



# The Link

Rentschler Library Faculty Newsletter. Summer 2011

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## Introducing the Library to your Niihka Course (Drum Roll Please)

Working on your Niihka course site? Embedding Rentschler Library's website into your course will help your students start their research "beyond Google" while also providing them with easy access to online help. Just follow these simple steps:

1. Click on "Site Info" for your course site
2. Select "Edit Tools"
3. Checkmark "Web Content"
4. Click "Continue"
5. Change the title from "Web Content" to "Library" (or something similar)
6. For "Source", type the Rentschler Library web address: <http://www.ham.muohio.edu/library>
7. Click "Continue"
8. Click "Finish".

Ta da! Now when you click on your "Library" link from the navigation, you should see Rentschler Library's website in the page.

If you are going to be scheduling Library Instruction for your class, our librarians can tailor a library page to fit your students' research needs. With some advance

notice, we can create an assignment-specific "Library Help" page that includes links to preferred databases, search tips, a starting point for finding books, & easy access to getting research help.

By providing access to library resources within your course site, the library is able to connect with students at their point of need. One reason undergraduates rely on Wikipedia as a resource is that they are familiar with it. Make the library familiar to your students & you will be helping us help *them* become more savvy information consumers.



## We LIKE Books—We're Just a Lot MORE than Books.

Rentschler Library provides the MUH community with an environment that facilitates creativity & inquiry, spaces for collaboration, & resources that support academic achievement—to the tune of 127, 472 visits in the last year! While book circulation decreased slightly, our statistics document an increasing use of our group study rooms, checkouts of Textbooks on Reserve, & a significant demand for laptops. And that's just the physical library.

Our 24/7 online presence continues to gain popularity with students trying to conduct research from off-campus. In particular, instant messaging for research assistance is a big hit, especially around midterms. The number of users who "Like" Rentschler's facebook page nearly doubled last year's numbers, & the library's website boasted over 11,000 Unique Visitors during the 2010—2011 academic year. Not too shabby! You can get a breakdown of our statistics on the next page.



## Stats at a Glance: 2010—2011

Circulation	
Total Book Checkouts	7,529
Checked out to OhioLINK Users	1,608
Checked out to other MU Libraries	1,151
Decrease from Previous Year	<b>15.3%</b>
Additional Checkouts: Miami Hamilton Students Borrowing from other Miami Libraries	4,006
Total Popular Reading (Bestsellers) Checkouts	383
Circulation Renewals	5,188
Total Print Reserve Checkouts	9,609
Increase from Previous Year	<b>91.5%</b>
Total non-book checkout (video, cd)	878
Total checkouts of Laptops, Textbooks on Reserve, & Other Equipment	3,581
Checkouts of Textbooks on Reserve	1,415
Group Study Room Checkouts	1,654
Library Traffic	
Total Visitors	127,472
Increase from Previous Year	<b>112.2%</b>
Library Instruction	
Total Sessions	135
Number of Students in Attendance	2428
Use of Online Resources	
Website Visits	33,377
# of Unique Visitors	11,647
Visits to Library Blog	76,960
Busiest Day=Monday, March 21	798 views
Facebook Rentschler Library Page	419 fans
Increase from Previous Year	<b>67.6%</b>
Collection Management	
Number of Items Acquired	2864

## Staff News

**Krista McDonald** attended the American Library Association's (ALA) Annual Conference in New Orleans.

**Kathleen Pickens-French** presented:

- *Giv'em Something to Talk About: Seizing Opportunities for Diversity Dialogues* at the Academic Library Association of Ohio's (ALAO) Diversity Spring Workshop.
- *Using Animoto to Amp your Audience's Energy (Without Draining Yours)* at ALAO's Distance Learning Interest Group's (DLIG) Spring Workshop.

## Library News

**Miami University Graduate, Katherine Topper**



is interning at Rentschler Library over the summer to earn graduate credit towards her Master in Library Science degree from Kent State University. Welcome aboard, Kate!

**Earplugs are now available** at the circulation



counter for library users. These delightful foamy pellets were purchased to provide individuals with a quiet(er) place to study while still providing groups with a space for collaboration.

## Coming Soon...

**Access to Additional Databases** should be available by Fall semester, including :

- *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*
- *Cochrane Evidence Based Medicine*
- *Ancestry.com (on campus only).*

Please stay tuned for details.

**“The library is not a shrine for the worship of books. It is not a temple where literary incense must be burned or where one's devotion to the bound book is expressed in ritual. A library, to modify the famous metaphor of Socrates, should be the delivery room for the birth of ideas - a place where history comes to life.” —Norman Cousins**