News

World Digital Libraries 8(2): 153–156 (2015)

Access to Research Initiative to Continue

The access to research initiative, which gives public library users free access to over 10 million academic articles, is to continue. This venture was launched in 2014 as a two-year pilot project, following recommendations by the Finch Group that the major academic publishers should devise a scheme under which public libraries could provide free access to licensed journals content. The collaboration, between public libraries and the Publishers Licensing Society (PLS), sees that libraries are able to offer access via their computers to over 8,000 journals across the subject disciplines. Publishers participating include Cambridge University Press, Edinburgh University Press, Elsevier, Oxford University Press, SAGE, Springer Nature, Taylor & Francis, and Wiley.

Over 80 per cent of UK local authorities, representing over 2,600 libraries, have now signed up to the initiative. A total of 84,000 users accessed the service over its first two years. In August 2014, that number stood at just 14,000.

A report commissioned by the PLS and the Society of Chief Librarians (SCL), and co-funded by PLS and Arts Council England, found high satisfaction levels among users, with 90 per cent of those surveyed indicating the information they found through the service was useful.

Source: http://www.thebookseller.com/news/access-research-initiative-continue-319865

Free for All: NYPL Enhances Public Domain Collections for Sharing and Reuse

New York Public Library (NYPL) announced that out-of-copyright materials in NYPL Digital Collections are now available as high-resolution downloads and for that no permission is required, one can use and reuse it.

The release of more than 180,000 digitized items represents both a simplification and an enhancement of digital access to a trove of unique and rare materials: a removal of administration fees and processes from public domain content, and also improvements to interfaces—popular and technical—to the digital assets themselves. Online users of the NYPL Digital Collections website will find more prominent download links and filters highlighting restriction-free content; while more technically inclined users will also benefit from updates to the Digital Collections API enabling bulk use and analysis, as well as data exports and utilities posted to NYPL's GitHub account. These changes are intended to facilitate sharing, research and reuse by scholars, artists, educators, technologists, publishers, and Internet users of all kinds. All subsequently digitized public domain collections will be made available in the same way, joining a growing repository of open materials.

Source: http://www.nypl.org/blog/2016/01/05/share-public-domain-collections

EuDML Involved in a Project Proposal for Industrial Mathematics

The network EU-MATHS-IN initiated preparation of the project 'Mathematical Modelling, Simulation and Optimization Service Infrastructure for Industry and Innovation (MSO-IN)'. One work package was planned for enhancing the European Digital Mathematics Library (EuDML) as an infrastructure that supports the creators and users of MSO innovation with freely accessible research publications and derived information on experts and expert institutions, as well as connections to related MSO mathematical models and software. Six partners of the EuDML Initiative would be involved in the project: UJF, FIZ/zbMATH, ICM, UMI, Masaryk University, and Institute of Mathematics.

EuDML is digital library of mathematics where mathematics literature is available online in the form of an enduring digital collection, developed and maintained by a network of institutions.

Source: https://initiative.eudml.org

Leading Science Groups Urge Global Open Data Accord

Science International 2015 launched a campaign for "Open Data in a Big DataWorld" at the Science Forum, South Africa in Pretoria. Four international science organizations—ICSU, ISSC, IAP, and TWAS—are behind this campaign.

These major international science organizations are calling for global endorsement of an accord to assure open access to volumes of 'big data' that increasingly is the basis of research and policymaking. These four organizations have developed and support an accord that includes a set of guiding principles on open access to big data, necessary to protect the scientific process and assure that developing countries can participate more fully in the global research enterprise. Limits on access to big data knowledge, they warn, raises the risk that progress will slow in areas, such as advanced health research, environmental protection, food production, and development of smart cities.

Source: http://twas.org/article/leading-science-groups-urge-global-open-data-accord

One Million Books, 100 Institutes Under National Digital Library—National Digital Library will Ensure "Uniform High Standards" of e-content Free of Cost on a Single Platform

The National Digital Library (NDL) in 2016 will bring under its fold 100 institutes and roll out a collection of one million digitized books and journals in the first phase, according to an official. The NDL will ensure uniform high standards of e-content, free of cost on a single platform. And this will have phased expansions and in the first phase 100-odd institutes will be brought under it. Talking about the recently launched Impacting Research Innovation and Technology (IMPRINT) India programme, Mr Subramanian, Additional Secretary for technical education in the Human Resource Development Ministry, said the aim is to foster innovations that improve living standards of people. IMPRINT is the first-of-its-kind MHRD supported Pan-IIT + IISc joint initiative to address the major science and engineering challenges that India must address and has 10 focal domains, such as sustainable urban design, water resources, and river systems.

Source: http://indianexpress.com

ETD 2015: 18th International Symposium on Theses and Dissertations

ETD 2015 is an international symposium and gathering of current and future researchers and practitioners in the area of Electronic Theses and Dissertations. The event was held at the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) Campus, New Delhi, India during November 4–6, 2015.

The theme for the ETD 2015 was "Evolving Genre of ETDs for Knowledge Discovery", which provided the delegates a unique opportunity to network, share experiences, and discuss current good practices from around the world, enabling researchers and practitioners to chart a future course of action.

This symposium gave an opportunity to the library and information professionals from India and neighbouring countries to participate and debate on the contemporary area of ETD which is of high relevance to one and all. The main objective of NDLTD is to promote Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETDs) activities in the developing countries. The professionals got an opportunity to interact with delegates and prominent speakers from developed countries and learn about the best practices being followed and advocated by them. The event of ETD 2015 provided an international forum where professionals and practitioners deliberated upon the challenges and problems which they encounter while setting up ETD Archives.

Source: http://etd2015india.in/about-etd2015

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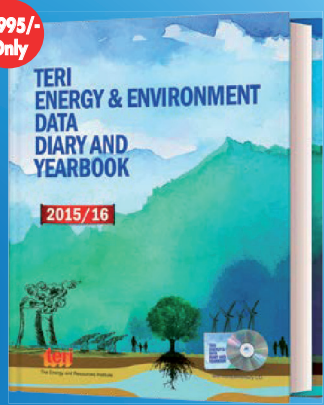

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For sample chapters and Sankey diagram, please visit: www.teriin.org/projects/teddy

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