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Group Therapy-How do you identify electronic journals in your OPAC?

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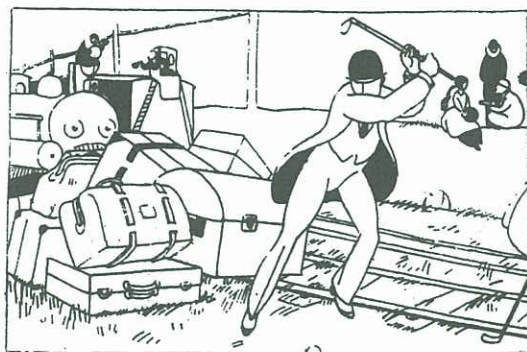
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Electronic Monographs — Go!
by **Claire Fund** (College of Charleston)

A Washington publisher, **National Academy Press**, posted 1,700 of its current titles on the Internet, letting everyone read for free. The result was a 17% sales increase the following year. NAP found that whetting a reader's appetite was best done through cyberspace, especially since reading an entire book online just isn't a pleasurable experience for the eyes. Once a reader was curious enough, they would then offer up their credit cards. "Electronic book publishing" is largely an infant business, with concerns over start-up costs, copyrights, and the basic belief that freebies will hurt sales. **Barbara Kline Pope**, director of NAP, regards online publishing as "the same as a bookstore, with people ... browsing." Despite these concerns, electronic publishing is slowly gaining acceptance, especially as a marketing tool. But, what is most important is that the readers will benefit. **Scott Lubeck**, NAP's former director, who initiated the project in 1994, said, "They will never have to worry that a book won't be available." See — **Beth Berselli**, "Read It and Weep: Online Publishing Actually Boosts Sales," *Washington Post* (C1) <<http://www.washingtonpost.com>>.



Internet Libel
by **Bruce Strauch** (The Citadel)

Walter Winchell-imitator on the Internet, **Matt Drudge** burned a sudden journalistic trail coast-to-coast. *The Drudge Report* began as a nerd-apartment scheme, but several big scoops grabbed national attention, and it was picked up by **America Online**. Then Drudge apparently slandered a White House aide by reporting he had once beaten his wife. Said aide is now suing Drudge and the true deep-pocket America Online. Journalists are divided on whether one of their own should be engaged in such a chilling attack on their media profession and whether said aide is the appropriate plaintiff, he having committed many hatchet jobs himself in the not-so-distant past. The article nicely articulates the ignorance of those who think cyberspace is a private world separate from legal rules and the question of whether an Internet provider is a publisher or merely a communications' carrier like a telephone company. See — **Jennet Conant**, "LA Confidential," *Vanity Fair*, Dec. 1997, pp. 160-172.

Group Therapy

How do you identify electronic journals in your OPAC?

Column Editor, **Rosann Bazirjian** (Florida State University)

Hey y'all out there! Do you have any gripes? Come to your therapist! Try <rbazirji@mailier.fsu.edu> or FAX 904-644-5170.

GRIBE:

Submitted by Connie Foster, Serials Coordinator, Western Kentucky University Libraries

We are trying to determine a way to readily identify electronic journals in our public catalog (NOTIS for now). We are thinking of making the 856 field searchable because that seems to be the unique identifier. Another option is to add to the 538 a standard statement "Electronic Journal: <http://...>" and give the address.

I would appreciate ideas of how one could isolate electronic journals as a group in searches, if that is feasible.

RESPONSE:

Submitted by Michele D. Behr, OCLC Services Coordinator, SOLINET

Your question seems to be primarily concerned with remote access serials, rather than the broader category of electronic journals which could include CD-ROMs, computer disks, tapes, etc. Therefore, I will focus on suggestions for searching specifically for remote access serials in the OPAC.

In order to construct an effective search, it is essential to know the common characteristics of these records. According to CONSER guidelines on cataloging remote access computer file serials, bibliographic records for these titles should include the following components:

- 1) A "Type of Record" code indicating a computer file; this code in the fixed field identifies the record's primary format as being a computer file.
- 2) An "Additional Material Characteristics" code indicating a serial; this code in the 006 field identifies the record as having the additional format type of a serial.
- 3) A General Material Designation in the title area (field 245, subfield h) with the term "computer file."
- 4) A Systems Details note (field 538) beginning with the phrase "Mode of access," indicating how the serial is accessed, i.e., email, WWW, FTP, etc.
- 5) An Electronic Location and Access field (856) giving detailed address information, and additional details for connect-

ing, subscribing, transferring files, etc.

These characteristics could be used in various combinations to search your database. For instance, assuming the 245 subfield "h" is indexed in your OPAC, you could do a phrase search for "computer file" and limit the results to serials. If your note fields are indexed, you could also try a phrase search on "mode of access," again with a restrictor to the serials format type.

Another option for searching might be in the subject area. Although "electronic journals" is not currently a valid Library of Congress Subject Headings subdivision, the subdivision "periodicals" is commonly added where appropriate to the subject headings assigned to the serial. Therefore, a keyword subject search on "periodicals" combined with a title phrase search for "computer files" or for the format type of computer files might also be effective.

As you suggest, you could add some standard piece of data in your bibliographic records indicating remote access serials. Depending on how your indexes are built,

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some fields you might consider are 516, 538, or 590. Other options would be to create a specific holding library or location code for your remote access serials. Similarly, these titles could be assigned the same classification number which would allow you to search for them by call number.

Rumors
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larly and includes current Web site information on educational media producers and distributors. The NICEM site currently has links to more than 240 companies. URL is: <<http://www.nicem.com/pdcurl.htm>> and NICEMs home page is <<http://www.nicem.com>>. This information was provided courtesy of the unflaggingly energetic Norman Desmarais <normd@providence.edu>.

Esther Ogirri (J.C. Smith University, Charlotte, NC) attended the **Charleston Conference** for the second time this year. She said she really enjoyed it and learned a lot!

No doubt y'all have read the ubiquitous write ups about the high tech bookstore recently opened by **Follett's** in Champaign, Illinois, near the campus and "an active, even hyperactive, retail experience. Called **Folle2tt** [energy squared], apparently it's not but so filled with books. It encompasses food and coffee and smoothies (the rage with my 14-year-old daughter these days). I don't know. I tend to agree with **Tony Leisner** (**Not Fit for Print**, this issue, p.). I like my books without coffee and croissants.

Was great to have **Susi Seiler** (Head of Acquisitions, U. of Miami) <ssailer@library.miami.edu> on the program of the **Charleston Conference** even though we spelled her name wrong initially. Whoops and, excuse me, Susi!

Speaking of which, really enjoyed meeting and talking with **Laura Hudson** (Electronic Resources Bibliographer, Alden Library Reference Department, Ohio University Libraries) <hudsonl@ouvaxa.cats.ohiou.edu> at the Conference. And **Laura Windsor**, too!

I guess I dropped the ball. Got an email from **John E. Via** (Asst. Director for Systems, Wake Forest University) <jjev@wfu.edu> about attending the Conference. By the time I got back to him, it was too late! Sorry, John. Next year?

Anne Dixon (Institute of Physics Publishing) <anne.dixon@iopublishing.co.uk> is incredible! Besides all her help with making the Communications Area of the **Charleston Conference** (access to the Internet, WWW, etc.) a reality, she has lots of information about the electronic initiatives that are going on there. With over 22,000 members, **The**

You are correct in your statement that the 856 is a unique identifier for remote access objects. However, the 856 is used primarily for address information and access methods; there is nothing in that field to identify the record as monographic or serial. The 856 can also be included in a bibliographic record if a component of the item being cataloged (i.e., table of contents, abstract, finding aid, etc.) is available through the Internet. So I'm afraid if you searched on the 856 alone you would

get serials as well as many non-serial items that you would have to weed through. A search on data from the 856 combined with a serial format restrictor might be successful, however.

In summary, there are several options for identifying remote access serials in your OPAC. You may try one or more of these suggestions depending on which lends itself well to the particular searching capabilities of your online system.

Institute of Physics is a learned society and the professional body for physicists in Great Britain and Ireland. Institute of Physics Publishing has been at the forefront of academic electronic publishing and won the **1996 Corporate Web Site Award**.

Well, **Linda Crismond** <Crismond@aol.com> (Professional Media Service) is awesome! Besides turning out the fabulous, information-packed **Charleston Report**, she is running marathons! In fact, in late October, it was cold and rainy in Florida, but she still ran it all in under 5 hours! Hey, the last person I knew who did that was **Mike Markwith** <mmarkwith@swets.nl>!

Stephanie Row (San Francisco Public Library) <stephanier@sfpl.lib.ca.us> wrote to say that she is entering a subscription to **Against the Grain!** Hooray and welcome, Stephanie.

Charles Willett <willett@afn.org> writes to say that it's the first year of production for **Counterpoise** and he's busier than he's ever been in his whole life. There were some samples around at the **Charleston Conference** and all the work shows! Also available is the new edition of the directory authored by the AIP Task Force: **Alternative Publishers of Books in North America**, compiled by Byron Anderson, 3rd

ed., revised and enlarged, CRISES Press, 1997, 116p. ISBN 0-9640119-5-6. paper. \$20. Charles will be at the Midwinter meeting in New Orleans and has been invited by the **ALCTS/CMDS Discussion Group of Collection Development Librarians in Academic Libraries** to take the "anti" position about the growth in outsourcing selection in academic libraries while someone else takes the "pro" position.

The **Charleston Conference Lively Lunch** by **Matt Nauman** <Matt.Nauman@Blackwell.com> really filled the bill. "The Use of New Technology in Collection Management and Acquisitions. The development of online systems, how they are really used, and what librarians want to see developed" was the topic. Hope to get some specifics from Matt for a future issue of **ATG!** How about it, Matt?

Have you seen some of the books by **Stylus Publishing** on your approval plan? I sure have and they look great! **John von Knorring** (President) <HJvK@aol.com> <Styluspub@aol.com> writes to say that Frankfurt was very productive and he was off to an "editorial scouting trip" which conflicted with Charleston. Sob!

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