

Joseph J. Branin
Professor, Librarianship
Director of Libraries, The Ohio State University

Areas of Expertise

- Information services
- Library collection management
- Information technology and organizational change

Mr. Branin serves as Director of Libraries for The Ohio State University, providing leadership for one of the largest university library systems in the nation. Currently ranked 19th among major research libraries in North America, the OSU Libraries has a collection of over 5 million print volumes, an annual budget of more than \$25 million, and a staff of 430. In partnership with OhioLINK, the Ohio State University Libraries offer its students and faculty one of the most complete arrays of digital information and document delivery services anywhere.

Before coming to Ohio State University in 2000, Mr. Branin was Director of Libraries at SUNY Stony Brook for four years. From 1986 to 1996 he was an Associate Director for Collections and Services at the University of Minnesota Libraries, and from 1977 to 1986 a Humanities Department Head and Assistant Director for Collections at the University of Georgia Libraries.

Mr. Branin has overseen grants from the U.S. Department of Education, the New Media Center, the Council for Library Resources, the Bush Foundation, and the State of Ohio dealing with the introduction of new information technologies to libraries. He has been a consultant to many libraries, and he was a UCLA Senior Fellow in 1991 and a Council on Library Resources Management Intern in 1984 at Columbia University Libraries. He has published and made presentations widely on collection management and information technology topics.

Current Research

Mr. Branin's two most recent articles deal with economic and ownership issues in scientific communications and the changing nature of collection management in a digital library environment. In 1998 he published "Reforming Scholarly Publishing in the Sciences: A Librarian Perspective" in *Notices of the American Mathematical Society* (April 1998, pages 475-486), <http://www.ams.org/notices/199804/branin.pdf>. His article "The Changing Nature of Collection Management in Research Libraries," written with Suzanne Thorin from Indiana University and Frances Groen from McGill University, was published in *Library Resources & Technical Services* (January 2000, pages 23-33) <http://arl.cni.org/collect/changing.html>, and won the American Library Association's 2001 Blackwell's Scholarship Award for outstanding work the field of acquisition and collection development.

Current Library Projects

Mr. Branin is currently leading two major initiatives at the Ohio State University: the \$100 million renovation and expansion of the University's William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library and creation of the "Knowledge Bank," a knowledge management system and institutional repository for the storage, organization, preservation, and sharing of the intellectual digital assets of the University.