

News

1. Institutions

1.1. International organisations

1.1.1. International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)

Internet Discussion Group Call for Papers

Libraries and the Internet: Global Case Studies.

The IFLA Internet Discussion Group (IIDG) seeks papers on the use of the Internet by libraries and librarians around the world. These papers will be published by IFLA in its series of monographs entitled IFLA Publications, issued in cooperation with Saur Verlag of Munich, Germany.

The monograph, entitled “Libraries and the Internet: Global Case Studies”, will be edited by Nancy R. John of the University of Illinois at Chicago and Edward J. Valauskas of Internet Mechanics and First Monday. Contributions to the monograph will be refereed by members of the IFLA Internet Discussion Group.

Papers in the monograph could examine:

- the use of the Internet in reference
- collections development and publishers on the Internet
- Internet-based catalogues
- document delivery and the Internet
- training for staff and patrons
- filtering software and libraries
- electronic journals: acquisition, circulation, archiving
- software acquisition and distribution
- electronic mail
- library staff policies governing the use of the Internet
- Internet laboratories and facilities
- Internet publishing
- intelligent agents
- server management and administration
- security
- public perceptions of the Internet and its relationship to libraries
- information quality on the Internet.

Contributions to this monograph will identify a specific use of the Internet addressing a given library problem, discuss the opportunities that the Internet provides to both library personnel and patrons, and discuss the effectiveness and impact of a given Internet-based solution.

This monograph will attempt to illustrate the uses of the Internet in libraries around the world. We welcome your participation in illustrating the diversity of library applications of the Internet.

For Author Guidelines see: <http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/ifla/VII/dg/index.htm>.

To submit a proposal for a paper, contact the Editors:

Nancy R. John, Assistant University Librarian, University of Illinois at Chicago, Library, Post Office Box 8198, Chicago, IL 60680, USA.

Tel.: +1 312 996 2716; Fax: +1 312 413 0424; Internet: nrj@uic.edu.

Edward J. Valauskas, Internet Mechanics, Post Office Box 87636, Chicago, IL 60680-0636, USA. Fax: +1 773 363 0023; Internet: ejv@uic.edu.

1.2. National organisations

1.2.1. American Society for Information Science

ASIS to Make Valuable Resources for Aspiring Information Professionals available on the Web, Silver Spring, MD, July 25, 1997.

The American Society for Information Science (ASIS), one of the leading professional organizations for information professionals announced today a major expansion of the content of its World Wide Web site. The ASIS web, which has won awards from *Yahoo* and *Look Smart* Internet search services, will begin to develop a comprehensive *Resources* section.

The first phase of the development will be to provide aspiring information professionals with detailed information on academic programs in Information Science and related fields of study. Schools offering such programs will be given the opportunity to participating for an annual subscription fee, thus making information about their programs available, on a 24 hour, 365 days a year basis, to the more than 200,000 visitors who use the ASIS web site annually.

Schools can submit text describing their program (limited to 200 words) for an annual fee of \$200. Optionally, a direct link back to the school's own web site can be included for an additional \$100 per year. ASIS Patron members receive a 30% discount and schools that participate in the ASIS Annual Alumni Reception can get the program description, link and Reception sponsorship (normally \$95 itself) for a total fee of \$295 when purchased together.

For more information contact:

Peter Solomon, Deputy Executive Director, American Society for Information Science, tel.: +1 301 495 0900; Fax: +1 301 495 0810; email: psolomon@asis.org.

2. Conferences

2.1. *Digital Libraries '98*

The Third ACM Conference on Digital Libraries, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, June 23–26, 1998 (Sponsored by ACM through SIGIR and SIGLINK).

Held immediately following Hypertext '98, Digital Libraries '98 will provide a common setting for researchers, practicing professionals and students to share experiences and to present results about system construction, human-computer interaction, hypertext, information retrieval, digital librarianship, digital identifiers and many other topics related to the field of digital libraries. The conference attracts distinguished attendees from a diverse range of fields. Digital Libraries '98 will provide a forum for presentation and discussion of exciting and original developments in digital libraries through a variety of formats. The Proceedings of Digital Libraries '98 will be published by ACM Press.

Technical program: Digital Libraries '98 will provide a common setting for researchers and practicing professionals to share experiences and compare notes about authoring, publishing, system construction, human-computer interaction, copyright issues, digital library services, electronic journals, evaluation, and many other topics. Attendees come with backgrounds in computing, library science, psychology, literature, sociology, engineering, law, medicine – many different fields – and we warmly invite your participation. Digital Libraries '98 will provide a forum for presentation and discussion of exciting and original developments in digital libraries through several formats: papers, panels, short papers, demonstrations, posters, tutorials, and workshops.

Topics for the conference encompass anything of relevance to the field of Digital Libraries. Possible topics include, but are not limited to: DL projects, user experience, DL technologies, search engines, name spaces, indexing, collection development and management, user support, digital librarianship, requirements for DLs, economics of DLs, lessons learned, collaborative libraries, information summarization and visualization, metadata issues, multimedia collections and many others.

Critical dates:

15 Jan 98: Papers due, Proposals for Panels, Workshops, and Tutorials due.

31 Mar 98: Notification of acceptance for Papers, Panels, Workshops, and Tutorials.

13 Apr 98: Short Papers due. Proposals for Posters and Demos due.

20 Apr 98: Final versions of accepted papers due. Notification of acceptance for Short Papers, Posters, and Demos.

Proprietary or confidential information: The purpose of scientific meetings like DL98 is to share and disseminate information; papers which make claims that are not fully disclosed or that assert that their results may not be used in other work should not be considered acceptable. Therefore, your submission should contain no proprietary or confidential material and should cite no proprietary or confidential publications.

Confirmation of receipt of proposals: Receipt of all submitted proposals will be con-

firmed by communicate with the submitting author. If you do not receive such confirmation (probably most will be email) then assume the worst and check in. We will continue to send your confirmations – until we hear back from you.

For complete information contact: Conference Committee, Conference Chair, Robert M. Akscyn Knowledge Systems, rma@ks.com; Program Chair, Ian Witten, Professor of Computer Science, University of Waikato, New Zealand, ihw@rimu.cs.waikato.ac.nz; Associate Conference Chair, David L. Hicks, Knowledge Systems, hicks@ks.com; Publications Chair, Frank Shipman, Texas A&M University, USA, shipman@cSDL.cs.tamu.edu.

Joining the team: If you would like to be a member of the DL98 conference team, we would heartily welcome your help. There are many opportunities to contribute to the success of the conference. Your help would be much appreciated.

2.2. Fifth International ISKO Conference

The International Society for Knowledge Organization (ISKO) will conduct its fifth International Conference (ISKO 5) in Lille, France, August 25–29 1998. The theme of the conference is: Structures and Relations in Knowledge Organization.

The conference will focus on the role of relationships and emergent knowledge structures as represented in the human mind, in information handling tools – including classification schemes, thesauri, and indexing systems – and in computers and intelligent/knowledge-based systems.

Papers and panels addressing this theme from any of the following perspectives are invited:

1. Theory of knowledge organization: History, paradigms, philosophy, societal aspects, epistemology, division of the sciences.
2. Disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to knowledge organization: Formalization of structures and relations in and across linguistics, semiotics, cognitive sciences, computer science, artificial intelligence, etc.
3. Cognitive approaches to knowledge organization: Conceptual entities and inter-concept relations, category formation, classical and non-classical classifications and their use in information organization and retrieval, concept representation in knowledge-based systems, object-oriented analysis and design, types of relations.
4. Design of information systems: Structure and relations in indexing and retrieval languages, design of controlled vocabularies, terminology building and extraction tools, thesauri and metathesauri, multilingual thesauri, standardization of relationships, problems of compatibility.
5. The Comparative approach: Common and particular relationships in different knowledge systems.
6. Linguistics in knowledge organization: Structure and relations in sublanguages/special purpose languages/technical writing, discourse structures and relations, intelligent text processing, natural language processing-based systems and their use in knowledge representation and extraction.

7. New technologies for knowledge organization: Structures and relations in the online environment, applications of classical and non-classical structures to computer-based indexing and retrieval systems, search engines, distributed and multilingual knowledge bases.
8. Conceptual modeling: Data modeling, knowledge modeling, user profile modeling.
9. Universals of structures and relations in knowledge organization.

Theoreticians, researchers and practitioners in the field of structures and relations in knowledge organization are invited to submit an abstract of 500 to 1000 words by December 1, 1997, to: Widad Mustafa Elhadi, ISKO '5 Conference Chair, UFR IDIST (Information Documentation, Information Scientifique et Technique), University Charles De Gaulle Lille 3, BP 149, 59653 Villeneuve D'Ascq, France. Phone: 33 (0) 3 20 41 64 08; Fax: 33 (0) 3 20 41 63 79; E-mail: isko.conf@univ-lille3.fr.

An international program committee will select the papers for presentation, and authors will be notified by February 9, 1998. The deadline for submission of papers for the printed conference proceedings will be May 4, 1998.

Authors are invited to send three printed copies of their abstracts to the above-mentioned address together with an electronic version which must imperitatively be sent in an RTF format to the following e-mail address: ikso.conf@univ-lille3.fr.

The file's name should be the author's name and not mention "isko" in order to avoid same name file destruction. The abstract must include the author's name, institution, mailing and electronic addresses. Authors should suggest the topic area for which they consider their paper to be best suited. All papers must be in the English language regardless of the participants' nationality.

2.3. The Faxon Institute's Second Annual Colloquium on Scholarly-Communication Issues

January 7–8, 1998, Hotel Intercontinental, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA.

The scholarly communication process is undergoing significant change as paperbased publishing continues to be supplemented, and in some cases supplanted, by emerging electronic technologies. As electronic publishing becomes more prevalent, issues related to the creation, distribution, ownership and the economics of scholarly information are challenging all parties involved in the process, including scholars, publishers, vendors, librarians and academic administrators.

The Faxon Institute's Colloquium on Scholarly Communication Issues series seeks to provide a forum in which all interested parties can participate in a pro-vocative, but reasoned dialogue that can lead to a better overall understanding for everyone of these complex issues.

2.3.1. Program format

The focal point of the colloquium is a highly-interactive series of roundtable discussions which enable the participants to engage in a dialogue on a variety of key issues relat-

ed to the scholarly communication process. Roundtables are scheduled consecutively throughout the day (Thursday, January 8) so that attendees can select one roundtable in which to participate and still be able to observe the remaining roundtable sessions from the audience. Attendees are not required to participate in a roundtable but can, instead, observe the program proceedings and ask questions at the end of each session. (Each of these roundtables is moderated by an experienced facilitator.)

2.3.2. Speakers

Dr. Stanley Chodorow, Provost, University of Pennsylvania, will set the stage for the roundtable discussions on Thursday, January 8 with a talk on intellectual property issues and scholarly publishing from the perspective of a chief academic officer who is involved actively in shaping the academy's position on these issues.

Mr. Robert Siegel, co-host of National Public Radio's popular news program, "All Things Considered", returns again this year to moderate the roundtable discussions.

2.3.3. Who should attend

The colloquium series is designed for research library managers and administrators, scholarly publishing executives and editors, researchers who create scholarly information, and chief academic officers and other administrators who develop policies related to the creation and management of scholarly information. The colloquium is highly beneficial for anyone involved in the scholarly communication process who wants to understand more fully the challenges and constraints faced by other members of the community.

2.3.4. Program outline

Wednesday, January 7 – Opening reception, dinner, and keynote address (speaker to be announced).

Thursday, January 8 – Opening remarks and roundtable discussions.

Opening remarks – Dr. Stanley Chodorow, Provost, University of Pennsylvania.

Roundtable #1 – Electronic Publishing and the Scholarly Communication Process.

Roundtable #2 – Emerging Intellectual Property Models.

Roundtable #3 – Evolution of Licensing Models for Electronic Information.

Roundtable #4 – Funding Issues and Scholarly Information.

2.3.5. Registration information

The conference registration fee of \$295.00 includes opening reception and dinner on Wednesday, January 7; colloquium participation, continental breakfast, lunch, and closing reception on Thursday, January 8. For more information, contact Adrian W. Alexander, The Faxon Institute, alexander@faxon.com. Or visit the Faxon Institute on the Web at <http://www.faxon.com/html/ind-fi.html> for a copy of the registration form.

2.3.6. *Hotel information*

The Faxon Institute's Colloquium on Scholarly Information Issues will be held at the Hotel Intercontinental, 444 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70130, USA. The Faxon Institute has secured the hotel's ALA Midwinter Conference rate of \$125 single/\$138 double, so ALA attendees can secure an excellent rate at an outstanding hotel for the duration of both meetings. For reservations, contact the hotel directly at +1 800 445 6563 and identify yourself as a Faxon Institute participant. The hotel is in the heart of the New Orleans business district, with easy access to the Convention Center, other hotels and the French Quarter.

2.4. *Conference on the History and Heritage of Science Information Systems: Call for papers*

The American Society for Information Science (ASIS), the ASIS Special Interest Group/History and Foundations of Information Science (SIG/HFIS), and the Chemical Heritage Foundation announce a call for papers for the Conference on the History and Heritage of Science Information Systems, to be held Oct. 23–25, 1998 (immediately prior to the annual meeting of ASIS) in Pittsburgh, PA, USA.

This conference will explore the history and heritage of the nature, development, and influence of all types of science information systems worldwide. Abstracts of papers to be submitted are due April 1, 1998, and authors of tentatively accepted papers will be notified promptly. Full acceptance will be based on receipt of the complete paper, which should be received no later than June 1, 1998. For accepted papers, several competitive scholarships will also be available for financial support for attendance and anyone wishing to apply for these should submit a completed paper by May 15, 1998. All submissions will be refereed by a panel of experts. All accepted papers will be published.

Science information "systems" is broadly interpreted to include not only the history of specific systems and services developed for the sciences but also the ideas, concepts, and historical context affecting their development. Alternative presentation styles (such as videos, photographic exhibits, demonstration of information technologies) are encouraged.

Specific topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

- history of information handling in various scientific disciplines (such as chemistry, biology, physics)
- role of science information systems in scholarly communication
- assessment of the influence of major conferences relating to the development of scientific information systems, such as the 1948 Royal Society Scientific Information Conference and the 1958 International Conference on Scientific Information (Washington, DC)
- role of science and technology information policies
- contributions of specific individuals to the development of science information systems
- pre-computer era science information retrieval systems

- history of computer-based science information systems and technologies
- development of major commercial science information systems (such as BIOSIS, Chemical Abstracts Service, Engineering Index, ISI, Inc.)
- history of the role of specific international organizations in the development of science information systems (such as CERN, FAO, FID, IAEA)

Inquiries regarding the Conference should be addressed to: Robert V. Williams, Conference Chair, College of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, USA. Phone: +1 803 777 2324; Fax: +1 803 777 7938; E-mail: bobwill@sc.edu.

2.5. The eighth Off-Campus Library Services Conference
Providence, Rhode Island, April 22 to 24, 1998.

2.5.1. Intent

The primary objective of the conference is to provide a forum where practitioners involved with library services for off-campus constituents can gather to exchange relevant ideas, concerns, and perspectives, and to share research.

2.5.2. Format

The program offers featured speakers, concurrent paper sessions, and discussion groups. Opportunities are provided for informal networking among participants. The schedule reflects the geographic, philosophic, and programmatic diversity of services to students in off-campus settings.

Topics include: program planning and development, program administration, program promotion, strategic thinking/strategic planning, outcomes assessment, accreditation/licensure, staff/personnel issues, off-site isolation, partnering, research and evaluation, country-specific developments, student and faculty services, library user education, teaching/learning strategies, document delivery, copyright/licensing issues, impact of off-campus students on other libraries, distance education and tele-learning, library support for asynchronous learning, home pages for remote users, Internet and World Wide Web and e-mail services, electronic reserves, and emerging technologies.

2.6. Workshop: Literacy and Reading Services to Cultural and Linguistic Minorities.
Location: Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Venue: Conference of International Federation of Library Associations, August 16–21, 1998. Sponsor: IFLA Section on Reading.

2.6.1. Goal of workshop

To bring together experts from several countries and regions to explore the kinds of programs being used to encourage literacy and promote reading among children and newly literate adults. Papers should focus on such issues as the factors which make for a successful reading promotion program; the publication of materials in indigenous languages; the transition from mother-tongue reading to majority language

texts; the feasibility of publishing multi-language editions of reading materials. The objective is to have the participants produce guidelines for planning successful projects.

2.6.2. Format of papers

The intention is to include papers and case studies that provide guidance on the factors associated with successful literacy and reading promotion projects for linguistic and cultural minority groups. Papers that focus on the underlying concepts and philosophy guiding the programs will be preferred to those that are purely descriptive. The Section wants papers from several different geographical areas.

2.6.3. Important dates: 1 Dec. 1997 Deadline for submission of 500 word abstract to amfasick@crl.com or fax: 415 564 3096.

15 Jan 1998 – Notification of acceptance/rejection of submission by the program committee.

1 March 1998 – Deadline for full paper submission.

Papers must be submitted in one of the official IFLA languages (English, French, German, Russian, Spanish). The major workshop language will be English, so authors are requested to provide an English translation of papers submitted in other languages.

3. Library and Information Science Schools

3.1. Programmes

3.1.1. MA/MSc learning strategies

Thames Valley University will be offering a new programme of study leading to an award of either an MA or MCs in Learning Strategies, beginning in February 1998.

The programme is aimed at learning facilitators (be they involved in tutoring, learning support, information resource support, technical training, learning materials development or whatever), to assist them to become learning strategists. The programme aims to develop in learning facilitators the ability to devise learning strategies and to implement creative and effective student learning programmes.

Duration of Programme: one calendar year.

Outline programme structure:

Core modules:

1. Management of learning
2. Learning Strategies
3. Dissertation (includes research methods element)

Option modules (two from):

1. Computer Mediated Communication in the learning process
2. Managing the AP(E)L process

3. Learning through assessment
4. Designing and developing flexible learning programmes
5. Implementing and managing flexible learning
6. Tutoring flexible learning
7. Learning on flexible programmes

3.2. *Appointments*

3.2.1. *Associate Professor Michèle Cloonan named chair of UCLA's Department of Library and Information Science*

Associate Professor Michèle Valerie Cloonan has been named chair of UCLA's Department of Library and Information Science in the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies. Cloonan, a member of the UCLA faculty for nearly seven years, succeeds Professor Christine Borgman, who stepped down at the end of June to spend more time teaching and pursuing research.

Cloonan will serve as department chair for three years effective immediately. Among Cloonan's immediate goals as the new chair are to expand the department's community outreach efforts, including strengthening connections with alumni, both in and out of California, and providing professional development opportunities; enhancing student recruitment programs to attract top applicants from around the country; and expanding the department's student internship program.

Cloonan received her M.S. and Ph.D. in library science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, having earned a master's degree in the humanities at the University of Chicago and a B.A. from Bennington College. In addition to working at UCLA, she has served as curator of rare books and headed the rare books department at Smith College and worked in the areas of preservation and special collections at the Newberry Library in Chicago and the Brown University libraries. Cloonan also has held numerous adjunct and visiting professor appointments.

4. Awards

4.1. *Dr. Paul Wasserman, founding dean of College of Library and Information Services, receives prestigious award*

Dr. Paul Wasserman, founding dean of University of Maryland's College of Library and Information Services (CLIS), professor Emeritus and a former Editorial Board member of *Education for Information* was awarded the Gale Research Award for Excellence in Business Librarianship by the Reference and User Association, a division of the American Library Association. Dr. Wasserman received this award on June 30, 1997 in San Francisco at the American Library Association's annual conference.

Dr. Wasserman came to the University of Maryland in 1965, as founding dean of the College of Library and Information Services. He served in this capacity until 1970 and since then has been a professor on the faculty. In 1987, Dr. Wasserman was a Fulbright professor at Kelaniya University in Sri Lanka, and in 1993, he received a Fulbright grant to teach and conduct research in Poland at the University of Warsaw's Institute of Library and Information Sciences. He has served as consultant and advisor to UNESCO, the Organization of American States and foreign governments, in developing workshops and offering seminars in many regions of the world in business information systems and management of natural information systems. Most recently, in Beijing, China in 1996, he offered courses at ISTIC (Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China).

Currently, Dr. Wasserman is engaged as Co-investigator, with Dr. Eileen Abels of the CLIS faculty, on a research effort, funded by the Kellogg Foundation, building a model Web site database to be used by public libraries. A process is being designed to gather and continuously update the economic and community characteristics of a county. This new, proactive, value-added contribution from a public library will serve as a community information service for business, industry, and citizens.

The Gale Research Award for Excellence in Business Librarianship, established in 1989, is given annually to an individual who has made a significant contribution to business librarianship.

5. Research grants

5.1. W.K. Kellogg Foundation second grant

The College of Library and Information Services of the University of Maryland announces with pleasure that it has received a second grant of \$100,000 from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation which will be used to conclude the research begun on September 1, 1996. This effort is engaged in building a comprehensive electronic database comprising all of the features of the economic, social, political and other community characteristics of Montgomery County Maryland and is a collaborative effort between the faculty of the College and the Montgomery County Department of Public Libraries. The period of this supplementary grant runs from September 1, 1997 until December 31, 1998. Faculty members directing the project are: Eileen Abels, Principal Investigator and Paul Wasserman, Co-Investigator.

During the pilot phase of the research the technical infrastructure was put into place and strong links were built with library staff members and officials of public agencies of the County and the State. Selected substantive components of the database were completed and mounted for searching accessibility in the Web Site including Quality of Life, Environmental Characteristics and selected features of the Business and Economic conditions of the County.

The final database growing out of this effort will serve as comprehensive current

inventory of the facts and figures on the region's information characteristics and is being designed for regular and continuous updating. It is anticipated that the work will serve as a model for other public libraries in other regions. During the final stage of the research the work will move further toward achieving the main components of the research: 1) the system development – refining the technical features and elements of the database and access through electronic networks, including an architecture compatible with the Montgomery County Public Library System; 2) the information gathering to identify the sources of requisite facts and figures including the specifying of the sources from which the information is drawn; 3) furthering cooperative relationships in the region so as to develop the strongest possible database of all the county's pertinent characteristics; 4) continuing training of staff members in locating the information needed to fill in the details and in the features and elements of the database to insure its continuous updating; 5) dissemination of the information and details of the project results to the widest possible audience in an effort to extend the design to the wider region of the state and to public librarians in other regions; and 6) continuing the evaluation of every element of the work from the outline framework and model on through the process of data gathering and organizing, and including the impact of the data on intended users of the information.

5.2. Interdepartmental Artificial Intelligence Research at University of Maryland receives three-year DARPA grant

A team of four professors from University of Maryland was recently awarded a \$1 million grant from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Association (DARPA) for a three-year project researching cross-language information retrieval.

The four-person team is made up of: Dr. Douglas Oard, College of Library and Information Services; Dr. Bonnie Dorr, Department of Computer Science; Dr. James Hendler, Department of Computer-Science; and Dr. Philip Resnick, Department of Linguistics.

The team's goal is to develop and evaluate a computer system that will retrieve documents in multiple languages across a wide range of topics. The system will be semantics-based, using Lexical Conceptual Structures as the basis for matching. The system will also be translingual, using large lexicons in a range of languages, and will allow new languages to be introduced rapidly. The system will scale well with collection size, query volume, and subject matter domains. In addition, the system will be interactive, keeping the user in the loop, and will screen and guide the information seeking process.

The University of Maryland interdepartmental team was one of only 20 groups (including another team from the University) from approximately 200 applicants to receive DARPA grants. The money awarded will support three graduate research assistants and one post-doctoral researcher.

5.3. OCLC Awards 1997 research grants

Dublin, Ohio, Oct. 10, 1997 – The OCLC Office of Research has awarded two Library and Information Science Research Grants to university researchers for 1997.

Francis Miksa, professor, the University of Texas at Austin, received a grant for “Examining the Attributes of Information Resources on the World Wide Web and Testing for Their Usefulness as Metadata”. Dr. Miksa’s study will identify, compile and test for usefulness as metadata the attributes found in information resources at two diverse kinds of Web sites: information resources in Latin American Network Information Center (LANIC), the Web site of the Institute for Latin American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin; and information resources found in a sample of Web sites that feature software for acquisition.

Jian Qin, assistant professor, University of Southern Mississippi, received a grant for “Computational Representation of Web Objects in an Interdisciplinary Digital Library: a Survey and an Experiment in Polymer Science”. Dr. Qin intends to investigate the current use of metadata elements on the Web and experiment with one of the schemes, the Dublin Core, in a subject domain – polymer science. On the basis of this investigation and experiment, a framework for implementing the Dublin Core in domain-specific digital libraries will be developed. Theoretical and practical questions are to be explored in the normalization of Web objects, breadth and depth of metadata scheme expansion, and operability of expanded metadata. This study will enhance understanding of current metadata use and implementation in subject-specific domain digital libraries and enrich the methodology for further studies in metadata.

“We are pleased to be able to support these projects”, said Terry Noreault, director, OCLC Research and Special Projects Division. “University-based research adds an important dimension to our research agenda, and these projects promise findings that should be of broad interest to the library and information science community”.

The OCLC Library and Information Science Research Grant program awards grants of up to \$10,000 to help foster quality research by faculty in schools of library and information science. Projects are generally completed within one year, and findings are published in the *Annual Review of OCLC Research* and in the public domain. Application materials for 1998 will be available in November. For more information, contact the OCLC Office of Research by phone at +1 614 764 6487 or by e-mail at diane_morris@oclc.org.

OCLC Online Computer Library Center is a nonprofit, membership, computer library service and research organization whose computer network and services link more than 25,000 libraries in 63 countries and territories [www.oclc.org]. (DM/ND)

For more information: Keith Shafer +1 614 761 5049; Email: Shafer@oclc.org
Nita Dean +1 614 761 5002; Email: nita_dean@oclc.org

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5.4. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Thanks to a \$1.3 million grant to the University of Illinois, half of it from the federal government, the information highway is being rerouted into several low-income neighborhoods of Urbana and Champaign, not far from the campus of the University of Illinois, making itself available to people who thus far have been underserved by information technology.

The grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and a variety of community agencies will fund a project led by the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS). The other primary partners of the project, titled "Community-Wide Networking: Building Equity and Participation", are the Urban League of Champaign County and Prairienet, a community computer network based in Champaign.

Over the course of the next two years, more than 1,000 low-income households in four targeted neighborhoods – whose members include African Americans, single parents and seniors – will receive free computer equipment, much of it to be donated by local organizations, free computer support, and low-cost or free membership in Prairienet.

5.5. Scottish office announces major new educational research projects

Mr Brian Wilson MP, Scottish Office Education Minister, recently announced the award of a new educational research grant of \$327,110 to the Robert Gordon University School of Information and Media, to investigate teachers' knowledge needs in the area of Information Technology. The project will be undertaken by Dr Dorothy Williams, Mrs Kay Wilson and Mr Robert Newton over the next seven months. It forms part of the Scottish Office Education and Industry Department's annual research programme, which has an important role to play in informing education policy, such as the British Government's recent announcements that all schools are to be linked to the Internet and that funding from the National Lottery will be used to ensure that all teachers and school librarians are trained in using the Internet.

Ian M. Johnson, Head of School of Information and Media, The Robert Gordon University, 352, King Street, Aberdeen AB24 5BN, Scotland, UK. Tel.: +44 01224 262950; Fax: +44 01224 262969; Email: I.M.JOHNSON@RGU.AC.UK; URL – <http://www.rgu.ac.uk/schools/sim/sim.htm>.

5.6. Models eLib Project

The Models eLib project at UKOLN, University of Bath has awarded the supporting study, "The likely role, nature and impact of electronic publishing on scholarly monographs and textbooks" to the Department of Information and Library Studies, University of Wales Aberystwyth and the Centre for Information Quality Management.

The project is being directed by Ray Lonsdale and Chris Armstrong, will last three months and is worth UKP 9,800.

It is hoped that the final report and publications will show the extent of such electronic publishing (particularly in the UK) and detail some of the issues for collection management and users as well as those faced by publishers.

Ray Lonsdale, rel@aber.ac.uk. Chris Armstrong, Centre for Information Quality Management, lisqual@cix.compulink.co.uk.

5.7. Research grant announcement

The Special Libraries Association is soliciting proposals for the 1998 Steven I. Goldspiel Research Grant. This grant is available annually for a research project in the area of special librarianship or information management. The amount of the 1998 grant will be approximately \$20,000. Proposals should be postmarked by February 27, 1998 and the recipient will be announced in June of 1998.

Grant proposals should address one of the areas specified in the SLA Research Agenda:

- Futures: how developments in society and technology will impact the special library;
- User Issues: information seeking and use, expert systems, human-computer interfaces, information behavior models;
- Measures of Productivity and Value: measuring value of information, use of measures by special librarians;
- Client/User Satisfaction Measures: adapting satisfaction measures to special library/corporate settings; marketing techniques for assessing value of new services;
- Staffing: assessing staffing requirements.

Proposals will be evaluated by SLA's Research Committee according to the research topic, methodology, qualifications of researchers, proposals presentation, budget and timetable.

Funded projects include the following:

1997, Using Information in the Virtual Office: How Special Libraries are Serving Telecommuters, Claire R. McInerney, New York's Center for Technology in Government.
1996, Potential Applications of Artificial Intelligence and Expert System Technologies in the Special Library of the Future, F.W. Lancaster and Linda C. Smith, School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
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Interested parties can visit our website at <http://www.sla.org/research/index.html> or contact me. I will be happy to answer any questions that you have.

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6. Publications

6.1. *Journal of Library Services for Distance Education (fwd)*

Coming to your computer: a new, free, peer-reviewed e-journal, *The Journal of Library Services for Distance Education*. The first issue, to be published soon, will contain a series of articles by experts in the field, speculating about the future of library support for distance learning.

International in scope, the journal will publish refereed articles focusing on the issues and challenges of providing research/information services to students enrolled in formal post-secondary distance education. It will particularly strive to meet the continuing education needs of practitioners by providing a forum for the discussion of extended learning policies and practices, and trends in information technology as they impact the delivery of library services for distance learners and faculty.

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6.2. UNESCO's World Information Report

The first World Information Report 1997/1998, published by UNESCO, has just been released. This 390 A4 pages book is meant to provide a comprehensive and topical worldwide picture of archive, library and information services on the five continents. In Part 1, libraries and information services on the one hand and archives on the other, are presented in 13 chapters, each devoted to a particular region; audiovisual archives are the subject of one worldwide chapter. Part 2 reviews the infrastructures for information work with 5 chapters devoted to Computer developments, Multimedia technologies, Telecommunication technologies, The Internet, and Design criteria for large library buildings. Part 3 offers 8 chapters in which a number of issues and trends are discussed: The information society, Information highways, Economic intelligence, Book publishing, Access to archival holdings and unique library materials, Presentation of archival holdings and unique library materials, Copyright in the electronic age, International co-operation and assistance. The report is edited by Yves Courrier (UNESCO) and ASIS member Andrew Large (GSLIS, McGill). The 32 authors were drawn from a variety of countries, but most authors in part 2 and 3 are from the industrialized countries. As one may expect, ASIS is well represented with Josephine Sison, Ching-chih Chen, Blaise Cronin, Geoffrey McKim and Charles Oppenheim. The report is also available in French and soon in Spanish. A few chapters in English may be read at: <http://www.unesco.org/cii/wirerpt/vers-web.htm>.

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