Thomson Scientific announced the launch of Web Citation Index, a multidisciplinary citation index of scholarly content from institutional and subject-based repositories. Web Citation Index provides users with a citation-based database for preprints, technical reports, dissertations, proceedings, and other grey literature. Thomson Scientific content editors select only those Web repositories that are deemed scholarly. Web Citation Index adds cited reference searching to Web-based documents.


The Internet Archive’s new subscription service, Archive-it, allows users to create, manage, and search their own Web archive. The service can be used to archive an institution’s own Web site or build collections of up to 100 Web sites. Users can create Web collections, catalog them, archive Web sites in the collection, monitor the archiving process, search the collection, and administer access to these collections. In addition, the service will support collaborative collections, where curators at separate organizations can create and share collections.


The 419 universities in the United States that conferred research doctorates awarded 42,155 doctorates during the 2003-2004 academic year, an increase of 3.4 percent from the 40,770 doctorates awarded in 2003, and the highest number since the all-time high of 42,647 in 1998. The life sciences accounted for 8,849 Ph.D.s. The numbers in other fields were 6,795 in social sciences; 6,635 in education; 6,049 in physical sciences and mathematics; 5,776 in engineering; 5,467 in humanities; and 2,614 in business and other professional fields.


Of the 195,000 books published last year, about 50,000 were self-published. The actual number of self-published books is likely higher and on the rise. This number does not include all print-on-demand titles available from such publishers as IUniverse, Xlibris, Author House, or lulu.com.


About 25 million Americans have sold something online. This represents about one in six American adults who are online. On a typical day, 2 percent of Internet users sell something. Twenty-one percent of online college graduates have sold items online, while only nine percent of those without high school diplomas have done so.