

Editorial

A Note from the new Co-Editor-in-Chief Arnoud de Kemp

Dear Readers,

I am more than pleased to confirm the invitation to join Elliot Siegel as Co-Editor-in-Chief of this journal. I am stepping in for Johan van Halm, who has been a good friend and colleague for many years. I knew Johan from my days as President of EUSIDIC. I still maintain many good contacts with fine colleagues everywhere. Johan and I exchanged some optimistic e-mails after his medical treatment in 2008 and then the sad news came that he had not survived. We will remember Johan for his enthusiasm and networking. He really was a ‘flying Dutchman’!

On a personal note:

I am also a Dutchman, but living and working in Germany since 1984. Parallel to my studies of Dutch language in Leiden and economics in Rotterdam, I entered the publishing arena in the sixties and held soon senior positions in some international Dutch publishing companies: Sijthoff (for the International Court of Justice), Mouton (now part of Walter de Gruyter in Berlin), D. Reidel Publishing Company (since then Kluwer Academic and now part of Springer), Swets & Zeitlinger before I moved to Germany in 1984.

In 1984 I joined Springer-Verlag in Berlin, later also for the offices in Heidelberg and New York. When I left Springer in 2004, I was as Member of the Board responsible for global marketing, sales and product development.

During these twenty years I became intensively involved in the development of databases. There were many projects, just to mention Red Sage, RightPages, MeDoC, Beilstein, Gmelin. At Springer I also had the privilege to introduce electronic content and new kinds of information services in the early nineties. SpringerLink is one of my children.

I was Chairman of EUSIDIC (3 years), President of the German Society for Information Science and Information Practice DGD, now DGI (6 years), Director of the International Electronic Publishing Research Centre IEPRC (10 years), Chairman of the Electronic Publishing Working Group AKEP in the German Publishers and Booksellers Association Börsenverein (9 years), Member of the Board of the International Association of STM Publishers and Member of the Informatik Gesellschaft GI (German Computer Science Society) as well as other positions and memberships.

I founded digiprimo in 2004, an Internet platform for images and texts, which is now also a publishing platform. Since 2008 I am also Director of the Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft AKA in Heidelberg.

In 2006 we launched the first APE (Academic Publishing in Europe) Conference in Berlin, which brought together all stakeholders involved in scholarly communication, academic publishing, information services, technology providers, libraries and repositories, politics and policies, including the European Commission. The APE Conferences now represent an ongoing discussion and high level exchange in the rapidly changing world of information and documentation. Selected papers have been presented in this journal.

'APE 2010: Scientists & Publishers' is scheduled for January 2010 in the Berlin Brandenburg Academy of Sciences. Please see: www.ape2010.eu.

Elliot and I look forward to intensify the communication about new developments in the information and communication world, including electronic publishing, the semantic web, ontologies, digital libraries, STI innovations, search engines, health information services to mention a few areas of interest.

We will have some new members on the Advisory Editorial Board to assist us. In the future we will continue to publish high quality papers, both original contributions and reports of cutting-edge conferences.

Of course we welcome your comments and recommendations!

Looking forward to hearing from you,

With best regards,

Arnoud de Kemp

Heidelberg, August 2009

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