Columbia opens new Science and Engineering Library

Columbia University’s new Science and Engineering Library opened in the university’s Northwest Corner Building on January 18, 2011. The new library focuses on research support for the fields of chemistry, biology, physics, astronomy, and psychology, as well as providing a collaborative environment supporting rapidly expanding interdisciplinary science and engineering research. The library features seating and study spaces for 345 students and researchers with spectacular views of the Columbia campus and Morningside Heights.

“The new Science and Engineering Library fulfills the vision of the Columbia University Libraries to rethink and redefine library spaces to better support emerging approaches to research and teaching,” said Jim Neal, vice president for information services and university librarian.

The building and library were designed by José Rafael Moneo, in collaboration with the architects at Madrid’s Moneo Brock Studio and New York’s Davis Brody Bond Aedas. The state of the art building links the laboratories and study spaces to the Columbia campus, facilitating the ready sharing and exchange of ideas, resources, and information. More information about Science and Engineering Library can be found at www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/sciencelib/.

New Immersion program faculty named

Four new members have been named to the ACRL Information Literacy Immersion Program faculty. The new faculty members are Char Booth (e-learning librarian at the University of California-Berkeley), Wendy Holliday (coordinator of library instruction at Utah State University), Michelle Millet (head of research services at the University of Texas-San Antonio), and Karen Nicholson (teaching and learning librarian at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada). More information about the Immersion Program, including the new faculty members, is available on the ACRL Web site at www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/issues/infolit/professactivity/iil/immersion/programs.cfm.

Apply to host travelling King James Bible exhibit

The ALA Public Programs Office, the Folger Shakespeare Library and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) invite public, academic, and special libraries to apply to host “Manifold Greatness: The Creation and Afterlife of the King James Bible.” Three copies of the exhibit will travel to 40 libraries from fall of 2011 through winter of 2013. Successful applicants will host the exhibit for a four-week period between fall of 2011 and winter of 2013 and will receive a $2,500 grant from NEH for attendance at an exhibit-planning workshop and other exhibit-related expenses.

Participating libraries are expected to present at least two free public programs featuring a lecture or discussion by a qualified scholar on exhibition themes. All showings of the exhibition must be free and open to the public.

For more information, including access to the online application, visit www.ala.org/kjgbible.
New ACRL publications


Compiled and authored by Susanne K. Clement and Jennifer M. Foy, *Collection Development in a Changing Environment* highlights collection development and management policies for college and university libraries. For each collection development policy element, the authors provide examples of traditional policy language along with examination of unique, forward thinking, and strategic language.

The topical organization of the work will be useful for a wide variety of large and small college and university libraries, as well as facilitate creation of new collections policies or inform revisions and updates of existing policies.

*Decision-Making in the Absence of Certainty,* written by S. David Mash, details an in-depth study of the often surprising decision-making process at five American universities that built new libraries at the dawn of the 21st century. Their collective decision to invest many millions of dollars in technology and physical space is a testament to their perceptive commitment to a vision that the very best for students and faculty is a library where both technology and the physical space are well designed.

In the work, Mash explores such questions as: How do we bring together the richness of physical space and the effectiveness of technology to achieve a learning environment that reaps the best of both? What decision-making model can help library leaders face ambiguity about the future as they navigate this complex, high-stakes, and expensive task?

Readers will gain personal and professional insights that expand to any setting where high-stakes decision making is combined with ambiguity and complexity. Mash’s book is ideal for any libraries considering construction projects or seeking insight into the decision-making process in general.

*Collection Development in a Changing Environment* is the first digital publication in the ClipNote series. The digital format allows the authors to feature hyperlinked excerpts of policies from more than 60 libraries. Available in PDF e-book format, *Collection Development in a Changing Environment* (CLIPNote #42) is available for purchase by credit card only through the ALA Online Store at www.alastore.ala.org/.

*Decision-Making in the Absence of Certainty* is available for purchase through the ALA Online Store and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the United States or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.
arXiv joins EBSCO Discovery Service

arXiv is the latest content source to become available via EBSCO Discovery Service (EDS) from EBSCO Publishing. arXiv is an e-print service owned and operated by Cornell University offering an extensive archive of scientific papers. Metadata from arXiv will be added to the EDS Base Index. arXiv serves as an archive for more than 650,000 electronic preprints of scientific papers. Metadata from arXiv is a valuable resource for those with interests or research needs in the fields of physics, mathematics, computer science, quantitative biology, quantitative finance, and statistics. More information on EDS is available at www.ebscohost.com/discovery. arXiv is online at arxiv.org/.

Delaware digitizes bookplates

The University of Delaware Library has digitized the William Augustus Brewer Digital Bookplate collection and made it freely available online at the request of bookplate scholars and collectors. The online collection currently includes about 3,000 bookplates, with the remaining bookplates to be added in 2011.

Reverend William Augustus Brewer was an avid bookplate collector. His wife, Augusta La-Motte Brewer, bequeathed his collection to the library after her husband’s death. The collection is comprised of thousands of bookplates dating mainly from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, including bookplates from the libraries of Lewis Carroll, Samuel L. Clemens, Charles Dickens, Walt Disney, Harry Houdini, Paul Revere, and William Butler Yeats. Subjects illustrated in the bookplates are varied and include acrostics, birds, death’s heads, medicine, music, rebuses, science, and portraits of historical and literary figures.

The collection is available online at fletcher.lib.udel.edu/collections/wab/.

Open Folklore project receives 2011 Outstanding Collaboration Citation

The Open Folklore project, a collaborative effort between the Indiana University Bloomington Libraries and the American Folklore Society, is the recipient of the 2011 Outstanding Collaboration Citation from the Association of Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS). The award recognizes and encourages collaborative problem-solving efforts in the areas of acquisition, access, management, preservation or archiving of library materials, as well as a demonstrated benefit from actions, services or products that improve and assist with the management of library collections.

Open Folklore debuted in October 2010 to provide open online access to many useful—but heretofore difficult to access—research materials in the field of folklore studies, including books, journals, “gray literature” (unpublished), and Web sites. More information on the project is available at www.openfolklore.org.

New WilsonWeb enhancements

H. W. Wilson recently unveiled several new enhancements to the WilsonWeb service include improvements to the WilsonWeb Mobile interface, expansion of the “My WilsonWeb” individual user account functions and increased customization. New features include record previews, Zotero compatibility, and ReadSpeaker text-to-speech converter enhancements.

In addition, the WilsonWeb Mobile interface now allows libraries to add up to the custom links. New search boxes have also been added, allowing users to launch new searches without returning to the main search screen.

Wilson Mobile usage statistics are now available for administrators, and the interface has been adapted to work with Shibboleth Authentication.

For more on the WilsonWeb enhancements, visit www.hwwilson.com/enhancements.

2012 ACRL professional development programs

ACRL invites proposal submissions for half- or full-day preconferences to be held prior to the 2012 ALA Annual Conference held
The ACRL Image Resources Interest Group has a task force developing visual literacy standards and has a public draft of the standards available for review. The task force is seeking comments before completing final revisions and submitting the standards for approval. The draft of the standard is available on the interest group blog at acrlvislitstandards.wordpress.com/.

Post comments on the blog or send to Denise Hattwig (dhattwig@uw.edu) by March 31, 2011.

In addition, the ACRL Instruction Section’s Information Literacy Best Practices Committee is in the process of revising the “Characteristics of Programs of Information Literacy that Illustrate Best Practices: A Guideline” and would welcome your input. Approved by the ACRL Board of Directors in 2003, “Characteristics of Programs of Information Literacy that Illustrate Best Practices: A Guideline” articulates elements of exemplary information literacy programs for undergraduate students at four-and two-year institutions.

The draft of the guideline revision is available on the ACRL Web site at www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/standards/. Send comments to the IS Information Literacy Best Practices Committee Chair Elana Karshmer (elana.karshmer@saintleo.edu) by March 28, 2011.

June 22, 2012, in Anaheim, California. Submissions will be accepted online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JVN3TQ3 through April 8, 2011.

Preconferences should allow participants to develop skills related to a specific topic and should focus on interactive learning using a variety of presentation styles. Programs that offer practical tips and cutting-edge techniques are especially encouraged. Proposals should outline activities that will be incorporated during the session to enable attendees to achieve the session’s learning outcomes. Preconferences can either be half-day or full-day sessions.

The deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. PDT, Friday, April 8, 2011. Visit www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/call.cfm for the complete call for proposals. Notifications will be issued by June 2011.

OCLC releases new perceptions report

OCLC has released “Perceptions of Libraries, 2010: Context and Community,” a follow-up to its 2005 “Perceptions of Libraries and Information Resources.”

The new report provides updated information and new insights into information consumers and their online information habits, preferences, and perceptions. Particular attention was paid to how the current economic downturn has affected information-seeking behaviors and how those changes are reflected in the use and perception of libraries.

The report explores technological and economic shifts since 2005; lifestyle changes Americans have made during the recession, including increased use of the library and other online resources; how Americans use online resources and libraries in 2010; and perceptions of libraries and information resources based on life stage, from teens to college students to senior Americans.

The membership report is based on U.S. data from an online survey conducted by Harris Interactive on behalf of OCLC. OCLC analyzed and summarized the results. “Perceptions of Libraries, 2010: Context and Community” is available for free download on the OCLC Web site at www.oclc.org/reports/2010perceptions.htm.