Online Resource Update

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JSTOR Labs/University of Washington Data lab
JSTOR Labs and the University of Washington Datalab have created JSTOR Sustainability, a beta interdisciplinary collection of articles and over 700 topic pages focussing on, “environmental stresses and their impact on human society”. Dr Jevin West’s team at the Datalab had released Eigenfactor Recommends to identify papers based on the Eigenfactor impact evaluation metrics they had developed from citation networks. JSTOR built a semantic index of more than 1,500 terms. By bringing the Recommends and the index together, they created topic pages containing an interactive “Influential Articles” feature of articles in JSTOR with a timeline, plus information about important journals, authors, and related topics. Find out more in their press release including detail on their “flash builds” method, which resulted in the very quick production of a tested prototype.

Open Library of the Humanities
Following the official launch of the Open Library of the Humanities in September 2015 (after two years of planning and with seven journals on board and 99 institutions in the OLH Partnership Subsidy system, and more joining, including Aberystwyth University, the first in Wales to do so), there is more good news. In January 2016 four more subscription journals will join the OLH, benefitting from their collaborative model of Open Access subsidised by partner libraries with no author charges. One of the titles Glossa will be run by the editors and editorial board who recently left the Elsevier-published journal Lingua after they were unable to negotiate a lower article processing charge for articles; a story widely reported in the information industry press. It was heartening to see the presentation from Thomas Eve of the OLH at Aberystwyth a few weeks ago and the great potential for affordable Open Access within this fantastic initiative.

Plume Labs
Thanks to Infodocket for this one: check out this new map which visualises estimated hourly air pollution levels from open data taken from 11,000 stations worldwide. The Plume Air Report World Air Map displays different coloured circles to indicate comparative pollution levels across the globe which you can click on to reveal in specific locations: current pollution levels, an air quality index and yearly average, what the main pollutant is, for example, particulate matter, ozone or nitrogen dioxide and advice regarding activities like outdoor sports, cycling, eating out or bringing your baby outside, with some comparisons with conditions in other cities. There is also a list of cities to browse. Plume Labs are based in Paris and are, “a maker of environmental software for health and

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wellbeing” (from Plume’s 02/12/2015 press release), and their World Air Map is available as a free download to Android and Apple devices.

ProQuest/Ex Libris
Hard to miss the biggest information industry takeover story of last quarter; October 2015 saw the acquisition of library systems firm Ex Libris by ProQuest, content provider and recent acquirer of Coutts. What will this mean for libraries? There’s an interesting article in Ithika S+R by Roger C. Schonfeld highlighting some important questions including how ProQuest will manage product overlap (for example, the discovery services Summon and Primo Central), whether and how the takeover will drive changes in their rivals’ strategies (particularly EBSCO), and the potential for ProQuest (and others) to offer, “what could amount to a nearly completely outsourced digital library solution”.

TELL/Agatha Christie Productions
I’m a big fan of crime fiction so this story in the Bookseller caught my eye; an iPhone/iPad app telling stories based on the Agatha Christie’s short stories about her lesser-known and very mysterious supernatural character Mr Harley Quin. The Game of Thrones actor Gethin Anthony plays Mr Satterthwaite whose role has been updated to a magazine editor with a blog through which viewers can, “participate within the narrative and communicate with the characters in real time”. The app has been developed on the TELL mobile platform in partnership with Agatha Christie Productions (ACP). At the time of writing, the app costs $2.99 on the Apple Apps store.