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Webworthy-Unique and Interesting Websites- Entomology and Physics

Pamela M. Rose

Health Sciences Library, University at Buffalo, pmrose@acsu.buffalo.edu

Sandra K. Paul

SKP Associates, Sandy@SKPAssoc.com

Albert Simmonds

SKP Associates, awsimmo@ibm.net

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Group Therapy

Column Editor: **Rosann Bazirjian** (Assistant Dean for Technical & Access Services, University Libraries, Pennsylvania State University, 507 Paterno Library, University Park, PA 16802-1812; Phone: 814-865-0404; Fax: 814-865-3665) <rvb9@psulias.psu.edu>

GRIFE: (Submitted by **Buddy Pennington**, Document Delivery Librarian, Kansas City Public Library)

In looking at our annual renewal list from **ProQuest-Bell and Howell-UMI** (take your pick) we have discovered that several fairly popular titles are no longer available on microfilm. The list of titles that affects our library is:

- *Audubon* • *Business Ethics Quarterly*
- *Motor Boating* • *World Press Review*
- *Country Music* • *Discover*
- *Field and Stream* • *Journal of Career Planning and Employment*
- *Outdoor Life* • *Popular Science*
- *Publications of the Modern Language Association of America*
- *Skiing magazine* • *Sky and telescope*

When I contacted our rep at **ProQuest**, we were told that the publishers had decided not to continue to pay for microform. We obviously can live without the film for some of these titles, but it seems to me that the publishers are making a big mistake in discontinuing such titles as **Popular Science**, **Discover**, **World Press Review**, etc.

Is there anything we can do about this? Also, what ideas do you have about retaining this stuff? We do not have room to bind the materials. We can send the issues out to a vendor to film them, but many of these titles have missing issues by the end of the volume (another important reason for the file). And these other vendors charge more than **ProQuest** does.

RESPONSE: (Submitted by **Tina Creguer**, Director, Communications/Public Relations **ProQuest** Information and Learning)

This is an interesting question, and we're pleased to try to clarify what's happening. First, it's important to note that none of these publishers "pay" for microfilming. We have relationships with more than 8,000 publishers worldwide; we incur the cost of filming (or scanning for electronic products) of all periodicals and pay the publisher a royalty for any sales of their materials.

Rights to microfilm many of the titles in this list have, in fact, ceased at the request of the various publishers. A number of the microform agreements were suspended due to concerns surrounding the Tasini case. Now that the Supreme Court has clearly differentiated microform versions of publications from electronic databases, we anticipate that microform versions will be available again soon. Some titles were suspended by publishers due to other business reasons.

There is a continual ebb and flow of agreements between publishers and information providers, and the cause varies in each case. We anticipate that many of the titles listed will be available again soon, and that no lapse in coverage will occur.

RESPONSE: (Submitted by **Julia A. Gammon**, Head, Acquisitions Department, University of Akron)

A couple of options come to mind. Have you done a use study of the microfilm for these titles to see what kind of traffic you're talking about? It seems to me that would tell you what kind of investment in time, space, and money you should make. If your use statistics indicate that you need these titles, I would inform the publisher that you are unhappy with the decision to no longer support microfilm and ask them what other options they suggest. Not that the publisher will necessarily do anything, but you'll feel better!

In looking over this list of titles, I noticed some are available in print and electronically. Many publishers are offering both print and electronic formats with only a small price increase. This may compare favorably with the microform and storage costs and provide better access to users.

Investigate document delivery options. It might be cheaper for you to purchase the ar-

ticles that are requested, than to buy, bind, shelve, or replace materials not used. If a commercial document delivery product is not feasible, or cost effective, consider forming, or joining, a local or regional consortium of libraries. The consortium could then provide document delivery services for each other. This might be quicker than interlibrary loan too.

Space considerations are serious ones. Have you considered renting off site storage for your library? Would other regional libraries be interested in sharing the costs? If so, you could use these libraries in the consortium to provide issues for a "master" copy of the journal for document delivery. How many complete back runs does the consortium really need?

If you see no option but to replace the missing print issues, back issue dealers can be useful. Subscription agents who provide check-in services for libraries often have free issues to provide to their customers. Of course, the publisher may also sell back issues for replacement. And finally, library users, if informed, will often donate issues of more popular titles and get a tax write off to boot.

WEBWORTHY —

Column Editor: **Pamela M. Rose, M.L.S.** (Web Services & Library Promotion Coordinator, Health Sciences Library, University at Buffalo, 3435 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214; Phone: 716-829-2408 x129; Fax: 716-829-2211) <pmrose@acsu.buffalo.edu> wings.buffalo.edu/~pmrose

*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 **Jocelyn Kaiser**. — PR*

Entomology

Dr. Seuss didn't write just children's fare like *The Cat in the Hat*. In 1943, U.S. Army GIs were treated to the saga of "Ann" *Anopheles Mosquito* who, Dr. Seuss warned, can "knock you flat for keeps." The tale can be viewed with graphics or plain text on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Systematic Entomology Laboratory (SEL) Web site. Browse Leaf Beetles, just one of the 9 insect related Web searchable databases. Use the Quick SElector pop up menu to jump to Acari — Mites and Ticks: a virtual introduction, just one of over 9 informational pages including wonderful specimen

photos. Each lower level page is unique in design and layout, and most include many interesting related links. — <http://www.sel.barc.usda.gov/selhome/selhome.htm>

Hoaxes

Do you believe that lemmings commit suicide by hurling themselves off cliffs? Or that the Eskimo language includes over 100 words for snow? Check out your gullibility index at The Museum of Hoaxes, a wonderful site logically organized either by category or by a timeline of the year the hoax was perpetrated on unsuspecting folks as far back as pre-1700. Learn the origin and definition of the word "hoax," catch up on the "hoax of the day," and browse websites like manbeef.com, "human flesh for the discriminating connoisseur" that are hoaxes in themselves. — <http://www.museumofhoaxes.com/index.html>

Mathematics

Billed as "an Internet Resource Catalogue for Mathematics," Mathgate is indeed all that and more! Scores of math sites are organized A-Z, by subject or by type. The fully searchable and browsable sites are selected by subject specialists who scan the Internet to locate and catalogue substantial and high quality UK and

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International Dateline

by **Anthony Watkinson** (14 Park St., Bladon Woodstock, Oxfordshire, England OX20 1RW; Phone: +44 1993 811561; Fax: +44 1993 810067) <anthony.watkinson@btinternet.com>

The electronic global village sounds like a particularly unpleasant shopping mall but we are all in it because our business is information and much of information is intended for and read by a global audience. Every time the ARL pronounces, academic librarians in New Zealand take note. The weekend meditations of some (including me) on liblicense-l@lists.yale.edu are read by thousands of lurkers, as you find out when you have transmitted something particularly badly thought out. They tell you about your stupidity in the street. In the global village, not all the traffic is one way in spite of US dominance of the Internet. Here are some stories, which may interest the readers of *ATG*. If they are good stories, they will have added a few chapters by the time you read this.

Document Delivery

Everyone knows that inter-library loan is not a loan if you are faxing an article, but the misnomer is typical of a confused area. Conventions for document delivery in print, or sort of print e.g. *Ariel*, are more-or-less established through case law, but what rules are applicable to cover fair use in an edocdel environment are very, very uncertain. Recently in Europe, there has been one interesting conference and some interesting and ongoing developments.

The conference took place in London on 25th September. The planned US conference was cancelled. The title was "Assumptions versus reality: user behaviour in sourcing schol-

arly information" but it was mostly about document delivery. I expect something substantive will eventually appear on www.ingenta.com but you can buy the proceedings from institute@ingenta.com. The official message, a re-run of the ICSTI research of 1996 and subsequently, is that the availability of individual articles does not discourage libraries from taking out subscriptions. Two interesting factoids that emerged were that over twenty five percent of individuals responding to a questionnaire bought individual articles themselves using a credit card; and that over fifteen percent of documents acquired were from journals already subscribed to. Knee-jerk headlines suggested either that libraries were proving to be inefficient or challenged or both. The message for publishers was that users are in the driving seat in the digital environment and the understanding of changing user behaviour is key to market development.

Publishers worry about fair use and its boundaries every so often, and currently they are worrying about the British Library – or at least some important members of the STM community are. Take a look at the Web site of the International Association of STM publishers at www.stm-assoc.org/news/2001-4/draft.html, where there is a draft position paper on International Document Supply. The word "international" is a give-away. It is the cross-border activities of the **BLDSC** which is the main concern prompting this document.

There are also echoes in the drafting of the ongoing lobbying in European countries over

the implementation into national law of the EU copyright directive (europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/oj/2001/L16720010622en.html) itself an implementation, like the **Digital Millennium Copyright Act**, of the **WIPO Treaty** of 1996. Both library and publisher organisations in Europe welcomed the Directive, probably a first, but they are not, in the UK at least, working together on joint lobbying of government. For once this is not the fault of the publishers: it is the librarians or perhaps the so-called representatives of higher education, who are reluctant to talk through the issues in an open forum. The problem is that two key principles have emerged, which might be compatible but are not easy to join together. The European Directive gives serious prominence to what is called the "Berne 3-step test." The test essentially mandates that exceptions to copyright should be in special cases only, and should not conflict with the normal exploitation of a work nor unreasonably prejudice the legitimate interests of the rightsholder. At the same time all parties in the UK want the range of exceptions, offered as a menu by the Directive, to be cut down to those already present in local law in print. Can these principles be reconciled? And what does digital is different mean in practice?

Finally the British Library, under the rule of its first real librarian ever, is reorganising with a completely new management team taking radical views and perhaps radical action. Insiders suggest that outside the UK the British Library will be supplying many fewer documents under library privilege and it is also likely that transmission by *Ariel* will

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the best worldwide resources. Predominately links to journals, societies, and departments, the pages also offer several preprint archives, online texts, jobs board, and historical sites. Join their mailing list or suggest a resource! — <http://www.mathgate.ac.uk/>

Physics

How many general relativists does it take to change a light bulb? Doug Craigen (aka "DC"), a former Acadia University and University of Winnipeg physics professor maintains DC Physics, an eclectic mix of physics links including Animations, Hobby Physics, Lecture Notes, Research Papers, Reference Desk (tables, constants, etc.), and Online Textbooks and Tutorials. A number of light bulb answers can be found in his wonderful Humor section — my favorite answer: Two. One holds the bulb, while the other rotates the universe. Seriously, you can also find links to Cartoon Physics pages here, as well as a satirical musical called Cold Fusion and the answer to Is It Worth Running in the Rain? — <http://www.dctech.com/physics/>

Reference

Bernd Sebastian Kamps, M.D., Ph.D., Senior Editor, is dedicated to the promotion of free access

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as well as titles which are available free online after one or two years (that is, older articles are available). Access is via specialty or alphabetically by journal title. AMADEO users who are medical professionals are eligible for listing in the Medicine on Earth (MedonE) "who's who" section after one year. — <http://amedeo.com/>

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Ad Manager: Edna Laughrey Internet: elaughrey@aol.com
phone: 734-429-1029; fax: 734-429-1711