

# milne LIBRARY news

Division of Library and Information Services

State University of New York College at Oneonta

## Mashups

No, we're not talking about bananas and baby food. Most people have seen something like a Google map of a city with flags displaying the location of all the restaurants. That's a mash-up. Two or more sets of information have been integrated into a single resource: in this case, a map of a city and a list of restaurants with addresses and phone numbers, which now becomes an enhanced map. Wikipedia tells us that "Mashup originally referred to the practice in pop music (notably hip-hop) of producing a new song by mixing two or more existing pieces." Mashups on the web may be the mixing of maps, scientific data, music, photos, statistics, store inventory, prices, historical information, demographics, newsfeeds, blog contents, or a thousand other things.

To the casual viewer, a mashup may seem no different from any web site, but what's truly interesting about mashups is the *potential* uses that could be made due to the ability to combine multiple sets of data in unique ways. As an example, *No Child Left Behind? Seeking American Education's Missing Data* at <http://education.tjones.cc/> combines NAEP scores, No Child Left Behind funding data, school-age population, and a flash map. Mapdango.com, which lets you enter the name of any place in the world, then mashes into one page Flickr (photos), WeatherBug, Wikipedia, Eventful (events), and Gruver (concerts). The result is an ideal one-stop tool for travelers who need to know a wide range of things about a place before they step on a plane. Mashups are an up and coming tool. Some colleges are even including mashup exercises in their coursework – see the Trinity College course "Invisible Cities" at <http://prog.trincoll.edu/gis/projects/fymashups/>.

There are several broad categories of mashups: mapping mashups, video and photo mashups, shopping mashups, search mashups, and news mashups.

Mapping mashups are probably the basis for the most and the best known mashups, thanks to Google maps and their convenient software for creating mashups. Here are some useful examples, as well as some rather esoteric examples, you're probably not familiar with:

- **BibleMap.org.** Look up a book and chapter in the Bible, see the text, and zoom in on the location on a map. <http://www.biblemap.org/>
- **Cellreception.com.** Find the location of cell towers around the country. <http://www.cellreception.com/>
- **Area Code Map.** Zoom to a location on the map, see the area code. <http://www.usnaviguide.com/areacode.htm>
- **Auction Mapper.** Put in your zip code, do an eBay search, and find a seller in your area. <http://www.auctionmapper.com/>
- **Lord of the Rings Maps.** You've read the books, now explore the maps. <http://www.arda-online.com/map/>

Although many mashups tend to be more of a ready-reference than in-depth type of useful, and some are purely frivolous in nature (see the *Ultimate Interactive Google Guide to Ghost Busters* at <http://www.ironicsans.com/gbmap.html>), there are some that are worthy of looking at for more serious study and illumination. A few examples:

- **Wasting Away Superfund Toxic Legacy.** <http://www.publicintegrity.org/superfund/>
- **Interactive Climate Map.** Charts of temperature, humidity, daylight for cities around the world. <http://www.climate-charts.com/climate-map.html>
- **TimeSpace Map.** "An encyclopedic atlas of history and happenings that anyone can edit. It is a geographic wiki." <http://www.timespacemap.com/home.htm>

Map mixes are not the only mashup creations worth visiting. There's quite a bit going on with music, photography, RSS feeds, merchandise, as well as search engines. Here are some particularly good mashups that are not map-based:

- **FlickrStorm.** A terrific flickr search engine that compiles results in a collage. Save your favorite photos in a tray on the screen. <http://www.zoo-m.com/flickr-storm/>
- **30 Boxed.** Create an online calendar using whatever photos and data you like. <http://30boxes.com/boxed>
- **U.S. Trade in Goods and Services.** Graphs, tables, and statistics. <http://www.swivel.com/graphs/show/26757066>

To find mashups, simply add "mashups" or "mash-ups" to a Google search on any topic. There's a good list of mashups on *100 Things to Do with Google Maps Mashups* at <http://gmapsmania.googlepages.com/100thingstodowithgooglemapsmashups>. Another place to begin exploring the world of mashups is the web site *ProgrammableWeb* at <http://www.programmableweb.com/>.

If you're interested, it's not too difficult to create a mashup. There are plenty of free, web-based mashup builders

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available. Microsoft Popfly at <http://www.popfly.com/> is an easy way to get the idea. Yahoo Pipes at <http://pipes.yahoo.com/pipes/> is another user-friendly web-based mashup creator. Harder to use, but more sophisticated in its possibilities, is Dapper at <http://www.dapper.net/>. The Google Mashup Editor is still in beta and allows a limited number of editors, but once that changes we're sure to see a surge in Google map mashups. Actually, there's not much that will stop the tide of mashup creations – once people see how versatile and creative they can be, they're inclined to want to try it themselves.

Kay Benjamin

## Special Collections to be Featured in Faculty Research Show

The Library's Special Collections team participated once again in the Eighth Annual Faculty Research Show on March 12. As in the past, faculty publications were a central highlight. Samples from the library's **Faculty Publications Collection** as well as the **Faculty Biographical File** were on display. Both of these growing collections are housed in the Alden Room and constitute an important record of the scholarly and creative research activities of academic, administrative, and professional staff at the College.

Currently containing approximately three hundred titles, the **Faculty Publications Collection** was first started in 1973. It includes monographic works covering a broad range of disciplines. Until recently, much of the development of the collection depended on donations. Today it is also being actively updated with library acquisitions funds. In addition to this collection, the library also collects news reports and other publications that highlight the achievements of members of our faculty, staff, and administration. This **Faculty Biographical File** contains over 700 entries that date back to the beginnings of the college.

Archival research on the history of the College Camp, done by Heather Heyduk, was also part of the exhibit.

## Databases

Milne Library has added a few databases for the spring semester. To see a general list of databases click on "Databases by Name (A-Z)" in the middle of the library home page. Right below it is a link to "Databases by Subject" which will help guide you to databases that are relevant to each subject. If you have any comments on any of these databases, please email Nancy Cannon ([cannonns@oneonta.edu](mailto:cannonns@oneonta.edu)).

***American Bibliography of Slavic and Eastern European Studies (ABSEES)***: Produced by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, subjects covered by *ABSEES* include anthropology, the arts, culture, economics, education and geography. Sources indexed include journals, books, dissertations, online resources and US and Canadian government documents. This is an index only—no full text is provided.

***Environmental Index Complete***: Covers applicable areas of agriculture, ecosystem ecology, energy, renewable energy sources, natural resources, marine and freshwater science, geography, pollution, waste treatment, environmental technology, and public policy. Provides over 1,500,000 records from about 1600 international titles with coverage back to the 1950's. In addition, about 100 full-text books, such as the *Encyclopedia of World Environmental History*, and full text for about 600 journals are provided.

***International Bibliography of Theater & Dance FT***: An annotated databank of over 60,000 journal articles, books, book articles and dissertation abstracts on all aspects of theatre and performance in 126 countries. Contains full text for more than 120 periodicals and more than 100 books.

***International Political Science Abstracts***: Covers almost 900 journals from 1989-present in the area of political science. Topics include method and theory; political thinkers and ideas; political and administrative institutions; political processes (public opinion, attitudes, parties, forces, groups, and elections); international relations; and national and area studies. No full text.

***Iter: Gateway to the Middle Ages and Renaissance***: An index to literature pertaining to the Middle Ages and Renaissance (400-1700). Includes citations for books, journal material (articles, reviews, review articles, bibliographies, catalogues, abstracts and discographies). Also includes a Milton bibliography.

***Left Index***: With an emphasis on political, economic, and social issues, the *Left Index* covers the labor movement, ecology and the environment, race and ethnicity, social and cultural theory, sociology, art and aesthetics, philosophy, education, and globalization. Includes about 250,000 citations and abstracts (some with full text) from 1982 to the present. Classic texts by authors such as Marx, Lenin, and Trotsky, written in the formative years of the Left, are also provided.

## Library Video Collection

The library has acquired some new DVD videodiscs of movies that patrons may find interesting and entertaining in this election year. One of the older films is *The Candidate* from 1972, which features Robert Redford as a young and intelligent liberal candidate in a California senate race who turns to a political advisor, played by the late Peter Boyle, who ends up dictating the candidate's every move.

Moving forward to the Clinton years, John Travolta does a pretty good imitation of the former president in *Primary Colors*, based on the best selling novel, which has an excellent supporting cast including Emma Thompson and Billy Bob Thornton. *Bulworth*, directed by and starring Warren Beatty, also features Oliver Platt as a panicked assistant to the unhinged Senator Bulworth and features an appearance by the poet Imiri Baraku.

*Wag the Dog* examines the manipulative "spin" mechanisms behind campaigns, in this case staging a fake war to take the spotlight off a candidate's indiscretions. This well known film features Robert DeNiro and Dustin Hoffman, with music by Mark Knopfler, and a screenplay written by Larry Beinhart, based on his novel. Beinhart is also author of the political satire *The Librarian*. The tragic story of Bobby Kennedy

is featured in Emilio Estevez's *Bobby*, which recreates the events and personalities surrounding the assassination of Kennedy at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles on June 5, 1968. The movie features a large cast and was nominated for many awards including best picture when it was released in 2006.

Several other recent additions to the library's video collection also deal with political issues. *The Wind That Shakes the Barley* is an intense and sometimes violent film that delves into the Irish political situation around the 1920s. Also available is *The Constant Gardener*, whose plot deals with corruption in the British Government related to pharmaceutical companies and their products used in Africa. The film features excellent performances by Ralph Fiennes and Rachel Weisz. All of these titles and more are located in the video collection on the 2nd floor of the library in the Dewey Room and are available for a 4 week loan period.

## Acquisitions FAQs

The library is currently processing orders for the fiscal year, which ends on June 30. We need to have materials ordered and received before that date. The following FAQ section provides information for anyone interested in ordering library materials.

**Who do I contact about requesting books, DVDs, CDs, and other monographic materials for the library?**

Heather Heyduk, Acquisitions Librarian (3585, heydukh@oneonta.edu)

**Who can make a request?**

Anyone – administration, staff, faculty, students, and members of the community. Faculty requests go through the departmental liaison. All other requests can be directed to the Acquisitions Librarian. Requests will be filled based on the library's collection development policy.

**How should requests be sent?**

- Create a list in Resources for College Libraries (<http://rclweb.net/>) – contact Heather Heyduk for training
- Email a list or attachment to heydukh@oneonta.edu

- Fill out white purchase request cards and send through campus mail
- Send catalogs with desired items circled

For all requests, please provide the title, author, publisher, date, and requestor's department, office, or other affiliation. The ISBN and source of information (especially for media requests) are also very helpful for us.

**What happens when my requested item arrives at the library?**

It is checked in, processed, cataloged, and shelved. **If you want "first dibs" on an item you requested, note this in your request**, and you will be contacted by the Circulation Desk, where it will be held for you. The current procedure is that Acquisitions returns the request cards, with the corresponding call number of the item, to the department liaison, who will return them to the requestor.

**Who do I contact about requesting periodicals?**

Andrea Gerberg, Serials Librarian (2774, gerberaf@oneonta.edu)

**Who do I contact about requesting databases and other electronic resources?**

Nancy Cannon, Electronic Resources Librarian (2160, cannonns@oneonta.edu)

## New Reference Books

The library recently added several new titles to its reference collection. In the area of literature, these three award-winning works are now available: *The Facts on File Companion to the American Novel*, *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Children's Literature* and *The Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature*. The five-volume *Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature* contains 500 articles covering 1,400 years of literature from England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. *Choice Magazine* nominated this excellent work as an Outstanding Academic Title. Another offering from Oxford University Press is *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Children's Literature*. This four-volume set contains 3,200 articles that examine topics ranging from medieval chapbooks to the Harry

Potter series. *Library Journal* lists *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Children's Literature* as a Best Reference of 2006. Another *Library Journal* Best Reference of 2006 title is the three-volume *Facts on File Companion to the American Novel*. This work covers major novels and novelists from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present. Authors discussed in this collection include Louisa May Alcott, Norman Mailer, Toni Morrison and Gore Vidal.

In addition to encyclopedias on literature, the library acquired new editions of important titles in the field of history. Of particular note is the addition to the collection of the *Encyclopedia of Islam Three* and the second edition of *Black Women in America*. The new edition of *Black Women in America* contains 560 entries including 325 biographies on prominent African American women such as Mary McLeod Bethune, Rosa Parks and Oprah Winfrey. *Encyclopedia of Islam Three* is the third edition of the standard reference work on Islam. The complete set of this encyclopedia will be published over a period of time. The library currently has the first three titles of the set.

The library has acquired other important works across a wide range of disciplines including anthropology, music and mathematics. The *Encyclopedia of Modern Ethnic Conflicts* examines 38 ethnic conflicts including the Hutu-Tutsi conflict, the nationalist movement in Quebec and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The *Encyclopedia of the Blues* contains approximately 2,100 entries including biographical information and articles on record labels, instruments, geographical regions and particular songs. *The Universal Book of Mathematics: from Abracadabra to Zeno's Paradoxes* contains over 1,800 entries that "cover everything from nuts-and-bolts math to the most arcane unsolved theorems, from profiles of notable mathematicians to intriguing puzzles, challenging games, and even math humor." Additional new reference titles include *An Atlas of Poverty in America: One Nation, Pulling Apart, 1960-2003*, *Historical Atlas of Islam*, *Building Blocks of Matter*, *Children with Disabilities in America*, *Class in America*, *The Literature of Chemistry*, and *U-X-L Graphic Novelists*. These

new books, and the complete reference collection, are located on the first floor of Milne library.

Michelle Hendley

## Peeps Show Contest

Peeps, as in “marshmallow peeps.” The contest was created in conjunction with the Open House for the new Periodicals Room. The hope was that SUNY Oneonta community members – students, faculty, staff – would join the fun, go wild designing peep-based creations, then visit the Periodicals Room during the Open House in order to take a look at the full gamut of contest entries.

With a total of 32 entries, the contest was such a success that we’re considering doing it again next year! A good crowd showed up on Friday, February 29 to look at videos of peeps, sticky peeps in the flesh, and images of peeps, to play with the compact shelving, eat cookies and punch, and to chat with fellow campus members.

Three prizes were awarded. Best video went to Zoe Mahlum and Chris McMyne for their film “The Peep Show,” a romance that also made a great push for the use of the library (even if you’re not a peep). Best 2-D prize went to Logan Rath for his photo “Oneonta Peep Space,” a tribute to the Safe Space program on campus. And the 3-D prize went to the Cooperstown Graduate students diorama “Art Heist,” which recreated a large museum complete with a Sabrett hotdog stand, museum-quality artwork, peeps visiting the exhibits, and peeps robbing the museum of famous paintings.

The library would like to thank our two contest judges, Christine Quail from the Communications Department and Oscar Oberkircher from Human Ecology, who took time out of their schedules to be faced with some difficult judging decisions. We would also like to thank Steve O’Riley and Sodexo for the donation of punch, cookies and brownies, and \$50 in Dragon dollars as one of the prizes. Our gratitude also goes to all the library staff members who helped with setup and arrangements.

## Library Hours: Spring 2008

### Regular Hours:

Monday–Thursday.....	8 AM–1 AM
Friday.....	8 AM–10 PM
Saturday.....	11 AM–10 PM
Sunday.....	12 noon–1 AM

**Open House: Saturday, April 5, 2008.....** 9 AM–10 PM

### Finals Week Extended Hours: Thursday, May 8 – Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Monday–Thursday, May 5–8.....	8 AM–1 AM
Friday, May 9.....	8 AM–12 midnight
Saturday, May 10.....	11 AM–12 midnight
Sunday, May 11.....	12 noon–1 AM
Monday & Tuesday, May 12 & 13.....	8 AM–12 midnight
Wednesday, May 14.....	8 AM–6 PM

### Interession Hours: Thursday, May 15 – Monday, May 26, 2008

Monday–Friday.....	8 AM–4:30 PM
Saturday & Sunday.....	Closed
Monday, May 26.....	Closed (Memorial Day)

### Summer Session I Hours:

**1A: Tuesday, May 27 – Friday, June 20, 2008 (4 weeks, 5 days/week)**

**1B: Tuesday, May 27 – Thursday, June 26, 2008 (5 weeks, 4 days/week)**

Monday–Thursday.....	8 AM–8 PM
Friday.....	8 AM–5 PM
Saturday.....	Closed
Sunday.....	4 PM–8 PM

**Alumni Weekend: Saturday, June 7, 2008.....** 1 PM–4 PM

All the entries for the Peeps Show Contest can be viewed in the online exhibit at <http://www.oneonta.edu/library/peeps/peepsexhibit.asp>.

Kay Benjamin

## Staff News

**Michelle Hendley** published a review of the Encyclopedia of American Urban History in the Fall 2007 issue of *Reference & User Services Quarterly*.



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