GPO issues digital Congressional Record for 1891-1911

The U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) and the Library of Congress recently released the digital version of the bound Congressional Record from 1891 to 1911. This release covers the debates and proceedings of the 52nd through the 61st Congresses. This era of Congress covers historical topics such as the admission of Utah and Oklahoma as states, the Spanish-American War, the first flight by the Wright Brothers, and the construction of the Panama Canal.

“This latest digital release of the Congressional Record now gives the public easy access to the historic debates of Congress on smartphones, tablets, laptops, and personal computers,” said GPO Acting Director Jim Bradley. “With this release of historic issues dating to the 19th century, GPO is on track to complete its objective of digitizing all issues of the Record back to the very first issue of that title in 1873 within the very near future.”

The collection is available at www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/crecb_gpo/_crecb.

OCLC and Internet Archive collaborate to expand library access to digital collections

OCLC and the Internet Archive are working together to make the archive’s collection of 2.5 million digitized books easier to find and access online and through local libraries. OCLC will process metadata from the Internet Archive for its digital collection, matching to existing records in WorldCat, the world’s most comprehensive database of information about library collections, or adding a new record if one does not exist.

Nominations sought for ACRL Board of Directors

The ACRL Leadership Recruitment and Nominations Committee (LRNC) encourages members to nominate themselves or others to run for the position of ACRL vice-president/president-elect, councilor, and director-at-large in the 2019 elections. To nominate an individual or to self-nominate, please submit the nomination form at www.surveymonkey.com/r/acrlboardnominations. The deadline for nominations is February 15, 2018.

LRNC will request a curriculum vita and/or a statement of interest from selected individuals prior to developing a slate of candidates.

If you have any questions about the nominating or election process, please feel free to contact LRNC Chair Jennifer Nutefall at jnutefall@scu.edu. More information about the ACRL Board of Directors is available at www.ala.org/acrl/resources/policies/chapter2.
ACRL releases Undergraduate Research and the Academic Librarian: Case Studies and Best Practices, Disciplinary Applications of Information Literacy Threshold Concepts

ACRL announces the publication of Undergraduate Research and the Academic Librarian: Case Studies and Best Practices, edited by Merinda Kaye Hensley and Stephanie Davis-Kahl, and Disciplinary Applications of Information Literacy Threshold Concepts, edited by Samantha Godbey, Susan Beth Wainscott, and Xan Goodman.

In 25 chapters featuring 60 expert contributors, Undergraduate Research and the Academic Librarian is a detailed guide to how librarians can help students go beyond a foundation of information literacy toward advanced research and information management skills, and align the library with institutional goals of engagement and retention. The title explores the strategic new services and cross-departmental collaborations academic libraries are creating to support research: publishing services, such as institutional repositories and undergraduate research journals; data services; copyright services; poster printing and design; specialized space; digital scholarship services; awards; and much more.

As higher education becomes more competitive—for dollars, for students, for grant money, for resources, in general—institutions will need to increase their development of programs that provide the experiential and deep learning, and increased engagement, that research provides. The title explores the strategic new services and cross-departmental collaborations academic libraries are creating to support research: publishing services, such as institutional repositories and undergraduate research journals; data services; copyright services; poster printing and design; specialized space; digital scholarship services; awards; and much more.

As higher education becomes more competitive—for dollars, for students, for grant money, for resources, in general—institutions will need to increase their development of programs that provide the experiential and deep learning, and increased engagement, that research provides. The scholarly and extracurricular experiences of college are increasingly becoming a major part of marketing college education. Undergraduate Research and the Academic Librarian examines how the structures that undergird undergraduate research, such as the library, can become part of the core infrastructure of the undergraduate experience.

In 25 chapters divided into sections mirroring ACRL’s Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education—Authority is Constructed and Contextual, Information Creation as a Process, Information has Value, Research as Inquiry, Scholarship as Conversation, and Searching as Strategic Exploration—Disciplinary Applications of Information Literacy Threshold Concepts explores threshold concepts as an idea and the specifics of what the concepts look like in disciplinary contexts.

Disciplinary Applications of Information Literacy Threshold Concepts provides a balance of theoretical and practical to help readers both conceptually and pragmatically with their work in supporting student learning, including chapters in which librarians have designed learning outcomes aligned with the frames of the Framework.

These examples demonstrate different approaches to working with information literacy threshold concepts and how librarians are incorporating them within their disciplinary and institutional contexts. The chapters cover many disciplines, including the humanities, social sciences, life sciences, and physical sciences, and a range of students, from first-year undergraduates to doctoral students.

Undergraduate Research and the Academic Librarian and Disciplinary Applications of Information Literacy Threshold Concepts are available for purchase in print and as ebooks through the ALA Online Store, in print through Amazon.com, and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the United States or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.
ACRL is a cosponsor of a forthcoming Project Information Literacy (PIL) research study investigating how young adults consume news and gather information. The research, conducted in partnership with faculty at Northeastern University and Wellesley College, focuses on two of the most pressing issues of what has been called our “post-truth” era: currency and authority.

“In today’s political and social climate, media literacy and news evaluation are more essential skills than ever for our students,” said ACRL President Cheryl A. Middleton of Oregon State University. “The ACRL Board of Directors is proud to continue the association’s strong, ongoing commitment to information literacy issues by helping fund this important research.”

Researchers are looking to break new ground as an empirical and quantitative study of many issues, such as “fake news” and misinformation, to help better ground public discourse and potential policy solutions. A set of recommendations will be made for addressing relevant problems, offering insights to three groups in particular who are working with young adults on the front lines: librarians, journalists, and educators.

Led by Principal Investigator Alison J. Head of PIL, the project is sponsored by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation along with a grant from ACRL. The Northeastern University Libraries and College of Arts, Media, and Design have also contributed support to the project. The study, set to be concluded in fall 2018, will be one of the largest of its kind, with surveys and interviews on college campuses and other educational settings across the country.

Additional information is available on the PIL website at www.projectinfolit.org/news_study.html.

The WorldCat record will include a link leading back to the Archive.org record. From there, searchers can examine or potentially borrow the related digital item. Internet Archive will also add a link from its records to WorldCat.org, the online resource that makes it possible for searchers to quickly and easily find and access resources in libraries.

**CLIR awards Recordings at Risk grants**

The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) recently announced that 16 institutions have been awarded Recordings at Risk grants. This is the second group of projects supported by the Recordings at Risk awards program, a national regranting program administered by CLIR to support the preservation of rare and unique audiovisual content of high scholarly value. Funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the program will award a total of $2.3 million between January 2017 and September 2018. CLIR began accepting applications for a new Recordings at Risk grant cycle on December 1, 2017.

More information, including information on current grant recipients, is available at www.clir.org/recordings-at-risk/awards.

**OpenAthens Cloud launches**

OpenAthens, the international identity and access management software provider for the information industry, recently launched a cloud-based content provider solution. Content providers no longer need to wrestle with the frustrations of implementing and maintaining complex access management applications based on SAML. OpenAthens Cloud enables federated single sign-on via OpenID Connect: a standard protocol for the secure, lightweight transfer of authentication and user attributes, which has seen rapid adoption by global brands such as Google and Microsoft. For more information, visit www.OpenAthens.org.
EBSCO Health introduces Dynamic Health

Dynamic Health, a comprehensive collection of evidence-based skills content and corresponding skills checklists intended to help nurses and allied health professionals develop critical clinical, transcultural and patient instruction skills, is now available from EBSCO Health, a division of EBSCO Information Services. Dynamic Health provides curated, concise content combined with a cutting-edge cloud-based interface. The product, created in part by the founders of the CINAHL databases, is a direct result of in-depth research into the workflow and needs of nurses and allied health professionals at the point of care. More than 2,000 skills will be available covering nursing, allied health, patient education, and transcultural care. For more information about Dynamic Health, visit: https://health.ebsco.com/products/dynamic-health.

Project MUSE announces new book collections

Pricing for the 2018 Project MUSE Book Collections is now available, including the complete set of nearly 3,000 forthcoming 2018 titles and numerous subject and area studies collections. A highlight of the 2018 offerings is a new subject collection in Public Health, featuring more than 50 newly released books in the field from several university press publishers. Presses contributing to the new Public Health subject collection include Johns Hopkins University Press, Cornell University Press, Rutgers University Press, University of Minnesota Press, University Press of New England, and Vanderbilt University Press.

More than 4,000 additional books will be available on the MUSE platform by the end of 2018, bringing the total to more than 54,000 scholarly titles. Preliminary title lists for the newly available collections are available on the Project Muse website at http://muse.jhu.edu/cgi-bin/book_title_list_html.cgi.

Tech Bits . . .

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

Nearpod is an online platform for creating/hosting interactive multimedia presentations shared via computer or mobile device. Originally designed for educators, Nearpod can be used to present interactive lessons, engage students in activities, pose questions, and receive responses in real time. It can be used for face-to-face instruction and live online instruction to distance learners. A wide range of content types can be incorporated into a Nearpod presentation, including polls or interactive quizzes for real-time feedback or assessment. Librarians can supervise student participation and take control of their devices. Nearpod can also be used for interactive webinars for professional development. Basic features are available free of charge. Additional features are available for an annual fee.

—Rosalind Fielder-Giscombe
Chicago State University Library

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https://nearpod.com

ProQuest adds 6,000 ebooks to Academic Complete

ProQuest has added 6,000 ebooks from Taylor & Francis to the Academic Complete collection. Focused on offering a balance of quality and quantity, the collection now offers unlimited, multi-user access to a growing selection of more than 150,000 ebooks from the world’s leading publishers. Curated by on-staff librarians, Academic Complete provides a critical base of scholarly content in all disciplines. Like all ProQuest ebook subscriptions, Academic Complete is available through ProQuest’s Ebook Central platform. More information is available at www.proquest.com/products-services/Academic-Complete.html.