

Library 2.0: Jing Project – Another Free and Useful Web 2.0 Tool



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

Ball State University's Bracken Library is a great place for conducting research, working on assignments and papers, or finding a quiet place to study.

While many people are familiar with the most popular "Web 2.0" tools, such as social networking through Facebook, self-publication through blogs, etc., this column seeks to provide information on free and less well-known tools to help students and faculty create professional-looking projects.

Jing is a free software package that allows you to take pictures and record video of anything on your computer screen and then save it to share later. Jing can be found at the Jing Project Web site,

www.jingproject.com. It is

available in both Mac and Windows versions. It is a great utility if you want to create an instructional video on how to use a great online resource, or if you want to show someone from afar how to do something on his or her computer.

Start by downloading Jing. With a few clicks and a little bit of practice, you can easily begin to create and share video and still images and more. After you install the software, you will see that Jing places a small, yellow, sun-shaped menu at the top of your screen so that you can easily access it at any time. Moving your cursor over the sun will give you three menu options: Capture, History, and More.

Click on Capture, and your cursor will change to two long, yellow lines that are used for selecting the area of your screen you wish to use for your video or still image. Click and drag your mouse across the area you wish to record. Select the "Image" option to take a picture of the selected area. Jing will create the image and then provide you with a window where you can name your image, add and highlight text, and draw arrows and boxes directly on the image.

Click on "Video" to record video of anything you see or do on the screen. A window of the selected area will appear, and Jing will give you a countdown on the screen before it begins recording. Execute the steps you wish to record, using the buttons below the window to pause or stop recording.

You can add audio as you record by using your computer's built-in microphone or one that you attach to your computer. Once you have finished recording, a window will appear that will allow you to review your work. You can choose to save, redo, or cancel it.

Jing offers several options for saving your images directly to your computer or to external devices like a thumb drive. You can also upload your files, both still and video, to services such as Screencast.com, <http://screencast.com>, where they offer a free, 60-day trial account to store up to 2 GB of files. Still images can be sent directly to your Flickr



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ATM at Bracken Library Provides Students, Faculty, and Staff Added Convenience ... Although No Free Samples!

With the installation of an automated teller machine in Bracken Library on November 11, students, faculty, and staff may now make withdrawals or transfer funds from their Ball State Federal Credit Union accounts.

In addition, the ATM will service Co-Op, NYCE, and PLUS networks. Standard guest charges apply for non-BSUCU users of the ATM.

The ATM is located between the inner and outer doors on Bracken's south entrance. It should prove to be a convenience for busy students and faculty who visit Bracken Library. ☐



University Libraries Green: Actively Involved in Conserving Paper, Recycling Efforts

The University Libraries' scanning stations are busy humming as students scan papers and research materials and then save their documents to their 2 GB iLocker digital storage space, which is provided to all Ball State students, faculty, and staff.

At the University Libraries, all users are encouraged to help reduce waste and slash disposal costs by saving portable document files (PDFs) to their computers and thumb drives instead of printing them. This initiative has been successful as more people become comfortable with both reading and writing on screen.

Windows and Macs both provide quick commands to save documents to PDF formats. Additionally, students are asked to limit their printing (which is free) to 30 pages or fewer per day and to place any waste paper or unwanted documents into recycling containers that are conveniently located in approximately 25 locations throughout Bracken's five floors.

The University Libraries' personnel routinely recycle photocopy and printer cartridges.

"We're already in the habit of recycling paper. The discarded pages are turned into notepads and many staff use the back side of pages for printing," said Susan G. Akers, Marketing Communications Manager.

Another recycling effort is to encourage students, faculty, and staff to leave magazines with which they are finished at a large magazine rack in Bracken's lower level for others to take and read.

Other conservation-minded measures include using equipment that features the Energy Star or other power management functionality to conserve electricity and by asking employees to turn-off their desktop computers and office lights when they leave for the day to conserve energy by thinking green. ☐





Zoomify Technology Used to Enhance Four More DMR Collections

by Amanda A. Hurford, Digital Initiatives Multimedia Developer

In August, 2008, Budi Wibowo and I wrote in *The Library Insider* about implementing Zoomify technology in the Digital Media Repository (DMR). Now that Zoomify is in place, Ball State students and faculty and researchers can zoom and pan easily in those DMR collections that have the extension.

Because the DMR contains several zoom-friendly collections such as maps, blueprints, and detailed photographs, we set out to identify some new collections to enhance with Zoomify. Recently, four additional DMR collections were "Zoomified." These are the *Ostland Atlas Collection*, Campus Building Plans, Muncie Chevrolet Plant Architectural Drawings, and the *Daniel W. Hartwig Photograph Collection of Indiana Courthouses*.

The *Ostland Atlas Collection*, <http://libx.bsu.edu/collection.php?CISOROOT=/ostlndAtls> features 52 color maps from a rare atlas published by the Nazis in 1942. Zoomify helps users to easily view tiny writing on the maps, such as the names of town or rivers.

The Campus Building Plans, <http://libx.bsu.edu/collection.php?CISOROOT=/BuildServ> are Ball State University architectural plans and blueprints dating back to 1899. In order to easily view the blueprint details, such as measurements and building materials, a user-friendly interface like Zoomify proves itself to be ideal.

The precise images in the Muncie Chevrolet Plant Architectural Drawings Collection, <http://libx.bsu.edu/collection.php?CISOROOT=/MunChvrIt> also benefit from Zoomify by enhancing the detail that can be viewed.

Lastly, the *Daniel W. Hartwig Photograph Collection of Indiana Courthouses* <http://libx.bsu.edu/collection.php?CISOROOT=/DHWCourt> documents courthouses throughout Indiana, many of which are architecturally and historically significant. Using Zoomify, researchers can see nuanced details like capstones, windows, towers, and clocks, making the collection all the more useful.

For more information, contact Amanda A. Hurford, University Libraries' Digital Initiatives Multimedia Developer, AAHurford@bsu.edu, 765-285-3349. ■

The Library Insider

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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.

Visit www.bsu.edu/library/virtualpress/libinsider to view an online copy of the newsletter and its archives.

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2 GB of files. Still images can be sent directly to your Flickr account from Jing, too. And video and still images can be uploaded to any server to which you have FTP access, such as personal Web pages and network folders.

The "History" option under the Jing menu sun allows you to find any previously created still images and videos. The "More" menu option is where you will find help files, input your settings and account information for Flickr and FTP, and be able to send feedback to the Jing Project.

Jing offers online technical support and through the Jing Blog, <http://blog.jingproject.com>. At the end of the trial period, Screencast.com offers monthly subscriptions for storing your files. The blog offers a number of videos on how to use specific features at Screencast.com that allow you to share, collaborate, and receive feedback on your work.

At their core, Web 2.0 tools are all about connecting people in collaborative virtual spaces on the Internet. The University Libraries and their staff are about connecting student, faculty, and others with the best tools and resources available, whether in person or online, to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow.

Gliffy, discussed in the September 2008 *Library Insider*, and Jing as discussed in this newsletter issue, are two examples of Web 2.0 tools that students and faculty have at their finger tips when conducting online research and learning in Bracken Library and using a home computer.

For more information, contact Roy "Todd" Vandenberg, University Libraries' Part-time Temporary Special Project Developer, RTVandenberg@bsu.edu, 765-285-8032. ■

Bracken Library Hosts Sneak Preview of Violet

On Wednesday, September 24, 2008, at noon, Bracken Library was privileged to host a Sneak Preview of the Department of Theatre and Dance's rendition of the musical *Violet*.

Violet is about a freak accident that leaves a 13-year-old, Violet Karl,



disfigured by a wood chopping accident. Now 25 years old, Violet sets out in search of a new life and a new face, meeting a host of characters, including two soldiers who vie for her affections on a Greyhound bus trip.

Music and lyrics were by Jeanine Tesori and Brian Crawley. Department of Theatre and Dance faculty were Beth Turcotte, Director; Christopher A. Bott, Musical Direction; Alexandra Kocoshis, accompanist.

The University Libraries host performances as part of the Libraries' objective to promote the humanities, particularly the performing arts. ■