

# MINITEX

## Reference NOTES

A Program of the Minnesota Higher Education Services Office (HESO) at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

December 2005

### Inside This Issue

Creating a Journal  
Alert in EBSCOhost . . . . . 1

Farewell to Karen Docherty  
of MINITEX CPERS . . . . . 2

Top 10 Library Trends. . . . . 2

ELM Training . . . . . 3

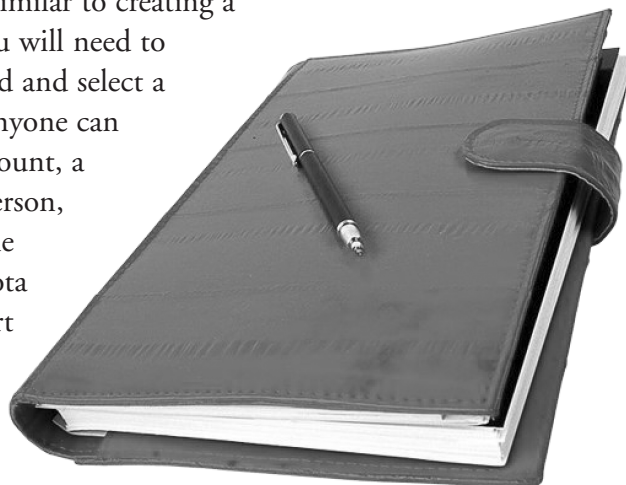
### **Information Bits:**

The MINITEX office will be closed on Friday, December 23, Monday, December 26, and Monday, January 1.

### **Creating a Journal Alert in EBSCOhost**

In EBSCOhost, including *MasterFILE Premier*, *Academic Search Premier*, *Business Source Premier*, *Regional Business News*, and *EBSCO MegaFILE*, users can set up journal alerts to get notified via email when a new issue of a particular journal has been loaded to the database. In the MINITEX office we route the paper edition of several journals and just the other day I came across the July 2005 issue of *Library Journal* in my inbox. We all know that when routing journals through a busy office, some items might sit in someone's in-box for days, weeks, or even months. In order to avoid such delays, I set up a journal alert in *MasterFILE Premier* for *Library Journal* and now I get an email notification as soon as the most recent issue has been loaded to the database. Therefore, I can see what articles are in the most current issue before most people even receive a print copy in the mail. If the journal is available full-text in EBSCOhost, the journal alert will contain links to the full-text article within the newest issue. If the full-text is not available, the alert will contain links to the article citations.

In order to create a journal alert, you first need to create a "My EBSCOhost" account. This is a folder that allows you to create journal and search alerts and save items like persistent links and articles indefinitely. It is unlike a temporary folder where items disappear once you log out of the session. Creating a "My EBSCOhost" account is similar to creating a hotmail or yahoo account. You will need to create a username and password and select a secret question and answer. Anyone can create a "My EBSCOhost" account, a student, a teacher, a businessperson, or anyone who has access to the Electronic Library for Minnesota (ELM). To create a journal alert follow the steps below:



1. If you haven't already created a "My EBSCOhost" account you must do so. Once in an EBSCOhost session, click on the link in the upper left corner of the EBSCOhost interface that reads "Sign into My EBSCOhost." From there you must select, "I'm a new user." If you already have an account you can go ahead and sign in with your username and password.
2. Once logged into "My EBSCOhost" you will notice a small yellow banner in the upper left corner of the screen that reads "My." This means you are logged in.
3. Select the "publications" search which appears along the green bar at the top of the screen.
4. Once in the "publication" search, perform an alphabetical browse for the particular journal you would like to create an alert for.
5. Once that journal appears, click on the title to pull up detailed publication information.
6. When the detailed publication information appears, click on the link in the upper right corner that reads "journal alert."
7. At this point you will need to select how long you would like the alert to run. Choose from one month, two months, six months, or one year. Remember you can go in and edit or delete your journal alert at any time.
8. Then you will need to enter your email address, or the email address/es of whomever will be receiving the alert. You can add multiple recipients by separating each email address with a semicolon. For example you might want everyone in your office to receive the same journal alert.
9. You can then enter a subject for this journal alert which will appear in the subject line of your inbox.
10. You can also select the format of the alert as well as some other options.
11. Finally, don't forget to click on "Save" in the bottom left corner of the screen. The alert will not be saved unless you select "Save."

## Farewell to Karen Docherty of MINITEX CPERS

All of us at MINITEX will be sad to see her go, but so happy for her success in the library arena. December 30th, 2005, will be Karen Docherty's last day as one of the two MINITEX Electronic Resources Librarians, as she prepares for her new position as Executive Director of CLIC (Cooperating Libraries in Consortium). Karen has contributed greatly to various MINITEX programs, and especially ELM (Electronic Library for Minnesota). We couldn't be happier to know she is just moving across town to the CLIC offices in St. Paul, which means we will be working as closely with her as we have with all the CLIC libraries for over 30 years. We wish Karen all the best in her new position!

## Top 10 Library Trends

Thomas Frey, Executive Director and Senior Futurist of the DaVinci Institute, put together a list of ten trends having the biggest influence on libraries in the future. The DaVinci Institute is a non-profit futurist think tank based in Colorado. For the complete article, "The Future of Libraries Beginning the Great Transformation," go to <http://www.davinciinstitute.com/page.php?ID=120>. As all of us know, most people seeking information can now find it online. The following ten trends give us something to think about as we envision the library's role in the future.

### Trend #1:

**Communication systems are continually changing the way people access information.** Means of communicating are rapidly evolving and constantly changing. Will there ever be an ultimate form of communication?

### Trend #2:

**All technology ends. All technologies used today will be replaced by something new.** Just in the past thirty years we have gone from the 8-track tape, to the cassette tape, to the CD, which currently being replaced by newer technologies and will probably eventually disappear.

---

**Trend #3:**

**We haven't yet reached the ultimate small particle for storage. But soon.** Small storage standards have been a priority. Once that is reached we can focus on speed, reliability, and durability.

**Trend #4:**

**Search technology will become increasingly more complicated.** Search technology is currently based on text but will one day encompass taste, smell, speed, and other more complex attributes. Frey believes that people will depend more on professionals to assist them with this complicated search technology.

**Trend #5:**

**Time compression is changing the lifestyle of library patrons.** People have more needs faster and many people suffer from information overload. Human needs are growing, which gives libraries the opportunity to meet these needs.

**Trend #6:**

**Over time we will be transitioning to a verbal society.** The keyboard will eventually be phased out. Literacy will lose sway as verbal information becomes more common. Computers will become more human like.

**Trend #7:**

**The demand for global information is growing exponentially.** It can be summed up in the phrase World Wide Web.

**Trend #8:**

**The stage is being set for a new era of global systems.** Frey states that libraries are global system that represents a key base for new systems and cultures.

**Trend #9:**

**We are transitioning from a product-based economy to an experience-based economy.** The patron experience will become an important measurement in the future and books will move from a product to an experience.

**Trend #10:**

**Libraries will transition from a center of information to a center of culture.** The library's role as an information repository, which lends itself to less and less traffic, is shifting into a cultural center.

To conclude his article, Frey offers the following recommendations for libraries:

- 1) Evaluate the library experience.
- 2) Embrace new information technologies.
- 3) Preserve the memories of your own communities.
- 4) Experiment with creative spaces so the future role of the library can define itself.

If you haven't already, be sure to check out the full article!

## ELM Training

MINITEX Reference Services is pleased to offer upcoming ELM-related webinars and in-person training sessions in January and February 2006!

For more information, or to register go to <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/train-conf/>.

1-hour webinars offered include an ELM Overview, EBSCOhost, ProQuest Newsstand Complete, NetLibrary & eBooks. In-person sessions offered include EBSCOhost and Gale K12 Resources. All sessions are free of charge but you do need to register in order to reserve space!



---

## REFERENCE NOTES

MINITEX Library Information Network

University of Minnesota, 15 Andersen Library

222 21st Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55455-0439

Reference Phone . . . . . 612-624-4150, WATS 800-462-5348

Reference Fax. . . . . 612-624-4508

Staats, Beth . . . . . 612-624-7873, fried004@umn.edu

Parker, Mary . . . . . 612-624-1024, m-park1@umn.edu

Main Website . . . . . www.minitex.umn.edu

Reference Email . . . . . ref@othello.lib.umn.edu

Office Hours . . . . . Mon-Fri., 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Reference Intake Form . . . . <http://www-minitex.lib.umn.edu/reference/refdb/index.asp>

*The Institute of Museum and Library Services, a Federal agency that fosters innovation, leadership, and a lifetime of learning, and State Library Services & School Technology, the Minnesota state library agency, supports MINITEX Reference Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).*

---

MINITEX Library Information Network

University of Minnesota

15 Andersen Library

222 21st Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55455-0439



*A Program of the Minnesota Higher Education  
Services Office at the University of Minnesota*