

From the Library Director

I would like to welcome all new and returning Faculty, Staff and Students to PMU and especially to the library. The library is the heart of the PMU campus and is here to meet your academic and research needs.

The library has accomplished quite a lot in its first year. The library management system (Symphony), including the RFID gates and self-check stations, is fully operational and library patrons are circulating books. We have been able to acquire several articles via inter-library loan for several Faculty members. And, we conducted our first users survey last Spring.

The users survey indicated that there were two primary needs that the library was not meeting. First, allowing remote access to the library's electronic resources. And, second evening and week-end hours. The library is actively working to meet both of these needs.

The library is in the process of acquiring an additional 10,000 books for the library's print collection. And, we plan to add several more periodical titles and an electronic database or two.

We plan to enable a new module of the library management system early in the new year. This new module will enable users to know what serials the library subscribes to and what issues the library has received. This information will be available via the online catalog. We are also working on implementing a new books feature on the online catalog as well.

Regards,

Dr. Jamil A. Qureshy, Library Director



A Not-So-Quiet Corner of the Library

Google's Holiday Gift to You

Mr. Michael A. Sartori, Librarian

On December 03, 2009, Google launched a new free online product, the Google Dictionary. The Google dictionary offers English language words/definitions as well as translations of single words from English-to-another language or from another language-to-English. The online application includes 27 languages including the major Western European languages (French, German, Italian, and Spanish), Chinese (simplified and traditional), as well as Arabic. There are two major language omissions at this time: Farsi (Persian) and Japanese.

Google dictionary can be accessed two ways:

- First, you can go directly to the application's page

[<http://www.google.com/dictionary>].

From this page select the English Dictionary or the desired translation tool e.g. English-to-Arabic or French-to-English from the drop-down menu and then enter your desired term in the search box next to the drop-down menu. The application will quickly return results.

Dictionary

Found in dictionary: English > English

Islam /ˈɪz.lɑːm/ /ˈɪz.lɑːm/ US

1. Islam is the religion of the Muslims, which was started by Mohammed. N-UNCOUNT
2. Some people use Islam to refer to all the countries where Islam is the main religion. N-UNCOUNT
 - ...relations between Islam and the West.

Related languages

Islam is also a word in: [suomi](#), [français](#), [Deutsch](#), [italiano](#), [español](#), [hrvatski](#)

Web definitions

- the civilization of Muslims collectively which is governed by the Muslim religion; "Islam is predominant in northern Africa, the Middle East ... [wordshook.princeton.edu/pw/islam](#)

- Second, if you are performing a Google search on a specific term, Google will give you an option to see a definition of the term from the Google Dictionary as part of your search results. The link to the definition is located on the top right side of your search results.

Results 1 - 10 of about 103,000,000 for [Islam \(definition\)](#) (0.26 seconds)

While the application has generated a lot of positive feedback, there has been some criticism that the definitions provided by Google Dictionary are simplified. They are in fact taken from the Collins COBUILD Advanced Learner's English Dictionary which is an ESL dictionary. While people have made this a criticism, it is perhaps a strength of the dictionary as it enables Google to provide access to English documents to non-native English speakers.

For the English language purists, the Oxford English Dictionary (OED) is still available on CD-ROM and the American Heritage Dictionary is still available online at: <http://education.yahoo.com/reference/dictionary>.

Library User Survey

Elvira Zingapan, Librarian

In compliance with TiEC guidelines and accreditation standards, a twenty question user survey was designed by the library staff. 100 copies of the survey were available in the female and male sections of the library (200 total copies of the survey) for three weeks ending on June 06, 2009.

The total number of surveys distributed is roughly equivalent 10% of the total number of enrolled students. A return of 5-10% of the distributed surveys is considered good and 133 completed surveys were returned to the library staff. Thus, 67% of the distributed surveys were returned.

The survey results were compiled and analyzed by the library staff. This survey and its results will serve as a baseline for future library user surveys.

There were no surprises in the results of the Spring 2009 User Survey. The results indicate that the library requires additional print and electronic resources, the library's electronic resources need to be available for remote use, photocopy machines are needed, and additional professional library staff are required.

The survey results also indicate that the library staff has been doing a good to excellent job with the limited resources available to them.

Growing the Library

Ms. Lovelle Garcia, Library Secretary

I have worked in the PMU library for more than two years and in the course of that time I have seen many changes in PMU and in the library.

When I started work at PMU there was no LRC building. Each campus had a mini-library with a small collection of books and magazines and one full-time worker. We then added e-brary and other electronic resources to strengthen the library's collection.

In August 2008, the library staff and materials from the mini-libraries moved into the LRC building. Then in November 2008, the library officially opened with three male and two female library staff and a Core Collection of 4,000 books.

Since last year we have added three people to the library staff (one woman and two men), we have added services (bibliographic instruction for faculty and students and inter-library loan for the faculty), print materials (90 serials titles), and we're in the process of adding 9,000 more books to the collection.

The library is small but growing and libraries are grown not build, so we are off to a good start!

Libraries and the Swine Flu (H1N1)

Michael A. Sartori, Librarian

Many people at PMU, in Saudi Arabia, and around the world are concerned about the H1N1 epidemic, But how many of us have really thought about how this influenza epidemic or the next one could directly effect us? What would we do, what could we do if the university were closed for an extended period of time? I found an article entitled, "Your Campus Just Shut Down. Now What?" ,located at

<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6704325.html?nid=3276> that asks these questions, but perhaps more importantly suggests some answers to them, As PMU is a university that embraces technology, we should seriously look into the technologies discussed in this article and perhaps even create an emergency plan to keep the campus and library functioning if it is forced to close for an extended period of time.

The information in this article was obtained by reading the RSS feed entitled "Tracking the library angle on swine flu"

[<http://www.daveyp.com/hotstuff/?p=268>]

News From the Library

The following short articles contain small pieces of PMU library related news.

Prominent Visitors

The library continues to be one of the main attractions on the visitors tour of the PMU campus. The library was pleased to welcome Sir William Patey, the British ambassador to Saudi Arabia and Mr., Bruce W. Starr, U.S. Senator from Oregon. Mr. Starr donated a book to the library.

Library Services Committee

The PMU administration created a library services committee to act as an advisory committee for the library.

The committee has a threefold purpose: to give advice on policies relating to the library; to advise concerned departments within the University of the financial and other resource needs of the library; and, to assist the library in the planning process.

There are seven member of this committee: Dr, Desmond V. Rice (Chair), Dr. Jamil A. Qureshy (Deputy Chair), Dr. Mohammed El- Najjar, Dr. Nader Nader, Dr. Roza Pavlova, Dr. Colleen Soares, Dr. Ventzeslav Valev, and Ms. Deanna Warsaw

The committee has met twice, made five recommendations to the PMU administration, and drafted an action plan for the current academic year,

Reference/Circulation Desk Phone

A phone has been installed at each Reference/Circulation desk allowing patrons to telephone the library. The phone numbers are: x9225 (male desk) and x9277 (female desk). There is someone at each desk from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Saturday through Wednesday.

International Library News

New WorldCat agreements in Europe

OCLC (Online Computer Library Center, Inc) has announced three new agreements with European national libraries and affiliated institutions which significantly increase the coverage of records in WorldCat and the visibility of libraries in WorldCat.org within Europe. These latest agreements in

Denmark [DanskBibliotekCenter (DBC) agreed to load the Danish National Union Catalogue (DanBib) into WorldCat], Switzerland [Informationsverbund Deutschschweiz (IDS) agreed to load the records from the five IDS consortia to WorldCat] and Slovenia [agreed to load three million records later this year with IZUM, an organization which represents the interests of over 380 academic, public and other libraries] show that libraries from around the globe are responding very positively to the opportunity that WorldCat offers to streamline workflows and increase visibility in WorldCat.org.

NOTE: You can access WorldCat through the library's e-Resources web page.

[Furloughs for Hawaii's Libraries](#)

Like the rest of the world, Hawaii's libraries are suffering in the economic downturn. The state public library system is considering several different options to deal with its shortfall.

Instead of closing down five branches on the Big Island, Oahu and Maui, the state librarian is now proposing furloughs.

The plan includes anything between two and four furlough days a month, depending on the changing budget situation.

The state librarian also says he will leave 72 vacant positions unfilled.

[Digital Library Launched by EU Bookshop](#)

On October 16, 2009 the EU (European Union) bookshop launched a digital library. The EU bookshop digital library allows access to more than 50 years of EU related documents. There are more than 110,000 documents (more than 12 million pages) available in approximately 50 languages (all official EU languages plus Chinese, Russian and about 20 other languages). The digital library's contents will become a part of Europeana, a project of prominent national European libraries and archives.

You can access the EU Bookshop digital library by going to:

http://www.bookshop.europa.eu/eubookshop/index.action?request_locale=EN

To access the digital library, select 'digital library' in the Advance Search options.

New Library Staff

Mr. Basim Faris (Librarian) is from Amman Jordan. He has earned a bachelor degree in libraries and information science, a master degree in management information systems (MIS), and a high professional diploma in education science.

Ms. Fatehia Mahmoud Alfaki (Library Clerk) is from Sudan. She has earned a bachelor degree in education and has completed additional coursework in computer software and library specific applications.

Johan Mohammad Mir (Assistant Librarian) is from Kashmir (India). He earned a master degree in computer sciences and applications, a bachelor degree in library and information sciences, and, a bachelor of science degree in statistics. He is also a Cisco Certified Network Associate and a Microsoft Certified Professional.

Library Newsletter Information

The *PMU Library Newsletter* will be published once a semester and will not be published in the summer. The Newsletter contains articles written by the library staff to educate the PMU community about the library and library-related issues.

Please email any comments or suggestions to **Mr. Michael A. Sartori** at msartori@pmu.edu.sa



A Reflection From the Library