News

1. General

1.1 CIQM and NFAIS Cooperate

The Centre for Information Quality Management has reached an informal agreement with the National Federation of Abstracting and Information Services (NFAIS) – a not-for-profit USA consortia of some 60 database producers, online vendors and CD-ROM manufacturers – to share work on database quality.

CIQM, set up by The Library Association and UKOLUG to work on improving database quality, is working on designing a means whereby users can easily determine the degree of confidence that can be placed in any database – so-called Database Labelling.

Both organizations have the same explicit concerns for information quality and responsible information provision, and NFAIS has just completed a 2-year quality benchmarking study on indexing processes and measures, the results of which will feed into CIQM’s work on Database Labelling.

In a separate move, the producers of EMBASE, Elsevier Science, have joined CIQM and pledged some financial support for CIQM during 1995.

Details from: Chris Armstrong, The Centre for Information Quality Management, Penbryn, Bronant, Aberystwyth SY23 4TJ; phone/fax: +1 197 421 441; e-mail: lisqual@cix.compulink.co.uk

2. Conferences

2.1. EUCLID-FID/ET

The FID/ET chapter and EUCLID, the European Association for Library and Information Education and Research are sponsoring a conference entitled Improved Practice and Integrated Skills in the LIS Field on 21–22 November 1995 at the Royal School of Librarianship, Copenhagen, Denmark.

The objectives of the conference are to:

- change the traditional model of library education and training to a research oriented study which incorporates subjects containing theories about underlying processes.
- integrate modern information technology in the education and training of librarians.
- promote the integration of theories, methodologies and expertise from other related
disciplines and practices.

- explore the concept of multifunctional information work for the development of new professional roles and functions for LIS personnel.
- propose a shift of paradigm for library education as a whole, towards a pro-active attitude to the mediation of information.

For more information please contact EUCLID-FID-ET Conference, c/o Royal School of Librarianship, Birketinget 6, DK-Copenhagen 2300 S, Denmark; phone: +45 31 58 60 66; fax: +45 32 84 02 01.

3. Research

3.1. Evaluation and Quality in Library Performance

The Centre for Research in Library and Information Management (CERLIM) of the University of Central Lancashire is leading a consortium of ten partners in EQLIPSE; a new European Commission funded research and development project in the fields of quality management and performance measurement in libraries.

EQLIPSE formally began on 1 February 1995, and the overall objective of this two-year project is to specify, develop and validate an open IT-based system to support quality management and performance measurement in libraries of all types. The system will be based on a client-server architecture and will offer compatibility with library systems from various library suppliers.

The project will operate through a series of six phases, as follows:

1. Library Requirements analysis, in which a series of tasks will bring together expertise from the 10 partners and associates with internationally recognised quality management, library performance measurement and technological perspectives to define the libraries requirements from EQLIPSE and hence the groundwork for development.

2. Initial functional specification, in which the technical issues, including networking and systems integration, will be reviewed, leading to the production of an initial functional specification.

3. Prototype System, in which the initial functional specification will be used to design and build a prototype, functional system.

4. Data Tools and Data Collection, in which the partners will adapt and design tools for collecting data, supplementary to that contained in their operational IT-based systems, and build up a test dataset for use with the system.

5. Field Trials and Evaluation, in which the prototype system will be installed in two libraries, debugged and developed into a fully functional system.

6. Integration in Libraries, in which the debugged system will be fully trialled, in a pseudo operational environment, in six libraries (representing the different types of libraries found across the European Union, including those in Less Favoured Regions) and evaluated.
Of the project's ten partners, which are co-ordinated by the University of Central Lancashire, Dynix Library Systems (Ireland), the Microelectronics Application Centre (Ireland), Dublin City University (Ireland) and the University of Münster (Germany), will each be leading phases of the work. The other partners are Copenhagen Business School Library (Denmark), Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale Vittorio Emanuele II (Italy), Stockholm University Library (Sweden), Stadbücherei Düsseldorf (Germany) and the University of the Aegean (Greece).

For further details of the Project, please contact: Professor Peter Brophy, University Librarian and Head of Centre for Research in Library and Information Management, University of Central Lancashire, Preston, Lancashire, PR1 2HE, United Kingdom; phone: +44 1772 892299; fax: +44 1772 892937; e-mail: p.brophy@uclan.ac.uk

4. Library and Teaching

4.1. University of California

The new USD 27.5-million, 86,000-square-foot Leavey Library at the University of Southern California has been designed from the ground up as a think-tank for new modes of teaching and learning. In addition to an initial collection of more than 65,000 volumes and traditional study and reading areas, the “cybrary” offers touch-screen information kiosks, a 50-seat auditorium with multimedia projection capabilities, and an Information Commons which allows users to download material from the Internet and manipulate it with a variety of productivity software and 24-hour expert help.

Innovative classes are now offered in the following subjects, to name but a few: anthropology; Western civilisation; fine arts; music; and, cinema/television.

They will all take advantage of the unique multimedia capabilities now available at the university. USC’s James Irvine Foundation Center for Scholarly Technology, Center for Excellence in Teaching, and vice provost for undergraduate studies are all moving their headquarters to the library.

Contact: Leavey librarian: Chris Ferguson; phone: +1 213 7401228; e-mail: CFERGUSO@USC.EDU. To subscribe to CAMPUS WATCH, send e-mail to: MAILSERV@CAUSE.COLORADO.EDU with the message: subscribe campus-watch.

5. Cataloging

5.1. Program for Cooperative Cataloging

In June 1994, the Cooperative Cataloging Council (CCC) commissioned the Training Task Group to develop a plan for implementing the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC). The PCC training program for BIBCO, the cooperative program for the contribution of bibliographic records, will outline the issues of cataloging values, competencies, training and documentation.
The CCC Training Task Group has delivered its plan which recommends that a consultant be retained to develop a syllabus and training materials for BIBCO, which will contain modules on training the trainer and the cataloging “values” that have been newly defined for the PCC. The CCC expects that development should take 4 months (February–May 1995) and estimates about 200–300 hours to complete the package. The training package should include a syllabus (based on the Training Task Group’s course outline), cataloging examples, exercises, handouts, overheads, etc. The consultant should have experience training; ability to write user-friendly documentation and training materials; ability to work quickly and accurately; thorough understanding of cataloging; and ability to grasp the fundamentals of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging.

For more information on the Program for Cooperative Cataloging please refer to MARVEL, LC’s gopher. Reports and related information on the CCC are posted under: Libraries and Publishers (Technical Services), Cataloging at the Library of Congress: Programs and Services, Cooperative Cataloging Programs at the Library of Congress, Cooperative Cataloging Council.

Listed under the CCC is the Final Report of the Training Task Group, with its recommended course summaries, learning objectives and training outlines for the NACO and BIBCO programs of the PCC.

Ann Della Porta, Acting Team Leader, Cooperative Cataloging Team 1, Regional and Cooperative Cataloging Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540-4383; phone: +1 202 707 7920; fax: +1 202 707 2824; Internet: DELLAPOR@MAIL.LOC.GOV

6. Internet

6.1. World Wide Web

6.1.1. General

6.1.1.1. OCLC Forest Press

A wide range of information about the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) is now available on the Forest Press home page. The new service is provided for Dewey users by OCLC Forest Press on the OCLC World Wide Web server.

The initial contents of the home page include, in addition to the full Forest Press product catalog, the complete text of the DDC Summaries and excerpts from the latest issue of DC&, DDC’s annual update. The Forest Press home page also provides an electronic ordering form and an electronic feedback form on which viewers can make suggestions and recommendations for future home page expansion.

The Forest Press home page is available at URL: http://www.oclc.org/fp/

For more information: Peter J. Paulson; phone: +1 518 489 8549; plp@oclc.org; Nita Dean; phone: +1 614 761 5002; e-mail: nita_dean@oclc.org
6.1.2. Library Jobs and Employment
A new version of “Library Jobs and Employment: A Guide to Internet Resources” was recently posted on the Clearinghouse for Subject-Oriented Internet Resource Guides at the University of Michigan.

“Library Jobs and Employment” is the only guide of its type on the Internet. It is updated on a regular basis and provides valuable information about job resources on the Internet that list current library positions. The guide is listed at the following Internet sites:

- Clearinghouse for Subject-Oriented Internet Resource Guides, Internet Public Library, Rice University (RiceInfo “Information by Subject Area”), Texas State Electronic Library, University of Michigan, University of Texas at Austin, Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Since it was first posted in January 1995, “Library Jobs and Employment” has been read by thousands of users from all over the world. The guide was written over a 6-month period and is the work of over 700 hours of research, writing, and editing.

The guide is listed on the first page of the current American Library Association publication, “Guide to Employment Sources in the Library and Information Professions”:

http://www.lib.umich.edu/chhome.html
gopher://volvo.gslis.utexas.edu/11/placement/placement_list_servs

Jeffery Charles Lee, M.P.A., M.Ed., M.L.S. (Dec. 1995), School of Library and Information Studies, Texas Woman’s University, Denton, Texas 76204; Internet: G_2LEE@TWU.EDU

6.1.3. Preservation
PRESED-X

The Preservation Educators’ Exchange
http://www.well.com/www/bronxbob/presed-x/presed-x.html

PRESED-X will contain documents, information and resources educators wish to share among themselves and among others who are interested in the teaching of library and archive preservation. It is meant to be a complement to PRESED-L, and I encourage all of you to contribute. As of now it has four parts: Syllabi of graduate courses in library and archive preservation; course descriptions of workshops and other continuing education programs; announcements of upcoming institutes, conferences and workshops; and an area for miscellaneous items of interest.

You can contribute in either of two ways:

1. You can send me a text only (ascii) file via e-mail to bronxbob@well.com or on disk to Robert DeCandido, Preservation Division, The New York Public Library, 5th Ave. and 42nd St., N.Y., NY 10018. (Actually I can read most common word processing formats, but ascii would be easier.) I will code these, copy them to the WELL and link them to the Exchange.
2. If you already have a web page or gopher document, let me know the URL and I will make the link.

All contributions will be acknowledged and, where possible, mailto links will be created so that readers can contact the appropriate person.

Please contact me with contributions, comments or recommendations. This is your resource, the more you use it, the more likely it is to be of value.

Robert DeCandido, bronxbob@well.com
GraceAnne A. DeCandido, Editor, Wilson Library Bulletin, 950 University Ave., Bronx, NY 10452; phone: +1 800 367 6770 x2244; fax: +1 718 681 1511; graceann@wlb.hwwilson.com (office) ladyhawk@well.com (home); gopher: //gopher.hwwilson.com

6.1.4. Library Schools
A list of library/IS schools is at http://www/itcs.com/itcs/libschools.html.

Contact: Elizabeth Lane Lawley, Internet Training & Consulting Services (800) WIRED-IN * http://www.itcs.com/
liz@itcs.com elane3@ualvm.ua.edu

6.1.5. Library/Information Education
BAILER, the British Association for Information and Library Education and Research, is the British equivalent of ALISE. BAILER has recently appointed a Communication Moderator with responsibility for developing its electronic communications links. There was already an e-mail list, equivalent to JESSE, and a major effort is being made to get more information and library educators to sign up on that list. It is called lis-bailer and the way to join it is to send an e-mail message to mailbase@mailbase.ac.uk, leaving the subject line blank and putting in the body of the message: subscribe lis-bailer jane doe, (substituting your own name, of course).

BAILER now also has a WWW server in the course of development. The URL is: http://epip.lut.ac.uk:80/bailer/

Please contact: Fytton Rowland, BAILER Communications Moderator. Fytton Rowland, Research Fellow, Department of Information and Library Studies, Loughborough University of Technology, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 3TU, UK; phone: +44 (0) 1509 223057; fax: +44 (0) 1509 223053; Internet: J.F.Rowland@lut.ac.uk; WWW: http://info.lut.ac.uk/departments/dils/staff/frowland.html

7. Publications

7.1. LIBRES: Library and Information Science Research

Electronic Journal, ISSN: 1058-6768. The Essays and Opinions Section of LIBRES is now accepting submissions. This is a non-refereed section.
The Essays and Opinions Section of LIBRES publishes articles that report on applied research incorporated to improve services and thus stimulate further thinking. One essential aim is to emphasize the importance of basic research but the Section also seeks articles that address non-traditional ways of doing research, that break out of the survey/quantitative mold. These should be theoretically grounded think pieces with substantive intellectual content but need not reflect empirical research. Indeed, the Opinion pieces can stimulate discussion as to what comprises “good” research. We look for speculation, forecasts, and the explication of problem opportunities. All opinions should be crisply delivered from a strong position. We also look for a clear delineation of ideas but written with humor, wit, and most importantly, a sense of engagement.

7.1.1. Journal Description
LIBRES is a quarterly electronic journal with an editorial board of library and information science scholars. LIBRES communicates scholarly thought and discussion on library and information science topics. LIBRES consists of four sections: Research and Applications (refereed); Essays and Opinions (non-refereed); News, Letters, and Reviews (non-refereed); and Pre-Prints and Abstracts (non-refereed). LIBRES is indexed in ERIC RIE and Library Literature.

7.1.2. Submissions
Submissions will be accepted only through electronic mail. Submissions should be sent to the attention of Keith Morgan Essays and Opinions Section Editor, at <kamorgan@mit.edu> or at <editors@kentvm.kent.edu>

Do not send more than 1,000 lines (approx. 18 pp.) in any transmission. If a submission is longer than 1,000 lines, then send it in two pieces, each of which may be a maximum of 1,000 lines.

Submissions will usually be acknowledged within 48 hours of receipt. Most reviews will be completed within 45 days of receipt.

7.1.3. Form and style
1. Use the citation format found in the APA (American Psychological Association) Publication Manual. Use _to_ indicate underling and *to* indicate bolding.
2. Do not have any lines that exceed 60 characters in length.
3. Use only ASCII character text, figures, tables, or diagrams.

7.1.4. Language
The official language of LIBRES is English. Translations into other languages for limited issues may be approved by special arrangement.

7.1.5. Deadlines
Submissions will be accepted at any time.

Keith Morgan, Essays and Opinions Editor, kamorgan@mit.edu
7.2. PACS Review

The Public-Access Computer Systems Review (PACS Review) is issuing a call for papers about imaging applications in libraries. Contact Charles Bailey (cbailey@uh.edu) if you are interested in submitting a paper. See below for a current description of the journal.

The PACS Review is a refereed electronic journal, established in 1989, that publishes articles on campus-wide information systems, CD-ROM LANs, document delivery systems, electronic publishing, expert systems, hypermedia and multimedia systems, locally mounted databases, network-based information resources and tools, and online catalogs.

Starting with the volume six, number one issue, the PACS Review: (1) publishes articles in both ASCII and HTML formats, (2) offers HTML articles with both internal and external links, and (3) gives authors the option of updating articles. (Updated articles are subject to normal editorial procedures.)

The PACS Review allows authors to retain the copyright to their articles and to republish them elsewhere.

Since the journal has an irregular publication schedule, article deadlines can be set to accommodate the demands of authors’ busy schedules. Unlike print journals, the PACS Review can publish accepted articles quickly.

The first four volumes of the PACS Review have also been published in book form by the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA). (Volume five is in preparation.)

To access the PACS Review author guidelines, point your World Wide Web client at:
<URL:http://info.lib.uh.edu/pr/guide.html>

To access the PACS Review home page, point your Web client at:
<URL:http://info.lib.uh.edu/pacsrev.html>

To access the current issue, point your Web client at:
<URL:http://info.lib.uh.edu/pr/v6/n1/content1.html>

The PACS Review is also available on the University of Houston Libraries’ Gopher server. Point your Gopher client at info.lib.uh.edu, port 70 and follow this menu path: Looking for Articles, Electronic Journals, E-Journals Published by the University of Houston Libraries, The Public-Access Computer Systems Review.

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