



# The JAL Guide to the Professional Literature

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This Guide aims to highlight for academic librarians the important articles, books, Web sites, and reviews that come to the attention of the editors. The articles, notes, and reviews summarized below are from within and without the library profession, and although international in scope, are limited to English language publications, excluding ERIC reports, dissertations, and books reviewed by the *Journal*. This is a highly selective review of the current literature and the editors welcome suggestions from readers <ireiner@wellesley.edu>.

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## ACQUISITIONS

**"Integrating RSS Feeds of New Books into the Campus Course Management System,"** by Edward M. Corrado and Heather L. Moulaison. *Computers in Libraries* 26, no. 9 (October 2006): 6–9, 61–64.

Subtitled "Feeding library data into another campus system via RSS should make people flock to the library," this is an account of the authors' experiences at The College of New Jersey.

**"Library/Vendor Relationships,"** guest edited by Sam Brooks and David H. Carlson. *Journal of Library Administration* 44, no. 3/4 (2006): 225 pp.

The fourteen articles in this collection are authored by vendors and librarians and examine a wide range of issues, concerns and points of view.

## ARCHIVES

**"First Entry Report on a Qualitative Exploratory Study of Novice User Experience with Online Finding Aids,"** by Wendy Scheir. *Journal of Archival Organization* 3, no. 4 (2005): 49–85.

"...This article reports on a qualitative, exploratory study of...novice users. The study concentrated on four key components of online finding aids: terminology, navigation, display, and structure. The goal was to discover by what route users accomplished a given task, to determine what elements on the site helped or hindered them in completing the task, and to gain insight into their overall experience with a range of styles of online finding aids. Findings suggest that site structure often presupposed users' knowledge of archival principles" (abstract). However, findings suggest, as well, that participants went through a rapid self-education process.

## ASSESSMENT

**"Reference Assessment,"** by Wayne Bivens-Tatum. *Public Services Quarterly* 2, nos. 2/3 (2006): 215–220.

This is a brief but well-annotated and highly selective bibliography of articles on reference

assessment. Also in this issue is "At the Desk or Online: Reference Training, Measurements, and Guidelines" by Darby Syrkyn (pp. 191–200).

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## BOOKS

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**Printer, Publisher, Peddler: The Business of the Jewish Book.** Online. University of Pennsylvania Library. Available: <http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/cajs/PrinterPublisherPeddler/> (accessed December 10, 2006).

"This online exhibition documents the history of the Jewish book trade from the 15th through the 20th centuries using examples from the University of Pennsylvania's library collections. Includes a bibliography and a link to a related exhibit about the Jewish book."

Reviewer: Barbara Bibel

*LII New This Week* (November 2, 2006), Librarians' Internet Index. Available: <http://lii.org/cs/lii/view/item/22814>

**"Special Report: Books,"** edited by Michael Maiello and Michael Noer. Online. Forbes.com (December 1, 2006). Available: <http://tinyURL.com/y2py5m> (accessed December 16, 2006).

"This December 2006 special report on 'books and the future of publishing' features a series of articles looking at trends in publishing, the effect of the Internet on print books, book burning, plagiarism, film adaptations, top-earning authors, and related topics. . . . From the website for *Forbes* magazine."

Reviewer: Jennifer English

*LII New This Week* (December 14, 2006), Librarians' Internet Index. Available: <http://lii.org/cs/lii/view/item/23038>

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## CATALOGING & CLASSIFICATION

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**"Cleanup of NetLibrary Cataloging Records: A Methodical Front-End Process,"** by Elaine Sanchez, Leslie Fatout, Aleene Howser, and Charles Vance. *Technical Services Quarterly* 23, no. 4 (2006): 51–71.

"When our library was given access to more than 20,000 ebooks, we were faced with bibliographic records of unknown quality. To provide high-quality records...we identified as many potential problems as we could, worked with reference staff to create the best PAC displays, and created efficient record-editing methods to address these issues prior to loading the records in our database. This article documents that process and describes the...strategies used to

methodically correct and improve these records. It also offers practical solutions and procedures for database maintenance and quality control for NetLibrary or any outsourced cataloging records" (abstract).

**"RDA: A New International Standard,"** by Ann Chapman. Online. *Ariadne*, no. 49 (October 2006). Available: <http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue49/chapman/> (accessed December 16, 2006).

In this article, Chapman describes work on Resource Description and Access (RDA), a new initiative based on the AACR that is going back to basic principles and aiming to develop a resource that can be used internationally by a wide range of personnel working in different areas. RDA builds on concepts developed in the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR).

**"A Survey of Continuing Professional Development Activities and Attitudes Amongst Catalogers,"** by Philip Hider. *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly* 42, no. 2 (2006): 35–58.

"The results of a questionnaire survey show that catalogers and other metadata specialists are undertaking a broad range of CPD activities, and would welcome more opportunities. They are especially keen on short courses, but also interested in more formal and longer-term programs, and are looking to upgrade their skills and knowledge in both traditional and emerging areas" (abstract). The author includes a copy of the questionnaire.

**"Web Resources for Map Cataloging: A Select Bibliography,"** by Karen Plummer. *Technical Services Quarterly* 23, no. 4 (2006): 89–95.

Brief reviews of three sites: MAGERT (Map and Geography Round Table of ALA), Map Cataloger's Tool Box, and Map Cataloging, a site from Oregon State University.

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## COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

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**\*\*\*"Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Libraries,"** themed issue edited by Jaime Stoltenberg. *Library Trends* 55, no. 2 (Fall 2006): 217–360.

This collection of articles ranges widely over the subject of GIS services in academic libraries, covering launching a GIS service, developing a collection, licensing issues, serving GIS over the network, distribution and management, digital preservation, reference services, and effective staff mentoring.

**\*\* Denotes important and interesting item.**

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## DIGITAL LIBRARIES

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**\*\*\*"Jean-Noël Jeanneney's Critique of Google: Private Sector Book Digitization and Digital Library Policy,"** by David Bearman. Online. *D-Lib Magazine* 12, no. 12 (December 2006). Available: <http://dlib.org/dlib/december06/bearman/12bearman.html> (accessed December 16, 2006).

Bearman analyzes the opposition of the President of the Bibliothèque National de France to Google's book digitization project. He identifies five points that are well worth considering: (1) the Anglocentric nature of Google's selection of texts; (2) the cultural damage done to texts presented based on keywords (and Google's interest in linking searched keywords to advertising); (3) "the Google search engine (and its business plan), promote search results that are not consistent with the rankings that scholars from the cultures in which the literature was written would approve; (4) privatization "is not a sound archival plan for the world's libraries or cultures"; and (5) Google's approach to copyright threatens the achievement of a universal digital library."

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## DIGITAL REPOSITORIES

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**"The Acquisition of Open Access Research Articles,"** by Arthur Sale. Online. *First Monday* 11, no. 10 (October 2, 2006). Available: [http://www.firstmonday.org/issues/issue11\\_10/sale/index.html](http://www.firstmonday.org/issues/issue11_10/sale/index.html) (accessed December 16, 2006).

"The behavior of researchers when self-archiving in an institutional repository has not been previously analyzed. This paper uses available information for three repositories analyzing when researchers (as authors) deposit their research articles. The three repositories have variants of a mandatory deposit policy. It is shown that it takes several years for a mandatory policy to be institutionalized and routinized, but that once it has been. . . . Authors overwhelmingly deposit well before six months after publication date" (abstract).

**"Considering a Marketing and Communications Approach for an Institutional Repository,"** by Heleen Gierveld. Online. *Ariadne* no. 49 (October 2006). Available: <http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue49/gierveld/> (accessed December 16, 2006).

"This article takes a marketing approach towards the IR: The IR as a product that needs to attract a market. . . . Firstly, this article considers the scientists and places them centre-stage in the development of the IR. Secondly, it presents the elements of a social marketing strategy, suitable for projects that aim to change the behaviour of the target audience for a benefit beyond its direct interest. The rest of the article focuses on two of these elements: product development and the commu-

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