If Rumors Were Horses

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eBooks: State of the Art

by Cris Ferguson  (Electronic Resources/Serials Librarian, James B. Duke Library, Furman University, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, SC 29613; Phone: 864-294-2713)  <cris.ferguson@furman.edu>

We would like to thank Katina for the opportunity to guest edit this special eBooks issue of Against the Grain. With the announcement that Google will be digitizing books from the collections of Harvard, Stanford, the University of Michigan, the University of Oxford, and The New York Public Library and making them available online, this issue is especially timely. We are all stakeholders in the eBook industry, whether we are publishers, vendors, librarians, or end users. The eBook industry is still evolving, and it remains an important issue for information professionals.

We have compiled ten articles covering a broad spectrum of topics related to eBooks. Alan Dawson and Jake Wallis contributed a comprehensive list of factors to take into consideration when creating your own eBooks. Heather Wicht wrote up a thoughtful discussion of eBook selection and acquisition, including discussion of pricing models and a list of considerations when selecting eBooks. Toby Green and Matt Brosius, of OECD, highlight the development of the business model that has contributed to the success of the OECD eBook product. In her article "eBooks in the Health Sciences," Ramune Kubilius explores the various trends and challenges facing health sciences eBook products. She has included an appendix of some health sciences product vendors. Speaking of vendors, Jill Grogg and Beth Ashmore conducted interviews with over ten different eBook industry insiders, asking tough questions about sales, usability, and the role of libraries in eBook development. Lynn Connaway and Clifton Snyder investigated the possibilities of using transaction log statistics from eBook platforms to analyze usage patterns. Ellen McCullough, of xref, recap "eBooks and E-Content," a panel discussion from the 2004 Charleston Conference. Ellen’s paper focuses on eBook usage and ways to enable patron discovery of eBooks. Representing the academic library perspective, Randle Gedeon and Bettina Meyer at Western Michigan University provide a case study of WMU’s eBooks initiatives. Wilhelm Widmark, of the University Library of Stockholm (SUEB), describes and evaluates textbooks as eBooks based upon his experiences with a new project in Sweden. Wrapping up the issue, Brian Clark and William Thompson provide a critique of two eBook services and discuss some areas for improvement for all eBook vendors.

If Rumors Were Horses

As usual, lots is going on. First off, just got an email from that wonderful Chaos woman — Sandy K. Paul <Sandy@SKPAssocrates.com>. As of February 27, 2005, Sandy will officially be Sandra K. Money. After almost two and a half years of being together, John and she are getting married in the company of a small group of friends and family. Sandy will still keep Paul as her professional name and John will be able to get a Green Card, making his frequent visits to the US much less problematic. Anyway, we promised that we would let you all know. Best wishes to the new couple.

And this gets me to the subject of another marriage. A little bird told me that the vivacious Helen Henderson <helen@helenhenderson.com> and the smart-as-a-tack Chris Leamy were married this past December in Florida after 22 years of living together! Anyway, Helen and Chris are going to Las Vegas for a short honeymoon the first week of March. Congratulations, Helen and Chris! Many happy returns!

Talk about news! Bob Molyneux <drdata@ molyneux.com> — Dr. Data, no less — is moving to Huntsville, Alabama to work for Sirsi as the Chief Statistician. He starts on March 1. What, you ask, is he going to be doing? Bob will be working mostly on the Normative Data Project which was announced at the recent ALA Midwinter in Boston. The goals of this cooperative effort are to compile transaction-level data from libraries throughout North America; to link library data with geographic and demographic data on communities served by libraries; and, thereby, to empower library decision-makers to compare and contrast their institutions with real-world industry norms on circulation, collections, finances, and other parameters. NDP data and reports will be available online in the second quarter of 2005. This was Bob’s first idea for a dissertation topic many years ago but he couldn’t get data. But the phoenix has risen. Now he gets the data. Bob will be in Charleston in November to tell us all about it! And there is a great article in Biblio Tech Review (14 Jan. 2005) which is worth a check out. www.sirsi.com/Newswatts/Releases/20050117 ndp.html www.librarynormative data.info/ www.biblio-tech.com/
From Your (bundled up) Editor:

Okay, I know I am a wimp, but I am ready for summer. This has been a terrible winter in Charleston. I have worn a coat every day since December. People who have moved to Charleston thinking it’s never cold, are having their heads examined.

But, take heart! This issue of ATG will warm us up. Guest edited by Cris Ferguson, Betty Kelly, and Julie Carter, it is full of all kinds of data about eBooks. Articles are by Alan Dawson and Jake Wallis, Heather Wicht, Toby Green and Matt Brosius, Ramune Kubilius, Jill Grogg, Beth Ashmore, Lynn Sillipigni Conaway and Clifton Snyder. There is an Op Ed by Steve McKinzie regarding keeping print in the face of electronic access, and Part Three in Mark Herrings’ series on filtering the Internet titled “Free Speech and Filtering Myths.”

Plus much, much more! Gotta go. My husband tells me the sun is out and I may not need a coat outside. I’m excited. Happy New Year and Stay Warm!

Yr. Ed.

Williams, Bob Schatz, and Philip Blackwell. There are tons of profiles including: Alan Dawson, Jake Wallis, Heather Wicht, Toby Green, Matt Brosius, Ramune Kubilius, Jill Grogg, Beth Ashmore, Lynn Sillipigni Conaway and Clifton Snyder. Articles are by Alan Dawson and Jake Wallis, Heather Wicht, Toby Green and Matt Brosius, Ramune Kubilius, Jill Grogg, Beth Ashmore, Lynn Sillipigni Conaway and Clifton Snyder. There is an Op Ed by Steve McKinzie regarding keeping print in the face of electronic access, and Part Three in Mark Herrings’ series on filtering the Internet titled “Free Speech and Filtering Myths.”

Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <kstrauch@comcast.net>, phone or fax 843-723-3536, or snail mail: Against the Grain, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the ATG Homepage at http://www.against-the-grain.com.

Dear Editor:

I attended the 2004 Charleston Conference, and thought the registration fee included a subscription to Against the Grain. Yet, I have not received any copies in the mail, and it seems that the December/January issue should be out already. Please advise. Thanks.

Dana E. Yanulavich
Adminstrator of Electronic Marketing and Publishing Services
SUNY Press, Albany, NY 12207
<yanaluda@sunypress.edu>

Editor’s note: A subscription to Against the Grain is indeed included with attendance at the Charleston Conference. The December/January issue of Against the Grain has been mailed. If you have not received your issue, please let me know: Thanks!

Yr. Ed. <kstrauch@comcast.net>

AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES

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More from Sirsi — Sirsi Corporation has acquired Docutek Information Systems Inc., a library technology company which focuses on resource and elearning solutions. Now a wholly owned subsidiary of Sirsi, Docutek will continue to design, develop, sell, and support its Docutek ERes, Docutek VRPlus, and Docutek atSchool products. Docutek’s offices, personnel, and day-to-day operations remain virtually unchanged. The new Docutek subsidiary will be an independent business unit that reports to Sirsi’s board of directors and CEO. Dr. Philip Kenen, Docutek’s VP of marketing and co-founder will retain his role in the new Docutek subsidiary, as will Yonn Samuels, Docutek’s director of engineering. Other development, support, and sales personnel within Docutek also remain unchanged. Nathan Vince, president and CEO of Docutek, and Slaven Zivkovic, Docutek’s VP of technology and co-founder, will pursue other interests.

www.docutek.com

Speaking of which, Rittenhouse Book Distributors, Inc. and Sirsi are collaborating to provide enhanced functionality for placing book orders electronically through electronic data interchange (EDI) using the x12 protocol. The two companies will also complete functionality for online book ordering via the Sirsi BNX Loader. This partnership is intended to enable libraries using the Unicorn Library Management System to electronically order, invoice, and receive materials from Rittenhouse quickly and more efficiently. Rittenhouse Book Distributors, Inc. is an aggregator of print and digital content and provides access to products, services, and information for health sciences, scientific, and technical publishing.

www.rittenhouse.com

www.sirsi.com

www.econtentmag.com/Articles/ArticleReader.aspx?ArticleID=7515

Well, hope you enjoyed “Words...They’re Just Words” by John Riley <jrdley@comest.net> in the last issue of ATG (v.15#6, December 2004/ January 2005), pp. 92-93. Like a plastered fool, I forgot to mention that the short story comes from the book Else Fine...Little Tales of Horror from Libraries & Bookshops published by Benjamin Press in Northampton, Massachusetts. This is available from Eastern Book as well as from John himself and many other sources. So, check it out! I know that besides Bruce and me, Toni Nix, my hard-working right-hand ATG printer and husband Dean loved the story and the book. Anyway, John says that he is working on some new stories and the latest involves Johannes Gunenberg, Jesus, and Satan! Hmmm ...

Speaking of which, another off the wall idea that we have is that we would like to start running some library, publishing, vending and related fiction on our new “Fiction Page” (see this issue p.69). There are more people than you know out there (colleagues) that are writing such and we are loosing forward to reading it! Anyway, there is even a Fiction Page contest, so see this issue, p.69!

And just so you know that ATG still has and will continue to have serious scholarly articles with noteworthy impact, I want to update you on happenings at ALA Midwinter! ATG was mentioned in a lengthy article in ALA Cognates, issue 5, Midwinter 2005 Highlights, p.4. The article was “Is Print Reference Dead?” by Walter Bell and continued on page 8

<http://www.against-the-grain.com>
discussed a standing-room-only audience (by far the highest — over 150 people — attendance ever at this discussion group) in Boston for the RUSA program, "Frontline Reference: A Focal Point of the Discussion was Dave Tyckson's article in the September, 2004, ATG entitled "Facts Go Online: Are Print Reference Sources Still Relevant?" And Dave tells us that the discussion was very interesting and valuable and that ATG should be proud. Wow! Pretty cool! Not to mention that ATG has our wonderful, astute, hard-working, capable, and perfect editor of the September Reference issue — ta da — Tom Gilson <gilson@cofc.edu> — to thank for his brilliant editing! Thank you, Tom!! Hip, Hip, Hooray!

And speaking of Hip! Hip! Hooray! The awesome Dave Tyckson <davety@csufresno.edu>, he has been selected as the 2005 Isadore Gilbert Mudge Award winner. This is the highest award that ALA offers to reference librarians! To quote from the ALA/RUSA awards Webpage, the Mudge Award is given to: "...an individual who has made a distinguished contribution to reference librarianship. The criteria for the nominators' "distinguished contributions to reference librarianship" include imaginative and constructive program in a particular library, publication of an article or book significant in the reference field, creative and inspirational teaching or reference services, active participation in professional associations devoted to reference services, or in other noteworthy activities that stimulate reference librarians to more distinguished performance. Past award winners have included such notable reference librarians as Bill Katz, Tom Galvin, Charles Bruns, Jim Pettit, Anne Lipow, Virginia Boucher, Beth Woodard, and, of course, all three of the most recent authors of Guide to Reference Books, Constance Winchell, Eugene Sheehy, and Robert Bialy. The official award ceremony will take place following the RUSA President's Program at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Wow! Congratulations, Dave!

And, I don't believe it. It can't be true. The fantastically knowledgeable Helmut Schwarzer has just retired from YBP effective December 31, 2004. Helmut spent his entire professional life, approximately fifty years!, in international book selling, the last twenty of which with YBP as buyer and director of publisher relations. He became known also to a readership of librarians in the years 1989-1996 when he created, edited and mostly wrote Dialogue/Dialogue, a much valued and respected industry newsletter. As you will all remember, Helmut is one of the people who worked for Richarson. He is also an old friend of Papa Lyman Newlin, not to mention a friend of Bob Nardini and many, many, countless others. Have a great retirement, Helmut, but we will all miss you! And - Helmut can be reached at <schwarzer@ids.net>

Speaking of YBP Library Services, YBP has announced sponsorship of the fantastic Cities & Insights: Crawford at Large. Cities & Insights is an online publication described by its creator, Walt Crawford, as "a journal of libraries, policy, technology and media." The January 2005 issue is the first under YBP's sponsorship. Walt Crawford is a distinctive voice in the world of libraries. He has led libraries involved with network automation ventures almost since the beginning of modern library automation. In the 1960s and 1970s he took part in a variety of early projects while a staff member at the University of California, Berkeley. In 1979 he joined the Research Libraries Group, where today he is lead designer for Eurekla, RLG's Web-based search interface, and has a key role as well in RLG's Open URL initiatives. Author of fourteen books and hundreds of articles in a career of twenty years, Walt Crawford has been an observer, commentator, and critic-at-large on every issue of consequence concerning libraries and technology. Cities & Insights began in 1995 as the Trailing Edge Notes section of Library Hi-Tech News. In 2000 Cities & Insights became an independent online free publication, which it remains today, a vehicle for the highly personal, often controversial, and often interesting voice of Walt Crawford. YBP will have no role in the content of Cities & Insights. "Since the beginning I've thought of Cities & Insights as an experiment," Crawford said. "YBP's sponsorship helps to convince me that the experiment is over. Now I look forward in the years ahead not only to continuing C&I, but to strengthening it with features such as outside conference and program reports. I consider Cities & Insights the best vehicle to do in the library field." Talk about a home run! To download Cities & Insights: Crawford at Large, and to sign up to be notified when new issues appear, visit http://www.ybp.com

And speaking of Bob Nardini, be sure and read "Issues in Vendor/Library Relations" in this issue, p.92, It's about by Linda Behrend <behrend@uak.edu> and focuses on the importance of faculty publishing.

The fantabulous (does he ever show his age?) Dan Tonkery <dtonkery@ebcsow.com>, director of business development for EBSCO Information Services, has been named the 2005 recipient of the ALCTS/Bowker Ulrich's Serials Librarianship Award sponsored by the Serials Section of the Association for Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS) Division of the American Library Association. By sponsored by Bowker, this annual award is given in recognition of distinguished and ongoing serials-related activities through participation in professional associations, growth of library education programs, among those who make significant contributions to serials literature and those who strive to enhance comprehension of the serials world. Prior to joining EBSCO in 2001, Tonkery served as president of the Faxon Company, (before and after acquisition by Reed Elsevier) and CEO of Readmore, Inc., and president and founder of Horizon Information Services. He was on the Board of Directors for the Council on Library and Information Resources and is a member of the Friends of the National Library of Medicine. A past president of the North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG) and active member of ALA, Tonkery is the author of more than a dozen papers addressing various aspects of the information services industry. And, for those of you in Charleston last November, you'll remember the Old Timer's Panel which Mike Markwith put together as one of the highlights. It included Dan, Mike, Knut Dorn, John Laraway. These people aren't getting older, they are getting better!

Sad news. Elton Byron Stephens, founder and chairperson emeritus of EBSCO Industries, Inc., died Saturday, Feb. 5. He was 93. Elton B. Stephens spent a lifetime advancing the arts, health care and banking, education and community in Alabama. His vigorous support of Alabama institutions of arts and higher education included the establishment of the EBSCO Endowed Chair of Library Service at the University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies, the endowed library chair in the U.S. in recent years, Stephens gifted Birmingham-Southern College, where in 1928 at the age of 17 he began his college education, with the Elton B. Stephens Science Center. He and his wife helped establish the Aly Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center, named for her and located on the campus of the University of Alabama at Birmingham. In the early nineties, Stephens personally launched a campaign to revive the Alabama Symphony from bankruptcy. This succeeded and today the symphony operates with a multi-million dollar endowment. In 1932, Stephens graduated from Birmingham-Southern College. He earned his law degree from the University of Alabama School of Law in 1936. He held honorary doctorate degrees from Birmingham-Southern (Doctor of Laws) and the University of Alabama (Doctor of Humane Letters). He was named Outstanding Alabamian Corporate Citizen in 1989. In 1944, Stephens and his wife formed a partnership to sell esprit de corps and recreational supplies, including magazine subscriptions, to the U.S. Armed Forces. Today, EBSCO is a collection of more than 30 business units with 5,000 employees active internationally in information services, publisher services, real estate development and manufacturing. Stephens' many writings to his second family, EBSCO personnel and others, have left us a legacy. What an incredible man. May he rest in peace.

Wolters Kluwer Health has made three new executive appointments. Linda Holder was named Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Neil L. Schmidt joined the company as Vice President of Operations and Dr. Paul Weistogel has been promoted to Executive Vice President of LWW Journal Publishing.

www.covid.com

Some great news! OCLC Founder Frederick G. Kilgour was inducted into the TopCAT Hall of Fame during the premiere technology event in central Ohio, Columbus. Columbus-based organizations in central Ohio, the Columbus Technology Council sponsors the TopCAT (Top Contributions to the Advancement of Technology) awards, which were presented in 10 categories from among some 100 nominations. The awards were presented Jan. 20 in Columbus. The Columbus Technology Council inducted Frederick G. Kilgour, founder and first president of OCLC, into the TopCAT Hall of Fame for his contributions to the advancement of technology, the creation of jobs in Central Ohio, and drawing attention to Central Ohio as an important center for information technology. Mr. Kilgour, who is 91, and resides in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, delivered brief acceptance remarks to the audience of 650 via videotape. In 1967, the presidents of the colleges and universities in the state of Ohio founded OCLC to develop a computerized system which the library community institutions could share resources and reduce costs. OCLC's first offices were in the Main Library on the campus of Ohio State University, and its first computer room was housed in the OSU Research continued on page 10
Center. It was from these academic roots that Mr. Kilgour, OCLC’s first president, oversaw the growth of OCLC from a regional computer system for 54 Ohio colleges into an international network. Today, OCLC is the world’s largest library cooperative, serving more than 52,000 libraries of all types in the United States and 95 countries and territories around the world. This was history and many of us were there.

Speaking of which, OCLC’s Open WorldCat program received the TopCAT Outstanding Service Award. The criteria for the Outstanding Service Award include: innovativeness, business impact; societal impact; market impact; practical; and illustrates the best use of technology in a new product or service introduced after Jan. 1, 2000. Chip Nilges, Executive Director, WorldCat, Content and Global Access, accepted the Outstanding Service Award on behalf of the Open WorldCat team. As we all know, the Open WorldCat program makes records of library-owned materials in OCLC’s WorldCat database available to Web users on popular Internet search, bibliographic and bookselling sites. portal.columbus.oh.us/newsdetail.asp?id=1311

Moving right along, Baker & Taylor and OCLC NetLibrary have combined their strengths to facilitate delivery of a broader range of eContent to the library market. This agreement will result in a significant increase for B & T customers in the scope of eContent delivered within already established programs and workflows. www.btal.com www.netlibrary.com

From OCLC Abstracts, January 10, 2005, v. 8/2 — OCLC and Antarctica Systems, Inc. plan to test library users’ search preferences by launching a pilot to evaluate library users’ experiences with searching and display of search results using a visual interface developed by Antarctica Systems, Inc. The pilot will run from January through April 2005 and will be implemented on a database of electronic books that will be available to all users of the OCLC Base Package and the OCLC Collection on the OCLC FirstSearch service. Antarctica Systems, Inc. will use its VisualNet data visualization software to create a visual interface to the electronic books database. When users select the electronic books database on FirstSearch, they will be given the option to use the visual interface for searching and viewing results. OCLC will conduct a user survey to gauge feedback during this pilot and will also collect usage statistics that will be evaluated for future applications. http://www.antarcatica.net/Press/news/11150401.asp

And some predictions for 2005 — from John Battelle, one of the cofounders of Wired Magazine and the founder and former Chairman of Standard Media International, Publisher of The Industry Standard and TheStandard.com. • Yahoo! and Google will both test systems that combine local merchant inventory information with search, so that merchants can use search as a direct sales channel. • Firefox will near 15% of total browser share. • Microsoft will lose search share before it gains it back later in the year when the integration of MSN search starts to scale with new versions of Office and IE. • Google will introduce Video search, but it will stay in Labs. • Mobile will finally be plugged into the Web in a way that makes sense for the average user. • By the end of the year, there will be no question that search is a media business, and that the major players in search are major players in the content business. Remember, you read it here.


More from OCLC Abstracts, v.8/3, January 2005 — A comprehensive study to assess taxpayer return-on-investment in Florida’s public libraries used a variety of data collection and analysis methods, including the public library annual data reports to the State Library and Archives of Florida, a statewide household telephone survey of adults, an library survey of adults, a follow-up survey of the library’s users, surveys of organizations, such as businesses and schools, and an input-output econometric model. Key findings: Overall, Florida’s public libraries return $6.54 for every $1.00 invested from all sources. For every $6,448 spent on public libraries from public funding sources in Florida, one job is created. For every dollar of public support spent on public libraries in Florida, gross regional product increases by $9.08. For every dollar of public support spent on public libraries in Florida, income (wages) increases by $12.66. http://webfunction.org/890/wj/documents/8495.pdf

Accucom BV and Royal Swets & Zeilinger NV have announced that Accucoms has acquired Extenza Marketing Solutions (EMS), a publisher services company, from Swets. EMS’ focus on customized, cost-effective and efficient publishing marketing solutions is in line with Accucoms’ strategy of offering comprehensive marketing services to the scholarly publishing community. EMS and its personnel will be fully integrated into the current Accucom business. “This divestment reflects Swets’ overall policy of spinning off our smaller businesses to focus on core activities at Swets Information Services,” remarked Bob Visser, Swets’ Chief Information Officer and Executive Board member, founded in 2004, Accucoms BV provides sales and marketing services for academic and professional publishers world-wide. Based in The Netherlands, Accucoms offers a range of services including inbound and outbound telemarketing services; sales support; and outsourced customer service to publisher clients across the globe. Accucoms offers outsourcing solutions to publishers both to maintain existing business and to increase new revenues and develop new clients. Extenza Marketing Solutions was launched in October 2001 by Royal Swets & Zeilinger to provide outsourced, cost effective telemarketing and direct marketing services to publishers. http://www.swets.com

Beginning May 2, 2005, NIH-funded investigators are requested to submit to the NIH National Library of Medicine’s (NLM) PubMed Central (PMC) an electronic version of the author’s final manuscript upon acceptance for publication, resulting from research supported, in whole or in part, with direct costs from NIH. The author’s final manuscript is defined as the final version accepted for journal publication, and includes all modifications from the publishing peer review process. This policy applies to all research grant and career development award mechanisms, cooperative agreements, contracts, institutional and individual Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards, as well as NIH intramural research studies. The policy is in place to provide access to an archive of peer-reviewed research publications resulting from NIH-funded research to ensure the permanent preservation of these vital published research findings; 2) secure a searchable compendium continued on page 12
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dium of these peer-reviewed research publications that NIH and its awardees can use to manage more efficiently and to understand better their research portfolios, monitor scientific productivity, and ultimately, help set research priorities; and 3) make published results of NIH-funded research more readily accessible to the public, health care providers, educators, and scientists. This final NIH Public Access Policy (the "Policy") reflects modifications and clarifications to the proposed policy released September 3, 2004, in the NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts and September 17, 2004, in the Federal Register and the more than 6,000 public comments received through November 16, 2004. The most significant change in the Policy from that originally proposed is to provide more flexibility for authors to specify the timing of the posting of their final manuscripts for public accessibility through PMC. The proposed policy indicated a six-month delay of posting through PMC. The Policy now requests and strongly encourages that authors specify posting of their final manuscripts for public accessibility as soon as possible (and within 12 months of the publisher's official date of final publication). The Policy also clarifies that the publication date is the publisher's official date of final publication.

http://www.nih.gov/about/publicaccess/index.htm

Speaking of NLM, Betty L. Humphreys has been appointed Deputy Director of the National Library of Medicine (NLM). The appointment was announced by Library director Donald A.B. Lindberg, M.D. As we all know, the NLM, the world's largest library of the health sciences, is a part of the National Institutes of Health. The Library serves as a national and international bio-

tific and Technical Information (OSTI) has joined CrossRef. The OSTI plans to assign Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) to its Information Bridge platform, which currently contains 94,000 scientific and technical reports. Information Bridge serves as an open source to full-text and bibliographic records of DOE research in physics, chemistry, materials, biology, environmental sciences, energy technologies, engineering, computer and information science, renewable energy, and other topics. It consists of full-text documents produced and made available by the Department of Energy National Laboratories and grantees from 1995 forward. Additional legacy documents are also included as they become available in electronic format. OSTI is the largest provider of so-called "gray literature" to join CrossRef since CrossRef moved late last year to include publishers of working papers and technical reports among its members. Other new CrossRef members who are registering working papers or reports include the Social Science Research Network and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute.

http://www.crossref.org

A new LibQUAL+(TM) publication, Librarians Act on Their LibQUAL+(TM) Findings: From Data to Action, is now available for purchase from ARL. The book, edited by Fred M. Heath, Martha Kyllikkiou, and Consuelaa A. Askew, focuses on the value of LibQUAL+(TM) survey data to help librarians provide better services for users. The articles in the publication were written by participants in the 2002 LibQUAL+(TM) survey.

http://www.arl.org/public/paper/pubfinal.htm

Thomson Scientific, a business of The Thomson Corporation (NYSE: TOC; TSX: TOC), has announced that ISI Web of Knowledge (SM) has been nominated as a Codic Awards Finalist in the categories of Best Online Science or Technology Service and Best Content Aggregation Service. Sponsored by the Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA), the 20th Annual Codic Awards Gala will be held on May 25, 2005 at the Universal Studio Globe Theater in Universal City, CA to announce the winners in each category. Because the outcome is based on the votes from fellow industry executives, the Codic Awards have the distinction of being the only peer recognition program honoring excellence in the software and information industry.

http://www.siiainet.org

http://www.scientific.thomson.com

Speaking of which, Thomson Scientific, has announced that Zoological Record—the oldest continuing database of animal biology—is now available on ISI Web of Knowledge (SM). Zoological Record is a respected information resource for every field in animal biology; for academic, government, and commercial projects; and for conducting reliable and in-depth information searches.

http://www.scientific.thomson.com

Some news from Scarecrow Press and the awesome MaryJo Godwin <mggodwin@scarecrowpress.com> — Ann Carlson Weeks, professor of the practice, College of Information Studies, University of Maryland and Joyce Valenza, library information specialist, Springfield Township High School, Eddinheim, Pennsylvania, have been named to the editorial board of Teacher-Librarian: The Journal for School Library Professionals published by Scarecrow Press.

http://www.rowman.com

Blackwell Publishing has appointed Christopher Hall as Chief Financial Officer. Chris assumed the role on February 1, 2005, replacing
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Mark Houlton who retired from Blackwell after 14 years with the company. An Oxford graduate, Chris holds a masters degree in physics from Jesus College and is a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. Blackwell Publishing partners with more than 600 academic and professional societies. Blackwell publishes over 750 journals and 600 text and reference books annually, across a wide range of academic, medical, and professional subjects. The company remains independent, with over 900 staff members in offices in the US, UK, Australia, China, Denmark, Germany, and Japan.

www.blackwellpublishing.com or www.blackwell-synergy.com

Speaking of which, the Federation of European Microbiological Societies (FEMS) has selected Blackwell Publishing to publish its five journals: FEMS Microbiological Letters, FEMS Microbiology Reviews, FEMS Microbiology Ecology, FEMS Immunology and Medical Microbiology, and FEMS Yeast Research. Blackwell will take over publication of the journals from Elsevier in January 2006.

www.fems.org
www.blackwellpublishing.com
www.blackwell-synergy.com

The Library of Congress has installed Innovative Interfaces’ Electronic Resource Management. Electronic Resource Management provides tools to collect and manage the licensing and administrative details of its myriad electronic resources while dramatically improving staff and patron access to this information. The Library of Congress implementation is a stand-alone tool that will use an Oracle database. Although Electronic Resource Management is currently in active use at over 80 Millennium libraries, Innovative began managing the integration of the product with library system software from other vendors early in 2003. Cornell University, the State University of New York at Buffalo, and Utah State University are among the vanguard of libraries taking advantage of the opportunity to organize, track, and control the hundreds of complex electronic resources that currently account for ever increasing portions of library budgets. www.ili.com

PASCAL has announced the creation of a 12 million volume Virtual Academic Library for South Carolina driven by Innovative’s INN-Reach resource sharing solution. http://pascal.tel.sc.edu/programs/jpr/pressrelease-630201-3.doc

The blazingly hot executive director of PASCAL Richard Moul <RMoul@gwm.sc.edu> has announced that the hard-working Jean Mark Sens, PASCAL’s graduate project assistant since November 2003, has moved on to his first professional position. He will be a collection development librarian in the Marder Memorial Library at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana. Rachel Huria, who has been working on the PASCAL LSTA grant project since June will be taking over Jean Mark’s duties. Rachel will be working 20 hours per week. She is working towards her M.A. in fiction at the University of South Carolina.

I don’t know how and what we are going to do without her. Really. Mary Bull <mary@leo.scls.state.sc.us> will be retiring from her position as DISCUS Program Director at the South Carolina State Library effective March 1, 2005. The State Library is actively seeking a new Director for DISCUS — South Carolina’s Virtual Library. Happily, Mary says that she does not intend to leave the library world entirely. More to come? Meanwhile, the position vacancy notice appears at: www.state.sc.us/jobs/positions/P000136248.html.

ProQuest Information and Learning has completed the acquisition of privately held Voyager Expanded Learning, a leading provider of in-school core reading programs and professional development programs for school districts throughout the United States. “Voyager is the platform on which we will continue to build the K-12 business we’ve been carefully developing over the last few years,” with the acquisitions of SIRCS Reading A-Z and CultureGrams by Alan Aldworth, chairman and chief executive officer of ProQuest Company. Voyager’s senior management team will remain with the company and report to Ron Klauser, president of ProQuest Information and Learning and acting president of Voyager Expanded Learning. Voyager’s headquarters will remain in Dallas, Texas. www.il.proquest.com/

Serials Solutions unveiled Central Search, a full-featured federated search engine, at the American Library Association Midwinter Conference in Boston, Jan. 15-21. Central Search extends Serials Solutions suite of offerings of e-journals, e-books, management tools and services and allows patrons and librarians to search disparate digital resources from a single, easy-to-use interface, accelerating patron introduction and access to the richness of their libraries’ collections. Through a strategic partnership with WebFeat, Central Search software is able to connect to databases using WebFeat translator technology and technology developed by Serials Solutions. This delivers industry-leading coverage, including virtually all of a library’s fulltext databases, abstracts and indexes, and local catalogs. JR Jenkins is Central Search product manager.

www.webfeat.org
www.serialssolutions.com
www.il.proquest.com

While we’re on federated searching, The City of San Diego Public Library has launched its One-Search federated search solution enabling patrons to search the Library’s vast catalog of resources, as well as several databases simultaneously with a single intuitive interface. SDPL One-Search, powered by WebFeat, will be available to the public at the Central Library and all 34 branch libraries located throughout San Diego. It may also be accessed remotely through the Library’s Website by patrons with a valid San Diego Public Library card. With the launch of One-Search, the San Diego Public Library joins the ranks of other major metropolitan libraries such as the Chicago Public Library, Boston Public Library and the Los Angeles Public Library - that are currently using WebFeat systems http://www.sdpl.lib.ca.us/public-library/http://www.webfeat.org.

We heard about this in Charleston in November when the incredible Phil M. Davis (Life Sciences Librarian, Cornell University) gave a paper on “The Ethics of Republishing” and the brouhaha continues. Emerald Group Publishing Limited has responded to the upcoming article “The Ethical Aspects of Republishing: A Case Study of Emerald/MECB University Press Journals” expected to publication in Library Resources & Technical Services. Spring, 2005. Read more about this on the Liblicense archive www.emeraldinsight.com.

Ad Fontes, LLC, the Virginia-based publisher of the Digital Library of Classic Protestant Texts, has named Todd Budreau as Director of Sales. Mr. Budreau joins the company with 13 years’ experience in the micro-publishing industry, having served as Vice-President of Norman Ross Publishing and, for the last eight years, as President of InterDocumentation Company (IDC) USA. Ad Fontes is a famous Latin phrase that, translated, means “basing our belief on the sources.” As one of the most important phrases of the fifth and 16th centuries, the words ad fontes indicated a scholarly commitment to ancient authorities, both secular and religious. The company has appropriated this Latin phrase hoping to facilitate the study of the foundational sources of Western religious thought and to stimulate fresh insights into an ancient, but still quite vital, tradition.

www.adfontes.com. Ad Fontes, LLC. At the Association of American Publishers/ Professional and Scholarly Publishing (AAP/ PSP) Annual Meeting Parity Computing, Inc. unveiled the public release of Version 3 of software for automatically creating organizational and professional profiles. The platform can identify people and institutions from diverse data sources, such as research literature, books, patents, press releases, and company web pages, organizing them into unique, unambiguous profiles. Publishing customers in particular are using this technology to create connections in their existing product offerings and to develop new products and services.

Dr. Mohan Paturi, Chair of the Computer Science department at University of California, San Diego is one of Parity Computing Founders. Parity Computing, Inc. is a provider of text mining and knowledge discovery solutions, enabling businesses to recognize the value inherent in their data. Parity applies its intelligent automation technology to applications including reference tagging and linking, ontologies and classification, and organizational and author profile solutions. Parity’s technology and in-depth knowledge of the significant competitive advantages to customers in the domains of science and technology research (STM publishing, digital libraries, biotech/ pharmaceutical), and business research (intellectual property, recruiting, institutional knowledge management). Parity’s customers include Elsevier, IEEE, ACM among many others. www.paritycomputing.com

From Edupage, February 7, 2005 — As we all know, Google is planning to scan millions of volumes from several prestigious libraries and make them available over the Internet. Google plans to scan books that are in the public domain and perhaps short excerpts from copyrighted books. A recent article on the Chronicle of Higher Education (7 February, sub Required) quotes the astute Sally C. Morris, chief executive of the Association of Learned and Professional Scientists (ALPS) saying “that although the sheer number of academic publishers represents a powerful disincentive to obtaining permissions from all of them, that doesn’t mean there’s not a legal requirement to do it.” And what happens to books that are in the public domain in one country and not another? Steve Langdon of Google assures us that, “In every case, Google’s presentation of the works to the public will be limited to the public domain and a depiction of the work outside of the bounds of copyright law.” Chronicle of Higher Education, 7 February 2005 (sub req’d) http://chronicle.com/prm/daily/2005/02/2005020703n.htm.

From Edupage, January 12, 2005 — French researcher Guillaume Tena is currently on trial in a Paris court for violating copyright laws when he exposed software flaws called vulnerabilities called Vignard, developed by Tegan Interna-continued on page 16
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Do you see the WSJ article on February 3, 2005 entitled “Public to See Health Research Sooner” by Bernad Wysocki Jr. (Wall Street Journal, (Eastern edition). New York, N.Y.: Feb 3, 2005, pg. D.5). It’s about the tension between commercial researchers who see their profit threatened and NIH Director Elias Zerhouni’s desire to make many articles available within six months of publication free of charge. Listed as a possible alternative is a consortium called patientINFORM. 
http://proquest.sani.com/pqweb/health-wsj.com

On January 16, 2005, Blackwell’s Book Services saluted all the past winners of the ACRL/Blackwell’s Excellence in Academic Libraries Awards at an exclusive ALA Midwinter event at Tapeo, on Boston’s fashionable Newbury Street. Award-winners mixed with Blackwell’s staff, customers, and friends at the sun-dappled waterfront and snacking on tapas while the snow swirled outside. Blackwell’s Limited CEO Philip Blackwell — see our interview, this issue, page 65 — was among the evening’s speakers, who included Andrew Albanese of LJ Academic Newswire, and Larry Hardesty of University of Nebraska, who conceived of the award five years ago. In addressing the group, Philip Blackwell expressed his delight at seeing so many of the award winners gathered together, on “the other side of the river”, referring to his many business trips to Cambridge. Andrew Albanese emphasized how he has been repeatedly impressed by the important work being done in academic libraries, despite budget cuts, the weak dollar, and often, lack of institutional support. The “father” of the Excellence in Academic Libraries award, Larry Hardesty, beamed as he greeted his peers and past award winners, and recounted the history of the award. Over 15 institutions have received the Excellence in Academic Libraries Award since 2000. Sponsored by ACRL and Blackwell’s Book Services, the award recognizes the staff of a college, university and community college library for programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution. The 2003 winners have just been announced, see http://www.ala.org/acrl/ and will be honored at an event at ACRL 2005 in Minneapolis.

Moving right along, if you visit the Website above — The recipients of the 2005 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award, sponsored by ACRL and Blackwell’s Book Services, are the Pitzer College Library, Lakewood and Piyalupp, Wash.; Mount Holyoke College Library, South Hadley, Mass.; and the Library of Virginia Library, Charlottesville, Va. The Pitzer College Library, winner of the community college category, was recognized for being a national leader in outreach, including a robust program on student learning. Mount Holyoke College Library, winner of the college category, demonstrated excellence as a team in furthering the educational mission of its college. The University of Virginia Library, is the winner of the university category, and was selected for its broad, deep and early innovation that has proven its effectiveness over time and is being emulated by other academic libraries as they reposition their services for the future. Each winning library will receive $3,000 and a plaque, to be presented at an award ceremony held on each recipient’s campus. The winners also will receive special recognition at the ACRL President’s Program during the American Library Association’s (ALA) Annual Conference on Monday, June 27, 2005, at 13:00 p.m. in Chicago.
http://www.ala.org/acrl

The African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) has announced the selection of Blackwell’s Book Services and Ebooks Library as the primary agent of digital materials for its Library and Information Centre. Based in Harare, Zimbabwe, the mission of the ACBF is to foster and support sustainable human and institutional capacity for poverty reduction in Africa. The Library and Information Centre is a central part of the institution’s strategic mission, as it provides information and research support to local and foreign researchers, policy-makers, government ministries and staff. www.blackwell.com

We had a great visit with the fabulous, wonderful, and smiling John Laraway <John.Laraway@Blackwell.com> a few weeks ago. Then I got an email from my best friend Susan Campbell<sac@arizona.edu> (John’s friend and partner in ice cream consumption). Coincidentally. Just heard. Bill Golsing has stepped down at University of Michigan for health reasons. More to come.

John Wiley & Sons, Inc. (NYSE: JWA) (NYSE: JWB), has been named FORTUNE magazine as one of the “100 Best Companies to Work For.” Wiley, a first-time participant in FORTUNE’s annual process was the only publishing company to be elected to the list. William J. Pesce, Wiley’s President and C.E.O., says: “Wiley is a very special place—a closely knit, global community, in which talent, integrity, and commitment are valued as critical to our success.” As part of its evaluation of Wiley’s culture and practices, FORTUNE magazine randomly surveyed 350 of the company’s colleagues. FORTUNE highlighted the company’s responsiveness to their needs, saying that “When this publisher moved from Manhattan in 2002, it asked its employees what perks they wanted — and followed through by providing a pristine river location, on-site exercise room, cafe, and free shuttle service.” These perks are, of course, in addition to the annual 11 percent salary increase which has made Wiley the envy of its competitors. In 2007, the company had $1.05 billion in revenues and is the largest independent publisher of academic and professional books, journals, and reference works.

Copyright Clearance Center and Innovative Interfaces have announced an integration partnership that will make copyright compliance for electronic reserves faster and easier. By providing direct access to Copyright Clearance Center rights database from Innovative’s electronic course reserves solution, librarians and staff can now fulfill e-reserve requests for copyright permission more efficiently and quickly. According to the recent study by the National Center for Educational Statistics, approximately 50 percent of libraries experienced postsecondary classes—over 5,000 students use electronic course reserves today. This represents a 67 percent increase in electronic course reserve adoption in just the past two years. Previously, librarians and staff members interested in posting electronic reserves needed to leave their library system and access the Copyright Clearance Center’s Website separately. Now, when a user selects a title in Innovative’s electronic course reserves, they simply click the get permission link and are taken to the appropriate permission service and search results page on copyright.com. User and bibliographic information is automatically transferred to place a copyright permission order, eliminating the need to log in, re-key information or conduct another title search. integration@copyright.com

www.ccc.com

A consortium of thirty-three New York libraries has chosen the Polaris integrated library system to provide the backbone of its library service. GIS Information Systems, Inc. has just announced. The Finger Lakes Library System, comprising Cayuga, Cortland, Seneca, Tioga and Tompkins counties, selected Polaris to replace their fifteen-year-old ILS system. With a service area that stretches from Pennsylvania to Lake Ontario, Finger Lakes Library System (FLLS) serves a population of 312,189 with a collection continued on page 38

<http://www.against-the-grain.com>
Beyond textbooks: Health sciences libraries may not actively license electronic books from general and niche subject providers, since available titles may be peripheral, secondary, or not "core." It can be beneficial to take advantage of, or contribute towards, licensing these collections. General gateways, such as NetLibrary and ebrary, provide online access to consumer health, alternative medicine, health policy, and other specialty collection licenses, such as Eighteenth Century Collection Online (ECCO) and Early English Books Online (EEBO), include access to classic history of the health sciences titles, thereby providing wide access, in online form, to content of valuable, restricted access, or not widely available print titles.

CURRENCY AND ARCHIVING

Health science fields can easily be added to subject areas referred to by John Cox, who wrote about decisions of Irish University libraries: “There was...a definite feeling that eBooks could support learning activities in certain subjects (e.g., business, law, computer science) where information is structured in relatively discrete blocks and where a high premium is placed on currency...” Currency is not uniformly provided in the health sciences' electronic book world. Some online textbooks are updated as “editions”, similar to their print counterparts. Sometimes new print editions are released before or after the online version. Titles may be continuously updated, becoming database-like. There can be differences in content selecting when accessed among various providers. The venerable Harrisson’s Principles of Internal Medicine, for example, is called Harrison’s Online, with daily updates and e-only content on the publisher provider side, while third party providers may only be provided with less frequently updated content of the basic text.

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of more than 913,000 items. Annual circulation is more than 1.6 million. For more information, Judy.michelson@gisinfosystems.com.

Remind the fabulous Lynne Riehner <lcr@riehner.com>? We keep trying to get her to Charleston but there is a national meeting she has to go to that conflicts with us (boo hiss)! Anyway, Lynne Riehner Publishers is now the exclusive distributor of books published by the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies at the University of California, San Diego. This new agreement, began January 1, 2005.

R.R. Bowker has introduced Ulrich’s Resource Linker, a new tool that integrates all of a library’s periodicals through a single service and allows library patrons to easily connect to those holdings by following a few simple links. The new product was developed in partnership with Openly Informatics, Inc. Built on the NISO OpenURL Standard, Ulrich’s Resource Linker is a fully hosted solution, which means that the library’s staff is not burdened with the set-up, maintenance and updating of a link server, nor are they tasked with keeping track of all the changes in the various collections they hold in their catalogs. www.openly.com www.ulrichsweb.com

Got a great email from Charlie Rapple <charlie.rapple@ingenta.com> who is handling Ingenta’s PR during Amanda Procter’s maternity leave. Charlie tells me that Ingenta plc has launched a new suite of services designed to save librarians time, money and administrative resources in managing their online collections. IngentaConnect Premium package features a selection of enhancements to the free services already enjoyed by Ingenta’s 17,000 registered library customers. www.ingenta.com www.ingentu.com/corporate/company/news/trade/icp.html

You have probably noticed that we don’t have Rumors from Paddington any more! Sob! Sob! Anyway, Daryl Rayner is no longer at xrefer. But I’ll bet she surfaces later somewhere else!


American Anthropological Association (AAA), the world’s largest organization of anthropologists, and the University of California Press, its publishing partner, have released of AnthroSource (sm). This electronic scholarly resource provides access to the complete fulltext archive of all peer-reviewed journals, newsletters, and bulletins published by the AAA — over 100 years of published scholarly research across 31 publications — and access to current issues of 11 AAA journals. If you were in Charleston in November, I’ll bet you attended the splendidxfer Audrey Melkin’s <audrey@atyon.com> session! http://www.anthrosourcenet

The incredibly energetic Karen Christensen (CEO, Berkshire Publishing Group) continued on page 49
Riding the eBOOK Wave
from page 48

Ebooks in my lifetime. [Note from authors: Michael Hart's above comment was stated before the Google Print news blitz, and he still predicts that these sites will exist before Google presents that many eBooks of equal quality and stature.

My final goal is to have all 10 million public domain eBooks online and freely downloadable, and available in translation in 100 languages, for a total of 1 billion free eBooks ... before 2025!!! And to get them to 1 billion readers!!! For a total of Project Gutenberg giving away 1 quintillion eBooks.

Google says there are 15 million such books, but I’m betting they will be scraping the bottom of the barrel by the time they get 10 million.

The real question is how useful the different kinds of eBooks will be to John Q. Public ... I’m betting the full text eBooks that you can own from Project Gutenberg will turn out to be the most useful, simply because you can own them, and read, search, quote and copy them ad infinitum until everyone has a copy, not to mention that you can listen to them as audio books through various programs.

Project Gutenberg eBooks have been around for a third of a century, about as long as most of the Muppets, and people have been using them any way they pleased. We'll just have to wait to see what the half-century mark brings ... hopefully a billion dollars worth of books to every person who wants them.

Conclusion
During our foray into eBooks, we quickly discovered that answers to our questions simply spawned more questions. Whether discussing PDFs or PDAs, the options for the eBook future are endless and it is clear that libraries and librarians will have a large role in what eBooks are to become. Libraries represent a major market, a major link to users and early adopters, and, in the case of Google, a source of material for future eBooks; in short, our responsibility is huge.

While there are no easy answers to how librarians can best use and integrate this burgeoning wealth of information in brand-new packaging, there are some things that we can take away from these industry insiders. eBooks are only going to get better and much of that improvement can be guided by our feedback. Issues of intellectual property and standardized formats are far from decided and libraries will be instrumental in ensuring that fair use and a commitment to access for all will remain a priority in this new climate. Whether our users want greater interactivity, a wider range of publishers and types of eBooks, or the ability to download the collected works of William Shakespeare to a cell phone, it is incumbent upon libraries to make their thoughts and experiences, and thereby the thoughts and experiences of their users, known to those in the industry. This communication will ensure a bright future for eBooks and libraries.

Endnotes

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<karen@berkshirepublishing.com> (in between trips to Rome and London) is blogging about publishing and marketing. She tells me there’ll be a thread based on the interdisciplinary scholarship discussion that was started in Charleston last year! www.berkshirepublishing.com/blog

Georg Thieme Verlag has chosen ScholarOne Manuscript Central for their online peer review and manuscript management needs. Georg Thieme (of Brian Scannell fame) is an international scientific and medical publisher which has produced high-quality products for physicians, scientists, technologists, students, and residents for nearly 120 years. With more than 550 staff worldwide, Thieme maintains offices in Stuttgart, New York, and Singapore. Thieme publishes more than 130 medical and scientific journals, as well as some 500 new books annually. Majors specialty areas include neurosurgery, radiology, otorhinolaryngology, orthopedics, ophthalmology, urology, speech and hearing, complementary medicine, and chemistry. www.ScholarOne.com www.thieme.de www.thieme.com

And, guess what? Heard from the long lost Barry Fast <Barry0112@aol.com> who has an idea for a series of short articles for AGT. Can’t wait, can you? Anyway, the always-has-a-bam-bam-bam-bam-idea Barry is located at: Transition Communications, 186 Cross St., City Island, NY 10464. www.transitioncommunications.com

CABI Publishing has announced the formation of a Library Advisory Board in China. The Board will provide a consultation forum to the strategic development of CABI Publishing’s program in China facilitating better communication, consultation and liaison with library and information centre partners and customers in the country. The first meeting will take place in April 2005 in Beijing, with a full board meeting scheduled for the autumn of 2005 to coincide with the Annual Conference of the Chinese Agricultural Library and Information Societies. CABI Publishing continued on page 38

JUST ANOTHER JOURNAL?
We don’t think so and neither do the readers of Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment.

Readers tell us that Frontiers isn’t just a pretty face with its four-color graphics and visually appealing format. They appreciate its timely, peer-reviewed science, written in an accessible fashion so that scientists from a wide range of disciplines, educators, and students can all benefit from the articles.

Visit: www.frontiersinecology.org and see for yourself.

Frontiers sets itself apart from other scientific journals, but delivers the same high-quality literature as the best of them. And at only $210 for a U.S. institutional subscription, it’s great value for your money.

Contact your subscription agent or ESA Headquarters at 1707 H Street NW, Suite 400 Washington, DC 20006 Fax: 202-833-6775.

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I Have Seen the Future
from page 57

State University examined how patrons preserve digital content. Six participants were asked to find an eBook related to their field of study. They were then asked to save a portion of the book, as if they were doing research for a paper. Of the six participants, three users stated that they would perform a copy/paste as their first option. Two other participants suggested they would try to email the pertinent section—a feature that is not an option in netLibrary. (They came to this decision based upon the use of library databases that do allow users to email content to themselves.) Only two out of the six suggested that they would print the passage, but this was not their preferred choice (England, 2001). Nor, apparently, is it netLibrary’s. Their current interface offers printing tips, but it is buried in the “reading tips” index, where you may also read a copyright warning about attempting to print the entire eBook.

ALA’s eBook Task Force created a long list of functions that are believed to enhance readability and understanding and to make an eBook’s content richer than a paper book. These functions include the ability to search both within the current text and other eBook texts; hyperlinks to items in the book, such as a table of contents, as well as related research; sufficient mark up and structure to provide a sense of content involving chapters or sections; and a sense of place that lets the reader know how far along he or she is in the book (Gibbons, 2003).

Both Books 24X7 and netLibrary offer the option of being able to search within the current text or other eBook content. Both vendors also offer a way to virtually turn the page with a click of the mouse. However, only Books 24X7 offers a progression bar to give the reader a sense of how far along he or she is in the book. With the ability to create your own folders, bookmarks, notes, even email the current page, Books 24X7 offers the reader more functionality than netLibrary. Books 24X7 calls it “a more user defined experience,” but that experience also has a higher learning curve (Ouellette, 2004).

Technical considerations aside, is there a market for eBooks? If we are to believe the recent sales figures, then eBooks are here to stay. The Open eBook Forum reports that eBook retailers had modest gains in growth during the second quarter of 2004 with a five percent increase in eBook units sold and a 23 percent increase in eBook revenues over the same quarter in 2003 (Bogarty, 2004). The consultancy firm Accenture predicts that eBooks will make up ten percent of all book sales by 2005, totalling 2.3 billion (Dorner, 2003).

So, who’s buying, and does saleability equate to readability? Lynch sees “anecdotal evidence that younger people, who have grown up with text on display screens from childhood, are more...

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people profile

BORN & LIVED: Born in Buffalo, New York, lived in Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Buffalo (again), West Virginia, Iowa, Buffalo (again), Florida, Indiana, and (finally) Illinois.

EARLY LIFE: My father was a chemist who got transferred a lot, than I became a journalist and continued the tradition.

FAMILY: Married to a wonderful lady (special education teacher) and have one 16 year old son.


FIRST JOB: Copy Cataloger.


IN MY SPARE TIME I LIKE TO: Officiate high school football and participate in community theater.

FAVORITE BOOKS: Whatever book I am currently reading.

PET PEEVES/WHAT MAKES ME MAD: Meetings that don’t start on time.

PHILOSOPHY: Everything comes to him who waits, as long as he who waits works like hell while he waits.

MOST MEANINGFUL CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: Presenting at the 2nd International Conference on the Future of the Book in Beijing, China.

GOAL I HOPE TO ACHIEVE FIVE YEARS FROM NOW: To be living and working in the same place I am today. As a journalist I never stayed in one place very long. That’s why I’m no longer a journalist.

WHERE DO I SEE THE INDUSTRY IN FIVE YEARS: I think we will continue to see more and more electronic sources and less and less paper sources. I don’t believe the electronic book is quite ready for prime time except as a reference tool. I think people will continue to read paper books for leisure but in academia almost everything will be electronic.

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already has a North American Library Board and a European Library Board is being set up currently. CABI Publishing, working under the umbrella of CAB International, is a leading international, not-for-profit, publisher of books, journals, databases, CD-ROMs and on-line information products in the applied life sciences.

www.cabi-publishing.org

Not just the energetic David Goodman <dgoodman@linu.edu>, but LOTS of other

Charleston Conference regulars are among the article authors of a Special Serials Review Issue on Open Access (v.30, n 4). A must read! The issue is available at: http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00987913.

The wonderful Emily McElyr <emceelry@darkwing.oregon.edu> sends information about the Timberline Institute, upcoming in May. Timberline Lodge is one hour east of Portland, Oregon, on the slope of Mount Hood. The conference will be held May 14-17, 2005. The registration form is available at http://libweb.uoregon.edu/events/aiilt/register.phtml. Conference information is available at http://libweb.uoregon.edu/events/aiilt/.

This is a great issue of ATG on eBooks and is compiled and edited by Criss Ferguson <criss.ferguson@furman.edu>, Betty Kelly and Julie Carter of Furman University Libraries. Despite sickness and holidays, it came together as a fabulous issue. Thanks to these wonderful women for putting it together!

We are already getting ideas for the 2005 Charleston Conference program. Please send them to me as soon as you can so that we can start putting the program together. Also, what do you think of the theme this year of “Things Are Seldom What They Seem”? This is from...
If there is a weakness to the volume, it is that by beginning his story in 1852, Gurock passes over the first 150 years of the Jewish presence in Charleston. Fortunately, there are other books to provide this background, including James W. Hagy’s *This Happy Land: The Jews of Colonial and Antebellum Charleston* (published in 1993); Theodore and Dale Rosengarten’s *A Portion of the People: Three Hundred Years of Southern Jewish Life* (2002); Robert N. Rosen’s *The Jewish Confederates* (2002); Barnett A. Elzas’ now-dated *The Jews of South Carolina From the Earliest Time to the Present Day* (originally published in 1905 and reprinted in 1983); Charles Reznikoff and Uriah Z. Engelman’s *The Jews of Charleston: A History of an American Jewish Community* (1950); Arthur V. Williams’ *Tales of Charleston, 1920s* (1999); Louis D. Rubin, Jr.’s *The Golden Weather* (1961; reprinted in 1981); and *My Family’s People: A Family of Southern Jews* (2002); and my own modest contribution, *Judaism in South Carolina* in *Religion in South Carolina* (1993).

Thus, Gurock’s seeming omission, while primarily due to the need to focus on the congregation itself, may turn out to be a blessing in disguise if it leads readers to explore the sources listed above. Congratulations to the College of Charleston Library for publishing *Orthodoxy in Charleston* and making this splendid resource available to researchers and general readers alike. May it attract a broad and enthusiastic audience!

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Dr. Greenspoon is the Klutznick Chair in Jewish Civilization at Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska. Previously, he was Professor of Religious Studies at Clemson University and an active member of the Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina.


Reviewed by *Beth Bell* (Branch Manager, West Ashley Public Library, Charleston, SC)

This book is an excellent resource for a new or experienced branch manager. Using an organized layout, the book offers managers both encouragement and answers to questions about branch management. Vickie Rivers offers a commonsense approach to management based on her years of library experience. Upon becoming a branch manager, Rivers didn’t know what to expect and searched unsuccessfully for a book which outlined the duties of a branch manager. *The Branch Librarians’ Handbook* resulted from this search.

The organization of the book is user-friendly. It begins with an explanation of the library system as a whole and the importance of having a mission statement and goals. The last chapter touches on the branch manager’s career plans. The majority of the book discusses managing the self, the stuff, and the branches. A useful appendix includes many basic ALA position statements and other policies such as the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1998.

The book is well written and accomplishes the main objectives of outlining the duties of a branch manager, offering approaches that may be applied at once, and reassuring a new branch manager. It is encouraging for a new branch manager to know that it takes time to become comfortable with the new position of manager. Reading and applying suggestions from this book is a good start to becoming the best manager possible. It also will help an experienced manager become an even better manager.

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**Rumors**

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The Gilbert & Sullivan operetta, *HMS Pinafore*, I believe, and the second line goes something like “skin milk masquerades as cream.” Anyway, this seemed to sort of describe what we are dealing with right now? Comments are always welcome. <ksrauch@comcast.net>

And, have you been to the Charleston Conference Website lately? [http://www.katina.info/conference/2004%20Presentations.htm](http://www.katina.info/conference/2004%20Presentations.htm) A lot of the powerpoints from the 2004 conference are loaded there while we wait for the Proceedings which will be published before we know it by Greenwood Press/Libraries Unlimited!

Y’all. Many people have been after me to put sections of *ATG* online and/or to add it to aggregator databases like *Proquest’s, EBSCO’s, Wilson’s*, etc. (I know it’s the trend and all that but — hey — we are *Against the Grain*! Anyway, it’s a matter of money and time. I would greatly like to hear from y’all as to whether or not you think this is a good idea. Would you keep your subscription to the journal if we were to go online? I would send indexing and did you pick and choose articles? If you are a writer for *ATG*, would you like to see this happen? Please write me and tell me what you think? Thanks. <ksrauch@comcast.net>