

Spring 2009

## Portland State Library Newsletter; Spring 2009

Portland State University Library

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# Portland State Library

Spring 2009 Newsletter

<http://library.pdx.edu>



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## Meeting Challenges with Commitment

We appreciate the time so many of you took to respond thoughtfully and at length to the LibQUAL+ survey. Your detailed comments about how we can improve our collections, services, Website, and the Millar Library space enable us to better understand what is important to you and where we need to focus our attention.

Like other units in the University, the Library is planning for the near future with more limited funding. We have faced challenges in the past and know we will be able to manage through the current challenges by being clear about our priorities in supporting the needs that are most important to Portland State students and faculty.

*continued on page 2*

## SHARE YOUR LIBRARY STORY!

What does the Portland State Library mean to you?

We are looking for real life stories about how our Library shapes your academic and personal lives. Whether it's an amusing anecdote or a life-changing experience, we would love to hear about it. You can send your comments—and your stories—to [gabourie@pdx.edu](mailto:gabourie@pdx.edu).



We will continue to provide access to information resources, whether they are owned or licensed by Portland State, or available from other library partners. In consultation with campus faculty, librarians are evaluating carefully the print journal subscriptions, and licenses to online journal and database subscriptions to determine which must be cancelled in order to stay within a more constrained acquisitions budget. Although we must reduce their number, we will continue to have librarians with expertise in your subject areas to answer your questions online or in person, and to teach classes on how to locate, select, evaluate, and use responsibly and effectively the material suited to your academic or research need. We will continue to provide the most productive space that we can arrange within the increasingly tight Millar Library, while planning with campus and community leaders for additional future library space. We also will continue to seek more cost effective processes to acquire and provide access to collections, and to deliver services.

Knowing we cannot rely solely upon tuition from students and funding from the State, we are seeking grant funding to support projects that will provide access to unique materials such as historical photographs and University archives, and to special collections like the Dark Horse Comics Collection. We also are seeking support from members of the community who recognize the importance of a strong research library that provides a high quality education and supports the economic and cultural development of Portland.

We are committed to making the best use of resources to meet your academic and research needs.



**Helen H. Spalding,  
University Librarian**

# Web-Siteings – Living Well

## Zen Habits

<http://zenhabits.net/>

Leo Babauta is a writer, runner and family man who lives on Guam. He blogs about living simply and eating healthy, parenting, getting organized, and being happy. Every Tuesday is Finance & Family Day on Zen Habits (<http://zenhabits.net/tags/finance-family/>).

## The Festival of Frugality

<http://www.festivaloffrugality.com/>

This site hosts a weekly carnival of frugal blog posts. A blog carnival is a blog article on a particular topic that is published on a regular basis; the article contains links to great posts about the topic on other blogs. The Festival of Frugality spotlights “...the excellent ideas that are floating around out there to help squeeze a few extra pennies, nickels, dimes, or quarters out of every dollar.”

## Get Rich Slowly

[www.getrichslowly.org/blog/](http://www.getrichslowly.org/blog/)

J.D., the owner of the site Get Rich Slowly, is based in southeast Portland. He and his guest writers discuss personal finance, eliminating debt, and saving money. He states “Please note that I am not a financial professional. I’m just an average guy who found himself deep in debt. When it finally became too overwhelming, I began reading personal finance books, hoping to find answers...Since April 2006, I’ve been sharing what I learn with thousands of daily readers. By following my own advice, I’ve managed to ditch my debt and actually begin saving. I really am getting rich slowly.”

## 100 Best DIY Sites on the Web

<http://www.businesscreditcards.com/bootstrapper/2008/03/>

Do you want to build a raised garden bed, transfer old VHS tapes to DVD, or be prepared for a power blackout? Bootstrapper has pulled together do-it-yourself links for home improvements, arts and crafts, technology, and living, and then seventeen “General” links that should cover just about anything else you want to do yourself. This blog post is from March 2008, but a link check in March 2009 showed all but four of the links still working.

## RSS FEEDS, TABLE OF CONTENTS



*Portland State Library licenses more than 1100 electronic resources that provide access to over 81,000 titles including full text journals, indexes and data sets. Many of the resources have features that automatically notify you when items in your field become available. These features include RSS feeds, email alerts, and table of contents services. You will need to set up an individual profile. Look for a link that says “My Account” or “My Profile” and follow the directions on how to connect to current articles in your field.*

*If you can't find what you want, use Ask Us! at the Portland State Library!*

# What You Told Us in LibQUAL+® 2008

In October 2008, the Library asked students, faculty and staff to participate in the LibQUAL+ survey and rate the level of service they receive from the Library in three areas:

1. Information Control measures satisfaction with library print materials, electronic resources, the library website, and ease of access to information.
2. Library as Place measures satisfaction with the library's physical space as a place for independent and group study and learning.
3. Affect of Service measures satisfaction with customer service provided by library employees

The results of the LibQUAL+ survey help the Library identify the priorities of our users and provide guidance during our budget process – what are the most effective uses of the Library's scarce resources?

We received 1,327 completed surveys from 662 undergraduate students, 426 graduate students, 176 faculty, and 63 staff. The Library analyzed the results by discipline and constituent group (undergraduate, graduate, faculty, staff), compared Portland State data across time (we have LibQUAL+ results from 2003 and 2006), and compared Portland State data to national norms and our peer institutions.

Some of the overall findings are

- Information Control (breadth and depth of library print collection, electronic resources, the library website, and ease of access to information) is a priority for library users;
- over time (2003-2008) expectations regarding electronic and print collections, ease of access, and a well-designed website have increased;
- faculty and staff are not satisfied with the accessibility of Library resources or collections;
- and expectations of and satisfaction with "Library as Place" are low.

We appreciate your taking the time to tell us what you want from the Library. We take your concerns seriously and will be working to improve what we can to better meet your expectations.

For more information, including the full analyses and a selection of user comments, go to <http://library.pdx.edu/surveymain.html>.

#### Contributors:

Jocelyn Duffy, Pamela Gabourie, Julie Guzzetta, Anne Keech, Tom Raffensperger, Joshua Seaman, Helen Spalding, Wendy Stewart, Kim Willson-St. Clair



*Did you know that you can check out a good novel at the Portland State Library to read in your free time?*

*You can search [Vikat](#), the online catalog, by author or title. Just remember to invert the author's name, for example, Hemingway, Ernest or Garcia Marquez, Gabriel. Great novels like Haruki Murakami's A Wild Sheep Chase or Alice Walker's The Color Purple won't be found in a Fiction/Literature section like your local public library or bookstore. Novels will be found by language or place:*

*PG Russian Literature*

*PL Asian Literature*

*PQ French, Italian & Spanish Literature*

*PR English Literature*

*PS American Literature*

*So the next time you need to take a break from your studies, check out a novel at the Library.*

# Spring Term 2009 – Events & Exhibits

## IKONEN EINER GRENZANLAGE ICONS OF A BORDER INSTALLATION

Photographic Search for Traces in  
Today's Berlin

### Exhibit

**Branford P. Millar Library, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
March 3 - April 14, 2009**

In cooperation with the Goethe Institute San Francisco, the Portland State Library hosts a touring photo exhibition designed and implemented by students from the University of Paderborn, Germany.



## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: The Fall of the BERLIN WALL Film and Lecture Series

**Smith Memorial Center 238**



**4:30 pm to 6:30 pm**

**Films - April 1 - April 3**

*Nicholaikirche* (1995) - Wednesday, April 1

A chronicle of the peaceful demonstrations at St. Nicholas Church, Leipzig, East Germany that lead to reunification.

*Der Irrationale Rest* (2005) - Thursday, April 2

Three old friends meet nearly twenty years after two failed in their attempt to escape to West Germany.

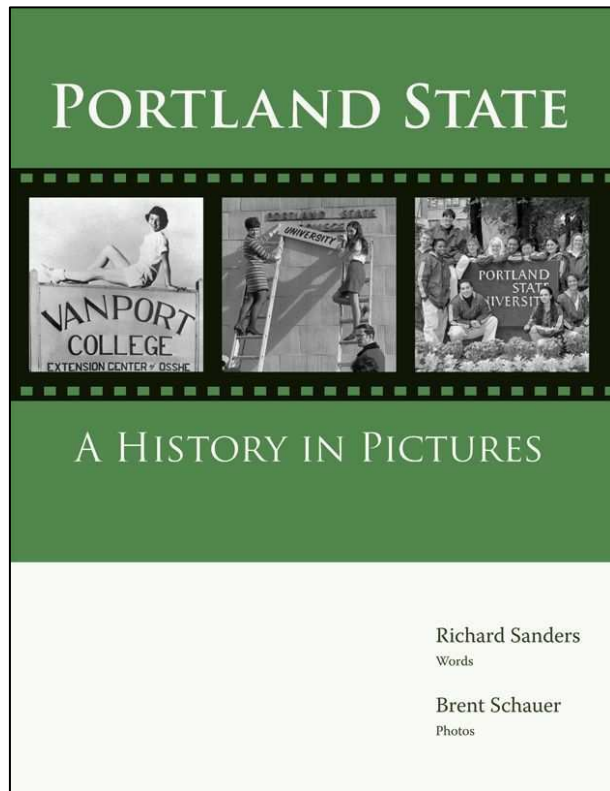
*Ein Volk Sprengt Seine Mauer* (1990) - Friday, April 3

This documentary details the history and fall of the Berlin Wall.

**Lecture - Monday, April 6**

Professor Steven N. Fuller, Portland State University, presents,  
"A Year in East Germany 1984-1985: Ein Jahr in Der DRR 1984 -1985."

The exhibit and the accompanying film series & lecture are sponsored by the PSU Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Portland State University Library, Die Deutsche Sommerschule am Pazifik, The German American School of Portland and the Goethe Institute San Francisco.



*Portland State: A History in Pictures*  
**Book Launch Celebration**  
**Friday, April 24, 2009**

**Branford P. Millar Library, 2nd floor**  
**5 pm - 7 pm**

Join us in celebrating the launch of ***Portland State: A History in Pictures*** on Friday, April 24, 2009!

Three years in the making, the book, *Portland State: A History in Pictures*, features more than 300 color and black-and-white photographs that document Portland State's history, events, and people from its early days as a temporary extension center to the nationally recognized urban research university that it is today.

A project of the Retired Association of Portland State (RAPS), *Portland State: A History in Pictures*, written by Richard Sanders '57, with photo editing by Brent Schauer and text editing by Charles White, Professor Emeritus, with Clarence Hein '65, will be for sale at the Book Launch Celebration.

**Portland State University: An Archival Review, 1946 to the Present**

**Exhibit**  
**April 20 – June 5**  
**New Books & Exhibits Area, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor**  
**Branford P. Millar Library**

**Spotlight on Portland State University Faculty Authors:**  
**Tony Wolk & Molly Gloss**

**4 pm Tuesday, May 19**  
**Branford P. Millar Library, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Room 160**

Come enjoy readings from the faculty authors, Tony Wolk reading from his new novel, *Lincoln's Daughter*, and Molly Gloss reading from her latest novel, *The Hearts of Horses*. The authors will also talk about the writing process.



**All events and exhibits are open to the community and free.**