Online

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Please send your submissions for the next edition to jrc@aber.ac.uk

Aaron Swartz

There has been huge response online to the suicide of Aaron Swartz, best-known for co-founding Reddit, co-authoring RSS in his early teens, his involvement in the development of Creative Commons, founding DemandProgress.org in the fight against SOPA/PIPA, and as an internet activist undertaking daring stunts to promote his open access, anti-censorship agenda. He was arrested following his mass download of JSTOR articles via the MIT network in 2010 and the subsequent, lengthy federal prosecution has been seen by many, including his family, as over-zealous.

The Electronic Freedom Foundation (EFF) has begun a proposal, "Aaron's Law", to amend the US Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (CFAA) which currently "allows for harsh punishments and makes too many offenses felonies". Meanwhile the Anonymous hacking collective has hacked MIT websites and the site for the US Sentencing Commission.

British Library

The New Testament from the Codex Alexandrinus, the oldest complete Bible, is now freely available to view online following digitisation by the British Library. The press release tells how the manuscript dates from the 5th century, was donated in 1757 by George II, and is one of the earliest known Greek Bibles in existence. The Codex is one of over 800 digitised manuscripts available to browse and search on the British Library web site.

JSTOR

Following a ten-month pilot with 76 journals, JSTOR have now expanded their Register and Read service to 1,200 journals. Anyone can register and view up to 3 articles from these journal archives every 2 weeks.

National Library of Ireland

A number of letters written by the controversial British diplomat and Irish nationalist Roger Case-

ment, together with a selection of official documents, photographs and personal items from the time of his execution for treason in 1916, have been released and catalogued by the [National Library of Ireland](). Twenty-two of these items are currently [freely available to view online]() including Roger's last letter to his cousins before his death, the ticket to permit his cousin Gertrude "Gee" Bannister to attend his trial and his final appeal notice.

Research impact

Meanwhile altmetrics make the information news as pioneers [ImpactStory partner with HighWire Press]() (Stanford University), who will be adding metrics to scholarly content from participating publishers on the HighWire open platform. ImpactStory founders Heather Piwowar, and Jason Priem (who coined the term altmetrics), have built an impact measure based on a range of sources including citations, downloads, bookmarks, recommendations, Facebook likes, tweets, appearances in datasets, slide presentations, software, web pages and comments.

In another development, [Techcrunch]() has reported on rumours that research publishing giant Elsevier, are buying Mendeley, the popular reference management and researcher networking platform. Roderick D M Page has blogged about the pros and cons of both in his [iPhylo]() blog,

and has usefully identified some possible outcomes. Will Mendeley develop functions to charge for articles? Could it become the lead measure of research impact, incorporating altmetrics into Elsevier? Or could it falter as part of a much larger corporation?

Open Access

The Gold model of open access, as favoured in the Finch Report, is to be tested by JISC in a [Twelve-month pilot project]() "JISC APC" in partnership with an intermediary company [Open Access Key]() (OAK) who will manage the processing of APCs (article payment charges) for authors, universities and publishers. The pilot will begin on April 2nd and is intended to "to reduce the administrative burden on the various parties involved in making an article available". JISC will invite UK universities to join soon, as well as beginning talks with publishers. OAK began processing payments for open access in March 2012 and their current agreements include one with [Wiley and the Wellcome Trust]().

The project announcement follows up the release of the RIN's [report](), The Potential Role for Intermediaries in Managing the Payment of Open Access Article Processing Charges (APCs), undertaken with a range of stakeholders and [announced]() on their blog at the end of November 2012.