



Press Kit
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News Summary ACRL 2009

ProQuest's effective application of technology and precise combination of content is driven by our unique user community.

In the current economic environment, our role as an information partner is to ensure that we focus our resources on the new products and technologies that deliver the most value to libraries and their users. That means listening intently and responding to a unique community: researchers.

ProQuest zeros in on researchers, finding the precise common denominators that mean success to these users. At the ACRL Conference, this commitment is evident in the news we're releasing here in Seattle:

- We're supporting students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities by offering full year subscriptions to Black Studies Center™ free of charge or at reduced rates to all HBCU libraries
- We're developing new resources, such as *Black Abolitionist Papers, 1830–1865*, that illuminate vital pieces of history
- We're helping graduate students navigate graduate school life with the *GradShare™* service
- We're using technology to boost search results in products like *ABI/INFORM Complete™*
- We're making microfilm more accessible with *ProQuest Digital Microfilm™*

Want to know more about the news in our press kit and ProQuest's vision for 2009? I'd be happy to connect you to one of our executives, experts in the information industry.

Please let me know if I can help you further.

Thank you,

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For immediate release

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ProQuest Supports Historically Black Colleges and Universities during Economic Crisis

*HBCU's to Receive Free or Low Cost Access to The Most Comprehensive Black Studies
Database*

Ann Arbor, MI, March 12, 2009 – To address the impact of the economic crisis on American Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's), ProQuest is offering full year subscriptions to its acclaimed Black Studies Center™ free of charge or at reduced rates to all HBCU libraries. Depending on the size of each school's full-time enrollment (FTE), all participating HBCU libraries will enhance their interdisciplinary research and teaching with 50% discounted or free access to the Black Studies Center's foundational essays, full-text journals, multimedia, historic indexes, and the *Chicago Defender*, a premier Black newspaper of record.

"While these challenging economic times have a broad impact, the magnitude of the burden HBCU libraries are facing requires urgent action." said Marty Kahn, CEO of ProQuest. "Black Studies Center is a cornerstone resource – a significant foundation for HBCU libraries in ensuring research goes on uninterrupted. As a partner to libraries and students, we're committed to ensuring access to it."

"This outstanding resource will be a tremendous asset to the libraries of Historically Black Colleges and Universities at a time of great need," Janice Franklin, University Dean of Library Services, Alabama State University, and board member of the HBCU Library Alliance. "Our students and faculty will have an opportunity to access valuable information about the history, culture, and contributions of African-Americans from a single, comprehensive, knowledge resource. We are indeed grateful to ProQuest for this remarkable gift that will serve our

institutions as an important research tool for scholars seeking to learn the rich heritage of African-Americans, worldwide.”

ProQuest conceived the plan in response to customer reports of dire financial circumstances, which are so rampant that they’re attracting the attention of national media. *The New York Times* reported on the financial crisis facing America’s HBCUs in February. The article notes that “historically black institutions have two significant disadvantages when it comes to weathering hard times: smaller endowments, which mean heavier reliance on tuition and fees, and a higher proportion of disadvantaged students who are now facing a credit crunch when they apply for loans.”

HBCUs with an FTE of 2,000 or less, the group at the greatest financial risk, will receive one year’s free access to Black Studies Center. HBCUs with an FTE higher than 2,000 will receive 50% off Black Studies Center’s one-year subscription price if they order by December 15, 2009. Nearly half of all HBCU libraries qualify to receive free one-year subscription access.

A finalist for a 2009 CODiE Award, Black Studies Center is a digital core collection of primary and secondary sources that record and illuminate the Black experience, from ancient Africa through modern times. Students at HBCU libraries will have access this comprehensive resource, which includes:

- **Schomburg Studies on the Black Experience**—These exclusive studies from leading scholars are the product of a partnership between ProQuest and the New York Public Library’s Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. The collection features commissioned essays from leading Black Studies scholars with links to full-text key resources, images and newsreel footage.
- **The *Chicago Defender* archive, 1910-1975**—Presented in full text and full page image archive of the *Chicago Defender*, the nation’s most influential Black newspaper, provides unique insight and perspective into events that shaped the African American experience in the United States through the Depression era, both World Wars, the Korean and Vietnam wars, and the entirety of the 20th century civil rights movement.
- **International Index to Black Periodicals-Full Text (IIBP-FT)**—A comprehensive, scholarly resource offering more than 100 full-text periodicals, coverage of 262 titles, and a citation backfile from 1902 to present, covering Black periodicals from North America, the Caribbean, Africa, and Europe.
- **Black Literature Index** --A renowned source for Black literary heritage that contains more than 70,000 bibliographic citations for fiction, poetry, and literary reviews published in 110 Black periodicals and newspapers between 1827-1940.

For more information, HBCU librarians may contact their ProQuest representative at pqsales@proquest.com or 800-521-0600, ext. 3344.

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ProQuest to Make Authoritative Record of the Global Abolitionist Movement Available Online for the First Time

Ann Arbor, MI, March 12, 2009 – ProQuest has culled a key resource from its microfilm vault to create a new, comprehensive digital record of the 19th century African American movement to abolish slavery in the United States and its territories. Available fall 2009, *Black Abolitionist Papers, 1830–1865*, is an authoritative record of the international abolitionist movement from the Black perspective. The collection's 14,000 primary source materials include hand-written letters, published speeches, editorials, articles, sermons, and essays from archives across the U.S., Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland, and Jamaica. Previously many of these rare documents were only available on microfilm. *Black Abolitionist Papers, 1830–1865* will be available as a standalone resource, or as an add-on module for *Black Studies Center*[™].

"Fundamental to ProQuest's mission is developing resources that illuminate vital pieces of our collective past," said Mary Sauer-Games, vice president of publishing for ProQuest. "We're continuing to mine our vault for gems of information, such as the *Black Abolitionist Papers*, and combine them with our renowned technology to make deep historical research easier and more widely accessible than ever."

Black abolitionists were highly instrumental in bringing the issue of slavery to the consciousness of international society in the 35 years before the start of the U.S. Civil War. *Black Abolitionist Papers, 1830–1865*, is the largest collection of materials that identifies almost 300 antebellum African-American activists and provides a voice to these reformers who were a persuasive force in the 19th-century anti-slavery movement, but who have been virtually ignored in most existing accounts of history. *Black Abolitionist Papers, 1830–1865*, provides a pristine, unequalled record of the activism of the Black

community. The collection offers an extraordinary opportunity for historical research and teaching. Some of the subjects covered include northern/southern separatism within the church, black colonization and emigration, black political action, church support of black educational institutions, and black intellectual and social life.

Black Abolitionist Papers, 1830–1865 is the latest addition to ProQuest's suite of resources to support the study and teaching of Black History, including *the Black Studies Center*, *ProQuest Historical Newspapers Black Newspapers*, *The HistoryMakers*®, *Twentieth Century African American Poetry*, *African Writers Series*, *ProQuest Civil War Era*, *Ethnic NewsWatch*™ and *The African American Biographical Database*. For more information on ProQuest diversity resources visit www.proquest.com.

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ProQuest's Free Q&A Community for Grad Students Continues to Grow

Ann Arbor, MI, March 12, 2009 – The GradShare™ service creates a national forum where graduate students can share their challenges to both get advice from peers and find solutions offered by their library or graduate school. Since its launch at the American Libraries Association Midwinter conference, GradShare™, this free online question and answer community is growing with new users, *Expert Advice* columns, and enrolled partner schools.

“ProQuest has long been a technology focused company,” said ProQuest Innovation Officer Samir Singh. “Our innovation strategy is to develop and adapt technologies for our products in a way that will really make a difference for users. GradShare™ provides a social networking community service in a space that we deeply know – graduate research – which will help students have a more successful academic experience.”

GradShare has seen rapid growth and adoption since its launch. On average the site has had 100 visitors daily. In the last 30 days, it has also had visitors from every state in the United States, and 51 different countries. These new visitors have generated dozens of new questions and answers regarding graduate life and work.

In addition to new visitors, 27 universities have joined GradShare including: Florida State University, Wake Forest, University of Maine, Truman State University, College of Charleston, University of North Dakota, University of Central Florida, Montana State University, University of Minnesota, Northwestern University, Rochester Institute of Technology, and Memorial University of Newfoundland. By joining GradShare, these participating institutions are helping extend students' peer networks and raise awareness of the quality solutions offered by the library and graduate school.

ProQuest also continues to add *Expert Advice* columns like those from Sarah Starr - Director, Funding and Research Development, The Ohio State University Office of Research. For example, her article, "How to find help for writing a proposal", identifies the best sources of help including sponsor's program officers, awards databases, Grant writing workshops, and others. *Expert Advice* provides explanations and insights relating to graduate school topics from experienced professionals such as faculty members and administrators.

ProQuest invites graduate students to sign-up at www.gradshare.com. ProQuest also invites academic deans, Librarians, and Graduate School Administrators to enroll in the service to allow their graduate students to discover resources available at their institutions. Academic institutions that wish to enroll or obtain more information should visit http://www.gradshare.com/school_signup.html .

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ProQuest ABI/INFORM Complete™ Provides Gateway for Global Economic Crisis Research

New index terms and content make research on emerging business issues faster, more insightful

Ann Arbor, MI, March 12, 2009 – ProQuest is adding new index terms and content to ABI/INFORM Complete™ that will streamline research of such emerging business trends as the global economic crisis. ABI/INFORM Complete provides a digital gateway to more than 4,000 business journals, and will include new content from Incisive Media, Business Monitor International, and Economist Intelligence Unit. Manual indexing by a team of editors makes ABI/INFORM’s search results “smart,” returning content that goes beyond the user’s specific search terms, to directly and quickly expose the most relevant information.

“For over 35 years, ABI/INFORM Complete has empowered librarians to deliver a genuine value-add to business researchers by uncovering data that’s often not exposed by a general search engine,” said Jeff Wilensky, vice president of publishing for ProQuest. “Our evolving index terms and smart use of search technology give researchers an edge in surfacing results. ProQuest takes the heavy-lifting of refining search results off the user, so researchers quickly and easily find the content they want to use.”

ABI/INFORM™ vocabulary managers monitor new and emerging business trends, linking relevant content to words and phrases that business researchers might search. The result is a constantly evolving vocabulary that employs natural language to make the search process easy and intuitive. This process, in combination with our Smart Search technology, allows ABI/INFORM Complete to perform content searches, rather than just keyword searches that users find with open Web searching. As a result, searchers seamlessly uncover more content that’s unique and insightful. For example, in 2001,

vocabulary terms were added to support research of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Terms like *airline security*, *sectarian violence*, *suicide bombings*, and *weapons of mass destruction* captured the essence of hundreds of articles added to the database immediately after the attacks. A researcher entering any of those phrases would retrieve relevant, focused articles every time.

The ABI/INFORM Complete vocabulary, already known for its strength in business and economic terms, continues to grow with the addition of new terms pertinent to the U.S. economic crisis, enabling libraries to streamline research on one of the most studied topics in business research today. Further, the new terms are retrospectively indexed to surface relevant archival content— providing an opportunity to compare similar events throughout history with a single search. The new terms include *American Recovery & Reinvestment Act 2009-US*, *Credit default swaps*, *Emergency Economic Stabilization Act 2008-US*, *food prices*, *jet fuel prices*, and *auction rate securities*, among others. Vocabulary managers add an average of 150 terms annually, continuously evolving the ABI/INFORM Complete controlled vocabulary to reflect current business trends and meet the needs of researchers.

New content has also been added to ABI/INFORM Complete through ProQuest’s agreement with Incisive Media, a leading business publisher on subjects that include Risk Management, Finance, Insurance, Law, Accounting, Real Estate, Banking, and IT/Computing. The agreement will make 65 Incisive journals available online through ProQuest. In addition to new sources of content, ABI/INFORM Complete continues to expand beyond journal articles to include business cases, SWOT analyses, industry reports CEO profiles, as well as market research of all kinds, including trends and forecasts. The new content enriches the breadth of search results, making in-depth research easier and more efficient. Agreements just signed with Business Monitor International (BMI) and the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) will add nearly 700 country-focused reports to ABI/INFORM Complete.

ProQuest is combining these new index terms, content, and article types with platform technology that empowers users in new ways. Features such as ProQuest Smart Search, the ProQuest Search Widget, Email Alerting Service, My Research, Reference Linking and RSS Feeds allow users to leverage the power of Web technology to reduce search time and improve the use of content.

For more information on ABI/INFORM Complete or any ProQuest research product, visit www.proquest.com.

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New Newspaper Titles Added to ProQuest Digital Microfilm™ Help Libraries Fill Gap in Online, Full-Image Newspaper Coverage

Ann Arbor, MI, March 12, 2009 – Libraries have a critical need for online access to the complete full-image backfiles of newspapers from 2008 through today. Until the recent launch of the ProQuest Digital Microfilm™ service, much of this content was only available in microfilm format. ProQuest is continuing to close this gap by adding essential newspaper titles to its ProQuest Digital Microfilm™ solution. Today, five newspaper titles are live and agreements have been signed to make an additional ten titles available soon.

“We’re partners with libraries, supporting their quest to get people to the content that’s going to make a difference for them,” said Rod Gauvin, senior vice president of publishing for ProQuest. “Classifieds, advertisements, photos, stock charts, editorial cartoons, birth notices, and other images are vital to piecing together the complete story of a time period or event. ProQuest Digital Microfilm™ creates a path to that powerful content that lies in traditional film and makes it readily accessible online.”

The Wall Street Journal, American Banker, Barron’s, Sacramento Bee, and The News & Observer (Raleigh, NC) are now available through the ProQuest Digital Microfilm™ solution. The following newspapers will be added soon: Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, The Washington Post, Minneapolis Star Tribune, Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Times (Record edition), Los Angeles Times (Library edition), Baltimore Sun, Hartford Courant, Orange County Register, and St. Louis Post Dispatch.

ProQuest Digital Microfilm™ solution allows multiple, simultaneous users from subscribing libraries to view full-image newspaper content held in microfilm from any computer with internet access, thereby overcoming the on-site, single-user barriers of traditional microfilm. The Digital Microfilm™ process works by scanning microfilm of selected newspapers from the

2008 volume year and forward, supporting the resulting digital copy online. Content is easily browsed, and supported with additional data -- publication title, year, month, day, and page -- that make it easy to skip through "reels." In this online environment, the user can view enhanced high resolution grayscale images, scroll through issues, zoom, crop, print, save, and email images.

While ProQuest is known for its vast digital information collections, it continues to produce many products in microform since libraries often prefer to store research collections, dissertations, newspapers, and indexes in this more permanent, technology-neutral medium. Founded as a microfilm publisher and building this special expertise under its UMI® brand, ProQuest owns the largest commercially available microform collection in the world. Its 2.2 billion page images deliver 500 years of information, drawn from a myriad of literary, journalistic, and scholarly works. Every year ProQuest adds millions of images of contemporary information to its microfilm vault.

To learn more, visit www.proquest.com

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About ProQuest LLC

ProQuest creates specialized information resources and technologies that propel successful research and lifelong learning. A global leader in serving libraries of all types, ProQuest offers the culmination of experience from many respected brands, including CSA™, UMI®, Chadwyck-Healey™, SIRS®, and eLibrary®. With Serials Solutions®, Ulrich's™, RefWorks®, COS™, and Dialog® brands now in the ProQuest family, the company continues to build on its legacy of responsive people in partnership with librarians.

ProQuest consistently seeks new ways to support researchers and quality research. More than a content provider or aggregator, ProQuest is an information partner, creating indispensable research solutions that connect people and information. Through innovative, user-centered technology, ProQuest offers a depth and breadth of global content that includes historical newspapers, dissertations, and uniquely relevant resources for researchers of any age and sophistication—including content not likely to be digitized by others. Inspired by its customers and end users, ProQuest is working toward a future that blends information accessibility with community to further enhance learning and encourage lifelong enrichment. For more information, visit www.proquest.com or the ProQuest parent company website, www.cambridgeinformationgroup.com.