Institutional Repositories Spec Kit available from ARL

The Institutional Repositories Spec Kit is now available from the Association of Research Libraries (ARL). The document presents the results of a 38-question survey of 87 ARL members in early 2006 about their institutional repositories practices and plans. The survey response rate was 71 percent. The 176-page document presents detailed question-by-question results, a list of respondent institutions, representative documents from institutions, and a bibliography. Front matter and the nine-page executive summary are freely available at www.arl.org/spec/SPEC292web.pdf. The complete Spec Kit can be ordered at www.arl.org/pubscat/index.html.

Mashing up the Library competition encourages innovation

Following the success of the rst Mashing up the Library 2006, UK library services provider, Talis, plans to keep the competition going. Mashing up the Library is a global competition intended to openly encourage innovation in the display, use, and reuse of data from and about libraries. U.S. libraries led the pack in 2006, with Ann Arbor District Library s Go-Go-Google-Gadget taking rst place and Alliance Library System (Peoria, Illinois) taking second with Alliance Second Life Library 2.0. Eight of the 18 entries for the rst competition were from academic institutions. Those wishing to submit entries for the next round of competition can nd information on the Talis Web site at www.talis.com. Evaluation criteria include coolness, ease of use, ease of deployment, utility, portability/relevance to other libraries, and overall.

University of Michigan's MBooks provides access to digitized works

The University of Michigan (UM) Library has developed a new system, MBooks, speci cally for the materials digitized through the UM/Google Digitization Partnership. The online catalog now points to MBooks, which is intended to support scholarly research and meet the needs of researchers by providing more information about works in the collection and, where allowed, making the text of works available through the catalog.

MBooks includes a page-turning function, updated bibliographic information, persistent URLs, the ability to change resolution, and the ability to change format. For uncopyrightable works, text will be fully viewable. For all material in the system, the user may search within a volume and retrieve the number of times a search term appears per page. More information on MBooks is available at mdp.lib.umich.edu/m/mdp/mdp-faq.htm.

DDC makes Vietnamese debut

The National Library of Vietnam has published a Vietnamese translation of the *Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) and Relative Index,* Abridged Edition 14. This is the rst complete translation of an edition of the DDC into Vietnamese. In September 2001, at a workshop in Hanoi attended by librarians from across the country and sponsored by the Atlantic Philanthropies and RMIT International University Vietnam, Vietnamese librarians chose the DDC as one of their bibliographic standards. OCLC Online Computer Library Center publishes the DDC and a variety of related materials. The system has been translated into more than 30 languages and serves library users in more than 135 countries.

BioOne completes DOI assignment, launches Forward Linking

BioOne recently completed a retrospective assignment of Digital Object Identifiers (DOI) and deposit of those DOIs with the CrossRef system. The project included implementation of Forward Linking to other articles that reference the articles in the database. Forward linking is similar to reference linking, however, rather than pointing to articles referenced or citations to previous work, it provides a link outward to articles that have cited the article that is being read. The enhanced functionality is being provided to publishers and users at no charge; BioOne is absorbing the fees on behalf of participating publishers for deposit and registration of the DOIs. More information can be found at www.bioone.org.

Colorado Alliance releases version 4.0 of Gold Rush Linker

The Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries has released a new version of its electronic resource management system, Gold Rush. The release is a full rewrite of the OpenURL link resolver software that provides greatly improved reliability and functionality. Enhancements include full support of NISO Open URL 1.0 and 0.1 standards, which support linking between a bibliographic source and a target to which a library subscribes. Sites can now customize Gold Rush Linker results screens by reorganizing the layout, hiding sections, and using their own wording to name sections. Gold Rush is a Web-based central digital registry of databases and electronic journals. More information about the system and the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries can be found at www.coalliance.org.

CIRLA Fellows appointed to Library of Congress

Nine fellows from Georgetown University and the Chesapeake Information and Research Library Alliance's (CIRLA) Fellows Program have been appointed to full-time professional positions with the Library of Congress. The placements represent the final stage of the CIRLA Fellows Program, a

mentoring, education, and experiential program for library school students from traditionally underserved ethnic or racial groups who have demonstrated interest in research or academic library careers. The program is sponsored through a Librarians for the 21st Century grant.

Amazon.com becomes PromptCat participant

Amazon.com is now an OCLC PromptCat participant, making it possible for libraries to receive OCLC MARC records along with the materials they get from Amazon, including books, music, and DVDs. With PromptCat, new items ordered through participating vendors arrive with complete OCLC MARC records, and the library's holdings are automatically set in WorldCat.

Purdue launches online research locator

Purdue University Libraries has launched a new online information system, Purdue e-Scholar, which provides faculty and researchers with increased access to data, source materials, and publications generated by their Purdue peers. Two components, e-Pubs and e-Archives are active on

the library s Web site (www.lib.purdue.edu), with a third, e-Data, to launch next year. e-Pubs provides access to dissertations, reports, papers, and other scholarly publications written or organized by members of the Purdue community. e-Archives contains collections of primary source materials, such as papers, photographs, and audiovisual materials created or collected by Purdue af liates. e-Data will provide access to research data generated and collected at Purdue.

IMLS accepting Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian grant applications

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) invites libraries, archives, library agencies, associations, and consortia to apply for the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian grant program. The program supports efforts to recruit and educate the next generation of librarians and the faculty who will prepare them for careers in the profession, as well as grants for research related to library education and staf ng needs, curriculum development, and other related topics. The categories for scal 2007 have been expanded to highlight opportunities for library disaster recovery. The program was started in 2003 through a special funding initiative. Guidelines for applications are available on the IMLS Web site, www.imls.gov. The application deadline is December 15, 2006; awards will be announced in mid-June 2007.

ACRL to offer Midwinter workshops on assessment, instruction, and research models

ACRL is offering three professional development workshops in conjunction with the 2007 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Seattle, January 19, 2007.

Assessment of Academic Library Effectiveness: Using ACRL Standards for Continuous Evaluation (Friday, January 19, 2007, 8:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m.) will introduce the ACRL Standards for Libraries in Higher Education as a framework for assessing all academic libraries.

Creating the One Shot Library Workshop Step-by-Step (Friday, January 19, 2007, 8:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m.) will provide an overview and hands-on practice of a well-tested process for designing one-shot library workshops.

Managing the Changing Research Models in the Humanities (Friday, January 19, 2007, 8:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m.) will offer an overview of the current environment in humanities research, focusing on library services and communication initiatives.

Register by October 26, 2006, for the ACRL Fall Virtual Institute

ACRL will offer its Fall Virtual Institute, "The User at the Center," on Thursday, November 9, 2006. The institute will focus on how libraries can use technologies and practices to put the user at the center of the information enterprise on campus.

While the Internet has served as a catalyst to get students and faculty using information differently, the real quantum change is occurring now in the ways in which students, faculty, and staff on campuses worldwide are interacting with one another. Technologies and practices have changed the way in which these interactions take place and may even be changing the content of the conversations themselves.

Maximize your ability to meet your mission on your campus by discovering new tools and ways of thinking about users and their behaviors.

Like face-to-face conferences, the Fall Virtual Institute will run on a real time schedule. The institute will feature synchronous Webcasts that begin and end at a certain time, as well as asynchronous activities. Programs include featured speaker, Jeffrey Trzeciak, University Librarian at McMaster University (Canada), as well as concurrent sessions focusing on topics varying from vlogging to user perceptions.

Complete program details and registration materials are online at www.ala.org/acrl/events. October 26, 2006, is the advance registration deadline; group discounts are available. Questions? Contact msutton@ala.org, (312) 280-2522.

Variations on a Theme by MARC, Opus 586

It all started simply enough. I visited the Library of Congress Web site to look up the correct 5xx field for a contents note. I found the answer quickly but, ten minutes later, I was still at the site. I had been sucked in by the great variation in Notes fields, drawn to the seductive allure of such diverse fields as the 583 and 586.

Like a moth to the flame, I couldn't help myself. Once I knew these fields existed, I had to find a way to use them! Thus begins this ode to the 586, the Awards Note.

These days, when it is so easy to become overwhelmed with information, finding the core or best books on any given topic is a challenge. Thus, the 586 makes terrific sense. This field can be used to identify award-winning titles, from Caldecott Medal winning books to Academy Award winning films. It takes the form:

586 $a Caldecott Medal, 1979

586 $a Academy Award for Best Picture, 1987

Why maintain separate lists when you can encode this information in the MARC record itself? No more looking up lists then turning to the online catalog to locate titles; the catalog can fulfill both functions. So let's give the 586 a try. At the very least, we can provide useful information for our users. It also wouldn't hurt to publicize some of the awards that we librarians bestow upon worthy publications. It may start with the Oscars, Caldecotts, and Pulitzers but the Oberlys, Ansaris, and Seuss' await. Excelsior!—*Linda Musser, Pennsylvania State University, lrm4@psulias.psu.edu*

Registration is now open; December 8, 2006, is the advance registration deadline. Complete details about these ACRL professional development preconferences are available online at www.ala.org/acrl/events (click ACRL @ Midwinter).

Villanova University announces digital library

Villanova University s Falvey Memorial Library has launched a digital library, which serves as a repository for digitized items from its special collections, other donated items, and items from partnering institutions. The repository, which was developed by library staff, uses a native XML database, eXist, to store and organize digital objects encoded in the METS format. The Web site allows users to search and view all of the items stored in the repository by using XML technologies such as XQuery and XSLT. Noteworthy items made available through the digital library include the complete collection of Cuala Press Broadsides, a signed and edited copy of *Memoranda During War* by Walt Whitman, and personal letters and books from the Joseph McGarrity Collection related to Irish and Irish-American history. The Villanova Digital Library can be accessed at digital.library.villanova.edu.

Ex Libris' MetaLib now integrated with Cambridge Journals Online

Ex Libris and Cambridge University Press (CUP) have announced the integration of the MetaLib information portal and meta-search tool and Cambridge Journals Online, CUP s database of articles of more than 200 academic journals. MetaLib can now search the CUP XML gateway and retrieve Cambridge Journals Online results. CUP and Ex Libris collaboratively developed the XML gateway, which uses the Search/Retrieve via URL (SRU) protocol. The gateway allows MetaLib users to include Cambridge Journals Online along with other databases in a single search, retrieving records from all of the databases. Information on MetaLib is available at www.exlibrisgroup.com.

PALINET, Amigos, and SOLINET offer ScholarlyStats to combined membership

PALINET, Amigos, and SOLINET, three of the largest library consortia in the United States, have signed an agreement with MPS Technologies to offer Scholarly Stats to their combined membership. The agreement allows subscribing members to receive maximum discounts on ScholarlyStats, which provides consolidated usage statistics. ✎