



Information Resource Centers

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## Library Info Alert August 2004

*Library Info Alert* focuses on recent developments in the field of library science and information management in the United States. It contains summaries of articles from leading library-related periodicals and recommended Internet sites. The *Library Info Alert* is published by the Information Resource Centers in Germany.

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### **In Focus:**

#### **Technical Reports and Working Papers in Business and Economics**

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/business/techreps/techrepshome.php>

"To increase awareness of and access to valuable grey literature in business and economics, the Library of Congress provides online access both through its catalog and through these web pages to a growing number of working papers and technical reports in the social sciences placed online by institutions responsible for creating the reports."

#### **Sample Library Policy Statements**

<http://winslo.state.oh.us/publib/policies.html>

This page, compiled by the Ohio Library Council's Management and Administration Division, provides links to policies published by small, medium and large libraries in Ohio. These model policies are currently being used by Ohio public libraries, and can serve as patterns or examples in developing your specific library policy. Some of the topics covered are: Circulation, Public Relations, Rules of Behavior in Library Facilities, Internet Access etc.

#### **Gray Literature: Resources for Locating Unpublished Research**

**Brian S. Matthews. C&RL News, March 2004, Vol. 65, No. 3**

<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlpubs/crlnews/backissues2004/march04/graylit.htm>

"Gray or grey literature has long been considered the proverbial needle in the haystack. It is commonly defined as any documentary material that is not commercially published and is typically composed of technical reports, working papers, business documents, and conference proceedings ... Gray literature is now freely available on many Web sites and is selectively indexed by commercial database vendors. Many organizations and individuals are also providing access to their works online." The page lists Web sites that aid in

understanding the nature of gray literature as well as search tools. The focus is upon freely available resources that offer some full-text coverage. While the majority of these selections concentrate upon scientific and technical literature, other resources have been included.

**The August 2004 issue of The Informed Librarian Online is now available!**

To view the issue, go to [http://www.informedlibrarian.com/this\\_month.cfm](http://www.informedlibrarian.com/this_month.cfm)

**Article Alert:**

**1 Creating a Culture of Assessment: A Catalyst for Organizational Change  
(Portal: Libraries and the Academy, July 2004, pp. 24-33)**

In the rapidly changing information environment, libraries have to demonstrate that their services have relevance, value, and impact for stakeholders and customers. To deliver effective and high quality services, libraries have to assess their performance from the customer point of view. Moving to an assessment framework will be more successful if staff and leaders understand what is involved in organizational culture change. This paper describes the new paradigm of building a culture of assessment, and places it in the framework of organizational culture change, utilizing a learning organization and systems thinking approach. (PQ)

**2 Googling DSpace  
(Information Today, June 2004, pp. 17-19)**

These days, every gesture by the scholarly publishing camps can easily become a reason for applause, anguish, or angst. But one of the biggest surprises of all came recently when Google, the current ruling house of Internetdom, came calling on the youthful but relatively arcane DSpace project. These two are now involved in an intriguing but vague courtship in which neither party seems to know exactly where this is all going. DSpace is a digital repository designed to capture, store, index, preserve, and redistribute the research output of a university's faculty. One projected goal is to have a resource that will search across the superarchives at the Google Web site either as an advance feature or perhaps in a designated intellectual zone. Until this project announcement was made, few people probably would have considered that a company like Google would have much, if any, interest in helping to steer the course of scholarly communication. (E)

**3 Leadership: An Interview with ALA President  
(Library Administration and Management, Summer 2004, pp. 121-124)**

Paul Anderson, Assistant Director for Administrative Services at the University of Delaware Library in Newark, and Andrea Lapsley, chair of the 2004 National Institute Planning Committee, present an interview with Carla A. Hayden, the president of the American Library Association and the executive director of the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore. Hayden talks about leadership, leadership skills and attributes that most successful library leaders have in common, and how libraries be better prepared to address difficult decisions in times of political and financial pressures. (PQ)

#### **4 Mentoring Minority Librarians Up the Career Ladder**

**(Library Administration and Management, Summer 2004, pg. 134-136)**

Ashley E. Bonnette, a bibliographic instruction and distance learning librarian at University of Louisiana, Lafayette, discusses about mentoring programs for minority librarians. Establishing a mentoring program within the institution raises awareness of diversity concerns and provides the positive first step in the advancement of library leaders from the vastly underrepresented minority populations. Mentoring for and among minorities has proven to be a particularly valuable and effective tools for career development, beneficial not only to the employee, but to the upper-level manager and the entire corporation. (PQ)

#### **5 New Perspectives on the Shared Cataloging Environment and a MARC 21 Shopping List**

**(Library Resources & Technical Services, July 2004, pp 165-179)**

This paper surveys the cataloging literature to collect problems that have been identified with the MARC 21 format. The problems are sorted into (1) problems that are not the fault of MARC 21; (2) problems that perhaps are not problems at all; (3) problems that are connected with the current shared cataloging environment; and 4) other problems with MARC 21 and vendor implementation of it. The author makes recommendations to deal with the true MARC 21 problems that remain after this analysis. (PQ)

#### **6 Strike Up the Brand**

**(Information Outlook, May 2004, pp. 11-16)**

After a decade of reassessing the roles and working to communicate the value solo librarians contribute to organizations, too many companies and executives are unsure where to put them on the organizational chart, and too often their salaries do not reflect their level of training or experience. Recent announcements of library closings on the solo librarians' online discussion list prompted a few listserv members to ask what could be done to change misguided perceptions of their profession. Here, Jill Strand, a solo librarian managing Target Corporation's Property Development Library, takes a new look at how to market a solo librarian's value to the rest of the world. (PQ)

#### **7 The Voice of Users: Perspectives on School Library Automation**

**(Multimedia & Internet@Schools, July/August 2004, pp. 20-26)**

Barbara Fiehn, assistant professor at Northern Illinois University, College of Education, Department of Educational Technology, Research and Assessment, reports the results of a survey of 164 school library media professionals from 28 states who responded to a survey about their use of library automation software. The states with the largest number of respondents were California, Minnesota, Illinois, and New York. (E)

#### **8 Web-Based Government Information: A Critical At-Risk Resource**

**(DTTP, Documents to the People, Summer 2004, pp. 16-22)**

The California Digital Library (CDL) received funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to determine how best to leverage memory organizations' historic roles in order to build collections of Web-based materials. Here, Patricia Cruse, director of Digital Preservation Program at the California Digital Library, presents an overview of CDL findings.

He identifies some of the key roles that the broker service must play to encourage memory organizations to take a more widespread and active role in preserving Web-based government materials, and developed a design specification for a set of tools that can be administered by a broker such as the CDL. (PQ)

## **9 Zines and the Library**

**(Library Resources & Technical Services, July 2004, pp. 191-199)**

Zines, loosely defined as self-published magazines, provide a cultural insight to the time in which they are published, making them a genre that libraries may want to consider collecting. Due to their ephemeral nature, however, they create collecting, cataloging, and preserving challenges to libraries. Few libraries across the country have met these challenges and maintain zine collections. Although no two libraries met the challenges in the same way, their unique approaches to zine collections may inspire other librarians to investigate the appropriateness and feasibility of zine collections. (PQ)

NOTE: Library Info Alert is available to subscribers only. You may contact us through e-mail to order the requested material. Full text of articles will be sent to you as soon as possible.

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