New commons for New Brunswick

The University of New Brunswick (UNB) in Saint John is now home to one of the most advanced and environmentally friendly buildings in Atlantic Canada. Officially opened on September 7, the Hans W. Klohn Commons is a silver-rated Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) building. The design of the building allows a great deal of natural light inside during the day and features LED lighting. An electric elevator system produces power back into the building. The elevator only requires power to get to the top of the building; when coming down, the elevator becomes a power generator for the commons.

“We are very thrilled to finish the construction of the Hans W. Klohn Commons at UNB Saint John,” said UNB vice-president Robert MacKinnon. “I am looking forward to having students use this advanced learning facility for their studies.”

The university’s library system has moved into the commons, along with the Student Technology Centre, the Writing Centre, the Math and Science Help Centre, and the Commons Café. Three hundred trees have been ordered by UNB Saint John to encourage natural habitat back into the project.

More information, including two videos on the development and features of the commons, is available at www.unb.ca/excellence/commons.html.

arXiv celebrates 20th anniversary

Twenty years ago, physicist Paul Ginsparg began a project on his desktop: an electronic database to let fellow physicists share unpublished academic manuscripts without photocopying and paper mail. Over the past two decades, that project has revolutionized the way scientists share information. Today, arXiv—a free scientific repository of research in physics, mathematics, statistics, computer science, and related disciplines—boasts 700,000 “preprint” articles, a million downloads a week, and hundreds of thousands of contributors.

Since Ginsparg moved arXiv to Cornell University in 2001, he collaborated with the university library in overseeing and developing the service. In September, he turned arXiv fully over to the library, although he will continue to serve on the scientific advisory board which provides arXiv with intellectual oversight and shapes the policies and procedures that define arXiv’s moderation processes.

“arXiv has played a leading role in the migration of scholarly communication to the online world over the past two decades, and remains an essential resource,” Ginsparg said. “It is an exciting challenge to architect its role over the next two decades, anticipating the needs of new generations of born-digital users.”

In January 2010, arXiv launched a sustainability initiative that has created a voluntary, collaborative business model to engage institutions that benefit most from its services. So far this year, 114 institutions in 12 countries have pledged their support, and more are expected to join. More information is available at www.arXiv.org.

Gale Launches Librareo online community

Gale, along with Library Journal and School Library Journal magazines recently an-
ACRL recently joined the growing ranks of signatories to the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and the Humanities. ACRL encourages college and research libraries, as well as other campus groups, to follow suit. The declaration builds on the significant progress of the Budapest Open Access Initiative, calling for open access to knowledge in the humanities as well as in the sciences.

It also moves beyond the scope of primary literature, indicating, “Open access contributions include original scientific research results, raw data and metadata, source materials, digital representations of pictorial and graphical materials and scholarly multimedia material.” Signatories commit to the principle of open access as well as to pursuing solutions that advance the Internet “as an emerging functional medium for distributing knowledge.”

While the Berlin Declaration has garnered signatures from research institutions, libraries, archives, museums, funding agencies, and governments worldwide, the organizers are seeking more signatures prior to the November 9, 2011, Berlin 9 Meeting. This will be the first Berlin Conference held in North America, and the organizers hope to clearly demonstrate strong support for the declaration in conjunction with the conference, which research funders, policymakers, and other influential communities are expected to attend in force.

“One on the momentous occasion of Berlin 9 being held in the U.S., it is important to join our European colleagues in their efforts to advance open access initiatives,” said ACRL President Joyce L. Ogburn, dean of the University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library.

ACRL has long supported open access to scholarship as a central principle for reform in the system of scholarly communication. In the association’s new strategic Plan for Excellence, the goal in the area of research and scholarly environment calls for libraries to accelerate the transition to a more open system of scholarship. Signing the Berlin Declaration is one way college and university libraries can demonstrate their intention to influence scholarly publishing policies and practices toward a more open system. Earlier this year, ACRL demonstrated its own commitment to open access by removing price barriers to online version of the scholarly research journal College and Research Libraries, which is now available at from 1997 to the present at no charge.


Librareo, a free Web-based community that supports the future of libraries and librarianship by providing students enrolled in Library and Information Studies (LIS) programs with free access to professional resources. LIS students in the United States and Canada who sign up for Librareo will get free, unlimited access to online Gale resources throughout their library school career, such as Academic OneFile, Gale Virtual Reference Library—including access to 115 e-books. Before starting their library careers, students will be able to explore and master in-demand resources currently being used in libraries around the world.

LIS students will also have access to the Librareo message board and forum, operated by library thought-leaders and LIS faculty, giving them the opportunity to make contacts and solicit timely advice and best practices from experts. Students can gain access to all of the great resources housed on Librareo without any fees or commitments. For more information on Librareo, visit www.librareo.com.

**National Poetry Series to publish book by KU librarian**

Julianne Buchsbaum, a humanities librarian at the University of Kansas (KU), has been selected as one of five winners in the National Poetry Series 2011 Open Competition. Buchsbaum’s third book of poetry, *With Venom and Wonder*, was selected by poet Lucie Brock-Broido and will be published by Penguin Books in the summer of 2012.

“We are extremely excited and proud to have one of our library faculty members hon-
Buchsbaum has worked at KU Libraries since August 2008. Her prior books are Slowly, Slowly, Horses (Ausable Press, 2001) and A Little Night Comes (Web del Sol, 2005). Poems from her new collection have appeared in The Iowa Review and New Orleans Review.

The National Poetry Series is a literary awards program that sponsors the publication of five books of poetry each year. The manuscripts, solicited through the annual Open Competition, are selected by poets of national stature and published by a distinguished group of trade, university, and small presses.

Purdue develops Databib

Purdue University Libraries is leading the development of Databib, a new resource that will help people locate research data on the Internet. Databib will engage a community of librarians from around the world to collaborate in creating an online bibliography of data repositories that can be used by researchers, students, funding agencies, and other librarians to find appropriate places to access and share research data.

The project also will serve as a testbed for presenting, linking, and integrating information about data repositories in new ways. Records from Databib will be integrated into social bookmarking services and made available for libraries to import into their catalogs. They will also be exposed as Linked Data, which is an implementation of the Semantic Web that seeks to create a “Web of data.” Supported by an Institute of Museum and Library Services grant, Purdue is collaborating with Penn State University on the nine-month project, which is scheduled to be completed in May 2012. More information can be found on the project’s Web site, http://databib.lib.purdue.edu.

CUPA-HR issue diversity position statement

For the past year and a half, College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR) leadership, working with diversity consultant Alma Clayton-Pedersen, has been focused on finding ways to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the higher education workplace. After many months of dialogue, information gathering, writing and rewriting, the association has unveiled its Inclusion Cultivates Excellence position statement and action plan (www.cupahr.org/diversity/Inclusion_Cultivates_Excellence.pdf).

The position statement articulates the association’s long-held belief that inclusive workplace practices are critical to achieving excellence in higher education institutions, and the action plan lays out clear, concise goals to help CUPA-HR (and HR professionals working in higher education) lead workforce diversity and inclusion efforts on campus.

LifeTime Library launches for UNC LIS students

Students in the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (UNC) are the first at the university to use a new, Web-based LifeTime Library, the brainchild of Gary Marchionini, dean and Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor at the school. Since arriving
at UNC in 1998, Marchionini has pondered ways to allow students to keep their digital files where they can access them whenever they need them for as long as they need them, before and after graduation.

“The vision is for students to be provided with storage facilities that would persist after they graduate,” Marchionini said. “This would include public space as well as private space to keep files, photographs, health records, and legal downloads of music—all in one place.”

Anything the library user wanted to make private would be password-protected, as long as it falls within the university's terms-of-service agreement for use of computing resources. Even so, users can search the Internet for medical information filtered by their private health information. Graduates could access their projects and class work for job interviews and career projects. Two years in the making, the LifeTime Library was developed with funded by the National Science Foundation and other sources.

“Railroads and the Transformation of Capitalism” exhibit

“Railroads and the Transformation of Capitalism,” an exhibition organized by Baker Library Historical Collections, recently opened at the Harvard University Business School Baker Library/Bloomberg Center. In the mid-to-late 19th century United States, more than 240,000 miles of railroad track was laid, connecting vast regions of the country, transporting raw materials, goods, and people, and making possible an unparalleled level of commerce. The railroad system, unprecedented in its size and complexity, became the model on which modern business would be based.

“Railroads and the Transformation of Capitalism” draws from Baker Library Historical Collections materials to explore the continuing research in the history and role of railroads in creating not only the foundations of modern business, but also a system of modern capitalism that survives to this day.

Visit www.library.hbs.edu/hc/railroads/ to learn more about the railroads and capitalism, to find materials that could support further research, and to view some of the items featured in this exhibition.

OCLC Research and OhioLINK release book usage patterns report

OhioLINK and OCLC Research have released a report of, and the data set used in, a joint study of OhioLINK circulation, to better understand the usage patterns of books in academic libraries and support further research in this area. The study, which incorporated usage data from 2007 to 2008, was limited to books and manuscripts because these materials typically circulate, and circulation is a significant element in evaluating collections.

The report, OhioLINK—OCLC Collection and Circulation Analysis Project 2011, provides an overview of the study, a description of how the data was analyzed and made available, and suggested uses for the data. The report is accompanied online by an extensive set of Excel spreadsheets that analyze the usage patterns observed in the study.

The data used in the report was from a collaborative OCLC-OhioLINK Collection and Circulation Analysis project that joined OhioLINK circulation data with WorldCat bibliographic records to produce a base file of circulation records for nearly 30 million different books. Ninety institutions participated in the study, including 16 universities, 23 community/technical colleges, 50 private colleges, and the State Library of Ohio.

The dataset generated by the project has also been made publicly available under the Open Data Commons Attribution license (an open license) to download for study and research. The report and dataset are available at www.oclc.org/research/publications/library/2011/2011-06r.htm.

ProQuest expands Historical Newspaper collection

ProQuest has added digitized collections of historic American Jewish and regional newspapers to its Historical Newspaper collection. Available now are The Jewish Advocate and The American Hebrew/Jewish Messenger. Regional coverage in Historical Newspapers will expand with Newsday (1940 through 1984), best known for its local coverage of New York's Long Island area post World War II, and the Cincinnati Enquirer (1841 through 1922), a key newspaper covering the high growth period of the Ohio River Valley region.

More information is available at www.proquest.com.