

News

1. Institutions

1.1. Institutional organisations

1.1.1. Joint effort by FID/ARM, FID/IPA and FID/SD

The Chairs of the FID Special Interest Groups on Archives and Records Management (ARM), Information for Public Administration (IPA) and FID's Committee on Social Sciences Documentation and Information (SD) have launched a joint effort among the 3 groups in an effort to discuss and explore the issue of quality in scientific documents and records.

During the FID Biennial Meeting in Graz, October 1996, FID/ARM, FID/IPA, and FID/SD met to discuss issues relating to information quality, especially as a result of the increase in electronic records. Representatives from Italy, Romania, and Finland also attended the meeting. From a records and archives perspective, the problem identified was that in the very near future, archival institutions will find that they cannot read electronic records not only because of rapidly changing technology, but also as a result of inadequate quality and completeness in these records and accompanying documentation and software.

FID/IPA and FID/SD see this as a problem for their members in government and science. While there are a variety of international standards for managing data and electronic records, there are also some unanswered questions about what is and is not a record. In government, this question is easily answered by way of national legal definitions. However, what or who ensures that the definitions of records is fully understood and that decisions on electronic records are being made by archival professionals? Another question might be: is every electronic record worth keeping, and if so, what are the minimum standards for quality? For example, in paper media, there are assumptions that administrative records are kept for short periods of time, so what are organizations doing with LAN's that hold numerous financial spreadsheets – besides backing them up? What about all those floppy disks being kept by professionals and secretaries – are they or are they not records? In academia, the answer depends on the institution's policy. As another example, a potential problem may exist when students performing research collect their data on software, which they bring to the effort. When completed, what ensures that the student will submit both the research and the software for future archival study? What standards exist relating to ensuring that those electronic records relating to social science are being preserved and that they have the level of quality we have grown used to working with?

Plan 1997 thru 1998

Thus, the two FID SIGs and one FID Committee plan to explore these issues in upcoming FID activities, through newsletters, articles, and other methods of discussion. We hope that we will hear from the membership and can build a dialogue. Anyone interested may contact the SIGs and committee directly or through the FID Secretariat.

FID/SD will set up more detailed plans; the project aims at a tangible result at the end of 1997 in the hope that we can present a publication at the New Delhi conference in 1998 together with the organisation of a workshop.

This information is also available on the FID Website: <http://fid.conicyt.cl:8000/prljoint.htm>

1.1.2. Newly appointed Chairs of FID/CR, FID/ET and FID/II

FID is pleased to announce that, during the FID Conference in Graz, Austria (20–25 October 1996), the FID Council has accepted with gratitude the following nominations:

- Ia McIlwaine as Chair of FID/CR
- Joyce Kirk as Chair of FID/ET
- Irmgard Fischli as Chair of FID/II

About FID/CR

The FID/CR Committee scope is to promote, sponsor and engage in research in the field of classification, content analysis and indexing.

About Ia McIlwaine

Currently reader in Classification and Indexing at the University of London and Director of the School of Library Archive & Information Studies, Dr. Ia McIlwaine has been involved in the Classification area for many years. Among her many research and professional activities, she is editor-in-chief of the *Universal Decimal Classification*. Series editor of Bowker Sauer's *Guides to Information Sources*, Member of the IFLA Standing Committee for the Section on Classification and Indexing, Member of the Editorial Board of *Knowledge Organization* and Organizing Chair for *6th FID/CR International Study Conference on Classification*.

Among her numerous publications we mention:

- (Editor) *Standards for the international exchange of bibliographic description*, London, Library Association, 1990, 234 pp.
- *A guide to the use of the UDC*, The Hague, FID, 1993, 124 pp. (FID 703). 2nd ed. 1995. [Also pub. in Japanese and Spanish, 1994; French 1995. Portuguese edition in preparation]
- “New wine in old bottles: problems of maintaining classification schemes”,

Knowledge Organization and Change: proceedings of the 4th International ISKO Conference, July, 1996, 122–136.

- (With Williamson, N.J.) “Restructuring of class 61 – Medical sciences”, *Extensions and Corrections to the UDC* 18, 1996, 15–77.
- and other articles, especially on UDC

She can be reached at the following address: University College London, Archives and Information Studies, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT, United Kingdom, Tel.: +44 171 380 7205; Fax: +44 171 383 0557; E-mail: uczcw07@ucl.ac.uk.

About FID/ET

The Education and Training Committee of the International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID) promotes cooperation among nations and organisations involved in developing and training information professionals.

About Joyce Kirk

Associate Professor Joyce Kirk has been involved in education for the information profession for over 20 years and she has taught at undergraduate and postgraduate levels for most of that time.

Her particular interest is in the role of the profession and industry in education as we move into new areas of professional endeavor such as knowledge management. She is also interested in the ethical and cultural questions that arise in information practice from the tensions between globalisation and localisation, both of which shape the world we all share.

She is very keen that the information profession meets the real challenges that face individuals, cultures, organisations and nations and that we find solutions that are sustainable.

Joyce Kirk has been on the Board of Education of the Australian Library and Information Association for 6 years, 4 of them as Deputy Chair. Furthermore, she has extensive experience in course design and delivery, including university and TAFE courses as well as continuing education courses. She has been involved in course reviews in most Australian states and in the South Pacific.

She can be reached at: University of Technology, Sydney, (Coursework Programs), Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences, P.O. Box 123, Broadway NSW 2007, Australia. Tel.: +61 2 9514 1550; Fax: +61 2 9514 1569; E-mail: J.Kirk@uts.edu.au.

About FID/II

FID/II actively promotes, on an international basis, the use of information, information management techniques and information and communication technologies, for the benefit of business and industries.

About Irmgard Fischli

Irmgard R. Fischli has her degree from the Swiss Institute of Technology in Zurich

(ETH), Department of Chemistry. She is at present Head of the Library and Information Services at Sandoz Pharma Ltd, located in Basel, Switzerland.

Irmgard has given numerous plenary presentations at conferences and seminars, many of them have been published. She is a member of several professional library and information management associations, and is the member of the board of the Patent Documentation Group (PDG). She also has a background from politics. Irmgard has been a member and vice-chair of FID/II for several years.

She can be reached at: SANDOZ Pharma Ltd., Library and Scientific Information Services, CH-4002 Basel, Switzerland. Tel.: +41 61 324 2330; Fax: +41 61 324 9942; E-mail: irmgard.fischli@sandoz.ch.

1.2. National organisations

1.2.1. American Library Association

Ann K. Symons elected ALA president for 1998–99

Ann K. Symons, a school librarian from Juneau, Alaska, has been elected president of the American Library Association (ALA) for the 1998–99 term.

Symons defeated Kenneth E. Dowlin, former city librarian for the San Francisco Public Library, in the election.

As president of the ALA, Symons will be the chief elected officer for the oldest and largest library organization in the world. Founded in 1876, the ALA has a membership of more than 57,000 librarians and library supporters. Its mission is to promote the highest quality library services and public access to information.

Symons will serve as president-elect for 1997–98 and will assume the presidency in July of 1998 at the end of the ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. She will serve a one-year term.

A librarian at the Juneau-Douglas High School, Symons has worked for the Juneau School District since 1972. She also has been an academic librarian and adjunct library school faculty.

Symons served as ALA treasurer from 1992–1996. She has been a member of the ALA Executive Board since 1989 and of ALA Council since 1985. She served as chair of the Finance and Audit Committee and as a member of the Committee on Program Evaluation and Support Services (COPEs) and the Endowment Trustees. She is the 1996–97 chair of ALA's Intellectual Freedom Committee.

Symons received the 1996 AASL/SIRS Intellectual Freedom Award. Her other honors include the 1994 Freedom to Read Foundation Roll of Honor Award, 1994 Outstanding Customer Service to Youth in Libraries Award and the 1991 AASL/Alaska President's Leadership Award.

She is co-author of "Protecting the Right to Read: A How-To-Do-It-Manual for School and Public Librarians" (Neal-Schuman, 1995) and has published numerous articles in *School Library Journal*, *American Libraries*, *VOYA*, *The Bottom Line* and other publications. She is a noted speaker on intellectual freedom, youth services and school library issues.

Symons received her master's degree in library science from the University of Oregon in Eugene, and bachelor's degree from the University of California in Davis. She holds a Certificate of Advanced Studies in Librarianship from the University of Denver.

Bill and Melinda Gates establish library foundation to give \$400 million to libraries
Microsoft founder Bill Gates and his wife Melinda French Gates have announced the formation of the Gates Library Foundation – a nonprofit organization that will expand the work of the Libraries Online project launched by Microsoft with the American Library Association in December 1995.

The foundation will provide \$400 million in cash and software to public libraries in low-income communities to support Internet access and to provide support and training for librarians and library staff throughout the U.S. and Canada.

"This is an enormous gift to our nation's libraries", said Elizabeth Martinez, executive director of the American Library Association. "It means that potentially every child and adult will have access to global information online at public libraries across America".

The gift is the biggest contribution to libraries since Andrew Carnegie gave \$41.2 million at the turn of the century.

"Our public libraries represent free and open access to information and knowledge", said Melinda Gates. "Bill and I are excited to be helping libraries ensure that children and adults from all walks of life will have access to the wealth of information and understanding that computers and digital information make possible".

"Since I was a kid, libraries have played an important role in my life. In the past couple of years I have had the opportunity to visit many libraries and see first hand how people are using personal computers and the Internet to do anything from look for a job to research a term paper", said Bill Gates.

The Libraries Online program has reached more than 200 libraries in North America with \$25 million in cash and software donations in the first 18 months. The Gates Library Foundation will expand that gift with a commitment of \$200 million in cash and \$200 million in software.

Patty Stonesifer, former senior vice president of Microsoft's Interactive Multimedia Division, has been named the foundation's president and chairman. Board members include Bill and Melinda Gates, Carnegie Foundation President Vartan Gregorian, United Negro College Fund President and CEO William Gray III, and former Seattle Public Library Foundation board member and retired president and CEO of Physico-Control Gilbert Anderson.

Chris Hedrick, who has administered Libraries Online at Microsoft, will join the foundation staff as program director. The foundation process for awarding grants is being developed.

For more information, see the foundation's Website at www.glf.org or contact Hedrick at +1 425 882 1200, e-mail: ubfi@glf.org.

2. Conferences

2.1. *Online Information 97*

Conference and Exhibition, 9–11 December 1997, National Hall and Olympia Conference Centre, London, UK.

The 21st *Online Information Conference and Exhibition* – the world's leading information industry event for electronically-available media – will be held from 9–11 December 1997 at the National Hall and Olympia Conference Centre, London, UK.

For more information please call *Learned Information Europe Ltd* on +44 1865 388 000. The *Online Information 97* Web site address is www.online-information.com

Jennifer Couch: *Learned Information Europe Ltd*, Woodside, Hinksey Hill, Oxford OX1 5BE, UK. Tel.: +44 1865 388 000; Fax: +44 1865 736 354; E-mail: jcouch@learned.co.uk.

2.2. *ASTED*

Le 24^e congrès et colloque de l'ASTED est un événement important pour l'ensemble des professionnels de la documentation et de l'information. Ce congrès se déroulera du 29 octobre au 1^{er} novembre 1997, à l'Hôtel Delta, 1620 rue Notre-Dame, à Trois-Rivières et vous offrira une série d'ateliers et de rencontres autour du thème «L'heure des choix».

Comme le souligne la responsable du thème, Madeleine Beaudoin, la compréhension du thème peut être vu sous différentes facettes.

- *mettre la pendule à l'heure* faire le bilan de nos situations professionnelles, de notre savoir-faire, de notre faire-faire;
- *l'urgence de choisir* être encore plus efficaces en étant en mesure de concentrer nos efforts aux bons endroits;
- *repenser notre rôle comme spécialiste de l'information* prendre un temps d'arrêt pour réfléchir dans une perspective plus visionnaire et à long terme de la mission de nos bibliothèques ou de nos centres de documentation, des relations avec nos partenaires et des besoins de notre clientèle.

Louis Cabral, directeur général, 3414, avenue du Parc, bureau 202, Montréal, (Québec) H2X 2H5, Canada. Tél.: +1 514 281 5012; Téléc.: +1 514 281 8219; Internet: www.asted.org; E-mail: info@asted.org.

2.3. *15th IFIP World Computer Congress*

The Global Information Society: On the Way to the Next Millennium, Austria and Hungary August 31–September 4, 1998.

The IFIP series of congresses has become a unique and respected forum in compu-

ter and information systems and technology for the exchange of ideas among the researchers and development communities throughout the world. More can be found out about the 15th IFIP WCC at the following URL: <http://www.ocg.or.at/ifip98.html> or by linking from the IFIP homepage at <http://www.ifip.or.at>.

2.3.1. Topics

The 15th IFIP World Computer Congress will focus on the following topics:

- electronic commerce
- software agent technology
- high-speed networks
- intellectual property rights
- electronic publishing
- system design methodologies
- the engineering and re-engineering of information systems
- simulation systems
- design of communication infrastructures
- information anxiety (managing the overload)

2.3.2. Federated Conferences at IFIP '98

Telecooperation; The Global Office, Teleworking and Communication Tools ICCHP '98; 6th International Conference on Computers Helping People with Special Needs; SEC '98

14th International Information Security Conference: KnowRight '98

2nd International Conference on Intellectual Property Rights and Free Flow of Information Fundamentals; Foundations of Computer Science

IT & KNOWS; Information Technology and Knowledge Systems

Teleteaching '98; Distance Learning, Training, and Education.

For more information please contact: Dr. Bruce D. Shriver; Vice-Chairman, IFIP WCC 98 International Program Committee, Genesis 2, Inc., 17 Bethea Drive, Ossining, NY 10562-1620, USA. Tel.: +1 914 762 3251; Fax: +1 914 941 9181; E-mail: shriver@genesis2.com, and Mr. Howard L. Funk; Vice-Chairman, Tutorial Committee, H.L. Funk Consulting (consult@hlfunk.com), 7 Diane Court, Katonah, New York 10536, USA. Tel.: +1 914 232 3530; Fax: +1 914 232 3530; E-mail: ifip@hlfunk.com.

IFIP Secretariat, Hofstrasse 3, A-2361 Laxenburg, Austria. Tel.: +43 2236 73616; Fax: +43 2236 736169; [www:http://www.ifip.or.at/](http://www.ifip.or.at/); [ftp: ftp.ifip.or.at](ftp://ftp.ifip.or.at).

2.4. ETHICOMP98

The Fourth International Conference on Ethical Issues of Information Technology, Erasmus University, The Netherlands, 25 to 27 March 1998.

Hosted by Department of Philosophy, Erasmus University, The Netherlands in association with Centre for Computing and Social Responsibility, De Montfort Uni-

versity, UK; Research Center on Computing and Society, Southern Connecticut State University, USA; East Tennessee State University, USA.

Conference Directors, Dr Jeroen van den Hoven, Erasmus University, The Netherlands; Simon Rogerson, De Montfort University, UK; Professor Terrell Ward Bynum, Southern Connecticut State University, USA; and Professor Donald Gotterbarn, East Tennessee State University, USA.

2.4.1. Preliminary notice and call for papers

Three international conferences in this series have been held which address the social and ethical issues surrounding the world of computing. The first was in the USA at Southern Connecticut State University (NCCV91), the second (ETHICOMP95) was at De Montfort University in the UK and the third (ETHICOMP96) was at the University of Salamanca in Madrid. The ETHICOMP conference series is now recognised as one of the premier international events on computer ethics attended by delegates from all over the world. Conferences are held about every 18 months.

ETHICOMP98 is to be held in Rotterdam. The intention is to bring together international scholars and practitioners to consider current and future developments of IT and resulting social and ethical issues. Rotterdam is an ideal location for this conference, being a major European city with excellent transport links. Erasmus University offers first class conference facilities.

The overall theme of ETHICOMP98 will be computing and the workplace; the potential tension between (a) financial goals, politics and personal agendas; and (b) social and professional responsibility.

The intention is to include paper and case studies which provide practical guidance on socially and ethically sensitive applications of IT as well as papers of a more conceptual nature. Submissions on the lessons learned in addressing ethical and social issues in industry and commerce are also sought.

Papers and case studies are invited from relevant disciplines such as business, government, computer science, information systems, law, social sciences and philosophy. Papers and case studies with a multi-disciplinary perspective are particularly welcome.

2.4.2. Example areas of interest

Organisation structure and the location of work – As powerful change agents, computer technologies change organisations and social structures. The global community raises many issues relating to ethnic, cultural and economic differences. Computer enabled work.

Electronic commerce

Privacy and monitoring – Issues relating to information held on individuals. What can be or has been revealed and what safeguards should be in place to ensure privacy. Data Matching. CCTV monitoring. Smart card usage.

Value and accuracy of data and information – Issues of authenticity, fidelity and

accuracy and how information can be cultivated for general good. Trusted third parties.

Software and data as intellectual property

Security and computer misuse – Issues of misuse and the impact of misuse of IT.

Developing information systems now and in the future – How to ensure social value issues are properly addressed and how to ensure future advances can be catered for and used in a socially acceptable manner. Responsibility and liability for development and implementation.

Encouraging and enforcing professional standards – Licensing, codes of conduct and standard of practice.

Socially responsible hardware and software marketing

Submissions on other relevant topics are welcome.

2.4.3. Important dates

- 15 October 1997 Deadline for submission of 500–1000 word abstracts
E-mail abstract to ccsr@dmu.ac.uk
- 30 November 1997 Notification of acceptance/rejection of submission
- 15 February 1998 Deadline for full paper submission (electronic/camera ready versions)
- 25–27 March 1998 ETHICOMP98

Conference language is English.

2.4.4. For further information contact

Centre for Computing and Social Responsibility, School of Computing Sciences, De Montfort University, The Gateway, Leicester, LE1 9BH, UK. Tel.: +44 116 250 6143; Fax: +44 116 254 1891; E-mail: ccsr@dmu.ac.uk

Updates on conference information can be found at <http://www.ccsr.cms.dmu.ac.uk/>

Vincent Maes (Pfizer Belgium), 102, rue Leon Theodor – B-1090 Brussels, Belgium. Tel.: +32 2 421 17 12; Fax: +32 2 421 17 90; E-mail: maesv@pophost.eunet.be; HomePage: http://www.synec-doc.be/doc/vm/res_int1.htm.

2.5. Study Seminar 140: Information Systems for Development 11 August–5 September 1997

In the area of information provision the IDS has previously run five highly successful study seminars entitled *Bibliographic Information on Development*. Feedback from participants has led to greater emphasis being given to CDS/ISIS training, and an updating of course content to suit the present day skills requirements and interests of information professionals. The study seminars promises to be challenging and

exciting for all concerned.

Further information from: Maureen Mahoney, BLDS Librarian, Course Director, The Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, Brighton BN1 9RE, UK. Tel: +44 1273 606261; Fax: +44 1273 621202/691647; E-mail: ids@sussex.ac.uk; Internet Address: <http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids>.

2.6. Connections 97: The Third Great Lakes Information Science Conference

A doctoral student conference hosted by the University of Michigan School of Information will be held in Ann Arbor, Michigan on October 24–25, 1997. The conference will provide a forum for the exchange of research among doctoral students from all information science related fields. In addition to student presentations, two invited speakers will address the attendees and several social events are planned to increase networking opportunities. Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- abstracting and indexing
- archival theory and practice
- digital libraries
- electronic documents
- history of publishing, authorship, and reading
- human-computer interaction
- information management
- information needs and users
- information policy
- information retrieval
- information systems
- Internet and multi-media
- knowledge management
- management of information in organizations
- media and communication studies
- museum studies
- systems architecture

For further information, contact: E-mail: Connections97@umich.edu; Connections 97, School of Information, University of Michigan, 304 West Hall, 550 East University Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1092, USA.

3. Education Programmes

3.1. Robert Gordon University

3.1.1. New Masters degree in Electronic Information Management

The Robert Gordon University School of Information & Media is pleased to announce the approval of a new Postgraduate Diploma and linked Masters degree in Electronic Information Management.

The job market for information professionals skilled in the management of computing and networking technology is growing rapidly. Employers are increasingly seeking to recruit staff who can offer a portfolio of managerial abilities and technical knowledge – and it is for entry into this competitive marketplace that the new course in Electronic Information Management provides a uniquely comprehensive preparation. Developed in collaboration with the University's Schools of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, and Computer and Mathematical Sciences, the course is primarily intended as a conversion course for graduates in any discipline, but graduates with a degree in librarianship or information science will benefit from its challenging coverage of the technology underpinning much of modern information work.

The innovative new, one year course will enrol its first full-time students in Session 1997/98. Arrangements have also been made for it to be available to local students who can attend on a day release basis over 2 to 3 years.

Applicants will be expected to have a good Honours degree in any subject. Maths and/or Physics to Scottish 'Highers' standard is normally required, but applicants without this or an equivalent qualification may opt to take the University's open learning access course before commencing the Diploma stage.

The curriculum covers: Information Sources and Services; Information Systems Management; Computer Systems Architecture; Data Communications and Networks; Database and Information Systems; Research Methods; and electives in either Computerised Information Retrieval, or Electronic and Multimedia Publishing. All students will undertake a 4-week fieldwork placement, and those wishing to obtain the Masters degree will be required to submit a 20,000 word dissertation after completing the Diploma.

Further information about this new course, or the School of Information and Media's range of Master's degrees, may be obtained from University Careers and Appointments Services in the UK, or from the School's Web pages. The Universal Resource Locator is: <http://www.rgu.ac.uk/~sim/courses/courses.htm>.

Alternatively write to the following address: Dr. Jonathan Furner, Course Leader, PgD/MSc Electronic Information Management, School of Information and Media, The Robert Gordon University, Hilton Place, Aberdeen, AB24 4FP, UK. E-mail: j.furner@rgu.ac.uk; Fax: +44 1224 492608.

4. Web sites

4.1. *EDU-ONLINE via EDU-ONLINE@LEARNSKILLS.COM*

A discussion list dedicated to issues pertaining to Distance Education via the Internet.

EDU-ONLINE is an open, moderated discussion list for professionals activity involved in delivering training and education via the Internet. Topics discussed include emerging technologies, online training methodologies, online curriculum development, and other aspects of exploiting the online medium to deliver quality professional development.

To subscribe, send the following command in the BODY of mail to EDU-ONLINE@LEARNSKILLS.COM; SUBSCRIBE EDU-ONLINE.

To subscribe to the Daily Digest version, send the following command in the BODY of mail to EDU-ONLINE@LEARNSKILLS.COM; SUBSCRIBE EDU-ONLINE-DIGEST.

To submit articles, comments or questions, send your messages to EDU-ONLINE@LEARNSKILLS.COM.

For more information please contact List Administrator. Owner: List Administrator EDU-ONLINE-ADMIN@LEARNSKILLS.COM.

Sponsored and moderated by Learning Online International Inc. staff, based in Concord, ON, Canada. Pioneers in online technical training.

Use this information at your own risk. For more information and disclaimer send E-mail to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.NODAK.EDU with the command INFO NEW-LIST in the body.

4.2. *ACRL/CNI Internet Education Project*

The Emerging Technologies in Instruction Committee of the ACRL Instruction Section, in conjunction with the Coalition for Networked Information, is sponsoring a WWW site which identifies exemplary user education and training materials supporting the use of the Internet and other networked information resources.

The primary goal of the project is to provide a common focal point for librarians and others involved in the instruction and delivery of networked information to display and share model instructional materials specifically designed for the selection and evaluation of information in a networked environment. Materials selected for inclusion on the site will be considered the professional standard.

Of particular interest to the committee are materials which demonstrate innovative and creative use of technology in instruction and those which successfully integrate the selection and evaluation of both print and electronic resources.

For submission information go to this URL: <http://www.cwru.edu/orgs/cni/base/cakkfir.html#guidelines>.

For examples of projects currently included on the site, go to the following URL: <http://www.cwru.edu/orgs/cni/base/acrcni.html>.

Please contact Keith Morgan, NCSU Libraries (kamorgan@unity.ncsu.edu) for further information. An expanded history of the project is accessible on the Emerging Technologies Webpage at: <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/staff/kamorgan/etech.html>.

4.3. *Education-line* (<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/educol/>)

Education-line is a rapidly growing collection of complete texts in the field of education and training. It is an Internet resource with the potential to change the way that knowledge is shared, developed and used by the professionals whose work is underpinned by it. Authors whose work would see only a narrow circulation; project teams whose preliminary results need to be widely aired for feedback and comment; researchers with findings relevant to today's policy debate; conference presenters whose papers need to be archived and available; teachers and trainers with good practice to disseminate: these are some of the sorts of people who are already sending electronic copies of their work into *Education-line* for cataloguing and display. Sophisticated cataloguing and search facilities, with immediate desktop availability of whole texts to read and download promise a significant addition to the practitioner's knowledge base.

On-line commentary and critique are also possible. Responses can be posted from the web browser using an on-line form to be moderated, catalogued and included in the database itself. Papers can therefore be offered for general comment prior to or even as part of the refereeing process associated with conventional publication.

Education-line is a project in the Electronic Libraries (eLib) Programme funded by the Joint Information System Committee (JISC) of the Higher Education Funding Councils. It was formally launched at the January North of England Education Conference, with all the main keynote speeches being included as texts in the collection as the Conference proceeded. It is being managed by the British Education Index on behalf of the University of Leeds Library, and is working in partnership with a range of organisations, including the British Educational Research Association.

The website can be visited at <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/educol>, and enquiries can be directed to Sam Saunders at the Brotherton Library, University of Leeds, UK. Tel.: +44 113 233 5525.

Education-line is an Electronic Libraries project, funded by the Joint Information System Committee.

4.4. *IFLANET now launched*

IFLANET is pleased to announce that its first mirror website, hosted by the Institut d'Information Scientifique et Technique (INIST) in Vandoeuvre-lès-Nancy, France, is now up and running. You can visit at: <http://ifla.inist.fr/> This mirror site, an exact replica of IFLA's website at the National Library of Canada, is of great significance to all our library partners worldwide and promises to be a very popular information resource for all those active in the field of information.

4.4.1. INIST steps in to offer IFLA its support

Launched in 1993, IFLANET has, in its short history, grown into one of the leading, information and communication tools for the library and information profession. Access to this net is crucial for many professionals worldwide and, with the growth of the Internet capacity problems. IFLANET has sought to manifest itself for users outside the North American continent. INIST, the leading French document supply company, through its Director, Claude Patou, offered its support to IFLA in establishing a mirror site for IFLANET in France, thereby creating additional channels of access to the information stored on IFLA's WWW-site.

4.5. New web based OPAC from the British Library

The British Library is to launch its new OPAC 97 service at Internet World, Olympia, 20–22 May. This service will provide free access via the World Wide Web to seven catalogues containing more than 8.5 million records covering the major collections of the British Library both in London and Boston Spa. OPAC 97 will replace the Network OPAC that has been on trial as an experimental service since 1994, and information regarding the formal closure of the trial will be made available in due course. Anyone with Internet access and a Web browser will be able to access OPAC 97 without the need for any additional software or system setup.

Further details will be made available as soon as possible.

Lohn Lowery, OPAC 97, British Library, National Bibliographic Service, Boston Spa, Wetherby, West Yorkshire, UK. Tel.: +44 1937 546 551; Fax: +44 1937 546 586; E-Mail: john.lowery@bl.uk.

4.6. FID Site

The results of FID's Survey of the Modern Information Professional are now available on FID's Homepages.

Via <http://fid.conicyt.cl:8000/mipindex.htm> you will automatically enter the results of the survey.

Myra Verkuijl, International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID), P.O. Box 90402, 2509 LK The Hague, The Netherlands. Tel.: +31 70 3140 671; Fax: +31 70 3140 667; E-mail: fid@python.konbib.nl or myra.verkuyjl@fid.nl; Web: <http://fid.conicyt.cl:8000>.

4.7. New Chalk

The latest issue of New Chalk looks at online collaboration in a variety of settings, and features faculty/student collaboration in instruction, as well as inter-faculty online collaboration for research.

It can be found at: <http://www.unc.edu/courses/newchalk/>

New Chalk focuses on real, practical examples of how instructors use new technology in their teaching.

Hosted by the NetLinkS project, nls-forum focuses on networked learner support in Higher Education. nls-forum: <http://www.mailbase.ac.uk/lists/nls-forum/>. Net-LinkS: <http://netways.shef.ac.uk/index.htm>.

5. Teaching aids

5.1. WebCT

WebCT is integrated software to develop Web based courses – teaching materials, conferencing, mail, self-evaluation etc. – developed at the University of British Columbia. <http://homebrew.cs.ubc.ca/webct/>

A query about such software on web-support a couple of months ago generated only one UK user of WebCT, but on behalf of a lecturer here I would be interested to know of anyone developing courses with this software.

For more information: Ian Winship: Information Services Dept., University of Northumbria at Newcastle, City Campus Library, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8ST, UK. Tel.: +44 191 227 4132; Fax: +44 191 227 4563; E-mail: ian.winship@unn.ac.uk.

5.2. *How will University Teaching be transformed by IT? A Staff Development Video Pack*

This video pack can be used to simulate discussion on the future role of IT in teaching in higher education.

The summer Term of 1996 was designated IT Term at Oxford Brookes University. It was a term in which staff development focused on the use of IT in student learning. One of the university-wide events of the term was ‘A Hypothetical Exploration of Oxford Brookes, IT and Higher Education in 2001’, led by Brookes Chancellor, Helena Kennedy QC. This featured staff from Brookes and representatives from national organisations.

In a hypothetical, a group of professionals are taken through a scenario the outcome of which is only known to the authors and the moderators. This scenario follows an eighteen year-old student and her father deciding whether to study at Brookes in 2001. Through it we see the University deciding how best to use IT in teaching and the impact of these decisions on teaching and support staff and the student experience. We also watch staff confronting the hard choices posed by other universities offering their on-line courses and whether they will enable the University to survive in the competitive market dominated higher education system.

The video was shot to provide a record of the event so do not expect broadcast quality! It is however suitable for showing to large or small groups. With the unedited

video of the event (98 minutes) you will also receive an edited version (71 minutes) which brings out more clearly what we see are the central issues.

The video(s) can be used in several ways:

1. You can use sections of it as discussion starters with groups of staff wanting to explore the future use of IT in teaching and learning. (The edited version is set out in sections to highlight particular issues, e.g., equal opportunity issues and IT.)
2. You can use it for yourself and your staff and educational development colleagues to see how you might use the hypothetical format, or variants of it, in your institution.
3. You can run it in a foyer or staff room – for people to view casually for a few minutes – with a set of questions or provocative statements alongside to raise awareness and debate. E.g., in 2001 what will be the role of IT in teaching in this institution? Will all students be expected to own their own computer?

With the video you will also receive:

1. The original script from which Helena Kennedy worked.
2. Alternative scenarios about the future of teaching and learning as shaped by IT (at Brookes) written by Brookes Vice-Chancellor, Clive Booth and Professor Graham Gibbs.
3. A note of the main issues to be explored in the video.
4. The briefings given to each of the participants.
5. An article describing IT Term, which appeared in the CTISS magazine, 'Active Learning'.
6. A copy of Brookes Teaching Forum which followed up this and other events of Brookes IT Term.

The package cost (including two videos) is £ 25.00 + VAT, which includes postage and packing in the UK only, available from Marje Bolton, Oxford Centre for Staff and Learning Development, Oxford Brookes University, Helena Kennedy Student Centre, Headington Hill Campus, Oxford OX3 0BP, UK. Tel.: +44 1865 484619; E-mail: mebolton@brookes.ac.uk. Overseas delivery charges are £ 2,50 within the European Union and £ 5.00 outside the EU. Please make cheques payable to "Oxford Brookes University" in £ sterling and drawn on a British bank.

5.3. Interactive Distance – Learning over Intranets

Kurt Maly, Hussein Abdel-Wahab, C. Michael Overstreet, J. Christian Wild, Ajay K. Gupta, Alaa Youssef Emilia Stoica, and Ehab S. Al-Shaer: Old Dominion University.

Many distance learning systems claim to be interactive, but few can offer two-way video, on-the-fly interaction, and application sharing. The authors describe the Interactive Remote Instruction system, which links sites over a high-speed intranet.

To be found at the new IEEE on-line journal Internet Computing at: <http://www.computer.org/internet/>.

5.4. New distance learning web page

Cornell's School of Industrial and Labor Relations has just published a distance learning web page at <http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/distlearn/DL.html>

The site links to resources at ILR, including descriptions of our new "virtual classroom" amphitheatres, other sites at Cornell and at other universities, and at non-university locations. It links conferences in distance learning coming up this year, as well as government sources, and distance learning associations and professional organizations.

I am sure we missed some good ones. We welcome your suggestions for additions or modifications. Please insert pointers to our page from your own.

For more information: Jonathan D. Levy, Assistant Deal <JL63@cornell.edu>; <http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/dislearn>; Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations, 187 Ives Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853, USA. Tel.: +1 607 255 2055; Fax: +1 607 255 7774.

6. Research

6.1. Scottish Higher Education Funding Council (SHEFC)

The Scottish Higher Education Funding Council (SHEFC) have accepted the need to increase funding for research in library and information management because of the subject's shift from being print-based to being technology based. A case developed by The Robert Gordon University School of Information and Media (and put forward with support from the Department of Communication and Information Studies, Queen Margaret College, and the Department of Information Science, Strathclyde University) argues successfully for research support to be raised from SHEFC's low cost band to intermediate cost band, giving an uplift of 20% in the research allocation to each of the three institutions.

The funding is intended to provide for the research infrastructure in institutions of higher education, and is supplemented from grants for specific projects. Funding is based on the results of the 1996 Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) which assessed the quality of research measured against national and international standards, and on the number of staff involved. The level of funding is adjusted to reflect the costs of undertaking research in each subject area, and also the performance of a subject area in Scotland compared with Scottish institutions' average for all subjects in the RAE.

Research at Queen Margaret College was considered for the first time in the 1996 RAE, whilst The Robert Gordon University achieved a significant improvement on

its rating in the 1992 RAE, and Strathclyde maintained its quality rating.

Altogether, there will be an increase of £161,000 p.a. in central support for the research infrastructure in library and information management in Scotland, an increase of 69% compared with 1996/97.

The SHEFC grant letter announcing the funding for 1997/98 announced that the gross amounts allocated to departments for research support (i.e., before the institutional overheads are deducted) are as follows:

Queen Margaret College – £53,000 (grade 3b, 7 staff)

The Robert Gordon University – £185,000 (grade 3a, 14 staff)

Strathclyde University – £157,000 (grade 4, 7 staff)

The Department of Communication and Information Studies at Queen Margaret College also attracted £24,000 for its research (grade 3b, 4 staff) in Communication Studies, which is still treated as 'Low cost'.

This level of annual funding is expected to be maintained in broad terms until the next RAE.

7. Journals

7.1. *Electronic Resources Review – An Electronic Journal*

View example reviews at the journal homepage on: <http://www.anbar.co.uk/liblink/err/jourhome.htm>. The definitive on-line source of information for electronic additions to your library.

Anbar Electronic Intelligence is pleased to announce the launch of a new title that can help librarians to do their job better. To be launched in January 1997, *Electronic Resources Review* focuses on which electronic additions are available and on those you could and should add to your library collection.

7.1.1. *The Editor*

The Editor is Norman Desmarais, Acquisition Librarian at Providence College, Rhodes Island, USA. Norman has 20 years experience in the field of Library and Information Management. He is former Editor of *CD-ROM Librarian* and *CD-ROM World* and has authored two books on the subject of electronic media along with many articles and reviews about electronic material for a variety of publications.

7.1.2. *Why electronic resources review?*

The emergence of the Internet as a medium for publishing presents a paradigm shift for librarians and publishers alike – a shift that cannot be ignored, but must be harnessed and its benefits transferred to the reader. *Electronic Resources Review* helps this transition. The journal acts as a medium for librarians to find reviews of CD-ROMs, electronic journals and other electronic resources relevant to their collections.

It will help you identify, evaluate and select titles to add to your collection – and specifically highlight those attributes that make individual electronic resources appropriate for library use.

7.1.3. *Journal content*

Reviews are written by librarians and content comprises of five core elements that are considered for each product:

- Installation – Concerns all aspects covering the installation of the product, e.g., disk space.
- Content – Is a product description, it concerns product suitability for intended audience, how comprehensive it is.
- Search Engine – For on-line products only, this details opinion concerning how easy they are to move around.
- Navigability – Details the type of documentation provided with the product.
- User Information – Details the type of documentation provided with the product.
- Evaluation – Outlines the scale of product recommendation.

7.1.4. *Your on-line resource*

Electronic Resources Review takes advantage of the benefits that an on-line publication can bring through being published on-line via the Internet. For current awareness, a subscription to *Electronic Resources Review* comprises 12 monthly updates and starts from the date of order rather than a specified month ensuring that your subscription is current at all times.

The journal can be browsed and searched using a number of terms. Quality indicators also allow users to select the reviews of the best on-line products.

Electronic Resources Review comes complete with site licence which allows anyone whose e-mail address includes your organization's domain name to access the journal at any time from their own workstation.

7.1.5. *Who should read electronic resources review?*

- Senior Managers
- Collection Development Officers
- Acquisition Librarians
- Library Staff
- Library Schools
- Consultants

Price: Stg 89.00 pounds; US\$139.00; Aus\$199.00. (+ Stg 15.58 VAT in EU only).

For further information contact Gillian Crawford, e-mail: g Crawford@mcb.co.uk or log on to the Internet at: <http://www.anbar.co.uk/liblink/err/jourhome.htm>. Address: Gillian Crawford, Vice President: Library Link, Internet Free-press, electronic journals, MCB University Press Limited, 60/62 Toller Lane, Bradford, West Yorkshire, England, BD8 9BY, UK. Web: Library Link: <http://www.mcb.co.uk/liblink/>

nethome.htm; Internet Free-Press: <http://www.free-press.com/free-press.htm>; Electronic Journals: <http://www.mcb.co.uk>.

7.2. *Information Research*

A new issue of *Information Research: an electronic journal* is now available at: <http://www.shef.ac.uk/~is/lecturer/ircont.html>

As the Editorial notes: This issue of *Information Research News* contains three papers. The first is a "guest paper" from Sirje Virkus of the Tallin Pedagogical University, Estonia. Sirje gives an account of the potential for distance learning in the field of information studies in Estonia. In the second paper, Correia and Wilson report the main results of an investigation of the information-scanning activities of managers in the Portuguese chemical industry; finally, O'Rourke et al. discuss the application of methods that were originally developed for automatic spelling correction to the identification of word variants in historical French texts.

In this issue we introduce a new feature – reviews of books and software – publishers please note that we are always ready to receive books for review.

7.3. *Current Studies*

The Clarion University of Pennsylvania Department of Library Science is presently calling for submissions to the journal, *Current Studies in Librarianship*. Intended as a vehicle for the dissemination of timely information, including results of research which are of common interest to librarians, *Current Studies in Librarianship* is the only journal which seeks provocative papers from students in library/information science. Relevant papers from library science faculty, doctoral students, and professionals in the field are also considered. *Current Studies in Librarianship* is refereed and is indexed in Library Literature and in Library and Information Science Abstracts.

All submissions should be readable, timely, and contain practical and/or new information, or approach known information with new insight. Papers submitted should conform to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, and should be typed using double spacing throughout. If possible, an IBM-compatible, WordPerfect disk copy should accompany the written paper.

The submissions, as well as any questions, should be sent to Dr. Rashed S. Karp, Editor, *Current Studies in Librarianship*, at Department of Library Science, 180 Carlson Building, Clarion University of Pennsylvania, Clarion, PA 16214, USA. Tel.: +1 814 226 2343; Fax: +1 814 226 2150; E-mail: rkarp@mail.clarion.edu.

7.4. *Kairos*

Kairos: A Journal For Teachers of Writing in Webbed Environments. Issue 2.2 (Fall 1997).

Kairos is a hypertext journal exploring all aspects of the pedagogical and scholarly uses of hypertext, written in hypertextual format(s). It is designed to serve as a re-

source for teachers, researchers, and tutors of writing, including: Technical Writing, Business Writing, Professional Communication, Creative Writing, Composition, Literature and a wide variety of humanities-based scholarship.

We are interested in receiving submissions addressing (but not limited to) the following:

- hypertexts designed to help ground pedagogical theory in classroom praxis;
- reports on empirical research conducted in and related to networked writing environments;
- editorials from teachers regarding classroom experiences;
- sample syllabi, with notes and commentary from teachers and students;
- additional material in categories listed below.

Please see our most recent issue at: <http://english.ttu.edu/kairos/2.1/>.

Inquiries for the Fall 1997 issue from May 15, 1997. Completed texts for review are due by September 1, 1997. Target publication date for the Fall 1997 issue is October 15, 1997. Address questions and inquiries to Editor Mick Doherty at: mick@rpi.edu.

7.4.1. Special Calls for contributions to Kairos (2.2)

7.4.2. Coverweb

The Coverweb project is a multi-vocal, multi-linear hypertext collaboratively written and reviewed for each issue of the journal. The Coverweb topic for issue 2.2 is “Gender and the Web”. The actual implementation of this topic is open to interpretation; all proposals will be considered. Proposals are also sought for future Coverweb topics.

Contact: Coverweb Editor Douglas Eyman, eymand@wilmington.net

7.4.3. News and reviews

We are seeking news articles/webtexts that focus on Distance Education or Virtual Universities; “E-List” reviews of Distance Education listservs, listprocs or newsgroups; Conference wrap-up reports for CCCC, C&W, NEACW, MAACW and other related events; Software and website reviews of teaching tools and resources; Reviews of “PaperTexts” in any of three categories:

- internet “classics” like Landow, Nelson, Lanham;
- internet pedagogy texts like *_English Online_*, *_Online!_* and *_Writing the Information Superhighway_*;
- important new scholarly texts.

Contact: Sections Editor Claudine Keenan, cgk4@psu.edu.

Kairos is sponsored by the national Alliance for Computers and Writing: <http://english.ttu.edu/acw/>.