Online

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BiblioBoard Library

Here's something I'm looking forward to trialling! JISC Collections and Bibliolabs have partnered to offer <u>BiblioBoard Library</u>, comprising a collection of 14,000 e-books and a selection of primary source content, a creator tool where libraries can share their digitised special collections, and an add-on module from the British Library on the 19th Century. One year subscriptions are available to HE via JISC Collections, and users at subscribing institutions can access the resource on their portable devices via the Apple App Store, Google Play or on the Kindle Fire HD.

Cengage Learning

Within days of reporting the launch of their Daily Mail Historical Archive 1896-2004 in June, Cengage Learning filed for bankruptcy protection. The <u>announcement</u> on their website highlights for

Gale customers the security of content via the Portico archive. This <u>article</u> by Nancy K. Herther in Against the Grain tracks the takeovers preceding the launch of Cengage Learning and how they came by their corporate debt.

Digital public library

Bexar County Digital Library in Texas, the first digital public library in the US, opened on September 14th. Their <u>website</u> says they have 800 ereaders, 200 pre-loaded for children, plus computers, laptops and tablets. Patrons will be able to borrow e-readers or use their own kit to gain access to approximately 10,000 titles. This column reported in September 2010 when the first digital academic library opened at the University of Texas.

Getty Trust

The Getty Trust have made more than 4,600 images from the J. Paul Getty Museum available to use without fee or restriction, via their Open Program Content. As noted in their press release, the images are high resolution, and include paintings, manuscripts, photographs and decorative arts. The Getty is extending the Open Program Content to include more images and knowledge resources from their special collections and field projects worldwide.

National Library of Wales

The Boston Manuscript of the Laws of King Hywel Dda of Wales has been made available to view online by the National Library of Wales (NLW) at Aberystwyth. In partnership with the Heritage Lottery Fund, Friends of the National Libraries and the Welsh Government, the rare 14th century manuscript was purchased through auction for more than half a million pounds. It has been painstakingly repaired and rebound, and digital images of the pages can be viewed on the NLW

<u>website</u>, together with more information about the restoration and a video of the unbinding process.

Open Access

The House of Commons Committee on Business, Innovation and Skills published their report on Open Access in two volumes on September 10th. It is critical of the Gold open-access approach taken following the Finch report in July 2012. The chair, Adrian Bailey MP, commented that "Government and RCUK have given insufficient consideration to the transitional period and the vital role of the Green route". Amongst a number of recommendations, the report calls for the reinstatement of the immediate deposit mandate by the RCUK, embargo restrictions (maximum six months for STEM research, 12 months for HASS) and a VAT reduction on e-journals. Adrian Bailey also recognises the financial pressures on universities paying for both journal subscriptions and APCs.