Newsletter

eIFL Newsletter - MAY/JUNE 2004

Update on new content

On 1 May eIFL has signed an agreement with Oxford Reference Online for a period of three years. Oxford Reference Core Collection, Oxford Reference Premium Collection and Oxford Dictionary Online is available for eIFL countries. A number of countries will be able to receive access for free as a result of negotiations. Agreement and licenses are available in the members only section under Publishers. The list of e-references provided to eIFL members is available at: http://www.eifl.net/services/services_reference.html

We are a bit late in signing licenses with Integrum and INION due to translations into Russian. We are expecting those licenses and agreement to come through any moment.

Rhizome.org (http://www.rhizome.org/info/org.php) wishes to offer to interested institutions in eIFL member countries access to its new media art publications and archives at no cost. We hope this will be of use for your Art schools, museums, NGO's and relevant organisations. Rhizome, founded in 1996 and currently hosting thousands of members from over 100 countries, is a well-respected online node for new media artists, curators, critics, students and educations. Rhizome's features include a **TextBase:** a searchable archive of over 2,000 articles, each paired with an illustrative thumbnail image and consistently indexed with names, dates, categories and keywords. TextBase is the largest and most comprehensive archive of its kind. It serves as a history of the early years of net art written by the net art community itself. **ArtBase:** an online archive of net art projects that was launched in 1999. The ArtBase currently contains over 1000 works of net art, all consistently indexed and accessible online. Because the ArtBase and the TextBase share a common database infrastructure, users are able to do combined searches that place the artwork in a context of relevant information and critical writing. **Commissions:** Commissioned new works of net art. Calendar: A calendar of international events in the field of new media art. **Opportunities:** Job listings, calls for submissions, exibition openings for the inernational technoart scene.
To set up access to Rhizome.org, please email Executive Director Rachel Greene at rachel@rhizome.org

Journal Management System

The Journal Management System is now on the eIFL website on a special section called JOURNALS MANAGEMENT on the Home page. We would like to thank Biljana Kosanovic and the Serbian consortium for their contribution This Journal Management System was built to help navigation through electronic subscriptions and URL information for the journals. The database contains the unified list of all Journal Titles offered through the Lund Directory and various agreements signed with publishers by eIFL. Try it right now at: http://www.eifl.net/eiflPortalPHP/default.php. A special area is devoted to help you to use this portal.

Board meeting

The 5th eIFL Advisory Board meeting took place from 8 to 9 of May. Focus of the meeting was to prepare for the General Assembly, finalise the election document, MOU and discuss introduction of membership fees. It also looked into possible new areas of activities such closer collaboration with the society publishers and involvement in advocacy and awareness raising activities on copyright and intellectual property right. Minutes of the Board are available at:http://www.eifl.net/members/members_board.html .

A new website for Mali

The "Consortium Malien de Bibliothèques" website has been created and can be visited at: http://combi.joueb.com/. It is a record of eIFL history that a week after eIFL workshop on consortium building the website has been created. We congratulate our colleagues in Mali!

Promotion of eIFL project and library consortiums BIH in Bosnia

On May 12-13 in Tuzla (Bosnia), Biljana Kosanovic from Serbia served as a resource person at the seminar called "The role of library consortiums and electronic information for development of academic society". The aim was to connect libraries with faculties and ministries to work together to develop and maintain the EICB&H - Electronic-information consortium for Bosnia and Herzegovina libraries. It is essential for libraries to understand better not only library matter such as consortia, but also how important is cross-border cooperation between countries.

General Assembly

Please book September 9-12 for the General Assembly. The Draft Program has been circulated for your input and we hope to have another good meeting of all eIFL members, now counting at 42 countries. Travel and visa information will be sent shortly.

eIFL Africa meeting in Uganda

By mid-May eIFL had successfully concluded four consortium building workshops in new eIFL countries in West Africa – Senegal, Ghana, Cameroun and Mali. An All African Assembly for all 13 eIFL African countries is planned to share knowledge and experiences and to plan next steps for the strengthening of regional cooperation and national consortia. The event will take place in conjunction with the Standing Conference of African National and University Libraries in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa, on 1st of July, in Kampala, Uganda.

Electronic library covering a selected collection of Brazilian scientific journals

SciELO - Scientific Electronic Library Online (http://www.scielo.br/) is a model for cooperative electronic publishing of scientific journals on the Internet. Started as a pilot project, involving 10 Brazilian journals from different subject areas, in March 1997. Specially conceived to meet the scientific communication needs of developing countries, particularly Latin America and the Caribbean countries, it provides an efficient way to assure universal visibility and accessibility to their scientific literature. The SciELO model comprises integrated procedures for the measurement of usage and impact of scientific journals. (http://www.scielo.org/index.php?lang=en). This is a multilingual site: English, Portuguese and Spanish. All of them are full text journals and are available for free to everyone.

SPARC Institutional Repository Checklist & Resource Guide

The SPARC Institutional Repository Checklist & Resource Guide, available at http://www.arl.org/sparc/IR/IR_Guide.html, provides an overview of the major issues that institutions and consortia need to address in implementing an institutional repository. These issues include:

- Organizational, administrative, and cultural issues
- Content policies and accession and retention policies
- Faculty outreach and participation
- Technical options and infrastructure issues

This Checklist & Guide complements SPARC's Position Paper, which addresses the strategic implications of institutional repositories. This document does not provide step-by-step instructions on establishing an institutional repository. Given the vast range of administrative, political, cultural, financial, and technical variables at the institutions and consortia that will be interested in implementing repositories, a detailed manual guiding each step and accounting for all possible variables would be virtually impossible to produce. Rather, the Checklist & Guide provides a contextual introduction to each of the issues that one might consider in a particular institution's context, and directs readers to resources that provide additional detail. Combining these with the SPARC position paper, our hope is to provide an effective resource to help guide the planning and implementation of your institutional repository project.
This Checklist & Guide relies, whenever possible, on the experiences of those who have actually implemented institutional repositories. We point to those sources throughout this document, particularly in the "Resources & Further Reading" text at the end of each section. Presenting those valuable resources in a topical fashion will make it easier for readers to find information on a particular topic and to compare and benefit from the experiences of various groups. In referring readers to additional resources, we have striven to identify what we believe are the best and most relevant, not to provide a comprehensive list of every resource that may be available. This document will be revised and updated on an ongoing basis as new information warrants.

CrossRef Search Pilot Project

In order to open published scholarly content for the first time to free, full-text interpublisher searchability, a group of nine leading journal publishers are participating in a CrossRef Search Pilot. This Pilot is initially limited to the content of nine of the more than 290 CrossRef publishers who collaborate to provide scholars with cross-publisher reference linking.

Through a special, reciprocal arrangement between Google and CrossRef, this Pilot launches a typical Google search but filters the result set to the scholarly research content from participating publishers, with the intent of reducing the noise produced by general web searches. Google has indexed the full text of scholarly journal articles on the publishers' websites through a CrossRef gateway. Users may submit searches from CrossRef Search Pilot boxes on participating publishers' sites. Results are returned from Google using the Google search and ranking algorithms, and using the article's DOI whenever possible to link from the search results to the published article.The purpose of the Pilot, which will run during 2004, is to determine the value to the scholarly community of a free, federated, full-text, interdisciplinary, interpublisher search focussed on the peer-reviewed scholarly literature. During the Pilot, the publishers will solicit feedback from end users, while reviewing the quality and functionality of the service itself. Additional publishers are expected to join the Pilot but no schedule for adding publishers has yet been set. The publishers currently participating are:

- American Physical Society
- Annual Reviews
- Association for Computing Machinery
- Blackwell Publishing
- Institute of Physics Publishing
- International Union of Crystallography
- Nature Publishing Group
- Oxford University Press
- John Wiley & Sons

Please visit their website at http://www.iop.org/EJ/search_crossref and make a test!

New resource for Engineers

Berkeley Electronic Press and Engineering Conferences International have jointly launched the Engineering Conferences International Symposium Series (http://services.bepress.com/eci). The site publishes presented papers, peer-reviewed articles, presentations, data sets and video files from ECI conferences.

PublicLibrary of Science (PLoS)

There's some more information about Public Library of Science's second journal, PLoS Medicine, which will be launched in the autumn (http://www.plosmedicine.org). The 75-strong international editorial board has been recruited, and the Senior Editors Barbara Cohen and Virginia Barbour come from Nature and the Lancet respectively. Just to remind you, OSI is providing institutional membership grant for most of eIFL member countries to join PLoS and the next deadline is 15th of June. More about grants read at: http://www.soros.org/openaccess/grants.shtml

Finland's national commitment to OA

Finland has become the first country to make a nationwide commitment to Open Access. All universities, polytechnics and research institutes in Finland have become BioMed Central members. The membership agreement covers the cost of publication, in BioMed Central's 100+ Open Access journals, for all 25000 publicly funded researchers and teachers in Finland.

BioMed Central agreed the membership with FinELib, the National Electronic Library of Finland. A consortium of universities, polytechnics, research institutes and regional libraries, FinELib is part of the National Library's services for libraries. FinELib acquires Finnish and international resources to support teaching, learning and research. 86 institutions from the consortium will take part in the membership deal, adding 80 new institutions to BioMed Central's membership program. More details are available at: http://www.managinginformation.com/news/content_show_full.php?id=2670

The manager of Finelib, Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen is well known to all of you as she is one of the key group of eIFL resource persons, and has already contributed to various workshops, and lately with making available to eIFL member consortia a translation of the Finelib consortium agreement and strategy.

PNAS Introduces Open Access Publishing Option

PNAS, the flagship journal of the National Academy of Sciences, announced today that it was adopting the hybrid open access business model. PNAS authors may opt to pay a $1000 surcharge to make their articles available for free via PNAS Online (www.pnas.org) and PubMed Central (www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov) immediately upon publication. PNAS will offer this open access option as an experiment until December 31, 2005. PNAS will then continue to move toward an author-pays open access model, maintain the option in the same or modified form, or discontinue it. By introducing this option, PNAS strengthens its commitment to making the scientific literature more freely available than ever before, and hopes that its support of open access will encourage other scientific publishers to follow suit. PNAS will evaluate author participation and the financial impact of the open access option on PNAS revenue.

Oxford University Press expands its experimentation with Open Access

As well as extending the conversion of Nucleic Acids Research to a second (Web Servers) issue, OUP is launching a new international peer-reviewed journal, Evidence-based Complementary and Alternative Medicine (eCAM), which will be completely Open Access. There will be no charge to authors, thanks to a subsidy from the Ishikawa Natural Medicinal Products Research Center, which co-owns the journal.

Coming events in June-July:

- On June 12-16, Rima Kupryte will visit Tajikistan to update the library and academic community on eIFL activities and discuss consortial issues.
- On 1 July eIFL Africa meeting will take place in Kampala (Uganda). Draft programme is available at: http://www.eifl.net/events/events_related.html
- On July 5-9, eIFL will hold consortium building workshops in Laos and in Cambodia. Ann Okerson from Yale University and active member of ICOLC will be the eIFL resource person.
- Chinese European Workshop on Digital Preservation (CEDP) will be taking place in Beijing (China) from 14 to 16 July 2004 within the Library of Chinese Academy of Sciences. eIFL is one of the key organisers and Monika Segbert will play an active part in the programme by delivering an opening address, chairing sessions and giving a paper on EU-China funding opportunities. Draft programme is available at: http://www.eifl.net/events/events_related.html
- During the second part of July, Rima Kupryte will visit Mongolia to update the library and academic community on eIFL activities and discuss consortial issues.
- On July 28-29, eIFL in cooperation with OSI Open Access Initiative will be holding a workshop on Open Access for South African librarians and deans of research in Johannesburg. Programme will be made available soon on eIFL website.

Looking forward to receiving updated information about the activities and events organised in the country members of eIFL.net.

The eIFL Team