Digital Library News

Cambridge University Press and the University of California Agree to Open Access Publishing Deal

The University of California and Cambridge University Press have entered into a transformative agreement that will advance the global shift towards an open access future for research. The agreement is designed to maintain UC's access to Cambridge's journals, while also supporting open access publishing for UC authors. The partnership is UC's first open access agreement with a major publisher, and Cambridge's first such deal in the Americas.

"This agreement reflects the strong belief among UC faculty that our research should be available not just to the scientific community, but also to the world at large," said Dennis Ventry, UC Davis professor of law and vice chair of the Academic Senate University Committee on Library and Scholarly Communication, the UC's faculty committee for topics related to scholarly publishing.

"We are delighted that Cambridge is enthusiastic about partnering with us to ensure that researchers around the world, the taxpayers who fund our work, and the general public will have immediate and perpetual access to the research we do here at the University of California," Ventry added.

Under the agreement, UC will have full and permanent access to the Press's entire collection of over 400 journals, and open access publishing in Cambridge's journals will be available to authors across the UC's 10 campuses. Because the subscription 'reading' fee will go down as UC's open access publishing goes up, the university will see no significant overall increase to the cost of its contract. The three-year agreement will allow UC and Cambridge to pilot this approach from 2019 through 2021.

https://www.cdlib.org/cdlinfo/2019/04/10/cambridge-university-press-and-the-university-of-california-agree-to-open-access-publishing-deal/

Digital library: how-to guides published

Have questions about how to get your content digitized? Need help with Argo, JIRA, or metadata for your digitized content in the Stanford Digital Repository? Looking for a glossary of digital library acronyms?

In late 2018, the Digital Library Systems and Services – Product and Service Management team embarked on an overhaul of our digital library documentation on confluence. It was in need of a thorough review for information currency. It also needed reorganization, so people could find the information they were seeking to get their work done. Revisions are now complete, and the space is more user focused and user-friendly. We now have a regular schedule in place for documentation updates, and we welcome your feedback.

https://library.stanford.edu/blogs/digital-library-blog/2019/05/digital-library-how-guides-visit-our-revised-user-friendly

Vietnamese added to Asia Foundation's Free Digital Library for Children

The Asia Foundation collaborated with 90 volunteers in Hanoi to translate 100 children's books into Vietnamese and publish them on Let's Read, its free digital library for children. The events, held on 20 December 2018 and 3 January 2019, brought together editors from Kim Dong Publishing House as well as faculty members and students from University of Languages and International Studies – Hanoi, University of Social Sciences and Humanities – Hanoi, and Hanoi Pedagogical University 2. Partnering with Kim Dong Publishing House, the largest book producer and publisher for Vietnamese children, these events are the first of their kind to gather book enthusiasts from diverse backgrounds and inspire kids to read by making more books available in their local language. The two-day events began with teams of volunteers translating the colourful pages of books created in communities across Asia. On the second day, professional editors reviewed the translations and published books to the platform.

These join the 1800 books in 18 local languages already in the library. Each of them can be read and downloaded for free anytime and anywhere. In addition to working together to make these translations possible, Kim Dong Publishing House also signed an agreement with The Asia Foundation to provide 20 children's books from their own collection to be featured on the Let's Read digital library. These additions will enrich the library with stories created by Vietnamese authors and illustrators and will reflect the lives of Vietnamese children. To provide children in other countries a window into Vietnamese communities, these books will also be translated by Let's Read's network of volunteer translators across Asia.

Let's Read draws on The Asia Foundation's in-country capabilities, local partnerships, and technological expertise to empower communities to create, translate, and share high-quality, richly illustrated children's books. Since 1954, The Asia Foundation's Books for Asia program has donated print books to thousands of under-resourced educational institutions in 21 Asian countries. While print remains an effective means of delivering information in many parts of the developing world, mobile technology is quickly becoming a cost-effective, scalable model.

https://asiafoundation.org/2019/01/30/vietnamese-added-to-asia-foundations-free-digital-library-for-children/

East Nusa Tenggara preps digital library to promote tourism

As the country doubles its efforts to attract more tourists through various avenues, the East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) administration has prepared a digital library dedicated to resources on local tourism.

The region's Creative Economy and Tourism Agency head, Watan Darmawa, said such a move was expected to provide easy access to people looking to learn more about NTT's natural wonders, which, in turn, would boost local tourism.

"We are in the process of establishing a digital tourism library, which will be filled to the brim with various detailed information about tourism in NTT," Watan said on Tuesday as quoted by Antara. He added that the potential of rapid digital development had to be harnessed to promote tourism more effectively.

The digital library would be available to potential tourists through internet-enabled smartphones or computers, Watan said. "Tourists flying to NTT will have access to a treasure trove of information on natural and cultural highlights in the region."

He said the digital library would also serve as an information centre promoting various handcrafted products unique to the region. For instance, information about Nemberala Beach

in Rote Ndao regency will promote handcrafted souvenirs in the area such as traditional fabrics and food. Watan added that the digital library was expected to improve the experience of exploring and discovering natural and cultural gems in the region, following complaints from tourists about the lack of references.

"The digital library initiative will complement our continued efforts to promote local tourism at various international events." NTT Governor Victor Laiskodat expressed his optimism about tourism prospects as Labuan Bajo in West Manggarai regency was touted as a 'new Bali'. He believed that tourism was the only sector that could give development in the province a huge boost. In addition to Labuan Bajo, the province is home to many other destinations, including Kupang, Alor, Rote, Ende and Sumba, as well as the popular Komodo National Park.

https://www.thejakartapost.com/travel/2019/03/30/east-nusa-tenggara-preps-digital-library-to-promote-tourism.html

Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC)

The Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC) is a cooperative digital library for resources from and about the Caribbean and circum-Caribbean. The dLOC partner institutions are the core of dLOC. dLOC partners retain all rights to their materials and provide access to digitized versions of Caribbean cultural and historical and research materials currently held in archives, libraries, and private collections. dLOC also supports collaborative project development and funding initiatives for partners, including the Protecting Haitian Patrimony Initiative and a collaborative funding model with institutional members and personal member to contribute funding. These activities complement the work by the dLOC partners, who contribute content and time and expertise in shared governance.

https://dloc.com/

Pangia: A Global Interoperable Affiliation of Digital Libraries

Over the last 4 years, many large-scale digital libraries across the world have undertaken cooperative exchanges of information and discovery. These include Europeana, Trove, Tainacan, the National Digital Library of India, the National Diet Library of Japan, DigitalNZ, Canadiana, National Digital Library of China, National Digital Library of Korea, the Qatar National Library digital programs, the Digital Public Library of America, and the Digital Library of the Middle East. The exchanges have informed the conviction that it is now appropriate to formalize these relationships to allow for a more structured, accelerated exchange of information that will result in a planetary-scale digital library that federates metadata and promotes the management, sustainability, and augmentation of these projects as a collectively engineered, interoperable system.

CLIR, in service to and in partnership with these distinguished efforts, has designated Pangia as the program and product of shared knowledge, technical platform design, and governance to instantiate a global digital library of digital libraries, ensuring long-term cooperation and significantly reducing cost appropriate to a universal good.

The Metaphor

The term Pangia is a play on the geological term Pangaea, an ancient supercontinent: a coherence of all present-day continents into a single landmass (approximately 335 to 175 million years ago). The i in Pangia represents 'information', and the appropriated term signifies the desire and feasibility of virtually coalescing current and future digital library projects. The characteristics and features of each digital library would be preserved; the content specific to each would remain the responsibility of the country, region, or organization of origin. When viewed, however, through the lens of

Pangia, all would appear to be relational aspects of a global whole, providing an unprecedented ecosystem for research, teaching, new discovery, and the enrichment of human capacity.

The Cognitive Strategy

Pangaea represents the creative power and inference that characterize the discipline of geology, and the methodology of geology is critical to the success of Pangia. To think like a geologist is to recognize extremely long timescales that categorize the various eras of Earth's evolution. This perspective requires understanding our world as a non-static, at times astonishingly dynamic planet that continues to evolve.

Working within these vast eras of geochronology, geology applies 'scholarly habits one associates with the study of literature and the arts—the practice of close reading, sensitivity to allusion and analogy; capacity for spatial visualization' with an attendant rigorous inferential and imaginative logic. These learned ways of knowing, which are core to both humanistic and scientific inquiries, suit an enterprise like Pangia, which is transdisciplinary and must be planned to respond effectively and productively to the intricacies of human curiosity.

The Principles

Broad guidelines that frame Pangia's vision include the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, specifically articles 26 and 27.

Article 26

(1) Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

(2) Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

Article 27

Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.
Pangia is also shaped by elements of IFLA Global Vision:

- We are dedicated to equal and free access of information and knowledge. (1)
- We remain deeply committed to supporting literacy, learning, and reading. (2)
- We embrace digital innovation. (4)
- We see the need to build collaborations and partnerships. (7)
- We are guardians of the memory of the world. (9)

The Context of Climate

The project is further contextualized, with attendant urgency, as a response to the threats of climate change. Worldwide cooperation with attendant efficiencies of scale and cost is intuitively attractive; this coalition of effort is now catalyzed by the predicted, often devastating loss of our human and natural heritage due to dramatic and increasingly harsh shifts in the global climate. The loss includes erasures of our culture, including languages, built environments, and plastic artifacts; significant diminishing of diversity of species; loss of scientific and other research data that are crucial to better understanding and resolving our predicament; and the massive displacement of humanity and the loss of individual freedom of movement, access to education, and loss of personal property and over time personal history it represents.

Pangia will attempt to capture as many of these threatened aspects of our planet as is feasible. While initially a project that logically focuses on

large-scale national and international efforts, Pangia will be designed to allow for easily federated data and information from small, obscure, and remote digital projects, such as field studies, archeological sites, linguistic repositories, data repositories and individual laboratory files, records of extinction, native and indigenous archives, and histories of refugees. In this respect, Pangia will serve as a universally accessible record of life on Earth through a global community of contributors, a robust and ever-augmented chronicle of what is passing, what has passed and—as a platform for advanced research, new forms of human expression, and sophisticated modeling—what may come.

General Benefits

Shared benefits of a global-scale digital library can be calculated in contrast with hundreds, or more accurately thousands, of projects working independently. The affordances of cooperative execution should include a more cost-effective development and correlation of ongoing development, increased standardization, a shared data model, greater rights coordination, and shared methodologies of search and discovery, with an especially strong ability to facilitate interdisciplinary queries. Over time, the sheer scale of Pangia will provide an unprecedented database for artificial intelligence applications, pattern recognition, deep learning, and new search capabilities.

A Phased Project

Phase One, now initiated, entails a proof of concept and includes responses to topics of general interest: exchanging best practices in each organization, identifying mechanisms to achieve interoperability between continental and national digital libraries, articulation of the features of the digital platform, identifying usability issues in different parts of the world, and defining the challenges of sustainability and models of budgeting and sustainability. We are currently working with our partners to identify

their key areas of research interest in order to assign work that, when aggregated, can conduce to a comprehensive plan of short- and long-term execution.

Phase One, if successful, is expected to conclude in 2020 with an announcement of the intent to build Pangia and a declaration of its goals and rationale. New Zealand has agreed to host this culminating meeting and declaration. A successful inaugural summit was recently held in the Hague, co-sponsored by Europeana and the Center for Research Libraries (CRL). An intermediate meeting will be hosted in Doha in 2019.

Phase Two will commence thereafter, building out Pangia and initiating its focus on preserving and making accessible cultural heritage threatened by climate change.

https://www.clir.org/2019/04/clir-issues-128/

UH Libraries Now Offers Pressbooks for OER

University of Houston Libraries announces access to Pressbooks for the creation of open educational resources (OER). Pressbooks is simple book production software that is widely used in universities to create OER and can be used to create OER in a variety of formats, including open textbooks, modules, syllabi, and other course materials.

OER published on Pressbooks are accessible on all platforms (smartphone, tablet, e-reader, computer) and can be exported into multiple formats (web, PDF, EPUB, XML, etc.). The platform allows for embedded media and can integrate interactive content, such as web annotation and quiz questions.

"This is a really exciting development for the UH OER program," said Ariana Santiago, open educational resources coordinator at UH Libraries. "Pressbooks will make it easier for instructors to publish OER and ensure that students have free and perpetual access to the course materials."

A training webinar will be held on Tuesday, June 4 and is open to Texas Digital Library members. In this hands-on session led by Pressbooks personnel, attendees will learn the basics of creating an OER on the Pressbooks platform, including organizing, editing, importing, and exporting content.

Access to the UH Pressbooks network is available to only those affiliated with University of Houston and its use is intended for the creation or modification of open educational resources.

https://libraries.uh.edu/about/news/