



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES

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Library Info Alert May 2007

Library Info Alert focuses on recent developments in the field of library science and information management in the United States. It contains summaries of articles from leading library-related periodicals and recommended Internet sites. The *Library Info Alert* is published by the Information Resource Centers in Germany.

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Featured Internet Sites

Democracy Dialogues (see also IIP Webchats under 'Announcements')

<http://www.democracy.gov/>

Democracy Dialogues is a global conversation about democracy. Previous topics include Freedom of Speech, Independent Courts and more. Just as democracy continues to evolve, Democracy Dialogues will continue to evolve to include new elements.

May 3: World Press Freedom Day

http://usinfo.state.gov/dhr/democracy/rule_of_law/press_freedom.html

Article Alert

1. Application Profile Development for Consortial Digital Libraries

By Emily A. Hicks, Jody Perkins and Margaret Beecher Maurer

(*Library Resources & Technical Services*, April 2007, Vol. 51 Issue 2, pg. 116)

In 2002, OhioLINK's consortia of libraries recognized the need to restructure and standardize the metadata used in the OhioLINK Digital Media Center as a step in the development of a general purpose digital object repository. The authors explore the concept of digital object repositories and mechanisms used to develop complex data structures in a cooperative environment, report the findings and recommendations of the OhioLINK Database Management and Standards Committee (DMSC) Metadata Task Force, and identify lessons learned, addressing data structures as well as data content standards. Emily A. Hicks is Head, Bibliographic Management, University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio and Assistant Professor, Roesch Library, University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio. Jody Perkins is Metadata Librarian, Miami University Libraries, Oxford, Ohio. Margaret Beecher Maurer is Head, Catalog and Metadata, Kent State University Libraries and Media Services, Kent, Ohio.

2. Assessing Sufficiency and Quality of Bandwidth for Public Libraries

By John Carlo Bertot and Charles R. McClure

(*Information Technology & Libraries*, March 2007, Vol. 26 Issue 1, pg. 14)

Based on data collected as part of the 2006 Public Libraries and the Internet study, the authors assess the degree to which public libraries provide sufficient and quality

bandwidth to support the library's networked services and resources. The topic is complex due to the arbitrary assignment of a number of kilobytes per second (kbps) used to define bandwidth. Such arbitrary definitions to describe bandwidth sufficiency and quality are not useful. Public libraries are indeed connected to the Internet and do provide public-access services and resources. John Carlo Bertot is Associate Director, Information Use Management and Policy Institute and Professor at the College of Information, Florida State University, Charles R. McClure is Director of Information Use Management and Policy Institute and Francis Eppes Professor of Information Studies, College of Information, Florida State University.

3. Behind a Bamboo Fence?

By Tom Lister

(*Searcher*, April 2007, Vol.15, Issue 4, pg. 35)

Dialog, LexisNexis, and Factiva (English sources) are not the places to go to get up-to-date news about smaller Japanese companies. Note also that while it appears that Factiva has better coverage in English, these hits were almost entirely earnings announcements from Dow Jones International and Reuters. Excluding such hits, the three services show little difference.

4. Campus Cultures Fostering Information Literacy

By Scott Bennett

(*Portal: Libraries and the Academy*, April 2007, Vol.7, Issue 2, pg. 147)

The 2004 and 2005-06 workshops sponsored by the Council of Independent Colleges and the National Institute for Technology & Liberal Education have generated much data that can be used to describe aspects of the campus cultures at some 130 institutions that foster information literacy. These data are particularly informative regarding collaboration among faculty and academic support staff, curricular reform, the role of chief academic officers, library space design, and the deployment of campus networks and electronic information resources.

5. ChaCha, Yahoo!, and Amazon: New Answer Services Emerge

By Nancy O'Neill

(*Searcher*, April 2007, Vol.15, Issue 4, pg. 7)

Will [ChaCha] make it when even Google Answers couldn't? Can ChaCha compete with Yahoo! Answers? ChaCha is smart in not charging the customer. People don't like to pay for information; most think information doesn't cost anything, so why pay? ChaCha doesn't have the social networking flavor of Yahoo! Answers or Askville except for the ChaCha Underground. So it may attract people put off by the inane questions and answers one often finds in the other two.

6. Checking Out Facebook.com: The Impact of a Digital Trend on Academic Libraries

By Lauriel Charnigo and Paula Barnett-Ellis

(*Information Technology & Libraries*, March 2007, Vol. 26 Issue 1, pg. 23)

While the burgeoning trend in online social networks has gained much attention from the media, few studies in library science have yet to address the topic in depth. This article reports on a survey of 126 academic librarians concerning their perspectives toward Facebook.com, an online network for students. Findings suggest that librarians are overwhelmingly aware of the 'Facebook phenomenon.' Those who are most enthusiastic about the potential of online social networking suggested ideas for using Facebook to

promote library services and events. Lauriel Charnigo is Education Librarian and Nursing Librarian at the Houston Cole Library, Jacksonville State University, Alabama, Paula Barnett-Ellis is Health, Science, and Nursing Librarian at the Houston Cole Library, Jacksonville State University, Alabama.

7. DACS and RDA: Insights and Questions from the New Archival Descriptive Standard

By Beth M. Whittaker

(*Library Resources & Technical Services*, April 2007, Vol. 51 Issue 2, pg. 98)

Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) is the new archival content standard published by the Society of American Archivists (SAA). The publication of this forward-thinking and comprehensive response to changing information needs and technologies should be of interest to all cataloging communities. DACS raises issues about content standards for resource description that should be addressed much more broadly. The library cataloging community is in the process of an extensive revision of its cataloging codes, and new approaches in this standard appear to be embodying some of the same concepts as DACS. Beth M. Whittaker is Head of Special Collections Cataloging, Ohio State University, Columbus.

8. Google Book Search Libraries and Their Digital Copies

By Jill E. Grogg and Beth Ashmore

(*Searcher*, April 2007, Vol.15, Issue 4, pg. 18)

As one of the most recent of Google library partners, signing on in November 2006, UVA is understandably still considering how to use its digital copies.

9. Information Literacy in the University Curriculum: Challenges for Outcomes Assessment

By Nancy O'Hanlon

(*Portal: Libraries and the Academy*, April 2007, Vol.7, Issue 2, pg. 169)

This article describes a role for the academic library in the campus outcomes assessment process and reports on a study to determine the impact of the Ohio State University (OSU) Libraries' instructional program on several required general education courses. Although university curriculum documents prescribe research-related learning objectives for these courses, syllabus content analysis indicated that 48 percent did not include similar objectives. An instructor survey revealed that, whereas three-fourths require library research for an assignment, and many provide research skills instruction for students, less than 25 percent report involving librarians. Study data indicate opportunities for engaging more faculty in support of shared curricular goals.

10. Leaders as Readers: Books That Make Their Mark

By Pamala Spiegel

(*American Libraries*, May 2006, Vol.37, Issue 5, pg. 44)

In that vein, *American Libraries* asked a group of library leaders across the country to pick their favorite books of the last few years, either personal or professional, and tell us why they were so moving, inspiring, or just plain enjoyable. Heskett's exploration of how design processes shape our environment has influenced my vision about design in the development and delivery of library services. The book elaborates on the themes of his earlier work (*City of Bits, e-topia*) and continues to chronicle cultural change brought about by social preferences for interacting with software over the material forms they represent.

11. Linking Print and Electronic Books: One Approach

By Betsy Simpson, Jimmie Lundgren and Tatiana Barr

(Library Resources & Technical Services, April 2007, Vol. 51 Issue 2, pg. 146)

Library catalog searchers expect to retrieve information for all resources in the catalog that matches their search strategy. They expect keyword searching to retrieve a rich array of resources. In an effort to enhance service to users, the University of Florida Smathers Libraries acquired table of contents data to enrich bibliographic records for print books with publication dates from 1990 to the present. Many of these books have also been acquired in electronic format. Because the record for the same book in electronic format did not include the enhancements, catalog users were likely to retrieve the catalog record for the print version only and remain unaware of the availability of the electronic version. Betsy Simpson is Chair, Cataloging and Metadata Department, University of Florida, Gainesville. Jimmie Lundgren is Head, Science and Social Science Cataloging Unit, George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida, Gainesville. Tatiana Barr is Catalog Librarian, History and Social Science Team, Sterling Memorial Library, Yale University.

12. Mapping WorldCat's Digital Landscape

By Brian F. Lavoie, Lynn Silipigni Connaway and Edward T. O'Neill

(Library Resources & Technical Services, April 2007, Vol. 51 Issue 2, pg. 106)

Digital materials are reshaping library collections and, by extension, traditional library practice for collecting, organizing, and preserving information. This paper uses OCLC's WorldCat bibliographic database as a data source for examining questions relating to digital materials in library collections, including criteria for identifying digital materials algorithmically in MARC21 records; the quantity, types, characteristics, and holdings patterns of digital materials cataloged in WorldCat; and trends in WorldCat cataloging activity for digital materials over time. Issues pertaining to cataloging practice for digital materials and perspectives on digital holdings at the work level also are discussed. Analysis of the aggregate collection represented by the combined digital holdings in WorldCat affords a high-level perspective on historical patterns, suggests future trends, and supplies useful intelligence with which to inform decision making in a variety of areas.

13. OPAC Design Enhancements and Their Effects on Circulation and Resource Sharing within the Library Consortium Environment

By Michael J. Bennett

(Information Technology & Libraries, March 2007, Vol. 26 Issue 1, pg. 36)

A longitudinal study of three discrete online public access catalog (OPAC) design enhancements examined the possible effects such changes may have on circulation and resource sharing within the automated library consortium environment. Statistical comparisons were made of both circulation and interlibrary loan (ILL) figures from the year before enhancement to the year after implementation. Data from sixteen libraries covering a seven-year period were studied in order to determine the degree to which patrons may or may not utilize increasingly broader OPAC ILL options over time. Results indicated that while ILL totals increased significantly after each OPAC enhancement, such gains did not result in significant corresponding changes in total circulation. Michael J. Bennett is Digital Initiatives Librarian, C/W MARS Library Network, Worcester, Massachusetts.

14. Peer-to-Peer (P2P) Knowledge, Use, and Attitudes of Academic Librarians

By Dean Hendrix

(Portal: Libraries and the Academy, April 2007, Vol.7, Issue 2, pg. 191)

To assess their knowledge, use, and attitudes regarding peer-to-peer (P2P) applications, this study surveyed academic librarians (n = 162) via a mail-in survey. Correlations between the sample characteristics (age, gender, year of MLS, type of library job) and P2P knowledge, use, and attitudes were also explored. Overall, academic librarians demonstrated low knowledge levels (mean quiz score = 49 percent), rarely used P2P applications, and exhibited indifferent attitudes (total neutral responses = 42 percent) toward these burgeoning information technologies. In conclusion, the implications of the survey's findings in relation to academic library services, campus standing, and professional ethics are discussed.

15. Pointing Users Toward Citation Searching: Using Google Scholar and Web of Science

By Robert Schroeder

(Portal: Libraries and the Academy, April 2007, Vol.7, Issue 2, pg. 243)

Graduate or faculty researchers doing complex bibliometric analysis will continue to benefit, however, from the advanced search functionality, controlled vocabulary, and known search domain of Web of Science.

16. Reinventing the Library-How Repositories Are Causing Librarians to Rethink Their Professional Roles

By Tyler O. Walters

(Portal: Libraries and the Academy, April 2007, Vol.7, Issue 2, pg. 213)

The rise of digital repositories is helping libraries reinvent themselves. The benefits to libraries and universities creating institutional repositories (IRs) are great as libraries restructure, pursue collaborations, and re-position themselves to become major digital publishers and broadcasters in the scholarly world. They will no longer be passive receivers of information but active disseminators of intellectual output for entire universities. This article explores the IR's role in overall library transformation and examines the organizational changes and internal partnerships necessary to strengthen IR programs. Specifically, the creation of digital library initiatives units as well as changes to other library units are discussed.

17. Subject Retrieval from Full-Text Databases in the Humanities

By John W. East

(Portal: Libraries and the Academy, April 2007, Vol.7, Issue 2, pg. 227)

This paper examines the problems involved in subject retrieval from full-text databases of secondary materials in the humanities. Ten such databases were studied and their search functionality evaluated, focussing on factors such as Boolean operators, document surrogates, limiting by subject area, proximity operators, phrase searching, wildcards, weighting of search terms, limiting by type of document, controlled vocabulary indexing and ranking, and display of search results. The author suggests ways in which full-text searching might be improved, whether by enhancement of database records, by introduction of enhanced search functionality, or by the education of searchers in more effective search techniques. The conclusion is that current digitization projects are not producing databases that meet the needs of scholars.

Announcements

Webchats:

Studying and Working in the United States

14 May: 15:00-16:00

Questions relating to studying, working or seeking internships in the U.S. will be answered by experts from the Public Affairs/Information Resource Center and Consular sections. Further information and registration:

<http://www.usembassy.de/germany/chat.html>

IIP Democracy Dialogues Webchat Series

Attacks on Bloggers and Cyber-Dissidents

10 May: 14:00 GMT

http://usinfo.state.gov/usinfo/USINFO/Products/Webchats/pain_10_may_2007.html

Why is America Such a Hard Sell?

10 May: 15:00 GMT

http://usinfo.state.gov/usinfo/USINFO/Products/Webchats/pilon_10_may_2007.html

For more Mission Germany webchats: <http://www.usembassy.de/germany/chat.html>

For more IIP webchats: <http://usinfo.state.gov/usinfo/Products/Webchats.html>

Events:

Bis 27. Mai 2007 verlängert wegen großer Nachfrage!

Ausstellung: Bound for Glory. America in Color (1939-43)

Fotografie Forum international, Leinwandhaus, Weckmarkt 17, 60311 Frankfurt

Öffnungszeiten: Di-Fr 11-18:00 / Mi 11-20:00 / Sa&So 11-17:00 / Montags geschlossen

10. Mai 2007. 15:00-16:30

Beratung: Schule, Job, Praktikum oder Studium in den USA?

Stadtbücherei Mannheim, Stadthaus

Interesse an einem Schuljahr in den USA? An Praktika, Jobben oder Reisen? sie brauchen Informationen wie man einen USA-Aufenthalt organisieren kann oder wo man Informationen findet? EducationUSA Frankfurt (US Generalkonsulat) informiert und berät individuell an jedem zweiten Freitag im Monat in der Stadtbücherei Frankfurt.

11. Mai 2007. 16:00-17:00

Beratung: Schule, Job, Praktikum oder Studium in den USA?

Stadtbücherei Frankfurt, Zentralbibliothek, Zeil 17-21

Interesse an einem Schuljahr in den USA? An Praktika, Jobben oder Reisen? sie brauchen Informationen wie man einen USA-Aufenthalt organisieren kann oder wo man Informationen findet? EducationUSA Frankfurt (US Generalkonsulat) informiert und berät individuell an jedem zweiten Freitag im Monat in der Stadtbücherei Frankfurt.

12. Mai 2007. 11:00-15:00

Informationen zu Studium und Ausbildung in den USA

Europe Fachhochschule Fresenius, Standort Idstein, Limburger Str. 2, Idstein/Ts

Am 12. Mai 2007 findet an der Europa Fachhochschule Fresenius in Idstein ein Studien- und Berufsinfortag statt. An diesem Tag wird am Fachbereich Wirtschaft & Medien in

der Richard-Klinger-Str. ein besonderes Highlight angeboten. Eine Vertreterin von EducationUSA des US-Generalkonsulats Frankfurt am Main informiert über Studien- und Ausbildungsmöglichkeiten in den USA und beantwortet Visafragen. Außerdem steht die Koordinatorin des USA-Interns-Programmes der Steuben-Schurz-Gesellschaft e.V. für Fragen rund um das Thema "Vermittlung von Praktika in den USA" Rede und Antwort. Weitere Informationen unter:

<http://www.fh-fresenius.de/studien-und-berufsinfortaq.1173.html>

15. Mai 2007. 16:00-17:30

XPlore! Studieren Weltweit - Themenschwerpunkt USA

Hochschule Darmstadt, Schöfferstraße 3, 64295 Darmstadt (Studenten-Café "Glaskasten", Gebäude C10.)

EducationUSA Frankfurt (US Generalkonsulat) informiert und berät im Rahmen der DAAD-Kampagne "Go Out" zu Studium und Praktikum in den USA.

For more upcoming events, please check:

http://frankfurt.usconsulate.gov/frankfurt/upcoming_events.html

NOTE: Library Info Alert is available to subscribers only. You may contact us through e-mail to order the requested material. Full text of articles will be sent to you as soon as possible.

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U.S. Consulate General * Information Resource Center * Gießener Str. 30 * 60435 Frankfurt *

Tel.: (069) 7535 8820/28 * Fax: (069) 7535 8843 * E-Mail: IRCFrankfurt@state.gov

Internet: <http://berlin.usembassy.gov/germany/irc/>

Please send your comments to IRCFrankfurt@state.gov