Press Releases & News

Wiley secures Swets as Global Sales Partner for OnlineBooks

January 24, 2008 – Wiley, a leading global publisher of quality scientific, technical, medical and professional content, is pleased to announce that it has chosen Swets, one of the world's leading subscription services companies, to act as a Global Sales Partner for its range of OnlineBooks. This deal makes the entire range of electronic book material hosted on Wiley Interscience's Web platform available to order directly through Swets.

Wiley Interscience OnlineBooks are available in fully customizable packages of titles, adding flexibility to e-book collection development. Currently housing more than 2,900 titles--with the number rapidly increasing--Wiley Interscience gives libraries access to top quality content in the fields of STM, business, the humanities, finance and others. With COUNTER-compliant usage statistics, libraries can review the usage of their Wiley InterScience OnlineBooks on a title-by-title level and annually swap out titles that are underused.

"We are committed to helping our customers gain access to the information they need in the format they choose," said Arie Jongejan, Chief Executive Officer of Swets. "Ordering OnlineBooks directly through Swets makes it possible for our customers to gain access to the wealth of information Wiley offers in the most efficient and economical manner possible."

"Wiley's collaboration with Swets will broaden access to Wiley InterScience Online Books and enable us to reach users around the world who may not have had access to our content in the past,"

said Eric Swanson, Senior Vice President, Wiley-Blackwell. This advances our objective of delivering more content to more people than ever before in the history of our company."

Yale University Press selects Ingram's CoreSource to manage, sell, and market its digital content

Ingram will provide conversion, hosting, and syndication services

January 7, 2008 – NEW HAVEN, Connecticut – Yale University Press has selected Ingram Digital Group to assist in the development and deployment of Yale University Press's digital publishing strategy to make the Press's titles more widely available.

Under the agreement, Yale University Press will use Coresource – Ingram's suite of asset management and search-and-discover services – to convert, protect, manage, and monetize the Press's digital assets, whether they be sold or marketed as print books or eBooks. This is estimated to involve more than 3,000 documents and other digital assets that are owned by Yale University Press.

CoreSource's Search and Discover Services will enable Yale University Press to market its content much more broadly, including these new ways:

- The Ingram powered "Widget" gives readers an easy way to showcase book titles on their own blogs and social networking sites.
- The Ingram Digital website user interface will enable a full-text search across all of Yale University Press's library of digital assets available for promotion across a vast array of business partners including third-party resellers and content specific websites.
- Ingram Digital's collaboration with Microsoft's Live Search Books program will
 enable Yale University Press to digitize more of their books, make them discoverable through Live Search Books, and monetize them through Ingram Digital's
 eBook sales channels and Lightning Source's print on demand sales channels.

"Yale University Press is committed to making the best scholarship available to the widest possible audience," said Daniel Lee, Manager of Digital Publishing at Yale University Press. "Ingram's breadth of solutions and long history in service to the publishing industry made Ingram Digital the logical partner to assist us in developing a digital strategy that creates the widest set of opportunities for distributing our content."

In addition, Yale University Press has signed an agreement with MyiLibrary, the aggregated eBook platform of Ingram Digital Group. Yale University Press plans to make its frontlist books as well as active backlist titles available through MyiLibrary.

"We are excited to be working with Yale University Press, which is a publisher with a rich heritage in academic publishing and the leadership to engage the brave new world of the digital environment," said James Gray, President and CEO of Ingram Digital Group.

"By working with Ingram Digital, Yale University Press's content also becomes immediately available to the various physical and digital sales channels provided by all the Ingram companies," Mr. Gray added.

'Outstanding ICT initiative of the year' award winner announced

30th November, 2007 – An initiative which has forged a 'partnership' between students and staff, overcome challenges of physical remoteness, a growing number of teaching placements and a high number of part-time students won the JISC-sponsored 'Outstanding ICT Initiative of the Year' award at a prestigious awards ceremony in central London last night.

The e-course team at the School of Dentistry, University of Birmingham, was presented with the award – one of 20 Times Higher Awards presented at the Grosvenor House Hotel in Mayfair – for its development of an e-course which allows users – with no formal training and no need of technical support – to create and contribute podcasts and interactive learning materials.

The e-course developed by the team is wiki-based (so that anyone can create a new page, and set varying editing permissions), with a full range of social networking features, unrestricted file storage and sharing, podcasts, videos, wish lists, and anonymous feedback options, amongst others. The initiative has also seen the provision of interactive captioned videos of procedures to help students prepare for unexpected clinical situations at short notice, as well as an 'intelligent' virtual microscope developed to run on any platform.

The e-course team at the University of Birmingham accepted the award from Dr Malcolm Read, JISC Executive Secretary in front of over 1,200 guests. Deborah White, Director of Learning & Teaching and Head of Dental Public Health at Birmingham, said: 'Not only has the initiative helped students to value independent study and to carry out preparatory work on their own, but it also helps them to reflect on their clinical experiences so that they can prepare better for further clinical experience.'

Giles Perryer, E-course developer and lecturer in Clinical Practice at the University of Birmingham, emphasised the wider impact of the initiative, saying: 'The e-course has had a huge impact on learning and teaching within the School of Dentistry and is generating great interest within the wider community at the University of Birmingham. The e-course is primarily focused on the needs and desires of our students, and every aspect of its design reflects this... We have shown that the overall approach of the e-course in terms of releasing control from web-masters and teachers has had a positive institutional impact... [and] enables staff and students in the wider academic community to fully engage in a learning partnership.'

Professor David Baker, Principal of the College of St Mark and St John and one of the judges, said: 'The e-course team won because of their imagination and innovation. It seemed clear to me that the people involved really had moved us forward in terms of the application of ICT to learning and teaching. The winners provide an exemplar for higher education, which we believe can be rolled out across a wide range of subjects. This is just what the judges wanted to see. It was a difficult decision: the standard and quality of all the entries made the final selection a challenge.'

Fellow judge Norman Wiseman, Head of Outreach and Services at JISC, said: 'The e-course team at Birmingham's School of Dentistry has done a great deal of excellent and innovative work, and their innovations deserve to be recognised in this way."

The other shortlisted entries were:

- Community@Brighton at the University of Brighton
- The Media Zoo at Leicester University
- OpenLearn from the Open University
- The Technocafe at Durham University
- Virtual Pedagogy Initiative at Aston University

Pioneers in information management scoop top awards

28 Nov 2007 – UKeiG are delighted to announce today the winners of the Strix and Jason Farradane Awards, which will be presented at the Online Information conference and exhibition at London's Olympia in December. The awards are sponsored by The Journal of Information Science, published by SAGE, the world's largest, independent academic publisher.

Both awards celebrate achievement in the broad field of information management. The 2007 Strix Award, created in honour of Dr Tony Kent, is made to Mats Lindquist, senior executive officer at the National Library of Sweden. "We're delighted to award the tenth annual Strix Award to Professor Lindquist, "said Adrian Dale, editor of The Journal of Information Science and Online Information conference chairman. "In the world of practical full text information retrieval he is one of the "giants", wholly in the spirit of Tony Kent's contribution in chemical information".

Professor Lindquist won the Strix Award for his key role in the development and significant improvement in accessibility to an information service through the business development of Paralog AB and its TRIP retrieval system. The Award also recognises his sustained contribution over many years to the field of information retrieval.

The Jason Farradane Award, which recognises brilliant work in information science, is made to executive director of Intute, Caroline Williams and the Intute community network. Intute is a free online service, created in partnership with university subject specialists, with over 100,000 links to academic content on the web, as well as a suite of virtual training tutorials and internet information services.

Adrian Dale praised highly the winners. "Intute is a great example of the UK library community taking a long-term, pioneering role in the Internet information environment. Through effective collaboration, they have developed a national service which now has a global reputation."

Intute's origins lie in the 1996 Electronic Libraries programme, where a number of librarians and reSearchers won JISC (Joint Information Systems Committee) funding to develop their ideas for new Internet gateway services. The service has thrived as it has always actively pursued exploring original ways of working online, as a community. Intute has also innovated with new technologies – such as Web 2.0 – but always against balanced judgements about their relative value to education and research.