

THE ICONN TIMES

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>reQuest Migration</i>	P.1
<i>\$\$\$ and Sense</i>	P.1
<i>AccuNet/AP Photo</i>	P.1
<i>General Education</i>	P.2
<i>Whom Do I Call?</i>	P.2

NEW TO ICONN:
ACCUNET/AP PHOTO

Two Associated Press photo archives are available to all libraries: an International photo archive and a Euro/Asian photo archive. The former features state, regional and national photos from North America as well as the best of the international photo report. The latter features regional photos from Europe and Asia.

Today, the archives contain over 750,000 photos and continue to grow as hundreds of new photos are added daily from around the World. The archives also include images from significant news events of the 20th century such as World War II and space exploration, as well as photographs of historical figures, political figures, sports greats and celebrities. The earliest photograph available was taken in 1840.

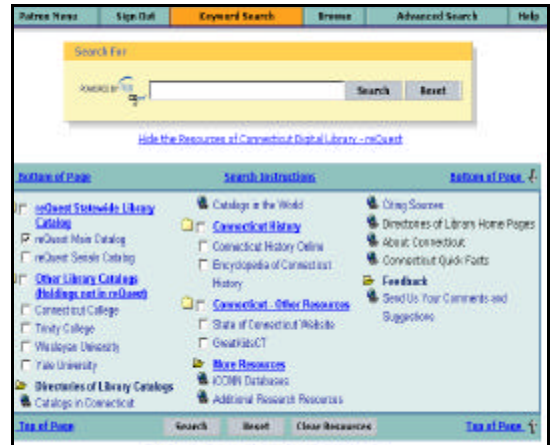
Individual libraries may purchase text and audio archives at a discounted rate.



REQUEST MIGRATES TO NEW VERSION

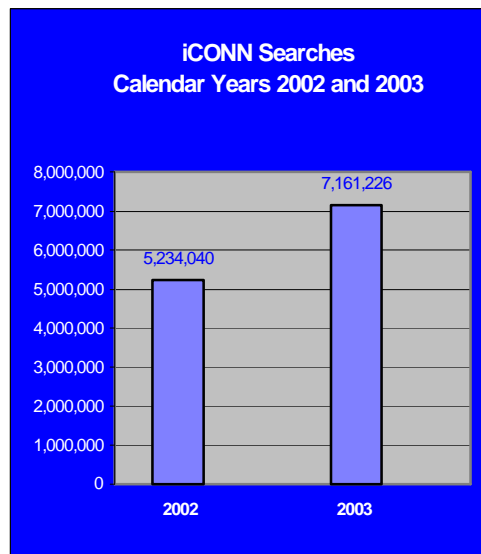
reQuest successfully migrated to a new platform on March 29, 2004. The new version (called "AGent") allows you to select and simultaneously search any combination of library catalogs and databases.

Once we have obtained and entered the necessary profiling information, the system will also be able to display current circulation status ("availability") information, on-demand, in real time, by hot linking from the holding in reQuest to the corresponding record in the local library catalog. To provide circulation status information for all libraries, each library catalog with holdings in reQuest must support the Z39.50 protocol and must be individually profiled in reQuest. We have requested the required Z39.50 profile information from all libraries and library networks with holdings in reQuest.

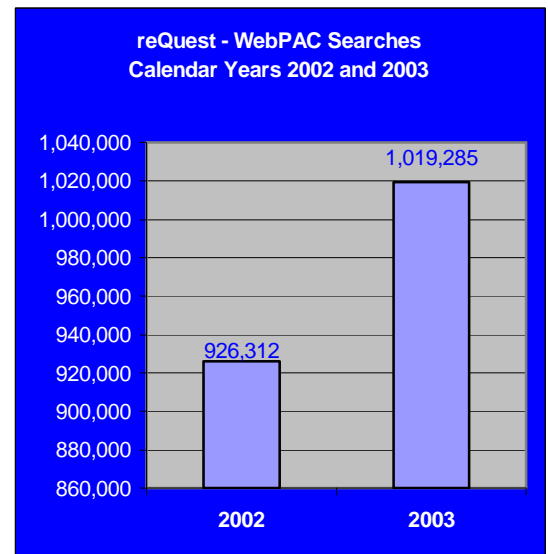


In a second phase of the migration, it will be possible to include all iCONN databases in the search (i.e., as many databases as are compatible with federated searching). This will allow users to search all databases with one search. Phase 2 is scheduled for completion by July 1st.

\$\$\$ AND SENSE



iCONN searches increased by 37%



reQuest searches increased by 10%

WHOM DO I CALL?

Problems with reQuest?

Contact: Auto-Graphics
800-852-8686 (M-F, 8-8)

Academic Universe?

Contact: LexisNexis
(800) 897-3419 option 3 (7 x 24)

AccuNet/AP Photo Archive?

Contact: Accuweather:
814-235-8650 (24 x 7)

CINAHL, PsycINFO?

Contact: EBSCO
(800) 653-2726 x627
(M– F, 7– 7; Sat. & Sun., 9-5)

**InfoTrac, Discovering Collection,
Expanded Academic,
Health & Wellness, Business &
Company Resource Centers,
Informe, What Do I Read Next?,
Professional Collection?**

Contact: Gale Group
800-877-4253, option 4 (24 x 7)

**iCONN Newsstand,
HeritageQuest, ABI Inform?**

Contact: ProQuest
800-889-3358, option 1 (24 x 7)

Wilson Biographies Plus?

Contact: Wilson
800-367-6770, option 3 (24 x 7)

**For other issues, or if you are not
getting the help you need?**

Contact: the iCONN Office
860-344-2475 or
Toll free: 888-256-1222
M–F, 8 am – 4:30 pm
(or leave message)



The iCONN Times is a quarterly publication of the Connecticut Digital Library.

Find it on the Web at:

<http://www.iconn.org/staff/>
under "Support Materials"

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LIBRARIES AND GENERAL EDUCATION IN CONNECTICUT

The Board of Governors, as part of its ongoing consideration of how Connecticut's colleges and universities can deliver the best undergraduate education possible to our students, especially given an increasingly competitive national and global environment, charged the Department of Higher Education to begin a review of the quality standards used to license and accredit institutions and degree programs. The Department convened a statewide General Education Review Taskforce to assist in the review and improvement of the Board of Governors' general education standard so that it reflects the role higher education should best fulfill in preparing students for productive economic lives and for responsible civic lives.

The Taskforce began its work with a fundamental discussion about what constitutes a meaningful core of general education and liberal arts offerings, what common academic experience students should have regardless of major, and what the balance between liberal and professional education might at its ideal best be. During the course of its meetings and deliberations, the Taskforce agreed that general education programs in Connecticut should provide a foundation for undergraduate work and life-long learning; should provide informational substance while developing critical perspective and synthesis; should affirm human and intellectual values while liberating the imagination; and should encourage the critical examination of ideas and provide diverse perspectives necessary to such examination, for these are the processes that form the foundation for responsible citizenship

and an enlightened culture and society.

The Taskforce agreed that general education fulfills these goals by acquainting students with basic knowledge of (a) the past and present diversity of human achievements and perspectives at the levels of individuals, groups, and cultures; (b) how scientific and mathematical inquiry understand nature and enable technological development, and thus shape people's lives by affecting the economic and material frameworks of society; (c) how the arts and humanities foster insights about the human condition and encourage aspirations for the future, and (d) how the social sciences inform us of past efforts and guide future efforts at living together in political, economic, and cultural communities.

The Department of Higher Education and the Board of Governors believe, and continue to affirm, that library collections – core collections and expanded research collections – provide the intellectual and academic resources key to sustaining a strong program of general education in Connecticut. iCONN underwrites and expands both of those essential components, and the Department and the Board are pleased to continue supporting and encouraging iCONN's excellent contributions to the strength of educational programs in our state's colleges and universities.

- Jonas Zdanys

Chief Academic Officer and Associate Commissioner for Academic Affairs, Department of Higher Education

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