

Ex Cathedra

The first eLucidate Ex Cathedra, the first word in the UKOLUG e-journal - well, obviously, WELCOME. Welcome to the successor to the UKOLUG Newsletter, welcome to the new world of UKOLUG! A world that, as befits an – or rather the – eInformation Group, is largely electronic.

At its heart, the new website with a password area for members has been long talked about but, in the event, has been produced, and has gone live, very quickly. I think it is pretty good and I should like to congratulate both the designer, and the team who got it live so quickly after the Online Meeting in December – while I was sunning myself in South Africa (well, giving a short course, actually!).

We, the management committee, see the website as being at the centre of everything that UKOLUG is and does, and we hope that you will bookmark it and return to it regularly, as your principal means of keeping up-to-date with both our, as well as industry, events. We plan to make it as dynamic as any website without a full-time webmaster can be. It will grow.

Areas such as the Fact Sheets will be added to, and other, new areas will evolve. As the CILIP SIG whose concern is electronic information, we feel that the site should offer as much as possible to its users. We shall welcome any feedback on the site, as well as ideas for additional member or non-member areas.

Some of you may be in the throws of evaluating eTNA – the e-commerce project that UKOLUG has been market validating. Some of you have had problems logging on – the promised security demands several levels of password control, and the process was probably not well-enough explained in the early versions of the documentation. This is what such testing is designed to find out. Please, can I ask everyone who has signed up to test the system, to complete their questionnaires and return them with as much comment as possible, as soon as possible.

In 2004, we are hoping to have a more extended meetings programme than we have managed in previous years – those of you who have already visited the website will know of several meetings to be held in the first few months of the year: Usability testing, Blogs and Wikis, Information Architecture, Content management, Legal issues, Info-glut, and Reference management to start with.

Also, from 2004, we are offering certificates of attendance for you to add to your portfolio of work towards your continuing professional development. If you need one, just let us know and it will be sent to you after the meeting.

As I write this (some of it from Munich airport!) as Christmas approaches, I am conscious that you will not read it – even with the electronic immediacy of our new eLucidate – until the new year. All I want for Christmas is a new keyboard – you would not believe how many letter-ohs I have had to insert, with a heavy thump (and a sigh) long after the sentence ended – no not keyboard, keyboard! This may explain why Ex Cathedra is a little shorter than usual. I hope you all feel duly rested and refreshed after the Christmas break, and will have a peaceful 2004.

Chris Armstrong
Chair, UKOLUG

Online

**Column Editor: Johanna Westwood, Advisor,
University of Wales, Aberystwyth.**

COPAC

Load of Reading Pamphlets records

COPAC have loaded c. 3,300 records from the University of Reading Library. These records have been created as part of a recent RSLP project, the 19th century pamphlets project, concerned with improving access to 19th Century Pamphlet Collections (1801-1914).

Most of the other project members were CURL member libraries whose records are incorporated into the COPAC database. Adding the pamphlet records from Reading means all the records created for this project are accessible through COPAC. Records created as part of some other RSLP projects will be loaded into COPAC in the future.
(11th November 2003)

National Library of Scotland catalogue load complete
COPAC have completed the load of National Library of Scotland (NLS) catalogue. This is a large legal deposit catalogue (c. 3.5 million records) which enhances the range of materials available on COPAC, particularly those relating to the study of Scotland and the Scots. Most documents are for reference use within NLS only, but those with the class mark prefix 'ILS' are available for inter-library loan.

At the moment a significant proportion of the loanable stock is not recorded in the NLS main catalogue, so will not be visible on COPAC either, but the ILS collection contains items published in Scotland or about Scotland.

EDINA

Go-Geo! Now available as a trial service (17 November 2003)

EDINA and the UK Data Archive have announced that the JISC-funded Go-Geo! - A geo-spatial resource discovery tool - is being launched as a trial service for academic users.

Visit <http://www.gogeo.ac.uk/> and discover details about geo-spatial datasets and related information and resources within and beyond the GB tertiary education sector.

Education Image Gallery - New Service (3 November 2003)

EDINA has been successful in its bid to develop and host a new image service, the Education Image Gallery, using content licensed by the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) from the world-famous Getty Images archive.

Users at subscribing institutions in Further and Higher Education will have free access to a collection of 50,000 images for use in learning, teaching and research. An initial 40,000 images will be available at the time of launch; the remaining 10,000 images will be selected in response to user feedback. Drawing on the vast resources of Hulton Archive, PhotoDisc and the Getty Images News Service (current events and sport), the service will offer approximately 3,000 images per decade from the late 19th century through the whole of the 20th century to the present-day, the 21st century.

Selected by JISC's Images Working Group, the images cover key subject areas across the curriculum including history, entertainment, sport, science, fashion, politics, music, conflict, film, art, leisure and womens studies. Each image is accompanied by extensive metadata, including keywords.

It is intended that the Education Image Gallery service will be available for institutional subscription from the beginning of January 2004, preceded by a one-month free trial period from 1 December 2003.

<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/collections>

Elsevier science direct

<http://www.sciencedirect.com>

Five million articles

Elsevier announced in October that five million articles are now available on its electronic platform, ScienceDirect®. Elsevier's extensive full text collection covers over 1800 journals from the core scientific

literature including titles such as THE LANCET, Cell and Tetrahedron.

COUNTER Code of Practice

24 October 2003 - Elsevier signed a declaration of compliance of the usage reports of its product ScienceDirect®, with the international COUNTER Code of Practice (Release 1) which governs the recording and exchange of online usage data and primarily focuses on journals and databases.

The COUNTER Code of Practice is supported by a global organization of librarians, publishers and their professional organizations, and promotes credible, consistent, and compatible measurement of the usage data from online information resources around the globe. COUNTER (Counting Online Usage of Networked Electronic Resources) is a multi-agency, not-for-profit organization whose objective is to develop and maintain a single, internationally accepted, extendible Code of Practice that allows the usage of online information products and services to be measured more consistently.

<http://www.projectcounter.org/>

JISC

JISC, The UK's Joint Information Systems Committee, announced that it has secured agreements with seven major international publishers via NESLi2, the national electronic journals initiative for Higher and Further Education, since the launch of the new programme in June this year. Discussions, and finalisation of agreements, are continuing with other publishers and it is anticipated that further announcements will be made including Elsevier, Nature, Science and John Wiley & Sons. This will result in a further significant increase in the number of accessible e-journals for 2004.

Web of Knowledge

CCC Available in WoK

WoK announced that users can now access Current Contents Connect from within the WoK platform. The benefits of this move include the ability to use the Cross Search function from the Web of Knowledge portal page.

The Cross Search allows users to Search across ISI Web of Knowledge Products and External Collections. In the search results users will see a list of records and ISI product buttons (including CCC) which users can then click on to enter the individual record. It is most beneficial as a resource discovery tool. Instructions on how to use the Cross Search function can be found in the User Guides and Workbooks on the following page: <http://wok.mimas.ac.uk/support/#documentation>