

News

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NISO launches E-book Special Interest Group

The National Information Standards Organization (NISO) and its architecture committee are pleased to announce the creation of a Special Interest Group focused on E-books (the NISO E-book SIG). Simultaneous with the formation of the group, NISO is issuing a call for participation in the E-book SIG and its associated monitoring group. The E-book SIG will explore a range of industry best practices and standards related to the creation, distribution, discovery, delivery, and preservation of digital book content.

- The primary responsibilities of the group will be to continuously monitor and review the state of the industry for e-books and to suggest areas for new initiatives within NISO or areas where NISO can engage with other communities on e-book work underway outside of NISO.
- The group will also host thought leader meetings and commission relevant research to advance the state of the industry.
- The SIG will also foster cross-community dialogue in a given topical area and provide a place for the incubation of ideas even if no formal standards process within NISO is ever initiated as a result.

For more information, please see the full details at <http://www.dlib.org/dlib/july11/07inbrief.html>

Early European Books in Digital Library

The Digital Library has been expanded with Early European Books. This database is the

result of a cooperation between ProQuest, the supplier, and different university libraries in Europe. All works printed in Europe before 1701, regardless of language, fall within the scope of the project, together with all pre-1701 works in European languages printed further afield. Early European Books builds upon and complements Early English Books Online. Early European Books offers full-colour, high-resolution (400 ppi) facsimile images scanned directly from the original printed sources. Each item in the collection is captured in its entirety, complete with its binding, edges, endpapers, blank pages, and any loose inserts, providing scholars with a wealth of information about the physical characteristics and provenance histories of the original artifacts.

Source <http://www.library.leiden.edu>

Google scholar citation (GSC) tool

Google formally launched GSC to provide a simple way for scholars to keep track of citations to their articles. Citing the fact that this represents “a new direction us,” GSC is currently in limited launch with a small number of users, although some researchers have been able to create profiles in the past weeks. The system is still in the early stages, but is clearly an essential citation tool for the future. Any research organization needs to follow this development closely—and researchers with significant publishing records should get in line to create their own profiles in what promises to be a key citation research tool of the 21st century.

For more information, please log onto <http://scholar.google.com/intl/en/scholar/citations.html>

Indian Academy of Sciences (IAS) repository

The Indian Academy of Sciences was founded with the aim to promote the progress and uphold the cause of science, both in pure and applied branches. It is estimated that the total number of articles published so far by all fellows in various national and international publications could be around 100,000. IAS has set up an open repository for research publications running on EPrints open archive software. Publications of the IAS fellows repository collects, preserves and disseminates in digital format the research output and other scholarly publications created by the fellows of the Indian Academy of Sciences. While Publications of the IAS fellows can be accessed by anybody, submission of documents to this repository is limited to the fellows of the Academy only. Presently there are over 50,000 articles and documents are already submitted in the repository and is growing very fast.

For more information, please log onto <http://repository.ias.ac.in/index.html>

Report on International Conference on Digital Library Management (ICDLM) 2011

The International Conference on Digital Library Management (ICDLM) 2011 was held from 11-13 January 2011 at Science City Auditorium, Kolkata. The theme of ICDLM 2011 was “Extending benefits of modern technology to public, academic and special libraries”. The Conference was jointly organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF). This prestigious event was inaugurated by Prof. Tapan Raychoudhury, Former Director,

Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University on 11 January 2011. Dr P Anandan, Managing Director, Microsoft Research India had delivered keynote address on ‘Capturing and Experiencing Cultural Heritage in Digital Form’. The second keynote address was given by Prof N Balakrishnan, Associate Director, Indian Institute of Science.

The conference had 27 invited speakers from 11 countries including India and 375 participants including 244 registered participants which included more than 24 foreign participants from 14 countries from Asia, Africa, Europe, the United States of America, and Australia. A total of 125 papers/abstracts were received. These papers were reviewed by members of the national and international programme committee and a total of 35 papers were short-listed for presentation during the conference.

At the end, a committee of experts had deliberated following key recommendations for larger benefits of Indian libraries with special reference to public library system.

- Reorient libraries for a more customer focused resources and services
- Set up a National Digital Public Library of Indian Culture and Heritage
- Develop a National Policy on Creation of Digital Resources
- Build and strengthen capacity and competencies of public libraries professional staff in ICT applications
- Develop a platform to provide online access to integrated catalogue of large, medium and flagship public libraries
- Enable public libraries to manage their functions by using LMS hosted on a central server
- Build and strengthen information infrastructure in public libraries