Textbook Policy Revisions

Even at this late date in the semester, we continue to encounter students both at the Research and Information Desk and via Ask-a-Librarian who ask: “Do the Libraries have my textbook?” The quick answer is the UCF Libraries do not purchase textbooks. The number of textbooks required both funding and space that the library does not have. These textbooks result in the library benefitting from the textbooks any attempt to collect either search by keyword, or browse by culture or subject.

eHRAF Archaeology and eHRAF World Cultures contain documents dating to 1949, and the databases are continuously updated with new materials. The databases can be found listed alphabetically on the Libraries’ database page: http://library.ucf.edu/Databases.

UCF LIBRARIES JOIN HathiTrust DIGITAL LIBRARY CONSORTIUM

UCF Libraries have become an institutional member of the HathiTrust, a partnership of academic and research libraries collaborating in a digital archive initiative to dramatically increase access to research resources.

Founded in 2008, HathiTrust is jointly owned and operated by its member institutions from the United States and Europe, all focused on a common goal: to build an extraordina library that preserves and provides access to the cultural record. Almost 75 institutions are now members, including the university libraries at Columbia, Princeton, Yale, Harvard, Duke, Johns Hopkins, Purdue, Stanford, and the University of California. The initial focus of the partnership has been on preserving and providing access to digitized book and journal content from the partner library collections, including materials digitized by Google, Internet Archive, and Microsoft, as well as through in-house initiatives. To date the partnership has digitized approximately 10 million books. The consortium is planning on expanding the corpus to nearly 15 million in the next five years.

Benefits include full-text and bibliographic search capabilities, full PDF downloading of all public domain books, and full-text access for users with print disabilities. In addition, users can search the full text of books they put into a collection using the Collection Builder feature.

HathiTrust (pronounced “HAH-tee”) was named for the Hindi word for elephant, “hath,” symbolic of the qualities of memory, wisdom, and strength evoked by elephants, as well as the huge undertaking of congregating the digital collections of the nation’s top research libraries.

OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS: HOW CAN I IDENTIFY THEM?

One of the better-known tools for identifying fully open access journals is the Directory of Open Access Journals, or DOAJ: http://doaj.org/. Note, however, that publishers must submit information on their journals to DOAJ, so it is not absolutely complete. DOAJ records include the publisher, language of publication, start date, and whether or not there is a publication fee for authors, with a link to the journal’s instructions for authors where available. Some journals have allowed DOAJ to directly display the journal’s table of contents information as well.