eLucidate

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Online

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

JISC ticTOCS http://www.tictocs.ac.uk/

TicTOCS is a new, freely-available RSS service for journal tables of contents. The project is funded by JISC, and will run until April 2009 in the first instance, with a prototype scheduled to be available by April 2008. Partners include electronic publishers, open-access specialists, professional bodies and universities, including Cranfield, Heriot-Watt, and Liverpool. TicTOCS will provide a personalised web-based service, whereby users will be able to search, subscribe to, be alerted to and to reuse journal TOC RSS feeds and their contents. It is intended that feeds for many thousands of titles from a wide range of publishers will be available, and that that the service will help to firm up TOC RSS standards for future compatibility. The service is aimed at academics, researchers, authors, commercial and open-access publishers, and library and information professionals.

Census http://census.ac.uk/

Census.ac.uk is a comprehensive access and support service for the UK academic community. It replaces the Census Registration Service (CRS) and enhances the ESRC Census Programme resources already available. More than just a registration service, Census.ac.uk provides free online access to 1971-2001 census data resources, advanced search facilities, detailed metadata, census guides, census forms, online help and a wealth of census-related information and advice. The Website also gives users the opportunity to register their research outputs online, in accordance with their obligations under the End User Licence. Census.ac.uk offers access to aggregate data, look-up tables, interaction data, digital boundary data and microdata, and provides metadata for longitudinal studies.

EBSCO http://www.epnet.com/
EBSCO have recently added the Elsevier e-book collection to its e-book repertoire. Accessible via ScienceDirect, Elsevier's e-book collection includes:

- More than 4,000 STM-focused eBooks, including titles from Pergamon and Academic Press imprints, which will be added to monthly.
- More than 50 reference works.
- Handbook series covering four key disciplines – economics, mathematics, physics and chemistry.
- Seven book series with topics ranging from business, management and economics to psychology and the social sciences.

Elsevier http://www.elsevier.com/ & EMBASE Classic http://www.info.embaseclassic.com/

The new EMBASE Classic bibliographic database on DataStar is to be hosted on Dialog, Ovid and SilverPlatter. This EMBASE Classic release will mark the first time that the EMBASE backfile from 1947-1973 will be accessible in electronic form.

ProQuest http://www.proquest.com/

ProQuest has signed an agreement with Nelson Mandela to digitize No Easy Walk to Freedom – a collection of articles, speeches, letters and trial transcripts documenting Mandela's life and imprisonment. This historic volume will be made available in the December release of ProQuest's African Writers Series, a digital collection that offers access to many of the key texts for research on twentieth-century African literature. Published under ProQuest's Chadwyck-Healey imprint, the African Writers Series online contains works by major contemporary authors as well as classic earlier texts and new writing, and opens up new possibilities for scholarship and teaching in the fields of African and literary studies.

Intute http://www.intute.ac.uk/

Intute has released a variety of new free Internet tutorials for the Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences, Science and Engineering and Health and Life Sciences in the Virtual Training Suite The tutorials teach Internet research skills for university students, and are ideal for use in undergraduate courses. This is part of a major programme to update and revise all the tutorials in the Intute Virtual Training Suite.

Thomson Scientific http://scientific.thomson.com/ **& Endnote** http://www.endnote.com/

Thomson Scientific have announced that EndNote XI bibliographic management software is now available for use with the Mac OS X. EndNote X1 Mac users can now create groups and build AppleScripts to streamline tasks within EndNote as well as between other applications," said Keith MacGregor, EVP Academic and Government Markets, Thomson Scientific. "With the breadth of new features in EndNote X1 and seamless connectivity with EndNote Web via ISI Web of Knowledge, Mac users have a versatile and collaborative environment to work with colleagues around the world."

Internet

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

RAE, institutional repositories and the Internet

How institutional repositories have impacted on preparation for the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise

This column examines my own journey in relation to the RAE[1] and the use of Internet resources to assist in the preparation of Kingston University's submission.

The RAE – Research Assessment Exercise – has as its primary purpose the production of quality profiles for each submission of research activity made by an institution. The four higher education funding bodies intend to use the quality profiles to determine their grant for research to the institution which they fund with effect from 2009-10. These submissions are supported by huge rafts of data about the university, student numbers and its research functions, as well as the physical evidence of each researcher's chosen research outputs – with a maximum of four outputs per researcher.

The first stage of this journey started back at the beginning of the 2005/6 academic year with the implementation of EPrints[2], an open-source software for building repositories. We were early implementers of this software, attending the first formal EPrints training programme back in September 2005. Kingston University Research Repository[3] was officially launched in October 2006. Unfortunately, we were not able to benefit from the expertise within the Sherpa-LEAP project, and so have found our own way through the maze of software development, open access issues, copyright and the needs of our University researchers to arrive at the place we are now.

This place is slightly divergent from where many other institutional repositories are, in that:

- we are a metadata-only repository, which is not entirely in accordance of the aims of the open access movement
- we are exporting details of each research output from our repository to use within the RAE submission
- we accept a broad range of multimedia files, particularly for music- and arts-based outputs

Following the successful launch of our Research Repository, I started leading the second phase of the project, which was to populate the repository with details of our researchers' outputs. Initial population work was spread out among the subject teams within the University Library, with hands-on training sessions being provided to all subject teams, and briefing sessions to other teams with the Library. Advocacy work was limited to training sessions to specific research groups who requested them, a leaflet circulated to all members of Faculty; presentations at University Research Committee and Faculty Research Committee meetings; and links to the Repository from our external Research Web pages[4].

It is here, in the autumn of 2006, that I decided to make use of Web technologies, which were fairly new to libraries. I decided to use a blog instead of e-mail to disseminate information, and tips and

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[1] Rae2008 Research Assessment Exercise. Available at: http://www.rae.ac.uk/ (Accessed: 24 September 2007).
[2] EPrints for digital repositories. Available at: http://eprints.org (Accessed: 24 September 2007).
[3] Kingston University Research Repository (2007). Available at: http://eprints.kingston.ac.uk (Accessed: 24 September 2007).
[4] The Kingston research environment (2007). Available at: http://www.kingston.ac.uk/research/centres/index.htm (Accessed: 24 September 2007).

tricks to the subject team members who were involved in the population project. This blog had a short active life, from January to May 2007, but could be used again in the future. It was an early exposure to the use of blogs to support library work for many of the population team, and was used by most of the team members. The blog was supplemented by a Delicious account containing links to a variety of useful websites. I promoted the use of Firefox for tabbed browsing. All these tools were used during the Repository training sessions. This provided a useful way of showing Web 2.0 applications in a real-life setting to a relatively large proportion of library staff in a short space of time.

The population team were working from academic's own lists of publications, and verification of these details provided some challenges ranging from errors in article titles, to complete flights of fancy concerning unwritten journal articles. A range of Web-based resources were used: Ulrich's Periodicals Directory was a reliable source for ascertaining which titles were or were not refereed, as well as checking ISSNs and journal Web addresses. Google Scholar was invaluable for being able to check a surprising number of book chapters, particularly when trying to ascertain the page ranges of chapters. However, our experience with DOIs has been somewhat mixed, with about 10% proving to be unresolvable. This has been a big disappointment as I had, naively, assumed that if something had a DOI provided, then it would work – but apparently not! It is also an expensive blow to us, because the RAE requirements for the submission of physical evidence need DOIs for journal articles, or a printed copy, so now we have to obtain printed copies of those articles with broken DOIs. Broken DOIs were reported to Cross Ref, but only one has so far been fixed. Intranet pages have been used to keep track of the progress of the Repository population project and, now, the collation of those physical outputs which will form part of the RAE submission.

The population part of the project has now been completed, and the results have been:

- Increased awareness of the range of sources and search techniques needed to verify or locate details of a range of research items, both in print and for arts-based research
- Increased awareness of the breadth of research being undertaken within the University
- Increased awareness amongst the University research community of skills and support the library can provide
- That a blog can successfully replace e-mails
- That academics have started to put in details of their own outputs into the Repository

This last point has been the most surprising, and gratifying, since advocacy opportunities have been limited. The issue of critical mass has certainly played a part; now that there is a core collection of items for each faculty, some academics want to supplement this.

In conclusion, the close association between the development of the Kingston University Research Repository and the RAE submission has proved to be both a driver and a constraint. It has enabled the Repository to be developed, with an appropriate level of staffing and a remit that benefits the research community. It has provided a momentum to its population. However, the RAE schedule has meant that we have not been able to evolve to keep up with developments in Repository management techniques, or new software versions. However, the future of the Research Repository seems assured, and 2008 should see further opportunities to move the Repository onto EPrints 3.0 and improve our service to the University research community.

Online Information and IMS 2007

Exhibitions

UKeiG will again be exhibiting at Online Information this year. The dates for your diary are December 4-6th, and the venue is the Olympia Grand Hall, London. We shall be on stand 734. Co-located with Online Information is Information Management Solutions 2007. Details of both events and how to register are on the Online Information web site.

Online Information 2007 Conference – discounts for UKeiG members

Full details of the conference programme, which runs in parallel with the exhibition, are at http://www.online-information.co.uk/online07/conferenceprogramme.html.

There are discounts for UKeiG members.

Register up to the 9 November 2007 for the Association Super Early Bird discount and save 25%. Super Early Bird price: £579 + VAT

Register after the 10 November 2007 for the special Association Full Delegate rate and save 15%. Full Association price: £655 + VAT.

Further details are at http://www.online-information.co.uk/online07/conferenceprices.html

Intranets

Supporting collaboration with social networking software

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

How joint working can be implemented in organisations, using SharePoint, Notes, and other software

I spent much of the first week in September entombed in the basement of the Royal Lancaster Hotel. If the location seems somewhat familiar it is probably because it has been the venue for the Online Information Conference Awards Dinner for the last few years. I was there attending the Gartner Portals, Content and Collaboration Summit in London. (http://www.gartner.com). This company may not be familiar to many of you but it is well respected for its forecasts of trends in the IT industry.

It is not often I attend conferences as a delegate but this one turned out to be an excellent choice and was especially notable for the balance of strategic insight and tactical best practice in the areas of search, portals, collaboration and content management. There were over 330 senior IT managers present, from 29 countries, and what was especially remarkable was that over 200 of them squeezed into a room to hear a presentation on how social software tools could (and should) make an impact on intranets. Of the three pre-conference workshops the collaboration workshop attracted the majority of the attendees.

'Collaboration' was the dominant theme of the conference. One of the forecasts that was presented was that that the extent to which two or more people would work together to make decisions would increase by 50% over the next few years. The drivers for this would be increasing business complexity, and the need to solve problems and address opportunities that were new to the business and for which there were no 'easy' solutions. Another factor in the rapid adoption of social network applications is that the current generation entering work for the first time use these applications intensively outside of the office and expect to be able to use them inside the office. Over the last decade, many organisations have tried to set up discussion groups and failed, but now need to bury that experience and start again with web-based tools, and a commitment from the top to use these to take advantage of the expertise of the organisation.

A case study from Vodafone made the point well. Of the 66,000 employees some 40,000 are using 7,000 collaboration 'rooms', and there are over 70 professional communities. There is also substantial use of these collaboration spaces by external partners. Looking at this situation from another perspective, social networking is really knowledge management in action. In another case study, from Shell, the benefit of using these spaces is a significant reduction in e-mail traffic. 'Send and store' is being replaced by 'Store and send' as documents or comments are added to a work space and an alert is sent out about the item. One of the asides from a Gartner consultant was that for far too many people a 'good' day was a day when the number of items deleted from a mail box is greater than the number that arrive. Sad but true!

One of the sub-themes of the Summit was that of governance. The push-back on social networking tools often comes from senior managers worried about what might be contributed to blogs and wikis. However, blogs are always named (or there is no point in writing one), and wikis have audit trails, so both are less risky than e-mails, which can be invisible. Another dimension to governance came up in a session on portals in which David Gootzit, a Gartner analyst, said that in his experience the reason for the failure of portal projects was poor governance from the outset.

To most IT managers, the only options to support collaboration were Microsoft SharePoint and Notes from IBM, but the point was made by several speakers that there is a wide range of start-up companies offering social software. Of course in time they may well get swallowed up by larger vendors, but in the meantime, the cost of entry and experimentation by any organisation is so low,

and potentially has so many rewards that without doubt the best thing to do is try it and see, and not wait for the IT department to migrate all your SharePoint Server 03 files to MOSS07. That's not an easy task.

Overall I walked out of the Summit realising that I had not been paying enough attention to the collaboration environment, and I suspect that is the case with many intranet managers. Now is the time to change, because if the organisation does not provide support two things will certainly happen. The first is that consumer products will be used unofficially, and the second is that the chances of the organisation not being able to make effective use of the skills of staff will increase rapidly.

I'd certainly recommend any intranet manager to consider attending the next PCC Summit, which will take place in London in September 2008.

Public Sector News

Jane Inman, Communications and Information Manager, Environment and Economy, Warwickshire County Council (janeinman@warwickshire.gov.uk)

Power of Information

http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk

Published in June, *The power of information[1],* a report commissioned by the Cabinet Office and written by Ed Mayo and Tom Steinberg looks at the opportunities that exist to develop citizen- and state-generated information in the UK, and to share it electronically. It includes examples of situations where information has been developed and shared and then looks at the resulting benefits. It quotes the examples of lower treatment costs where information about HIV has been shared using online communities and the drop in 'food-borne' illness through sharing food safety information in Los Angeles.

The government response to the report identifies three challenges for itself. These are:

- Engaging in partnership with user-fed online communities
- Ensuring that it fully understands and responds appropriately to changes in the information market and
- Advising civil servants on how best to participate in new media

Digital Divide

http://www.ukonlinecentres.co.uk/readingroom/research

The digital divide is often referred to but some research has been conducted that shows just how wide the gap is between the 61% of the population who make use of digital services and the 39% who don't. Far from being a closing gap the research shows that the difference between those who run their lives online and those for whom this is still a complete mystery is becoming more of a problem. The problem is that those members of society who are already disadvantaged are more likely to be the ones without access to the information and services online. This reinforces the divide, as they then do not have access to the information and services that could help them. The report from the UK online centres is based on research by FreshMinds.

Land Registry

http://www.landregistry.gov.uk/

If you need to access property information held by the Land Registry, you will be pleased to know that their online database now covers almost 60% of land in England and Wales. This is a rise from just 48% two years ago, and the Land Registry is confident it will achieve its aim of delivering a comprehensive register.

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[1] *The power of information: an independent review* Ed Mayo and Tom Steinberg June 2007 and *The Government's response to the power of information by Ed mayo and Tom Steinberg* Cm 7157 June 2007

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Government websites

The National Audit Office reported in July[1] on progress in delivering online services, and found that little had changed since its previous investigation in 2002. The report showed that Directgov, the main focus of government information for the citizen, is well received by the public. For the first time Directgov has appointed a Chief Executive, Jayne Nickalls, who has been appointed to draw government content together through this site. Information for the business community is to be focused through businesslink.gov.uk. The 'home' of Directgov is to be the Department for Work and Pensions, moving there from the Central Office of Information in April 2008.

The report said that some areas of government websites are too complex and have too much text. They also have too much 'policy' material, which is often not relevant to the user. Many people use government websites infrequently, often for transactions, such as purchasing car tax or completing a tax return. The Jobcentre Plus site is the exception, with 78% of its users visiting it at least once a week.

Scottish change of name

http://www.scotland.gov.uk

In case you missed it, the Scottish Executive is now known as the Scottish Government. It is believed this title is less confusing and more closely identifies the role of the Executive. The cost of changing signs, and so on, is said to be £100,000.but worth it.

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. ALGIS welcomes anyone with an interest in public sector information who feels they would benefit from being part of a community working in the same area. For more information go to http://www.algis.org.uk.

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[1] *Government on the Internet: progress in delivering information and services online Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General* HC 529 Session 2006-2007 July 2007

Meeting Report: Does your intranet meet accessibility standards?

UKeiG Intranets Forum

Disability Rights Commission, Manchester, 5 July 2007

Following the success of the London-based Intranets Forum meetings; demand has been high for meetings in other parts of the country. The Disability Rights Commission's (DRC) offer of a Manchester venue allowed the Forum to spread its wings. An added bonus was the DRC's excellent facilities enabling 20 participants to attend in Manchester, and a further 12 by video-link in London.

Simon Pickering, the DRC's Practice Development Officer, spoke of their seven-year process leading to the publication in 2006 of the "Guide to good practice in commissioning accessible design". The project assessed publicly available websites for their level of accessibility for disabled people; over 1000 sites were tested with a staggering 81% failing the basic World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) standards.[1] Following the results of the study, the DRC worked with the British Standards Institute to develop a Publicly Available Specification (PAS 78), detailing best practice and recommendations, guiding readers through the commissioning, building and maintaining of a site, and the involvement of specific disability groups. Until 30 September 2007, the PAS is freely available for downloading from the DRC website.[2] To-date, there have been 54,000 downloads across the world.

Steve Beesley, the DRC's Software Development Manager outlined key points to achieving an accessible and usable website or intranet. The Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI)[3] defines accessibility as content usable by someone with a disability. Usability is concerned with ease and efficiency of use whether disabled or not. Hence, there is no real tension between accessibility and usability.

A Survey in 2005 by User Vision[4], a usability and accessibility consultancy, found the top five annoyances for disabled users to be:

- No in-site search
- No sitemap
- No internal page navigation e.g. back to the top links
- Pop-ups
- Inability to change font size/colour contrast.

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[1] http://www.w3.org/

[2] http://www.drc-gb.org/library/website_accessibility_guidance/pas_78.aspx

[3] http://www.w3.org/WAI/

[4] http://www.uservision.co.uk/

Key points proposed to improve accessibility were:

- Start by improving the accessibility of the most popular sections of your intranet.
- There should be no more than five links on a page; otherwise those using screen readers can become very frustrated.
- Write for the intranet; reading a screen is 25% slower than reading on a page. It is very important for those using assisted technologies that the first sentence on the page contains the most important information, allowing users to assess the relevancy of the page easily.
- Scrolling should be limited, with no horizontal scrolling.
- Organise content using lists and bullets.
- Hyperlinks should be part of the text.
- Ensure options to change font and colour are easily found.
- The accessibility statement needs to be clear and easily found.
- HTML is the most preferable format, then PDF and Word, in that order. PDFs should be appropriately marked up for accessibility. The Adobe website gives advice on making PDFs accessible.[1]

Carol Phillips, the DRC's ICT Officer, highlighted key features of the DRC's Intranet. When staff log on, the intranet is immediately displayed. The homepage is interactive, with a very popular weekly poll. At the time of the meeting, and the recent change of Prime Minister, the poll was "Will Gordon Brown be a better Prime Minister than Tony Blair?" News is split between main organizational messages, which appear on the homepage, and the Staff Notice board, which contains day-to-day news. Their most popular sections include the staff directory, and the training section, administered by the Human Resources department.

A recent new feature has been "My Site" containing personalized information, including flexi-sheets, staff directory profiles, and issues logged with the IT service desk, together with a listing of closed IT calls. The next development will be a listing of training courses attended, and benefits available to individuals. As would be expected from the DRC, their intranet has many of the standard accessibility features; they use font size 14 (although the recommended is normally 12), the ability to re-size the font, and to change the colour.

Claire Pillar from the North Cumbria NHS Informatics Service talked us through her recent experience of undertaking usability tests. They have an overarching intranet, and each of the three trusts for North Cumbria has their own intranet. Claire's advice is to keep usability tests to a small number of people, and keep the tests short; citing Jakob Nielson's[2] guidance that five users for a set of questions is enough: after the fifth user, one observes the same findings. Tests were limited to 30 minutes, and limited to five questions. Tests were videoed, and surprisingly, no one objected to their screens being videoed, and all were willing to share comments. The questions used deliberately included acronyms and words that tested spelling.

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[1] http://www.adobe.com/accessibility/

[2] http://www.useit.com/alertbox/20030825.html

Observations from the testing included:

- Scrolling is not liked
- Lack of awareness of the site search
- The site search was itself poor
- No need for two navigation bars
- The breadcrumb trail was not observed
- With staff having access to two intranets, lack of branding resulted in staff not realising which intranet they were using.
- Users generally do not know how to search within a page, and do not know how to search within a PDF.

What next? Test again. Due to the wide geographical area of North Cumbria NHS, Claire has plans to trial testing through watching users remotely.

UKeiG wishes to thank David Sparrow, the DRC's Library & Information Services Manager for the venue, and his support.

Helen Davies, TUC Information Manager & UKeiG Committee member

Meeting Report: Managing New and Emerging Library Technologies: Skills for the 21st century

Report of a meeting organised by the East Anglia Online User Group (http://www.eaolug.org.uk)

Royal Society of Chemistry, Cambridge, 13 June 2007

The day began with a fascinating presentation on Web 2.0 by Paul Anderson from Intelligent Content, Ltd. Paul recently won the EPSRC's Computer Science Writer of the Year award, so was perfectly placed to comment on this fast moving social phenomenon. Following a run-through of the origins and evolution of Web 2.0, Paul demonstrated some of the current big ideas in the Web 2.0 world, such as wikis, blogs and social networking sites such as MySpace. Delegates worried about the ease of use of Web 2.0 resources quickly had their fears quelled, as Paul deftly showed how the real success of these resources lay in their accessibility. From the discussion that followed, it was uplifting to hear that a number of delegates were already using Web 2.0 applications to interact with their users.

Up next were Joanna Ball and Karen Begg, two college librarians from the University of Cambridge, who shared their experiences of setting up an e-books project from scratch. Joanna and Karen explained that the motivation for the project came from the college libraries themselves, most of which lacked space and/or funds to provide multiple copies of print books for their readers. They explained how the task developed their project management, fundraising and technological skills, and how the project was a tale of successful collaboration and a willingness to work openly with suppliers and readers.

Next, Laura Perrot from Sue Hill Recruitment gave a talk entitled "skills required to effectively meet the challenges of 21st century librarianship". Laura explained that the increase in use of technology has had a significant impact on the responsibilities of the librarian. As a result, roles have become more diverse and varied, which is often reflected in the number of different job titles for "librarians". Laura was keen to point out that there are lots of employment opportunities out there, even though skills are changing. While technological abilities are a must, librarians aren't required to be computer experts. Usually, a working knowledge and awareness of technology should suffice. Instead, overlooked 'soft skills' such as relationship development, negotiation and other interpersonal skills are more often in demand from employers. In a changing environment, librarians and other information professionals need to think about how they can sell their skills within their organisation. Laura's talk also included examples of vacancies recently advertised by Sue Hill, with a discussion of the skills and competencies employers were looking for in successful candidates.

Andy Baker from Bedfordshire Libraries gave a revealing insight into managing a wi-fi project across Bedfordshire's county libraries. Andy explained that wi-fi was introduced in Bedfordshire to widen access to ICT, and to increase the Library service's footprint, especially in rural areas, where the Library may only be open for a few hours per week. Initially, a pilot wi-fi project was launched in a small public library in Potton, which gave Andy and his colleagues the opportunity to manage and test the system on a small scale. The trial at Potton was well received by users, and wi-fi was introduced to six further libraries across the county, with more set to follow. Access to the wi-fi network is limited to 15 minutes for guest users and one hour for library members, with a download limit of 30MB per session.

Andy explained that the learning curve was steep, with a number of unforeseen problems, but the benefits of the service outweighed these problems.

The final speaker of the day was Martin Palmer from Essex Libraries, who spoke about project managing RFID (radio-frequency identification) implementation across 35 libraries in Essex. Essex first investigated RFID as early as 1998, but the prohibitive cost of early RFID technology meant that it wasn't introduced until later. Colchester Library became the first library in Essex to trial RFID, in September 2003. Martin and his colleagues learned a number of lessons from the trial, and found that users warmly received RFID once they discovered how easy and convenient the technology was to use. RFID was then introduced to three further libraries, before being rolled out to 31 sites across the county between January 2006 and March 2007. The business case for the project was based on making Gershon saving efficiencies (2.5% per year), making better use of staff time and contributing to the council's corporate agenda. The project was completed on schedule and within budget. Feedback has been impressive and usage targets have been exceeded in all libraries.

Overall, it was an interesting day, which met all of my aims and objectives and provided me with a lot of useful information on topics I needed to know about. It was good to have speakers who had first-hand experience of new technologies who could share their "been there, done, that" wisdom. The extended lunch-break also provided a rich opportunity to network with other delegates, question speakers and catch up with old friends.

Ian Walker, Librarian, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge.

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://sunsite.berkeley.edu/CurrentCites).

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

Digitisation Projects / Preservation

Australasian Digital Theses Program. **Australasian Digital Theses Program: Membership Survey 2006** Canberra, Australia: Council of Australian University Librarians, 2007. (http://www.caul.edu.au/surveys/adt2006.doc) – This report presents the results of a 2006 survey of Council of Australian University Librarians' and Council of New Zealand University Librarians' member libraries about their digital theses archiving activities. It contains a number of interesting findings, especially regarding submission rates. It found that when digital theses submission was voluntary, only 17% of theses were deposited; however, when it was mandatory, the rate rose to 95%. Twenty-two universities had a mandatory submission policy in place when the survey was conducted, with another five planning to do so in 2007, which means that 59% of respondents will have a mandate in 2007. More than 90% of respondents offer mediated deposit, with 63% offering mediated deposit only, 7% offering self-deposit only, and 30% offering both options. Three key reasons for the high level of mediated deposit support were conversion, copyright, and software issues. Half of the respondents have completely or partially digitized their print theses, and slightly over half have an institutional repository, with only four of IRs not being used for digital theses support – [*CB]

Carr, Leslie, Brody, Tim. **Size Isn't Everything: Sustainable Repositories as Evidenced by Sustainable Deposit Profiles** D-Lib Magazine 13(7/8) (July/August 2007) (http://www.dlib.org/dlib/july07/carr/07carr.html) – How can we measure the success of a digital repository? Simply looking at the number of deposited items is problematic for many reasons. A better method, the authors argue, is to measure "community engagement," which should be evident in deposit patterns. For example, a repository built through a few large batch deposits may have less community engagement than smaller repositories with daily deposits across a broad range of subject categories. This article attempts to develop a "metrics of community take-up" by analyzing the deposit profiles of repositories in the Registry of Open Access Repositories (ROAR), looking in particular at the number of items deposited per day over the course of a year, and the deposit patterns across subjects or communities in a given repository. According to this data, 12 of the 20 largest repositories (in size) would not make the list of the 20 most active. While the metrics presented here are quite general, they provide a useful way forward for institutions thinking about how to measure the use of their repositories. In addition, much of this data is tracked, kept up-to-date and made available in the 900+ repository profiles on the ROAR website, allowing institutions to see their own deposit patterns and compare with others – [*BR]

Chillingworth, Mark. **National Archives deal lifts threat of digital dark age** Information World Review 237, July/August 2007: 2 – Digital documents at the National Archives (TNA), created on older versions of Microsoft systems, are reported to be made accessible following a deal between the two concerns. TNA Chief Executive Natalie Ceeney described the deal as making digital data as 'resilient' as paper, allowing documents to be "viewed in the way they were produced" http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk – [RH]

Heid, Susan. **Culture Morph** Campus Technology 20(10) (June 2007): 42-48. (http://campustechnology.com/articles/48247/) – Much has been written in the past on library and IT collaboration (or the lack thereof), but with the increase in development of digital library projects, interest in this issue is resurging. However, unlike some articles in the past that were primarily obsessed with how different libraries and IT are from each other, this article focuses instead on how colleges have taken varying approaches to developing digital library services collaboratively between the two units. Using a variety of different approaches, and not just relying on an adminis-trative combination of the two units into a single organization, these colleges have been able to move forward with projects that have increased the use of library resources, enhanced ease of access, and allowed them to focus on making improvements based on students' expectations – [*FC]

Piorun, M. E et al. **Challenges and Lessons Learned: Moving from Image Database to Institutional Repository** OCLC Systems & Services 23(2) (2007): 148-157 – The path to an Institutional Repository is not always a straight line, as this narrative from the Medical School Library at UMass makes clear. Along the way, at least in their case, were academic departments with conflicting objectives, budgets duly proposed and rejected, hardware and software issues. An epiphany of sorts came when they finally got the chance to choose their own software. "It was critical," they determined, "that the product be robust, require little special programming, and be implemented and maintained with current library staff." Finishing off this tale of joy and sorrow is a list of elements they felt either helped or hindered their success – [*LRK]

Who Needs Google? Emory U. Libraries to Scan, Sell Books Library Journal Academic Newswire (7 June 2007) (http://www.libraryjournal.com/info/CA6450053.html#news2) – First the Million Book Project, then the Google Books Library Project, then the Open Content Alliance, and now the Emory University, Kirtas Technologies, and BookSurge partnership. Mass digitization has become the name of the game, and Emory's Woodruff Library has come up with a new spin: digitize books in conjunction with Kirtas, partially funding the effort by selling low-cost print-on-demand copies via BookSurge (see the Emory and BookSurge press releases for additional details). Hard on the heels of the Emory announcement, the University of Maine, the Toronto Public Library, and the Cincinnati Public Library announced that they would follow Emory's lead. If Emory's detailed 2008-2012 strategic plan is any guide, expect more bold moves in the future under the leadership of Vice Provost and Director of Libraries Richard E. Luce – [*CB]

E-Publishing

Brown, Laura; Griffiths, Rebecca and Rascoff, Matthew, et. al. **University Publishing in a Digital Age** New York: Ithaka, 2007. (http://www.ithaka.org/strategic-services/university-publishing) – While the journal publishing activities of university presses are important, the key role that they have played in the scholarly publishing ecology has been book publishing. Scholarly books often have very limited sales, but they are critical to faculty in some disciplines, especially those in the humanities. These disciplines value books highly, and without publishing one or more scholarly books faculty in them cannot get tenure. Unfortunately, the long-term trend has been for universi-ties to require that university presses be increasingly self-sustaining, and this, combined with the very corrosive effect of the serials crisis on academic libraries' monograph budgets, has resulted in presses seeking more profitable sources of income than obscure monographs. By publishing more popular books, they can subsidize the continued publication of scholarly monographs, but not at a level that scholars in book-heavy disciplines would desire, creating a scholarly monograph crisis. Of late, university presses have increasingly been put under the administrative control of academic libraries, new digital/print-on-demand university presses have begun to be established, and there has been increased interest in re-examining the role of traditional university presses. The 69-page Ithaka report is one of the most detailed investigations of how university publishing could evolve. It advocates a stronger role for universities in scholarly publishing; a strategic evaluation of what local scholarly publishing activities should be; a cohesive university-wide approach to publishing

activities; the development of scalable, collaborative, cross-institutional publishing infrastructure; the full utilization of online publishing capabilities; strategic capital investment; and vigorous leadership by university administrators, libraries, and presses. It's a provocative, important report that deserves to be widely read; however, while it advocates using a range of economic publishing models tailored to local needs, most discussion is focused on traditional fee-based approaches – [*CB]

Henry, Charles. Rice **University Press: Fons et origo** The Journal of Electronic Publishing 10(2) (Spring 2007) (http://hdl.handle.net/2027/spo.3336451.0010.205) – Cash-strapped university presses have been seemingly slow to explore new models of electronic publishing that could help revitalize and sustain their operations. One reason for this is the "cost of migration" – how to move to a digital publishing model while continuing to incur standard production and inventory costs. In this respect, the newly revived Rice University Press is viewing its original failure (it was shut down in 1996 for financial reasons) as a blessing in disguise, enabling it to redefine itself from scratch as "the first fully digital academic press in the United States." In this article, Charles Henry describes the rationale and business models behind the new Press, their decision to focus on art history and other areas that are particularly constrained by the print-based model, and their vision of the Press as a platform for new models of digital scholarship and a spur for changes in the academic culture of research (especially in the humanities). Currently the Rice University Press website lists just two publications, but it will be interesting to see how this initiative develops in the coming months and years – [*BR]

Education

Abbott, Andrew. **The University Library Chicago** University of Chicago, May 2006. (http://home.uchicago.edu/~aabbott/Papers/libreport.pdf) – Agree with this report or not, it offers an invaluable outside-in perspective on current hot-button issues in academic librarianship. Respected scholar Andrew Abbott (author of *The System of Professions*) produced this "serious theoretical analysis of library research" for a task force appointed by the provost of the University of Chicago, where Abbott teaches. Abbott offers fresh and often trenchant observations, many backed quite refreshingly by real data, about issues such as use of the university library by undergraduates and faculty, off-site storage, research study rooms, and even the current vogue for building faculty-graduate research centers, which he refers to as "Potemkin Villages" that "exist more as targets for external funding than as physical realities." – [*KGS]

Del Bosque, Darcy, and Kimberly Chapman. **Your Place or Mine? Face-to-Face Reference Services Across Campus** New Library World 108(5/6) (2007): 247-262 – The future of reference is both more remote and more direct. More remote in that our users can communicate with us through e-mail, IM, etc.; more direct in that we can communicate with them face-to-face wherever they choose to congregate, whether inside the library or somewhere else on campus. The librarians in this article discuss an innovative program at the University of Texas San Antonio (UTSA) called "Direct-2-U Reference" which began in Fall 2005, and saw librarians setting up operations in five different locations on campus, including study areas and dorms. While the initial impact was modest, the librarians felt nonetheless that it built bridges to the outside academic community. It'd be interesting to see what traffic would be like on campuses with more centralized student areas – [*LRK]

Lynch, Beverly P., Catherine Murray-Rust, and Susan E. Parker, et. al. **Attitudes of Presidents and Provosts on the University Library** College & Research Libraries 68(3) (May 2007): 213-227 – In 2004, the authors replicated a 1992-93 study to investigate how the attitudes of university presidents and provosts towards their academic libraries have changed in the intervening years. Through an analysis of their interviews of presidents and provosts at six universities, the authors found that the symbolic role of libraries as the "heart of the university" no longer carried as much weight as the libraries' practical roles on campus. The article also contains evidence that campus visibility, outside funding, and technological innovation are new indicators by which university administrators judge the library's relevancy. This study confirms the sense that I believe many

librarians share, which is the growing need to better articulate to campus administrators the connections between the activities of the library with the university's academic mission – [*SG]

Villano, Matt. Collaborate **Campus Technology** (June 2007) (http://www.campustechnology.com/article.aspx?aid=48239) – How library information can be introduced into collaborative software for higher education is not the issue here, and the absence of that issue is the reason to read the article. The omission doesn't appear intended to send a pointed message, but as sources for wikis etc are described with the focus on bringing students and instructors together in virtual learning spaces, it's telling that documents and other information sources are usually described as simply coming from a Web search. It seems likely that in many cases campus IT planning will have a blank spot where the library should be. Read these imple-mentation tales, review the products and learn to talk the talk before demanding a seat at this table – [*JR]

Vondracek, Ruth. **Comfort and Convenience? Why Students Choose Alternatives to the Library** Portal: Libraries in the Academy 7(3)(July 2007): 277-293 – Library surveys often go over what users like and dislike about the library. This survey is unique in that it specifically asked non-users what they liked about their non-library locations when doing research or study. Non-users or infrequent users were asked where they studied most when on their own or in a group. They were also asked about the characteristics of their preferred locations (e.g. quiet, convenience). The thinking behind these questions was to see if characteristics could be identified that could then be applied to the library. Results included making it easier to reserve group-study rooms and making individual study areas more quiet – [*LRK]

General

Ayre, Lori Bowen. **Library Delivery 2.0: Delivering Library Materials in the Age of Netflix** Library Philosophy and Practice (June 2007) (http://libr.unl.edu:2000/LPP/ayre.htm) – Ayre makes a case for learning from the Netflix model to deliver library items directly to patrons. Some principles Ayre cites for making our ILL work better include: make it easy, make it personal, and make it fast and convenient. There will of course be much work required to make this possible, but this brief, engaging piece at least makes the case that we should try. Anyone involved with interlibrary loan – or even simply in managing library services – sit up and take note – [*RT]

Blyberg, John. **Always Pushing Information** netConnect (15 July 2007) (http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6453423.html) – Blyberg writes about, and expands upon, his "ILS customer bill of rights" that he first blogged about in November 2005. His list includes: 1) Open, read-only, direct access to the database, 2) A full-blown, W3C standards-based API (application programming interface) to all read-write functions, 3) The option to run the ILS on hardware of our choosing, on servers we administer, and 4) High security standards. I'm certain that at least some vendors would take exception to these points, either from the perspective that they already have them implemented (my guess is that most vendors believe they already have high security standards), or that they wouldn't be supportable (e.g., to run on any hardware of your choosing, which would greatly multiply their support headaches). Nonetheless, these are important points well worth discussing and advocating with your vendor – [*RT]

Chillingworth, Mark. **Defenders of the expert's realm** *Information World Review* 237, July/August 2007: 9 and 18 – An interview with Andrew Keen, former Web entrepreneur and author of the book *The Cult of the Amateur,* accompanied by a review of his publication. Keen takes a critical and dystopic view of the implications of Web 2.0 particularly in respect of their impact on creativity and knowledge. The role of the editor and the wisdom of the crowd are topics discussed in the article – [RH]

Embleton, Kimberley & Helfer, Doris Small. **The plague of plagiarism and academic dishonesty** *Searcher* 15 (6) (2007): 23-26 – It is argued that although students have always found ways to cheat the system, the Internet has made plagiarism and academic dishonesty far more straightfor-ward. A variety of online services selling off the shelf and custom written assignments are investigated. Many of the assignments sold online are found to be expensive and often badly

written, but can be difficult to detect with existing plagiarism detection software, particularly in the case of custom written papers or dissertations. To combat the rise in plagiarism, academics/information professionals are encouraged to provide better training to users about plagiarism. Another strategy proposed is that students be asked to submit outlines, rough drafts or literature searches etc to their tutors to demonstrate their progress/prove that they are submitting their own work – [MT]

McCune, Bonnie. **10 Tips for Getting Grants to Keep Your Library Afloat** Computers in Libraries 27(7) (July/August 2007): 10-14 – You spend many precious hours working on a grant proposal, only to find out that your project wasn't chosen. What went wrong? Funding insider Bonnie McCune, the library community programs consultant for the Colorado State Library, shares ten tips for getting your grant proposals accepted. Suggestions include tailoring your request for smaller foundations, making key contacts in funding organizations, planning for evaluation, and honing your message. Her best advice is not to get discouraged. When you take the time to learn from your past rejections, you improve your chances for success in the future – [*KC]

Schachter, Debbie. **Negotiating in areas where end-user services dominate** *Searcher* 15 (6) (2007): 46-49 – This article looks at the way librarians negotiate with suppliers, and the way in which new free/low-cost online resources are increasing their bargaining power. It is argued that free services like Scirus, while of considerable value to smaller institutions, have limited value (and limited demand) for large academic institutions. These still cannot afford to do without higher cost packages from their traditional suppliers. As the market evolves, the competition from free resources is seen to be influencing traditional services providers. Companies such as Bowkers now have to add extra value to their products, resulting in libraries receiving better value for money – [MT]

Smith, Laura. **Public Sector shirking online engagement** *Information World Review* 237, July/August 2007: 3 – A report commissioned by former cabinet office minister Hilary Armstrong has concluded that current public-sector policy and action are inadequate to meet the challenge of the Internet and Web 2.0 technologies. The social and financial benefits afforded by community websites for the state are seen to be stymied by risk aversion and lack of knowledge among government officials. Forming partnerships with online communities, rather than trying to replicate them, are among the recommendations of the report. http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk – [RH]

Swan, Alma. **What a Difference a Publisher Makes** OptimalScholarship (7 July 2007) (http://optimalscholarship.blogspot.com/2007/07/what-difference-publisher-makes.html) – In this posting to her new OptimalScholarship weblog, scholarly communication consultant Alma Swan examines the copy editing of journal articles. Does it add value, subtract value, or both? What are the typical differences between the author's final draft and the copy-edited paper? Are these differences significant? As digital repositories containing e-prints multiply, these issues are increasingly important. Swan discusses pertinent research studies that address these issues, and she discusses the VALREC project, which is developing a tool to alert readers to the differences between article versions – [*CB]

Information Access

Lamb, Brian. **Dr. Mashup or, Why Educators Should Learn to Stop Worrying and Love the Remix** EDUCAUSE Review 42(4) (July/August 2007): 13-24. (http://www.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/erm0740.pdf) – As Lamb explains, the term "mashup" is used to describe the "reuse, or remixing, of works of art, of content, and/or of data for the purposes that were not intended or even imagined by the original creators." HousingMaps (http://www.housingmaps.com), which brings together housing vacancies on craigslist with Google Maps, is an excellent example. Although mashups are fraught with difficult questions for educators and policy-makers, such as whether a mashup is a derivative or original work, Lamb encourages the higher education community to be more "open" to the possibilities. Specifically, Lamb would like to see educators using open and discoverable resources (e.g. not locked inside course-management systems), open and transparent licensing (e.g. Creative Commons), and open and remixable formats, to encourage the reuse of their content. A well-written piece that should cause

librarians to consider the appropriate types of content/data that we could be offering up to the mashup sandbox – [*SG]

Miguel, Ramos & Gauthier, Dawn. **Mash it up!** *Searcher* 15 (6) (2007): 17-22 – The article explores the emerging phenomenon of mash-ups. A mash-up is created when Web-based content from different information sources is blended together in a single application/website. The term is shown to originate from the world of hip-hop music where artists compose new tracks by mixing/splicing together songs from other artists. Some of the most popular/common mash-ups have been created by overlaying Google maps with another data source, such as local house prices data or restaurant information. It is argued that more information professionals should begin creating mash-ups to aid their users; one such site is http://www.authoratory.com, that analyzes http://www.pubmed.gov data to find further information about the authors of biomedical articles – [MT]

Information Retrieval

Anderson, Nate. **Deep Packet Inspection Meets 'Net neutrality' CALEA** Ars Technica (25 July 2007) (http://arstechnica.com/articles/culture/deep-packet-inspection-meets-net-neutrality.ars) – Information travels the Net through 'packets'. Whether we're sending e-mail, watching video or talking to friends using VoIP, it all consists of packets. So, what if there were a technology that could identify each packet as to where it's going and what it consists of? This is precisely what 'Deep Packet Inspection' or 'DPI' does and Nate Anderson of Ars Technica does a splendid job explaining the implications. Short synopsis: Bad news for Net Neutrality (and privacy) – [*LRK]

Buckley, Owen, Tim. T**ough times ahead for market research aggregators** *Information World Review* 237, July/August 2007: 13 – Following the acquisition of Datamonitor by Informa, the competitive environment and choice in online market research is analysed in this article. The problems for those producing generic research for an increasingly sophisticated user base and the future of the traditional aggregator is discussed. Meanwhile the advent of newer-generation, open-format, web-based market information sources is looked at in the context of being able to easily find research data – [RH]

Haya, Glenn, Else Nygren, and Wilhelm Widmark. **Metalib and Google Scholar: a User Study** Online Information Review 31(3) (2007): 365-375 – Interesting interface shootout between Metalib and Google Scholar. The guinea pigs in this study were 32 "intermediate" undergrads from Uppsala University in Sweden. Neither option swept students off their feet, but the response to Google Scholar was "more positive". This had to do with the familiarity of the interface plus ease of use. Interestingly enough, success rates increased considerably for both tools if the students went through a short training session prior to beginning their search. The main lesson to draw from studies like this is the importance of testing "meta-search" products in order to gauge their effectiveness. Simply making them available isn't enough – [*LRK]

Tomaiuolo, Nicholas. **Citations and aberrations** *Searcher* 15 (7) (2007): 17-24 – The article contends that the primary function of a citation is to aid the retrieval of bibliographic materials. The author discusses a number of the different referencing guides/tools concludes that the variety of style guides available can be bewildering for authors (he lists the American Psychological Association format as his own personal preference). The article argues that the sheer volume of online information now available and the reliance of modern scholars on it has had a negative effect on the citation behaviour of authors. It is argued that whilst electronic reference management tools can be helpful to authors, ultimately it is the quality of the bibliographic information input into these system that is the key factor. Teaching users the principles of accurate citation is still an important task for information professionals, and the article stresses it is one we must not shirk. Academic libraries that provide poor or inaccurate advice are strongly taken to task and KnightCite (http://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite) is held up as an example of current best practice in the field of automated bibliographic instruction – [MT]

Weinberger, David. **Everything is Miscellaneous** NY: Henry Holt and Company, 2007. (http://www.librarything.com/work/2275491) – This juicy read from David Weinberger (of the Cluetrain Manifesto and Small Pieces, Loosely Joined) challenges us by arguing that librarian-style predictive order is passé and digital deshabille is a virtue. The meat of this book, and its primary momentum and entertainment value, come from Weinberger's lengthy discussions of the "third order," which grounds itself in the digital world, where all the old rules are blown out of the water. Those of us managing "second order" databases – such as library catalog – are momentarily off the hook, but that doesn't make this any less of a must-read for all librarians. Weinberger's fluid, engaging style masks the refreshing rigor of this highly readable contribution to public intellectual-ism – [*KGS]

Knowledge Management / Social Networking

Britannica Blog: **Web 2.0 Forum** (http://blogs.britannica.com/blog/main/category/web-20-forum/) – The contributions to this series of blog posts by various pundits (with the lead essay from Michael Gorman, former library dean of CSU Fresno) range from fabulous to fatuous (even contributors who agree in general with Gorman's contention that the world is going to hell in a digital handbas-ket question his rhetoric), but the collection as a whole is lit up by thoughtful posts by Matthew Battle, Danah Boyd, Roger Kimball, Clay Shirky, and Gregory McNamee. Gender bias mars the overall discussion (Britannica could only find one woman with a brain?) and there is far too much space given over to what one librarian bard has described in song as the "anti-digitalists," but if you can't find an idea to engage with or object to in this collection, you're not trying – [*KGS]

Reid, Mike & Gray, Christian. **Part 1. Past and present** *Searcher* 15 (7) (2007): 33-43 – This is the first in a series of three articles looking at the evolution of online social networking software. The article traces the roots of current social networks such as MySpace and Blogger right back to the work of Vannevar Bush in the 1940s. The Usenet newsgroups that were made possible by the work of Truscott and Ellis in 1979 are highlighted as the first online social networks. Myspace.com is shown to be the current market leader and information professionals are encouraged to seize the opportunity to use online social networks to help meet the information needs of their users – [MT]

Starr, Jennie. **LibraryThing.com: The Holy Grail of book recommendations engines** *Searcher* 15 (7) (2007): 25-32 – An article reviewing the http://www.librarything.com website. LibraryThing allows its users to create an online catalogue of their own book collections, post their own book reviews and share book recommendations with others. The article states that LibraryThing allows you to import catalogue records from Amazon, Library of Congress or 78 other world libraries (since publication it appears this has risen to 82 libraries) Alternatively you can upload booklists into LibraryThing or manually enter book data from scratch. Users have the option of maintaining a free personal library of 200 books or subscribing to the service which allows them to catalogue an unlimited number of books. There are a number of additional features that add further value to the site including book discussions boards and a suggester/unsuggester function that finds other users whose books tastes are similar or completely different to your own. Other book recommendations websites are listed within the article, but LibraryThing is argued to be the best book recommenda-tion site currently available – [MT]

Winder, Davey **Blogging for beginners: monitoring** *Information World Review* 237, July/August 2007: 14-16 – A three-page article continues a series looking at the art of blogging. In this overview the art of finding out who's reading your blog and what they are saying about it is covered. Using site analysis, trackbacks and specialist search engines such as Google Blog Search and Tech-norati are looked at in depth in order to achieve 'blog management nirvana' – [RH]

Legal Issues

Houghton-Jan, Sarah. **Imagine No Restrictions: Digital Rights Management** *School Library Journal* (6) (1 June 2007) (http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6448189.html) – I've presented a lot in the last year about digital audio options for libraries, and these discussions have always included the controversy surrounding Digital Rights Management (DRM). School librarians

are particularly interested in adopting digital audio resources, so I was pleased to see an article in *School Library Journal* by Sarah Houghton-Jan that lays out the issues for all libraries. Houghton-Jan gives us three reasons to care about DRM: device compatibility, roadblocks to fair use and accessibility, and long-term archival and playback issues. She calls for librarians to talk to vendors about DRM, and to support the vendors that are offering DRM-free content. A sidebar to the article helps you explain DRM to your users when they come up with the tough questions (i.e. why can't I use my iPod?) – [*KC]

Security

Vaas, Lisa. **Is It OK For Google To Own Us?** eWeek (July 9, 2007) (http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1895,2155596,00.asp) – Google has been a lightning rod for many issues in libraryland, but this piece demonstrates that it's not just librarians that are concerned about what Google is up to. In this brief article, Vaas provides an overview of the issues in the current dispute between Google and Privacy International. The basic dispute stems from a recent report from Privacy International (available at http://www.privacyinternational.org/article.shtml?cmd[347]=x-347-553961), in which Privacy International labeled Google "hostile to privacy" for its lack of controls in protecting the personally identifiable information (PII) of its users. Although some of the findings in the Privacy International report have been disputed, both by Google and external parties, this article and the Privacy International report are reminders of the myriad ways seemingly innocuous information is being collected on a regular basis without any substantive regulations or guidelines on how that information can or should be used in the long term – [*FC]

Web Design / Metadata

Coyle, Karen. **Rights in the PREMIS Data Model: A Report for the Library of Congress** Washington, DC: Library of Congress, December 2006. (http://www.loc.gov/standards/premis/Rights-in-the-PREMIS-Data-Model.pdf) – Although this report has been out for a while, it remains a less-discovered gem among the many recent reports related to metadata issues. While the primary focus of the report is to discuss the required enhancements to incorporate digital object rights information into the PREMIS data model, a particular value of this report is its comprehensive overview of the PREMIS metadata scheme. For those unfamiliar with PREMIS, this report is a good introduction to the metadata scheme and its role in establishing preservation information for digital objects – [*FC]

Contributors to Current Cites *

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Contributors

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Book Review: The complete guide to referencing and avoiding plagiarism

Colin Neville. Open University Press Study Skills, 2007

This book is not only a "must read" but a "must do", as it is rare example of a book on referencing and plagiarism that seeks not only to outline the how and why of referencing, but also to provide clear guidance on the where. Although aimed at students, it is useful for the information professional, whether in their first post or having several years experience behind them. As the use of the Internet continues unabated, this volume is a timely reminder that referencing is "part of [our] societal value system"[1]. The author, Colin Neville, has taken this necessary but essential skill of referencing and given it a makeover.

The relatively slim volume (a mere 200 pages) touches on all issues relating to referencing and many of the issues on plagiarism. It is divided into 10 chapters covering the whys and wherefores of referencing, a chapter on plagiarism and an overview of different reference styles. This can be particularly useful for information professionals who move from one subject area to another. There are four appendices, a useful set of references to follow up and a substantial index, which backs up a frequently asked question chapter!

The chapter on plagiarism, although relatively short, I thought gave a sense of the need for clear referencing. It is this context that students are often not aware of and why referencing is seen as so difficult. With the Net generation, this needs to be reinforced and has recently been the topic of a JISC report on the academic misconduct benchmarking research report[2] (2). Personally I would have liked to have seen this as the opening chapter rather than buried in the middle. The chapter on referencing in action – which I would bet is the most used chapter, along with the FAQ chapter – provides clear examples of how to cite 19 broad types of sources (books and journals, as you would expect but also cartoons, posters and sculptures). This chapter forms just over a quarter of the book. Within the electronic sources section I was pleased to see comment made on evaluating sources before inclusion in a reference list. However I would like to have seen more reference made to evaluation of resources generally, so that, although there is guidance on how to cite a podcast or a text message, users would think why they are referencing such material in the first place. This is an essential element in any information literacy training for students.

I was disappointed that there was no reference made to bibliographic or reference software. There are many tools that have been available to student groups and information professionals for a number of years. These packages, such as Endnote or Reference Manager, or newer social bookmarking tools such as citeulike, support the reference process, and an updated version of this volume should include a chapter on them.

Throughout the volume there are exercises and quizzes to engage the reader and their inclusion means this is less of a dusty "how to" reference book but an essential, practical guide that should be on every student's and every Information Professional's desk. Although aimed at students, the volume will appeal to any UKeIG member.

Tracy Kent is Open Access Coordinator at the University of Birmingham

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[1] Neville, C. 2007 *The complete guide to referencing and avoiding plagiarism*,

Open University Press, p4.

[2] *JISCPAC Academic misconduct Benchmarking Research report*.
http://www.jiscpas.ac.uk/AMBeR/index.php [accessed 21 August 2007]

Press Releases & News

More Publishers select MyiLibrary services

Nashville, TN – MyiLibrary, a leading global provider of digital content and part of Ingram Digital Group, today announced the addition of another twelve publishers to their platform. This brings the total number of publishers providing content to the MyiLibrary platform to 350. "We're pleased to welcome these publishers as MyiLibrary partners," stated James Gray, President and CEO of Ingram Digital Group, the parent company of MyiLibrary. "Our strategy has always been to strive to deliver content that customers want and to provide comprehensive subject area coverage. These newly added publisher clients reflect the wide range and diversity of disciplines covered by the MyiLibrary platform." The following publishers have been added to the MyiLibrary platform:

Bit 10 – is publishing a benchmarking survey of leading online clothing retailers, building on the results of their original investigation in 2004 – comparing the websites of seven top UK retailers including: Ted Baker, Marks & Spencer, Debenhams, Dorothy Perkins, John Lewis, Figleaves and Oasis, against key usability criteria and user perceptions.

Council Of Europe – produces works in all the Organisation's spheres of reference, including human rights, legal science (constitutional law, criminal law, family law, labour law etc.), health, ethics, social affairs, environment, education, culture, sport, youth and architectural heritage.

Eleven International Publishing – an international legal publishing company. Eleven's aim is to support the use of international law by offering high quality and timely publications, initially targeted at lawyers working in legal practice.

G7 Books – a publisher of books on global and political issues.

How to Books – has more than 250 titles in print, all of which help readers achieve their dreams and their goals. There's something for everyone, at home and at work, Business & Management, Business Communication, Management Skills, Planning & Finance, Small Business & Self Employment, Self-Employment, Starting a Business, Business Planning, Managing and Developing a Small Business, Small Business Starters, Accounting & Finance, Law for Small Businesses.

Insomniac Press – a publisher of general interest publishing books in a wide range of areas such as Cultural studies, health, personal finance, politics and travel, and many more.

M&M Scrivener – a new publishing house devoted solely to issues dealing with contemporary culture in the broad sense. Over time, their books will examine ideas, which impact our political and cultural institutions as well as profit and non-profit organizations – such as business ethics and political books.

Opera Journeys Publishing – publishes titles that are focused towards opera, such as The History of Opera.

Scion Publishing – is a publisher of innovative textbooks, methods books and reference titles in life and medical sciences.

The Policy Press – is a leading, specialist social science publisher committed to publishing books, reports and journals that will have an impact on research, learning, policy and practice at an international level.

Tottel Publishing – is a traditional, but cutting-edge publisher of high quality books and information services for lawyers, accountants and business professionals.

University of Calgary Press – is committed to the advancement of scholarship through the publication of first-rate monographs and academic and scientific journals. They publish scholarly books in a wide range of fields. Occasionally, they will also publish conference proceedings, Festschriften, and other similar collections.

Ingram chooses Swets for customer access to eBooks

NASHVILLE, TN – MyiLibrary Ltd., a leading global provider of digital content and part of Ingram Digital Group, and Swets, a leading worldwide subscription services company, announced today an agreement that will revolutionize the way customers browse, acquire and access electronic journals and eBooks. "We've long admired Swets for its presence as a market leader and we're pleased to announce this alliance with them," said James Gray, President and CEO of Ingram Digital Group, the parent company of MyiLibrary. "Working together, utilizing the capabilities and features of MyiLibrary and Swets, we can provide Swets' global customer base with the best in electronic journal and eBook solutions."

MyiLibrary is partnering with Swets to enable customers to access eBooks and electronic journals from one easy-to-use and efficient point of access. MyiLibrary provides access to more than 70,000 eBooks, with content coming from over 300 of the industry's leading publishers. As a result, it is an indispensable reference tool for all businesses and institutions looking to provide their users with access to the most current and topical eBooks available today. SwetsWise Subscriptions, the core focus of Swets' innovative SwetsWise portfolio, is one of the most comprehensive and sophisticated services for the management and procurement of journals. Combining the functionality of MyiLibrary with SwetsWise Subscriptions will create a powerful platform that enables organizations to manage both their journal subscriptions and eBooks from a single interface.

"Books and journals have traditionally been regarded as different markets, but things are evolving," said Arie Jongejan, CEO of Swets. "We are delighted to announce this agreement, because partnering SwetsWise with MyiLibrary is a perfect marriage. For our customers, content is king, no matter what the format. So being able to provide them with a single point of access from which to manage both journals and eBooks is the most logical step and we are eager to develop this partnership further."

The first offering of combined services between MyiLibrary and Swets is expected to launch in September of this year.

Notes for Contributors to *eLucidate*

eLucidate welcomes articles or ideas for articles in the areas covered by the magazine. We are always on the lookout for feature writers, reviewers both for books and for meetings, as well as respondents to articles. Sadly, we don't pay contributors, but contributors retain copyright of their articles and can republish their articles elsewhere.

Brief for feature articles

If you are writing for *eLucidate*, please follow these simple guidelines.

About the group

Membership is information professionals, involved in dissemination of or receipt of information electronically. A key aspect of the group is that it provides insight from one area to another – members see it as a way of keeping up to date in areas outside their core. Very few organisations provide this cross-sectoral awareness. The most popular training courses we run are on search tools – Google and others; e-books and how to deal with them. Other popular strands include content management, bibliographic software, and e-books

Technical level

Although members rated themselves highly for technical awareness, they are typically users rather than creators of technology. Articles should not assume understanding of technical terms without explanation.

Length of article

Feature articles should be in the region of 1500-2500 words. Each article should be prefaced by a short summary (around 50 words) that can be used when displaying on public search engines an outline of the article, and to display on the non-member section of the website.

How to submit

Please e-mail your article to michael@consultmu.co.uk. Articles should be delivered in Word or in an ASCII format. Images are welcome – they may be in gif or jpeg formats.

Rights

Authors retain full rights in their content and remains the copyright owner. By submitting an article to *eLucidate*, authors grant UKEIG the non-exclusive right to publish the material in any format in perpetuity.

About you

Please provide a 10-20 word biographical summary about yourself to appear at the end of the article.

Editorial process

Your article will be copy-edited for spelling and for sense. If there are major changes to the article we may return it to you for your comments and approval, but most articles require only light corrections before appearing in *eLucidate*, and do not need a further review by the author.

Brief for book reviews

A key aspect of UKEIG is that it provides insight from one area to another – members see it as a way of keeping up to date in areas outside their core. Because the membership is quite disparate, ranging from pharmaceutical information professionals to public librarians, you should not assume the readers are as familiar as you with your core expertise.

Book reviews are typically 500-750 words. Because UKeiG is independent, it is not obliged to have favourable reviews. If the book is poor and you can explain why, then please do so. The most valuable viewpoint you can give is that of an end user. UKEIG is not a place for theoretical debate, but a forum where peers can share their experiences and understanding. So, if it worked for you, tell others. If it didn't, tell others why not.