

Spring 2008

## Library Ledger

University of Southern Maine Libraries

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# Library Ledger

Newsletter of University Libraries & ITMS  
Volume 2, Issue 1

*The  
Student  
Edition!*

The latest news from Portland, Gorham, & Lewiston-Auburn

## Special Points of Interest

- Make sure your ID has been validated for off-campus use
- Yes, Cookie Week was nice, wasn't it? If you want it back for Spring finals, let us know!
  - 223 Glickman has special computer programs for your use on 6 computers.
- Try out the group study rooms at The Commons @ Gorham Library with 27" computer monitors.
- MS Office 2007 is on all the library computers now under the Start Menu.



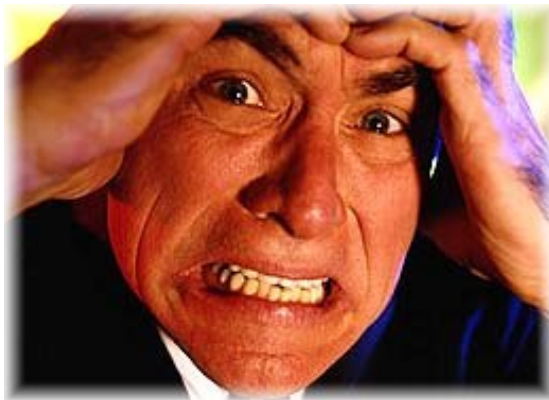
## Inside this issue:

Google	Page 1
Access Science	Page 1
Library Shuttle	Page 2
Dear Crabby	Page 2
Construction	Page 2
Librarian's Chat	Page 3
Study Abroad?	Page 3
Zip's Zingers	Page 3
Book Review	Page 4
Pick a Topic	Page 4

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## Did Google Let You Down?



Hey Students...Did Google let you down this time? It found 25 million results, mostly irrelevant, when you only wanted 10 GOOD items? It wants to charge you \$20-\$30 for an article when the

same thing is available for FREE in the library? You spent 2 hours plowing through results instead of 5-

10 minutes with a reference librarian?

Something is WRONG with this picture...

USM employs reference librarians whose background, training, expertise, and desire is to help YOU! All they ask is

this: you tell them what you need, when you need it by, etc. and they will work with you, one on one, until you get the results you want. They will probably take you to databases that contain literally thousands of up to date articles. These people can save you tons of time and what's even better-- they'll never give you a grade!!!! No librarian has ever flunked anyone!

Call them, instant message them, see them in the library, e-mail them. You get the picture...

## What Kind of Fish is This?

It's a *venomous* Spotted Coral Croucher and you don't want to meet it while you're diving in southern Japanese waters. At least that's what **Access Science** says. That's the library's new online science encyclopedia which covers astron-

omy, chemistry, veterinary science, computing....and many more subjects. Experts in each field provide facts, figures, pictures, diagrams, biographies.... Well, you get the picture. It's accessible from off-campus (like all our



databases) from the library homepage using the USM ID card number that begins with 25022. We think you will like this one! **Access Science**, that is, not the fish.

*[Today's students] can put dope in their veins or hope in their brains.... If they can conceive it and believe it, they can achieve it. They must know it is not their aptitude but their attitude that will determine their altitude.*

Jessie Jackson  
Washington Post, May  
1978



## U Maine Library Shuttle Service

Would you like to have a book from another UMaine campus library delivered to a USM campus? Thanks to our shared library catalog, URSUS, you can place the request online, from any location. When you search URSUS you are automatically searching every UMaine library, plus

Bangor Public Library and other libraries. If the book you need is located at one of those locations click on the black *Request* tab at the top of the item record and enter your name and the number from your USM ID card that begins with 25022. Then select a location where you would like to pick up the item.

Within 2-3 days it should be there. If you need other items, repeat the process for each title. If you want to only search a USM location, use the drop-down menu to do so. This great service is designed for your research convenience.



Try ILLiad for books not available in URSUS!



### Sage Advice from *Dear Crabby...*

Dear Crabby,  
My professor gave me a C- on my last paper because she didn't like my sources. I had lots of information – an article from *People* magazine, a long entry from Wikipedia, and my cousin Joanne's website – so I don't really get what the problem

is. The assignment sheet said something about using "scholarly" sources, but I don't know what the heck that means, and I'm too embarrassed to ask my professor. Blushing in Buxton  
Dear Blushing,  
Relax; nobody knows this until they go to college. But now that you're in college, you'd better learn and learn fast, so here's the scoop: there are periodicals that people read for pleasure or to kill time in the dentist's office; those are called popular periodicals.

Then there are periodicals that report on research that scientists, professors, and other large-brained people have done, and they're called scholarly periodicals. You can almost always recognize an article from one of them – even if it's online – because it will have a bibliography that cites the sources of its information. And if you're confused about what's what, the librarians at USM can help you figure out whether an article you want to use is from a scholarly source. They even have databases that let you limit a search to peer-reviewed journals. So why would you want to use an unreliable or superficial source when you can get one of the good ones so easily? Oh, and another thing: don't be embarrassed; these people are here to answer your questions, for Pete's sake.  
Crabby

### Off-Campus Access

Access scholarly articles from off-campus using the red (25022...) number on your USM

## Osher Map Library & New Library Entrance!

Due to be completed in Nov. 2008, the Osher Map Library (OML) addition to Glickman Library will provide a welcoming **new entrance** facing the new University Commons and the Wishcamper Building. OML will be closed

from until Spring 2009. We apologize for the inconvenience, but hope you will enjoy the new expanded library when it reopens. Track the construction at [www.usm.maine.edu/abromson/webcams.html](http://www.usm.maine.edu/abromson/webcams.html)



## AskALibrarian Chat Use Increases

Do you like to chat online with your friends? A lot more students are making the librarians their “friend” as the library’s AskALibrarian chat service continues to increase in use.

People are finding that making a librarian their best friend can be very beneficial when they’re

looking for the right book, article, or facts and figures.

Instead of spending hours stumbling around the Internet or even the library website, they are learning to ask a librarian who can happily point them to the right source for solid information.

No, you don’t have to

share a meal with them or invite them over to your place to hang out. Librarians just enjoy helping people find the right information quickly. They use the library catalog, databases, and Internet all the time ... and they like to chat online.

Go to AskALibrarian on the library homepage and make a friend...available 8-8 weekdays; shorter hours on the weekend.

*“We must continually remind students in the classroom that expression of different opinions and dissenting ideas affirms the intellectual process. We should forcefully explain that our role is not to teach them to think as we do but rather to teach them, by example, the importance of taking a stance that is rooted in rigorous engagement with the full range of ideas about a topic.”*

Bell Hooks  
Educator, feminist, and human rights advocate. 1955

## Beyond Maine...thinking about studying abroad?



If you’re considering spending a few weeks, semester, or year abroad, to expand your USM

experience, then you’ve probably already contacted USM’s Office of International Programs [www.usm.maine.edu/international](http://www.usm.maine.edu/international) to request study away information and to checkout their website.

They already have the 2008 Summer Study programs in Europe and Central America online at [www.usm.maine.edu/summer/travel](http://www.usm.maine.edu/summer/travel).

The USM Library has resources that can supplement the International Programs’ information to help you find and prepare for travel abroad.

From the library homepage, check out the “**Indexes and Databases**” page for some great sites:

**IIE Passport** - The Institute of International Education, a private non-profit, allows you to search 5,000 academic study abroad opportunities by major or country. IIE Passport provides lots of practical information and logistical recommendations for selecting a program and planning for study away. It includes articles on health, tickets, country information, financing, scholarships, packing, and more.

**Pais International** – Search here for background information on your academic interests in various countries.

**ProQuest Newspapers** - Find the latest BBC stories from around the world, or search one of hundreds of newspapers for information on countries abroad.

### **Note: For Semester or Year**

#### **Study Abroad Students:**

If you are a Maine resident, you may be eligible to apply for the \$5,000 *Dara Kaufman Memorial Scholarship For International Study*, in honor of the late Dara Kaufman, a USM graduate who had studied in Spain.



# Passports

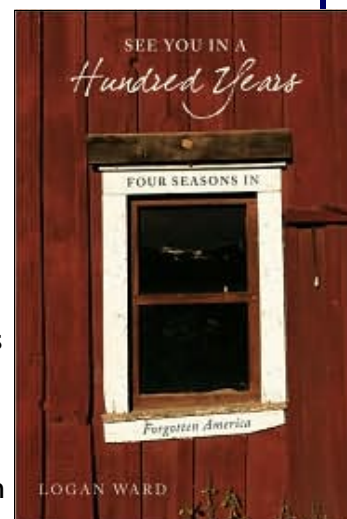
Check to see if you are eligible:  
[www.usm.maine.edu/international/pdf/faufman.pdf](http://www.usm.maine.edu/international/pdf/faufman.pdf)

## Smart Starts @ the Library

### Book Review

Ward, Logan. *See You in a Hundred Years: Four Seasons in Forgotten America*. 2007.

Burned out and tired of the pace of twenty-first century life, thirty-something Logan Ward and his wife Heather pack up their two-year-old and leave New York for the Shenandoah Valley and a year-long experiment in rural living 1900-style. Determined to use nothing but what would have been available to them at the turn of the previous century, they replace their aged station wagon with a draft horse and cart, their supermarket trips with hours of milking goats, working a garden, and canning, and their stress and frustration with physical exhaustion. As their year passes (spoiler alert: they don't starve to death), they learn numerous new skills ranging from cooking with wood to relaxing with unannounced company.



Filled with romance, adventure, wild animals, bad drivers, and lifelong learning, *See You in a Hundred Years* has it all – kind of like life, if we don't get too busy to notice.

Reviewed by Pat Prieto, USM Librarian

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Instructional Technology  
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Check us out!



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## Need a Topic For Your Paper? Try CQ Researcher

Are you up in the air over picking a topic for your paper that's due next week? Well, try CQ Researcher!

Check it out under Find Articles/Indexes & Databases by Title on the library homepage.

The company says it “explores a single hot issue in the news in depth each week. Topics range from social and teen issues to environment, health, education, and science and technology. There are 44 reports produced

each year including four expanded reports.”

These **24-page reports** include graphs, statistics, opinion arti-

**cles on both sides of the issue, a chronology of events, and a useful bibliography for further study.**

Use the Cite Now feature to create the citation in APA, or MLA citation style.

Pick a topic directly from those listed in CQ and you'll instantly have good information and graphics, plus a list of other articles and books to go to!

