

# Lancer Home Page

[www.worcester.edu/library](http://www.worcester.edu/library)



LANCER: Library Area Network Center for Educational Resources

V. 3, # 1

Fall 2003

## What's New?

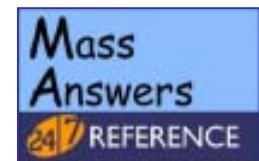
1. Virtual Reference
2. Database News
3. New Copy Card System
4. WACL is now ARC
5. New/ Updated Web Pages
6. From the Library Mailbox
7. Contact Us

### Library Hours

Mon – Thurs 8am – 11pm  
Friday 8am – 5pm  
Saturday 9am – 5pm  
Sunday 1pm – 11pm

(508) 929 – 8027

## Virtual Reference



What exactly is Virtual Reference?

Nine regional reference centers in Massachusetts have joined libraries nationwide in forming this online reference service. Mass Answers is a 24/7 real time reference service that can answer your [research](#) and [reference](#) questions, any time, day or night over the Internet.

You ask your questions using Web-based chat software on your Internet browser. Chat combines the immediacy of the telephone with the preciseness of a written e-mail. Using most browsers, the librarian answering your question will be able to show you what s/he brings up on the screen.

At the end of your session, you will receive a transcript via e-mail. This will include the written record of the chat conversation plus the URL's of all sites visited.

Check out the link on our home page!



## Database News



This past summer the Library purchased a new online database called **Oxford Reference Online**. From one of the world's most respected reference publishers, the collection brings together 100 well-known and trusted dictionaries and reference books for foreign languages, quotations, mythology, science, medicine, philosophy and even a world encyclopedia. Remote access is available.

Attention informed shoppers! **Consumer Reports** magazine has been added to **InfoTrac Web** databases; full-text articles, images and full page PDFs will be included. In addition to its popular reports and ratings based on Consumers Union's tests of products, **CR** also publishes articles on health, public safety, and marketplace economics. **InfoTrac Web** is funded by the Massachusetts regional library systems. Remote access is available.

A much-used business resource, FIS Online, has a new name. FIS is now **Mergent Online**. **Mergent** covers 10,000+ public companies and their SEC filings, with a link to the full EDGAR® database.

## New Copy Card System



The Library has purchased 2 new photocopier machines as well as a new copy card system. However, new and improved comes at a price, and we have been forced to increase the cost of each photocopy as well as copies from microfilm. We have also had to opt for no coin boxes on the new machines, but the 2 older machines still take cash.

Photocopies: 15¢ each    with copy card: 10¢ each

Currently the 5 microfilm/fiche machines have no new system card readers, but we're working on it. Next year the Library plans to budget for replacement of the 2 remaining old copy machines, and add the card readers to at least 2 of the microfilm printers so that users can realize some savings on those machines.

## WACL is now ARC



If you have ever borrowed a book from a local academic library, then you know that WACL was the Worcester Area Co-operating Libraries. Formerly under the auspices of the Colleges of Worcester Consortium, the library group is now the **Academic and Research Collaborative (ARC)**, and it has been absorbed by the local area Central Massachusetts Regional Library System (CMRLS). So what does this mean for you?

Different name, same borrowing privileges. If you wish to borrow materials from any other local academic library, you will need to make the WSC Circulation Desk your first stop. If you have a good borrowing record here, then a staff member will issue you a new ARC card so that you can borrow material from another participating academic library without any paperwork or delay. All rules and regulations of the library you are using apply, including overdue fines. In addition to your ARC card, you will also have to bring your current, valid WSC ID card to the library you will be using.

There is a link to further information about the policies and procedures on our Circulation Policies page. <http://wwwfac.worcester.edu/library/policies/circ.htm>



## **N**ew / Updated Web Pages

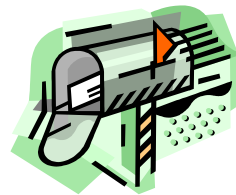
Recent research has found that over 65% of students on college campuses are now beginning their research on their own college library website instead of going directly to the Web. Why? Because they are finding that library websites subscribe to the fee-based databases that are not accessible on the open Web. Also, most library websites have dozens of pages to quickly direct users to quality factual information, links to the best research sites on the Web, and websites for citing e- resources and formatting the research paper. Some of the recent changes on our own Library website are:

- Completely revised and updated **Citing Electronic Resources**; 30 links to free sites with examples for citing Web pages and online articles in a variety of formats such as APA, MLA, and Turabian.
- All information on the **Telephone and Zip Code Directories** page has been updated.
- Many printed flyers have been newly added in Adobe® PDF format: **NEW!** **Call Numbers** – Library of Congress; **Floor Plans** for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors of the LRC; This Website **newsletter** (as well as the older volumes); the policies and guidelines for the new **ARC Worcester area cross borrowing cards**.
- A newly designed **NEW!** **Ask the Librarian** page to accommodate the new virtual reference service, and clearly organize the other ways in which you can get answers to questions specific to the WSC Library.



# From the Library Mailbox

Library@worchester.edu



**Q:** *Are copies of WSC master's theses kept on file in the Library?*

**A:** Yes, we have any Master's thesis that an academic department submits to us. They are cataloged and shelved according to the subject area, dispersed throughout the general collection just like regular books. However, our print cataloger has made what is called a "series" entry in the **online catalog**. So if you type the phrase below in the search box (including the quotes) you will have a list of every Master's thesis in the WSC Library.

"worchester state college masters thesis collection"

**Q:** *Is there a comprehensive listing of how to reference sources in APA style?*

**A:** There is a very comprehensive listing of over 30 online sites that will give you the correct citation form in APA, MLA, and Turabian. These sites also provide the correct form for print materials, articles accessed online, and general guidelines for setting up your paper such as margins, table of contents, etc. Because this is such a frequently asked question, the link for the page has been moved to the main menu on the Library website home page.

<http://wwwfac.worcester.edu/library/electrics/citeelec.htm>

**Q:** *I can't login from home to the databases; it keeps asking me for passwords.*

**A:** This is another frequently asked question, and is answered on a new FAQ 2002 Web page [http://wwwfac.worcester.edu/library/faqs\\_2.htm](http://wwwfac.worcester.edu/library/faqs_2.htm). The bottom line is 1) be sure you are on the remote access page for databases and read the connection requirements for each database – each one is different. 2) You will need a Library barcode on the back of your WSC ID card in order to access some databases; you will need that barcode to obtain user names and passwords assigned by the companies for other databases.

## Contact Us:



**C**ome In: we're located in the Learning Resources Center

**C**all: (508) 929-8027

**C**lick: [www.worcester.edu/library](http://www.worcester.edu/library)