Rumors

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The Acquisitions Workstation — Collection Development Style

by Linda A. Brown (Collection Development Coordinator, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403) <lbrown@bgsu.edu>

We’ve heard a lot about what’s available for the cataloging workstation. At the 1998 Charleston Conference, David Nuzzo and Suzanne Kiker outlined ways to use a workstation for acquisitions. Collection development librarians can customize their workstations by building a Web page to cover three aspects of collection development: 1) public service and outreach efforts to our constituencies; 2) links to tools to enable selectors to use the Web and work more efficiently; 3) selection of Web resources.

Collection development Web page as an outreach tool

By viewing the Web as a communication tool, librarians can expand their abilities to share information with the community they serve. There are many possibilities when transforming a collection development statement into a Web document of inter-linked sections. In revising or writing a collection development statement, consider the Web format and the flexibility in structure it offers. The shift from print to Web can demand a careful examination of the document to gather scattered references to a single topic into one short document. This can then be linked at appropriate points.

For example, as a member of OhioLINK, librarians at Bowling Green State University frequently refer to the OhioLINK consortium, its resources, policies, services, and so forth at many points throughout the collection development policy. Consequently, all of the OhioLINK related information was pulled together into a single brief document. Links to the OhioLINK information were created where needed. Subject policy statements for related disciplines can be linked; standard information such as definitions of intellectual levels can be stated once and linked where applicable.

Other policies and procedures that could be included are acceptance of gift books, recommendation of materials for order, electronic order form, library acquisition methods, e.g. approval plans, blanket order plans, firm orders, etc. Many libraries have mounted a directory of bibliographers or subject selectors by name or by subject. Some university libraries include links to the Web pages for each academic department served by the selector. These departmental Web pages often contain information on programs, curricula, faculty research interests, upcoming events, etc. The subject selectors directory can also serve as a link to the individual selector via an email message from the Web page.

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you think? Let me hear from you. <strauchk@cofc.edu> Thanks.

Sandy Paul sends word that the MCI/Worldcom merger forced MCI to give up all of the folks that had been using them as their ISP. Effective immediately we need to send SKP’s mail to <SKPAssoc@cwixmail.com>. I just got this message and am trying to change the emails for Sandy in this issue of ATG, but you all might need to check on me!

Bette Herod is retiring as Continuing Manager, Majors Scientific Books, Inc., after 25 years with the company. She began her career with Majors in 1975 in the Serials Department under the guidance of Bill Leazer. In three short years, she was offered the position of Serials Manager. Retirement sounds better and better, doesn’t it? Have a wonderful time relaxing, at least for a little while, Bette.

Blackwell Retail Limited has confirmed their offer for the acquisition of W. Heffers & Sons Ltd. in Cambridge, UK. The Heffers Board is recommending Blackwell’s offer to their shareholders. For over 120 years, Blackwell’s and Heffers have both specialized in academic and professional bookselling. Alan Leitch, MD of Blackwell Retail Ltd. states: “This deal will unite the best of British bookselling. I also believe it will be good news for the book trade—the merger of Blackwell’s and Heffers will undoubtedly increase the profile, professionalism and stability of the academic and professional market in the UK.”

Jean Sue Johnson Libkind has been named the new Director of Worldwide Books in Ithaca, New York. Worldwide Books is a distributor of museum exhibition catalogs from around the globe and the U.S. trade and university press books on art, architecture, photography, and related fields. They select, review, and distribute over 2,000 new titles a year and maintain a backlist of 20,000 titles; sales are primarily to university, college, public, and gallery libraries. They are a subsidiary of The Kraus Organization, Ltd. After twenty years as director of Worldwide Books, Brian Gold requested this management change to devote his full attention to the company’s growing library approval plan program. As Associate Director for Approval Plans, he will continue to work closely with Marcia Skalnik, Associate Director for Museum Exhibition Catalogs and Kelly Fiske, Associate Director for Trade and University Press titles.

Got a call the other day from Nancy Newsome who is a friend of the wonderful Azalee Sain (retired but once at the North Carolina Dept. of Community Colleges). Nancy was calling for a reference. She tells me that Azalee lost her daughter last fall to cancer, but that Azalee traveled to Israel last year and met a boyfriend over there! Way to go, Azalee! We miss you in Charleston!

Heard recently from a truly fabulous person—Clara-Mae Chittum <ruud@gu.edu>. After about five wonderful years in Latin America she and her husband, Ruid van der Velden, are about to return to Europe. They will first move to Holland (again near Rotterdam) for a couple of months; then will most probably move to the UK (near Bedford, north of London), because Unilever is transferring the entire department in which Ruud is going to work in the UK. In the meantime, Clara-Mae says we can use the e-mail address <ruud@flashmail.com>. For snail mail use Ruud’s parents: Fam. W van der Velden, Mulierlaan 12, 2701 GB LOCHEM, The Netherlands.

Tom Leonhardt’s op ed (Oregon Institute of Technology) <leonhart@oit.edu>, this issue, see p. 28, is really smoking. When I read it, I could feel the heat coming out of the pages. Besides which, Tom tells me that he has several tigers by the tail right now. He is starting up a television station for the college and chairing a task force on information technology and computing. But we’ll see him in Detroit!

Some people have asked if ATG is a refereed publication. Yes, ATG is largely refereed. A case in point is the Chaos column in this issue regarding XML and its potential for E-commerce by Norman Desmarais. Just ask Norm. This column has been so refereed by so many different people that it took three months before it could see the light of day! Read all about it XML in this issue, p. 86.

Speaking of XML, CatchWord has continued on page 10 <http://www.against-the-grain.com>
announced that from the second quarter of 1999 it will be offering existing and new customers the option of XML and PDF delivery formats for electronic publishing. Work on integrating these two additional formats is expected to be complete by the end of March 1999. “The XML based developments are especially exciting as we believe XML incorporates many of the existing benefits of RealPage and at the same time can be delivered directly to the browser,” said Simon Inger, Managing Director. www.catchword.co.uk.

This information is courtesy of Chuck Hamaker. <cchamake@email.uncc.edu>. The March 1st, 1999 edition of the Subject Index to Literature on Electronic Sources of Information is available at http://library.usask.ca/~dworacze/ subjin.html. The page-specific “Subject Index” and the accompanying “Electronic Sources of Information: A Bibliography” deal with all aspects of electronic publishing and include print and non-print materials, periodical articles, monographs and individual chapters in collected works. Eight hundred and thirty-one titles and indexes in great detail were identified for this project. Thousands of URLs were added to various entries. Both the index and the bibliography are continuously updated. This incredible informational service resides on Marian Dworacze’s home page. Marian is Head of Acquisitions and Head, Technical Services at the University of Saskatchewan Libraries. Thank you, Marian!

The Journal Citation Reports from ISI, which is indeed a classic resource for detailed citation data, is now available. www.isinet.com/prodserv/citation/jcddfm.html.

Follett Corporation has launched its new Web site, www.efollett.com, to sell new and used textbooks. We told you about this site last month when you told you about Linda Crismond’s new job at Follett’s! (see ATG, v.11#1, p.1). It contains the complete book lists from more than 450 higher education institutions according to the Chronicle of Higher Education, January 15, 1999.

PAIS, Public Affairs Information Services has announced the signing of a letter of intent that could lead, following negotiations, to the merger of PAIS and OCLC. PAIS, a not-for-profit corporation with offices in New York City, publishes the PAIS International database, which contains over 450,000 records of abstracted and indexed literature from over 120 countries. OCLC is a Dublin, Ohio-based, nonprofit corporation which serves over 33,000 libraries in 67 countries. The letter of intent results from extended discussions, started in June, 1998, between board chairs and senior management of each organization. According to the letter of intent, subject to satisfactory negotiations, approvals by both boards of trustees, and appropriate state authorities, the joining of resources of the two entities would potentially result in OCLC providing access to PAIS databases via the Internet, and supporting the expansion of existing PAIS databases and the construction of new OCLC/PAIS databases.

Editorial URSS is one of the leading Russian publishers in the most important fields of science, technique, and culture studies such as physics, mathematics, architecture, archaeology, philosophy, linguistics, sociology and many others. Materials (print textbooks, scientific journals, monographs, and proceedings of Russian scientific institutes and universities) have been printed in Russian and in Spanish. Visit their Web page at urss.isa.ac.ru.

netLibrary (www.netlibrary.com) should be launched the 29th of March. Miriam Gilbert <mgilbert@netlibrary.com> is the senior director, and she is her enthusiastic self about this new endeavor. netLibrary.com will be a library of electronic books for academic and corporate libraries and their patrons. Working in a partnership with publishers and librarians, netLibrary will be a gateway for the creation and dissemination of knowledge through combining the tradition of the printed book with the power and efficiency of electronic publishing and multimedia.

ScienceServer LLC has signed a license with the British Library to provide software to access over 800 electronic journals published by Elsevier Science. The electronic data will be stored locally at the British Library and distributed through ScienceServer software for use in the library’s public reading rooms and for fulfillment of both library privilege and copyright-fee paid document delivery requests. www.scienceserver.com.

University systems in Texas and Colorado have expanded their library collections to include IDEAL, the Academic Press online journal library. With the addition of the University of Texas System institutions, three major Texas library consortia, comprising over 50 universities and research institutions in the state of Texas now have access to IDEAL. Most of the academic communities across Texas are now covered by an APPEAL license. The Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries joined IDEAL in October, 1998. Over 125,000 end users at nine participating campuses now have access to IDEAL. For a complete list of institutions with IDEAL access, visit www.apnet.com/www/ap/inlist.htm.

Endeavor Information Systems Incorporated has completed an agreement to redeem its initial capitalization investment from MARCorpor. and its parent company Technology Funding Inc. of San Mateo, California. Under the terms of the agreement, MARCorpor. relinquished all claims to an ownership position in the company and the Endeavor software. The agreement, ratified by the shareholders, makes Endeavor’s employees the sole owners of the corporation. The common stock of the company will continue to be held solely by its employees. “This has always been a big part of our business plan,” said Jane Burke, President, CEO and newly elected Chairman of the Board of Endeavor. “Fortunately we’ve realized our ownership goal far ahead of schedule. This deal represents a validation of our success. We are extremely grateful to the customers who’ve supported us since our founding.” For more information visit www.endinfo.sys.com.

Chadwyck-Healey Inc. has sold its subsidiary Geosure LP to Vista Information Solutions, Inc. (NASDAQ: VINF) through a pooling of interests valuing Geosure in excess of US$22.5 million. The Geosure group of companies includes Environmental Risk Information and Imaging Services (ERIS), National Research Center (NRC), a nationwide flood certification company, and a controlling interest in National Insurance Services (NIS), a national provider of flood insurance policies.

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Chadwyck-Healey Inc. founded ERRIIS in 1989 in order to market images from its map collection on microfilm to the environmental engineering community. ERRIIS was one of the first companies to use the “Tiger Files,” the digital street map of the U.S., produced from the 1990 U.S. Census. This, combined with environmental data from Federal and State sources, formed the basis of the ERRIIS information service. ERRIIS has also been the market leader in the online delivery of environmental data including maps. www.chadwyck.com.

After a competitive search for a comprehensive online reference package capable of meeting the needs of an educationally diverse userbase, South Carolina has selected Grolier Online as its encyclopedia of choice for all K-12 schools, colleges and public libraries. As part of the state’s DISCUS Project—an online Virtual Library—Grolier Online will provide the research power of three highly-regarded encyclopedias—the Encyclopedia Americana Online, Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia Online, and The New Book of Knowledge Online with NBK NEWS— to educators, students, and the public. www.grolier.com.

On April 12, 1999, Bernan Press is presenting the Staff Perspective Conference on the 106th Congress at the Washington Monarch Hotel. This conference will give participants a unique opportunity to hear senior congressional staff comment on the likely agenda and key issues for the 106th Congress, including the areas of telecommunications, health care, tax-writing, financial institutions, and leadership. For further information, contact Hillary Eigen <heigen@barman.com>.

Tom Zibicki (Johns Hopkins University) <tzbicki@jhu.edu> (have I ever told y'all that Tom reminds me of one of my brothers?) has a great paper in this issue, p. 22 about training selectors. I picked up a lot of great information and I'm sure you will too.

Heard recently from Eileen Hiller (U. of Huddersfield, UK) who came to the conference and had a delightful time besides which she told us a lot and says that she had a delightful time. Anyway, Eileen was the UK’s rep to the Charleston Conference and is hoping to extend an invitation to one of us to attend UKSG plus she may come back again herself. Read her paper in this issue of ATG, p. 18.

Following joint discussions during 1998, the Managing Agent of NESLI, The National Electronic Site Licence Initiative, has announced the agreement with Blackwell Science for the provision of electronic versions of BS journals to UK universities, under the terms of the new National Initiative. Under the agreement, libraries in UK higher education institutions are able to purchase electronic access in 1999 to a collection of 130 Blackwell Science journals for a single annual fee, negotiated by the NESLI Managing Agent. This is on the basis that the libraries maintain their existing subscription to print journals. The National Electronic Site Licence Initiative is sponsored by the UK Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC). A partnership of Swets & Zeitlinger and Manchester University Computing was appointed Managing Agent to operate the service. The three-year initiative aims to address existing licensing, financial and technical barriers to the widespread selection of electronic journals.

Through the agreement with Blackwell Science, users will be able to access the journals either via the dedicated NESLI Web-based interface or through the interfaces of other intermediaries as agreed with Blackwell Science. www.swets.nl

And we in Charleston have been complaining about the excessive cold in March! Did I tell you that at MLA MW, I ran into Bob Balay (Choice) who told me that his daughter is in Alaska with 70 below temperatures? Brrrrr ...

Speaking of cold, heard from Lolly Gasaway (UNC-Chapel Hill, Law Library) <laura_gasaway@unc.edu> with her copyright questions. She turned the questions in early this time and said that hell must have frozen over, but it's been so cold in Charleston, that I figured that wasn't totally impossible. Thank you, Lolly, and be sure and read Lolly's insightful answers in this issue, p. 52. Lolly is one of the few real lawyers that actually gives you a yes or no answer. Hooray!

Had an interesting online conversation with David Brier (Systems Librarian, University of Hawai'i at Manoa) <daveb@hawaii.edu>. The conversation started off because Dave was looking for the article by Corinne Ebbs and Laurie Preston, “Acquiring Minds Want To Know—The Fulltext Question: A Study in Progress” (column editor, Joyce Ogburn). (Have you read that yet? It's in ATG, v.92, April 1997, p. 70.) Anyway, the conversation with Dave ended up focusing on surfing, which my daughter Ileana has become enamored with (even in the COLD weather; she has a wet suit and all). Dave is a surfer, too, in the state that has the biggest waves around.

And speaking of surfing, John Riley (Eastern Book) <jriley@mail.javanet.com> tells me that Steven Coyne loves to surf and even goes onto the Web to check buoy reports of tidal swells to find out when the surf is up. (I'm not going to tell Ileana that this sort of info is available!) Anyway, watch for our interview with Steven coming up soon, I hope!

Via Serialist, Anne Frohlich (Serials Librarian, McNeese State University, Lake Charles, LA) <frohlich@ACCMCNEES.EDU> encourages us all to read: “Paying by the Article: Libraries test a new model for scholarly journals” in the Chronicle of Higher Education chronicle.com/ffgee/v44/i49/4949 ao2101.htm.

New Journal of Physics (NJP)—an Institute of Physics and Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft journal—has published its first articles. Already widely accessed, this work is freely available on the Web and reflects the journal’s commitment to publish only outstanding research. Financed by article charges paid by authors, the journal publishes incrementally, with new work appearing online immediately upon acceptance. For more info, contact Terry Hulbert <terry.hulbert@ioppublishing.co.uk>.

Delon Hampton, Ph.D. P.E., has been named to the American Society of Civil Engineers’ (ASCE) highest elected office which he will assume in October, 1999. Hampton plans to expand the Society’s current efforts to attract more women and minorities to the profession and support them through their careers, and will promote greater involvement of civil engineers in public policy. It is interesting to know that the percentage of first-year women in engineering programs dropped to 19.73 in 1997, a decline from its peak of 20.02 in 1995. Hampton is the first African-American engineer to be elected president in the Society’s 147-year history.

The March issue of American Quarterly features Janice Redway’s address to the American Studies Association on November 28, 1998. Redway, president of the Association, stirred up the American studies community when she ventured a suggestion about renaming the American Studies Association to reflect the impact of new
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scholarship in the area encompassing many diverse groups and minorities. Her address inspired lively discussions on Internet listerservs and in academic circles around the world. The Chronicle of Higher Education plans an article on the significance of these debates about potential new directions for American studies. Given the impact of Radway’s address on the American studies community, the publisher and editors of American Quarterly decided the presidential address should be made available to everyone. “What’s in a Name?” is available free online from the Johns Hopkins University Press through Project MUSE. Visit http://muse.jhu.edu/demo/american quarterly/v051/51_radway.html for the full text. Hmm... and we thought ALA was the only association doing this!

Guess who was recently in Charleston? The wonderful, friendly, vivacious, and oh so competent Pam Conzer (U. of Florida) <pamconzer@ufl.edu>. Pam has been appointed (temporarily) as Personnel Librarian at the University of Florida in Gainesville. I remember when Pam used to be Personnel Librarian at the same place—was it fifteen years ago, Pam?


Effective January 1st, Puvill Libros SA’s Mexico Headquarters has relocated. New Address is Miguel Angel de Guevedo No. 871 Bis-3, Col. Los Reyes Coyoacan, C.P. 04330, Deleg. Coyoacan, Mexico DF. Email: <pulme@mpsnet.com.mx>.


On February 27, 1999, the Newsletter on Serials Pricing Issues (no.215) was issued by its fantastic, hard-working, and as-tute editor Marcia Tuttle! Marcia recalled how a “small group of librarians and one vendor (later, a publisher) met to decide whether they should try to issue a bitton edition of [the] future printed newsletter. Thank goodness [they] took what brave step! The first issued electronic and short-lived print, was February 27, 1989.” Marcia also refers us to PACS Review, volume 2, 1991, pages 111-127 (http://info.lib.uih.edu/pr/v2/ nl/tuttle.2a1) if we want to read more about the history of NOSP1.

SIRS Mandarin, Inc. recently published its newly-revised print series, SIRS Enduring Issues which is an eight-volume reference set that covers the same topics as the original three SIRS series — Social Issues, Science, and Global Perspectives. The new, more compact collection provides comprehensive, thought-provoking articles containing vital information for students and library patrons alike. A new set of eight volumes will be released annually each January. For more information call 800-232-SIRS or visit www.sirs.com.

Rep. Howard Coble, R-NC, and Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, will reintroduce the Collections of Information Antipiracy Act, legislation aimed at protecting the “brow-sweat” of such database giants as Reed-Elsevier and Lexis-Nexis. Scrapped from the Digital Millennium Copyright Act by the last Congress in 11th-hour negotiations, the proposal was also rejected in treaty form by a 1996 meeting of the World Intellectual Property Organization. The bill would criminalize copying all substantial part of a collection of information if the action would “cause harm to the actual or potential market” for the database’s creator. (From CNET News—http://www.news.com/News/Item/0,432085,0.html?st=ne.nl)

Judith Niles (Director, Office of Collection Management, U. of Louisville Libraries) <judy.niles@louisville.edu> has brought a resolution to the ALCTS Board in memory of Judy Webster and all that she did for our profession.

Stuart Grinell <bookman@iqwest.net> and his lovely wife Colleen have been busy! Colleen delivered their third child—Katherine Kelley ‘Kate’ Grinell—in February! Congratulations!

The University of Manchester’s John Rylands University Library (UK) has become the Scholarly Publishing & Academic Resources Coalition’s (SPARC) first non-North American member. SPARC, an initiative of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), is a coalition of academic institutions and research libraries that uses library buying power to support lower-cost alternatives to high-priced science journals.

This is from Edupage (Feb. 9, 1999) which refers to USA Today of the same date. Lycos, the fourth-most visited site on the Web, will merge with TV network USA Network (parent of Home Shopping Network); the new company will advertise its Web services on USA Networks’ cable TV shows and its TV programs on Lycos Web sites. Despite its popularity, Lycos has lost money every year since its founding in 1995.

Claire Fund <clairef@cofe.edu> sends word of a cool interactive Shakespeare site at Holy Cross College http://sterling.holy cross.edu/departments/theatre/projects/isp/measure/. Claire says that the site focuses on one play and “using embedded hyperlinks and audio and video material, takes students on a journey of their own devising. Students control their own learning experience while being exposed to a variety of historical, performance, and textual issues that surround an individual Shakespearean play.”

More from Claire Fund. UCLA Assistant Professor Gregory H. Leazer was continued on page 78

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This tribute is from Sylvia Martin (Coordinator, Resource Services, Vanderbilt University Library) <martir@library.vanderbilt.edu>.

Elaine Kirkpatrick Rast, 65, longtime resident of DeKalb, IL, died February 12 in Chicago. She is survived by her husband of 42 years, Lawrence; her children, Natalie, Allison Williams (James), Lawrence Jr. (Amy); her grandchildren, Lawrence III,irth, Karl, and Joanna; and her siblings Gloria and Raymond Kirkpatrick (Karen). A 1956 graduate of Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, IL, she earned the Master of Library Science degree from Rosary College, River Forest in 1963. In the 1960’s her vision of libraries in the future led her to participate in the OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) at Ohio State University. Later, she was adjunct professor at Dominican University River Forest, IL and full professor at Founders Library, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb. She was an active participant in the American Library Association, and a member of NASIG (National Association of Serials Interest Group) from its inception where she served as a member of the executive board from 1988-1993. She was awarded Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year for 1993. She most recently served as archivist for Rainbow Push Coalition (The Rev. Jesse Jackson Collection), and as rare books cataloger at Adler Planetarium. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The Elaine K. Rast Reading Room, Concordia Theological Seminary, 6600 N. Clinton St., Ft. Wayne, IN 46825.

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name. For example, "2001: actual" will find occurrences of 2001 only within the actual sale price field, locating anything that sold for $2001 but not a movie composer of 2001. A Space Odyssey. One can restrict the entire query to one or more specified fields by using the Query-level field restriction operator (/F/) before each field name.

Researchers can also make use of a wide variety of additional operators. For example, the negation point (Concept operator) generates a list of words related to the query term to which it is appended. It searches for the query term and any related terms. A tilde (~ Fuzzy search operator) locates words with similar spelling to the query term. The @ (Thesaurus operator) searches for synonyms of the query term, while the Document operator (D_) searches for records that are similar in content to the record with a specified ID number. When the search engine retrieves the documents, it displays a results list (hit list) which gives a brief descriptive overview of each document. Selecting an individual record displays the complete lot information. When an image is available for a particular lot, it will have a hyperlink: Click Here for Remote Web Image. Image links are only active in the detailed description (Document display).

In the previous version of the software, also installed from the CD for those who prefer not to change to a Web browser interface, one could search for images by using "JPG" as a search term. However, doing so in the new software disables the hyperlink text used to open images. Artfact is working with the software publisher to fix this in future releases. In the meantime, one can search for "Click" to locate only records with images.

Artfact Fine Arts contains the fulltext of more auction catalogs than any similar product. Searching such a large quantity of information in hardcopy would be an extremely tedious and time-consuming task. That endeavor can now be performed instantaneously as Artfact Fine Arts has the most powerful search engine this reviewer has ever worked with bar none. The software designers also placed the navigation buttons (Search, Clear, Hit List, Previous Ranked Document, and Next Ranked Document) at the top and bottom of their respective windows; so researchers do not have to scroll back and forth to find what they want.

The software has been designed to address the art professional's need to evaluate common objects against fair market values. Art historians can use it similarly as well as for researching market economics or performing market studies. They can use it for both financial and attribution appraisals as well as to study the provenance of a work and to compare it to other similar items to see how one artist influences another. Some descriptions can be rather brief while others, particularly for major works, can be very lengthy and include an extensive bibliography. This information can be very valuable to artists and art dealers.

Museum professionals and curators can use this product to verify authenticity and to compare similar known items. They can use it to research artists with connections to a location or institution. Historical renovators or reconstructionists can use it to verify room colors, decor, etc. in period paintings or to compare existing known items for verification. Any library that collects art catalogs will find this an indispensable product. Artfact Fine Arts has many uses that transcend its primary audience of professional art dealers and is highly recommended.

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prestigious five-year, $500,000 Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) during a ceremony February 10 in Washington, DC. The 35-year-old Leazer, who is believed to be the first scholar in the field of library and information science to be honored with a PECASE, was nominated for the award by the National Science Foundation for his contributions to understanding human-centered methods for locating information in complex digital library systems. He plans to use the award money to support his research on information retrieval in a digital library environment. Before joining the faculty at UCLA's Department of Library and Information Science—now part of the school's Graduate School of Education & Information Studies—in 1994, Leazer worked as a cataloger at the New York Public Library. He earned a Ph.D in library and information science from Columbia University in 1993. (Reported by Kay Cooper, UCLA.)

This is from Digilibrus, Alis Whitt (College of Charleston) <whitt@cofc.edu>, and Eric Lease Morgan (Digital Library Initiatives Department, NCSU Libraries; http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/staff/morgan/), <eric_morgan@ncsu.edu>. Try MyLibrary@NCSU, a user-centered, customizable interface to the NCSU Libraries collection of information resources, available at http://my.lib.ncsu.edu/. MyLibrary@NCSU, integrates principles of librarianship (collection, organization, dissemination, and evaluation) with globally networked computing resources creating a dynamic, customer-driven front-end to the library's set of materials.

Bill Britten (Head of Systems, U. of Tennessee Knoxville) <bill@aztec.lib.utk.edu> has been promoted to Professor. Sounds good to me! Congrats, Bill!

Eleanor Cook (Appalachian State University and Editor of the fabulous Acqnet) <COOKEJ@conrad.appstate.edu> sends word of an interesting Y2K Website—http://home.earthlink.net/~lee00/index.html.

Stanford and Yale have added the text of the recent United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit confirming Judge Leonard Sand's decision in favor of Heary Barschall, the American Institute of Physics, and the American Physical Society to their Web sites documenting the cases brought by Gordon and Breach "in an aggressive corporate practice of challenging any adverse commentary upon its journals, primarily through threatened (and actual) litigation." The two sites are: barschall.stanford.edu and www.yale.edu/barschall.

Well, here's another new worthwhile journal with a great editor—Julia Gelfand (University of California, Irvine, Science Library) <jgelfand@uci.edu>. The launch of IJGL, the International Journal on Grey Literature, is the culmination of a quarter of a century of theoretical positioning linked to R&D in information technology. Once the uses of grey literature could be clearly demonstrated in formulating issues and resolving problems facing all branches of science, academics, government, and business; and, the impact of grey literature became measurable through its effects on information policy and management, continued on page 79

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grey literature had come of age. With the dawn of a new millennium, grey literature becomes an even more significant information resource. IJGL seeks to monitor and secure grey literature's entry into the mainstream of our information society well into the 21st Century. Volume I, Number 1 of this new quarterly journal will be published in 2000. However, in advance, this issue will appear in October 1999 to coincide with GL'99, the Fourth International Conference on Grey Literature in Washington, D.C., USA. Authors who respond to the GL'99 Call-for-Papers will also have their abstracts submitted to the IJGL Journal Editor for subsequent review.


This is from Outsell's e-brief (Feb. 19, 1999). Infonautics is releasing a new generation of its technology that allows newspapers and magazines to create e-commerce-based archives of their own data. For example, Northern Light has become the official archive of dozens of Web sites including The New York Times and Netscape's NetCenter.

Talked to Linda Defendeifer <defendei@LAW.UNEC.EDU> over the weekend. She was hard at work on the next Mergers and Acquisitions (Regarding Medusa) column! Hooray, Linda! See this issue, p. 30 for the latest.


Sandy Heft (Catalog Librarian, Sonoma State University) <sandy.heft@SONOMA.EDU> sends word about "Blazing the Trail: Electronic Serials from Acquisition to Access," an ALCTS institute that will be held April 16-17, at the Hilton in Portland, OR. Librarians from all types and sizes of libraries will gain practical skills to handle electronic serials as well as a conceptual understanding of the theoretical implications of this rapidly changing format.

A cooperative effort among academic libraries in Missouri -- known as the Mobius consortium -- has resulted in a new 7-million-volume, statewide catalog that can be accessed by faculty, staff, and students from Washington University, St. Louis University, and the four University of Missouri campuses. The plan is that within four years, 50 colleges and universities in Missouri will participate. The Missouri legislature will contribute $3 million in funding to the project for FY99. Illinois, Ohio, Virginia, and Oregon also have statewide catalogs; Michigan and Pennsylvania are in the process of developing similar systems.

Gary Ross (IAC) once of College of Charleston fame, <Gary_Ross@iacnet.com> will be moving to Detroit as Director of Technical Sales.

This is from Apple eNews (February 25, 1999) WGBH in Boston took Macintosh PowerBook computers on a perilous 29,000-foot climb up the face of Mount Everest to create NOVA's first-ever online adventure. To learn more about NOVA's ascent of Mount Everest, visit: http://www.apple.com/publishing/ama/0201/everest/.

Well, we tried to get Jeff Bezos (Amazon.com founder) to speak at the 1999 Charleston Conference. Wasn't successful this year. But, in the meantime, read about him in Wired magazine (March 1999).

And just got Publishers Weekly (March 15, 1999). On page 20, there's a brief article on Joseph Allen (CCC President and CEO) and the CCC entitled "CCC: Gearing Up for Rights Compliance in the Digital Age." CCC's Electronic Content Service is a "copyright solution that's beginning to work."

Now look, y'all. I get a lot of questions about how I compile Rumors for every issue of ATG! The answer is—only with y'all's help! Send me news tidbits, press releases, just any old thing, to Against the Grain! I'm counting on it! 🧼