News

International Children's Digital Library
Children absorb the culture and attitudes of their community. Consequently, cycles of intolerance pass from one generation to the other. Therefore, the mission of the International Children's Digital Library Foundation is to prepare children in an ethnically and culturally diverse environment by building the world's largest online multicultural repository of children's literature. The ICDL (International Children's Digital Library) offers free access to exemplary works from more than 42 countries in 11 languages with innovative software that hs been developed by knowing from young people about their needs, interests, and capacities. Initiated in China, the first branch library opened recently in Mongolia.
Source http://en.childrenslibrary.org/

California Digital Library becomes accessible
Researchers worldwide will soon have access to previously inaccessible collections of documents, photographs, and other rich archival materials related to California's environmental history. California Digital Library (CDL), of the University of California in partnership with nine California institutions, has been awarded a competitive grant to catalogue thirty-three collections documenting a range of important issues in the state's environmental history.

Highlights from the collections include the corporate records of Unocal, a major oil company; the papers of Frank Sherwood Rowland, the Nobel-prize winning scientist who discovered the effects of CFCs on the ozone layer; the records of prominent California leaders in the Sierra Club; and materials on the state's tidelands controversy, with a complete environmental profile of Los Angeles Harbour.
Source http://www.cdlib.org/news/pdf/ clir_announcement_final.pdf

IASLIC conference 2009
The four day Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centre's (IASLIC) XXVII All India Conference on 'Library/ information users in digital era' was

inaugurated at KIIT premises on 26 December 2009 by Hon'ble MP, Lok Sabha, Dr Prasanna Kumar Patasani in the presence of Shri Debi Prasad Mishra, Hon'ble Minister of Higher Education and Tourism and Culture, Government of Orissa. The conference focused on very relevant theme of digital era, will be beneficial to library professionals, information scientists and students. A large number academicians, library professionals and information scientists were presenting research papers at the conference.

Major focus areas of the conference were information resources, information and indigenous knowledge, information users, user studies, study of information use, information needs of users, information seeking and gathering behaviour of users, and user education programmes. Besides, Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings were held on specific thematic areas including computer application in libraries, web-based information management, library and information science education, LIS education in direct and distance mode, humanities information and impact of IT, social sciences information, informatics, informatics indicators and industrial information.

International Conference on Academic Libraries

The International Conference on Academic Libraries (ICAL–2009) was organized by Delhi University Library System during 5-8 October 2009. Dr Ellen R Tise, President, IFLA, delivered the inaugural address of the conference. Dr Sam Pitroda, presently Advisor to the Prime Minister of India on Public Information Infrastructure and Innovations, Government of India and formerly Chairman, National Knowledge Commission, India, was the Chief Guest of the event.

The scope of the conference was knowledge sharing, ICT management, digital repository management, e-teaching, e-tutorials, stronger library-faculty relationships, and user centric services. The conference provided an excellent opportunity to academic library professionals to identify the strengths and gaps in the academic library system, and to suggest new management models, mechanisms, policies, and national and international programmes for reshaping academic libraries into next generation libraries for higher education. The conference was divided into three parallel tracks with specific themes, where renowned global experts as well as local professionals shared their views. Several satellite group meetings were also organized to provide DL policy and related issues to a forward direction.