American Philosophical Society launches PAL
The American Philosophical Society (APS) recently launched PAL (People Also Liked), a circulation data-driven recommendation tool designed specifically for archives and manuscript repositories. Similar to the customer recommendation tools used by major online commerce sites, like Amazon and Netflix, PAL helps scholars discover relevant manuscript collections based on request history and user interests. Researchers at APS use it to sift through the 13 million pages of manuscripts held at the APS Library, including the Papers of Benjamin Franklin, the Journals of Lewis and Clark, and the papers of seven Nobel Laureates.

The tool was developed by Scott Ziegler, head of technology at the library, and Richard Shlake, a consulting software developer who specializes in library science. Designed to interact with the APS’s circulation system, AEON, PAL captures data, anonymizes it, categorizes it, and then matches past user behavior with the needs of new researchers. Designed specifically for manuscript collections, the APS Library plans to share their work with other libraries. PAL is part of the APS Library’s digital scholarship initiative, which includes the digitization of APS materials, support for digital scholarship, and the development of new tools.

Feedback on draft of revised Standards for Libraries in Higher Education
ACRL is seeking comments on a draft of potential changes to the Standards for Libraries in Higher Education before completing final revisions and submitting the standards for approval. Please review the draft document and provide feedback by attending a virtual open forum on Thursday, May 11, 2017, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. (CST) or submitting your comments through an online feedback form by Tuesday, May 23. Read the document draft, sign up for the online forum, and provide feedback at www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/?p=1356. Submit your free registration online by May 10. Login details will be sent via email the afternoon of May 10. The webcast will be recorded and made available shortly after the live event. Contact the task force chair Andrea Falcone at andrea.falcone@ucdenver.edu or (303) 352-3953 with questions.

CLIR names 2017 Mellon Dissertation Fellows
Seventeen graduate students have been selected to receive awards this year under the Mellon Fellowships for Dissertation Research in Original Sources program, administered by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR). The fellowships are intended to help graduate students in the humanities and related social science fields pursue research wherever relevant sources are available; gain skill and creativity in using primary source materials in libraries, archives, museums, and related repositories; and provide suggestions to CLIR about how such source materials can be made more accessible and useful. The fellowships carry stipends of up to $25,000 each to support dissertation research for periods ranging from nine-to-twelve months. More information on the program, including a complete list of recipients, is available on the CLIR website at www.clir.org/fellowships/mellon.

AAU, ARL, AAUP to launch open access monograph publishing initiative
The Association of American Universities (AAU), Association of Research Libraries (ARL), and Association of American University Presses (AAUP) are implementing a new initiative to advance the wide dissemination of scholarship by humanities and humanistic social sciences faculty members by
“NMC Horizon Report > 2017 Library Edition”

The New Media Consortium (NMC), University of Applied Sciences (HTW) Chur, Technische Informationsbibliothek (TIB), ETH Library, and ACRL jointly released the “NMC Horizon Report > 2017 Library Edition” at the ACRL 2017 Conference. This is the third edition of the “NMC Horizon Report” that explores the realm of academic and research libraries in a global context.

This report describes annual findings from the NMC Horizon Project, a 15-year-old ongoing research project designed to identify and describe emerging technologies poised to influence learning, teaching, and creative inquiry. Six key trends, six significant challenges, and six important developments in educational technology are placed directly in the context of their likely impact on the core missions of academic and research libraries.

Top five “sound bites” from the report

1. Each topic is placed into one or more of six meta-categories that reflect movements in academic and research libraries: 1) Expanding Access and Convenience, 2) Spurring Innovation, 3) Fostering Authentic Learning and Discovery, 4) Balancing Societal Shifts, 5) Tracking Research and Patron Data, and 6) Spreading Digital Fluency.

2. The introduction looks back at the topic sets for the past three library-focused editions of the “NMC Horizon Report.” Over time, the Evolving Nature of the Scholarly Record and Research Data Management have been the most pervasive trends, embracing the Need for Radical Change the most targeted challenge, and the Internet of Things the most enduring technology development.

3. The topics in the report were selected by a diverse panel of 75 experts. Library leaders, librarians, technologists, industry leaders, and other key stakeholders from 14 countries comprise this year’s expert panel. They engaged in a three-month virtual discussion to share how the trends, challenges, and technologies are materializing in their environments.

4. The executive summary presents ten highlights capturing the big picture themes of educational change that underpin the 18 topics. Among the themes are the notions that better catering to patrons’ needs requires user-centric design and a focus on accessibility, and that advancing innovation necessitates the reimagining of organizational structures.

5. Semi-finalists topics from the cutting room floor that almost made the report—are listed. The shift away from books, marketing library services, mixed reality, and more were all heavily considered by the expert panel. They could make a comeback in the next edition.

The “NMC Horizon Report > 2017 Library Edition” is published under a Creative Commons license to facilitate its widespread use, easy duplication, and broad distribution. The report is freely available online at www.nmc.org/publication/nmc-horizon-report-2017-library-edition/.
ACRL supports open data legislation

This April, ACRL joined more than 80 other organizations in signing a coalition letter supporting the Open, Public, Electronic, and Necessary (OPEN) Government Data Act, reintroduced by a bicameral and bipartisan group of lawmakers on March 29, 2017, as S. 760 and H. R. 1770.

The OPEN Government Data Act will require all federal agencies to publish their information online, using nonproprietary, machine-readable data formats. The bill codifies and expands the 2013 government-wide Open Data policy (Open Data Policy-Managing Information as an Asset, M-13-13), which has been integrated into agency policy for the past three years. It is similar to what was passed by the Senate last Congress.

Supporting this legislation is consistent with ACRL’s strategic goal to accelerate the transition to more open and equitable systems of scholarship and, more specifically, the strategic objective that ACRL is an advocate for open dissemination practices.

Gale release new Women’s Studies Archive

Gale, a Cengage company, has launched a new archive on women’s studies that explores the many contributions of women throughout history. Part of the growing Gale Primary Sources program, the Women’s Studies Archive represents Gale’s focus on publishing material that supports diversity studies and provides historical context around current topics. The first collection in the Women’s Studies Archive, titled Women’s Issues and Identities, traces the path of women’s issues from past to present—pulling primary sources from manuscripts, newspapers, periodicals, and more. It captures the foundation of women’s movements, struggles and triumphs, and provides researchers with valuable insights. Covering the 19th and 20th centuries, the Women’s Issues and Identities collection includes 1 million never-before-digitized pages of primary source material, all aligned with the issues that have affected women and the many contributions they have made to society. Women’s Studies Archive: Women’s Issues and Identities is available on the Gale Primary Sources platform. For more information visit www.gale.com/c/womens-studies-archive-womens-issues-and-identities.

New OCLC Research report explores Realities of Research Data Management

A new OCLC Research report, “A Tour of the Research Data Management (RDM) Service Space,” provides an overview of the RDM service space and sets the stage for further exploration of RDM at four universities around the world. The report is the first in a four-part series, “The Realities of Research Data Management,” which focuses on decision-making at four institutions that have publishing free, open access, digital editions of peer-reviewed and professionally edited monographs.

The universities and colleges directly participating in this initiative will incorporate three components into their digital monograph publishing projects; provide a baseline university publishing grant of $15,000 to support the publication of an open access, digital monograph of 90,000 words or less (with additional funding for works of greater length or complexity to be negotiated by the author, institution, and publisher); set a target of awarding at least three publishing grants per year; and commit to participating in this initiative for five years. Complete details, including a list of participants, is available at www.arl.org/focus-areas/open-scholarship/open-access/aaau-arl-aaup-open-access-monograph-publishing-initiative.
made different choices in confronting the realities of planning, developing, and deploying institutional RDM services in research universities. In addition to the four in-depth case studies, the authors reviewed RDM services at more than a dozen research universities in North America, Europe, and Australia. They found that RDM services align into three categories: education, expertise, and curation. The report delves into these three categories, provides a frame for the four-part series, and gives a preview of the next report in the series. Download a copy of the new report from the OCLC Research website at www.oclc.org/content/dam/research/publications/2017/oclcresearch-research-data-management-service-space-tour-2017.pdf.

MUSE expands partnership with University of Hawai‘i Press

The University of Hawai‘i (UH) Press has announced that it has selected Project MUSE to host, manage, and deliver all its journal content to their growing audience of librarians and readers. This enhanced partnership between MUSE and UH Press is a benefit to libraries, as more journal content from UH Press may be included in their collections, and it offers the opportunity to acquire additional journals that may not be in their subscribed collection. Current Project MUSE journal collection subscribers will retain access to all University of Hawai‘i Press journal titles that are included in the MUSE collection to which the library subscribes. Pacific Science, a UH Press title that previously participated in MUSE journal collections did not contribute new content from 2008 to 2016, has now resumed contributing current issues to the MUSE Premium Collection and Standard Collection. Two additional UH Press journals, Journal of Daoist Studies and Trans-Humanities, not previously available on Project MUSE, are now available for single title subscriptions on the MUSE platform.

Tech Bits . . .

Brought to you by the ACRL ULS Technology in University Libraries Committee

Data-Driven Documents (D3.js) is a free, open source JavaScript library used to build visualizations with web standards. The latest major release, version 4, is comprised of a collection of modules that can be manipulated either independently or jointly with each other within framework of a single project. D3.js, albeit not designed specifically for the library field, fits well into the context where user-related statistics and even budget allocation can be tracked visually based on charts of various kinds. A certain amount of knowledge about the JavaScript language is recommended to get started with the package. In one example, Wayne State University Libraries Systems used the D3 hierarchy tree layout to construct the first library interactive organization chart. View the interactive org chart at https://library.wayne.edu/info/about/interactive-org-chart/.

—Minhao Jiang
Wayne State University

. . . D3.js
https://d3js.org/

Springer Nature launches SciGraph

Springer Nature recently launched Springer SciGraph, a new Linked Open Data platform that aggregates data sources from Springer Nature and cooperating partners. Springer Nature SciGraph collates information from across the research landscape, such as funders, research projects and grants, conferences, affiliations, and publications. Currently the knowledge graph contains 155 million facts (triples) about objects of interest to the scholarly domain. The vast majority of these datasets will be freely accessible. More information is available at www.springernature.com/scigraph.