

To: Members of the Divinity School Community
From: Beth Bidlack, Bibliographer for Religion and Philosophy
Date: March 31, 2008
Re: What's happening in the Library (news for spring 2008)

Greetings from the Library! This quarter I would like to highlight a few online resources and the exhibits currently on display in the Special Collections Research Center (SCRC).

First, I would like to mention three online resources which may assist you in your research and teaching. What do you do when you need to consult a chapter in Professor Fishbane's *Biblical Interpretation in Ancient Israel* and the library's copies are all checked out? Well, you could purchase your own copy, but better yet, you could consult the library's electronic version via [Oxford Scholarship Online](#). OSO provides full-text access to selected Oxford University Press books in philosophy and religion, as well as other subjects. A [complete title list](#) for religion is available. What if Wikipedia has crashed and you need quick access to the birth and death dates of the patron saint of librarians? You could go to [Oxford Reference Online](#) and consult *The Oxford Dictionary of Saints*. ORO contains many important dictionaries and encyclopedias published by Oxford. One way to access these and other electronic resources is to go to the [Library's homepage](#), then select [database finder](#) (under electronic resources). Type "oxford" in the title search box and make sure the "contains" radio button is checked, then click "go." You should see a list of several resources from Oxford. The Library also has a subscription to [SpringerLink](#), a full-text resource for over 1,200 journals and 10,000 books published by Springer and others, including some journals published by Brill. I encourage you to browse SpringerLink's holdings in religious studies. You can browse by content type (e.g., journals, books) or by subject collections (in this case humanities, social sciences, and law). For example, when you browse journals in religious studies (via the humanities etc. limit), you should see a list of 32 titles, including *Biblical Interpretation* and *Numen*, two of my favorites. You can then use the RSS feeds to keep up on the latest content of specific journals.

Second, there are three exhibits in SCRC, which may be of interest to you. The first is in the main gallery, in the series of wall cases on the left as you enter SCRC: **Images of Prayer, Politics, and Everyday Life from the Harry and Branka Sondheim Jewish Heritage Collection** ([see press release](#)). The second exhibit is in the alcove gallery, in the three floor cases in the alcoves on the right: **Discover Hidden Archives Treasures**. This exhibit includes an interesting assortment of recently uncovered treasures from our archives and manuscripts collections. Some of the items on display include a set of Clifford Geertz paper dolls, one of Eliade's pipes, an Oreo Big Stuff cookie, and a Nipper (the RCA dog) and victrola salt and pepper shaker set. Finally, if you make it through these exhibits and venture past the doors into the main part of SCRC (the staff there are very friendly, just tell them Beth sent you), in the Rosenberger Gallery you will find **The Spirit of the Orient and Judaism: From the Ludwig Rosenberger Library of Judaica**, an exhibit that "examines the ways 19th- and 20th-century Jews shaped their own identities through real and imaginary encounters with the Orient."

I can be reached by email bbidlack@uchicago.edu, by phone 773-702-8442, or in person in JRL (Joseph Regenstein Library) room 461. If you have any questions or concerns about the Library, please don't hesitate to contact me. If you need some help identifying resources for your research or teaching, please let me know. Best wishes for the spring quarter! By the way, Jerome (c. 341-420) is the patron saint of librarians. His feast day is September 30th.