff and student employees: "I can't wait until the students and faculty come back". Yes we enjoy time when things are a little slower, but not for long. Portland State's Library is among the busiest in the State, and we love it. The Library is here to help you be successful in your classes and your research, and it is full of people who dedicate themselves to your success. The Library is a welcoming place to meet with friends in a study group, get help from the librarians or at the writing center, or use all the tools available from online databases to over 1.4 million volumes of books and journals. While many of you will be able to spend time in the Library, others will come to know us through our online presence. Our website (library.pdx.edu) leads to a wealth of resources available 24/7. If you need help with our website, you can call, e-mail, or chat online with a librarian. Welcome back!

NEW WRITING CENTER

9am – 1pm

Monday – Friday

2nd Floor

The Writing Center is open to students, faculty and staff of Portland State University.

The Writing Center will help you with a variety of projects, including class assignments, resumes, application essays, presentations, and creative writing.

Tom Doulis, Professor Emeritus, will read from his new novel, *The City of Brotherly Love*, in Room 160, Branford P. Millar Library. Join us **Wednesday, November 5**, at 3:30 pm to discuss this World War II story, following a paratrooper from his return to Philadelphia in 1945 through the Civil Rights movement of the sixties.



Helen H. Spalding,
University Librarian

Donations Support Student Success!

Community members know that a strong library collection is key to student opportunity and success. We have been fortunate to have received important gifts during the last year that will make a difference to learning and research. These donations are even more critical to a Library whose budget has no greater purchasing power than it did a decade ago, although the numbers of students, academic programs, and research initiatives have burgeoned during the same time.

Thursday, October 16, we will celebrate the donation of the corpus of the Dark Horse Comics publications and products. Already almost 3000 titles in 20 languages are cataloged and available to check out. Researchers in American popular culture, sequential art, sociology, and many other fields will find this a destination research collection. We can thank Portland State alumni **Mike Richardson**, Dark Horse founder, and his partner, **Neil Hankerson**, for this extraordinary gift.

We were saddened by the death of **Gordon Hunter**, an active Portland State alumnus, former Friends of the Library president, and area bookseller. He has generously left the Library his \$400,000+ estate to support the purchase of unique titles for the Library's Special Collections. In addition, he gave his large book collection to the Library for the benefit of our students and faculty.

Emeritus Professor **Frank Cater**, a mathematician and artist, is the first retired faculty member to establish a Library endowment to support specific journal subscriptions and to purchase math materials. He wants to guarantee that students will find titles they need to be successful.

The Library now is seeking private gifts to build collections to support the University's diverse sustainability programs that distinguish Portland State internationally.

Nothing motivates donors more than to see students learn and succeed! Let us know how the Library can facilitate your meeting your academic goals!

Helen H. Spalding
University Librarian/Professor

WEB - SITEINGS

Surviving School

Research Survival Guide

<http://www.lib.pdx.edu/instruction/survivalguide/index.htm>

You've just been assigned a research paper, what now? The Library's Research Survival Guide takes you from brainstorming your topic to finding the resources you need, and also offers tips on evaluating your sources. For help writing your paper see the next entry –

Portland State Writing Center

<http://www.writingcenter.pdx.edu/>

The Portland State University Writing Center provides “nonjudgmental, collaborative support to students, faculty, and community members in all stages of the writing process. Services are free and open to the public: you may bring in any writing project—academic or nonacademic, personal or professional.” More information about the Center's resources, services and hours of operation can be found on its site.

What to advise a student about using the Web

<http://fm.schmoller.net/2008/04/what-to-advise.html>

Seb Schmoller is an independent consultant and the Chief Executive of the Association for Learning Technology in the United Kingdom. His April blog entry offers nine web-related suggestions that can make studying and research a little easier. There are no surprises, just great reminders.

Google's cheat sheet

<http://www.google.com/help/cheatsheet.html>

You will find Google's tips for a better search, examples of some simple math you can do in the search box, and some advanced operators to help limit the number of results you get back.

There's also the **Google Guide**,

http://www.googleguide.com/advanced_operators_reference.html,

with even more search tips and tricks.

New Summit 2.0, coming in late Fall 2008!

Summit is the unified library catalog of member colleges and universities in Oregon and Washington. Through Summit you have access to millions of books, sound recordings, films, videotapes and more. Find items at college and university libraries in the region and worldwide. Find out more at

<http://library.pdx.edu/summit.html>

SEPTEMBER 22 –
OCTOBER 31

NEW BOOKS AREA

DARK HORSE COMICS
&
CBLDF COMICS &
CENSORSHIP TIMELINE

BANNED BOOKS WEEK
2008



DARK HORSE COMICS
AND THE CBLDF COMICS
& CENSORSHIP TIMELINE
ARE ON EXHIBIT IN THE
BRANFORD P. MILLAR
LIBRARY'S NEW BOOKS
AREA FROM SEPTEMBER
22 THROUGH OCTOBER
31, FEATURING
HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
DARK HORSE COMICS
COLLECTION.



you are invited
PORTLAND STATE LIBRARY CELEBRATES
**DARK HORSE COMICS
COLLECTION**

featuring
Mike Richardson
co-founder & president
of Dark Horse Comics, Inc.

7pm - 9pm
Thursday, October 16

Smith Union Center Ballroom
Portland State University
1825 SW Broadway
Portland, Oregon



The Dark Horse Comics Collection

The Portland State University Library's Dark Horse Comics Collection is a unique research and browsing collection of comic books, graphic novels, collected editions, related books, statues, and other materials.

The Collection's beginning was major donation by Mike Richardson and Neil Hankerson of Dark Horse Comics, Inc. They have donated two copies of every work Dark Horse Comics has produced in its twenty-one year history.

The Collection has two foci: research by scholars and recreational use. The research collection is available by appointment in Special Collections for scholarly use. The browsing collection is available on the curve on the third floor for readers, which is arranged by language and then by title.

Dark Horse Comics, Inc.

Dark Horse Comics, Inc. was founded in 1986 by Mike Richardson and Neil Hankerson and is now the third largest comics publisher in the United States. From the beginning, Dark Horse offered creators ownership of their work, something not readily available at other comics publishers at the time.

Dark Horse began life with two titles, *Dark Horse Presents*, an anthology comic, and *Boris the Bear*. The success of these titles enabled Dark Horse to expand their publishing line. In their second year they began publishing manga. Today they release approximately thirty comic books and graphic novels per month.

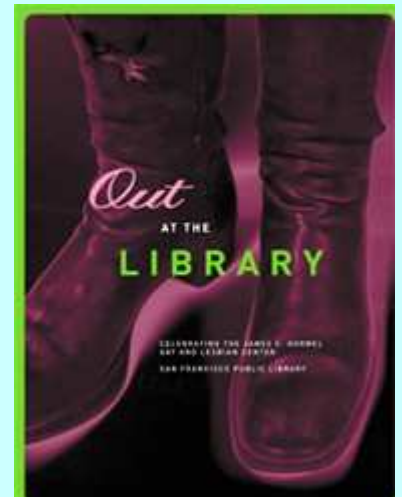
Dark Horse comics and creators have received ninety-four Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards, the comics industry's most respected award

Out at the Library Exhibit
at the Portland State Library

December 1 – December 31

Out at the Library is an unprecedented exhibit culled from the archives of the James C. Hormel Gay & Lesbian Center of the San Francisco Public Library!

The touring exhibition highlights the Hormel collection and offers a rare look into what an archive is and how it ensures the legacy of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities.



NEW SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION WEBSITE



Did you know that Portland State University Library has launched an improved Scholarly Communication website to support your research? Students and faculty will find information about author's rights, copyright basics, journal evaluation tools, and publishing opportunities.

The site informs the campus community about trends, issues and challenges in the scholarly communication environment.

Learn more about open access publishing, repositories and many facets of scholarly communication. The site will improve your research impact!

Please visit the [Scholarly Communication Website!](#)

For more information about the LibQUAL+™ survey visit <http://library.pdx.edu/measuringquality.html>

Measuring the Quality of Services & Resources

Does the Library meet the needs of Portland State students, faculty and staff? Do we adequately support research and provide enough instruction? Are our study spaces user-friendly? Do we keep the PSU community informed of new services?

We take your opinion seriously at the Library and we make changes based on what we hear from you. The Library will be conducting the LibQUAL+™ survey this fall to find out how the Portland State community rates library services and how our services can be improved. The survey will open to all students, faculty and staff on October 27 and we encourage everyone to participate. Everyone who completes the LibQUAL+™ survey will be entered in a drawing for a number of great prizes – one 8GB iPod nano with video capability, one gas gift card worth \$130 OR 30 Tri-met all-day passes, two \$50 Portland State Bookstore gift certificates, and seven \$10 Starbucks gift certificates.

To learn more about how and why we collect data, and to see a list of some of the improvements we've made at the Library based on your feedback, check out <http://library.pdx.edu/measuringquality.html>.



You may already know that the Portland State Library has:

- Scholarly books, articles, journals, DVDs/videos and more
- 24/7 anywhere access to online resources with your Odin account
- Quiet study spaces, individual study and group study areas
- Research help when you need it at [Ask Us!](#)
- Computer labs and wireless coverage
- Presentation practice room with campus standard equipment
- Writing Center Advisor Station

But did you know many students use the Library as their 'home base' on campus? The Library is your space for studying, group project meetings, surfing the web, napping in the comfy chairs, and a place to reflect and catch your breath during your busy day!

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New Databases for Fall at Portland State University Library

ARTstor

The ARTstor Digital Library is comprised of digital images, their corresponding data and the tools to make active use of those images. ARTstor documents artistic and historical traditions across many time periods and cultures. ARTstor is designed to be used by researchers in fields that do not traditionally use images, as well as by art historians.

Cabell's directory of publishing opportunities: business/college library set

Reference source for finding suitable publication outlets for graduate students and faculty in business and economics.

education library set

Reference source for finding suitable publication outlets for graduate students and faculty in education.

Chicano database

Citations for books, articles, videos & government documents on topics related to Mexican-American and broader Latino experience.

China data online

Provides extensive economic and social data on China at the national, provincial, county and civil levels.

Early American imprints. Series I, Evans (1639-1800) & Series II, Shaw-Shoemaker (1801-1819)

Searchable database of digitized early American books, pamphlets, and broadsides published from 1639 to 1800 and 1801 to 1819.

Eighteenth Century collections online

Includes significant English language and foreign language titles printed in Great Britain during the eighteenth century, along with thousands of important works from the Americas.

Inorganic crystal structure database : ICSD

ICSD is a database of inorganic crystal structures and allows the user to search and display these structures in VRML and neutron or X-ray powder...

IOP historic archive (1874-1993)

Holds Institute of Physics Publications archive from 1874-1993.

JSTOR Arts & Sciences V, VI, & Life Sciences Collections

Holds additional collections of full text articles from selected major research publications.

Musical America

Database includes industry news; contests & awards; reviews; archives of annual guides, etc.

Periodicals archive online #1 & #2

An online archive of digitized, full-image journal articles with access to international, scholarly literature in the humanities and social sciences from 1802 to 1995.

Routledge encyclopedia of philosophy online

Major general philosophy encyclopedia

Women and social movements in the United States 1600-2000

Includes primary documents, books, images, scholarly essays, book reviews, Web site reviews, and teaching tools that document the multiplicity of women's activism in public life.