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Call for Papers-1999 Charleston Conference

Editor

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Rumors  
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too much needed information in the hopes of cutting out distasteful information. RuleSpace's WebChaperone software is based on an "artificial-intelligence engine called the Intelligent Content Recognition Technology, and is designed to differentiate between legitimate content and pornography."
See TechWeb 26 Jan 99.

According to Jim Nichols, Plain Dealer reporter, The American Civil Liberties Union says it will file a barrage of lawsuits in 1999 to ensure that adults can use libraries' Internet-connected computers to look at pornography and other materials that may be deemed offensive. http://www.cleveland.com/news/psnews/metro/calibre.phtml

Here's a publisher that archives the product! Against the Grain! Lea Fraser <leaf@pop.ucr.edu> sends word that the University of California at Riverside has an ATG subscription but needed a replacement volume! Here we are at ATG ready to help!

Speaking of which, your full-service publisher, value-added librarian recently heard from Margaret A. Rioux <mrioux@whoi.edu> who needed help with an ATG article citation. Do you remember the article by Tony Ferguson called "Interesting Problems Encountered on My Way to Writing an Electronic Collection Development Statement." Well Maggie and Steve Oberg are doing a seminar on digital resources in libraries for the IX Transborder Library Forum in Mexico in March and they wanted to cite this article by Tony. Pretty exciting that Maggie and Steve's article is going to be translated into Spanish.

Bill Schenck (Library Services, Library of Congress) <wsch@loc.gov>, reported to Collection Development Officers of Large Research Libraries Discussion Group during ALA Midwinter (and to Coldev-I) that the Library had received an increase of 5.2% ($454,000 in its materials budget) for FY99. This increase permits additional spending for subscriptions for electronic materials, increased support to acquire current publications from the People's Republic of China and Taiwan, replace missing and lost books, and increased support for Special Collections. The Library of Congress lifted the moratorium on all but high-priority subscriptions at the beginning of FY98 but continues to exercise restraint in initiating new subscriptions. I was remembering when I first met the wonderful Bill, when he was Head of Acquisitions at UNC-Chapel Hill. Bill attended the first Charleston Conference in 1980 and was one of the movers and shakers behind the Memorial Service which we held for Judy Webster in Philadelphia just last month. Additional information about activities at the Library of Congress can be found on the ALA Briefing Update, accessible through the Library's homepage (www.loc.gov).

This is off the Law-lib listserv which last month was featuring an article on Internet use policies, and it includes a sample policy. Take a look at Internet Usage Policies in the Workplace, by Todd Wulffson at http://www.illr.com/features/wulffson1.htm.

Gary Herald <gary@absbook.com> sends word that Ambassador Books & Media has been contracted to distribute the publications of the Summer Institute of Linguistics located at 7500 W. Camp Wisdom Road, Dallas, TX 75236.

Nat Bodian sends word that John Kremer, the publisher of Open Horizons, has dropped the price of Nat Bodian's The Joy of Publishing to $19.95 (plus $4.50 shipping and handling). Let's all buy a copy! Okay. That's all (for now) folks! ❖

Inside Pandora's Box  
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ers in the brave new worlds that they describe. The lesson, in my mind, is that we must do a better job of appearing necessary to the future of libraries. In the minds of most leaders of consortia and many directors, we provide books and services, but our destinies are not joined.

I believe, by contrast, that our futures are tied, that libraries and booksellers are in the midst of an evolutionary event, and that we are co-evolving. Ultimately, consortia will achieve their real potential when vendors are brought in as partners to assist in envisioning the broad strategies that will give consortia far more value than when discount or even cooperative collection development are the driving forces. ❖

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So, what are we to do? We need to cultivate within ourselves and with our organizations a tolerance for off-the-wall thinking so that out-of-the-box solutions can be aired and adopted when appropriate. The alternative is more of the same old, same old solutions with which we are all too familiar. ❖

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