Wayne State University Libraries release custom app for Google Glass

The Wayne State University Libraries recently completed its first custom app for Google Glass called Wayne State Campus Explorer, a discovery app that allows users to wander the campus while getting information on the places around them. As the user draws closer to a location, the app displays other information like building hours and other points of interest. Currently, all of the libraries are plotted in the app as well as major campus buildings.

Earlier this year, the libraries began experimenting with Google Glass, a wearable computer with an augmented reality visual display. The app has potential to guide a user directly to a book in the stacks and could send alerts to users when they get close to a new feature or special collection that the library would like to highlight. Patrons could walk up to a room to discover when the room can be reserved and make the reservation from the Glass. For photos and screenshots of the app in action, visit http://library.wayne.edu/blog/?p=7956.

Wikipedia edit-a-thon part of Open Access Week at WSU

If you read Wikipedia’s biographical article on Maya Angelou, especially after the acclaimed writer’s death last spring, then you’ve read the work of Washington State University’s (WSU) Christine Meyer. A sign language interpreter at the WSU Access Center, Meyer is one of some 75,000 users who actively edit and write articles for Wikipedia. As a part of the recent celebration of Open Access Week, Meyer and others from WSU Libraries led a free, public Wikipedia water issues edit-a-thon. WSU worked with member universities of the Western Waters Digital Library (WWDL) to develop and improve Wikipedia articles about water topics in Washington state. Activities included finding citations, editing for clarity, and identifying pages for further review.

WSU Libraries chose water issues for its edit-a-thon because “water is so important in the West,” said Alex Merrill, head of systems and technical operations. WSU was contacted by a librarian at Colorado State University, a member of WWDL, to consider teaming up on editing Wikipedia articles. WWDL provides free, public access to digital collections of significant primary and secondary resources about water in the western United States, including classic literature, legal transcripts, maps, reports, personal papers, water project records, photographs, audio recordings, videos, and other material.

FSU Open Access Week activities

The Florida State University (FSU) Libraries advanced two campuswide initiatives to support a growing international effort to promote free and immediate online access to scholarly research and the right to use research results as needed during Open Access Week. The two initiatives—“DigiNole
ACRL seeks feedback on third draft of proposed Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education

ACRL’s Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education Task Force seeks feedback on the third draft of the association’s proposed Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education, released in mid-November 2014. Find the document, a welcome message highlighting major changes since the June second draft, and a link to an online feedback form on the task force website at http://acrl.ala.org/ilstandards. Comments are due by 5 p.m. Central on Friday, December 12, 2014.

The Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education, adopted by ACRL in 2000, has become an essential document related to the emergence of information literacy as a recognized learning outcome at many institutions of higher education. In June 2012, the ACRL Board of Directors approved a unanimous recommendation that they be significantly revised. A task force charged with creating the Framework has been working since March 2013, sharing drafts for public comment since February 2014.

Members of the task force are grateful for all the robust input in reaction to the proposed Framework gathered through online feedback forms, member forums and hearings (face-to-face and online), member emails, conversations in social media, as well as comments from the ACRL Board of Directors. The task force takes all this feedback seriously, and has used these comments to guide and improve the third draft. As they carefully considered all the input gathered over the summer and fall, task force members recognize some questions/concerns are recurring and have addressed those in the Frequently Asked Question section of their website at http://acrl.ala.org/ilstandards.

To help guide your thinking, the task force asks that you consider these questions:

1. How satisfied are you with the new definition of information literacy?
2. How satisfied are you with each of the six frames?
3. How satisfied are you with the opportunities to provide feedback to the task force on drafts of the Framework?
4. How satisfied are you that the task force has been responsive to feedback provided on previous drafts of the Framework?
5. Overall, how satisfied are you with the third draft of the proposed Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education?
6. What one thing do you most want the task force members to know about the draft Framework?

The task force expects to submit a final document to the ACRL Board in early January 2015 for their consideration at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Chicago.
Nominations sought for ACRL Board of Directors

Higher education is experiencing unprecedented change, providing academic libraries with tremendous opportunities to define new roles related to learning, teaching and research.

ACRL is dedicated to enhancing the ability of library and information professionals to dream big and shape our new future.

Be a part of shaping that future. 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, director-at-large, and councilor in the 2016 elections.

The deadline for nominations is February 15, 2015.

To nominate an individual or to self-nominate, send the nominee’s name and institution to LRNC Chair Gillian Gremmels of Davidson College at (704) 894-2599 or jigremmels@davidson.edu.

Once nominated, individuals will need to submit a two-page curriculum vita or resume (if self-nominating, you may include these materials with your nomination). The LRNC will request statements of interest from selected individuals prior to developing a slate of candidates.

More information about the ACRL Board of Directors is available at www.ala.org/acrl/resources/policies/chapter2.
matched fellows and mentors in a one year leadership development program annually since 2002.

The NLM/AAHSL Leadership Fellows Program prepares emerging leaders for director positions in academic health sciences libraries. Selection is recognition of a substantial record of leadership accomplishment and potential. The program provides a combination of in-person and virtual learning experiences for fellows and offers the opportunity to work collaboratively with the cohort of participants. Fellows are paired with mentors who are academic health sciences library directors. They communicate throughout the year, and visit the libraries of their mentors. They began their program at the AAHSL November meeting in Chicago.

Information about the program, including a full list of fellows and mentors, is available at https://aahsl.memberclicks.net/leadership-fellows-program.

Perry Chapman Prize to fund Drexel University study of spatial relationships and learning

New research to study how physical conditions influence learning outside of the classroom at Drexel University was selected for $10,000 in funding through the 2014–15 Perry Chapman Prize. The annual prize funds research in the planning and design of institutions of higher education, and is intended to further the research, development, and dissemination of emerging knowledge to improve campus environments in support of an institution’s mission.

The 2014–15 winning proposal, titled “Peer engagement as a common resource: Managing interaction patterns in institutions,” was submitted by W. Michael Johnson from the City College of New York; Danuta A. Nitecki, dean of libraries at Drexel University Libraries; and Michael Khoo, assistant teaching professor at Drexel University’s College of Computing & Informatics.

Using learning environments, the team will record patterns of engagement among students and map the proximity between people as a proxy for the exchange of information. Low-resolution time-lapse images taken via ceiling mounted cameras will both enable privacy for individuals in the images and will build a database for the work. Research from this project will inform the design of future learning environments for Drexel University Libraries, which has led a series of new initiatives to redefine the academic library. The Perry Chapman Prize is supported by The Hideo Sasaki Foundation under the auspices of the Society for College and University Planning, and seeks to honor the intellectual contributions of M. Perry Chapman.

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Tech Bits . . .

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

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—Amanda Dinscore
California State University-Fresno

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