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Adventures in Librarianship: Well Preserved

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Notes from a Consortium Watcher — ACS Journals

by Ann Okerson (Yale University) <ann.okerson@yale.edu>

Dear Readers: When Ann Okerson gave this synopsis of a presentation by the American Chemical Society to the Consortium on Consortia on February 23 over <liblicense-l@lists.yale.edu>, I jumped on it. This is the fifth in a series of presentations and Ann has graciously agreed to let ATG publish her comments. More are forthcoming. Comments are welcome. And thanks, Ann! — KS

Presentation from American Chemical Society (ACS) journals (February 23, 1998) to the COC

Anthony Durniak, Director, Special Publishing Operations

Susan Barclay, Manager, Web Editions

Dean Smith, Institutional Marketing
Highlights: Please see below re. the availability of Interlibrary Loan as a new feature of the ACS journals licenses; also an initial offering for library consortia.

Context: The print journal had an understood value equation; that is, the relationship between information and subscription price are/were relatively well understood in that more readers lead to more demand, which in turn leads to more subscriptions in a library, which, therefore, cost the library or institution more money. Web technology unbalances the value equation: customers expect more functionality and rapid delivery. Libraries perceive low incremental costs for additional access that publishers provide electronically (but costs of providing e-information are not low).

ACS wants to restore the "value balance" in the Web journals equation.

- ACS is not-for-profit;
- Money is not an end unto itself;
- ACS feels obligation to keep library prices as low as possible;
- There is a need to develop business models that advance mature publishing for the future;
- We are re-inventing science journals for this new medium;
- Focus on the absolute price charged, not the percentage increases.

ACS is developing basic and enhanced components for WWW publishing.

- Multiple formats (HTML, PDF);
- Various search tools;
- Multiple years online;
- Articles published online *before* print;
- Expanded content (animation, models, etc.);
- Links are used to expand article "reach".

ACS journals pricing options:

1) Price Option A offered initially: Similar price for e-version (WWW) and p-version (190% of print for both together); enables libraries to cancel print and go for e-only, for approximately the same price as print.

2) Price Option B was developed next: WWW access plus print; customer promises to keep all print and site license costs 25% more than base print price.

3) Consortium Licensing Plan is the very recent development: All institutions participating in a consortium have WWW access to the maximum number of titles subscribed to by the consortium members, with payment as in Option B.

Other licensing terms:

- "Authorized Sites" defined as entire organization (all buildings, facilities, no geographic boundaries; each member institution registers as an Authorized Site; access is controlled by IP addresses of registered institutions).
- Wide variety of customers count as "Authorized Users" (faculty, employees, students, walk-ins).
- "Permitted Use" is defined as that which supports research.
- Limited ILL allowed too (for non-commercial libraries only; intended to support research; library may use WWW to find and retrieve PDF article, may print and mail or fax, or may forward PDF file electronically).
- Customary ILL guidelines apply; copies after the "suggestion of five" paid via CCC or direct to ACS.

- (ACS may audit once per year with notice).
- Other standard restrictions for WWW editions (no alterations, no resale, etc.).

More on the consortial licensing fee based on Price Option B:

- Current print subs plus 25% (see above);
- Customers agree not to cancel print;
- Print subs defined as of 1/98;
- All members pay their share but get access to all titles held within the consortium;
- Standard license for each consortium (i.e., the same license for all of its members);
- Can have single master license or one from each member (same one) signed;
- Multi-year agreements possible;
- The current non-subscribers in a consortium (i.e., little libraries that don't take chemistry titles) are not charged anything (there is no minimum fee).

Archiving:

- An issue that remains to be resolved.
- Every annual sub includes access to WWW archive from 1/96 to date.
- ACS is committed to maintaining an electronic archive.
- ACS is open to suggestion for long-term access modes, options.

Where will "all this" go?

- Printed journals may go away within five years?
- ACS pricing may change markedly in the next five years
- Too soon to tell (9/97 first ejournal availability from ACS).

Adventures in Librarianship Well Preserved

by Ned Kraft (Smithsonian Institution Libraries) <nkraft@sil.si.edu>

Last summer I rode Amtrak to Syracuse, New York, for a seven-day course on Preservation Management taught by the eminent John Dean of Cornell University. North of Manhattan, the train follows the beautiful Hudson Valley to Albany. The river is wide, the terrain softly dramatic: green pillow hillsides with a kind of Rip-van-Winkle mystique. Mute swans curl their necks in the backwaters abutting the train tracks. Pleasure boats of all sorts dot the calm, wide sections of the river — the narrow sections left for kayaks and canoes.

The train passed through old towns like Croton-Harmon, Poughkeepsie, and Rhinecliff, with so few roads up close to the river valley that one could imagine the days when the train was the only way from town to town, not a last resort for the carless, or a novelty for the sentimental. We passed the ruins of Bannerman Castle on its rock island, grown woolly green with vines and moss.

With all this scenery I found it hard to concentrate on my preservation readings — assorted articles recommended by Dean, some interesting, some dry — as the train rocked

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Issues In Vendor-Library Relations from page 82

The purpose of consortia is to form a platform on which libraries can cooperate in a formal environment. The real value that booksellers bring to consortia is the support services that facilitate cooperative collection management. Some of us are doing this now, and others will follow soon. Vendor Websites that enable book selectors at different libraries to work effectively together have real value. Websites that share information, that show each cooperating library what the other has selected, are here now. Approval plans can deliver books to one cooperating library in certain subjects, and books to other libraries in other subjects. Profiles can be written to share this information, or even override under specified circumstances, so all libraries get certain kinds of books within subjects instead of a strict subject/library delivery protocol.

Booksellers can develop services that will make consortial cooperation work better, but only if participating librarians help us. We can become an integral part of the collaborative process, and bring real value to cooperating libraries. But this can only happen if the focus is on a commitment to work together. If the focus is on getting higher discounts, we will all miss the opportunity to create new and useful technologies that can make cooperative collection management a practical reality.

Chaos from page 91

In addition, the **Coalition for Networked Information (CNI)** agreed to form an Internet issues advisory group which will provide liaison between DOI-related development and the Internet community. Reports from each group were discussed at the ISDI meeting in February in Washington, D.C.

Joining NISO in sponsoring the most recent ISDI forum was **Book Industry Communication (BIC)**. BIC is working specifically in the area of rights metadata. Prior to the November meeting BIC had announced the formation of the rights metadata working group with the brief "to liaise with other bodies to help define standard rights metadata elements for DOI-enabled and electronic data interchange transactions and to explore and help specify the mechanisms that will enable such transactions." In addition to NISO, BIC is collaborating with STM, IPA, the CCC and the **Serials Industry Systems Advisory Committee (SISAC)** in the U.S.

To Learn More

Two important discussions of DOI-related topics can be found on the BIC Internet site (www.bic.org.uk/bic/bicinfo.html). The first is a joint BIC/EDItEUR paper called "Unique Identifiers." This paper provides a general overview of the topic. The second is a British National Bibliography Research Fund report called "In Search of the Unicorn: The DOI from a User Perspective." This paper provides a searching discussion of the relationship between users and DOI. One section is comprised of a series of four "scenarios" which "attempt to highlight where it is most important that we should develop coherent answers if the DOI is to succeed in becoming the ISBN for the beginning of the twenty-first century."

Adventures In Librarianship from page 92

and chugged and begged me to nap.

John Dean, too, had grown woolly I saw on our first bright morning of class: his hair shaggy and white. His spectacles seemed thick, enlarging the eyes to an otherworldly size, and his middle was medicine-ball round.

Dean is a reminder of the days of master-pupil apprenticeships, not only because of his own career, but from his style of teaching as well. He lectures in the traditional sense, but in those lectures are wonderful stories, a full history of the book. Dean talks of seventeenth century bookbinders as if he knew them. He calls them by name as if he'd once hammered for them on "the bench." And in the telling, Dean's voice is so soft and smooth that you might fall into a trance, or you might trace in his words the gentle columns and legends of Alexandria's library.

Born and raised in the UK, Dean's accent is several miles from posh. It's a bit north-country and working class as he defines for us vellum and alum tawny and the precise social and industrial confluences that brought acid to papermaking. He clasps his hands behind himself, rolls back on his heels to gaze at the ceiling and I wonder whether behind those magnified eyes he's gauging history and its brittle consequences, or if the conservator is guessing the composition of the ceiling tiles.

Our class took a field trip to **Cornell**, Dean's home base, to see the preservation machine he created. It is all encompassing — in-house stiffening of paperbacks, commercial binding, a large and well-equipped

conservation lab, traditional microfilming, and the "bleeding edge" of preservation: digital imaging. We met the digital imaging staff in one of Cornell's newest buildings, the Olin Library, built underground, blasted from solid rock. Light flooded even to the lowest levels through open galleries below large skylights. It was a fitting place to discuss digital imaging, pixel problems, and the still unanswered questions of migration and storage costs.

I cannot imagine a preservation operation as efficient or as thorough as Cornell's. What is perhaps more interesting, though, is that this state-of-the-art machine is managed by John Dean, someone who most easily reminds one of the history of the book, the traditions of conservation and librarianship. It is a quality of his heart, I think, that allows this man to span such a range of technology, to lead, to encourage the best in his staff, to ask them to look toward the future and invent the best procedures they can for Cornell. As the course came to a close, I think all his students saw this in him.

Traveling by air, I would have saved myself about eight hours of transportation time. But I went home the way I came, on the train, along the Hudson toward Manhattan, then south toward Washington, glad that I still had a choice between the old way and the new. "No change," Dean said, "is ever sudden or complete or absolute. Papyrus overlapped with parchment for many years, parchment with rag paper, rag paper with wood-pulp."

The train tracks are just uneven enough to make writing difficult but perfectly designed to encourage random, formless, recreational thought.

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