Alerta Especial

"Bibliotecología y Ciencias de la Información"

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1. Interconnected and Innovative Libraries: Factors tying libraries more closely together. Peter Webster. "Library Trends" – Winter 2006

This article considers the many developments in technology and practice that are making libraries more connected and interdependent. It looks at new integrated online services and reviews the increasing importance of both formal and informal standards. Global centralized Web services are discussed. The relationships between information industry companies and libraries are considered. Virtual reference services and far-reaching digitization projects are explored. The article concludes that close cooperation is allowing libraries to take their services to new levels and is key to the continued innovation of those services.

2. More Bang for the Buck: Increasing the effectiveness of library expenditures through cooperation. David F. Kohl, and Tom Sanville. "Library Trends" – Winter 2006

The long-term strategy of the academic library community needs to focus on improved cost effectiveness rather than becoming preoccupied with the short-term effects of budget reductions. Fortunately, the rise of consortia and the maturing of the automation environment provide a conducive environment for substantial gains in the cost-benefit ratio over a wide range of library services. Example of such gains in four key libraries service areas are described, say the authors.

3. Perspectives on Building Consortia Between Libraries and Other Agencies. Diana Borek, Brian Bell, Gail Richardson, and Walter Lewis. "Library Trends" – Winter 2006

This article looks at issues surrounding cooperative partnerships between different types of libraries, and between libraries and other organizations. The Ontario School curriculum Resource (OSCR) and developments in Ontario and Canada are the focus of the article; however, it also provides perspectives on the cooperative experiences that are fundamental to many partnerships. The important benefits as well as the challenges of partnerships are considered, as is the future of cooperative resource sharing, explain the authors.

4. Teens are from Neptune, Librarians are from Pluto: An analysis of Online Reference Transactions. Virginia A. Walter and Cindy Mediavilla. "Library Trends" – Fall 2005

As part of a project to evaluate the effectiveness of Tutor.com's Live Homework Help service, the authors examined over 100 transcripts of online transactions between teens and the virtual reference librarians in California who connect the students to Live Homework Help tutors. Using content analysis, the authors

document and discuss the difference in online communication styles between teens and adults. In addition, the transactions are measured against Reference and User Services Association's (RUSA) reference performance guidelines and are found to be severely lacking in the qualities required for effective reference service. Recommendations are made within the context of positive library service to young adults, including recommendations on how to make virtual reference encounters with teens more responsive to their homework needs.

5. The Information-Seeking Behavior of Youth in the Digital Environment. Eliza T. Dresang. "Library Trends" – Fall 2005

The theory of Radical Change, which is based on the digital age principles of interactivity, connectivity, and access, is suggested as a lens to reexamine existing research on youth information-seeking behavior in the digital environment. After a brief review of research, meta-analyses of gender and information behavior studies find that some recent research disputes former conclusions. Radical Chance is applied to an examination of specific facets of contemporary research in order to demonstrate how new perspectives can be gained. This analysis addresses commonalities between information-seeking behavior related to the handheld book with hypertextual qualities and digital materials, the social nature of information seeking, and emerging issues of access. It is noted that the public library as a setting for research has rarely been used, even though its less structured nature might provide insights that do not surface in schools. A look at directions for youth information-seeking behavior research in the future proposes how brain research might shed further light on behavioral observations. Conclusions note existing research and summarize some new points of view and areas for investigation.

6. Exploring Variety in Digital Collections and the Implications for Digital Preservation. MacKenzie Smith. "Library Trends" – Summer 2005

The amount of digital content produced at academic research institutions is large, and libraries and archives at these institutions have a responsibility to bring this digital material under curatorial control in order to manage and preserve it over time. But this is a daunting task with few proven models, requiring new technology, policies, procedures, core staff competencies, and cost models. The MIT Libraries are working with the Dspace tm open-source digital repository platform to explore the problem of capturing research and teaching material in any digital format and preserving it over time. By collaborating on this problem with other research institutions using the Dspace platform in the U.S., the United Kingdom, Europe, and other parts of the world, as well as with other important efforts in the digital preservation arena, we are beginning to see ways of managing arbitrary digital content that might make digital preservation an achievable goal, says the author.

7. Closing the 95 Percent Gap: Library Resource Sharing for People with Print Disabilities. Mary Anne Epp. "Library Trends" – Winter 2006

Experts estimate that only 5 percent of the world's publishing output is made accessible in alternate formats for people who cannot use print. While some popular commercial digital audio and textual products are available to people with print disabilities, many people do not have equal access to reading materials and other resources. People who cannot use print due to a visual, physical, neurological, or perceptual disability need libraries to provide the equitable access. Libraries need strategic partnerships, improved public policy, and international agreements to fulfill the promise. Equity laws, union catalogs, new technology, standards for production and resource sharing, postal subsides, and commercial production of alternate formats have all helped. This article focuses on key elements that affect library resource sharing for people with disabilities in the U.S., Canada, and the U.K. Challenge include attitudes, organizational isolation, diversity of alternate formats, inaccessible online services, an uncooperative publishing industry, inconsistent access to equipment, and inadequate training. Recommendations are made to improve the legal framework, develop sharing library communities, and apply universal design principles.

8. Building Preservation Partnerships: The Library of Congress National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program. William LeFurgy. "Library Trends" – Summer 2005

Congress authorized the Library of Congress to undertake the National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP) to prevent the loss of our digital heritage. This work, as with all digital preservation activities, is challenging because of technical issues and also because traditionally there have been few effective collaborative mechanisms to leverage resources and expertise. NDIIPP aims to address both issues while also ensuring the preservation of at-risk digital content. Concrete steps have been taken recently with the establishment of eight partnership consortia, each of which has committed to working with the other and the Library on collaborative digital preservation initiatives. The eight consortia represent the formal launch of a NDIIPP national network of preservation partners. Currently, NDIIPP is exploring how best to involve states and territories in the network, explains the author.

9. Establishing a Global Digital Format Registry. Stephen L. Abrams. "Library Trends" – Summer 2005

Detailed knowledge of the internal properties of digital representation formats is necessary to interpret properly the full information content of otherwise opaque digital objects. These properties form an important component of the representation information needed by repository workflows regardless of local preservation strategy and infrastructure decisions. The Digital Library Federation (DLF) has sponsored preliminary investigations toward establishing a Global Digital Format Registry (GDFR) that will function as a sustainable utility for maintaining the bindings between public identifiers for digital formats and the significant syntactic and semantic properties of those formats. A sustainable GDFR should prove to be a great utility to archives, libraries, digital repositories, and other organizations and individuals interested in the long-term viability of digital assets.

10. What Should we Preserve? The Question for Heritage Libraries in a Digital World. Margaret E. Phillips. "Library Trends" – Summer 2005

A primary role of national libraries is to document the published output of their respective countries. Traditionally, this has meant collecting, describing, and preserving for future generations at least one copy of every item published in print, including books, serials, newspapers, maps, music, posters, and pamphlets. In the last decade, online publishing has had a revolutionary impact on the creation, publication (dissemination), and use of information. This has presented libraries, particularly national (deposit) libraries and other cultural collecting institutions, with the daunting task of collecting, storing, describing, managing, and preserving the vast quantities of information that are being produced online, says the author.

11. Web Archiving Methods and Approaches: A Comparative Study. Julien Masanés. "Library Trends" – Summer 2005

The Web is a virtually infinite information space, and archiving its entirety, all its aspects, is a utopia. The volume of information presents a challenge, but it is neither the only nor the most limiting factor given the continuous drop in storage device costs. Significant challenges lie in the management and technical issues of the location and collection of Web sites. As a consequence of this, archiving the Web is a task that no single institution can carry out alone. This article will present various approaches undertaken today by different institutions; it will discuss their focuses, strengths, and limits, as well as a model for appraisal and identifying potential complementary aspects amongst them. A comparison for discovery accuracy is presented between the snapshot approach done by the Internet Archive (IA) and the event-based collection done by the Biliotheque Nationale de France (BNF) in 2002 for the presidential and parliamentary

elections. The balanced conclusion of this comparison allows for identification of future direction for improvement of the former approach, says the author.

12. Prototype Preservation Environment. Reagan W. Moore and Richard Marciano. "Library Trends" – Summer 2005

The Persistent Archive Testbed and National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) research prototype persistent archive are examples of preservation environments. Both projects are using data grids to implement data management infrastructure that can manage technology evolution. Data grids are software systems that provide persistent names to digital entities, manage data that are distributed across multiple types of storage systems, and provide support for preservation metadata. A persistent archive federates multiple data grids to provide the fault tolerance and disaster recovery mechanisms essential for long-term preservation. The capabilities of the prototype persistent archives will be presented, along with examples of how the capabilities are used to support the preservation of email, Web crawls, office products, image collections, and electronic records, say the authors.

13. Open Access Webliography. Adrian K. Ho and Charles W. Bailey, Jr. "Reference Service Review" – Vol. 33 No. 3, 2005

The paper aims to present a wide range of useful freely available Internet resources (e.g. directories, e-journals, mailing lists, and weblogs) that allow the reader to investigate the major aspects of the important open access movement.

14. Moving beyond Collections – Academic library outreach to multicultural student centers. Scott Walter. "Reference Service Review" – Vol. 33 No. 4, 2005

The purpose of this article is to identify opportunities for effective collaboration between academic libraries and student services offices dedicated to providing services to multicultural students. A survey research method was used to gather demographic information about students affiliated with one of four "cultural centers" at Washington State University and to generate descriptive statistics regarding their patterns of information use and the degree to which they made use of library resources and services.

15. Google Scholar and Libraries: point/counterpoint. Martin Kesselman and Barbara Watstein. "Reference Service Review" – Vol. 33 No. 4, 2005

The purpose of this article is to explore and expose some of the many facets of "Google Scholar" that have set the academic library world on edge. Google Scholar's impact on reference and information literacy is considered, as are the challenges it poses for the library's web site, explain the authors.

16. Library Instruction for High-Risk Freshmen. Dona McDermott. "Reference Service Review" – Vol 33 No. 4, 2005

Library instruction is an important component in developmental programs for high-risk college freshmen. There is little in the literature to describe information literacy programs for these students. This article describes a library instruction component that was included in an English department enrichment skills program for university freshmen with low verbal SAT scores. The library component includes instruments used to evaluate library sessions from the viewpoint of both the English department faculty and library faculty. A pre-session survey was given to student to ascertain their previous experience with using the library. The results of this indicated that library instruction was needed. An assessment quiz given to student at the end of the session evaluated what they had learned, said the author.

BIBLIOTECAS INFANTILES

17. Creating Metadata for Children's Resources: Issues, Research, and Current Developments. June Abbas. "Library Trends" – Fall 2005

A key challenge to retrieval in any type of system is how to represent the resources appropriately so that the user(s) can find what they are looking for. In systems being used by children, as well as those designed specifically for children, there exist two fundamental representation problems: 1) the metadata or representation scheme of the system may not be designed with this specific user group in mind, and 2) few age-appropriate controlled vocabularies exist for use in creating metadata. Existing research in these two problem areas and the impact on the users' information seeking and retrieval experiences are presented. Current projects and developments will give the reader further insight into the issues and potential opportunities for research and application, says the author.

18. Initial Findings from a Three-Year International Case Study Exploring Children's Responses to Literature in a Digital Library. Sheri Massey, Ann Carlson Weeks, and Allison Druin. "Library Trends" – Fall 2005

This article examines children's responses to self-selected books in a digital library and begins to identify patterns in those responses. As part of a larger longitudinal study, it presented an analysis of 241 book response forms submitted by 12 children from 4 countries: Germany, Honduras, New Zealand, and the U.S. The children described most of the books they read as being funny or happy and generally rated them with four or five stars (out of five stars). The most commonly identified types of responses were those expressing like or dislike, summarizing the text, or explaining how the book made the child feel. Two factors were identified that influenced response patterns from the study sites: the data collection instrument and adult mediation. This research has implications for library program developments related to recreational reading and for changes in the procedures for data collection in this area of research.

19. Just Curious: Children's Use of Digital Reference for Unimposed Queries and its Importance in Informal Education. Joanne Silverstein. "Library Trends" – Fall 2005

This research investigated the informal use of two children's digital reference services that were used for purposes unintended by the designers. The motivation for this research was to explore the ways that children bend to their own informal uses the formal tools designed to support their education. Research questions included: How and with what frequency do children use digital reference services to answer their own questions? Do digital reference services support self-initiated learning? Could digital reference services support the transfer of student motivation and curiosity from formal education to informal education? What do instructional and software designers need to consider in creating tools that support a notion of transformed education and learning? Results answered these questions and uncovered several unanticipated findings. Digital reference services were shown to support efforts to interest children in science-related careers as early as fourth or fifth grade and to support self-initiated learning in science. Unanticipated findings showed that students ask different kinds of questions as they progress through school, and they should receive training in the use of digital reference services in elementary school. Further conclusions provide insights for digital reference software and service design and suggestions for more strategic pedagogical use of digital reference services, explains the author.

20. Everyone's Invited. Rebecca Hogue Wojahn. "School Library Journal" – February 2006

The article presents ways to make a library more welcoming to children with disabilities. It considers the attitude of librarians and other staff toward children with disabilities. It offers a list of changes in the library's design that would enhance its accessibility and benefit everyone who use it.

Compartimos estos artículos aparecidos en publicaciones de los Estados Unidos de América, precisando que el gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.