Libraries on the Move

The Center for Research Libraries has published an updated version of its “Model Licensing Terms and Specifications for Data Resources” which began in November 2016, when CRL hosted the inaugural eDesiderata Forum on the topic of licensing large databases and datasets (https://www.crl.edu/events/licensing-big-data-edesiderata-forum). Guided by the findings of the 2016 Forum, CRL developed a set of terms and specifications recommended for inclusion in data acquisition licenses to facilitate more successful, informative and mutually constructive agreements with vendors of global data resources. Last Spring, CRL shared a proposed draft of these terms and invited members to provide feedback and pose questions, facilitating a virtual discussion regarding strategies for licensing and providing access to global data resources. CRL updated the terms based on the feedback received during the review period. Both the current and previous versions can be found on the following CRL page: https://www.crl.edu/electronic-resources/tools-resources.

Mark Your Calendars

The 22nd Fiesole Retreat dates have been announced: April 7-9, 2020 in Athens, Greece, with thanks to our upcoming hosts at the beautiful new National Library (https://www.snfcc.org/en/national-library-greece). More details coming soon.

Early Bird Registration is now open for the 34th Annual Charleston Conference, running from November 4-8, 2019 in beautiful Charleston, South Carolina. Early Bird rates are available until September 13th. “The most important conference I attend.” Don’t miss out! Register soon. Visit the conference website at www.charlestonlibraryconference.com.

TCR Reports from the Field:

Hot Topics at NASIG 2019

. . . Reported by Rebecca Tatterson, Electronic Resources Librarian, East Carolina University, <tattersonr17@ecu.edu>

NASIG’s 2019 conference was held June 5-8 in Pittsburgh, PA. One cannot visit Pittsburgh without noting the bridges that span the city’s rivers. The confluence of the Monongahela and Allegheny form the Ohio River here, and many bridges, painted an Aztec Gold, connect the city’s various regions and are an impressive sight when viewed from an aerial perspective.

It is no surprise then that NASIG captures this inspiration in the theme for this year’s conference “Building Bridges.” The concept infused many of the sessions including vision sessions like DeEtta James’ presentation titled Courageous Leadership: Walking Your Talk from Whenever You Are in which she spoke about a leader’s obligations to be “emotionally intelligent” and “culturally competent.” What Should Diversity and Inclusion in NASIG look like? was led by NASIG’s Equity & Inclusion committee which provided an interactive approach for participants to discuss how to represent diversity and inclusion in NASIG and our libraries. The final vision session Bridging the Worlds of MARC and Linked Data: Transition, Transformation, Accountability discussed the importance of accountability in describing our resources and how linked data can be used to more thoroughly describe resources, share content and manage content across multiple systems. An opening session highlight was the work of Charles “Teenie” Harris. Harris was an African-American photographer whose work is known for celebrating the people, architecture and events of Pittsburgh. Housed at the Carnegie Museum of Art, the archive collection is an impressive contribution to the preservation of his work.

Many presentations can be found on the NASIG Sched site https://nasig2019.sched.com/ and Slideshare https://www.slideshare.net/NASIG, so pop on over to view if a topic interests you!

A few programming topics:

- **Usability** or how our users interact with our resources. Things to consider when looking at approaches to the development of usability studies and the importance of implementing the findings.
- **Scholarly Communications** is increasingly discussed at NASIG and appeared as a theme in many of this year’s presentations including a preconference with a focus on future implications as they apply to access, collections and preservation of content and one library’s experience creating a scholarly communications unit at their university.
- **Open access** topics included building bridges across campus and collaboratively, managing content metadata, how content is procured in our systems and how it is made discoverable to our users.

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Hot Topics at NASIG 2019 — from page 1

• Collection analysis surfaced in discussions regarding a cost analysis by a library of its serials collection. Highlighted factors to consider in evaluations included turnaway statistics, failed link resolver data, and interlibrary loan requests.

• Evaluating E-resource workflows and management of content returns as the technology driven demand for change creates the need to re-evaluate workflows. New workflow models, LSPs and optimizing library discovery are a few of the themes that emerged.

• Ebooks: Purchase models, subscription vs owned, and EBA, the newest addition to the E-book world for libraries. How they affect budgeting, workflows and drive collection decisions.

• VPAT two libraries presented on using VPAT to assess digital content for usability by users with disabilities. Their process included adding accessibility information to their A-Z list and adding notes about accessibility issues in the MARC records for resources.

• Mentorship: NASIG’s commitment is highlighted by the organization’s program to partner new members and conference attendees with seasoned members to assist with navigating conference logistics. A presentation on the importance of mentors in the profession reinforces the idea that learning from our peers is still a valuable tool towards our development.

• Browser extensions and the benefit they provide to directing user to open content. A few mentioned were Unpaywall, Kopernio, Anywhere Access and Lean Library.

Mark Your Calendars for NASIG future conferences: The 2020 conference will be held at The Davenport Grand in Spokane, Washington, on June 8-12, and the 2021 conference will be held at The Madison Concourse Hotel and Governor’s Club in Madison, Wisconsin, on May 17-21.

By the Numbers

The Internet Archive’s Open Libraries Project

Current statistics for Open Libraries:

• 2.7 Million books digitized
• 319.5 Books downloaded (in 2017)
• 272 Partner Libraries

As reported by LJ, The Internet Archive is seeking more partners for its Open Libraries project. Recent contributors include Trent University, Ont., which donated more than 250,000 books last year during the renovation of its Bata Library, and longtime project partner Boston Public Library, which donated its sound archives for digitization in 2017.

The goal of the project is to bring four million books online, through purchase or digitization, while honoring the rights of creators and expanding their online reach. The Project’s homepage statement says it best:

“At the Internet Archive, we believe passionately that access to knowledge is a fundamental human right. Knowledge makes us stronger and more resilient; it provides pathways to education and the means to secure a job. But for many learners, distance, time, cost or disability pose daunting barriers to the information in physical books. By digitizing books, we unlock them for communities with limited or no access, creating a lifeline to trusted information. The Internet Archive’s Open Libraries project Working with U.S. libraries and organizations serving people with print disabilities, Open Libraries can build the online equivalent of a great, modern public library, providing millions of free digital books to billions of people.” http://openlibraries.online/

Be sure to join Brewster Kahle, Founder of the Internet Archive, at this year’s 34th Annual Charleston Conference where he will be one of the Keynote Speakers.

Did You Know?

PLOS Journals are now open for published peer review. Starting May 22nd, all PLOS journals will offer authors the option to publish their peer review history alongside their accepted manuscript. PLOS Director of Strategic Partnerships, Sara Rouhi says “We’ve been excited to make this announcement in our commitment to a more open publication process. We’ve developed this option in consultation with our editors who are dedicated to improving our journals, and we are also committed to reporting back our findings. As we learn more about how published peer review shapes author and reviewer choices and reader experience, we’ll continue to update you on what we find.” Read more at https://blogs.plos.org/plos/2019/05/plos-journals-now-open-for-published-peer-review/.
TCR Short Reports: SSP 2019 Annual Meeting

By Leah Hinds, Executive Director, Charleston Conference, <hinds1@gmail.com>

The Society for Scholarly Publishing’s 41st annual meeting was held May 29-31, 2019, in the Marriott Marquis Marina in sunny San Diego, California. The weather was especially beautiful for me, coming from an unusually early heat wave in SC with temperatures over 100 degrees! All my friends and family were definitely jealous that it was in the upper 60’s and low 70’s while I was there.

The theme was “Shaping the New Status Quo: Global Perspectives in Scholarly Publishing.” There were 980 attendees (as listed in the mobile app), with 67 booths and tabletop displays in the Exhibitor Marketplace. A list of exhibitors and an interactive map is available on the SSP event page at https://customer.sspnet.org/ssp/AM19/Home.

Highlights:

• Pre-Meeting Seminars on Wednesday, May 29. I was thrilled to participate as a moderator in the “Charleston Trendspotting Initiative: Forecasting Changes on the Horizon of Scholarly Communication” alongside presenters Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and Heather Staines, MIT Knowledge Futures Group. We hosted a group of around 30 people to collaboratively explore social, policy, economic, technology, and educational trends and forecasting their impacts on scholarly communication, publishing, and academic libraries.

• Opening Keynote Wednesday afternoon: Dr. Mariamawit Yeshak, Assistant Professor of Pharmacology at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia. She discussed the state of scholarly publishing in Africa, including a focus on Impact Factor vs. Societal Impact.

• Thursday Morning Keynote: Betsy Beaumon, CEO of Benetech, who spoke on “Why Inclusion Matters to Technology, and Technology Matters to Inclusion.” She gave examples of how inclusive, assistive technology can empower communities for social good. “If a book can be born digital, it can be born accessible.” Thursday concluded with a lovely reception in the Exhibitors Marketplace.

• Friday morning plenary: Previews Session – New and Noteworthy Product Presentations. Included lightning round presentations from 13 companies, followed by voting from the audience to select “Best Innovation.” Paper Digest (https://www.paper-digest.com/) won the vote.

• Closing Plenary: The Scholarly Kitchen Live! A panel of TSK “chefs” led a discussion picking up on the themes presented at the meeting, followed by audience Q&A.

Plan for the future! Next year’s meeting will be held May 27-29, 2020, at the Westin Waterfront, Boston, MA.

Scholarly Communications:
The View from Fiesole

Excerpts from David Worlock’s blogpost, dated April 19, 2019. Reprinted with permission.

The debate about OA and Plan S is not an end in itself. Subscription publishing will never reassert itself and OA disappear. Nor will the world slowly become totally OA. The changes and the debate point to bigger and more fundamental changes. I was left feeling that just as we have been through Digital Replacement — all paper based content went digital — followed by Digital Transformation — the workflows and processes went digital and became wholly network interconnected — we now approach Digital Re-invention — in which the forms and artefacts of the analogue world themselves give way to digital connectivity which not only alters relationships in the network, but introduces the computer, the machine as reader and researcher, into the workflow.

We are now in a situation where the old generalities are becoming useless. STM and HSS are near meaningless, given the differences between Life Sciences and Physics, or Chemistry, as research communication fields. Likewise statistical social sciences and humanities. And when I asked what the identifiable critical information problems of scientists were I got two answers — Reproducibility and Methodology.

Don’t Miss This! Charleston Conference — SSP Joint Webinar
New Models of Scholarly Communication: Libraries Shaping
Publishing in the New Era

By Leah Hinds, Executive Director, Charleston Conference, <hindsl@gmail.com>

On June 6, the Charleston Conference and the Society for Scholarly Publishing co-hosted a free webcast titled “New Models of Scholarly Communication: Libraries Shaping Publishing in the New Era.” Through their interactions with researchers and consumers, librarians are shaping and driving change in publishing and scholarly communication. Like pebbles in a pond, their actions create ripples far beyond their individual institutions. In this webinar, a panel of speakers highlighted ways in which libraries are increasingly taking the lead in the production, curation, discovery, and aggregation of content and its dissemination.

- **Jason Pointe**, Publishing Director, International Anesthesia Research Society and Education Committee volunteer for SSP, was the session moderator. He opened the session with a brief outline of the learning goals and agenda, along with speaker introductions and bios.

- **Sarah Lippincott**, Senior Consultant, Born Digital; author of *Library as Publisher: New Models of Scholarly Communication for a New Era*, examined the ways in which library publishers are adapting to the rise of modular, networked content and infrastructure. She cited a number of projects that aim to enable more flexible, digital-first forms of publishing in libraries and beyond. Lippincott emphasized the value libraries place on openness and community governance, and argued that open, networked publishing infrastructure aligns with libraries’ practical needs and ethical concerns.

- **Maria Bonn**, Associate Professor and Program Director, Master of Science in Library and Information Science, School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, discussed new developments in the Open Educational Resource, or OER, landscape and how such freely accessible, openly licensed text, media, and other digital assets can help address the problem of affordability for course materials for students.

- **John Willinsky**, Khosla Family Professor of Education, Stanford University and Director, Public Knowledge Project, addressed the library's changing role by speaking to how the Public Knowledge Project, as a faculty R&D initiative in scholarly publishing, found a home, talent, and support in the research library, principally at Simon Fraser University Libraries, but among a great number of other research libraries interested in (a) utilizing and contributing to PKP's open source publishing platforms, and (b) entering into discussions over models for advancing the state of open access within the literature.


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**Short Takes**

Internet Librarian has announced a series of Preconference Workshops as part of its October 21-24, 2019 conference headlined “Catalysts: Building Smart Campuses, Companies & Communities.” The Workshops will be offered on October 20 at the Monterey Marriott in Monterey, California. Interested parties can choose from seven different topics.