



## The Ohio Digital Resource Commons

### The Premier Place to Save, Discover and Share Ohio's Scholarly Knowledge

Imagine designing the ultimate tool for saving, discovering and sharing the wealth of research, historic, instructional and creative materials produced by Ohio's scholarly communities. First, you would need to create a platform robust enough to host and support institutional repositories, peer review e-journals, electronic theses and dissertations and learning objects. It would require virtually endless amounts of storage and the ability to accommodate information in any format. The tool would also need very granular access layers to control access to each byte of content. Ideally, this tool would be available to all OhioLINK member universities, colleges and two-year colleges at no charge.

This tool is not just a dream. It's called the Ohio Digital Resource Commons (DRC) and OhioLINK is building it.

The DRC will improve the quality of instruction and research statewide by providing a common point of access to Ohio's scholarly knowledge.

The DRC is an outgrowth of OhioLINK's Digital Media Center (DMC) and will include all the commercial and member-contributed content currently available in the DMC. Once fully implemented, the DRC will also provide all the capabilities and features previously listed.

The Digital Resource Commons eliminates the need for redundant and costly local investments by enabling Ohio colleges and universities to utilize OhioLINK's hardware, software and staff to create their own repositories. The individual repositories appear to end users as if they were hosted on the institutions' own servers, yet users can quickly discover any and all content available in the entire statewide repository. Institutions utilizing the DRC retain complete control to define how content is added, displayed and shared. Contributors can even specify colors, logos and other branding elements for their repository. The DRC also makes content submission easy; content can be added online directly by contributors.

*continued on page 2*

### Supporting K-12 Teaching and Learning Via the DRC

Through the Digital Media Center, OhioLINK provides the K-12 community and all Ohio public library cardholders with access to 54,000 art & architecture images and 39,700 historic Sanborn Fire Insurance maps. OhioLINK also furnishes streaming video support and server space for digital videos that are available to the entire K-12 community via INFOhio. In addition, OhioLINK delivers free, worldwide access to 18 digital media databases, which offer a wide variety of content from historic documents, to foreign language videos, to satellite images of Ohio.

The Ohio Digital Resource Commons (DRC) provides even more opportunities for continued collaboration between OhioLINK and Ohio's K-12 community. The use of a central system, expert staff and disk space to save, discover and share learning objects, available commercial content and other curriculum materials would be beneficial to Ohio's K-12 community. Through a single investment in the DRC, the K-12 community and other Ohio institutions can utilize and benefit from the ultimate statewide repository of educational, research, historic and government information, thus eliminating the need for duplicative and costly local expenditures.

Imagine the possibilities and benefits the DRC could bring to Ohio K-12 education:

- Learning objects, including text, images and videos created by faculty and teachers would be easily accessible to educators and students statewide.
- All schools would have access to local, state-of-the-art institutional and learning object repository capabilities, which many schools would not have the finances or expertise to provide otherwise.

*continued on page 2*

### Stop Searching and Start Finding with Quick Search

Quick Search @ OhioLINK, a new search tool that helps researchers, especially students, stop searching and start finding the information they seek launched in February. Quick Search @ OhioLINK provides simple, Google-like searching with reliable, library-quality results that are appropriate for both class and research. This search tool helps students save time by letting them search multiple resources

simultaneously and receive results in a unified display. Students can conduct a Quick Search to find resources in a specific subject or discipline or use the Multi-Database Search option to customize their search.

Quick Search is specifically designed to help students who are working on a class assignment and don't really know where to begin, are looking quickly for a few articles and don't need the most scholarly or

complete results, and/or are used to searching Google.

*continued on page 2*



## **The Ohio Digital Resource Commons** (continued from page 1)

The Digital Resource Commons offers numerous benefits to many different higher education constituencies. Administrators will appreciate the ability to utilize OhioLINK's disk space, staff and system and their institution's branding elements to develop local, state-of-the-art institutional and learning object repository capabilities. Many institutions would not have the expertise or financial means of having these capabilities otherwise. Faculty members, researchers and other contributors will appreciate being able to store, access and preserve their research, digital learning objects and publications. The DRC also enables contributors to maintain ownership of their work and permanently control who sees it. Via the DRC, you can distribute research results to worldwide audiences quickly, or limit availability to a single colleague. Faculty will also appreciate having a central resource to find learning objects and course materials from colleagues statewide.

The DRC will provide students with a versatile resource for sharing and showcasing theses, dissertations and other research projects as well as accessing course materials, research and learning objects to support their learning.

Today, the Digital Resource Commons Digital Library tool, <http://drc.ohiolink.edu>, accepts documents, such as articles, preprints,

working papers, technical reports, conference papers, theses, dissertations, etc.; images and data sets. In the future, the DRC will evolve to support a virtually unlimited variety of digital file types and formats including audio files, video files, streaming video, multimedia presentations, animations, simulations, learning objects and Web pages. In addition, a large storage area network will allow for virtually unlimited storage space.

All OhioLINK member institutions are automatically eligible to submit content to the Ohio Digital Resource Commons. In addition, OhioLINK is working to incorporate the Ohio K-12 community and other state institutions.

The Digital Resource Commons is part of the Ohio Digital Commons for Education, a collaborative initiative of the Ohio Learning Network, OhioLINK and the Ohio Supercomputer Center/OARnet, funded by a grant from the Ohio Board of Regents, to develop leading-edge education resources, services and capabilities in Ohio.

Visit <http://info.drc.ohiolink.edu> for more information about the DRC or contact Peter Murray, OhioLINK's Assistant Director of Library Systems, Multimedia Databases at [peter@ohiolink.edu](mailto:peter@ohiolink.edu).

## **Supporting K-12 Teaching and Learning Via the DRC** (continued from page 1)

- Students could create ePortfolios and store their learning objects in the DRC to document their educational record beginning in high school and build upon them throughout their college career and beyond.
- High school teachers could utilize open source college textbooks,

if developed by Ohio faculty, to help prepare students for college courses.

These are just some of the ways a robust Ohio Digital Resource Commons could further the collaboration between OhioLINK and the Ohio K-12 community and help support a 21<sup>st</sup> century Ohio education system.

## **Stop Searching and Start Finding with Quick Search** (continued from page 1)

Conducting a Quick Search is as simple as going to <http://rave.ohiolink.edu/qs/quick>, typing in search terms, picking a subject and clicking go to start retrieving results.

Advanced researchers who need the most comprehensive and authoritative results are better served by using the specialized databases in their field. Only a specialized

database interface can provide sophisticated tools such as a thesaurus, proximity operators, specialized limits and complex export options.

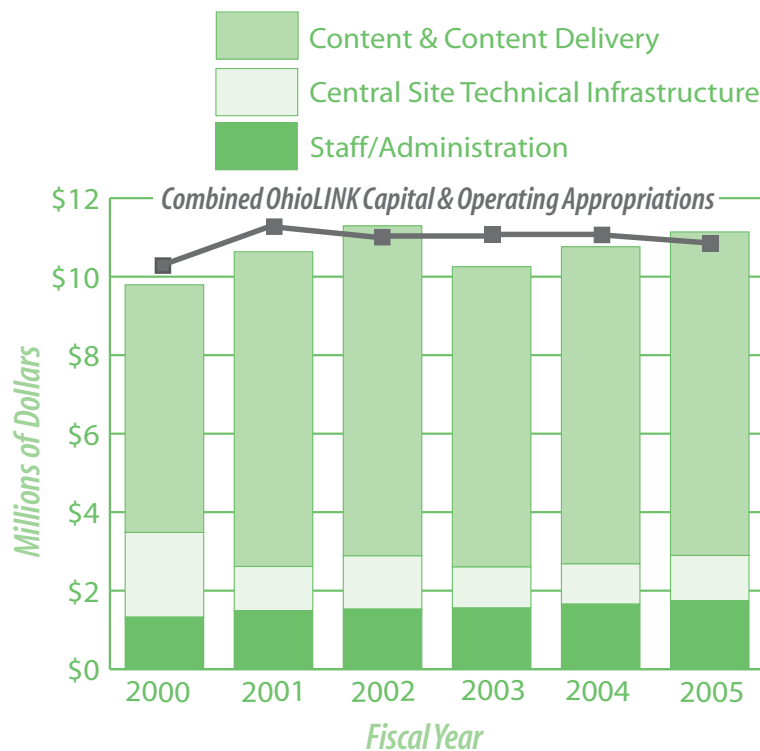
Contact your library for more assistance with Quick Search @ OhioLINK or any other research questions. Or try Chat with a Librarian at <http://chat.ohiolink.edu> to talk to an OhioLINK librarian online, in real time.

# OhioLINK: The Only Affordable Approach to Expanded Information Access

## Putting Funds to Work: Growth In Services Provided Versus Growth in Appropriations

	1994	2005	% Increase
E-Journal Articles Downloaded	206,000	12,900,000	<b>6162%</b>
Filled Interlibrary Loans	61,170	747,600	<b>1122%</b>
Total Searches	2,661,500	32,100,000	<b>1106%</b>
Databases	18	132	<b>633%</b>
Library Catalog Holdings	7,000,000	27,500,000	<b>293%</b>
Library Catalog Master Records	2,760,000	9,670,000	<b>250%</b>
Total Digital Media Download	0	313,940	N/A
Institutions Served	28	85	<b>204%</b>
<b>Combined Appropriations (FY05 Operating &amp; Capital)</b>	<b>\$5,180,000</b>	<b>\$10,881,000</b>	<b>110%</b>

## Where Do OhioLINK Expenses Go?



## OhioLINK News In Brief...

### Educational Videos Available @ Your Desktop

With the addition of more than 250 new digital videos, OhioLINK's Digital Video Collection now offers 1,520 educational videos that may be shown in class, linked to from course pages and utilized for research. The new videos cover a wide variety of subjects: art and photography, business and economics, communications, foreign language literature and culture, literature and language arts, psychology and mental health, religion and philosophy, social studies and more.



The Digital Video Collection is available to all students, faculty members and staff at OhioLINK member institutions at <http://dmc.ohiolink.edu/media/ffbLogin>. The videos are available for viewing and downloading (for temporary storage only). Free software from RealNetworks is needed to view these videos.

### ODCE 2006 Conference Wrap Up



Both attendees and organizers agree, the Ohio Digital Commons for Education (ODCE) 2006 Conference was a great success.

Videos of Dr. John Seely Brown's "From Push to Pull: Higher Education in the Digital Age" and Dr. Mark Taylor's "Meeting Generation NeXt: Today's Postmodern College Student" keynote presentations are now available on the ODCE 2006 Conference Web site at <http://www.olin.org/conferences/ODCE2006>.

The Ohio Digital Commons for Education 2006 Conference site also contains many other informative materials, including: interviews with Dr. Brown and Dr. Taylor, video of Chancellor Rod Chu's remarks, materials from the keynotes, PowerPoint presentations, handouts and other materials from the conference sessions. Open Doorways, the conference blog, is also worth visiting at <http://opendoorways.blogspot.com>.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the ODCE 2007 Conference, which will be held March 4-6, 2007. More details will be announced this fall.

Read More News Online: <http://olc7.ohiolink.edu/whatsnew>

### A User Speaks: "OhioLINK Is Indispensable"

**"OhioLINK has always been an indispensable research companion for me. We are a small school with limited journal access capabilities within our campus. With the help of OhioLINK, I can browse extensive databases and conduct quick literature searches spanning from education to engineering conveniently from my home. I can also borrow items from other universities located within Ohio. I urge all concerned to continue to support this amazing resource for Ohio institutions. As the word implies, OhioLINK really connects different institutions of Ohio and serves as a portal for sharing knowledge."**

*Krishnakumar Nedunuri, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Central State University*

## OhioLINK Member and Participating Institutions with Installation Dates

Antioch College, 1999	Mount Carmel College of Nursing, 1999
Ashland University, 1999	Mount Union College, 1999
The Athenaeum of Ohio, 1999	Mount Vernon Nazarene University, 1996
Baldwin-Wallace College, 1999	Muskingum College, 1999
Belmont Technical College, 1995	Myers University, 2002
Bluffton University, 1999	North Central State College, 1994
Bowling Green State University, 1992	Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine, 1993
Capital University, 1996	Northwest State Community College, 1996
Case Western Reserve University, 1992	Notre Dame College, 1999
Cedarville University, 1996	Oberlin College, 1995
Central Ohio Technical College, 1994	Ohio Dominican University, 1997
Central State University, 1992	Ohio Northern University, 1995
Cincinnati Christian University, 1999	The Ohio State University, 1994
Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, 1995	Ohio University, 1994
Clark State Community College, 1995	Ohio Wesleyan University, 1996
The Cleveland Clinic, 2002	Otterbein College, 1999
Cleveland State University, 1994	Owens Community College, 1995
College of Mount St. Joseph, 1996	Rhodes State College, 1994
The College of Wooster, 1996	Shawnee State University, 1994
Columbus College of Art & Design, 2000	Sinclair Community College, 1994
Columbus State Community College, 1994	Southern State Community College, 1994
Cuyahoga Community College, 1994	Stark State College of Technology, 1994
Defiance College, 1999	State Library of Ohio, 1994
Denison University, 1996	Terra Community College, 1995
Edison Community College, 1995	Tiffin University, 1999
Franciscan University of Steubenville, 1999	University of Akron, 1993
Franklin University, 2002	University of Cincinnati, 1992
Heidelberg College, 1999	University of Dayton, 1994
Hiram College, 1997	The University of Findlay, 1999
Hocking College, 1995	University of Rio Grande & RGCC, 1995
Jefferson Community College, 1995	University of Toledo, 1994
John Carroll University, 1998	Urbana University, 2000
Kent State University, 1994	Ursuline College, 1997
Kenyon College, 1996	Walsh University, 2004
Lakeland Community College, 1995	Washington State Community College, 1996
Lorain County Community College, 1995	Wilberforce University, 1999
Lourdes College, 2002	Wilmington College, 1999
Malone College, 1999	Wittenberg University, 1997
Marietta College, 1999	Wright State University, 1992
Marion Technical College, 1994	Xavier University, 1996
Medical University of Ohio at Toledo, 1993	Youngstown State University, 1993
Mercy College of Northwest Ohio, 2004	Zane State College, 1994
Miami University, 1992	

## OhioLINK Update

The *OhioLINK Update*, published semiannually, provides information on the developments of the Ohio Library and Information Network (OhioLINK). OhioLINK is a consortium of Ohio's college and university libraries and the State Library of Ohio. OhioLINK serves more than 600,000 students, faculty, staff and other researchers at 85 institutions.

### OhioLINK Governing Board

John Anderson, Case Western Reserve University  
Linda Dobb, Bowling Green State University  
Michael Field, Shawnee State University  
Alan Goodridge, University of Toledo  
Jeffrey Herbst, Miami University  
David Hopkins, Wright State University  
Frederick Law, Lakeland Community College  
Philip Lootens, Edison Community College  
Anthony Perzigian, University of Cincinnati  
JoAnne Podis, Ursuline College  
Barbara Snyder, The Ohio State University  
Sherry Stout, Southern State Community College  
Elizabeth Stroble, University of Akron  
Carlos Vargas-Aburto, Central State University

### Ex Officio

Mark Weber, Kent State University, LAC  
Roderick G. W. Chu, Chancellor, Ohio Board of Regents  
Charles Morrow-Jones, The Ohio State University, TAC  
Tom Sanville, Executive Director, OhioLINK  
E. Garrison Walters, Ohio Board of Regents

The *Update* is available in print and online at [www.ohiolink.edu/about/publications](http://www.ohiolink.edu/about/publications).

For more information, contact:

Candi Clevenger, Editor

*OhioLINK Update*

2455 North Star Road, Suite 300

Columbus, OH 43221

(614) 728-3600 | [info@ohiolink.edu](mailto:info@ohiolink.edu)

[www.ohiolink.edu](http://www.ohiolink.edu)