## ACRL Insider launches

ACRL is pleased to announce the debut of a staff-produced Weblog, ACRL Insider.

The mission of the new ACRL Insider blog is to keep ACRL members, and the world at large, current and informed on the activities, services, and programs of the association. ACRL Insider features information on publications, events, conferences, and eLearning opportunities, along with podcasts and other media.

With the launch of this new communication tool, ACRL hopes to foster openness and transparency by providing an open, online connection between members and staff. In order to create a collaborative environment, all ACRL Insider posts allow for reader comments and suggestions.

ACRL Insider focuses on communicating information about the association to members and the wider academic library community, while the existing ACRLog weblog (www. acrlblog.org/) continues to address the issues of the day in the field of academic and research librarianship. The blogs work in tandem to provide a big picture view of the association and academic librarianship.

Visit ACRL Insider online at www.acrl.ala. org/acrlinsider and keep up to date on your association.

## Electronic ILL delivery in Ontario

Laurentian University's J. N. Desmarais Library has become the first library in Ontario to offer patrons an electronic interlibrary loan delivery service for single copies of articles and book chapters. The service is being offered at no charge to authorized users.

Ashley Thomson, coordinator of the ILL service, said that the library introduced the program to expedite document delivery. "Laurentian has a big distance education program," he noted. "This initiative will be particularly appreciated by Laurentian students who do not have access to the library."

Thomson added that the program will reduce the impact on the environment associated with printing thousands of pages of ILL materials per month.

## ARL reports examine university publishing and e-journals

The Association of Research Libraries (ARL) recently released two reports related to publishing. A special double issue of the *ARL Bimonthly Report*, no. 252/253, focuses on the state of university publishing and the evolving role for research libraries in the delivery of publishing services.

The Ithaka report "University Publishing in a Digital Age," is the focus of three articles: a summary of the Ithaka report by its original authors, an assessment by NASULGC's David Shulenburger of the report's recommendation that research institutions should have "publishing strategies," and a description of the University of Michigan Library's hosting of social commentary on the Ithaka report using CommentPress.

Three additional articles look at new publishing initiatives involving libraries: the joint project of the California Digital Library and the University of California Press, the publishing services developed at the University of Illinois-Chicago, and the Canadian collaborative project, Synergies—a national multi-institutional project to create a publishing infrastructure to support society publishing in the humanities and social sciences, as well as other scholarly publishing. An overview of the changing environment of university publishing is provided by ARL's Karla Hahn.

"The E-only Tipping Point for Journals: What's Ahead in the Print-to-Electronic Transition Zone," by Richard K. Johnson and Judy Luther, examines the issues associated with the migration from dual-format publishing toward electronic-only publication of journals.

The report provides a synthetic analysis of librarian and publisher perspectives on the current state of format migration, considering the drivers toward electronic-only publishing and barriers that are slowing change. The authors provide an assessment of likely change in the near term and recommend strategic areas of focus for further work to enable change.

The work is based in large part on interviews conducted between June and August

2007 with two dozen academic librarians and journal publishers. Publishers and librarians were consulted equally in recognition that these changes pose significant issues of coordination. Interviews were conducted with collection officers and others at ARL member libraries and publishing staff of societies and university presses, publishing platform hosts, and publishing production consultants.

Both reports are available as free downloads from the ARL Web site. The ARL Bimonthly Report is located at www.arl.org /resources/pubs/br/br252-253.shtml, and "The E-only Tipping Point for Journals" at www. arl.org/bm~doc/Electronic_Transition.pdf.

### Oregon State University opens Our Little Village

In order to help Oregon State University (OSU) student parents in need of childcare for their children, the Associated Students of OSU and the Valley Library have teamed up to create Our Little Village, a drop off daycare in the middle of the library.

Our Little Village is a short-term childcare center for student parents. Any currently enrolled student can drop off their children ages six months to 10 years old on a first-come, first-served basis for a maximum of two to three hours. Student parents must stay in the library while their child is being cared for at the facility and are given a pager to alert them of problems or if their time has expired. The space is divided up by age, with appropriate toys and programs for each age group. The program is paid for by student fees, so there is no extra cost to use the center. Hours for the center are focused on afternoons, evenings, and weekends.

"It is exciting to be the first university library in the country—as far as we know —to be able to offer this innovative resource to our students," said Karyle Butcher, university librarian. "The university's focus on student engagement calls for all of us to look at new and different ways of providing services to our students so that they feel that they are a part of the university community. Our Little Village is one way that the library can do this."

### Library building project 2.0

The University of Tennessee-Chattanooga (UTC) Lupton Library is taking advantage of Web 2.0 tools to increase the transparency of their new building project. Governor Phil Bredesen and the Tennessee Legislature have provided one-time funds in the amount of $48 million to plan and build a new library for the university. The new library is anticipated to be approximately 180,000 gross square feet, which equates to gain of just over 60,000 square feet from the existing library building.

The library, as the academic and intellectual heart of the campus, is the core philosophy driving the design process at UTC. In an effort to create an open, collaborative,

and transparent process, all information about the project, including meeting minutes, photographs, and videos are available on the library wiki located at www.library.utc.edu/building.

"Using 2.0 tools to put this project in motion has saved us enormous amounts of time, and just allowed us to do things that couldn't have been done before," stated UTC Lupton Library head of library information technology Jason Griffey.

The new library will be the focal point for collaborative research and teaching in the 21st century on the UTC campus. In building a new space, the UTC library seeks to blend old traditions with new developments in library usage—carrels providing quiet study among book stacks on one floor, complemented by comfortable chairs, wireless laptops, and an area designated as information commons to enhance group study and the navigation of library databases and other electronic tools on another. The new library will offer an academic and social gathering place for students, faculty, and members of the academic community through classrooms, labs, meeting and event spaces, and technology-equipped study areas and rooms. The library's goal is to create a warm, welcoming environment that brings UTC community members together to study, work, and relax.

## Open access collaboration at the University of Pittsburg

The University of Pittsburgh's University Library System (ULS) and University Press have formed a partnership to provide digital editions of press titles as part of the library system's D-Scribe Digital Publishing Program. Thirty-nine books from the Pitt Latin American Series, published by the University of Pittsburgh Press, are now available online, freely accessible to scholars and students worldwide. Ultimately, a majority of the Press' titles older than two years old will be provided through this open access platform.

For the past decade, the ULS has been building digital collections on the Web under its D-Scribe Digital Publishing Program, making available a wide array of historical documents, images and texts, which can be browsed by collection and are fully searchable. The addition of the University of Pittsburgh Press Digital Editions collection marks the newest in an expanding number of digital collaborations between the ULS and the University Press.

The D-Scribe Digital Publishing Program includes digitized materials drawn from Pitt collections along with those of other libraries and cultural institutions in the region, preprint repositories in several disciplines, the University's mandatory electronic theses and dissertations program, and electronic journals. During the past eight years, 60 separate collections have been digitized and made freely accessible via the Web. The D-Scribe collections are freely accessible free-of-charge on the Web at www.library.pitt.edu/dscribe/.

The Pitt Latin American Series began in 1968 and has grown to include a wide array of distinguished books on Latin American history, politics, society, economics, and culture. The inclusion of the series in D-Scribe complements the Library's Eduardo Lozano Latin American Collection, one of the largest collections of Latin American

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# I can't live without . . .

Although this site is not directly related to academic librarianship, the information it contains is valuable to all librarians. This site predicts and warns of severe weather in the United States. Librarians may find it useful for planning outdoor activities and for checking weather conditions before traveling to conferences. Weather watches and warnings are mapped out on the site, and these advisories include both severe summer and winter weather. As the number of severe weather events that affect libraries increases, this site will prove valuable in helping librarians maintain awareness of potential severe weather. The site includes a form for linking to local weather forecasts, and it even provides predictions for "fire weather," that is, areas with a high fire hazard.

—*Jeffrey Beall, Auraria Library, University of Colorado-Denver and Health Sciences Center*

## . . . Storm Prediction Center
www.spc.noaa.gov

material in the world, established in 1967 in cooperation with Pitt's Center for Latin American Studies and the Latin American studies program. The University of Pittsburgh is one of the country's major centers for teaching and research on Latin America.

More titles will be added to the University of Pittsburgh Press Digital Editions each month until most of the current scholarly books published by the Press are available both in print and as digital editions. The collection will eventually include titles from the Pitt Series in Russian and East European Studies; the Pitt-Konstanz Series in the Philosophy and History of Science; the Pittsburgh Series in Composition, Literacy, and Culture; the Security Continuum: Global Politics in the Modern Age; the History of the Urban Environment; back issues of Cuban Studies; and numerous other scholarly titles in history, political science, philosophy, and cultural studies.

## Creative Commons genomes

Nature Publishing Group (NPG) is introducing a Creative Commons license for original research articles in nature journals that publish the primary sequence of an organism's genome for the first time. The Creative Commons Attribution-Non-CommercialShare Alike 3.0 Unported license will enable researchers to freely share and adapt the work, provided the original is attributed and not used for commercial purposes, and that any resulting work is distributed under a similar license. No publication fees will be applicable, and the articles will be available free of charge.

"Nature journals have regularly published articles reporting novel primary genome-wide sequences without access control. NPG supports genomics community agreements that genome sequences should be placed in the public domain to maximize benefits to society. We now have the opportunity to formalize our position with the introduction of the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share Alike license for primary genome sequence articles published in Nature journals," said David Hoole, head of content licensing at NPG.

Wherever possible, NPG will apply the Creative Commons license retrospectively to original research articles reporting novel primary genome-wide sequences published in NPG journals. Only original research articles publishing the primary sequence of an organism's genome for the first time will be offered to users under the Creative Commons license. All other articles published by the NPG journals will remain under NPG's existing licensing and copyright agreements. Under these agreements authors of original research articles retain their copyright, giving NPG an exclusive license-to-publish. This license encourages self archiving of the accepted version of the authors manuscript, and is compatible with all major funders access policies, including NIH, Wellcome Trust, MRC, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, CRUK, and DFG.

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## Columbia University Libraries join Google Book Search Library Project

Columbia University Libraries and Google have signed an agreement to digitize a large number of the libraries' books in the public domain and make them available online.

By partnering with Google, the libraries will support the research and teaching mission of the university by archiving and making accessible scholarly resources that the libraries have been collecting since the early 19th century.

"Our participation in the Google Book Search Library Project will add significantly to the extensive digital resources the Libraries already deliver," said James Neal, Columbia's vice president for information services and university librarian. ↗