eLucidate

Vol. 3 Issue 4, July 2006

This issue of eLucidate is edited by Michael Upshall, ConsultMU Ltd, Oxford, tel: 01865 453410, e-mail: michael@consultmu.co.uk

eLucidate is published by UKeiG The UK eInformation Group.

Membership and newsletter subscriptions are handled by the UKeiG Administrator: Christine Baker, The Old Chapel, Walden, West Burton, Leyburn, N Yorkshire, DL8 4LE, tel/fax: 01969 663749, e-mail: cabaker@ukeig.org.uk

UKeiG is a Special Interest Group of CILIP: the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals. CILIP Registered Office: 7 Ridgmount Street, London, WC1E 7AE, Registered Charity No. 313014

Contents

Online

By Joy Cadwallader, University of Wales, Aberystwyth (Aberystwyth Online User Group). Please send your submissions for the next edition to jrc@aber.ac.uk

Google

http://books.google.com/library/

A German publisher has been advised by a court in Hamburg that a copyright law action against Google has little chance of success. Scientific publisher Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft (WBG) had approached the copyright chamber of the regional court of Hamburg for an injunction to stop Google scanning their books as part of the Google Libraries project. To index the book for Google Book Search, Google scans the entire book but permits access to only short "snippets" of copyrighted titles. The court did not accept that this activity in the US infringed German copyright legislation.

Meanwhile Google face a new lawsuit from French publishers La Martiniere Groupe who are claiming damages for each book scanned, citing intellectual property and forgery issues.

IngentaConnect

http://www.ingentaconnect.com/

The addition of content from 11 further publishers from the UK, the US and South Africa has helped to take the number of electronic journal, book and monograph titles available via IngentaConnect to over 10,000. They include the Haworth Press, a US firm with 226 titles, and the UK's University of Buckingham Press.

JISC Projects

http://www.jisc.ac.uk/projects

The National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth has a new, automated system for receiving electronic copies of theses in their digital repository from Welsh universities. As part of the JISC-funded Digital Repositories Programme, the University of Wales Aberystwyth and the University of Wales Swansea have worked with the National Library to provide electronic deposit and access to the doctoral and research masters level theses received as part of their legal deposit.

JISC Collections

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

The UK academic community is set to benefit from a joint project between Oxford Journals (part of Oxford University Press) and JISC to make an archive of 300,000 journal articles dating back 135 years available online. Following a digitisation programme by Oxford Journals, this fully searchable archive will be available without

charge in perpetuity to higher and further education institutions. Subject coverage includes the humanities, science, social science, medicine and law.

NetLibrary

http://www.netlibrary.com/

The Bavarian state library, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, have purchased a subscription to 100 English language NetLibrary ebook titles as part of efforts by the research funding body Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) to increase access to electronic content in Germany. A number of academic libraries in Germany will have access to the ebooks, in the engineering, social sciences, business and arts subject areas, and will subsequently be able to subscribe to further NetLibrary titles to build their own collections.

ProQuest Information and Learning

http://www.proquest.com/

ProQuest are distributing a printable, online 60-day archive of international newspapers via NewspaperDirect to libraries worldwide. ND Press, a service of NewspaperDirect, Canada, includes more than 330 titles from 60 countries in 36 languages, including the Times, Financial Times and the Guardian. Exact replications of individual pages or entire editions may be printed, providing an alternative news media service to subscribing public, academic, government and corporate libraries.

Sage

http://www.sagepub.com/

Sage have announced that they will be offering the full backfile for each of the titles in their Journals Online collection, which are currently available from January 1999, on a title-by-title basis in 2007. The backfile, which covers journals in the humanities, social sciences, and scientific, technical and medical fields, will be available for lease or perpetual access.

TechXtra

http://www.techxtra.ac.uk/

Heriot-Watt University have introduced a new facility that streamlines access to online sources of information in engineering, mathematics and computing. TechXtra provides a range of 10 free services including, "articles, key websites, books, the latest industry news, job announcements, ejournals, eprints, technical reports, the latest research", and a cross-search of 25 free and subscribed databases.

The Royal Society: Publishing

http://www.pubs.royalsoc.ac.uk/

The Royal Society are trialling an author-pays model for open access to journal articles as soon as they are published online. Authors may submit articles for publication using EXIS Open Choice, which is free at point of submission, but subsequently the author can choose to pay to have their article made freely available on the web if chosen for

publication. Royal Society journal articles are not normally freely available until 12 months after the publication date. The currently discounted fees for the new service are £225 per A4 page (usually £300).

World eBook Fair

http://www.worldebookfair.com/

A third of a million ebooks will be freely available during the first annual World eBook Fair, taking place between July 4th and August 4th this year. This event, partnered by the World eBook Library, Project Gutenberg (who are celebrating their 35th anniversary) and others, encourages downloading from the collection provided.

Internet

10th Annual Webby Awards

Susan Miles (s.miles@kingston.ac.uk)

Dubbed "the Oscars of the Internet", the annual Webby Awards celebrate individual and collective achievements of the year on the Web.

12th June saw a gathering of over 600 industry leaders from the Internet and Web worlds in New York for the tenth Annual Webby Awards. In addition to the 69 Webby Awards themselves, there were Special Achievement awards for a number of individuals:

- The Webby Lifetime Achievement Award: **Dr Robert Kahn**, co-inventor of the TCP/IP protocols, and **Prince**, in recognition of his visionary use of the Internet to distribute music and connect with audiences.

- Webby Person of the Year: **Thomas Friedman,** New York Times columnist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The World is Flat: a Brief History of the 21st Century*.

- The Webby Artist of the Year: **The Gorillaz** – http://www.gorillaz.com**,** the world's most successful virtual band and a pioneer in fusing music and animation.

- The Webby Breakout of the Year Award: **MySpace** – www.myspace.com**,** a social networking site.

- Webby Entrepreneur of the Year: **Mark Cuban**, owner of the Dallas Mavericks and HDNet, and evangelist for the power of technology to drive change.

The Webby Awards have been called the "Oscars of the Internet" by the New York Times, and are seen as the leading international award for excellence in Web design, creativity, usability and functionality. They are organised by the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences, which is dedicated to the creative, technical, and professional progress of the Internet and interactive media. Membership of the Academy is by invitation only, and there are over 500 members consisting of leading experts in a diverse range of fields, such as musician David Bowie, Virgin Group founder Richard Branson, business guru and author Tom Peters, Body Shop founder Anita Roddick, fashion designer Max Azria, "Simpsons" creator Matt Groening, and Scott Adams, Dilbert cartoonist.

This year over 5,500 entries from over 40 countries worldwide were received by the Academy. There were 69 categories organised into eight broad groupings; Connections, Entertainment, Features, Living, Marketplace, Media, Services, Society.

There is a shortlist of five nominee sites for each of the 69 categories; each of these can receive either or both of two awards. The Academy vote chooses a single winner who receives a Webby Award. A public, online vote selects a winner to receive the Webby People's Voice Award; over 300,000 ballots were cast during this vote.

The complete list of nominees and winners can be found at
http://www.webbyawards.com/webbys/current.php?season=10.

Last years innovation 'Webby Worthy' awards have evolved into the 'Official Honoree' awards. An Official Honoree site is one which made it onto the nominee list without winning an award, but which is notable in some way. Less than 20% of the 5,500+ nominations received were made an 'Official Honoree'. A complete list of these can be found at http://www.webbyawards.com/webbys/current_honorees.php?season=10.

The British were well represented with wins for several BBC sites: 'Feed me better' campaign website, Guardian Unlimited (again), The Barbican (an educational site to inspire creative writing) and Orange.

The Library of Congress won the People's Voice Winner for the Cultural Institution category. Google Maps and Google Earth won several awards, as did Flickr, which was last year's 'Breakout of the Year' winner.

There are six criteria for judging each nominated web site: content; structure and navigation; visual design; functionality; interactivity and overall experience. The criteria are explained here in some detail http://www.webbyawards.com/webbys/criteria.php, and their key points may be useful for your own website evaluations:

- *Content* – should be engaging, relevant, and appropriate for the audience. It should be clear and concise and work successfully in the medium; it always leaves you wanting more.

- *Structure and Navigation* – sites with good structure and navigation are consistent, intuitive and transparent. They allow you to form a mental model of the information provided, where to find things, and what to expect when you click.

- *Visual design* – good visual design is high quality, appropriate, and relevant for the audience and the message it is supporting.

- *Functionality* – this is the use of technology on the site. Good functionality means the site works well. It loads quickly, has live links, and any new technology used is functional and relevant for the intended audience. The site should work across platforms and be browser independent. Highly functional sites anticipate the diversity of user requirements, from file size to file format and download speed. The most functional sites also take into consideration those with special access needs. Good functionality makes the experience centre stage and the technology invisible.

- *Interactivity* – interactive elements are what separate the Web from other media. It's input/output, as in searches, chat rooms, e-commerce and gaming or notification agents, peer-to-peer applications and real-time feedback. Its make your own, distribute your own, or speak your mind so others can see, hear or respond.

- *Overall experience* – all those intangibles that entice the user to revisit, sign-up for email newsletters, bookmark the site and tell others about it.

If you would like to be involved with nominations for the 2007 Awards, the call for entries will start in September. One way to be alerted to the start of this is to sign up for the 011 newsletter, via the Webby website.[1]

---

[1] http://www.webbyawards.com/

Intranets

Martin White, Intranet Focus Ltd (martin.white@intranetfocus.com)

There is often a contrast between organisations, proposed timetable for an intranet selection and implementation process, and the reality. In this case, an intranet took a year rather than the estimated six months.

Behind the firewall

It's Midsummer's Day and I've just come back from a celebration. One of my clients invited me to the launch of their new intranet at which the MD said some nice words about me. Pity he had forgotten my name and just referred to me as 'our consultant'! It was just over a year ago that I had the first meeting with Gerry, the intranet manager for a charity located just to the south of London. With the company having a number of regional offices all around the UK, the intranet had become the main information platform, but had run in to the usual problems of using Front Page to generate static pages. Gerry had been to one of my workshops on CMS selection, and had persuaded the charity that 2005 would be a good time to relaunch the intranet. The charity's web site was run under contract by a web agency so that was not in the frame.

My first meeting of the Intranet Steering Group (ISG) took place in early July and I was given the project timetable, which showed a launch in time for the Christmas party. I explained that this was being far too optimistic, and suggested that either the date was pushed back into 2006 or Gerry should find a new job. He took it well, though I'm not sure his manager did. The charity did have an outline intranet strategy and we started work on developing a statement of requirements for the CMS. The first thing that became obvious was that although the ISG had undertaken a good review of what staff wanted on the intranet they had not thought through how staff would be adding content. The main justification in the business case had been that all staff would be able to be intranet publishers, and no one had really thought through the implications.

Summer came and went and it was not until September that work started on a Statement of Requirements to send out to the CMS vendors. The ISG decided that they would write it and then I could review it. The first draft ran to 120 pages, and had around 70 mandatory requirements. I explained that any CMS vendor getting an SoR of this length for a project that would probably be worth £70k of software sales would probably bin it. The first draft also asked the vendors to describe in 300 words how features such as workflow worked. I suggested that they start again with a 50 page target length. The final version was draft seven, which had ten mandatory requirements, and was not ready for distribution until early October. Winter was approaching.

Certainly there was a cold chill amongst the ISG when they received the responses from the vendors in early November. The variation in approaches was very wide, and it was quite clear that some vendors had used a standard boiler-plate proposal with just a nod in the direction of the client. Even so working through 12 responses to get a short list down to four took several weeks of review and queries to the vendors.

The next challenge was to arrange for the vendors to give presentations to the ISG. Everyone understood that it was important that the members of the review panel were the same for all four presentations, but the result was that the meetings could not take place until early this year. These proved to be very interesting. Even though we had set out quite a detailed timetable for the three-hour slots virtually all the vendors ignored this. At the end of the two days we felt that we had more questions than answers and it was not until early February that we felt able to select a preferred vendor and ask for a firm quote. This is when the true costs of a CMS emerged as training and professional services started to be quantified. The total costs looked to be over $200k, only just within budget.

Then of course the legal department had to look at the contract and in the end it was not signed until late February. The initial implementation was delayed a little as a new server had to be purchased and then it was found that there was no room in the rack space for it. However, work on developing the templates and training up content publishers could begin, and by good fortune the beta version went live in late May after a lot of overtime. Then came usability testing for both the site design and the content publishers, and some changes had to be made. In the end we just managed to get the intranet up and running in mid-June, almost a year to the day we started out. You still think you can implement a CMS in a few months?

Reference Management

Tracy Kent, Computer Science Librarian, University of Birmingham
(t.k.kent@bham.ac.uk)

Reference Software

Keeping notes with Endnote changes

The folks at Endnote have been busy this summer. Along with launching Endnote in conjunction with ISI Web of Knowledge there is also Endnote X (ten) available. Endnote X has a number of new fields – grant, dictionary and ancient text for example, enhanced search options (searching for begins with or ends with) and a number of features that allow you to customise the interface. A previously irritating feature was the lack of information which was displayed on screen. This has been rectified somewhat by now providing up to 8 fields in the display options. This makes it easier to see clearly what is in the database. Also the reference type – electronic source – has been renamed web page which makes sense.

Further details from http://www.adeptscience.co.uk/

Quosa Information Manager

There is another new package called Quosa. It allows searching via various configured Channels (mainly PubMed, other Ovid databases, Google Scholar and the American Thoracic Society to name a few but it can be configured for others). You can download and retrieve the full text of articles which can then be searched within the system. There is also an attempt to automatically index each article to aid retrieval. One useful feature is the ability to set up alerts based on your search terms to locate additional items over time (you set the preferences) for pdf, html or abstract items. The system also integrates with Endnote and Reference Manager. Further details from http://www.quosa.com
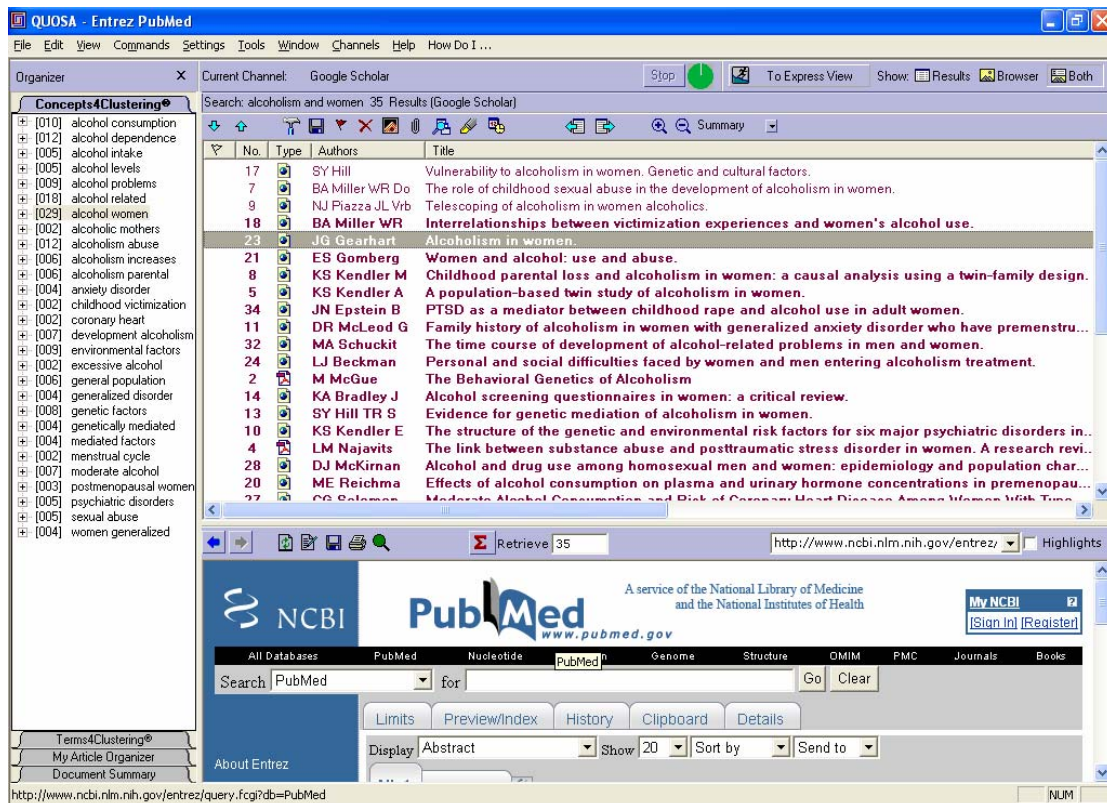
Figure 1: Quosa screen shot indicating the analyse and text mining option using concepts4clustering and terms4clustering

Mayan

This is a cheap and cheerful package available from ISRW. Its selling feature is the main display, which shows the original bibliographic reference, keywords searched for and where those terms occurred in the body of the article. Details from www.isrw.co.uk/home.html.

Social Bookmarking Fact Sheet

Social Bookmarking allows anyone to upload URLs and other reference materials onto a website, to add tags (or keywords) to these references and thus open up a new world of discovery. For some it is the cusp of an exciting new stage of web growth in which the users provide both meaning and a means of resource discovery through tagging. You will find on the UKeiG website a new Social Bookmarking fact sheet that will be of use to anyone not sure what social booking is all about or wanting a few pointers.

If you know about social bookmarking though and are enthused by it – perhaps by attending the recent UKeiG course on it or by taking note of the various links within this column you may like to know there is software available to create your own!

UnaLog software system

The UnaLog software system (http://www.unalog.com) is a free and open source toolkit for social bookmarking. It can be used to provide new services and is particularly helpful in resource discovery.

Scuttle software system

Scuttle is another open source piece of software useful because it allows multiple users to store, share and tag their favourite links online. See http://sourceforge.net/projects/scuttle

Public Sector News

Jane Inman, Technical Librarian, Planning, Transport and Economic Strategy, Warwickshire County Council (janeinman@warwickshire.gov.uk)

E-Government – new standards

With e-Government targets behind us, the public sector now has a set of e-service delivery standards to work to. Published last month, the National e-Service Delivery Standards cover the ten areas of:

- Adult services

- Customer services

- E-building control

- E-environmental health

- Highways

- Housing

- Human resources

- ICT services

- Property services

- Trees

Local authorities can assess how well they are doing through a self-assessment tool made available on the esd-toolkit site (www.esd.org.uk) Standards are set as 'minimum' (that match the standards already set by the Best Value Performance Indicator 157 and the Priority Service Outcomes so should be in place), 'progressing' and 'excellent'. http://www.nesds.gov.uk/

E-Government take up

E-Government take-up was mentioned in the last issue of eLucidate and is the focus of e-Government currently as central government tries to ensure all the work and money poured into the e-Government projects pays off. A national publicity campaign has been launched and called 'Connect to your council'. I have to admit that it has all passed me by apart from the rather critical coverage it has received from some quarters.

The plan has been to promote the use of the Directgov service, which can be found at http://www.directgov.gov.uk, and this site has been enhanced to provide links to local

authority information. Local authorities were required to provide links to a number of areas of information, and the areas being promoted in particular are abandoned vehicles, graffiti, dumped rubbish, potholes, garden rubbish and street lights. The images used are rather depressing! They can be seen at http://local.direct.gov.uk/mycouncil/. Other areas covered include renewing library books, school term dates, before and after school child care and paying parking fines. It strikes me some of these could have been provided a more positive image for local government than the ones selected.

Directgov

If you haven't used the Directgov site (and it has been described as the 'shy ' site) you will find information on a range of central government services as well as the links to local government services discussed above. http://www.directgov.gov.uk.

The site has grown to cover many aspects of life that require us to interact with government, such as submitting tax forms online, paying for car tax (without having to queue in the Post Office!) or applying for a passport. It also gives what might be described as public service information, such as advice on child care, planning for retirement or filling your leisure time. Official information such as when the Union Jack should be flown on public buildings, how laws are made and what consultations are being undertaken are there too.

Local e-Government responsibility

Following the recent ministerial changes, responsibilities for local e-Government has been taken on by Angela Smith, MP for Basildon and East Thurrock, in what is now the Department of Communities and Local Government. She takes over from Jim Fitzpatrick.

In early June a new List of Ministerial Responsibilities was published and an electronic copy is available at http://cabinetoffice.gov.uk/ministerial_responsibilities/

Statute Law Database

A Statute Law database for the UK has been promised for many years but has suffered frequent delays. Heather Brooke writing in *The Times* picked up the issue and compared the UK situation with that in the USA. She claims the real difference is that in the USA statutes, regulations and judicial opinions from the government are not subject to copyright, which speeds up the process of making them publicly available. She reported on a failed attempt using the Freedom of Information Act to obtain raw data from the Department for Constitutional Affairs.

(Delays over statute law database are not in the public interest, Heather Brooke, The Times May 23 2006)

Reference works in public libraries

A major revolution in the provision of online reference tools has been facilitated by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA). It brings together 26 major reference works from 14 suppliers for use in public libraries and standard terms and conditions have been negotiated. This impressive negotiation is part of the 'Framework for the Future' initiative and should save public library authorities time and money in developing individual agreements with suppliers. Reference Online covers general reference material such as dictionaries and biography, newspapers, business and legal information. http://www.mla.gov.uk/webdav/harmonise?Page/@id=73&Document/@id=23151&Section[@stateId_eq_left_hand_root]/@id=4332.

Freedom of Information

The House of Commons Constitutional Affairs Committee report into the first year of the Freedom of Information legislation concludes that it is working satisfactorily, although the committee was concerned at the speed of response to requests in some cases. For those of us working in the information world the real impact is not what is supplied in response to requests but what is routinely published that was not previously made available. Changes in the way public bodies make information available will probably take longer to filter through and be more difficult to identify as results of the legislation. www.parliament.uk/conaffcom.

Public Sector News is supplied by ALGIS (The Affiliation of Local Government Information Specialists) which represents information professionals providing information services to local authority staff and elected members. Jane Inman is currently Chair of ALGIS. For more information go to www.algis.org.uk

Meeting Report: Reaching beyond Bibliographic Referencing

Report of a UK E-information group one-day seminar held at Kings College, London, 1st June 2006

As I'm part of a small team that delivers EndNote bibliographic software training to staff and students at the University of Manchester, this course caught my eye – just in case there were some new developments that we needed to be aware of. Though only about 20 people arrived on the day, most (though not all) were from University libraries.

Tracy Kent from the University of Birmingham set the scene with her opening remarks, outlining some of the challenges that librarians and information workers face currently; these include:

- Over-use of, or over-reliance on Google

- Frustrations caused when linking software takes users to a reference in a journal that their organisation doesn't have a subscription to

- Capturing and organising the references that users do manage to find.

Plus, of course, how librarians/information workers manage the processes above.

Ben Lund, from Nature Publishing Group, took the first session, with a presentation on a comparatively new phenomenon, "social bookmarking". Until quite recently, most people will have been passive users of the Web, finding useful web sites, adding them to their own personal bookmarks and leaving it at that. Social bookmarking goes a step further – there are a few web sites such as Delicious (http://del.icio.us) and Connotea (www.connotea.com) which allow researchers to upload a URL of a site that they found useful, adding some keywords (the hip word is "tags") to allow for subject searching, which then allows others to see someone else's list of bookmarks. The tags can also be shared and even though most of them are going to be natural language, ultimately a thesaurus of the most popular words will be developed.

The so-called "social web" is about to become more advanced, with more websites allowing sharing of photos (www.flickr.com), personal goals (www.43things.com) and events (http://upcoming.org/) – which could become "Time Out" on the web. Some of these sites even encourage a scoring system, to advertise those links seen as "important". Surprisingly, most of these web services are free, just requiring registration. Tim Berners-Lee must be very relieved.

From the point of view of bibliographic referencing, "citeulike" (www.citeulike.org) is an interesting development, allowing users to capture their own records for full-text online articles, letting them add their own notes and allowing the transfer of records to an Endnote library.

Robert Bley, from Ex-Libris, then gave a comprehensive session on the usefulness of openURL resolvers – one of the "invisible" services provided by libraries which most users don't realise is there. The OpenURL resolver allows library holdings of electronic

resources to be dovetailed with databases, allowing users to click on a database link and go straight (most of the time) to a full-text online article. The key point here for librarians is that effective use of both databases and e-journals is achieved, vital when we are all spending fortunes on e-resources – and when all the evidence still shows that students still prefer to use a search engine to find information, with Google being the engine of choice. In Higher education, students are still not searching effectively for information, despite the best efforts of library staff.

A key development has been the "digital object identifier", a numeric code which allows for unique identification of an electronic record. This has allowed more deeplinking, allowing users to go directly to an article and not just a journal home page. The only subject area holding out on this is law, which seems strangely slow to take it up.

Grant Young, from TASI (Technical Advisory Service for Images) had the graveyard slot, directly following lunch, with a session on finding, making and managing digital images. TASI is funded by JISC, but is made use of by the non-HE sector as well.

Finding images can be a tricky proposition – and Google (heretical notion!) is not necessarily the best search engine. Copyright and quality issues are a further problem. At the John Rylands University library in Manchester we're gradually building our own image database using Luna – but if you can't do that there are several image search engines, with pro's and con's for each. Although Google and Yahoo are bigger, Picsearch shows more of the results than either of its competitors. It is also rumoured that Microsoft are developing an image search facility. One of the strange things about searching for images is that most people have to use keywords to find them……..

Managing your own collection of images throws up rafts of issues which need to be decided. The questions that need to be resolved include the functionality required from the system, access to a decent IT infrastructure and the degree of interoperability required with other systems. Cost is always a bugbear and copyright is usually lurking about somewhere..

Yoshimasa Tsuruoka, from the National Centre for Text-mining (NaCTeM – based at the University of Manchester), gave a highly technical and complex session on text-mining, most of which went right over my head. Text mining is essentially a tool which allows more precision in searching for information than combinations of keywords allow. One of the activities that NaCTeM undertook was the analysis of the entire PubMed database to determine which concepts are involved. Once the concepts are discovered, information access can go further than "simple" indexing terms. For example, a search using natural language (eg, what causes breast cancer?) will return much more precise results. I ought to apologise for a gross over-simplification of Dr Tsuruoka's presentation – but I don't think I was the only person mystified… Computer performance at text analysis is still hovering at about 93-94% accuracy, but is improving slowly.

Tracy Kent rounded the day off with an update on the key features now to be found in reference software. Reference software allows users to build their own personal knowledge base of the resources they need – and there's no distinction between print and electronic resources when you need to cite them in a paper. The simple reformatting of references into different styles is a key feature. At Manchester both EndNote and Reference manager are supported, but there are several other packages available, with

an increasing number using the web as a platform. Packages which may be new to some include Mayan, which uses a novel approach using three open panes in a window, showing the original bibliographic reference, the keywords searched for and where those keywords occur in the body of the article. A new version of RefViz was recently launched, which uses both text analysis and a visualisation tool (which is based on keywords).

In her conclusion, Tracy summed up the concepts involved in the other presentations, showing how they were improving the opportunities for researchers to find and manage the information they needed.

I enjoyed the day – much of it was set at the right level (for me, anyway), though the mathematical content of text-mining was a minor problem. Thanks are due to Tracy for managing the time and ensuring everything went smoothly, not forgetting all the hard work put in by Christine from UkeiG.

Martin Snelling, John Rylands University Library, Manchester

Meeting Report: Technology Trends: Spend management, reasons to be cheerful and 'disruptive innovation'

Report of CIG meeting, 19 April 2006

The City Information Group hosted an interesting evening meeting on 19th April, which brought together three different aspects of new technological developments relevant to all information professionals. Web 2.0 and its family featured fairly strongly and it was good to see how it has been embraced by some of the more traditional information-related services. However the term Web 2.0 itself was not clearly understood by all of us present, and indeed the definition itself is the subject of debate, but for the purpose of this article I will call it the 'participatory' use of Web technology.

Effective journal subscription management has been taxing information professionals for some years now, and Gerard Kearns from Infocandy described an e-procurement service that they offer. This service takes over the responsibility for the day-to-day management of subscriptions and some impressive figures of cost savings were shown, which take into account the often hidden cost of in-house administration of subscriptions.

Dan Perry, from EPS (Electronic Publishing Services) gave a summary of the rise, fall and rise of interest in E-books. The resurgence of e-books has been influenced by rapid developments in technology, for instance hand held devices with better screens, and a renewed and active interest by some publishers. Interestingly there is some convergence of the technology with iPods and PDAs, which have changed the way people use hand-held devices. There is also a convergence of functions associated with book publishing, through Book 2.0. For instance, one publisher has begun to publish a book before it has been completed – inviting buyers to purchase a draft and then comment on it and add material. The value of the final publication is then in its collaborative nature. This is in fact not too dissimilar to Copernicus' 1543 treatise *On the Revolutions of the Celestial Sphere – De Revolutionibus*, where the copy annotated by Galileo and others in the margin gives it additional value. Revolution indeed.

Paul Miller, a Technology Evangelist from Talis, a library management system, gave an entirely different view of the traditional LMS through, yes, Library 2.0. Paul has published a paper "Libraries 2.0: The Challenge of Disruptive Innovation", and he explained that the use of Web 2.0 technology has revitalised the "trusted but by-passed" libraries. Far from large monolithic systems, users now have considerable freedom in tailoring the LMS to their needs. User comments, images and subject tags can be added to records of individual items, and disparate sources of information that relate to one publication can be identified. Thus, if your library does not hold a copy of your selected item, you can go straight through to the catalogue of a library that does – even if it is on the other side of the world.

Echoing (slightly) the example of Copernicus, images of the old card catalogue of Ann Arbor District Library including the readers' or librarians' hand written comments can be viewed on their online catalogue.

It was refreshing to see a traditional library system making use of Web 2.0 technology, but I can't help wondering if the participatory aspect of the content and subsequent need to filter the interesting from the irrelevant (and possibly wrong) content will jeopardise the 'trusted' characteristics of a library service.

Unfortunately there was little time to ask questions and to challenge the speakers, but the meeting provided plenty of food for thought and was a timely topic to cover.

Shaida Dorabjee, Committee Member, UKeiG (sdorabjee@sdis.demon.co.uk)

Meeting Report: eResources in higher education: Challenges, changes, and choice

5 July 2006; John Rylands University Library, University of Manchester

This meeting provided an excellent overview of e-resources. Combining theoretical and practical presentations, the course left participants much better informed on the areas of provision and delivery of electronic content.

Tracy Kent, who organised the event, opened the meeting with a paper on open access. She compared open-access repositories, open-access journals and other areas of open access. Her suggestions for promoting open access produced a lively response from the audience. She pointed out that open access is free to users at point of use, while not necessarily being free to publish or to provide. The current situation in the UK, following a recent report from JISC[2] seems to be that around a third of UK universities have some kind of institutional repository, but that there is not currently much content in many of these repositories. Southampton University has probably the largest catalogue of institutional archives.

She made the startling revelation that there is still no central repository of theses. There is a UK database, but no single worldwide source that includes the text. Open access journals, by contrast, have directories, including DOAJ and OpenJGate.

Alan Bradwell, of Anglia Ruskin University, spoke from the unique position of having been both a librarian and now a lecturer in education. His research includes competing literacies in teacher education, of which information literacy is simply one of several. His talk gave an informed overview of information resources for education, identifying major gaps such as the lack of Z39.50 searching using the JISC education package, and presented the fascinating idea that education resources lend themselves to use by only one of the three current paradigms of educational research – they are all essentially positivist. This raised the intriguing question of how information resources could be structured in other ways. In the questions and answers following his talk he revealed that Google is often a quicker way of accessing content such as policy documents than going through the "official" sources.

Caroline Moss-Gibbons of the Royal College of Physicians gave an outline of e-resources for the professional library. Since such libraries cannot take advantage of JISC deals, they have to fend for themselves and make their own agreements. A library such as the RCP has a user base that is almost entirely offsite, and she described the challenges of providing for such a group. Her talk was interesting not just for institutions outside of

---

[2] Linking UK Repositories, June 2006

JISC: her distinction between categories of users, and what constitutes a "walk-in user", is relevant for any institution.

Stuart Macdonald and Luis Martinez talked about data resources – in their case, collections of social science data for use within higher education. Problems they face are, predictably, users not being aware of available data, and lack of local skilled user support. Like several presenters at this course, they were looking forward to Shibboleth, the new access management system that is starting to replace Athens, because of its better profiling capability, enabling institutions to provide selective access to particular subsets of users. Among their recommendations was "metadata for all to make data easier to find", an admirable goal, although they did not discuss how this would be implemented, who would take responsibility for adding the metadata, and so on.

Lorraine Estelle of JISC Collections gave an overview of JISC's provision of e-resources within higher education. Their in-house team of four people is responsible for over 60 licensed e-resources in higher education. In addition, they are responsible for the nesli2 agreement with 17 e-journal publishers. Among new developments at JISC are the capability to license a resource for a small faculty within a large organisation, not currently possible, and how to manage such intricacies as students on industrial placements, and their access to licensed resources. The lively question-and-answer session after her talk made it clear there was considerable interest in the details of the JISC licence and how it should be interpreted.

Finally, Peter Walker, head of Eduserv CHEST, talked about future issues and challenges for education resources. He introduced CHEST, which, like JISC, provides resources to higher education at prices lower than the institution would be able to achieve by negotiating directly, but which differs from JISC in some respects, such as not always insisting on a full site licence.

His wide-ranging talk looked at the implications of Web 2.0 for institutions. For him, the key is: How can we share all our information? His suggested answer was "co-opetition", a combination of co-operation and competition although not elaborated. He then described the Google Print Library project, and Wikipedia. Wikipedia, "created by the masses for the masses", is undeniably an astonishing example of the power of collective authorial power; any commercial encyclopedia publisher can only look with envy at the resources available to the Wikipedia team. He did not dwell on the increasingly apparent drawbacks of Wikipedia, which have resulted in the editorial team imposing greater restrictions on making changes to key articles on core topics.

Fascinatingly, only 3% of the books in the project are held by all five libraries participating in the Google Print Library scheme. His talk was an appropriate moment to end the day, with Google's future strategy from the Print initiative still not clear

The course was stimulating and interesting. I would like to have had more on the differences between e-books and e-journals, perhaps: while in principle, as Peter Walker pointed out, the difference between books and journals becomes meaningless once the content is in digital form, in practice, there remain substantial differences in the ways e-books and e-journals are provided.

A further question that emerges from these topics could be the role the institution plays in harnessing the metadata across all this e-content. The increasing importance of e-resources in higher education means that the design and implementation of federated searching across institutional and department repositories, as well as the library print and electronic collection, and the larger external information resources, will become increasingly important.

Michael Upshall

Meeting Report: What's on your home page?

22 June 2006; Intranets forum meeting, Trades Union Congress, London,

For the first intranets forum we started (where else?) with intranet home pages.

Helen Davies, Information Manager, Trades Union Congress

For Helen Davies, Information Manager, Trades Union Congress, the intranet (ToUCHbase) is just one of her responsibilities, and the design and structure were already in place when she joined the TUC.

The intranet is the default page when staff open their browsers; the Google search box on the home is a trade-off for those staff that previously had Google. Helen invited us to say what attracted our attention on the home page. For most it was the size of the navigation banner and the tickertape news feed. The current home page requires scrolling – other attendees had similarly long home pages, but we wondered whether it was considered a detriment these days. The structure of the intranet is a mixture of procedural and organisational.

Useful features include:

- Link from the People Finder (the staff directory) to the HR system, allowing staff to book annual leave etc;
- A 'My ToUCHbase' feature so staff can save regularly visited pages.

Helen has identified areas for improvement:

- the quick search feature does an automatic Boolean 'or';
- The site map is rarely used; it is automatically generated and is perhaps hard to decipher.

Any TUC staff can add announcements, unmoderated. This has not caused difficulties, and if anything were to cause concern, the name of the person who posted it would be clearly visible. For each of these an email can be generated, and you choose the groups of staff it goes to; the URL and summary is inserted into the email for you.

A Spotlight feature is used to highlight new information – two new items are added per week.

Janet Corcoran, Web Content and Resources Officer, Imperial College London Library Staff Intranet

The library staff intranet serves about 160 staff across the Central Library, department libraries and campus libraries. It cannot be accessed by anyone who does not work in the Library.
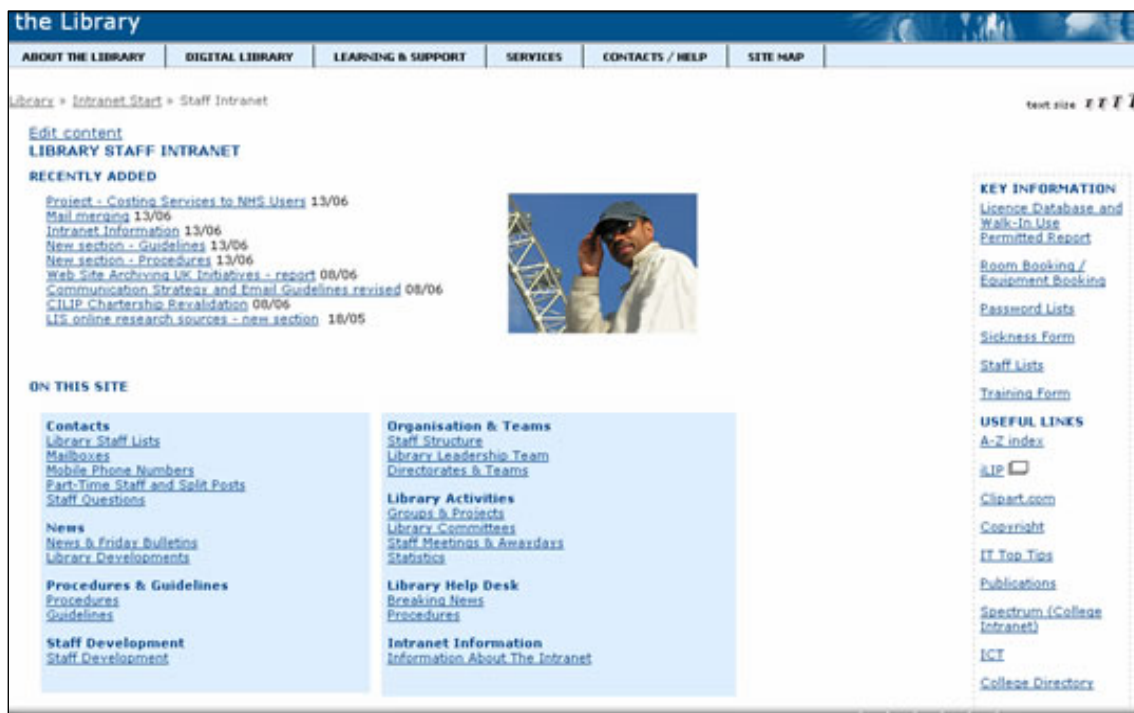

Figure 1: Home Page

The intranet [Figure 1] is a sub section of the main library website, and is accessed through a link from the home page. The link is hidden so that users do not feel that there might be secret information that they are not privy to. The padlock indicates that a password will be required to enter it. Staff use their main College username and password. In contrast to the TUC the library staff intranet is called just that. The previous name, "Staffstuff", did not stick.

Janet maintains the intranet and inputs all the content. The College websites run on a content management system, so it is very easy to edit pages. An Intranet Group made up of staff of various levels and from all sections of the library reviews the pages periodically.

When new staff start they take part in an induction programme and are taught about the intranet at one of the sessions. Staff are encouraged to use it to locate current information that is of relevance to everyone. They use the intranet in conjunction with other forms of communication (a weekly staff bulletin, website, email, shared drives and email public folders) and have a communication strategy that details the purpose of each method of communication.

Some of the sections are getting quite full, and some of the information is out of date, so the intranet team are in the process of creating a small archive, where they will store certain types of file that might be useful in the future: this will include news bulletins, meeting minutes, statistics, and completed projects.

The structure of the content is based on the staff structure in that each team has a section that contains information about them, as well as their guidelines and procedures. Some of this information is then linked to from other pages to give more than one point of access. Links to other sections are particularly useful or important have been identified on the homepage.

There is no search facility because the CMS cannot search secure pages, so Janet has created an A-Z index (well received by staff) and has tried to keep the structure simple.

An interesting feature was the searchable library bulletins. These are pdfs, and the search searches on the indexed content [Figure 2].
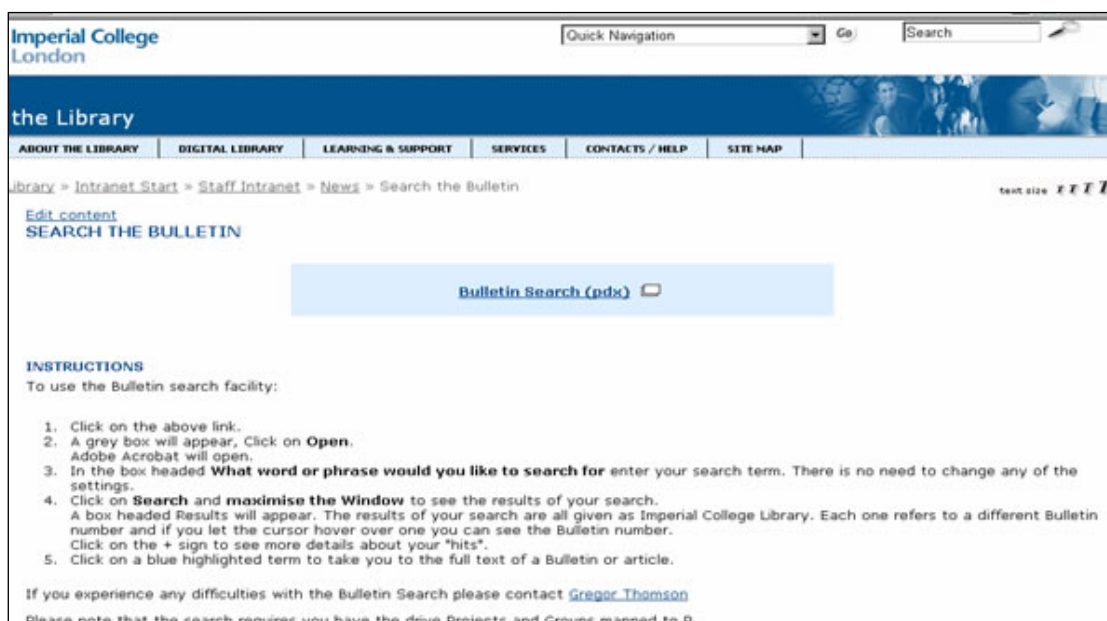

Figure 2: Bulletin search (pdx)

One well used feature is **Breaking News**, maintained by the library helpdesk [Figure 3].

Figure 3: Breaking news from the Library Help Desk

The intranet is marketed by training new staff to use it, highlighting new sections on the homepage and advertising new additions in the weekly staff bulletin. They had a birthday party for it a year after its launch.

Ruth Hilbourne, Information Officer, Peter Brett Associates

Ruth's approach to showing us this intranet was to deconstruct each column of the home page at Peter Brett Associates (PBA), consulting engineers. She recommended use of the intranet review toolkit, free to download at http://www.intranetreviewtoolkit.org, written by James Robertson of Step Two.

The PBA intranet [Figure Four] is named Desktools, and the logo is intended to portray a collection of tools used from the desktop; it appears on every page of the intranet. The top tabs are the company's key specialisms, and contain information specific to each division.
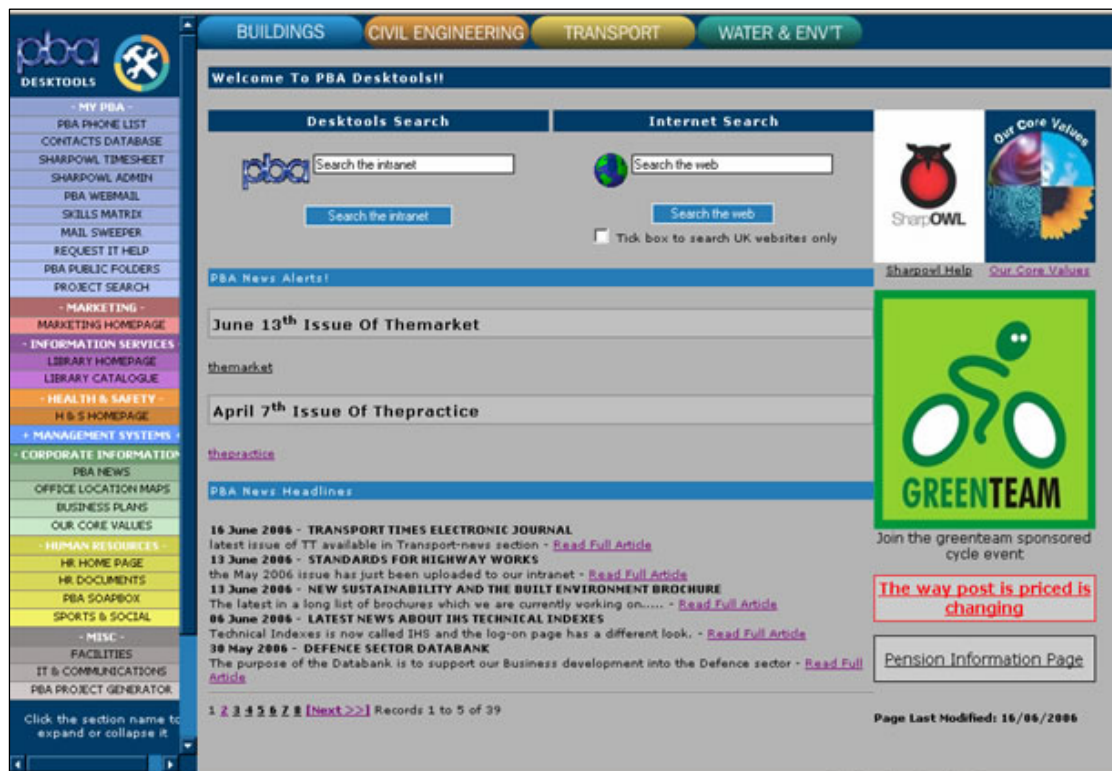

Figure 4: PBA Desktools

- The My PBA menu contains the core company information

- Effort has been made to group the links into relevant categories

- The menu has relevance to every single member of the company

- The menu has been colour co-ordinated to make it more attractive and appealing to users

- There is a large area in the middle devoted to news and trusted information, updated regularly.

Search

- Internal and external search facility option

- The internal search is powered by a "Google Box" that indexes every four hours

- The homepage is the only page to display these search facilities.

The area on the right hand side is used to highlight important messages. The bright thumbnails are eye catching but Ruth felt that this area could do with a re-think. The intranet has been created in-house, and does not use a content management system. The company has a soapbox feature, unmoderated. Only once has intervention been needed.

Key points about PBA Desktools

- Efforts have been made to organise and de-clutter the page

- Good use of colour and well organised menu

- Lacks strong brand identity and looks slightly dated

- An in-house product with many innovative features

I work for the National Health Service and it was fascinating to see three very different intranets. All had useful features that I could apply to the intranets I work on.

Questions we came away with:

- Are site maps useful – and when?

- Are ticker tape news feeds a draw or do they put people off?

Our thanks to Helen Davies at the TUC for hosting the meeting, and to Helen, Janet Corcoran and Ruth Hilbourne for sharing their intranet home pages at this meeting.

Claire Pillar, UKeiG Management Committee Web Liaison, Web Coordinator, North Cumbria NHS Informatics Service

Intranets forum: next meetings

We are organising the next meeting in London for late September at Imperial College London, on the theme of intranets for academia. Details will be on the members' area of the UKeiG website at http://www.ukeig.org.uk/members/index.html and we will notify the date on LIS-UKEIG. If you would like to be notified directly, please contact Claire Pillar, UKeiG Website Liaison at Claire.pillar@ncumbria-acute.nhs.uk

Calling Yorkshire intranets

We have an offer to host a meeting in the Wakefield/ Leeds area. If you would like to come to a meeting in the area, please contact Claire Pillar as above.

Small and medium legal intranets

We have members interested in having a meeting about small and medium legal intranets. Are you interested and can you help? Please contact Claire Pillar as above.

Factsheets

Luke Tredinnick compiled a Top tips for taming your intranet factsheet following the course he led in March. It is now available on the website in the members' area at http://www.ukeig.org.uk/members/access/factsheets/intranet_tips.html

Current Awareness

Column editor: Jane Grogan (Jane.Grogan@gchq.gsi.gov.uk)

This column contains summaries of articles (print and electronic) about information access and retrieval, electronic publishing, preservation and virtual libraries etc. including, with permission, abstracts identified with an * next to the author initials, drawn from *Current Cites*, the monthly publication distributed electronically by a team of Librarians and Library Staff and edited by Roy Tennant (http://lists.webjunction.org/currentcites/).

If you are interested in providing reviews for the column, please contact Jane Grogan for further details.

Electronic Publishing

Wyatt, Edward **The Bottom Line on E-Textbooks** The New York Times (23 April 2006) (http://www.nytimes.com/2006/04/23/education/edlife/innovate.html/partner/rssnyt?_r=1&oref=slogin) – Why have e-textbooks not "taken off" as an alternative to dead tree volumes? Certainly, they are more portable. They are easily browseable, searchable, and now highlightable. And e-book publishers apparently have eliminated the most egregious complaints – e.g., that the digital books "expire" after the academic year. Most publishers have done away with expiration dates. Granted, there are still limitations. An e-textbook can only be transferred to another computer registered to the same user...and students like to share. Also, there is usually a limit of 100 pages that can be printed out in a week. But there may be a simple economic reason behind the lagging popularity of e-textbooks. Although they are usually 40% cheaper to purchase than a new dead.tree version (and 20% cheaper than a used copy), e-textbooks cannot be resold. The article points out that roughly half of dead.tree textbooks are sold back to bookstores or to other students; typically, the original purchaser can thus recoup half of the original purchase price – [*SK]

General

Byrd, Jackie, Gary Charbonneau, and Michael Charbonneau, et. al. **A White Paper on the Future of Cataloging at Indiana University** Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Libraries, 15 January 2006 (http://www.iub.edu/~libtserv/pub/Future_of_Cataloging_White_Paper.pdf) – This is a report by a group "charged to identify current trends that will have a direct impact on cataloging operations and to define possible new roles for the online catalog and cataloging staff at Indiana University." Their one general conclusion after nine months of work is that "The need for cataloging expertise within the I.U. Libraries will not be diminished in the coming years. Rather, catalogers of the future will work in the evolving environment of publishing, scholarly communication, and information technology in new expanded roles. Catalogers will need to be key players in addressing the many challenges facing the libraries and the overall management and organization of

information at Indiana University." The report also identifies five strategic directions. The report is an interesting read, and taken with the explosion of related reports (e.g., Calhoun's report to the Library of Congress cited in this issue, the UC Bibliographic Services TF Report), adds yet another perspective to the kinds of changes we must foster to create better library services in a vastly changed environment – [*RT]

College Students' Perceptions of Libraries and Information Resources Dublin, OH: OCLC (http://www.oclc.org/reports/perceptionscollege.htm) – This "companion piece" to OCLC's recent report Perceptions of Libraries and Information Resources focuses on the college student slice of OCLC's survey of library users and their perceptions. As such, they can go into much more detail about their findings, and they do. One caution – if you download the PDF either read it on-screen or print to a color printer, since some of the graphs become hard to interpret in grayscale. Highly recommended for academic library staff – [*RT]

Dempsey, Lorcan. "**Libraries and the Long Tail: Some Thoughts about Libraries in a Network Age**" D-Lib Magazine 12(4) (April 2006) (http://www.dlib.org/dlib/april06/dempsey/04dempsey.html) – You would probably have to live under a rock to have not heard about "the long tail," but if your back is holding up a stone I will leave it to Dempsey's piece to explain it to you. After discussing the general concept of the long tail, Dempsey looks closely at libraries and the implications of this concept to what we do every day. There is a great deal to ponder here, and those of us involved with getting users to stuff would do well to ponder it carefully. Dempsey makes some specific recommendations, but perhaps the most significant assertion is that "We need new services that operate at the network level, above the level of individual libraries." Although one could point to Dempsey's place of employment as a prime example of this, what he is suggesting would go far beyond our present sharing of cataloging records and ILL infrastructure and get at the heart of aggregating supply and demand. Apologies for an outworn cliché, but this is just the kind of "out of the box" thinking we need right now – [*RT]

Marks, Paul **Cities race to reap the rewards of wireless net for all** New Scientist, 25 March 2006, p28 – City-wide Wi-Fi hotspots are planned for many US cities, funded by City councils determined to bridge the digital divide. Here in the UK the City of London is also investing in Wi-Fi access within its streets and open spaces for all workers, residents and business visitors. As expected the major telecoms are non-too pleased at this threat to their wired broadband services, while independent analysts identify the lack interoperability standards as a major technological hurdle, which could, in some cases, impact long-term support. However, with coverage expected to increase massively in the next 5 years the social benefits could be immense – [LF]

Shaker, Lee "**In Google We Trust: Information Integrity in the Digital Age**" First Monday 11(4)(3 April 2006) (http://www.firstmonday.org/issues/issue11_4/shaker/) – Shaker chips away at the Google "mystique" by tracking how the New York Times reported on the company over a two year period. It turns out that Google's historic initial public offering and the trajectory of its stock price has as much to do with how favorably the company is regarded as its innovative search capabilities. He is essentially arguing that in the realm of mythmaking, money still talks. While one might be reluctant to discard the idea that Google's technological strategy also creates value and "myth," this article offers a great jumping-off point for thinking about information security and "trust" in the

digital era. Moreover, he argues, if all it takes is fiscal successful to build customer loyalty and respect, then society has not yet begun to get to the heart of the matter when it comes to "information integrity." Google-watchers will enjoy this read, and the rest of us will appreciate the analysis of the relationship between success in the stock market, the power of marketing and "brand loyalty", and the public's perception of quality and trustworthiness – [*TH]

Stunden, Annie. "**The Toughest IT Challenge**" EDUCAUSE Review 41(3) (May/June 2006): 32-42. (http://www.educause.edu/apps/er/erm06/erm0631.asp) – Talk about defensive! This head of IT at the University of Wisconsin suggests (perhaps slightly tongue-in-cheek) that as you approach the launch of a new information systems project "you should put your resume on the street." The urge to jump ship comes from what the authors describes as "post-implementation pain". The author then goes on to discuss all the hazards of implementing a major project from haggling over the budget to squabbles over who will manage the IT staff. The perspective here is pure IT and it's easy to imagine complaints from the other side. Nevertheless, the author suggests the secret of success early on and that comes in partnership and mutual respect from all sides – [*LRK]

Information Access

Aftergood, Steven. "**ISOO Reports Nine Percent Drop in Classification**" Secrecy News (26 May 2006) (http://www.fas.org/blog/secrecy/2006/05/isoo_reports_nine_percent_drop.html) – The Information Security Oversight Office, which is part of the National Archives and Records Administration, reports "a nine percent drop in overall classification activity," according to its 2005 Annual Report to the President (PDF; 1.7 MB). While ISOO Director William Leonard called this "a positive step," in light of "three years of rising numbers," Aftergood – who is director of the Federation of American Scientists Project on Government Secrecy – cautions that this does not necessarily mean more government openness. "While the data reported by ISOO each year serve as a useful benchmark," he says, "the ISOO methodology for collecting and reporting data is rudimentary and not very illuminating. For example, the annual report provides no way to assess overclassification (PDF; 267 KB)." Aftergood does note: "In an extraordinary act of public outreach, the Information Security Oversight Office will hold a free public workshop on June 30 on the use of mandatory declassification review as a tool for researchers. ISOO is also offering interested members of the public a DVD recording of an October 2005 Symposium on classification policy that was held to mark the 10th anniversary of executive order 12958." – [*SK]

Bachula, Gary R. "**Testimony ... on Net Neutrality**" EDUCAUSE Resouce Center on Net Neutrality (7 February 2006) (http://www.educause.edu/LibraryDetailPage/666?ID=EPO0611) – Excellent testimony by Gary R. Bachula, vice President of Internet2, on Net Neutrality given before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. 'Net Neutrality' ensures that all content on the web is treated equally by "network operators" (generally the telephone companies or 'Telco's'). Recently the Telco's are trying to get Congress to loosen the reins a bit and allow them to implement "preferential" treatment of content from one

source over content from another. Bachula puts the question in terms of traffic on a city street: "We know that when an ambulance or fire truck comes down a congested highway, everybody else has to pull over and stop. For emergencies, and for public safety, that is accepted, but what if UPS trucks had the same preference? Giving a preference to the packets of some potentially degrades the transport for everyone else." Using the example of his own Internet2, he argues that increasing overall bandwidth is far more cost-effective and friendly to innovation than setting up complicated and artificial service- and cost-structures – [*LRK]

McCullagh, Declan, and Anne Broache. "**House Panel Votes for Net Neutrality**" CNET News.com (25 May 2006) (http://news.com.com/2100-1028_3-6077007.html?part=rss&tag=6077007&subj=news) – Could there actually be good news regarding the Net neutrality fight? Well, yes and no. The House Judiciary Committee has approved the Internet Freedom and Nondiscrimination Act of 2006, but, according to this article, it was approved because Committee members "were worried that a competing proposal already approved by a different committee last month would diminish their own influence in the future." C'est la guerre. There are at least 6 bills dealing with the Net neutrality issue being considered in Congress (see "Net Neutrality Field in Congress Gets Crowded"), with a wide range of approaches to the issue. Libraries have a lot at stake in the Net neutrality battle, which is why ALA and ARL joined the SavetheInternet.com Coalition. To find out why it's so important, check out "Talking Points on the Importance of 'Net Neutrality,'" "The Net Neutrality Debate: The Basics," "Strong Copyright + DRM + Weak Net Neutrality = Digital Dystopia?," and Why Consumers Demand Internet Freedom--Net Neutrality: Fact vs. Fiction – [*CB]

Sternstein, Aliya. "**Bill Demands Free Public Access to Science Reports**" Federal Computer Week 20(15)(15 May 2006): 56. (http://www.fcw.com/article94357-05-15-06-Print) – It only makes sense, right? Taxpayers should have free access to the science research that they've paid for. Well, that access would be guaranteed if a bill introduced by Sens. John Coryn (R-TX) and Joe Lieberman (D-CT) – the Federal Research Public Access Act of 2006 – makes it into law. Says the article, "It mandates that agencies with annual research budgets of more than $100 million to implement a public access policy granting swift access to research supported by those agencies." Basically. this means that articles reporting on publicly funded research must be made freely available online six months after publication in a scholarly journal. Some 11 agencies are covered: the departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security and Transportation; the Environmental Protection Agency; NASA; and the National Science Foundation. The article notes that "some publishers believe the six-month provision will disrupt their business models, and they remain skeptical that legislation is needed." The Association of American Publishers (AAP), which opposes the bill, "is urging that an independent study be conducted to measure the bill's potential impact on scientific quality, the peer-review process, and the financial standing of journals..." – [*SK]

Information Retrieval

Bills, David B., Stephanie Holliman, and Laura Lowe, et. al."**The New Mobile Scholar and the Effective Use of Information and Communication Technology**" First Monday

11(4)(3 April 2006)(http://www.firstmonday.org/issues/issue11_4/bills/) – This rather large group of authors takes a closer look at how mobile information and communication technologies (ICT) can improve the lot of social scientists – freeing them to move about with ready access to large datasets. Since data is the name of the game in the social sciences, they make a good point. But they find that a substantial percentage of social scientists lack the full array of skills needed to take maximum advantage of the access technologies at their disposal. Moreover, interoperatbility is also a steep barrier to the formation of effective work habits. They argue that in order to reach the full potential of ICT applications in the social sciences, a seamless web of interoperability is vital, something a "holy grail" for a lot of developers these days. In the present situation researchers find that they get bogged down in connectivity hassles. It's worth mentioning that many academics who perform lots of field work have created their personal "workarounds" to bypass the interoperability challenge (e.g., anthropologists and other who go to remote sites). But the authors are correct when they discover greater obstacles for social scientists. Still, social science research would receive a large boost if practitioners can become "mobile scholars" – another point in the case for lifelong learning habits with respect to technology – [*TH]

Calhoun, Karen. **The Changing Nature of the Catalog and Its Integration with Other Discovery** Washington, DC: Library of Congress, 17 March 2006 (http://www.loc.gov/catdir/calhoun-report-final.pdf) – In this report commissioned by the Library of Congress, Calhoun reviews the library catalog and its changing role amidst a new mix of finding tools and technologies. In preparing the report, Calhoun performed a literature review (largely focusing on the last five years) that informed the crafting of six questions that were used in interviews with selected individuals (full disclosure: I was one). The report identifies a number of options that Calhoun classifies in one of three categories of activities: lead, expand, and extend. A two-year phased approach to "revitalizing the research library catalog" is described. This report has caused some controversy – particularly from the cataloging community which finds the de-emphasis on traditional library practice to be objectionable. But whatever position you may care to take, you would do well to read and consider the possibilities and implications of this report and other recent reports like it, such as the University of California Bibliographic Services Task Force Report and the White Paper on the Future of Cataloging at Indiana University (cited in this issue) – [*RT]

Miller, Paul. "**Coming Together around Library 2.0 : A Focus for Discussion and a Call to Arms**" D-Lib Magazine 12 (4)(April 2006) (http://www.dlib.org/dlib/april06/miller/04miller.html) – Well, it was inevitable. First we had Web 2.0; now we have Library 2.0. The author defines this using a quote from a colleague as "an attitude, not a technology". This attitude encourages sharing of information and better integration not simply with other systems but with the "workflows" of our users. The author uses library holdings showing up on Amazon as an example but really the approach can be extended to any number of other Web 2.0 software and platforms. The author goes on to identify a trend that "moves beyond the reengineering of applications deployed within a single institution, or offered by a single vendor, and allows us to move towards a network-based platform of subsystems encapsulating the functionality required by anyone wishing to construct the next generation of applications." Getting there, the author concludes, will require "dramatic change" – [*LRK]

Quint, Barbara. "**Windows Live Academic Search: The Details**" NewsBreaks & the Weekly News Digest (17 April 2006) (http://www.infotoday.com/newsbreaks/nb060417-2.shtml) – There's a new scholarly search engine in town: Windows Live Academic Search (beta version), and, in this article, Quint delves into its specifics (see "Microsoft Offers Alternative to Google Scholar: Windows Live Academic Search" for a quick overview). Microsoft sought the advice of librarians, information school faculty, publishers, and others during the development of Windows Live Academic Search, and it shows. Search results appear on the left-hand side of the screen, and an optional "preview pane" on the right-hand side can display a selected work's fielded abstract, BibTex formatted abstract, or EndNote formatted abstract. Search results can be sorted by relevance, date (oldest), date (newest), author, journal, and conference. A slider bar above the search results can expand or contract the amount of information that's shown for each hit. Another slider bar to the right of the search results can be used to easily scroll through them. And, of course, there are a number of other features. For now, the beta search engine is limited to about six million records for Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, and Physics journals and conferences. It includes e-prints (see my "A Simple Search Hit Comparison for Google Scholar, OAIster, and Windows Live Academic Search" DigitalKoans posting for a preliminary assessment of its coverage). As you would expect, the release of Windows Live Academic Search created quite a buzz in the blogosphere, and, shortly after its release, Google announced enhancements to Google Scholar – [*CB]

Knowledge Management

Breeding, Marshall. **Web Services and the Service-Oriented Architecture** Chicago, IL: ALA TechSource, 2006.(http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/web-services-and-the-service-oriented-architecture.html) – The advent of XML and protocols such as the Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) which uses it are transforming the way our computer systems work. Rather than being self-contained "silo" systems, our computer applications increasingly interact with other applications. This "service-oriented architecture" offers new opportunities to increase efficiency and effectiveness. Breeding's LTR on the topic thus comes at good time, when we all should know more about Web Services and what it has to offer our organizations. Thankfully, ALA nabbed someone with impeccable credentials and the ability to explain complex topics simply and clearly. Breeding uses the well-known Amazon and Google Web services as examples, even including code listings (a minor quibble is that the code should be downloadable from somewhere, for those that want to try this out). At the end of this 49-page publication is a summary of library automation vendor support for Web services within their applications. From this survey it is clear that Web services is not in your future – it is here now. If you feel behind it is because you are, and this fine LTR is just what the doctored ordered as your cure – [*RT]

Mathews, Brian S.. "**Do You Facebook**?" College & Research Libraries News 67(5)(May 2006): 306-307.
(http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues2006/may06/may06.htm) – Social networking. On the minus side, it seems like there's a new product every 15 minutes. It's hard to find out, let alone master, the online service de jour. On the plus side, each new product is potentially a new way for libraries to reach out to their patrons. In this case, it's Facebook, an online social network targeting people, students mainly, who attend

academic institutions. Our intrepid author has subject responsibility at Georgia Tech for the School of Mechanical Engineering. He decided to look up how many of the School's students subscribed to Facebook. Out of 1,700 students, 1,300 (or 75%) subscribed! He then blasted them with an email saying who he was and giving out targeted information about the library. The initial level of response was modest. This is the Engineering School after all and their use of traditional library services is probably a lot less than other subject areas. Nevertheless, he got a number of responses including requests to link up as "friends" by several of the recipients. This innovative use of Facebook then becomes an opportunity for outreach and communication built around promoting library services. It's a great example of adapting to our users' technology rather than requiring them to adapt to ours. If that isn't Web 2.0, I don't know what is – [*LRK]

Legal Issues

Vogele, Colette, Mia Garlick, and The Berkman Center Clinical Program in Cyberlaw. **Podcasting Legal Guide: Rules for the Revolution** San Francisco: Creative Commons, 2006.(http://mirrors.creativecommons.org/Podcasting_Legal_Guide.pdf) – You've got all the neat gadgets you need to podcast and lined up your distribution service. Ready to rock and roll, right? Wrong. Why? Because, as Lawrence Lessig says in this work's introduction: "Federal law regulates creativity. That regulation is insanely complex. Indeed, the law is more complex today than at any point in our history. It seems the more the lawyers work on the law, the less useable the law becomes." As a podcaster, you are a multimedia publisher. This involves some legal complexities that go beyond textual blogging, which are explained in the first 27 pages of this work. The rest of it is a handy guide to podcasting itself, resources related to podcasting, and relevant legal resources. This work belongs on your virtual bookshelf with the EFF: Legal Guide for Bloggers – [*CB]

von Lohmann, Fred. "**The Season of Bad Laws, Part 2: Criminal Copyright Infringement, Drug War Style**" DeepLinks (25 April 2006) (http://www.eff.org/deeplinks/archives/004586.php) – A draft copyright bill making the rounds in Congress is causing concern. Under the bill, an attempt to infringe copyright would be a criminal offense as would conspiracy to commit infringement. Law enforcement officials would have the "same criminal and civil forfeiture powers used in drug prosecutions," and wiretapping would be permitted in criminal infringement investigations. Prison terms would be significantly increased for criminal infringement. Works would no longer have to be registered prior to a criminal infringement investigation. Fred von Lohmann says about the bill: "Before they throw people in jail for copyright infringement (especially where the infringement does not involve a commercial motive), the feds should have to prove their case, just like copyright owners in civil cases. They should have to prove, among other things, that infringement took place, that it took place within the applicable statute of limitations, and that the work was properly registered." Also of interest, a short article about the new PERFORM Act (The Season of Bad Laws, Part 3: Banning MP3 Streaming), which "would effectively require music webcasters to use DRM-laden streaming formats." – [*CB]

Metadata

Moffatt, Malcolm. **'Marketing' with Metadata – How Metadata Can Increase Exposure and Visibility of Online Content"** Edinburgh: Heriot-Watt University, 8 March 2006.(http://www.icbl.hw.ac.uk/perx/advocacy/exposingmetadata.htm) – This is an easy-to-understand explanation of metadata and the various ways in which metadata can be exposed to increase traffic to your web site. After briefly explaining terms, the paper makes the case for exposing metadata and uses examples of how doing so has increased exposure for a number of specific web sites. Simple explanations on how to expose metadata via harvesting, distributed searching, and syndication (i.e., RSS) are covered – [*RT]

Preservation

Mass Digitization: Implications for Information Policy Washington, DC: U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS), 9 May 2006.(http://www.nclis.gov/digitization/MassDigitizationSymposium-Report.pdf) – The U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) sponsored the symposium "Scholarship and Libraries in Transition: A Dialogue about the Impacts of Mass Digitization Projects" in March 2006 at the University of Michigan. This 24-page report identifies nine major issues that arose from that symposium and summarizes key points under each: copyright, quality, the role of libraries, ownership and preservation, standardization and interoperability, the role of publishers and booksellers, business models, information literacy, and assessment – [*RT]

Security

"**University of Texas at Austin Investigates Computer Breach**" Associated Press (via FindLaw) (23 April 2006) (http://news.findlaw.com/ap/o/51/04-24-2006/24ef0006946f6d0c.html) – Stories like this are becoming all too common in the media these days. This one involves roughly 200,000 records at the university's business school which may have been illegally accessed. Apparently, this is the school's second major breach within three years. Meanwhile, in a survey released earlier this month, it was revealed that just 65 of the 236 institutions of higher learning surveyed offered privacy notices prominently linked from their home pages – this despite the fact that nearly every school collects personal data, conducts e-commerce and otherwise engages in practices that present potential privacy risks. Does your library prominently post a privacy policy? (This particular story resonated with this writer because she was similarly victimized just this week, when a laptop belonging to her employer's health insurance provider containing personal data on 35,000+ employees was stolen from the automobile of one of the insurer's employees.) – [*SK]

Web Design

Buckley, Rob **The best Firefox extensions for developers**. .Net issue150, June 2006: 86-89 – These are geared to developers but Linkchecker, Clear Cache Button and Mozilla Accessibility Extension may be of interest to the general user of Firefox. The author rates the best 15 extensions that are developer friendly – [JW]

Hall, Christian. **How to make your site accessible**. .Net issue 151, July 2006: 84-89 – PAS 78 : Guide to Good Practice in Commissioning Accessible Websites is a set of guidelines for planning the development of accessible sites. These guidelines give principles of good practice to obtain quality accessible sites from the commissioning to testing stages. They provide a framework to achieve accessible sites. PAS 78 is endorsed by the Disability Rights Commission (DRC) and available from the BSI (British Standards Institution). There are approximately 6.8 million disabled people/customers in the U.K. The vision for the web was of access for all. This somehow got lost in the speed of development of the web and lack of enforceable guidelines and rules. PAS 78 puts the planning and the vision back. This article clarifies what is meant by accessibility – [JW]

Contributors to Current Cites *

Charles W. Bailey, Jr., Terry Huwe, Shirl Kennedy, Leo Robert Klein, Jim Ronningen, Roy Tennant

Contributors

Peter Chapman, Ann Dixon, Catherine Ebenezer, Linda Fawcett, Ina Fourie, Linda Kerr, Ida Kwan, Shona McTavish, Ruth Ng, Shirley Parker-Munn, Liz Reiner, Ann Smith, Christine Urquhart, Jennifer Wilkinson.

Book Review: The Institutional Repository

Richard Jones, Theo Andrew and John MacColl. Oxford: Chandos Publishing, 2006. 247pp. ISBN 1-84334-138-7

I wish that this book had been available a year ago when I was first getting to grips with the concept and operation of an institutional repository (IR). What I needed then, and is supplied in this book, was a comprehensive description of the background and context of an IR, coupled with a very practical guide to its implementation.

The book is written by a trio of authors well qualified to advise on the design and implementation of an IR. Their joint experience of creating, supporting and promoting the Edinburgh Research Archive is at the heart of this text.

The first chapter of this book compares the IR with the digital library. Different types of repository are discussed, and some of the key questions about IRs are addressed – including the role of IRs in the scholarly communication process, the significance of metadata, and the contribution of IRs to research impact. These are themes to which the later chapters will return.

Chapters 2 to 6 cover the full range of issues involved in implementing an IR. Beginning with making a case for the establishment of an IR, the authors then cover technologies and technicalities, workflow and administration, advocacy and intellectual property. Collectively, these elements produce a useful handbook for those considering building an IR for their institution.

Chapter 7, a case study of the Edinburgh Research Archive, draws together the theory and practice recommended in the earlier chapters.

Six appendices profile the major open source software packages available, each written by authors representing the product developers. Helpful glossaries of abbreviations and definitions complete the work.

The authors manage always to emphasise the underlying principles of implementing an IR. Thus they focus on how to evaluate different software packages, rather than recommending any one specific package; they provide guidelines for choosing a file format to support, rather than dictating their own preferences; and they give help in identifying the risks arising from intellectual property rights, rather than offering specific legal solutions. This approach should increase both the book's potential audience (international) and its period of usefulness.

Some of the value of this book lies in its detail. For example, the tables in Chapter 1 which give instances of digital libraries, disciplinary repositories, IRs and learning object repositories, enable readers to see for themselves the different types of repository. In other areas, the authors' ability to link practice to theory adds value to the existing literature and greatly enhances the reader's understanding. The advocacy model, based on Rogers' innovation diffusion theory, is a case in point. Given the acknowledged difficulty of gathering repository content, a deeper understanding of the roles of the

innovation itself, the social context and the communication channels is likely to be invaluable in planning an effective advocacy strategy.

If the book has some drawbacks, they arise mainly from the authors' limited perspective, that of innovators at a major research university. Thus the book is entirely focused on IRs in universities, and predominantly on research output in the form of e-prints and e-theses. The particular needs of those implementing IRs at other types of institution, or of those building IRs for other types of content, such as learning objects or administrative materials, are not addressed.

Some of the book's recommendations are undoubtedly counsels of perfection. For example, the suggestion that one should "make test installations of the software packages that pass preliminary evaluation" (p.74) is unlikely to be practical for more than a very short shortlist of products. As IRs become more commonplace and the functionality of the software is perfected, librarians are much more likely to call on the experience of earlier adopters in making their decision and to allow the software itself to guide their practice.

From a practical point of view, the book would benefit from a few minor additions. An implementation roadmap or checklist and a summary of practical tips for advocacy activities would both be useful. I would also like to see greater emphasis on the role of OAI harvesters in enhancing the visibility of IR content, ideally supported by a list of OAI compliant search tools.

These minor objections notwithstanding, this reference book successfully fills a significant gap in the literature. I recommend it.

Miggie Pickton, Academic Librarian, (Miggie.pickton@northampton.ac.uk)

Book review: Enabling end- users: Information skills training

Ann Poyner. Oxford: Chandos Publishing, 2005. 147pp. ISBN: 1-84334-108-5

The professional background of the author indicates her breadth of experience in the area of information skills training and that she will, therefore, have much useful knowledge to share. She has contributed much to the development of information skills training, especially in an outreach setting within the NHS. Though relevant to health care library services, the author does not specify her audience as such but refers to librarians and information professionals generally who are involved in end-user education.

The chapters of the book follow a natural progression, giving a brief overview of each topic, from assessing the quality of the user experience in the library and how this can be improved, through surveying and involving users to best assess their needs, the role of librarian trainers and how they communicate, search processes and techniques, preparation of training materials, one-to-one and group training delivery techniques, electronic resources, including useful information about the Internet to pass on to users and a few information gateway and resource web addresses (though maintaining the currency of references to electronic resources is naturally difficult in print format, eg. NHS access to Zetoc will cease in July 2006). The author also includes an example each of an information audit and a training needs assessment questionnaire, as appendices.

The stated aim of the book, to assist busy information professionals with the planning and delivery of information skills training through personal tuition, rather than via e-learning packages or distance learning programmes, is delivered in the content. The clear layout of the chapters, including a list of contents at the beginning of each and the ample use of headings and bullet points, enables the audience to read the book as a whole or find and dip into the relevant section. The book is a practical guide containing many useful ideas and can be referred back to when focussing on a different aspect. The book may also prove a tool for re-assessing training delivery and trying out different ideas, time and resources permitting.

The author does not include references to other published printed material on the subject, which may have been useful for those setting up new services in this area, and would also be helpful if wanting to study a topic in more detail.

Working in this area we found the book a valuable overview, and we are now adapting relevant ideas to assist with developing a training programme for our own service users. Useful tips we obtained from the book were the STAC (searching strategy framework), the need to prepare instruction material carefully and to get a colleague to test it, to focus exercises on topics of interest to the individual in one-to-one training and to evaluate training sessions personally, in addition to the end-user doing so. The book reflects how library services are evolving, especially within the NHS, and how we wish to train users to become independent information seekers and users of the rapidly increasing variety of electronic resources available, while still developing our own role as information specialists. We certainly recommend colleagues to read it.

Pippa Orr and Denise Roberts, Knowledge Support Librarians, North Cumbria NHS
Library and Web Services.

Press Releases & News

Ingenta Announces North American Library Board

Ingenta recently named the members of its new Library Advisory Board. The group will advise Ingenta on all aspects of its role in the library community, from its overall strategy in the information market to product development plans.
http://www.managinginformation.com/news/content_show_full.php?id=5003

Headfast – the new name for Head Software International

Caterham, Surrey, United Kingdom – 20th June 2006

Specialist electronic publishing systems and Internet services company, Head Software International, is re-branding itself as Headfast – the name of its text database technology.

For over twenty-five years, Head Software International (www.headfast.com) has been supplying solutions for the knowledge industry – booksellers, information services, libraries and publishers – based on its packaged software such as Headline, Headform, Headset and Headfast. However, in recent years, the emphasis has switched to more bespoke solutions for in-house information management, CD-ROM publishing, websites and online information services on the Internet. Recent products have been given names like Headfast/Discovery for Internet applications and Headfast/Abstrax for bibliographic content management as they have been developed around Headfast database technology.

Mike Hyman, Managing Director of Headfast, explains: "Our business is increasingly as much about providing high quality services like hosting and system implementation as developing new software. We therefore decided that the time was right to re-brand the company to reflect this evolution. Adopting the Headfast name was a very natural and logical choice. Indeed, many customers and prospects already think of us as Headfast because it's been at the core of our business and also our Internet domain name for many years."

Headfast customers include Nielsen BookData, Inspec, Waterstone's, CERAM Research, the British Nursing Index and Ellis Publications (part of the Thomson Corporation).

Major journals archive made available free to UK universities

JISC agreement with Oxford University Press brings 135 years of scholarly resources online

6th June 2006. An archive totalling over 3 million pages from 300,000 journal articles and encompassing over 135 years of human knowledge is being made available free of charge to the UK academic community in perpetuity.

JISC and Oxford Journals, a division of Oxford University Press, today announced an agreement which will see major collections of journal articles in the humanities, sciences, medicine, law and the social sciences made available to all higher education institutions, collections which include many of the leading titles in their fields over the last two centuries. The archive, if purchased individually, would cost in the region of £80,000 per institution.

The agreement represents a significant commitment to the widening of access to major scholarly resources and follows a programme of digitization undertaken by Oxford Journals. Functionality incorporated by the archive includes full text pdfs of each article with HTML headers and abstracts, full text searching, the inclusion of all images and graphics, and links to 'similar articles in this journal'.

Lorraine Estelle, JISC Collections Team Manager, said: "This agreement makes available a wide range of complete runs of journals to far more students and staff than would otherwise be able to access them. The response we received from the community during the consultation process was extremely enthusiastic and thanks to their support, JISC is delighted with this opportunity to work with Oxford University Press on an agreement which will help to enrich teaching, learning and research across a range of subjects."

Martin Richardson, Managing Director, Oxford Journals, commented: "This agreement with JISC is a major boost towards ensuring scholarly research is accessible for the future. With content from 140 titles dating back to 1849, the Oxford Journals archive makes available important knowledge that may previously have been hard to find, or was not accessible at all. We're delighted that JISC is enabling UK researchers to benefit from this significant collection."

Liz Chapman, Deputy Director of UCL Library Services, said: "Accessing this archive is like walking through The Looking Glass into another era. Here we are given the ability to make a systematic review of early research articles in a variety of subjects. Here television is new and is early criticized and clinical trials are executed by doctors on themselves. It is a marvellous adjunct to current e-journals and will support research in many areas, particularly the humanities and social sciences which have up to now had little historical digital material to search."

Free online access to nearly 200 years of medical research

Launch of groundbreaking project opens major medical archive to all

11 May, 2006. Complete back issues covering nearly 200 years of historically significant biomedical journals are being made freely available online as a result of a landmark project launched today at the Wellcome Trust. On completion, the back files project will deliver over three million pages of medical journals free to anyone through standard search tools such as PubMed and Google. The initiative was developed through a partnership between the Wellcome Trust, JISC, the US National Library of Medicine (NLM) and a number of medical journal publishers. The archive will contain a number of discoveries which have changed the face of medicine, including:

- Sir Alexander Fleming's discovery of the use of penicillin to fight bacterial infections. British Journal of Experimental Pathology, 1929 (continued as the International Journal of Experimental Pathology)

- Sir Richard Doll's groundbreaking study that confirmed that smoking was a "major cause" of lung cancer. BMJ, 1954

- Walter Reed's paper that proved that yellow fever is transmitted by mosquitoes. Journal of Hygiene, 1902 (continued as Epidemiology and Infection)

- Kenneth Burton's classic and highly cited "methods" paper that provided a standard way of assaying DNA concentration in a solution using diphenylamine. Biochemical Journal, 1956

- Hodgkin's and Huxley's Nobel-prize winning paper on ionic theory of the nerve impulse. This work was the foundation for thousands of subsequent studies of electrical signalling in the brain and has been useful for understanding the origins of many disorders – such as multiple sclerosis, muscle myotonias, and heart arrhythmias – that result from defects in electrical signalling. Journal of Physiology, 1952

- Frederick Treves 1888 paper in which he described the first operation on an inflamed appendix. On publication, the paper was not initially well received as surgical intervention was discouraged in such cases. Seven years later this became the accepted practice. Medico-Chirurgical Transactions, 1888, (continued as the Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine)

- Arunlakshana and Schild's 1959 paper on the characteristics of drug binding to receptor sites. Using the approach articulated in this paper the authors showed, for example, that the histamine receptors in various guinea pig and human tissues were the same. British Journal of Pharmacology, 1959

Participating publishers have also agreed to continue to deposit current content of their journals into this archive. They will be freely available after an embargo period – a maximum of one year for all research papers. In addition to the faithful replication of every published page, the archive provides a number of innovative, value-added functions, including links from references to full text, high resolution images, full text searching across the entire archive, and links from the original article to corrections and retractions and vice-versa.

Director of the Wellcome Trust, Dr Mark Walport, said: "This growing collection will be of lasting benefit to researchers, practitioners and medical historians worldwide. It will provide access to important scientific literature from the past, free of charge, to anyone in the world with Internet access."

The backfiles archive can be accessed free of charge through the National Institutes of Health (NIH), full-text, life sciences repository PubMed Central (PMC). Journals will be added to the archive as soon as they are digitized. PubMed citations are added to that database when the archive is complete.

Further information about this project can be found at: Backfiles project

Emerald Group Publishing Launches Emerald Alumni

Custom-branded online management resources

Emerald Group Publishing launches Emerald Alumni, providing universities with a specially-branded online management resource as a tangible benefit for their alumni, to help graduates to keep abreast of developments in the business world.

Bill Russell, Director, academic market says, "There is increasing recognition that alumni can be ambassadors, advocates and advisers for their place of study. Now many institutes are turning to their former students as an important source of funding to help the university develop. In return, higher education institutes need to offer their alumni tangible benefits. Emerald Alumni supports lifelong learning for graduates by providing online resources which help them to develop, learn and grow throughout their corporate careers or for those taking postgraduate or MBA studies."

Content is supplied through Emerald's managementfirst.com website. The resource includes international business and management articles, case studies, guru interviews, management briefings and discussion forums. Emerald Alumni also provides access to Emerald Management Reviews, a database of short summaries of every article published in the world's top 400 management titles. There are 190,000 article reviews available to help users pin-point the most relevant material for their needs.

The web resource includes coverage of strategy, marketing, change management, human resources, knowledge management, healthcare, e-business, quality and public sector management. The resources are divided into ten communities:

- Management Styles

- Marketing

- Change Management

- Strategy & Leadership

- Human Resources

- Knowledge Management

- Healthcare Management

- E-business, IT & Finance

- Quality

- Public Sector Management.

For further information visit: www.emeraldinsight.com/alumni.

Nominations invited for the Jason Farradane Award

The UKeiG Jason Farradane Award is offered to an individual or a group of people in recognition of outstanding work in the field of information science. The Award is sponsored by Sage Publications.

Nominations are now invited for the 2006 Award. Nominations should be for achievement that meets one or more of the following criteria:

Raising the profile of the information profession within an organisation or field of endeavour in a way which can or has become an exemplar to others;

Raising the awareness of the value of information in the workplace;

Development of a significant new information product or service;

Development of a product or service that has made a significant impact on the availability and accessibility of information.

Key characteristics that the judges will look for in nominations are innovation, initiative, originality and significance. The Award is open to individuals or groups from anywhere in the world; however, nominations must be made by a Member of CILIP: the Chartered Institute for Library and Information Professionals.

Nominations should take the form of a short description (no more than 3 sides of A4) of the work in question, together with full contact details of both the nominee and the nominator. Do not forget to include any documentation, references or URLs which may support the nomination. Nominations should reach the judges by Friday September 15th 2006.

Nominations will be judged by a panel of experts, and the award will be presented to the winner during the annual Online Information Meeting in London in late November.

Jason Farradane graduated in chemistry in 1929 at what is now Imperial College and started work in industry as a chemist and documentalist. He was instrumental in

establishing the Institute of Information Scientists (IIS) in 1958 and the first academic courses in information science in 1960 at the precursor of City University, where he became Director of the Centre for Information Science in 1966. On the research side his main contributions lay in relational analysis, which can now perhaps be seen as providing a precursor to work in the area of A.I., and the concept of information. He saw information science as a step towards understanding and better organizing ourselves. The IIS first presented the award in 1979, to Jason Farradane.

Previous award winners have included:

- Michael Koenig

- Bruce Royan

- Michael Keen

- Newcastle University Library

- Sandra Ward

- Phil Williams

- Phil Holmes

Further details can be found on the UKeiG website at:
http://www.ukeig.org.uk/awards/farradane.html.

Nominations for the 2006 Award are now invited, and should be sent with full supporting documentation to:

Christine Baker, The Old Chapel, Walden, West Burton, Leyburn, North Yorkshire DL8 4LE
Tel & Fax: 01969 663749
E-mail: cabaker@ukeig.org.uk

The closing date for nominations is Friday September 15th 2006.

Nominations invited for the Tony Kent Strix Award

The UKeiG Tony Kent Strix Award is given in recognition of an outstanding contribution to the field of information retrieval. The Award is sponsored by Sage Publications.

Nominations are now invited for the 2006 Award. Nominations should be for achievement that meets one or more of the following criteria:

- development of, or significant improvement in, mechanisms for the retrieval of information, either generally or in a specialised field;
- development of, or significant improvement in, accessibility to an information service;
- a sustained contribution over a period of years to the field of information retrieval; for example, by running an information service or by contributing at national or international level to organisations active in the field;
- a major and/or sustained contribution to the theoretical or experimental understanding of the information retrieval process;
- A major contribution to fostering the education, training and/or general awareness of the importance and the technicalities of information retrieval.

Key characteristics that the judges will look for in nominations are innovation, initiative, originality and practicality. The Award is open to individuals or groups from anywhere in the world.

Nominations should take the form of a short description (no more than 3 sides of A4) of the work in question, together with full contact details of both the nominee and the nominator. Do not forget to include any documentation, references or URLs which may support the nomination. Nominations should reach the judges by Friday September 15th 2006.

Nominations will be judged by a panel of experts, and the statuette of an owl will be presented to the winner during the annual Online Information Meeting in London in late November.

The Strix Award is presented in memory of Dr Tony Kent, a past Fellow of the Institute of Information Scientists, who died in 1997. Tony Kent made a major contribution to the development of information retrieval and information services both in the UK and internationally, particularly in the field of chemistry. The name Strix was chosen both to reflect Tony's interest in ornithology, and the name of one of the last and most successful information retrieval packages which he created.

Past winners have been:

2005 Jack Mills

2004 Professor Cornelis Joost (Keith) van Rijsbergen

2003 Dr Herbert van Sompel

2002 Malcolm Jones

2001 Professor Peter Willett

2000 Dr Martin Porter

1999 Dr Donna Harman

1998 Professor Stephen Robertson

Further details can be found on the UKeiG website at
http://www.ukeig.org.uk/awards/tonykentstrix.html

Nominations for the 2006 Award are now invited, and should be sent with full supporting documentation to:

Alan Gilchrist, 32 Friar Road, Brighton BN1 6NH, UK.

Tel: 01273 705226

E-mail: cura@fastnet.co.uk

The closing date for nominations is Friday September 15th 2006.