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Science and engineering resources on the web

by Jim Van Fleet, Librarian/Information Specialist for Science and Engineering Resources vanfleet@bucknell.edu

ucknell University faculty, staff, and students have a world of information at their fingertips, thanks to the web. The challenge for ISR is to make the very best of these information sources available. We negotiate with publishers, private companies, and scholarly societies to give us access to the information they provide electronically. Two exciting new examples of electronic access are the "Engineering Information Village" and the "e-MATH Home Page".

Our trial subscription to the EI Village, http://www.ei.org/village/hp_norm.htm includes access to Compendex Web, http://CPXWEB.ei.org/, the web equivalent of the Engineering Index.

Compendex is a database of journal articles, conference proceedings, technical reports, and web sites, 1990 to present, which can be searched by keyword, author, title, or journal name. One great advantage for Bucknell researchers is the ability to search the publications of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. The Bertrand Library

subscribes to the complete package of IEEE journals and transactions, and Compendex makes finding articles in them easy. Whether the topic is improved traffic safety or the best engineered materials for golf clubs, earthquakes or black holes,

Compendex can point you to appropriate information sources. Researchers in every field of engineering, computer science, physics, geology, or any science discipline should find Compendex useful.

The EI Village is more than just Compendex. The curious researcher will find links to online journals and other informational web sites. "EI Monitors" is a table of contents service for core journals that will provide custom e-mail delivery of weekly updates directly to the desktop. Bucknell students can find career leads and job postings. Faculty can network with colleagues worldwide. As our trial subscription continues, we hope that Bucknellians will send us feedback on the usefulness of the EI Village!

The American Mathematical Society has created a similar resource for their members, and Bucknell is now an institutional member, allowing access to the "e-MATH Home Page" at http://www.ams.org/. Under the heading of "Publications & Research Tools" is the AMS index to the world's mathematics literature, MathSciNet: http://www.ams.org/msnmain?screen=Review.

This incredible version of Mathematical Reviews on the web indexes mathematics books, journals, and conferences from 1940 to present.

For a number of titles subscribed to by the Bertrand Library, MathSciNet even offers links directly to online journal articles. The SIAM Journals (Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics) can now be searched and read online.

As with EI Village, e-MATH is more than access to a searchable database. It reflects the interests of a community of scholars. There are links to employment and career opportunities, to "What's New in Mathematics", and even to information on "Government Affairs & Education" issues affecting mathematics and science policy.

