WIDGETS AND GADGETS:
DYNAMIC TOOLS FOR DYNAMIC LIBRARIES

David Dahl & Carissa Tomlinson, Towson University
This workshop will help you discover how quick and easy it is to make a website, course page, or blog more interactive and dynamic with easy to create widgets and gadgets. With no programming skill, little technological skill, and no money, you’ll be able to easy embed dynamic reusable web content on your library’s web pages.
Introduction

A widget is simply an easy way to customize your website or blog with dynamically updated content.

- There are many, many, many different kinds of widgets!
- Widgets have many, many, many applications in a library setting.
- Widgets are EASY!
MeeboMe Chat Widget

- Give your patrons another way to contact you, directly from your library website!
- Allow patrons to IM you without requiring a IM account.
- Setup Meebo accounts for individual librarians and put a MeeboMe Chat Widget on your subject guides and course pages.
Twitter Status Update Widget

- Use twitter to share information with your patrons.
- Embed important library updates on your website.
- Share web resources of interest to your community.
- Promote events to your patrons.
- Display messages to communicate with classes or community groups.
WorldCat List Widget

- Use the WorldCat List Widget to create lists of books to display on your subject guides.
- Display a list of new titles acquired by the library.
- Add a list of books to a readers’ advisory web page.
This encyclopedia is an extensive look into the ancient Roman and Greek civilizations.

To browse the contents of the item go to: e-book version

*Oxford encyclopedia of ancient Greece and Rome* - Michael Gagarin, Elaine Fantham

Call Number: REF DES 095 2010

ISBN/ISSN: 0195170726

[Link to e-book version]
Google Custom Search Widget

- The web can be an overwhelming place, why not help out your patrons by targeting their search to the most relevant websites!
- Limit by topic area for online subject guides or course pages.
- The custom search can even be used to create a library website search!
Google Custom Search Widget

Embedded below is a Google Custom Search Engine that searches only selected websites relevant to South Asian studies. Site suggestions welcome. Includes the following categories:

- College and University sites
- Book and/or Video vendor sites: good for contents and synopses of recent publications
- Governmental and non-governmental organization sites

Create your own Custom Search Engine
Google Calendar Widget

- Stop sending all your events to your webmaster.
- Keep your events list current without any HTML!
- Using Google Calendar, multiple people can add events to your library’s calendar.
### Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 9</td>
<td>8:00am CPC Meeting (Aldana)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00pm AFST 485 (JG/Robinson)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3:00pm Faculty Senate Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:00pm Christopher Corbett Reading: The Poker Bride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 10</td>
<td>2:30pm Germ 302 (Kostova-Wolf) 2:30-4:00 (259)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:00pm Baltimore Bibliophiles Lecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 11</td>
<td>1:00pm Library/Reference Workshop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00pm Graduate School Library Session (SC) 1:00-2:15 (7th floor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00pm ARCH 340 (Goldsberg) 259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3:00pm library focus group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 12</td>
<td>1:00pm POLI 100Y (SGr/Miller) 1:00-2:15 (259)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 18</td>
<td>9:00am Council of Library Directors Mtg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 23</td>
<td>9:20am EAVD 203 (W)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time
Delicious Tag Cloud Widget

- Proudly display your web resources in the form of a tag cloud.
- A Delicious tag cloud will link to resources you have identified and tagged in your Delicious account.
- The more you use a tag, the \textbf{bigger} the word appears in the cloud.
- Patrons can then simply click on a subject (tag) and see all of the resources in that category.
Many newspapers and magazines have multiple feeds that could be integrated into various parts of a library website or blog.

Our example will show you how to feed NYT’s Sunday Book Review and NPR’s What We’re Reading into a single RSS feed that will dynamically update on your page.
RSS Widget- Newspaper or Blog

**LexisNexis** Provides current, full-text access to US and world news publications, radio and TV broadcast transcripts.

**Biography Resource Center** Includes biographical information on more than 150,000 people from throughout history, around the world, and across all disciplines and subject areas. Search by the person’s name or use the “Category Browse” to see a list of artists.

**Arts and Humanities Citation Index 1988** Provides access to current and retrospective bibliographic information and cited references found in nearly 1,130 of the world’s leading arts and humanities journals.

See the Art Subject Gateway for additional databases.

**Searching for Images**

**ARTstor** Contains nearly 500,000 images offering an overview of world art, architecture, and visual culture.

- Introducing the New ARTstor (4:27 min. video)

**AP Images** Contains over 10 million current and historical photographs from the library of The Associated Press.

**Flickr** Flickr is a social network for photo sharing. Many Flickr members offer their work under a Creative Commons license. To limit your search to these photos, check "Only search within Creative Commons-licensed content" in the advanced search options.

**American Visionary Art Museum**

**Baltimore Museum of Art**

**Contemporary Museum**

**Maryland Art Place**

**Walters Art Museum**

**NYT > Art & Design**

- The Koons Collection
- Arts, Briefly: Buyer of Giacometti Sculpture Is Revealed
- Art Review | Long Island: Processing Alex Katz, From Sketch to Finish
- Art Review | Connecticut: When British Building Began With Compass and Ruler
- Turning a 10-Cent Comic Book Into a Million Bucks
- At the Whitney, Busting Out Quietly
- Exhibition Review | Yale Center for British Art: It Took Tools to Build a Revolution
- Face Pages: Top Reader of Modern Art

**Click Here: Top Stock Tweets**
RSS Widget - Database Search

- Many databases allow you to complete a search and feed the dynamic results directly on to your webpage or blog.
- This could be a great addition to a resource guide or a course page.
- This example will show you how to do the search using an EBSCO’s database.
RSS Widget - Database Search

Resources for NURS 710 - Evaluation in Nursing Education

General Nursing Resources:
- **Nursing Subject Guide**
  Use the Nursing Subject Guide linked above for journals, database and websites on a variety of nursing topics.
- **Additional Nursing Resources**
  This page highlights additional general nursing multimedia tools, organizations, print resources and online government publications.

Class Specific Resources:
Organizations:
- American Nurses Association
- National Student Nurses' Association
- Association of Community Health Nurse Educators
- National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Services

E-Journals:
- Journal of Nursing Education
- Nurse Educator
- Nursing Education Perspectives
- Nurse Education Today

E-Books:
- Nurse as Educator
- The Role of the Preceptor: A Guide for Nurse Educators, Clinicians, and Managers
  Ebrary | RT74.7 R65 2006eb
- Distance Education in Nursing
  Ebrary | RT73 056 2006eb

Articles on Nursing Education Evaluation

If you are off-campus you will be asked to login to view the articles. Some articles may not appear with a full-text link; click the Find It button on the article citation to see if the library owns the journal.
Delicious allows you to save various web links and organize them by tags.

You can feed all of your tagged resources or just those with a specific tag directly on to your webpage or blog.
Student Tickets Available for John Adams Dinner

The Library would like to offer CSU-Pueblo students a special price for Friday night's John Adams activities! The evening includes a sneak preview of the nationally acclaimed John Adams Unbound exhibit, a Colonial themed dinner, and a dramatic presentation by speaker Bill Chrystal acting the character of John Adams. Tickets are regularly priced at $35, but students can get tickets for only $15. For more information, see our website at http://library.colorado-pueblo.edu/johnadams.html.

For tickets, contact Outreach Librarian, Julie Frommueller, at 719.549.2826 or...
PollDaddy Poll Widget

- Want to survey or poll your patrons? Poll Daddy allows you to do this directly on your webpage or blog!
- We’ll be creating a quick poll in this example.
PollDaddy Poll Widget

Which U of T library is (or was) your favourite?

- Bora Laskin Library (Law)
- Caven Library (Knox)
- E.J. Pratt Library (Victoria)
- Emmanuel College Library
- Engineering and Computer Science Library
- Goodwin Information Centre/Morrison Pavilion (formerly Sigmund Samuel)
- Hart House Reading Room
- John M. Kelly Library (St. Michael's)
- John W. Graham Library (Trinity)
- Laidlaw Library (University College)
- Massey College Library
- Munk Library
- Thomas Fisher Rare Books Library
- U of T Mississauga Library
- U of T Scarborough Library
- Other: ____________________________

Vote
Tips for using widgets

- Make sure the purpose of the widget is clearly defined.

- Try to customize your widgets to match the layout of your website.

- Don’t “over-widgetize” your pages. Use widgets judiciously for greater effectiveness.

Visit the LibTechTalk Blog to learn more about widgets and other emerging technologies!
http://libtechtalk.wordpress.com