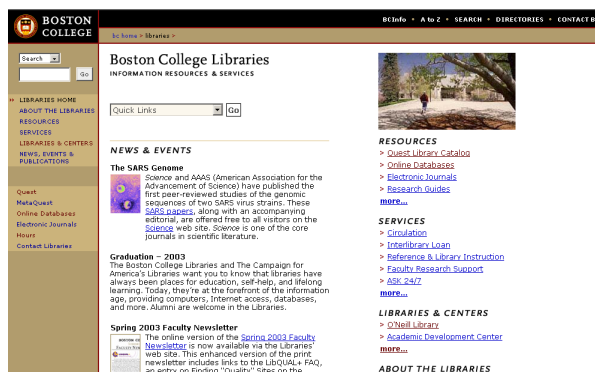# BOSTON COLLEGE LIBRARIES
STUDENT NEWSLETTER
Summer 2003

The Libraries Home Page: What's in it For You?

Becoming familiar with the library's home page will help you significantly in your course work. Not only does it provide immediate access to Quest, the library catalog, you can also search other resources such as journal databases (many with full-text) and electronic reference sources via the Online Databases page. Go here also for a list of e-journals, links to e-books, and connections to other libraries beyond Boston College. Use the Research Guides link to get some subject reference guidance or check out the Reference and Library Instruction link to see other ways reference can assist you. Finally, click on Libraries and Centers to get a list of all libraries and centers at your disposal.

The Libraries and You

- To borrow material from the libraries all you need is your student I.D. and you are ready to go. Undergraduates have a loan period of 28 days. By logging onto *Your Account* in Quest you can renew your books online.
- The O'Neill Library has group study rooms that can be reserved ahead of time. Ask at the O'Neill Circulation Desk.
- The Bapst Library's Gargan Hall is a quiet place to study.
- Current newspapers and magazines are received daily in each library.
- Films are available for viewing in the O'Neill Media Center.
- We do not have the book or journal you need? Talk to us about interlibrary loan possibilities.

- Free peer tutoring services at the Academic Development Center in O'Neill Library are worth checking out.
- Your wireless laptop will work in all of our libraries or use one of the many laptop connections in O'Neill.
- O'Neill Library has a workstation configured for patrons with vision impairment. Ask at O'Neill Library Reference.
- Get assistance from reference staff on using our many resources for your class work.
- You can connect to most of our electronic resources from your room, so access to library resources are available when the library is closed!

www.bc.edu/libraries

Chat with Us Using Our *Ask 24/7* Service

The Boston College Libraries now offer a service that better enables us to help students who are doing their library research outside of the library. *Ask 24/7* allows members of the Boston College community to have a live, interactive, research consultation with a librarian.

Go to the library home page and click *Ask 24/7* under the heading **SERVICES**. Once you are logged in, half of your screen will show your typed message and the other half will allow you and the librarian to view the same catalog, database, or web site. We will be able to walk you through the search process for the resources we offer. The combination of chat software and shared screens enable us to be your virtual guide through resources that will help you find the information you need for your research.
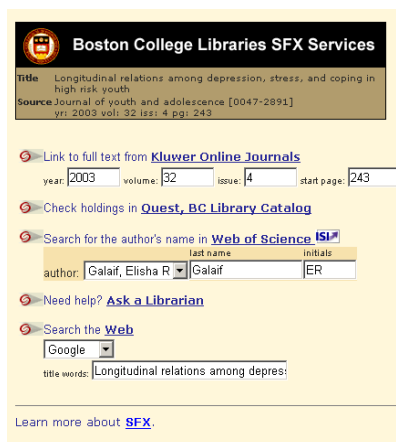

RefWorks

RefWorks is a web-based bibliographic citation management tool which allows users to create personal collections of citations by easily importing references from hundreds of online databases. When the references are inserted into research papers, RefWorks will automatically format the footnotes and bibliography in seconds. RefWorks is available to users across various platforms including Windows, Mac and Unix.

To set up a personal RefWorks account, go to : http://www.bc.edu/refworks and click on "Sign up for an Individual Account." You'll be asked for your name, a login name, password and email address. Click on REGISTER.

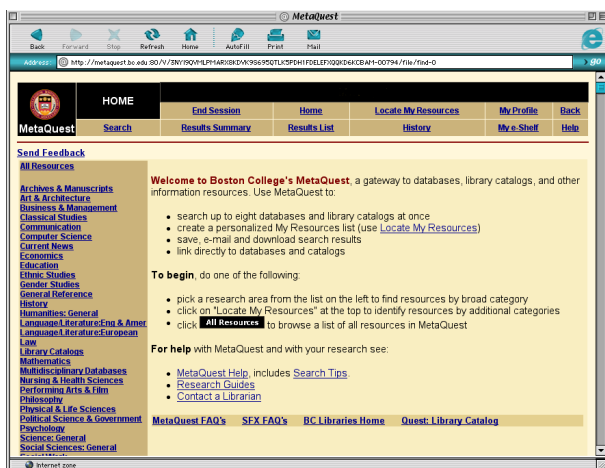For more information, please e-mail refworks@bc.edu or call 617-552-4472.

What Does that SFX ⊙ S·F·X Button Mean?

In many of the library's journal databases, you will see an SFX button or link when you are viewing a citation. Click on this to get a menu of choices related to that citation. Why? SFX expands your ability to find books and articles (often full-text online) by linking to the plethora of collections at Boston College and beyond. SFX will be added to more and more library databases in the future. For questions about SFX, please see the SFX Frequently Asked Questions at metaquest.bc.edu or e-mail us at refer@bc.edu.

Search Multiple Databases Using MetaQuest

Have you ever wanted to search for books and journal articles at the same time? Well, now you can. MetaQuest allows you to search several databases simultaneously. You can select your favorite resources and save them in your *My Resources List* so you can easily find them when you sign in. Not all of our resources can be searched using MetaQuest, so for some you must link out of MetaQuest and directly to the database's native interface. We are working to increase the number of databases accessible via MetaQuest.

Contact the O'Neill Library Reference Desk at refer@bc.edu or 617-552-4472 for more information. There is also a set of MetaQuest Frequently Asked Questions available at the MetaQuest sign-in page.

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