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## Where is the library in course management software?

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# Where is the Library in Course Management Software?

OCLS Conference / May 5-7 2004

Marianne Buehler  
RIT Library

# Presentation Contents

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- RIT DL student profile & who uses what CMS product
- Library information in CMS - Why?
- Library information in CMS - How?
- Working with RIT faculty / staff
- Prometheus & FirstClass resources
- Evaluation & selection process for a CMS
- Library-Influenced CMS Standards – Why?

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“The lines between on and off-campus students and courses are blurring as technology is incorporated into all aspects of education.”

Beagle, D. (2000, July). Web-based Learning Environments: Do Libraries Matter? *College & Research Libraries*, 61(no4), 367-79.

# RIT DL Student Profile

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- RIT On-Campus DL classes– 25%
- RIT Distance Learning – 75%
- RIT Blended – new-ish trend  
(35 official courses)
- RIT Distance Learning courses using:
  - FirstClass - 50%
  - Prometheus – 50%

# Library Information in CMS

## Why?

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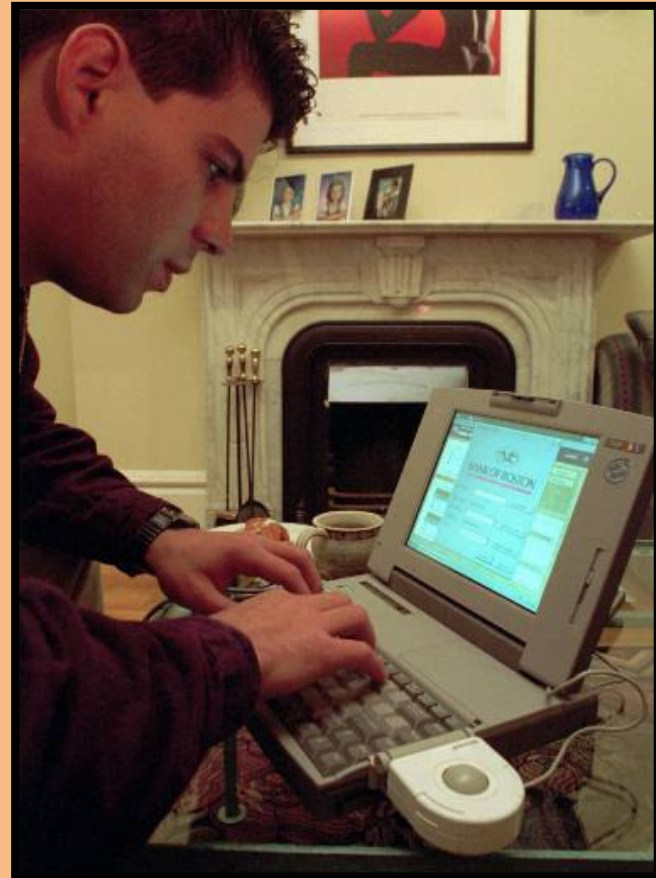
### *Non-Traditional Profile*

- Entire course content is in the CMS
- Library sites can be cumbersome
- New resources / how to use them?
- DL students study nights / weekends - available research assistance?
- Library information – relevant starting point...

# Library Information in CMS

## How?

- Partner with faculty
- Engage university staff
- Work with tech or DL department



*Bank of Boston, AP Photo Archive. 10 April 2003.*

# Partnering with Faculty



*Middle East Peace Talk, AP Photo Archive. 10 October 2001.*

- Offer inputting of library resources
- Show faculty what resources / where to input
- Create/offer course on integrating library resources
- Teach classes on using CMS



# Engage University Staff

- Support staff for faculty:
  - Other librarians
  - Office administrators
  - Teaching assistants



Germany, AP Photo Archive. 13 October 2001.

# Work with Tech or DL Departments

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- Provided specific resources for students in **Prometheus**:
  - Created a course content module:  
*Navigating the RIT Library*
  - Librarian contact info specific to course number ranges
  - DL/OL librarian listed with subject specialist

Edit View Favorites Tools Help

back Search Favorites Media

https://mycourses.rit.edu/adm/course\_redirect.cfm?user\_key=4351698&whois=700C6334-C137-45F2-B5347410241C2124&iruyxd=2971815&lkjrt=11

9 775.70 myCourses

SYLLABUS SYLLABUS

UTILITIES COURSES MORE INFO

Phone: 585-475-HELP (4357) or 585-475-2810 TTY

In Person: Gannett Building, Room 7B-1113

Hours of Operation: <http://www.rit.edu/its/help/>

Navigating RIT Library:

Need to do research for a paper or project? Here are [RIT Library](#) resources & services to get you the information that you need:

Marianne Buehler is your **CAST library liaison** and is also the **Distance/Online Learning librarian**. Contact her at: [mabwml@rit.edu](mailto:mabwml@rit.edu) or 585.475.5589 or Room 05-1450 or [one2one live chat](#).

- **...From Your Librarian** are recommended databases (by subject & college), library catalogs, research guides, select websites, & recently added materials to the collection. **Research databases encompass full-text articles / electronic books / abstracts & citations / images**
- **more!** - no full-text available in a database? Click on the **MORE** button to see where you can get the full-text.
- **Doing Library Research** - includes how to: find & evaluate materials, use databases (4 minute Flash presentation), employ citation formats, and more...
- **Research Guides & Tutorials** - course & subject-specific guides, career guides, database tutorials-also check out the [avoiding plagiarism resources](#)
- **E-Content Finder** - another tool to locate online full-text journal articles & books
- **Einstein-RIT Library's online catalog** - includes on-site library materials, electronic resources, such as online journals / books...
- **Connect NY** - another book resource with over 3,000,000 more titles you can borrow
- **WorldCat** - bibliography of over 48 million books, journals, internet resources
- **Information Delivery Services (IDS Express)** - Order books, journal articles and more if you cannot locate them in Einstein, ConnectNY or in databases-at no cost to you. **Distance Learners must order all materials thru IDS Express.**

Internet

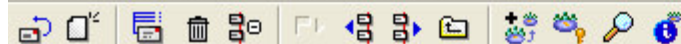
“By integrating and linking the Library’s catalog and online databases [and more] into the courseware environment, students and faculty are only a click away from accessing many of the information resources relevant to their course assignments from within courseware.”

Shank, J. D. & Dewald, N. H. (2003, March). Establishing our presence in courseware. Adding library services to the virtual classroom. *Information Technology and Libraries*, 22(1), 38-44.

# Work with Tech or DL Departments

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- Provided specific resources for students in **FirstClass**:
  - Wallace Library Conference on every desktop
  - Link to DL/OL student resource page  
<http://wally.rit.edu/userservices/dl.html>
  - Subject-based / DL course pathfinder



Reference Question



DCE-VAX Acct Info.



Library Chat

Information Archive

Name	Size	Subject	Last Modified
Marianne Buehler	2K	Core info for Online/Distance Learners	4/29/2004 9:40 AM
Marianne Buehler	60K	Ref. Librarians with subject expertise	4/9/2004 9:13 AM
Marianne Buehler	42K	Downloading FirstClass & other software	9/25/2003 9:14 PM
Marianne Buehler	66K	DCE account info and activation	9/25/2003 9:10 PM
Marianne Buehler	67K	Full-text journal articles available	7/2/2003 1:33 PM
Marianne Buehler	34K	Connect NY	7/2/2003 1:32 PM
Marianne Buehler	34K	Writing Resources	7/2/2003 1:31 PM
Marianne Buehler	33K	Citation Formats	7/2/2003 1:30 PM
Marianne Buehler	45K	Thinking Critically / Evaluating WWW Res	7/2/2003 1:29 PM
Marianne Buehler	54K	Scavenger Hunt for Online Learners	7/2/2003 1:28 PM
Marianne Buehler	44K	Welcome to the Wallace Library Conference	7/2/2003 1:28 PM
Marianne Buehler	50K	Full-text newspaper articles available	7/2/2003 1:27 PM
Marianne Buehler	57K	E-BOOKS - books available online	7/2/2003 1:27 PM
Marianne Buehler	44K	Why would I use Library Chat?	7/2/2003 1:26 PM
Marianne Buehler	47K	Online Library Instruction	7/2/2003 1:26 PM
Marianne Buehler	36K	Database PROBLEM REPORT Form	7/2/2003 1:22 PM
Marianne Buehler	46K	Copyright / Plagiarism info	7/2/2003 1:21 PM
Marianne Buehler	72K	Links to useful library resources	7/2/2003 1:20 PM
Marianne Buehler	61K	Direct link to Wallace Library homepage	7/2/2003 1:20 PM
Marianne Buehler	49K	Interlibrary loan is FREE to ALL students	7/2/2003 1:19 PM
Marianne Buehler	35K	Live Reference Help	7/2/2003 1:02 PM
Marianne Buehler	66K	Electronic Course Reserves	7/1/2003 9:35 AM
Marianne Buehler	57K	Course-specific online tutorials	7/1/2003 9:25 AM
Marianne Buehler	53K	Computer based training tutorials	7/1/2003 9:16 AM



# E-Reserves in Prometheus & FirstClass



Learning. AP Photo Archive. 24 March 2003

## *Automatic Authentication*

- Prometheus – has existing request template
  - E-Reserves easily incorporated
- FirstClass – had to be created

# Evaluation & Selection Process for a CMS

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## *Informal*

- Ongoing feedback opportunities
  - Online suggestion box
  - Spring / other faculty/student surveys
  - Other manifestations...



# Evaluation & Selection Process for a CMS

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## *Formal*

- OL / Info Tech Services/ Library team
  - Choose RIT CMS – create RFP
  - Faculty / staff input
- OL - main contact with CMS companies
  - Request modifications
  - Modifications made with open source product
- Academia needs to encourage/pressure CMS companies to incorporate the library as a prominent feature.

# Library-Influenced CMS Standards – Why?

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- Best use of librarian expertise
- Best use of library collections
  - Physical & online
- Minimum - link to library / librarian
- Maximum – collaboration with faculty in delivering class, equal access to CMS, add customized links, lead chats, discussions, OR monitor a message board related to research queries.

# Library-Influenced CMS Standards – Why?

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- Student awareness of expensive purchased / leased research tools
- Librarians – expertise & time collecting authoritative resources / organizing info
- Essential to get maximum value from institutional \$ and expert investments

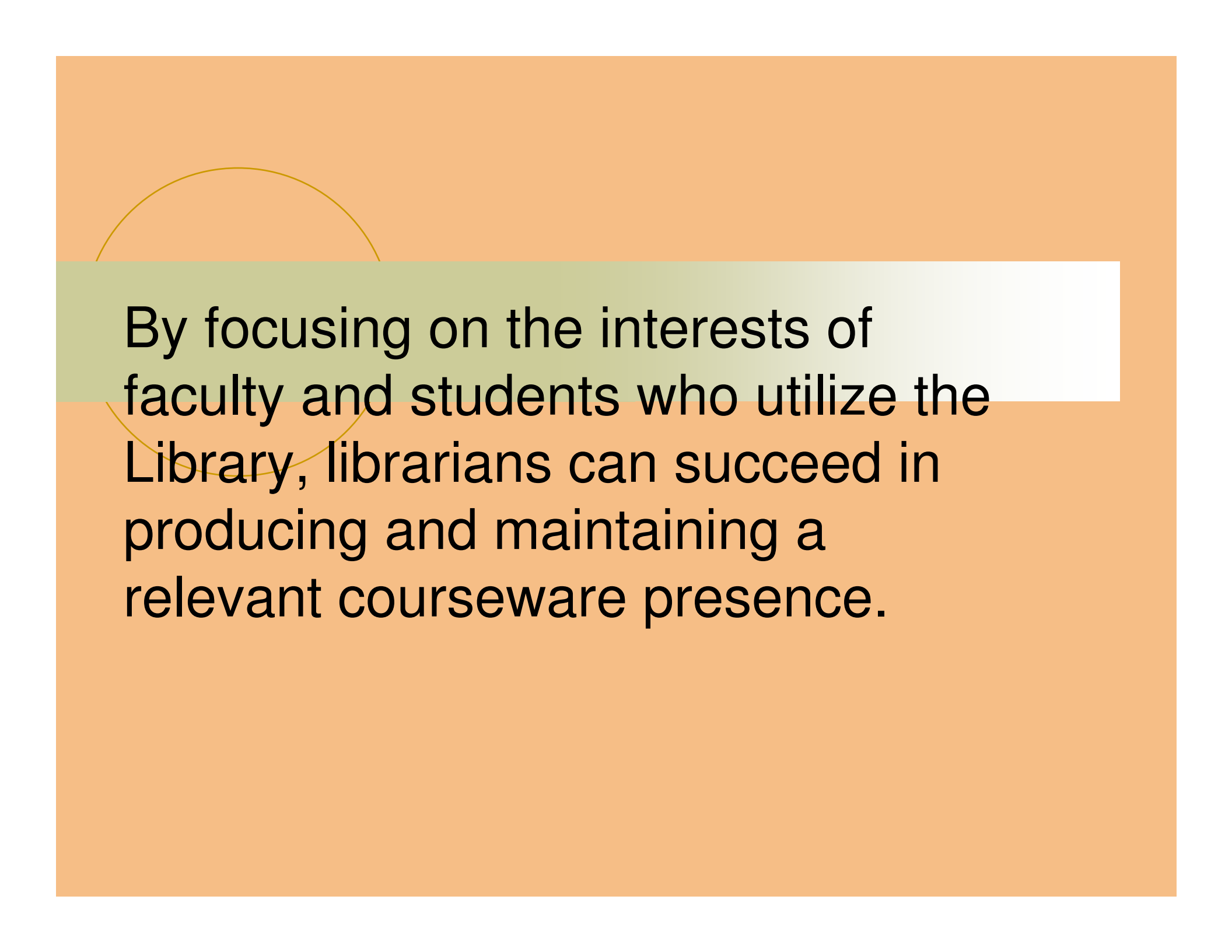
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Including a library component will enable DLs and other online students to realize the importance of reliable sources and equate their academic research success with the Library that resides in close proximity to where their courses are located.

# Necessary Features in CMS

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- E-Reserve component
- Clickable library icon
- Library as menu item, populated with:
  - Research information
  - Online instruction
  - Librarian contacts
  - And more...



By focusing on the interests of faculty and students who utilize the Library, librarians can succeed in producing and maintaining a relevant courseware presence.