

# Dulaney-Browne Library

## Quarterly Report

### January - March 2009

Victoria K. Swinney, Ph.D.  
Director

#### Teaching With Technology Fair

The library participated in the campus Teaching With Technology Fair on March 24<sup>th</sup>. The library's booth at the fair highlighted new and improved library technologies including new improved online catalog, instant messaging reference, the library tour for searching Google and library resources at the same time, podcasts, an information literacy blog, and online library research guides. Students and faculty alike were impressed with the library toolbar and students especially expressed interest in the instant message reference options.

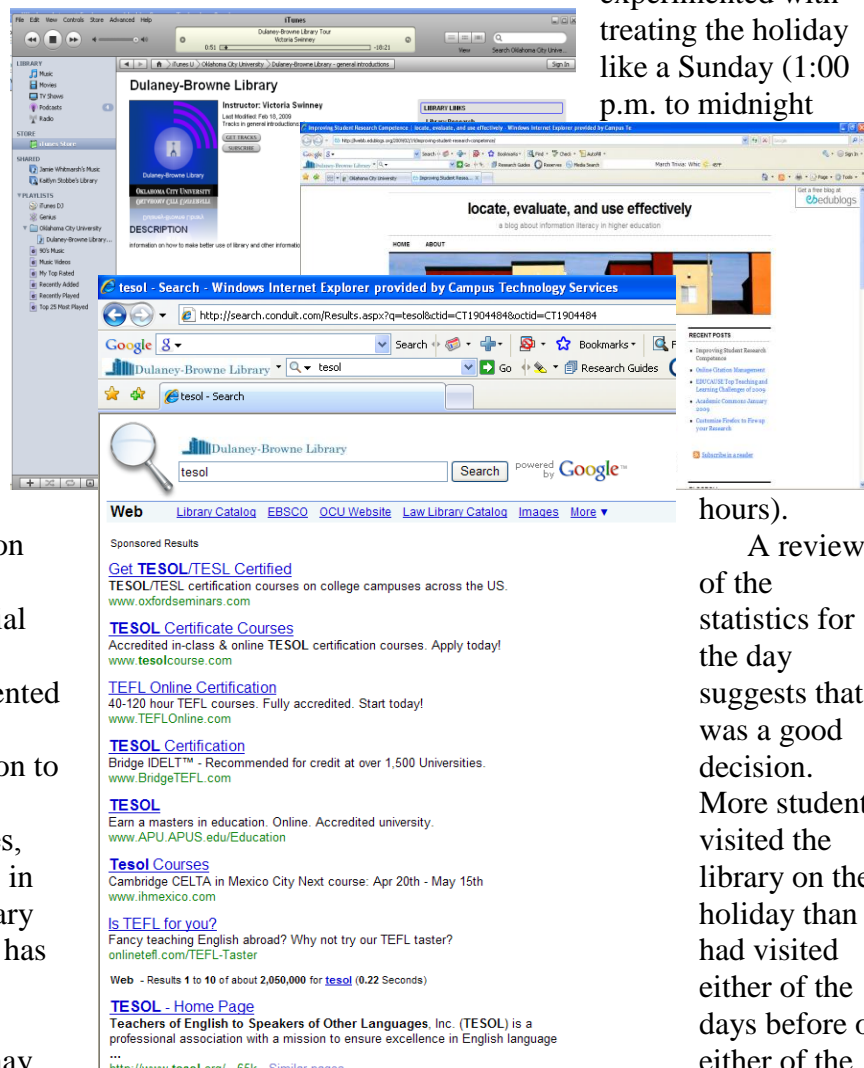
#### Library Training

The library continues to offer joint library and campus wide training opportunities on the second Wednesday of each month. January's session focused on blogs, RSS feeds and new content available through JSTOR and attracted several faculty members in addition to most library staff members. February's session featured an off campus resource. Michele Frasier-Robinson from the Lawson Terrorism Information Center of the Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism in Oklahoma City presented information on how to access information on terrorism prevention to the library staff. March's event featured "deep linking" to searches, articles, and descriptions of books in EBSCOhost, JSTOR, and the library catalog. While outside attendance has been limited, the reaction to the publicity for some of these events suggests that the publicity itself may be serving a good purpose in publicizing the availability of the services covered.

#### Martin Luther King Day

For the first time in many years, the library was open for part of the day on Martin Luther King Day. The campus was closed, and normally the library closes when the university closes for a holiday. However, we had some anecdotal evidence that students were seeking places to study together and use the internet on the holiday and the staff members who work on Sundays expressed a preference for working on Martin Luther King Day and taking their holiday on Easter Sunday. We therefore

experimented with treating the holiday like a Sunday (1:00 p.m. to midnight



hours). A review of the statistics for the day suggests that it was a good decision. More students visited the library on the holiday than had visited either of the days before or either of the

last two Easter Sundays that the library was open.

## **Library Statistics**

Several important library statistical measures show continued improvement. Increasing circulation of books and other materials to students (+46%), faculty (+16%), staff (+66%), and OCU extended community members (+106%) is an important measure of the usefulness of the library's collection to the community. The increase in circulation to students is especially important as we strive to increase students' exposure to a wide variety of information sources. Several other statistical measures of collection strength and use are also up. New monographic purchases are up 17% for the year. The number of new scores added for the year to date is up 21%. Document delivery to faculty and staff is up. Use of the Foundation center and archives is increasing. Finally, the library has an important goal of increasing the number of collaborations between classroom and faculty members. So far this year, 38% more faculty members brought their students to the library to work with a librarian than during the same period last year.

However, some statistical measures suggest areas that need additional attention. Use of the reference collection and reference librarian are both down. Librarians are meeting to discuss ways to improve interactions with students and assure that they are meeting their educational needs. Another statistical measure that is showing a decline is the use of online databases. We are still investigating this, with the hope that the decline may be a statistical error. It would be very strange for this number to go down, since usage of online databases has climbed significantly every year that such resources have been available.

Librarians are seeking to use these numbers to think about how we train students to use the library and market various tools to them.

## **International Professional Workshop**

Music Librarian Abigail McBirnie traveled to England in March to participate in the Oxford Internet Institute. The institute included doctoral students from across the United Kingdom discussing their work, information science and humanities on the web.

## **Professional Publications**

Access Services Librarian Elizabeth Jones' article on "Developing A Library Toolbar" was published this spring in volume 25 issue 9 of *Library Hi-Tech News*. The article outlines her work in developing a library toolbar for the Dulaney-Browne Library and provides instructions for other librarians interested in creating their own toolbars.

## **Security Incident**

The entire OCU community was shocked by an incident on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the library on February 2, 2009. The sign in sheet used by the Black Student Association for its library study hall was vandalized. The vandalism included insults and racial slurs. In addition the sheet had been soaked in something that smelled like urine. Unfortunately, no one noticed anything at the time of the incident and the OCUPD has so far not been able to make much progress in its investigation. Some good has come from this very negative event. The university is now developing a plan to improve library security, especially by installing cameras to make it possible to better investigate future incidents in isolated areas like the 4<sup>th</sup> floor.

## **Library Computer System Update**

The library successfully launched an updated version of the library's integrated library system, Voyager, during Spring Break. This is a new and improved version of the software that library staff at Dulaney-Browne Library and the Law Library use to track books and periodicals and patrons use to identify materials available for their use.

## **Leisure Reading Collection**

Librarians Robert Dorman and Beth Jones conceived the idea of a leisure reading collection last October. While we are still looking for funding for ongoing collection development for the project, Robert Dorman gathered books from the library's existing collection and donations to develop a small collection that is now available in the Rapp Foundation Reading Room.