Points of interest:

- LexisNexis
- Week of Record
- Haunted Bookshelf
- Welcome Weekend
- Brownie Recipe

Inside this issue:

Major New Database: LexisNexis Academic

The Union College Library has added a major addition to its collection of online resources. LexisNexis Academic is a college-oriented version of the widely used LexisNexis suite of databases. With this new acquisition, faculty and students now have access to over 10,000 credible business, legal, and news sources in a single location. LexisNexis Academic can be accessed by title or provider from our Databases A to Z page and will soon be available for cross-searching via EBSCOhost Integrated Search. LexisNexis presents a wider variety of search options than any of our other databases. The default Basic Search page has specialized widgets for searching news resources, legal cases, company information, and biographical sources, as well as a combined search feature. Legal cases can be searched by topic, legal citation or by “parties” (ex. Mapp v. Ohio). Companies can be searched by name or ticker symbol. The database also has an Advanced Search that allows for a more sophisticated search using Boolean or Natural Language with options for adding index terms and various limiters. There is also a search widget with pre-selected topics on contemporary issues of potential interest to college students.

Check! 2012 Week of Record Scheduled

November 4-10 marks WTML's Week of Record (WoR), the annual 7-day period when library staff and work study students record various interactions with our library community. Assessment includes numbers of reference and directional inquiries plus Interlibrary Loan transactions. Library traffic (door count) plus computer-based issues (hardware and software) are also tracked. Face-to-face, phone, email, and social media contacts are included.

Results are incorporated into the Library Annual Report as well as used for the biennial Academic Library Survey (National Center for Educational Statistics). Begun in its current format in Fall 2004, WoR trends support library decisions regarding services.

Checkout totals play a role as well, so if you are thinking of checking out a favorite title, November 4-10 is a good time to do so!
The Haunted Bookshelf

Fall is once again upon us, bringing with it a chill in the air, the dying of the leaves, and of course, Halloween, that time of year when everyone loves a good scare. If you’re looking for a good book to settle down with on an eerie Autumn evening, have no fear! Your Library has a host of ghoulish tomes guaranteed to induce shivers of delight in anyone brave enough to take them home! Here are a few especially good ones:

- **The Monk**, by M.G. Lewis
  The tale of a saintly monk named Ambrosio and his fall from grace amidst a host of temptations. Originally published in 1796, The Monk was highly controversial in its day due to its graphic nature, but it remains a popular work among modern horror fans due to its daring prose style and bold artistic vision.

- **Phantom**, by Susan Kay
  Basically a modern reworking of Gaston Leroux’s famous original novel, *The Phantom of the Opera*, but Kay’s version is in fact a considerable improvement over its forebear. Kay provides a convincing backstory for the eponymous Phantom, and her powers of narrative, characterization, and dialogue elevate Leroux’s concept to a whole new level.

- **Summer of Fear**, by Lois Duncan
  Duncan’s story of a strange girl who infiltrates an average family and begins to methodically take over is a gripping study in secrets and the dividing line between good and evil. The author knows how to keep the reader hooked and the pages practically fly by. Some of you may remember that this book was made into a rather faithful movie back in the 70s starring Linda Blair.

- **Burnt Offerings**, by Robert Marasco
  A subtle yet chilling haunted house story that builds slowly to a stunning conclusion. Not as well-known as Shirley Jackson’s *The Haunting of Hill House*, but perhaps a better story. You’ll never look at a hearse in quite the same light.

- **The Madonna of Shadows and Darkness**, by Kenneth Tucker
  Tucker weaves a rich gothic web with this lean thriller about a young girl who may be possessed by a ruthless villainess from beyond the grave. A dark and atmospheric story that touches on a wide range of literary strands, including Shakespeare, Tucker’s short novel is a quick but powerful read.

Welcome Weekend Resounds with Student Voices

Where did The MLA Boogie Blues, Screencast-O-Matic video, and EBSCOhost PowerPoint recently merge? At the Library Welcome Weekend sessions held Friday, August 17. First-year students, organized as teams within Freshman Seminar sections, served as teachers/facilitators in the student-driven instruction covering varied library, technology, and related topics. Library staff covered six campus labs and several library stations with “guest” appearances by Dr. Jim Garrett, Professor of English; Ms. Mary Beth Spurlock, Asst. Professor of English and Director of the Writing Center; and Mr. Jesse Barton, IT Technical Support Specialist. Working in pairs, students dispersed around campus gathering information in ten categories, and then chose their preferred methods for sharing that information with their Freshman Seminar sections. A brief follow-up quiz helped students review how well lessons were learned.

“I loved the student engagement with library tasks during Welcome Weekend," Melissa Garrett, Reference & Instruction Librarian, shared. “It was nice serving in a moderator’s role with the students serving as discussion leaders.”

Thanks to Dustin Adams, Director of Campus/Student Life, for scheduling the Friday sessions so the Library had sufficient blocks of time for their extended activities.
Our Favorite Recipe

Bobbie and Quetha would like to share the Library’s favorite recipe: Melissa’s Miracle Brownies.
These brownies are a favorite treat at every library event!
We hope you enjoy them as well!

Ingredients:
1 package family-size chewy fudge brownies mix
2 large Symphony w/toffee Chocolate Bars
< bigger than a regular candy bar >
1/2 - 3/4 C. finely chopped pecans (or walnuts)

Line 9 x 13 pan with NON-STICK aluminum foil. Size sheet large enough to hang off both ends. Break Symphony Bars into individual sections.

Mix brownies according to package directions. Add finely chopped nuts. Blend.
Pour 1/2 brownie mix into prepared pan. Place Symphony sections in 5 rows of 6 sections each (running rows across 9”, not longer length), leaving space between.
(You should have two sections left.) Pour remaining batter over top to cover every section.

Bake for longer length of time for 9 x 13 pan (e.g., if recipe calls for 24-26 minutes, bake 26 minutes). Let cool. Lift brownies from pan by aluminum foil edges. Place on cutting board. Carefully cut brownies without shredding aluminum foil.

ENJOY!

Library’s Newest Staff Member

The library is excited to introduce you to Matt Egging, the newest addition to our staff. He joins Erin Cooper as Circulation Assistant. Matt’s partner, Katie, is the new English professor here at Union. They are expecting a healthy baby boy or girl, but not both, at the end of October. He is super grateful that his job at the library will allow him to stay at home with the baby during the mornings and afternoons. He may not sleep much after the baby arrives, as he will be working late evenings at the library. His hobby of roasting his own coffee beans should help keep him awake on those days when the baby keeps them up all night. He has a degree in Secondary English Education and a Master’s Degree in Curriculum and Teaching. He misses teaching middle school and high school students, which he did for 9 years prior to moving to Barbourville. Matt says that his favorite age to teach, by far, is 8th grade. Some may say 8th graders are monsters, but he says they are the best of children and adults all mixed together.

Please join us as we welcome Matt to the Union College family.

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Be sure to visit the WTML @

http://www.unionky.edu/academics/library-information-resources