

Centennial Library E-News

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Inside This Issue

- 1 Research competencies development
- 2 Student satisfaction survey
- 2 Value Line now on-line
- 3 New CBTS Gallery exhibit
- 3 Library faculty member promoted
- 4 University faculty in print
- 4 University alumni in print
- 5 Spring break hours

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Research competencies being developed as student outcome measures

The Centennial Library's Public Services department has completed a set of learning outcomes that will serve as a guide for the development of research assignments at Cedarville University. Entitled "Research Competencies for Graduating Seniors," the document lists six major research abilities that all university students should be able to master by the completion of their undergraduate career. Spearheaded by **Jeff Gates**, *Information Services Librarian*, and **Brent Etzel**, *Instructional Services Librarian*, the "Research Competencies" are part of a library initiative to serve the Cedarville students more effectively in research instruction.

These "Research Competencies", based in part on the "Information Literacy Competency Standards" published by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), also take into account the stated mission and objectives of Cedarville University. For example, the objectives of the university include the goal of preparing each student "to participate knowledgeably in our society" and enabling each student "to develop sound critical and analytical reasoning." With this in mind, the document developed by the librarians specifies that graduating students should be able to "evaluate information and its sources critically," and then lists several ways by which students can demonstrate this skill in the completion of a research assignment. According to Jeff Gates, "We wanted to emphasize research. Achieving the research competencies should help students succeed in their majors and in their future careers." Brent Etzel adds, "The library serves as the hub of research for the university, and it is important for librarians to contribute to the development of research in the curriculum across campus. The list of research competencies should serve as a guide for creating effective research assignments." You can view the "Research Competencies" [here](#).

Also being designed is a collection of sample assignments that address the research competencies effectively. The collection will be made available to classroom faculty seeking to prepare research assignments of their own. The "Research Competencies" will also be shared with new faculty as part of their orientation to Cedarville.



Jeff Gates



Brent Etzel



Library scores high on Noel-Levitz student satisfaction survey

The results of the 2007 Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction inventory have been released and the Library is very pleased to have been given high satisfaction ratings by our students. The Noel-Levitz survey "measures student satisfaction and priorities, showing ... how satisfied students are as well as what issues are important to them."

There are two survey questions that pertain to the Centennial Library. On the question of "Library resources and services are adequate", Cedarville students rated its importance with a 6.03 (on a 7 point scale) and their satisfaction at 6.06. **This rating was the highest for all the CCCU schools participating in the survey.** Cedarville rated .62 higher than the CCCU average. The **Centennial Library came in second** of all the CCCU schools participating with the question, "Library staff are helpful and approachable." The importance of this item was 5.36 and the students were more than satisfied with a 6.07. This was almost a half a point (.44) higher than the CCCU average.

The Cedarville students have affirmed that the Centennial Library is living up to its mission to provide "users an effective gateway to the world of information access and use," with resources in a library collection of 200,000 print items, 190 databases, 25,000 e-books, over 8,700 print and electronic journals in addition to direct access to other university collections through OhioLINK. The Library's focus on providing our students the help and assistance they need to complete their assignments, projects, and papers – from the start of their research at the reference desk to the production of their project in MediaPlex-- has also been confirmed.

This spring Cedarville freshmen and seniors will be asked to participate in the annual library survey to help specifically measure their satisfaction with Library resources and services.

Library provides new on-line service to help investors



For many years, the library's print edition of Value Line Investment Survey has been used heavily by faculty, students, and community users seeking investment data. The Library has now subscribed to the online electronic version of this great resource.

The Value Line Investment Survey is an unbiased collection of data and performance analysis of approximately 8,000 stocks, 15,000 mutual funds, 80,000 options and other securities. It has three parts:

- ❖ The Ratings & Reports section contains one-page reports about approximately 1,700 companies and approximately 98 industries.
- ❖ The Summary & Index contains an index of all stocks in the Investment Survey as well as many up-to-date statistics to keep investors informed about the latest company results.
- ❖ The Selection & Opinion section contains Value Line's latest economic and stock market forecasts, one-page write-ups about interesting and attractive stocks, model portfolios, and financial and stock market statistics.

Value Line Investment Survey – Plus Edition may be accessed from the **Library Website** by selecting **Find Databases & Articles**.

New exhibit from the Library Special Collections opens in the CBTS Biblical Heritage Gallery



Spring semester finds a new exhibit in the Biblical Heritage Gallery in the Center for Biblical and Theological Studies featuring items from the Centennial Library's Bible Heritage collection. The exhibit, designed and developed by **Lynn Brock**, *Dean of Library Services and University Archivist*, is entitled *Preserved by Hand: the Bible from Manuscript to Gutenberg*. The items in the exhibit represent the preservation of the Bible in handwritten manuscripts from the 4th century to the first printing of the Bible by Gutenberg in 1455. Included in the exhibit are a photographic copy of the Codex Sinaiticus [4th century], a photographic copy of the Leningrad Codex [11th century], three handwritten and hand-illustrated Latin Bible manuscript leaves from the 13th through the 15th centuries, a photographic facsimile of the handwritten Wycliffe Bible [1382], and an exact reproduction of the two-volume Mazarin Bible from Paris, one of the Gutenberg Bibles printed in 1455. This collection will be on display through the end of the Spring Semester.

Library faculty member promoted



Julie Deardorff, *Director of Library Collection Services*, was promoted, by approval of the Board of Trustees in January, from Assistant to Associate Professor of Library Science effective July 1, 2009. In leading one of the three Centennial Library departments, Julie's primary role is working with faculty to build the library collection, assuring that appropriate resources are available in a timely manner and accessible to faculty and students. As part of this collection-building role, Julie serves on the University Curriculum Committee. Julie's more recent passion has been the Library's career development program in library science, designed to increase awareness on the Cedarville campus about the library science career and recruit students who show an interest in pursuing professional library service. Of special interest has been Julie's leadership in designing and directing the library internship program which allows Cedarville students to explore the library profession by enrolling in an independent study for a semester with in-depth work in all phases of the Centennial Library operation. Julie and her husband Don have also been long-term mentors in the University's Fit To Be Tied pre-marriage counseling program for engaged couples.



University Faculty in Print

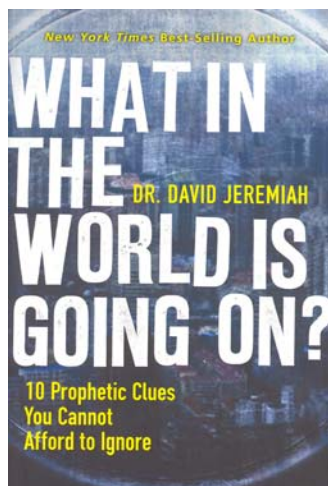
Recognizing Faculty Scholarship

Dennis M. Sullivan, *Professor of Biology*

"Defending human personhood: some insights from natural law,"

Christian Scholar's Review, vol. 37 (Spring 2008), pp. 289-302

Dr. Sullivan affirms that human personhood is based on an understanding that human beings are made in the image and likeness of God. Disagreements over this preconception impact discussions about the value of human life, especially at the beginning and end of life. "This article describes three possible strategies to respond to the assaults on human personhood," first outlining the theoretical context and then providing some practical applications.



University Alumni in Print

Carrying the Torch to Their World

David Jeremiah (Class of 1963)

What in the world is going on?: 10 prophetic clues you cannot afford to ignore. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2008. 257 pages.

As we experience the distressing news headlines and fearful predictions today of what could happen in our world politically, economically, physically, and environmentally, we wonder if we are close to the end of the "end times." The Bible provides clues about the signs and their interpretations as the days of man's rule on the earth come closer to an end. This book presents ten end-of-time events using texts from the Old and New Testaments that make those signs of biblical prophecy and their warnings more clear. Dr. Jeremiah applies the clues and points out the signs, viewing current events through the lens of God's Word, laying out a chronology, and offering guidelines for sorting it all out.

Library Spring Break Hours

The following are the public hours for the Centennial Library for the Spring break. Please plan your schedule accordingly.

Spring Break

February 27	Close at 5:00 p.m.
February 28 – March 1	Closed
March 2-5	8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
March 6-8	Closed
March 9	Resume regular hours

FEBRUARY 2009

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MARCH 2009

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