

February 2002

## WEBWORTHY

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### Recommended Citation

Rose, Pamela M. M.L.S. (2002) "WEBWORTHY," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 14: Iss. 1, Article 37.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.3161>

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# WEBWORTHY

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Chaos  
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Websites selected for broad appeal, depth of information, and ease of access. Sites are organized by broad subject area and are visited just prior to publication. Please let the editor know of any sites that are not accessible. Comments and suggestions welcome to **Pamela M. Rose, Health Sciences Library, University at Buffalo, 3435 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214-3002; 716-829-2408** <pmrose@acsu.buffalo.edu>. Unless otherwise noted in square brackets following the description, Internet addresses were published in *Science*, NetWatch column edited by **Mitch Leslie**. — PR

## Evolution

The **Huxley File** offers some 1000 items, some more obscure and difficult to locate letters and observations, collected and made available to educate those who may not know and offer formerly difficult to access items to those who are familiar with **Thomas Henry Huxley**. **Charles Blinderman** and **David Joyce**, both of **Clark University**, have compiled a color coded index which leads to all sorts of fascinating glimpses into the life of the man who dubbed himself "Darwin's bulldog" as he vigorously defended **Charles Darwin's** theories. **Huxley** also coined the term "agnostic," was a talented sketch artist, and wrote on all manner of subjects from "Has a Frog a Soul?" to the ideal school curriculum. Browse and enjoy! — <http://aleph0.clarku.edu/huxley/>.

## Genetics

The fulltext of an out of print book, *Mouse Genetics* by **Lee Silver**, is now available from the **Jackson Laboratory** in Bar Harbor, Maine. A mainstay of genetics labs, the Web text includes original figures and tables along with added links to **MEDLINE** and the **Jackson Laboratory's Mouse Genome Informatics** database. The audience ranges from students planning their first experiments to researchers looking for technical answers. — <http://www.informatics.jax.org/silver/>.

## Neuroscience

The **Biomedical Informatics Research Network (Birn)**, an initiative of the **The National Center for Research Resources (NCRR)**, aims to create a testbed to address biomedical researchers' need to access and analyze data focusing on research involving neuroimaging in an intelligent, directed cross-correlation of such studies. Coordinated at the **University of California, San Diego**, the three-year project will

help neuroscientists study brain diseases including Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. — <http://birn.ncrr.nih.gov/birn/>.

## Reference

"The world's most comprehensive dictionary of medical eponyms" claims **Who Named It?**, a site maintained by **Ole Daniel Enersen**. Despite the disclaimers, the two advertising links, and lack of information about the author, the site boasts an impressive list of entries that detail not only biographical information, but also include alternative eponymic names for particular conditions even when obsolete, collaborators, and includes references for the sources of information. Still under development, the site hopes to eventually include over 15,000 eponyms and 6,000 persons. Search by name or eponym, browse the nifty alphabetic index which includes the Swedish A with diacritic, or check out links to the "Eponym of the day", the five latest entries, and the latest "hard numbers" detailing statistics for total eponymic entries, total number of persons and number by gender. — <http://www.whonamedit.com/>.

Not only can you convert anything to just about anything else at this site, but you can also do amusing and fun things like convert your name to Morse code or figure out how many days until you can retire. With the caveat that no calculation is guaranteed (don't bet your life on it), users can discover that 1 pinch = 0.125037 teaspoon (US) or 0.133337 teaspoon (UK); that 1 kilopond (kgm-force) = 2.204622 pounds; or that 1 Fathoms = 6 Feet. — <http://www.onlineconversion.com/>.

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The text of **UCITA** ([www.law.upenn.edu/bll/ulc/UCITA/UCITA200.htm](http://www.law.upenn.edu/bll/ulc/UCITA/UCITA200.htm)), along with its drafts and other documents under consideration or approved by the **National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL)**, can be found at [www.law.upenn.edu/bll/ulc/ulcframe.htm](http://www.law.upenn.edu/bll/ulc/ulcframe.htm). The **ARL** Web site ([www.arl.org](http://www.arl.org)) contains a lucid digest of this complex legislation. Another good starting point is [www.badsoftware.com](http://www.badsoftware.com). **Ed Foster**, a columnist for *InfoWorld*, has been following **UCITA** from the beginning. Among his many articles about **UCITA** is an excellent summary of consumer concerns in the May 31, 1999 issue of *InfoWorld* ([archive.infoworld.com/UCITA](http://archive.infoworld.com/UCITA)). He also maintains an excellent background page ([www.infoworld.com/UCITA](http://www.infoworld.com/UCITA)) that provides a brief explanation of what **UCITA** is, a background piece on its importance, links to *InfoWorld* stories and columns on **UCITA**, a list of the main issues that concern opponents, and a list of many of the groups opposed to **UCITA**. It even suggests the text of a letter to send to state legislators or to the governor. **UCITA** is not a battle libraries can afford to lose.

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