

Portland State Library

Winter Term 2010 Newsletter

<http://library.pdx.edu>

503.725.5874



Moving Forward in Tough Times

It's not just the Library. Every department on campus, every unit of State government, and every student, faculty, and staff member is feeling the impact of the recession. Yet Portland State University continues to grow; in numbers of students, new academic programs, and innovative research. The Library is changing to meet the needs of the Portland State community in spite of current challenges. This Winter Term, our new next-gen catalog, [Portland State WorldCat](#), provides easier access to books, selected articles and other materials housed here at Millar, available from our Summit regional libraries, and from libraries around the world. Previously, scholars had to search in several places for these materials, now they can search from one interface. See the [Library's home page](#) and try out [Portland State WorldCat](#). We are improving services to students through 24/7 online chat assistance, increasing the number of online tutorials and other self-help materials as well as hiring a new Distance Education Librarian to coordinate our distance learning outreach efforts. For those who use the Branford P. Millar Library, a coffee kiosk and new learning technologies are in the planning stages. The Library will be collaborating with the Office of Information Technologies (OIT) to provide a technology "sandbox" for students to try out new, collaborative, learning technologies. This is your Library. If you need help with your research, contact us through the [Portland State Library Website](#).

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Tom Raffensperger,
Assistant University Librarian for Public Services

USING INFORMATION: NEW LIBRARY RESEARCH TUTORIAL

[Using Information](#) is the first in a new series of library tutorials to help guide you through the library research process. In this tutorial, you will find strategies for organizing information that you find during your research. It shows you how to cite your sources and how to avoid plagiarism.



[Photo by gadl](#)

[Giving to the Library](#)

Making the Right Connections in the Library



Helen H. Spalding
University Librarian

Portland State is an important phase of your life's journey where new avenues open for you that can change your course and destination. You are exposed to fresh ideas to explore and different people outside your familiar territory. Your goals upon entering the university may change as you discover exciting, new possibilities. Sometimes it is overwhelming to sort through the choices and evaluate them effectively.

The Library has experts and resources to make your trip easier and more fulfilling. We know your time is valuable due to the personal, work, and academic demands being made upon you. At the Library, we can connect you to the world of knowledge, whether it is to meet a personal need, a problem at work, or a class assignment. In person at the Reference Desk, by telephone, through email, or in online chat, Reference librarians can help you cut through the confusion to identify what resources would be best to select to answer the issue at hand.

Library experts can help you gain access to the titles available at the Millar Library through the Vikat catalog, or those available to you through WorldCat from Summit libraries in Oregon and Washington or from around the world. They can advise whether the best resource for the problem is in print, online, in microform, or in an audiovisual format. The Millar Library even has maps for general or specialized purposes. The librarians provide online subject research guides and tutorials that clear a path to the best tools in the most suitable formats for you to target for a given course or assignment.

We are here to make your academic travel less confusing, more purposeful, and more fulfilling. Let us help you make the best connections to meet your academic goals successfully.

Helen H. Spalding, MA, MPA
University Librarian / Professor

Web site-ings: Visualizing Information

[Newsmap](#)

Newsmap works with information pulled from Google News, using color and size to identify the amount of coverage each story is receiving from all of the aggregated sources. A user can view a newsmap by region, topic or time and compare newsmaps between countries. For a blurb about the project, see <http://marumushi.com/projects/newsmap> . For current activities, see the [Newsmap blog](#).

[Data Visualization and Infographics Resources](#)

Cameron Chapman, *Smashing Magazine*, September 11, 2009
A list of more than 25 online resources deciphering, creating and explaining graphical representations of information. People are doing amazing things, trying to figure out the clearest, most accurate way to portray data that allows a viewer to quickly understand what they are seeing – more quickly than reading a table of numbers or reviewing years of test results.

[Flowing Data: Strength in Numbers](#)

Flowing Data is a regularly updated site by a PhD candidate in statistics. The site “explores how designers, statisticians, and computer scientists are using data to understand ourselves better - mainly through data visualization.” Click here for a [guided tour of the site](#), including the most popular articles.

[Periodic table of visualization methods](#)

For a quick introduction to 100 methods of data visualization, take a look at this periodic table. Roll over each “element” and a window will pop up with an example of the method. The interactivity is limited, but just learning that there are over 100 ways to present your data can be a little mind-blowing.

[Data Visualization Tools for Designers and Developers](#)

For those interested in creating their own infographics, here is a list of free or open access tools available online. This list was posted in November 2009.



ScanPro 2000 - The new Microform reader / printer on the 2nd floor of the Library not only reads and prints microfiche and microfilm, it reads and prints microcards too!

Microform formats include PDF, JPEG, TIFF, TIFF G4 and Multipage. You can scan a document automatically without manually scrolling page after page.

Your printed and online documents will be much clearer due to new adjustment features like enhancement, brightness, contrast, straightening, and cropping which can be applied automatically or manually.

Navigating the Branford P. Millar Library

It's a big library: where do I start? What is in this amazing place? How do I find it, and what do I do when I get there?

At the Millar Library, you can find human guides on the 1st and 2nd floors (aka Circulation Desk, OIT Lab, Reference Desk, Tech Desk.) Tours are available from Public Access Services. (Check out the link, [Workshops, Tours & Classes](#), on the Library homepage or call (503) 725-4424 to make an appointment at least 24 hours in advance. Library Tours begin at the first-floor Circulation Desk).

The entire library building is a map to complex ideas...and within this library-map are more maps. Here are a few that we've created to help you:

- As you enter the lobby, you will see a cabinet that features large maps of each floor.
- There are printed versions of the floor maps at the Circulation and Reference Desks, and on each floor.
- On each floor you will find posted maps to study rooms, shelving areas, and conveniences like water fountains and rest rooms.

The Library webpages also are maps, leading you, link by link, to tutorials, services, databases and other research tools. To find what you are seeking, we have the maps to help!

For more information about
Portland State University Library
visit <http://library.pdx.edu>

Exhibits & Events

The Black Panther (1970-1977) Newspaper: A Special Collections Exhibit
January 12– February 26, 2010
1st Floor, New Books & Exhibits Area, Branford P. Millar Library

2010 William Stafford Celebration
7 pm, Thursday, January 28, 2010
Room 170, Branford P. Millar Library

Spotlight on Portland State Faculty Author:
Melanie Mitchell's, *Complexity: A Guided Tour*
4 pm, Tuesday, February 2, 2010
Room 170, Branford P. Millar Library

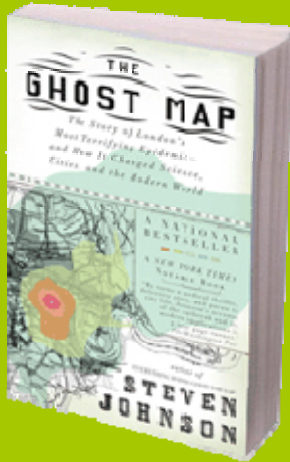
Admission is free and open to the public.
Events and exhibit are in partnership with the Portland State Bookstore.



The [Naxos Music Library](#) contains over 35,000 CDs and 503,000 tracks of music reflecting the standard as well as specialized repertoire. Music is available from leading independent labels, and more are being added continuously. The database includes Opera Synopses and Libretti, Composer and Artist Biographies and other essential information.

The Portland State Library Map Collection

Looking for print maps or atlases? They are located in the SE corner of the 4th floor of the Branford P. Millar Library. You will find atlases, topographic maps, aeronautical and nautical charts, geological maps, thematic maps, and travel maps of the world and the United States.



READ STEVEN JOHNSON'S *GHOST MAP: THE STORY OF LONDON'S MOST TERRIFYING EPIDEMIC - AND HOW IT CHANGED SCIENCE, CITIES AND THE MODERN WORLD*, FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY LIBRARY'S EVERYBODY READS 2010. FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [HTTP://WWW.MULTCOLIB.ORG/READS/](http://www.multcolib.org/reads/).

Many of the maps were collected as a result of the Library's longstanding participation in the [Government Printing Office's Federal Depository Library Program](#), so its strength lies in maps covering various aspects of the United States, particularly the Pacific Northwest.

The topographic map collection from the U.S. Geological Survey (U.S.G.S.) is one of the Library's most significant map collections, showing the shape and elevation of the terrain. Most of the topographic maps in the collection are the currently produced 7.5 minute, 1:24,000 scale maps, but the collection also holds selected older 1:250,000, 1:100,000 and 1:65,000 scale U.S. topographic maps. The U.S.G.S. topographic maps are identified by State and then by a quadrangle name. Index maps are available in the Library to help you find the appropriate quadrangle. These index maps are located in the first drawer of maps for each respective state and at Ready Reference on the 2nd floor of the Library. More recent maps also can be downloaded at no cost from the [U.S.G.S. store](#).

Topographic maps from the Bureau of Land Management (B.L.M.) supplement those from the U.S.G.S. The B.L.M. cadastral, topographic maps show some surface features but are used primarily as the official source for federal land ownership boundaries and property descriptions. These maps also are known as surface management status maps. In addition to the cadastral maps, the B.L.M. produces mineral management status maps that identify the federal agency that owns the minerals in a given quadrangle. Sometimes the surface management status data and the mineral management status data are included on the same map.

You may also be interested in the geologic series maps from the U.S.G.S that feature special topics such as Coal Investigations (Coal/C series), Miscellaneous Investigations/Geologic Investigations (I series), Geologic Quadrangle Maps (GQ series), and more recently the Scientific Investigations Maps (SIM series). Individual titles in these series can be found by searching the [Guide](#)

to [USGS Publications](#) (Andriot, 1998) and the [U.S.G.S. library](#). Over time, more of these print maps are being made available online for free through the [U.S.G.S Website](#) .

A more hidden treasure is the collection of nautical maps produced by the U.S. National Ocean Service, a component of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. These charts are arranged by a stock number found in the accompanying National Imagery and Mapping Agency catalog. These too are becoming more readily available online through the [National Ocean Service website](#) .

In addition to the extensive collection of folded and flat maps, the library holds atlases from all regions of the world. These are located in the shelves just east of the map reading room itself.

More information on these and other map collections can be found in the [Map Research Guide on the Library's website](#) .

For assistance in locating or using the maps and atlases in the Map Collection, ask the librarian at the Reference Desk; or contact the Government Information Librarian, Claudia Weston (room 220C), westonc@pdx.edu; or Government Information Assistant, Bertrand Robinson (room 484), brobins@pdx.edu.

New Student Computers at the Library Research Center on the 2nd Floor this Winter Term! Thank you Library Technologies Team!



**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
ACTIVITIES AT PORTLAND
STATE UNIVERSITY**

The Dr. Martin Luther King Commemoration Committee and its partners invite you to the following series of campus events celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr:

1. Tuesday, January 19th: "Conversations with Oregon's Black Leaders", 12pm at the MCC, Smith Memorial Student Union #228.
2. Wednesday, January 20th: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. presents "Black Male Collegians: Networking for Success" 12p, MCC, Smith #228.
3. Wednesday, January 20th: The Queer Resource Center will screen the moving documentary, "Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin" 7pm, MCC, Smith #228.
4. Thursday, January 21st: MLKCC and Student Leaders for Service offer the traditional Student Interactive Session via an open forum dedicated to global humanitarian initiatives. 12pm, MCC, Smith #228.
5. Thursday, January 21st: Evening Lecture and keynote address by author, journalist, and PBS anchorwoman, Daljit Dhalwal, 7pm, Smith Ballroom. Call 725-3307 for ticket information.
6. Friday, January 22nd: producer/director Thomas Coulter will show his award-winning documentary "The Klu Klux Klan in Oregon: 1920-1923" 6pm, MCC, Smith #228.

Publications from the Library 2009

Michael Bowman, Cristine N. Paschild, and Kimberly Willson-St. Clair authored "How the Dark Horse Came In: Portland State University Library Acquires Dark Horse Comics Archives," published in *College & Research Libraries News*, 70 (10) 2009.

Sherry Buchanan wrote "Interlibrary Loan is the New Reference: reducing barriers, providing access and refining services," published in *Interlending & Document Supply*, 37 (4) 2009.

Jocelyn S. Duffy, Damon E. Jaggars and Shanna Smith Jaggars authored "Comparing Service Priorities between Staff and Users in Association of Research Libraries (ARL) Member Libraries," published in *portal: Libraries and the Academy*, 9 (4) 2009.

Robin Paynter wrote "Evidence-based research in the applied social sciences," published in *Reference Services Review*, 37, 2009.

Robin Paynter wrote "Commercial library decision support systems: An analysis based on collection managers' needs," published in *Collection Management*, 34 (1) 2009.

Tom Larsen, wrote "The Library Catalog as Experimental Sandbox," published in *OLA Quarterly*, 15 (1) 2009.

Robert Schroeder, Candice Benjes-Small, and Jennifer Dorner wrote "Surveying Libraries to Identify Best Practices for a Menu Approach for Library instruction Requests," published in *Communications in Information Literacy* 3 (1) 2009.

Robert Schroeder and Gretta E. Siegel wrote, "A Cooperative Publishing Model for Sustainable Scholarship", in Greco's, *The State of Scholarly Publishing: Challenges and Opportunities*, published by Transaction Publishers, New Brunswick, NJ, 2009.

Robert Schroeder wrote, "Library Orientation Activity 1 – Einstein's Universe," in Sittler and Cook's, *The Library Instruction Cookbook*, published by Association of College and Research Libraries, Chicago, 2009.

Robert Schroeder wrote, "Both Sides Now: Librarians Looking at Information Literacy from High School and College," published in *Educators Spotlight Digest*, Spring/Summer 4 (1) 2009.

Gretta Siegel edited a book, *Libraries and Graduate Students: Building Connections*, published by Routledge, London, 2009.

Jian Wang & Adriene Lim authored, "Local touch and global reach: The next generation of network-level information discovery and delivery services," published in *Library Management*, 30 (1/2) 2009.

Generous Gifts to the Library Donor Honor Roll

September 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009

We would like to recognize our donors from the past quarter. Their contributions have made it possible for the Library to continue building strong collections and offering high quality patron services that promote teaching excellence, classroom and lifelong learning, and outstanding scholarship.

Please join these dedicated Portland State Library Supporters by making a gift to today on-line at [Give to the Library](#) or call Helen Spalding at 503-725-4126. Thank you!

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These funds help to support vital services, acquisitions and processing for specific subject areas and special projects. Thank you to the original donors to these funds and the additional donors listed below.

Gary D. Robinson Library Endowment Fund

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Mr. W. & Ms. Genna Lemman
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Millar Library Endowment

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