

Off the Shelf

August 2018

The Pennsylvania Institute of Technology Library Newsletter

Volume 13, Number 8

Did you know?

Star-Spangled Banner author **Francis Scott Key** was born in Frederick County, MD on **August 1, 1779**. After witnessing the British bombardment of Fort McHenry on the night of September 13-14, 1814, he was enthralled to see the American flag still flying over the fort at daybreak. He then wrote the lyrics originally entitled *Defense of Fort McHenry* which became the U.S. National Anthem in 1931.



On **August 1, 1944**, **Anne Frank** penned her **final diary entry**. "[I] keep on trying to find a way of becoming what I would like to be, and what I could be, if...there weren't any other people living in the world." Three days later, Anne & her family were arrested & sent to Nazi concentration camps. Anne died at Bergen-Belsen concentration camp on March 15, 1945, at age 15.

August 4th is the **birthday of 2 famous African-Americans**. Jazz trumpet player **Louis Armstrong** was born in 1901 in New Orleans, LA. Known as "Satchmo," he appeared in many films & is known for his renditions of *It's a Wonderful World* & *Hello, Dolly*. **Barack Obama**, the 44th U.S. President, was born in 1961 in Honolulu, HI. He defeated Republican John McCain in the general election on November 4, 2008 & became the 1st President of African-American origin.

On **August 14, 1935**, **President Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act** establishing the system which guarantees pensions to those who retire at age 65 through the collection of payroll taxes. The Social Security system also aids states in providing financial aid to dependent children, the blind & others, as well as administering a system of unemployment insurance.

Elvis Presley died on August 16, 1977. He was 42 years old. Elvis was originally buried with his mother, Gladys in a Forest Hills Mausoleum in Memphis. After a failed break-in by grave robbers, the City of Memphis approved the private cemetery at Graceland where Elvis is interred with his parents, Gladys & Vernon.

On **August 28, 1963**, the **March on Washington occurred** as over 250,000 persons attended a Civil Rights rally in Washington, D.C., at which Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his now-famous *I Have a Dream* speech.

Library Trivia

Who became the 1st person to ever do this on August 9, 1974?



Library Hours

Monday	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Thursday	9:30 am – 6:00 pm
Friday	8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Online Catalog: <http://pitcat.pit.edu>

WORDS OF WISDOM

"Librarians: creating an environment where people can come and change their own lives."
~ David Bendekovic



Got a research paper to write? Friend a librarian

The summer term is well underway. Mid-terms are rapidly approaching. Those end-of-the-term deadlines are not quite as distant as you think. More than likely, your to-do list includes at least one research paper.

Ah, college research papers -- most students need at least two, if not four years, to learn out how to accomplish them quickly & accurately (especially through sleepless nights with family & jobs or caffeine jitters).

But you do have a secret weapon available. What is your secret weapon? Actually, that should be: *Who* is your secret weapon? **P.I.T.'s Librarian** (aka: the Director of the Library).

No, seriously. Here are some reasons why:

❖ She can help get you started, even if you don't understand your topic.

As soon as you get a research paper assignment or any research project, stop by the Library & ask for help. Reference services can be an underutilized resource for one-on-one individualized help. If you're not on campus, you can call me (610-892-1524) or even email me (landerman@pit.edu or library@pit.edu). Don't forget that you can also use the [Ask-a-Librarian form](#), too.

Understanding the assignment is half the battle. I often work with students to assist them with either narrowing their research topic or broadening it. A topic that is too narrow won't produce enough results for the student to write their paper & a topic that is too broad can easily overwhelm the student with thousands (or hundreds of thousands) of results.

❖ Librarians are Google experts (and experts on what Google does NOT have).

Let's get this straight: Most reference librarians do not hate Google. We just get frustrated when students assume the 1st hit is a reliable source.

If used correctly, search engines like Google can be beneficial. Plus, Google offers more advanced search options, like Google Scholar & Google Books. A reference librarian can show students how to use them.

Googling is not a cause for dismay. I don't know anyone who doesn't use Google for some research; but in 2018, it's still the case that reference books, other books, & scholarly articles from academic journals provide the most authoritative information on most topics. Many of these resources are now in electronic formats within the various databases that the Library provides for your research.

When you use Google, students (& faculty) need to take a hard look at the sources of the information they retrieve.

Think of your sources as your expert witnesses: if you were in court & your expert witness showed up in jeans & flip-flops... do you think the jury would be impressed? Select your expert witnesses with an eye on not just what they say, but on the impression they'll make on your audience.

And don't think that being tech savvy alone makes you a good researcher. A cook can be amazingly adept with the gadgets found in today's kitchens, but still whip up horribly tasting meals. It's very easy to conduct awful information searches, yet still be quite proficient with technology.

❖ **We have access to information you didn't even know existed.**

P.I.T. Library, like most college libraries, provides our students with access to a wide variety of online resources which include electronic books, journal articles, videos, & numerous other information sources. The Librarian can help you determine which ones to use & how they work.

You need to understand that research is like being a detective. Just looking is not enough. To solve the case you need to look in the best places for the clues. Then you need to analyze the results to make sure you have solved the case.

☞ **MORE WORDS OF WISDOM** ☞

“The library is not, as some would have it, a place for the retiring of disposition or faint of heart. It is not an ivory tower or a quiet room in a sanitarium facing away from the afternoon sun. It is, rather, a command center, a power base. A board room, a war room. An Oval Office for all who preside over their own destinies. One does not retreat from the world here; one prepares to join it at an advantage.” ~ Eric Burns
The Joy of Books



YES!!! We DO accept donations!

Feeling cramped & out of space in your home or office? What can you do with excellent books & resources that don't fit anymore? Are you trying to decide what to do with extra books, DVDs, etc.? Want a better home for them than a landfill?

If you have materials (including useful or current textbooks) in your office or at home that you no longer need, but which are still valuable resources, don't hesitate to drop them off at the Library. We'd be delighted to add them to the collection.

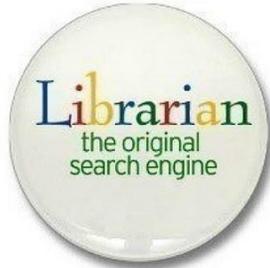


We accept a wide range of materials including, novels & biographies. If you're unsure of our interest, contact Lynea Anderman in the Library, at 610-

892-1524 or landerman@pit.edu. If we can't use the material, we'll try to find another library that may need it. We'll acknowledge your donation with a donor bookplate inside the front cover unless you notify Lynea that you don't want a donor bookplate or prefer to be “A Friend of the Library.”

Conserve Resources! Recycle the Library way! Useful

resources gain a new life & the landfills don't fill up so fast!



☞ **MORE WORDS OF WISDOM** ☞

“You have to believe in yourself, that's the secret. Even when I was in the orphanage, when I was roaming the street trying to find enough to eat, even then I thought of myself as the greatest actor in the world. I had to feel the exuberance that comes from utter confidence in yourself. Without it, you go down to defeat.” ~ Charlie Chaplin

New on the Shelf



P.I.T. Library has recently added the following titles:

BOOKS

Agrawal, C. Mauli. *Introduction to Biomaterials: Basic Theory with Engineering Applications.*
R 857 .M3 I683 2014



Albright, Madeleine. *Fascism: A Warning.*
JC 481 .A44 2018

Carpenter, Amanda. *Gaslighting America: Why We Love It When Trump Lies to Us.*
E 912 .C39 2018

Coll, Steve. *Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and Bin Laden, From the Soviet Invasion to September 10, 2001.*
DS 371.2 .C63 2005

Cullen, Dave. *Columbine.*
LB 3013.33 .C6 C84 2010

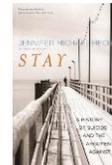
Davies, Norman. *Europe: A History.*
D 20 .D38 1998

Dunn, Caroline. *Stolen Women in Medieval England.*
HV 6574 .G7 D86 2013

Fleisch, Daniel. *A Student's Guide to the Mathematics of Astronomy.*
QB 51.3 .M38 F54 2013

Gaffney, Dennis. *The Civil War.*
E 468 .G34 2011

Gross, Jan T. *Neighbors: The Destruction of the Jewish Community in Jedwabne, Poland.*
DS 135 .P62 J443913 2001



Hecht, Jennifer Michael. *Stay: A History of Suicide and the Arguments Against It.*
HV 6545 .H372 2013

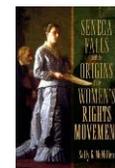
Klare, Michael T. *Blood and Oil: The Dangers and Consequences of America's Growing Dependency on Imported Petroleum.*
HD 9566 .K58 2004

Resource Wars: The New Landscape of Global Conflict.
UA 23 .K6267 2001

Kozloff, Arielle P. *Amenhotep III: Egypt's Radiant Pharaoh.*
DT 87.38 .K69 2012

Lamb, Lee. *Oak Island Obsession: The Restall Story.*
F 1039.5 .O15 L36 2006

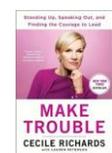
McLeman, Robert A. *Climate and Human Migration: Past Experiences, Future Challenges.*
GF 71 .M35 2014



McMillen, Sally G. *Seneca Falls and the Origins of the Women's Rights Movement.*
HQ 1418 .M36 2008

Meacham, Jon. *The Soul of America.*
E 169.1 .M4977 2018

Philbrick, Nathaniel. *Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War.*
F 68 .P44 2006



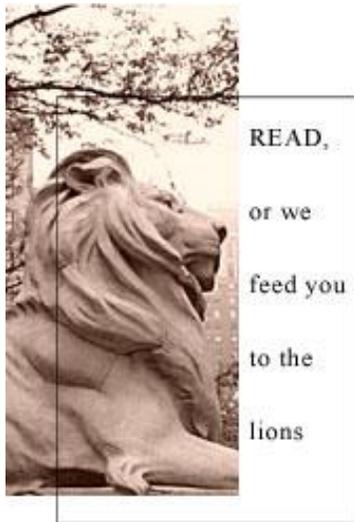
Richards, Cecile. *Make Trouble: Standing Up, Speaking Out, and Finding the Courage to Lead.*
HQ 1236.5 .U6 R53 2018

Sedgwick, John. *Blood Moon: An American Epic of War and Splendor in the Cherokee Nation.*
E 99 .C5 S37 2018

Yergin, Daniel. *The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money & Power.*
HD 9560.6 .Y47 2003

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COLLECTION (Location: front of the Library)

Moxley, David, et. al. *Keeping Students in Higher Education: Successful Practices & Strategies for Retention.* LC 148.15 .M69 2001



Lions 87 ; Non-readers 0

☞ MORE WORDS OF WISDOM ☞

"Cutting libraries during a recession is like cutting hospitals during a plague."

~ Eleanor Crumblehulme
Library assistant
University of British Columbia



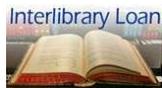
Current & Upcoming Library Displays!

For August, our display can continue to be described as "summer reading," but still with limited fiction. Everything else is non-fiction. These titles have all been added to the Library's collection within the last few months. Many of them have been published very recently – even this year! Take a look & see if any of them are of interest to you. You can bring the book to Lynea in her office to check it out!

Our September display has not yet been determined, but there are several ideas floating around. Feel free to share your idea with Lynea & we'll see what happens!

Print and/or video resources that are included in the display are usually from the P.I.T. Library collection & most can be checked out. If there are no other

items in the cabinet you can slide the doors open to get them. Just ask Lynea if you need any other assistance. If you have suggestions for future display topics, feel free to email Lynea at: landerman@pit.edu.



INTERLIBRARY LOAN SERVICES

Because no library can provide complete information about every topic, library users are encouraged to request an Interlibrary Loan for materials unavailable at the P.I.T. Library. Library users should always check the resources of **this** Library before placing Interlibrary Loan requests so that they can make use of the materials available on-site. The Library staff will then try to obtain the materials for you through local, state, & national interlibrary loan networks. The service also provides materials from the P.I.T. Library collection to other libraries worldwide.

• Who can use Interlibrary Loan?

Any member of the P.I.T. community is eligible to use the ILL service. This includes faculty, full and part time students, administrators & support staff.

• What kinds of materials can I get through Interlibrary Loan?

P.I.T. Library's ILL service can obtain many types of materials through the various networks utilized. Books, copies of articles, videos or DVDs, & sound recordings are commonly obtained for the P.I.T. community.

• How much does it cost?

Books & copies of articles can usually be obtained at no cost, however, interlibrary loans do occasionally incur an incidental cost or fee because of the policies of other libraries or because of costs required by law (i.e. royalties.) The library user is responsible for paying all incidental costs or fees for interlibrary loans. These costs most commonly occur for copies of magazine or journal articles. The P.I.T. Librarians will not approve the shipment of any item for which a fee will be charged, unless you, the user, have agreed to the fees.

• How much time does it take to get the material?

The ILL user must allow adequate time for the verification, processing, & delivery time to & from the lending institution. Requests are usually filled within two weeks. Some items may arrive more quickly & some may take longer depending on the nature of the material requested.

• How long can I keep the material?

The lending library sets the due date; so each book received may have a different due date. Generally the loan period is between two & four weeks.

• Can I renew Interlibrary Loan books?

ILL books can be renewed if the lending library has not placed a No Renewal restriction on the material. All renewals must be requested on or before the due date. Requests for renewals of overdue items will be denied.

• How do I request an Interlibrary Loan?

Contact Lynea in the Library. She can assist you in completing our ILL request form.

• Where do I pick up & return my ILL material?

All ILL print, video, or sound material can be picked up & returned at the P.I.T. Library. Items requested by CC students or staff can be picked up from the Academic Support Counselors there. If your photocopy is actually sent to us via email, we will be happy to forward it to you at your email address.

• Further questions??

Feel free to stop in the Library any time with questions or comments. You may also send a query via email: landerman@pit.edu or library@pit.edu, or call the Library at 610-892-1524; voicemail is available so don't hesitate to call after hours & leave a message.

☞ MORE WORDS OF WISDOM ☞

"We believe rather that what people read is deeply important; that ideas can be dangerous; but that the suppression of ideas is fatal to a democratic society. Freedom itself is a dangerous way of life, but it is ours."

~ The Freedom to Read Statement
American Library Association

Library Trivia



Answer

Effective at noon on August 9, 1974, Richard M. Nixon resigned the presidency as a result of the Watergate scandal. Nixon had appeared on television the night before & announced his decision to the American people. Facing possible impeachment by Congress, he became the only U.S. President ever to resign.

☞ MORE WORDS OF WISDOM ☞

"Remember, always give your best. Never get discouraged. Never be petty. Always remember, others may hate you. But those who hate you don't win unless you hate them. And then you destroy yourself."

~ Richard M. Nixon

From the Director's Shelf...



It's hard to believe that it is already August...except when I walk outside into the humidity!

It's also hard to believe that in less than 2 months the summer term will be finished. To our students, I issue a reminder: **Don't postpone starting your research project.** The sooner you start the more options that you will have for the information resources you use. The longer you wait, the more likely someone else will have checked out the book that you need. If you wait too long, you won't have time to take advantage of using our interlibrary loan service, if you need it. Even if you can get all the resources that you want & need, the longer you wait the less time you will have to read, absorb, & write/create your research project.

Remember students, you are not alone in this process. I am available you assist you with your research. Just snag me as I'm walking around the Library or come see me in my office at the front of the Library.

To our faculty, I issue another reminder: You still have time to schedule a workshop for your students on doing research with the resources of P.I.T. Library. The sooner you schedule a workshop, the sooner your students can take advantage of the skills that they will learn.

Still confused or have questions about anything related to the Library? You don't have to be on campus to get my help! The Director of the Library, Lynea Anderman, is available to assist by phone (610-892-1524), Ask a Librarian [e-form](#), email (landerman@pit.edu or library@pit.edu), or fax (610-892-1523) -- or just stop by the Library to speak to me.

Lynea @your library?



Spoken here

See: Lynea Anderman
OR Mark Whitehead

Have questions about either organization? Contact us...

I'm a
Librarian
What is YOUR
Superpower?

☞ MORE WORDS OF WISDOM ☞

"A library is a place that is a repository of information and gives every citizen equal access to it. That includes health information. And mental health information. It's a community space. It's a place of safety, a haven from the world. It's a place with librarians in it. What the libraries of the future will be like is something we should be imagining now.

Literacy is more important than ever it was, in this world of text and email, a world of written information. We need to read and write, we need global citizens who can read comfortably, comprehend what they are reading, understand nuance, and make themselves understood.

Libraries really are the gates to the future. So it is unfortunate that, round the world, we observe local authorities seizing the opportunity to close libraries as an easy way to save money, without realising that they are stealing from the future to pay for today. They are closing the gates that should be open."

~ Neil Gaiman

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

@ P.I.T. Library!



The Library provides access to an array of online databases accessing full text books, journal articles, reference materials, pamphlets & other print material; plus graphic or video materials when available.

I continue to review additional databases, so keep watching for announcements of new databases to support your research.

For **EASIEST ACCESS TO THE DATABASES**: click on the link found on the "[Online Library](#)" website. The databases listed below are those that the Library subscribes to on your behalf. They are excellent tools for your research.

Academic OneFile: any subjects – primarily full-text articles from journals, magazines, newspapers, books; plus video & audio.

AccessEngineering: engineering and related subjects – hundreds of full-text books including major handbooks, multimedia, global engineering news, & more.

AccessPhysiotherapy: physical therapy & related subjects – numerous full-text PT textbooks, multimedia, integrated drug database, & more.

AccessScience: any science subject – full-text journal articles & full-text from reference materials.

Encyclopædia Britannica Online: any subject. This is the full-text of the

encyclopedia plus limited full-text journal articles.

Ferguson's Career Guidance Center: comprehensive full-text career resources.

Gale Biography in Context: full-text biographical information from a variety of resources including academic journal, book excerpts, video, audio, etc.

Gale Virtual Reference Library: full-text ebooks on a range of subjects.

Health and Wellness Resource Center with Alternative Health Module: medical & health subjects – full text reference materials & journal articles, plus video resources.

Jstor: any subjects – many full-text journal articles (Trial database)

Merriam-Webster Unabridged Dictionary: largest & most comprehensive American dictionary.

Nursing Resource Center: supports nursing students & faculty; results reflect the "nursing process" – full text reference materials, textbooks, journal articles, & video resources.

Proquest Ebook Complete: full-text ebooks on any topic.

Small Business Resource Center: supports business students & faculty; focusing particularly on small business & entrepreneurship – full text reference materials, business plans, journal articles, & websites.

All electronic resources can be accessed on campus & most can be accessed from home using the passwords available from the Librarian. Instructions & training are available from Lynea for anyone who is interested in using these databases, including faculty & staff groups or individuals. It's never too late to ask for assistance! **Quick start guides or searching tip sheets** for these databases are available on the Library's online Research & Subject Guides & in the Library.

☞ MORE WORDS OF WISDOM ☞

"It was good to walk into a library again; it smelled like home." ~ Elizabeth Kostova



Research Tips

The following 9 steps outline a simple & effective strategy for finding information for a research paper & documenting the sources you find. Depending on your topic & your familiarity with the Library, you may need to rearrange or recycle

these steps. Adapt this outline to your needs.

1. Identify & Develop Your Topic

State your topic as a question. For example, if you are interested in finding out about use of alcoholic beverages by college students, you might pose the question, "What effect does use of alcoholic beverages have on the health of college students?" Or, "Are alcohol related deaths on the increase among college students?" Identify the main concepts or keywords in your question. For help in clarifying your topic or ideas about where to look next or to be sure you're using a reference source effectively Ask a Librarian.

2. Find Background Information

Look up your keywords in the indexes to general encyclopedias (e.g., [Britannica Online](#)). Read articles in these encyclopedias to set the context for your research. Note any relevant items in the bibliographies at the end of the encyclopedia articles. Additional background information may be found in your class lecture notes, textbooks, & reserve readings.

3. Check the Research & Subject Guides

P.I.T.'s Librarian has created a number of Research & Subject Guides to help you get started on your research. They are available online through the link on the [Online Library webpage](#).

4. Use the Online Catalog to Find Books

Connect to [PITCat](#), the P.I.T. Library's online catalog. Use keyword searching (e.g., drinking) for a narrow or complex search topic. Use subject searching for a broad subject (e.g., health). Print or write down the citation (author, title, etc.), the call numbers, & special location (e.g., Reference). Note the circulation status. When you pull the book from the shelf, scan the bibliography for additional sources, especially book-length bibliographies & annual reviews on your subject; they list citations to hundreds of books & articles in one subject area.

5. Use ebook Databases to Find Digital Books/ebooks

Use the ebook databases (*AccessEngineering, AccessPhysiotherapy, Gale Virtual Reference Library, & Proquest Ebook Central*) to locate additional book resources. These books are digital rather than physical & you can click on a link in your search results list to open the book on your computer screen. As with PITCat, you can use keyword searching for a narrow or complex

search topic. Use subject searching for a broad subject. These books have all of the characteristics of a book that you use in print.

6. Use Indexes (Databases) to Find Journal Articles

Use periodical indexes to find citations to articles. At the P.I.T. Library, the indexes are found in online databases. (Other libraries may have them in print too.) Choose the database best suited to your particular topic; ask the Librarian if you need help selecting the best database. There are several databases, providing full text for most of the articles or books, which can be accessed through the [Online Library webpage](#). You can find periodical articles by the article author, title or subject. All of the databases allow you to print full articles or selected pages. Most also allow you to email the material to yourself. Ask the Librarian if you have any questions about the use of the databases.

7. Find Internet Resources

The P.I.T. Librarian is happy to assist you in locating authoritative websites as additional resources for your research. Information on how to evaluate websites, *Evaluating Internet Sources*, is available in the handout boxes at the end of the shelving near the door of the Library.

8. Evaluate What You Find

See *Evaluating Internet Sources*. If you have found too many or too few sources, you may need to narrow or broaden your topic. Check with the Librarian or your instructor.

9. Cite What You Find Using a Standard Format

Format the citations to all of the references in your bibliography using one of the standard formats: MLA or APA. See your instructor if you are not certain which format should be used. For citation examples of many types of sources in each style, see the P.I.T. Library's "short form" of each style (available for pick up in the Library or on all of the Library's Resource & Subject Guides) or ask the Librarian for assistance.

Special Research Tips

- ✓ **WORK FROM THE GENERAL TO THE SPECIFIC.** Find background information first, then use more specific & recent sources.
- ✓ **RECORD WHAT YOU FIND & WHERE YOU FOUND IT.** Write out a complete citation for each source you find & print out the

Web page, or e-mail to yourself; you may need it again later.

✓ BE ORGANIZED, PURPOSEFUL, & RESILIENT.

Focus on your topic & your research so that the end result is a well-developed research paper or project.

☞ MORE WORDS OF WISDOM ☞

"The test of leadership is not to put greatness into humanity, but to elicit it, for the greatness is already there."

~ James Buchanan



PITCat: the Library's online catalog

Looking for a book or video? Check **PITCat**, our online catalog, accessible from any computer with internet access. Go to: <http://pitcat.pit.edu> & search our catalog to determine what resources we own or provide access.

ATTENTION:

ID-Card Photo Session Schedule

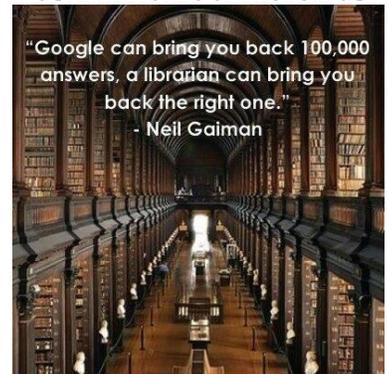
Lynea is available in the Library for ID/Library Card photos during the following times:

Monday – Wednesday	9:00 am to 4:30 pm
Thursday	10:00 am to 5:30 pm
Friday	8:30 am to 4:00 pm



If you can't get your ID/Library Card photo taken during one of these times, stop by the Library to arrange an appointment with Lynea!

☞ FINAL WORDS OF WISDOM ☞



"Google can bring you back 100,000 answers, a librarian can bring you back the right one."
- Neil Gaiman



Off the Shelf is a monthly newsletter designed to inform P.I.T. students, faculty & staff of services, resources, & developments in the Library. If you have ideas for future issues, please contact Lynea Anderman at (610) 892-1524, by fax at (610) 892-1523 or by email at landerman@pit.edu or library@pit.edu

"The most important asset of any library goes home at night—the library staff."
~ Father Timothy Healy, former president, New York Public Library