



MUSE muse.jhu.edu NEWS

Summer 2006 Volume 7, Number 1

New Features and Functionality Coming Soon to Project MUSE®

Continuing its goal to make access to MUSE articles widely available, Project MUSE is pleased to announce several forthcoming enhancements that will greatly increase the number of channels for accessing scholarly articles in MUSE. Recognizing that researchers and students have many search options available to them, MUSE has established enhancements that will enable users to access MUSE content through a variety of search options.

Announcements will be made by e-mail as each new feature is activated.

RSS Feed

Project MUSE is implementing this functionality as a complement to the existing e-mail Journal Alerts. Both the RSS feed and the e-mail Journal Alerts provide users with the ability to stay up to date about new titles that have been added to MUSE or new issues of their favorite titles that have been added. Users will be able to subscribe to the RSS feed at the journal home page in MUSE, the page that displays the journal cover and coverage (volume and issue numbers).

The RSS feed is a way to electronically receive news and information updates. The feed is another form of awareness service. RSS is typically defined as Really Simple Syndication or Rich Site Summary. An XML file is sent from a web page, a weblog (blog) or even a podcast and contains web content or a summary of web content and links to full versions of the content. The theory behind RSS feeds is that they save time by aggregating all feeds (updates) into one location rather than requiring the user to check favorite individual web sites

for updated articles and news. An RSS Aggregator is the tool for reading the updates and allows for quick scanning of news updates.

Once the RSS feed is up and running, Project MUSE will be interested in obtaining feedback from subscribers who have signed up for the feed. MUSE will be interested to know how this updating service is serving your needs.

WebFeat Compatibility

Project MUSE has collaborated with the federated search engine developer WebFeat to enable researchers and students to locate articles within MUSE in library systems that use the WebFeat search engine. WebFeat is a federated search engine used at many academic, public and government libraries. The WebFeat search engine allows a user to search any or all of a library's databases simultaneously with a single interface. By enhancing MUSE to be searchable by WebFeat, MUSE subscribers who also have the WebFeat search engine operating in their libraries enable students, researchers, and faculty to find articles in MUSE that are pertinent to their research.

Z39.50 Compatibility

In a similar fashion, the scholarly content of MUSE will be searchable by any library using the Z39.50 protocol. By making MUSE compatible with Z39.50 searching and retrieving, libraries with the Z39.50 protocol incorporated into their local systems increase the ability of researchers and students to locate relevant full-text articles in the MUSE collection.

“Project MUSE is excited to add yet two more methods that make it easy for users to

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

**American Library
Association (ALA)
Annual Meeting**
New Orleans, LA
June 22-28
Booth #424

**International
Federation of Library
Associations (IFLA)
Annual Meeting**
Seoul, Korea
August 20-24
Stand #54

Frankfurt Book Fair
Frankfurt, Germany
October 4-9

Project
MUSE®
Scholarly journals online

Published seasonally by Project MUSE, a collaboration of 60 not-for-profit publishers in conjunction with the Milton S. Eisenhower Library; MUSE NEWS is distributed gratis to subscribers and the library community.

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DIRECTOR'S MUSINGS

Dear Colleagues:

This will be my final Musings column in MUSE News. Leading Project MUSE for the past four years has been one of the most rewarding and worthwhile experiences in my publishing career. It was a very difficult decision, but I have chosen to return to New York and have accepted a position with an online publisher.

It was truly inspiring to work with librarians, not-for-profit publishers, and scholars to together create a product dedicated to being a sustainable model of scholarly communications in the humanities and social sciences. I am truly honored to have had the opportunity to work in collaboration with university presses and scholarly publishers to build Project MUSE into a leading database in the humanities and social sciences with more than 300 journals, 60 publishers, and 1100 subscribing libraries. I am proud of the success we have achieved together. Those looking to solve the challenges of scholarly communication would do well to study MUSE.

I would like to thank all of our customers, the participating MUSE publishers, the MUSE Advisory Board, the Johns Hopkins University Press, the Sheridan Libraries, and the MUSE staff for their commitment to, and support of,

Project MUSE. In particular, I would like to thank Kathleen Keane, the Director of The Johns Hopkins University Press, and Winston Tabb, the Dean of the Sheridan Libraries of The Johns Hopkins University, for their leadership, collaboration, and encouragement.

As it enters its second decade, Project MUSE is poised for continued growth and success and will benefit from new leadership and fresh perspectives. MUSE's greatest achievements are yet ahead. The Johns Hopkins University Press is convening a search committee for a new MUSE Director, and updates on that process will be coming from Kathleen Keane. In the meantime, the very capable and experienced MUSE managers whom many of you know—Melanie Schaffner, Elizabeth Brown, Harry Dean, and Wendy Queen—will keep MUSE moving and on target.

I hope that our paths cross again.

Best wishes,



Aileen McHugh

(“Features & Functionality” continued from page 1)

find articles in MUSE that are appropriate to their research,” said Wendy Queen, Manager, Publishing Technologies for Project MUSE. “By adding new capability, such as through the WebFeat federated search engine and through the Z39.50 search utility, we believe we help subscribers increase their usage of MUSE, thereby enhancing its value as a tool for researchers and students.”

MLA Direct Linking with Project MUSE

Project MUSE is embarking on a special linking partnership with the MLA International Bibliography. The MLA International Bibliography is the comprehensive bibliography on modern languages, literatures, folklore, and linguistics. This linking partnership will streamline access to articles in MUSE from citations listed in the

electronic version of the MLA International Bibliography regardless of the platform used to access the Bibliography. For libraries that subscribe to MUSE, users can go directly from citations in the electronic International Bibliography to the full text in MUSE.

The project is in the beta phase with linking for selected journals scheduled to be available by the ALA conference in June. Some of the titles included in this initial phase are *Callaloo*, *Modern Drama*, *Research in African Literatures*, and *Theatre Journal*. Project MUSE is delighted to partner with the MLA in this endeavor. MUSE, along with JSTOR, are the only organizations partnering with MLA International Bibliography to add value for their users by providing seamless access to full text from the Bibliography citations. ■

Kathy Obbagy Joins Project MUSE

Project MUSE is pleased to announce the appointment of Kathleen Obbagy as Library Outreach and Communications Specialist. In this new position, she will be primarily responsible for coordinating outreach activities, instructional services, and communication efforts to support sales and subscriber services for the MUSE electronic journals collections.

Among Kathy's initial priorities are evaluating and updating the MUSE suite of instructional and promotional materials for subscribing libraries, made available through the "For Librarians" section of the MUSE web site (<http://muse.jhu.edu/about/librarians>). She will coordinate the content and flow of the informational sections of the MUSE site, including help modules and technical documentation, and work with subscribers to improve the functionality and usefulness of the resource for both librarians and end-users. Kathy will also assume the editorship of the quarterly MUSE News newsletter, and be responsible for timely communication of the latest news about MUSE to librarians, scholars, and publishers through a variety of print and electronic media channels.

In recent years, Kathy held positions as a Trainer/Consultant with the Metrowest Massachusetts Regional Library System, and as Assistant Supervisor of Reference at the Newton Free Public Library in Newton, MA. As a trainer, she developed workshops and materials to support librarians with electronic resource access and navigation and with the collection of e-resource usage statistics. She holds an M.S. in Library Science from Simmons College as well

as a B.A. in Sociology from Stonehill College. Prior to earning her M.S.L.S., Kathy enjoyed a successful career as a pension systems consultant with the New England Life Insurance Company.

"Kathy's experience working with many types of libraries in a training and consulting role will be an invaluable asset to MUSE, allowing us to appropriately support the unique needs of the many types of institutions now accessing our wealth of online journal content," said Melanie Schaffner, Project MUSE Marketing and Sales Manager. "From research libraries to community colleges to secondary schools, we have a diverse customer base worldwide, and we're excited to engage Kathy's expertise to help all of these libraries make the most of their MUSE subscriptions."

"I'm excited about joining MUSE at such an important period in its growth. My outreach efforts will focus on how subscribers are using MUSE currently and look for ways to assist librarians, faculty and students to uncover the richness of MUSE journal content. I look forward to hearing from our subscribers with any and all ideas for making MUSE more accessible for research," said Kathy.

Kathy will report to the MUSE Marketing and Sales Manager, and will work closely with the organization's sales staff, user services unit, and technology group to develop, maintain, and support resources and tools for subscribers and researchers. She welcomes comments and suggestions about MUSE's outreach and communications activities at ko@press.jhu.edu. ■

New MUSE Journals for 2007

The Project MUSE team is already hard at work developing our 2007 subscription offerings. Several new journal titles are already confirmed to join the MUSE collections next year (see opposite). Preliminary pricing for the six MUSE collections (Premium, Standard, Basic Research, Basic Undergraduate, Arts & Humanities, and Social Sciences) will be announced at the American Library Association's Annual Conference in New Orleans, June 22-28. Additional journal titles are expected to be confirmed by the ALA conference, and final details on MUSE's 2007 online journal collections and pricing will be released in August. Please watch for e-mail announcements, and consult the MUSE web site at <http://muse.jhu.edu/about/subscriptions/index.html> regularly for the most up-to-date information.

From new publishers:

Texas Tech University Press

- *Conradiana*
- *The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation*
- *Helios*
- *William Carlos Williams Review*

ELT

- *English Literature in Transition, 1880-1920*

Classical Association of Canada

- *Mouseion: Journal of the Classical Association of Canada / Revue de la Société Canadienne des études classiques. University of Calgary Press*



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PUBLISHER PROFILE

Publisher Profile: New Partnership Formed with Edinburgh University Press

Established over fifty years ago, Edinburgh University Press (EUP), the third largest University Press in the UK after Oxford and Cambridge, publishes books as well as journals in humanities and social sciences. The Press is dedicated to making their journals available to the widest audience possible. The link-up with Project MUSE began late in 2004 following an evaluation of their online strategy for journals and a subsequent meeting in New York with MUSE's Director of Electronic Publishing, Aileen McHugh.

Since the first of the Press' journal titles joined the MUSE collections in early 2006, Edinburgh University Press's online profile has been significantly enhanced. The new venture with MUSE will also "allow the Press to tie our journals into consortia arrangements and reach a much wider audience," explained Timothy Wright, Chief Executive of Edinburgh University Press. In addition, "the journals

that are available through MUSE focus on humanities and social science journals from scholarly presses, which is a good fit for us."

Once the journals that the EUP offers through MUSE are available in 2006, Wright says he and his colleagues will be utilizing the scholarly journal provider to help in their own research as they build their journals business. The subscription management team in Edinburgh will also find MUSE a valuable resource of information in dealing with general inquiries.

Titles that will be available beginning in 2006 from the Edinburgh University Press include: *Africa: The Journal of the International African Institute*; *Comparative Critical Studies*; *Dance Research*; *Episteme: A Journal of Social Epistemology*; *Holy Land Studies*; *Journal of Victorian Culture*; *Paragraph*; *Parliamentary History*; *Romanticism*; *Studies in World Christianity*; *The Scottish Historical Review*; and *Translation and Literature*. ■

MUSE NEWS

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