



MUSE NEWS

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Project MUSE® Newsletter

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MUSE announces plans for JSTOR linking relationship

by Elizabeth W. Brown

MUSE USERS WILL SOON HAVE YET ANOTHER way to link to MUSE article content from outside the MUSE site. *Project MUSE* is working with JSTOR on an exciting agreement which will provide for linking within eighteen journals whose content is divided between MUSE and JSTOR. MUSE and JSTOR will provide links at the journal level so that users can navigate between the holdings on both sites for each of the 18 journals. In addition, both resources will eventually integrate article-level links into their browsing and searching interfaces. Thus, users with access to both MUSE and JSTOR will be able to follow links to MUSE articles from JSTOR tables of contents and search engine results. MUSE also plans to provide links to JSTOR articles, inaugurating MUSE's plans to begin providing links to external full-text resources.

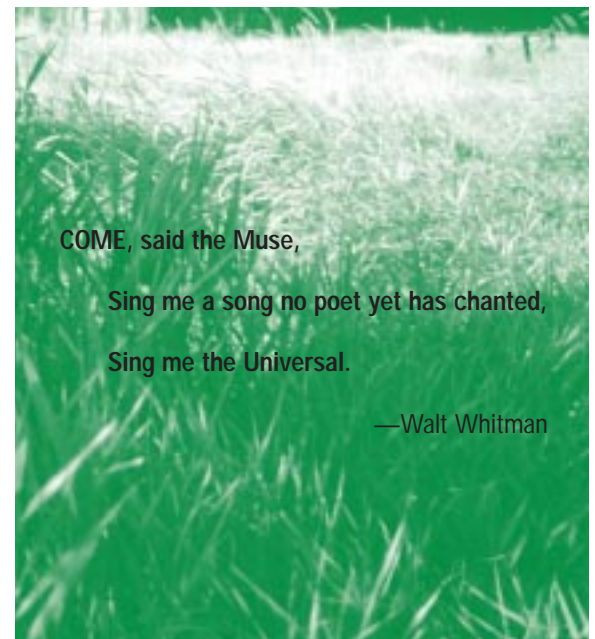
Significantly, JSTOR is working with some of the journals' publishers to close gaps in digital coverage between the end of JSTOR holdings and the beginning of MUSE holdings. Coverage of a journal in MUSE begins with the year the title joins the project. JSTOR's moving wall can result in gaps between the end of current JSTOR coverage and the start of coverage in MUSE. Journals from the Johns Hopkins University Press already have a complete run available between the MUSE and JSTOR holdings, and JSTOR has recently filled in the coverage for MUSE journals from the Duke University Press. JSTOR anticipates filling missing volumes from some of the other shared titles later this spring.

MUSE estimates a substantial overlap—almost 65%—between its customer base and JSTOR participating institutions, making this agreement one of its most significant linking arrangements to date. Being able to browse and search all entire available issues of the

journals in one step will provide a tremendous boon to users of both MUSE and JSTOR. A graduate student with a list of articles needed from *ELH*, for instance, would be able to browse and gain access to the articles from the entire run of the journal from whichever site he or she wishes to use, regardless of whether the full-text of the articles resides in MUSE or JSTOR. The agreement would also provide for linking between other MUSE journals added to JSTOR in the future, as well as other journals participating in JSTOR which subsequently join MUSE.

"We are really excited to be working with JSTOR to join our journal holdings together in this unique and innovative linking project. Judging from the reaction to our preliminary announcement of the project at ALA

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COME, said the Muse,

Sing me a song no poet yet has chanted,

Sing me the Universal.

—Walt Whitman



Greetings!

I am delighted to join *Project MUSE*® as it enters its eighth year of successful operation. In the four weeks since I started, I have been impressed with the positive feedback from our users in the library community, the dedication of the staff, the spirit of collaboration among our partners, and the high quality of the content. Congratulations to all of you for working so hard to make MUSE so successful.

In 2002, we plan to build on our current success with several major initiatives. These initiatives include the creation of a new monthly usage-statistics package, enhancements to our search engine, links to JSTOR for the back issues of select journals, and the addition of several new journal titles in 2002.

We invite all of you to participate in the future of MUSE's success by letting us know what features you would like us to add. For example, we welcome your feedback on the following ideas we are "musing" about:

- 🌿 Journal titles and subject areas you'd like to see included
- 🌿 Improvements that you would like to see added to our search engine and navigation
- 🌿 Customization and personalization features that would benefit our readers
- 🌿 Ways to enhance our readers' experience, such as access to back files, instructional tools, calculators, audio, and video
- 🌿 Better tools for the library community and our partner presses, such as usage statistics and discussion forums

On behalf of the entire MUSE staff, thank you for your support in 2001 and we invite you to join us in making even more important developments in scholarly publishing in 2002.

Aileen McHugh
Director of Electronic Publishing

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

COMPUTERS IN LIBRARIES
March 13–15, 2002
Washington, DC
Project MUSE Booth #524

ALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
June 15–18, 2002
Atlanta, GA

Opinions Wanted!

Project MUSE is planning for the future, and we'd like your help to ensure that our plans best meet your needs. We invite all interested librarians at subscribing institutions to participate in our online survey regarding search engine features, linking to related resources, and other linking initiatives currently under consideration. This survey gives you the opportunity to rank which new features and initiatives would be most useful to you. It also provides an opportunity for you to tell us what kinds of new content you would like to see in MUSE and in what subject areas we should expand our collection.

Because the survey covers a wide variety of topics, we welcome multiple responses from the same institution. There is an option to take a brief one-page version, or to provide responses to an additional page of more in-depth questions.

So, please tell us what you think! The survey can be found at:

<http://euterpe.press.jhu.edu/~ebrown/feedback.html>

We appreciate your help in planning for future MUSE development! 🌿



Project MUSE® NEWS

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LINKING PARTNERSHIPS

Bring Users to MUSE

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT *Project MUSE* gained several new linking partners in the last half of 2001, and many will have operational links to MUSE soon.

This past fall, Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA) implemented links to MUSE articles from its databases, which include *Linguistics & Language Behavior Abstracts* and *Sociological Abstracts*. Mutual subscribers to MUSE and these databases should contact CSA about enabling links to MUSE.

MUSE also recently signed an agreement with ABC-CLIO, whose *Historical Abstracts and America: History and Life* databases contain references to over 60 journals in MUSE. History researchers will greatly benefit from links to MUSE articles directly from the abstracts in these important resources. ABC-CLIO plans to have links working later in the spring. Contact Vicky Speck (VSpeck@ABC-CLIO.com) at ABC-CLIO for more information.

Additionally, MUSE entered into an agreement with Minerva M/e/o/s to include MUSE journals in their online gateway. M/e/o/s is a journal delivery system offering browsing and searching of journals from one interface, among other services.

Currently, MUSE is finalizing an agreement with NISC, whose databases include resources that cite MUSE journal articles in many different fields. Look for links from NISC databases to MUSE later in 2002. MUSE is in discussion with EBSCOhost to link to MUSE articles this year, as well.

MUSE's Linking Partners (to date)

EBSCO Online
InformationQuest
Minerva M/e/o/s
Swetsnet Navigator
ABC-CLIO
Cambridge Scientific Abstracts
EBSCOhost (linking agreement expected soon)
ISI Web of Science
NISC (linking agreement expected soon)
OCLC FirstSearch Electronic Collections Online
OVID
Philosophy Documentation Center POIESIS
SilverPlatter SilverLinker

Project MUSE encourages customers to suggest vendors which would be good candidates to link to MUSE. Please contact Liz Brown at ebrown@jhu.edu and include the name of the vendor and the specific product(s). MUSE will then follow up with the vendor to investigate whether a linking relationship is possible. 🌿

THE LIBRARIANS

at Project MUSE

NOT EVERYONE IS AWARE THAT *PROJECT MUSE* employs three full-time librarians (all equipped with an MLS degree) who apply their expertise to improve the high standards of the MUSE experience.

Two of these librarians, Bill Kulp and Elisa Tan, are Authority Librarians/Indexers who perform the important subject analysis and indexing that makes MUSE the high-quality research tool that it is. The Library team is particularly excited about their newest member, Elisa Tan. Hailing originally from mainland China, Elisa is an expert in a number of fields. Not only does she hold a BA and an MA in History from two different Chinese universities of Beijing, but she also has her MLS from Clarion University. Elisa played an important role as the Project Coordinator for the Pinyin conversion at the U.S. Census Bureau Library. With her solid background in the social sciences, linguistics, and library science, Elisa Tan is a powerful addition to the MUSE team.

Project MUSE indexers assign Library of Congress Subject Headings to all substantive

articles in MUSE. As a service to the Library community as a whole, the MUSE indexers, especially MUSE indexing veteran, Bill Kulp, actively contribute new subject headings and heading changes to SACO. This initiative helps enhance MUSE subject access while enriching the library science field in general.

Meanwhile, third librarian, Liz Brown, moved to the Johns Hopkins University Press from the Eisenhower Library in 2001 to work full-time on MUSE. She oversees and manages indexing and metadata development, in addition to search engine development and linking of external products to MUSE. She is currently working hard to extend linking initiatives (see lead article on JSTOR), to develop usability testing, and to plan reference citation linking for *Project MUSE*. Liz Brown has worked on MUSE since coming to Hopkins in early 1998.

We congratulate the librarians at *Project MUSE* for their skills and dedication to the fine art of information classification and management! 🌿

New Director of Electronic Publishing

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT AILEEN MCHUGH HAS JOINED THE JOHNS Hopkins University Press as the new Director of Electronic Publishing. In this capacity she will be overseeing *Project MUSE*, as well as other electronic initiatives. Before arriving at Hopkins, Aileen was Executive VP and Editorial Director of Scientific American® Medicine, formerly a division of Scientific American, Inc., which published journals, books, and continually updated scholarly references in print and online format. Aileen was also Director of Professional Reference Publishing for WebMD, Inc., and Publisher of Current Science. Aileen clearly brings with her a wealth of editorial and managerial experience in the field of academic publishing.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Aileen attended St. Joseph's University for her undergraduate degree in English. She then received her MA in English from Temple University, writing her thesis on Victorian novelist, George Eliot. While at Scientific American® Medicine, Aileen realized the potential of new media to expand access to scholarly information and took courses in electronic publishing at New York University.

Aileen is impressed by all that *Project MUSE* has accomplished, which she credits to its unique partnership with The Johns Hopkins University's Milton S. Eisenhower Library and with its partner university presses. Such partnerships, she feels, enable scholarly presses and libraries to realize the opportunities of new media while minimizing the considerable risks and costs involved. "I look forward to working together with the scholarly community to build on the success of *Project MUSE* and to take better advantage of the promise of digital media as a tool for increasing access to information." In the immediate future, Aileen anticipates adding enhancements to improve the reading experience, such as more audio and video, forums, and instructional tools. She also wants to develop new usage tools for our library and press partners, so that we can better understand what readers need from digital media.

We wish Aileen McHugh the best of luck in all of her endeavors! 🌿

BY THE NUMBERS

MUSE Summary Statistics As of December 31, 2001

SUBSCRIBERS

**Total Database
Package Subscribers** 956

By Institution Type:

Large Academic (>2,000 FTE)	547
Small Academic (<2,000 FTE)	171
Community/Junior College	164
Public Libraries	8
High Schools	20
Other Special Libraries	46

By Location:

United States	803
International	153

By Collection:

Full Database	767
Arts & Humanities	25
Social Sciences	11
Johns Hopkins University Press	153

CONTENT

Articles & Reviews	23,527
Issues	2,362

USAGE

Database Hits	79,046,145
Article Views	6,001,722
Increase from 2000	113%

Top 5 Journals by Usage:

Bulletin of the History of Medicine
Modern Fiction Studies
Postmodern Culture
Callaloo
Journal of Democracy

GROWTH

New Subscribers (since 1/1/2001)	26
Participating Titles (new for 2001)	25
Participating Publishers (new for 2001)	3
Total Participating Journals	195
Total Participating Publishers	28

Midwinter, we anticipate librarians will share our enthusiasm,” notes Aileen McHugh, Director of Electronic Publishing at *Project MUSE*. “This is the first of many new initiatives we are considering at MUSE to create an even more enriched and useful research environment for users.”

Once *Project MUSE* finalizes the agreement with JSTOR this spring, MUSE will provide links to the respective JSTOR journal homepages. MUSE will also announce a timeline for implementing article-level links with the goal of providing a demo at the MUSE user group meeting at ALA Annual this summer. 🌐

The following MUSE journals are part of this linking project:

<i>American Journal of Mathematics</i>	<i>Journal of the History of Ideas</i>
<i>American Literature</i>	<i>International Security</i>
<i>American Quarterly</i>	<i>Journal of Higher Education</i>
<i>Brookings Papers on Economic Activity</i>	<i>Journal of Money, Credit and Banking</i>
<i>Callaloo</i>	<i>MLN (Modern Language Notes)</i>
<i>Demography</i>	<i>Philosophy and Public Affairs</i>
<i>Eighteenth-Century Studies</i>	<i>Reviews in American History</i>
<i>ELH (English Literary History)</i>	<i>Shakespeare Quarterly</i>
<i>Hispanic American Historical Review</i>	<i>Social Forces</i>
<i>Journal of Interdisciplinary History</i>	<i>Transition</i>
	<i>World Politics</i>



More Search Improvements Continue

MUSE continues to refine its search interface in response to librarian feedback and usability testing. This spring, the search engine team will implement new help screens in pop-up menus. In addition, new links on the search screens will provide context-sensitive help. The goal is to make help more accessible and easier to use.

Refining searches from the results screen will be easier than ever: a new “modify search” link on the results page will help users resume working with the previous search on the search screen. Users will also still be able

to search and narrow their results from the results screen.

The above features are all customer requests. In addition, MUSE will implement an improved sorting feature that will make changing the order of results clearer and easier. Implementation of new cascading stylesheets will improve and make the display consistent between browsers and platforms.

One of the next search engine projects is examining how links to JSTOR articles (see article on page 1) can be incorporated into the search interface in a user-friendly way.

“MUSE’s efforts to improve the search interface are a continuous process. Testing and suggestions from users have been key in deciding which features we’ll implement and how these will be prioritized. We appreciate continued feedback from users and librarians—particularly those who have willingly participated in in-depth interviews at the last two ALA conferences,” notes Liz Brown, *Project MUSE*’s metadata librarian and search engine coordinator.

As always, MUSE invites feedback and suggestions about the search engine to musesearch@jhu.edu. 🌐