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ABE 29000

Dr. Bralts, Dr. Lasdich

**Purdue Libraries and Research Resources**

On September 27, 2016, Marianne Stowell Bracke presented to my ABE 29000 class about her job, and what she can do for us. She is an Agricultural Sciences Information Specialist and a professor of Library Sciences here at Purdue. She works with every department in the College of Agriculture, except the department of Agricultural Economics. Her job is to help faculty and staff find resources for their research within the Purdue Library Catalogue.

The three main lessons I got from her lecture were who to go to for help in finding resources in the library, how to find resources in the library’s catalogue, and what resources the library has to help students and faculty correctly cite their work.

The librarians, such as Ms. Bracke, work in the library to help students and faculty get started with their research, find information to improve a research paper, or manage their citations for the research they conduct.

Though there are many resources for finding reliable information for research, using the library website to find peer review journals is the best and easiest way to do so. The website has links to over 500 databases to find papers to support research papers. If Purdue’s library does not subscribe to the journal, Purdue also has an interlibrary loan program, such that students and faculty can always have access to the best peer reviewed papers without having to pay for them themselves. Finally, students can schedule research consultations with a research librarian in order to obtain the help they need to find the best resources for their research.

Finally, the Purdue Libraries subscribe to EndNote, a program which helps manage students’ bibliographies. It also allows students to ‘cite while they write’, meaning that the software helps create in-text citations and bibliographies for the resources the student has saved in the software.

Immediately after class, I downloaded the EndNote program to help me manage my citations for a paper I am currently writing for a biology class. I also plan to schedule a research consultation for the next paper I have to write, as I know I have a few due in biology as well as the honors project for my thermodynamics class. Overall, Ms. Bracke’s presentation was very helpful, and I plan to use the information presented to make my coursework (slightly) easier than they have been.