

Faculty Development Grant
Interim Report
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Proposal Summary:

One goal of an Augustana education, supported directly by the general education curriculum, is to develop liberally educated individuals who become lifelong learners. An important component, as articulated in *Augustana Educational Outcomes* (approved 5/05), is that Augustana students “will be able to think critically and be able to gather, identify, and evaluate information in support of that endeavor”. For the past six years the librarians have partnered with faculty members to develop and implement information literacy components in selected classes. These partnerships have produced innovative assignments and improved understanding of how to locate, evaluate, synthesize, and utilize information, regardless of format, skills critical to students’ success in an information rich, democratic society. The faculty/librarian partnerships, begun as Bush development projects, have continued in subsequent classes and semesters because the faculty have recognized the improvement in their students’ abilities to use and interpret information.

To further support the research needs of our faculty and students we need to ensure that the library provides access to the best information possible. Project MUSE is a unique collaboration between libraries and publishers providing full-text online access to over 300 humanities, arts, and social sciences journals from 60 scholarly publishers to support a core liberal arts curriculum at any academic institution. Every journal is heavily indexed and peer reviewed, with critically acclaimed articles by the most respected scholars in their fields. The addition of Project MUSE has the potential of enriching student assignments and meeting critical research needs of Augustana faculty.

The grant will assist the library in addressing the need for access to excellent information resources through the purchase of Project MUSE.

Project Activities Completed as of November 2005

A. Introduction of Project MUSE to the faculty.

The library provided a training session for faculty on August 23, 2005 in Classroom 114. Fifteen faculty attended the session. The session discussed the scope of Project MUSE and offered searching tips and tricks. (see Attachment A for a sample handout)

The library also advertised the addition of Project MUSE in its annual faculty newsletter.

B. Introduction of Project MUSE to students

The librarians have introduced and demonstrated Project MUSE in the following courses:

SOCI 350	Social Science Research Methods, Sue Schrader	(17 students)
GOVT 275	Politics & Literature, Joel Johnson	(11 students)
MUSI 214	Music Hist/Lit of Non-West, Beverly Gibson	(8 students)
RELI 332	Religion Seminar, Anna Madsen	(7 students)
HIST 114	Western Civ I – Honors, Geoffrey Dipple	(21 students)
ENGL 200	Literary Experience – Patrick Hicks	(44 students)

Project Activities to be completed

- A. Compilation of the faculty's anecdotal reactions to Project MUSE
- B. Evaluation of a sample of student assignments
- C. Analysis of Project MUSE usage statistics

Respectfully submitted,
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Lisa Brunick

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