ScienceDirect College Edition is Now Available!

ScienceDirect is one of the largest collections of published scientific research. The Library has subscribed to journal content for two subsets of ScienceDirect—the Health & Life Sciences Collection and the Social & Behavioral Sciences Collection. What does that mean for you? You now have access to full-text articles from 1452 journal titles, including some articles that are in press but not yet published. A link to use ScienceDirect may be found on the Library Databases A-Z list (http://www.iuk.edu/~kolibry/FindInfo/DatabasesA-Z.shtml#S).

When using ScienceDirect it is important to remember that all ScienceDirect content may be searched, including titles that the library has not subscribed to. Don’t want to search any titles other than the ones you will receive full text articles for? There is a way to place a search parameter that tells ScienceDirect you only want to search subscribed sources. How? From the advanced search screen use the drop down menu for Source and choose subscribed content. Just want to browse journal titles we subscribe to? Click on Browse in the green toolbar. From the resulting Browse box on the left hand side of the page remove the check mark in front on Non-subscribed and click apply. Notice the green “subscribed” icon is now present for all titles.

Chronicle of Higher Education

Did you know that starting July 1, 2008 the Library purchased an institution-wide subscription to the full-text electronic version of the Chronicle of Higher Education? The Chronicle is the number one source of news, information, and jobs for college and university faculty members and administrators. The subscription includes a searchable archive of every issue published since September 1989. You can also sign up for e-mail alerts from the Chronicle of Higher Education including Academe Today (daily higher education news) or Job Alerts (e-mails daily or weekly). Connect to the Chronicle via the Library Databases A-Z list or through Journal Finder.
Print Journals Converting to Electronic Access in 2009!

Remember last spring when Ria Lukes and John Stachacz visited your department to work with faculty to determine essential journal titles to support the curriculum? Remember the doom and gloom of budget woes affecting the buying power of the library? During the meetings with departments an assessment document was shared with faculty that showed cost per use for each title in our collection. The library also discussed the importance of delivering full text electronic access to the students, along with the fact that most library users were not using print at all. Following the discussions Ria Lukes created a list of titles for each department with a suggested action for each title.

The suggested actions included, 1) keeping the print subscription, 2) converting the print subscription to e-journal access only, 3) cancelling the print subscription and using full text available from aggregated databases; and 4) purchase of new titles in e-journal format. The technical services department has been working with journal vendors over the last several months to make the changes a reality for 2009. We are also actively pursuing the purchase of aggregated journal collections as cancellations of print titles are completed. Most (not all) journal titles will be available as a full text online journal beginning January 2009. At the same time the library has cancelled all subscriptions to microfilm. Just a reminder—we are not withdrawing the bound materials that already exist in our collection. A departmental list of titles along with the final respective actions will be sent to departments in January 2009. Questions may be directed to Ria Lukes at x437.
IU Kokomo Has Access to Over 45,000 Electronic and Print Journal Titles in Journal Finder

If you want to know whether we have a specific journal or what journals are available to you in a subject like Information Technology, Plant Physiology, or the Theory and Practice of Education use the Journal Finder. Journal Finder is located on the Electronic Resources Web page http://www.iuk.edu/~kolibry/FindInfo/index.shtml. While about half of these journal titles are also accessible through IUCAT, Journal Finder is the most comprehensive list of journals available to IU Kokomo students, faculty, and staff. Journal Finder will also show the location of the 1300 print journals available in the library by linking directly to IUCAT.
Print versus E-books at the Library

Merriam-Webster defines a library as a place in which literary, musical, artistic, or reference materials are kept for use but not for sale. This definition conveys an image of a library building filled with shelves of printed material or other physical resources made available for patrons use. However, in recent years libraries have also become access points for information available by electronic means, including large collections of “electronic books,” or e-books. E-books are digital versions of books that also appear in print, and which contain the same content as the printed version. Libraries are increasingly offering books electronically as they can purchase access to existing collections of digital books, making available titles they would not usually acquire in print form. E-books have some advantages over the printed format in that they are available through the IU Kokomo Library Web page 24/7, and are also full-text searchable.

IU Kokomo Library offers a large collection of e-books for patron use. IUCAT is the primary tool for locating e-books. Such resources will be labeled as electronic sources, and are available through a link in the catalog record. E-books may be located using an IUCAT standard keyword, title, or author search for material, or they may be located using the E-Book Search option in the “More IUCAT Searches” menu.

NetLibrary and Books 24x7 are collections of e-books that may be accessed directly through the IU Kokomo Library Web page, under “Databases A-Z.” NetLibrary contains a wide range of titles, including 3,200 books that are in the public domain. Books 24x7 offers access to over 2000 IT and technical books. It is worth noting that while most of these e-book titles can be located using IUCAT as a search tool, this is not always the case. Searching these e-book collections directly can often turn up resources that otherwise might have been missed.
Using Archives for Research

My thesis centers on the United Farm Workers (UFW) and the nationwide boycott activity of the union. Using the actions of the Farm Labor Aid Committee (FLAC) in Northern Indiana as a case study, I delve into how Catholic supporters of César Chávez and the UFW created a national movement out of a local farm worker concern in California. The IU Kokomo archives have been central to my primary research to this point. Not only does the archive contain information on FLAC and the boycott activity in Indiana, but it also includes materials on the UFW and correspondence from California. The information I received from IU Kokomo has allowed me to present a preliminary form of my thesis at the Midwest Labor and Working Class History Colloquium at the University of Illinois in Chicago in April 2008. I plan to have the thesis completed in early August.

Dustin McLochlin
June 11, 2008

Dustin McLochlin, an Indiana University Kokomo graduate with a major in History, is currently a PhD student at Bowling Green State University. He has completed work on his Master of Arts and his thesis is titled: American Catholicism and Farm Labor Activism: The Farm Labor Aid Committee of Indiana as a Case Study.