

Web 2.0: My Library @ BSU

by Roy "Todd" Vandenbark, Part-time Temporary Special Project Developer, Library Information Technology Services



Ball State University Libraries are a great place for conducting research, working on assignments and papers, or finding a quiet place to study. The Libraries offer a vast array of top-quality resources to support student research in all subject areas. In today's user-customizable, Web 2.0 environment, students need library resources to be organized around their needs for gathering information based on their classes. The University Libraries now offer an online tool that allows them to accomplish just that: **My Library @ BSU**.

My Library @ BSU is a customizable library Web portal page for students, inspired by iGoogle and MyYahoo. It is designed to create a one-stop shop for students who are seeking resources tailored to the courses they are taking.

When users first log on to the My Library @ BSU, <http://libix.bsu.edu/mylibrary>, they are invited to select three subject areas that match the courses they are currently taking. Once selected, My Library creates a personalized library Web portal page with tabs for each subject, plus a customizable "My Stuff" tab.

Each subject tab contains a short list of links to specialized information resources, such as subscription databases and other e-resources in a given area. The "My Stuff" tab is customizable, allowing users to add links to other electronic resources such as RSS feeds (news feeds, blogs, etc.), library quick-search modules, and widgets of all kinds from sites such as Widgetbox, www.widgetbox.com. Future modules may include subject-relevant RSS feeds, summary of the user's library account, and an "assignment calculator." Tabs can be added and deleted as needed.

This release is a "beta" version of My Library, and we are seeking feedback on the usefulness of this tool. Students and faculty with a valid Ball State user ID and password are invited to create their own My Library @ BSU page, peruse the site, then send us feedback via the BSU Libraries Web Lab, www.bsu.edu/libraries/weblab/index.htm#mylibrary. A demo login will soon be available for those outside BSU who are interested.

My Library @ BSU, Evernote (see *The Library Insider*, February 2009), Wikispaces (*The Library Insider*, November 2008), and Glify (*The Library Insider*, September 2008) are examples of Web 2.0 tools that students, faculty, and staff have at their fingertips when conducting online research and learning at the Ball State University Libraries or when using their computer elsewhere.

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Spotlight: University Libraries' People & Events

New Hire



Lora A. Jones, Booking/Reserves Assistant began February 23, 2009.

Resignation

Erin S. Gabrielson, Information Services Librarian, effective March 24, 2009.

Publications

Carol R. Nelson published "EPRINTS as the Cardinal Scholar Institutional Repository at Ball State University. Brad Faust, Ball State University Libraries," *IOLUG News* 25(2):8; February, 2009.

In this report, the author summarizes Brad Faust's presentation on the University Libraries' Cardinal Scholar institutional repository system that he delivered at the Fall 2008 Indiana Online Users Group (IOLUG) Program in Indianapolis, October 2008. The IOLUG Program theme was open source software.

Rebecca S. Sheffield published "Open Source ILS Panel - Koha, Evergreen," *IOLUG News* 25(2):7; February, 2009.

This report is a summary of a panel presentation on the open source integrated library systems, Koha and Evergreen, given during the Fall 2008 Indiana Online Users Group Program in Indianapolis, October 24, 2008. ■

The Library Insider

Ball State University Libraries' newsletter, *The Library Insider*, is a service of the Office of the Dean of University Libraries and is published monthly by the Ball State Virtual Press, Muncie, IN 47306.

The Library Insider supports the University Libraries' mission and fosters community on campus through improved communication with our constituencies about topics of interest in the Libraries and in academic libraries in general.

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University Libraries' Marketing Communications Manager Susan G. Akers is *The Library Insider's* administrative editor and Kris Pittsenbarger is its proofreader.

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