

Princeton Library joins Google Books

Princeton University helps create an online digital library

Soon there may be no need to visit your local library, as Google tries to put books online.

A new partnership between the Princeton University Library and Google soon will make approximately 1 million books in Princeton's collection available online in a searchable format.

The library will work with Google over the next six years to digitize books that are in the public domain and no longer under copyright.

The partnership is part of the Google Books Library Project, which digitizes books from major libraries and makes it possible for Internet users to search the collections through Google Book Search.

"Generations of Princeton librarians have devoted themselves to building a remarkable collection of books in thousands of subjects and dozens of languages," University Librarian Karin Trainer said.

"Having the portion of that collection not covered by copyright available online will make it easier for Princeton students and faculty to do research, and joining the Google partnership allows us to share our collection with researchers worldwide, a step very much in keeping with the University's unofficial motto of Princeton in the nation's service and in the service of all nations."

One of the goals of Google's library project is to make it easier for scholars and the public to find books they would not be able to find elsewhere.

Digital copies of books from the Princeton collection will be fully searchable, allowing users to employ any key words they choose to search the indexes, tables of contents and full text of books.

Because the books being digitized are in the public domain, users will be able to view the full text of the books and download them for leisure reading, research or printing for later reference.

Princeton is the 12th institution to join the Google Books Library Project. Some other Universities included in the Google Books project are those from collections at Harvard, Oxford, Stanford, the University of California, the University of Michigan, the University of Texas, the University of Virginia and the University of Wisconsin.