Editor’s Note: Lots to catch up on from the holiday break, so this issue is a little longer than usual. As always, send in your news, insights and comments!

1. New Publications:

- From Australia comes a thought-provoking paper on old ways of doing information literacy: “Are we experts in contemporary information literacy issues – issues such as online identity, digital rights, social networking, personalisation and collaborative content? Or are we in danger of becoming more like expatriates - continuing to do things like we did in ‘the old country’?” The article is Information Literacy Experts – or Expats? and it’s available at: http://www.educationau.edu.au/jahia/webdav/site/myjahiasite/shared/papers/slanza_pm.pdf

- The latest issue of the open access Journal of Information Literacy is out. Articles of interest include:
  - Exploring the connections between information literacy and writing for international students
  - Information literacy support for off-campus students by academic libraries in the Republic of Ireland
  - Fostering independent learning and critical thinking in management higher education using an information literacy framework
  - Information literacy at the Service Desk: the role of circulations staff in promoting information literacy

You can see the full journal at: http://ojs.lboro.ac.uk/ojs/index.php/JIL
• Thanks to Gerald Brown for sharing Vol. 4, No. 4 (2008) of the *International Journal of Education and Development using ICT*. Articles of interest include:

• The ongoing Pew Internet and American Life Project has released 2 reports of interest. *Adults and Social Network Websites* looks at the changing face of social networking, and shows that it’s no longer just a young person’s activity. Pew found that 35% of adult Internet users now have a profile on at least one social networking site, and among online adults ages 35-44, 30% have a profile. *The Future of the Internet III* surveyed “internet leaders, activists and analysts [and] showed they expect major tech advances as the phone becomes a primary device for online access, voice-recognition improves, artificial and virtual reality become more embedded in everyday life, and the architecture of the internet itself improves. They disagree about whether this will lead to more social tolerance, more forgiving human relations, or better home lives ” …or if it will affect how people search for information.


2. Calls for papers, etc.:

• Proposals for *poster sessions* to be presented at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference are now being accepted. The **deadline for submitting an application is January 31, 2009.** An application form is available on the poster session website for both US and international submissions.

• “E-JASL: *The Electronic Journal of Academic and Special Librarianship*, an international, independent, professional, refereed/peer-reviewed, electronic library and information science journal published and distributed by the International Consortium for the Advancement of Academic Publication (ICAAP), is seeking outstanding articles for all three of its 10th Anniversary issues in 2009. Support the principles of open access for academic research in Library and Information Science by sending your Library and Information Science manuscripts to Mr. Paul G. Haschak: [phaschak@usouthal.edu](mailto:phaschak@usouthal.edu)
  E-JASL’s Web Address: [http://southernlibrarianship.icaap.org](http://southernlibrarianship.icaap.org)
3. Tips n' Tricks:

- Here’s a statistic you can use in your IL classes: 73.4 percent of all Wikipedia edits are made by roughly 1,400 people. [Link](http://www.collegeotr.com/college_otr/734_percent_of_all_wikipedia_edits_are_made_by_roughly_1400_people_17499)

- Dr. Margot Haynes of Delta College in Michigan describes how one of their science faculty “developed a great assignment for biology majors in which they did an annotated bibliography on a series of articles over several weeks on the same topic. They would have a popular magazine or newspaper article first, then a science magazine, then a review article in a peer-reviewed journal, then a research piece as primary data. It was a terrific way for students to distinguish between sources, for different purposes, in the future.”

- A listserv discussion on showing patrons how to store & share documents online pointed to Dropbox, which allows you to “store, sync and share your files online”. Other web-based applications are Box.net and of course Google Docs [Link](http://tinyurl.com/6x7eh4). All of these tools require you to either download an application or sign up for a free account.

- Another discussion on software for tracking instruction stats also highlighted web-based tools. Nia Lam at Pima Community College created an impressive sample database in Zoho Creator, which not only counts instruction sessions and number of students, but also tracks instructor name, discipline and level and links to course syllabi and handouts. Zoho Creator is a web application development site that specializes in business applications. Its sister site Zoho Show offers a web-based presentation maker comparable to Powerpoint. Sample database: [Link](http://creator.zoho.com/nlampima/copy-of-instruction-database) Zoho Creator: [Link](http://creator.zoho.com/) Zoho Show: [Link](http://show.zoho.com)

- A nice graphical conceptualization of the research process can be found here: [Link](http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/wispr) along with a very good Creative Commons-licensed handout from Yukon Colleges WISPR (Workshop on the Information Search Process for Research) tutorial.

- Thanks to Norma Godavari for sending this item: 100 Awesome Youtube Vids for Librarians [Link](http://www.accrediteddldegrees.com/2008/100-awesome-youtube-vids-for-librarians/) The selection combines videos of interest to both academic and public librarians. "A lot of these are purely informational, but there are some entertaining, image-busting ones as well."
4. **Continuing Ed:**

- Among the assortment of online courses and workshops on offer in ACRL’s spring 2009 e-learning schedule are:
  
  - **Instructional Design for Online Teaching and Learning (Feb. 2-28, 2009)**
    In this four week hands-on course the intellectual focus will be on using good instructional design and Web page design principles. Participants will also be introduced to Web-based Teaching techniques and materials using standard Web pages and the Moodle LMS.
  
  - **The Role of the Librarian in Combating Student Plagiarism (Feb. 5, 2009)**
    Like other educators, librarians are aware of the growing instances of student plagiarism and academic dishonesty that take place on college campuses. Librarians frequently anecdotally discuss discipline faculty's revulsion toward the growth of student plagiarism that has seemingly grown in tandem with our society's dependence on digital texts found on the Internet. This seminar discusses strategies libraries and librarians can implement to reduce plagiarism on campus.

Full **details and registration information** are available on the ACRL Web site at [http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/proftools/elearning.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/proftools/elearning.cfm).

- **Honouring Immersion:**
  “In honor of the 10th anniversary of its popular Information Literacy Immersion Program, the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) will present a Special Presidential Recognition Award to the founding members of the Institute for Information Literacy Steering Committee and Immersion faculty at the ACRL 14th National Conference in Seattle. Committee and faculty members will be recognized and presented with certificates acknowledging their contributions to ACRL at the keynote session at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, March 13”. The complete ACRL press release is here: [http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlpress/?p=41](http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlpress/?p=41)

5. **Thoughts from the field:**

- **The Minneapolis Community and Technical College** has updated the course materials they use in their Information Literacy program. While not all materials may be suitable for use here, they do have some **handouts and assignment ideas** that are worth looking at. You can find the items at: [http://www.minneapolis.edu/library/courses/infs1000/support.htm](http://www.minneapolis.edu/library/courses/infs1000/support.htm)

- **YouTube the Reference Tool:**
  Library blogger Gerry McKiernan comments on a New York Times story that reports on an elementary school student who used YouTube to find material for his project. “The explosion of all types of video content on YouTube and other sites is quickly transforming online video from a medium strictly for entertainment and news into one that is also a reference tool. As a result, video search, on YouTube and across other sites, is rapidly morphing into a new entry point into the Web, one that could rival mainstream search for many types of queries”
6. **In the News:**

- **Gen Y, PhDs and Info Lit:**
  “The British Library and JISC announce ground-breaking three-year study into the research behaviour of ‘Generation Y’ scholars. The study will track a number of researchers over a three-year period, analysing their activity and habits in online and physical research environments. **The study will also assess their usage of library and information resources**, both on and offline. The research subjects will be doctoral students beginning their PhD programme in the academic year 2008/09.”
  This study will build on last year’s **Information Behaviour of the Researcher of the Future**, which showed that “the Google Generation is a myth.”
  **BL/JISC press release:** [http://media-newswire.com/release_1084866.html](http://media-newswire.com/release_1084866.html)

- **How Google is Making Us Smarter:**
  A refreshing change from all those gloom and doom stories about how Google is dumbing us down is this *Discover* article that looks at the idea of the **“extended mind.”** The argument is that the human brain has always used information from both internal knowledge and external sources to form patterns of thought. “There’s nothing unnatural about relying on the Internet—Google and all—for information. After all, we are constantly consulting the world around us like a kind of visual Wikipedia.”

---

**Questions, comments, contributions? Please send them to:**

Betty Braaksma  
[mailto:betty_braaksma@umanitoba.ca](mailto:betty_braaksma@umanitoba.ca)  
E3-362A Engineering Library  
474-7193