



Wright State University

“If you can be in love with a machine, I’m in love with this machine. It is the easiest piece of equipment and technology that you can give to a student to empower them and open vistas that are not available other places.”

– Stephanie Bange, director of the Educational Resource Center

Benefits of Book ScanCenter for Wright State

The Charles and Renate Frydman Educational Resource Center (ERC) at Wright State University in Ohio is a small library with a special mission: to provide intellectual and physical access to state-of-the-art materials, equipment, and services, and to serve as a role model in the use of technology in preparing the next generation of educators and human services professionals.

As soon as ERC director Stephanie Bange saw a demonstration of the Scannx Book ScanCenter at an ALA conference, she knew the ERC needed one. It took a few years to convince everyone – including a reluctant IT department – but she finally got the go ahead.

“I think they bought it just to humor me,” said Bange. “But since we got it, a lot of people are discovering it and saying, ‘This is cool! It’s so much better than what we had.’” Previously, the ERC’s only scanning technology was flatbed scanners connected to PCs, which required users to fiddle with formatting, save it to USB, then return to their own computer to work with or share the scanned file. ERC staff members constantly had to help demonstrate, answer questions about, and troubleshoot the scanners for students.



CASE STUDY

The Scannx system, on the other hand, “is very intuitive in the way it’s laid out, and the way the touchscreen works,” said Bange. “The learning curve is absolutely next to none. This is a great staff time-saver.”

It is also low maintenance. “I don’t have to have my IT guys coming in all the time to clean out cookies.” In fact, colleagues from IT, and other departments who were originally resistant, have since “come over to the bright side.” Now, she sees staff members using the Book ScanCenter, not only for work, but to scan family photos and genealogy records.

Scannx Offers Flexible Options for Diverse Student Needs

Bange is even more excited at how the Scannx Book ScanCenter meets some of the special needs of the students in the ERC.

“Wright State is very supportive of diverse populations. We take great pride in our long-standing reputation for serving people with disabilities and for our accredited rehabilitation services and counseling programs,” she said. “Having touchscreen access to scanning is very important to the segment of the WSU community who use gross motor skills — rather than fine motor skills — to do scanning. So, we’re reaching that portion of the population now.”

Bange even noticed international students who are still learning English need only one demonstration before they become Scannx pros able to email scans to themselves.

For many of Wright State’s students, the 10-cents-per-page it costs to print or make copies can quickly add up to a financial burden. The Book ScanCenter offers a cost-free way to scan, save, share, and collaborate on papers, documents, class notes, and textbook chapters.



CASE STUDY

The Growing Impact of the Book ScanCenter

An average school of 1,000 students typically spends about \$3,000-\$4,000 each month on paper, ink, and toner. The Book ScanCenter encourages students to choose free paperless options, saving resources and money. It also helps the ERC maintain and archive their files without wasting valuable office space. "Paper takes up so much room," said Bange. "It's another way we're going green."

The benefits of Scannx at Wright State may grow beyond the ERC, though. The Book ScanCenter has caught the attention of other departments on campus. "The college technology committee is very wowed by it," said Bange. "The main library also wants to do a demo," and is particularly interested in the partnership between Scannx and OCLC for interlibrary loans through OCLC Article Exchange and ILLiad. In addition, Bange's staff has begun the work of digitizing the Dayton Holocaust Resource Center, which is housed within the ERC. "It's a great way to share really obscure things that you can't access anywhere else," she said.

About Wright State University

Wright State University is a public research university in Fairborn, Ohio just outside of Dayton with an enrollment of about 17,500. Originally founded as a branch campus of The Ohio State University and Miami University, Wright State became an independent institution in 1967, and was named in honor of Orville and Wilbur Wright, who were Dayton natives. In addition to the main 557-acre campus in Fairborn, Wright State maintains a 173-acre campus on the shore of Grand Lake St. Mary's.