

# OSU Libraries' online catalog goes mobile

10-1-09

CORVALLIS, Ore. – Remember when perusing a library's catalog meant digging through endless drawers of Dewey Decimal System index cards?

As it turns out, there's an app for that.

The Oregon State University Libraries have launched a new online catalog for mobile devices that enables students, faculty and other users to search the catalog from their mobile or smart phones. Users "visiting" the library from a mobile device will be directed automatically to [http://library.oregonstate.edu/about\\_mobile](http://library.oregonstate.edu/about_mobile), the mobile catalog site.

"Students are always connected and on the go," says [Karyle Butcher](#), the OSU Donald and Delpha Campbell University Librarian. "Our new mobile services are one more way for OSU Libraries to engage our users in ways that work for them."

The mobile catalog is the latest addition to the Libraries' mobile site, which was released in March 2009. OSU Libraries are the first in the Oregon library system to develop a custom mobile catalog and among the nation's leaders in doing so, as well.

The new catalog allows patrons to search for library materials by keyword, title, author, call number, and ISBN. When a patron finds an item in the mobile catalog, she can then email the record to herself or text the call number to her cell phone. Other features include the ability to search course reserves, limit searches to a specific library branch (Valley Library, Guin Library, and the OSU Cascades library), and set the number of results per search.

In addition to the catalog, the library has also released a mobile application that provides students with real-time availability of computer workstations in the Valley Library.

Later this year, the OSU Libraries plans on adding more innovative features to the mobile site, including an application that will assist students in finding friends in the library and an application that couples OSU archived images in the [Flickr Commons](#) with a walking tour.

For more information please visit [http://library.oregonstate.edu/about\\_mobile](http://library.oregonstate.edu/about_mobile).

**About the Valley Library: Oregon State University's main reference center and information repository, the Valley Library is home to more than 1.4 million volumes, 14,000 serials and more than 500,000 maps and government documents.**