

### Information Literacy Meeting of Experts drafts principles

Participants of the Information Literacy Meeting of Experts, representing 23 countries, have created a draft set of information literacy principles, "The Prague declaration towards an information literate society." The meeting, held in September, was organized by the U.S. National Commission on Library and Information Science (NCLIS) and the National Forum on Information Literacy, with the support of UNESCO, in Prague, the Czech Republic.

In addition to the principles, the declaration includes policy recommendations, including the study of the Prague conference report and implementation of its recommendations, strategic plans, and research initiatives; assessment of such implementations in an international congress on information literacy in 2005; and consideration of inclusion of information literacy within the United Nations Literacy Decade. Information about the meeting of experts can be found on the NCLIS Web site at: [www.nclis.gov/libinter/infolitconf&meet/infolitconf&meet.html](http://www.nclis.gov/libinter/infolitconf&meet/infolitconf&meet.html).

### Higher education ICT initiative established

The Educational Testing Service (ETS), working with seven leading college and university systems, has established a National Higher Education ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Initiative. The goal of the initiative is for ETS and the seven college and university systems to conceive, design, and build assessments that gauge whether students possess the ability to use digital technology to solve problems in order to function in an information society. The charter college and university systems involved in the project collectively enroll 25 percent of the U.S.'s college students. They are California Community College System, California State University, University of California-Los Angeles, University of Louisville, University of North Alabama, Uni-

versity of Texas System, and University of Washington. ETS and the colleges and universities will use cutting-edge measurement techniques that are technology-delivered and scenario-based to accurately assess students' skills.

### Index browsing available through EBSCOhost

EBSCO Publishing has released index browsing for its EBSCOhost product, which gives users the option to search from specific indexes in EBSCOhost databases from a drop-down menu of indexed fields. When an indexed field is selected, users can browse an alphabetical list of terms in each indexed field or browse for a specific term within the chosen field. Researchers may then build a search by selecting one or more terms from the index and choosing the desired Boolean operator for multiple terms. Single searches can also be constructed from multiple indexes. This new functionality can be found on a toolbar button labeled "Indexes" on the advanced search screen; index browsing can be configured to appear on the basic search screen via EBSCOadmin.



## Community, technical colleges choose Voyager

Four community, technical, and junior college libraries recently selected Endeavor Information System's Voyager product as their integrated library management system. The colleges implementing Voyager are Cleveland State Community College, serving 5,000 users; Fox Valley Technical College, serving 51,000 users; Rose State College, serving 7,000 users; and Wenatchee Valley College, serving 4,000 users. Voyager is fully implemented in over 1,100 libraries worldwide.

## Old Dominion celebrates 40 years as a federal depository

The Patricia W. and J. Douglas Perry Library at Old Dominion University is celebrating its 40th

anniversary as a federal depository library. The library's government documents collection, which was initiated in 1963 as an Atomic Energy Commission depository, now contains approximately half a million items. In addition to traditional paper and microfiche materials, the collection contains over 12,000 maps, 2,000 CD-ROMs and DVDs, 38 videos, and thousands of links to Internet publications. The Government Printing Office predicts that by 2005, 90 percent of new titles will be online only. Old Dominion has launched a Web exhibit, "Perry Library Celebrates 40 Years of Bringing Government Information To You," at [www.lib.odu.edu/gpexhibit](http://www.lib.odu.edu/gpexhibit).

## Open-access PLoS journal receives kudos

A coalition of major library and public interest organizations, including ACRL, praised

## Apply for Immersion '04, July 30 to August 4, 2004

Whether your institution is just beginning to think about implementing an information literacy component or whether you have a program well underway, Immersion '04 will provide academic librarians with the intellectual tools and practical techniques to help your institution build or enhance its instruction program.

Immersion '04 will be four-and-one-half days of active learning and intensive interaction among academic librarians. A faculty of nationally recognized librarians will be teaching the program. Program sessions will fall into two separate tracks:

- **Teacher Track.** This track focuses on individual development for those who are interested in enhancing, refreshing, or extending their individual instruction skills. Participants selected for the Teacher Track will prepare a description of an instructional situation and a related presentation in advance of the Immersion program.

- **Program Manager/Developer Track.** This track focuses on developing, integrating, and managing institutional and programmatic information literacy programs. Participants selected for the Program Manager Track will develop individual case studies in advance of the Im-

mersion program. Immersion participants will be expected to develop the case studies into an action plan for implementation at the home institution, and possible inclusion in a "best practices" report six months after the program.

Acceptance to the Immersion Program is competitive; participation is limited to 90 individuals at each program to ensure an environment that fosters group interaction and active participation. The application deadline is December 5, 2003. Application materials are online at [www.acrl.org/immersion](http://www.acrl.org/immersion).

## Scholarships available

ACRL is funding scholarships that will help cover the costs of the Immersion Program. Scholarships are reserved for Teacher Track applicants who are new librarians who have been in librarianship for two years or less; minority librarians with five years or less of academic librarianship experience; and librarians employed at an institution serving under-represented minorities.

Questions concerning the program or application process should be directed to Margot Sutton Conahan, (312) 280-2522; [msutton@ala.org](mailto:msutton@ala.org).

the October premier of the first open access journal published by Public Library of Science (PLOS), a nonprofit organization of scientists and physicians. *PLoS Biology* is a monthly peer-reviewed journal that is employing a new model for scientific publishing. Research articles are freely available to read and use through the Internet, with the costs of publication being recovered from publication fees paid by authors out of their grant funds and from other sources, rather than from subscription fees. PLOS is supported by a large group of the world's leading scientists. A team of these scientists serve as academic editors of *PLoS Biology*, and an experienced professional staff operates the venture. *PLoS Biology* is available online at [biology.plosjournals.org](http://biology.plosjournals.org).

### Marquette dedicates new library

Marquette University dedicated its new \$55 million John P. Raynor, S.J., Library on September 19. Actor Martin Sheen spoke at the ceremony and was recognized with an honorary Doctor of Letters degree for his work as a humanitarian and social activist and support of the Dorothy Day/Catholic Worker movement, whose papers are preserved in the library's Department of Special Collections. The 125,000-square-foot library, designed by Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott, features a 24/7 information commons, more than 200 PCs, group study spaces, two classrooms, a conference center, a reading room and storage facility, and the university's writing center.

### IEEE to price online products lower than print

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) has announced that prices of its online collections will be lower than comparable print prices in 2004, in support of the organization's mission to encourage online access to its publications. Previously, pricing of online collections was the same

as that for equivalent print offerings. IEEE print journals, magazines, and conference proceedings will still be considered the article of record, and contain all advertising, editorials, and other materials not available online. However, IEEE is undertaking a major "completeness" project, whereby its online publications will completely contain all of the information in print and will ultimately become the publication of record. Pricing changes go into effect with 2004 subscriptions for IEEE journals and conference proceedings collections.

### UIUC adds one-of-a-kind book as 10 millionth volume

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), the largest public university library in the world, has acquired its 10 millionth volume. Library officials describe the volume as "a labor of love to the



Actor Martin Sheen spoke at the dedication ceremony for Marquette University's new John P. Raynor, S.J. Library.

library from the library." Rather than acquiring a thoroughly academic book, library faculty, staff, and friends collaborated to create *Unlocking Our Past, Building Our Future: A Commemorative Publication Celebrating the University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign as Resource, as Place, and as Experience*. The book includes original essays, photographs, art and poetry, and an introduction by university historian Winton Solberg. Two specialty craft shops, one specializing in handmade paper and the other

a small fine letterpress, worked together to produce one copy of the book entirely by hand. The book measures approximately 12 by 16 inches and was bound in-house at UIUC in leather and wood with a decorative cover. A dedication ceremony to mark this unique milestone was held in October.

### Putin tours Columbia U. archive

During a September visit, Russian president Vladimir Putin toured Columbia University's Rare Book and Manuscript Library and viewed the Baklmeteff Archive of Russian

and East European Culture, the second-largest depository of Russian émigré materials outside of Russia. The archive, established in 1951, was named in honor of Boris Bakhmeteff, a Russian émigré and Columbia professor. It contains at least 1,680,000 items in more than 1,500 collections, primarily letters, diaries, memoirs, tapes, photographs, and other documentary materials. Tanya Chebotarev, curator of the Bakhmeteff Archive, said that the Russian leader's visit "demonstrates the importance of archival research in cross cultural exchange. Russian history cannot be written ignoring the Russian émigré experience . . ." Putin's visit to the libraries coincided with the 300th anniversary of St. Petersburg in Russia.

### **Classical Music Library offers charter subscription**

Classical International has launched a charter subscription offer to reward early subscribers of its Classical Music Library listening service. Libraries that subscribe to Classical Musical Library by December 31, 2003, will be given three additional months free with their first annual subscription. The offer applies to both the direct and local service versions of Classical Music Library. The service offers a growing collection of 12,000 classical tracks for listening, browsing, and searching, as well as thousands of cross-referenced program notes, biographies, and images. ■

## **ACRL offering three workshops at Midwinter**

### **Registration is open**

Register now for one of ACRL's three Midwinter workshops to be offered in San Diego on Friday, January 9, 2004. Registration materials are available online at [www.ala.org/midwinter](http://www.ala.org/midwinter). The registration deadline is December 1, 2003. Details about the workshops are below:

#### **• Information Commons 101: Nuts and Bolts Planning**

During this half-day workshop, Academic Library Information Commons (IC) leaders will provide nuts and bolts instruction for early-stage IC planners. Workshop and breakout sessions will lead to increased clarity of IC concepts and definitions; better understanding of the rationales and effectiveness of various IC models; better understanding of IC planning, implementation and assessment issues; increased clarity of IC problems and possible solutions; and practical guidelines and preliminary planning and implementation documents.

#### **• Creating a Marketing Plan for Your Academic and Research Library**

Using marketing materials developed by the ACRL @ your library Task Force, workshop presenters and facilitators will lead you through the process of developing a marketing program for your li-

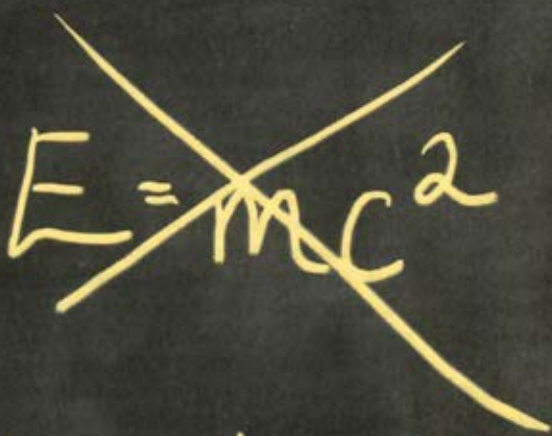
brary. Receive a copy of the *Participants Manual* developed by the Task Force and participate in a series of exercises that you can use to create an academic library marketing plan.

#### **• Information Literacy Across the Curriculum: Collaboration, Coordination, and Course Development**

This full-day workshop will address issues related to fostering more rewarding collaboration with classroom faculty members, more effective coordination with existing campus programs for instructional development and assessment, and more creative development of a range of instructional options for supporting information literacy across the curriculum (ILAC). Gain an introduction to common "across the curriculum" initiatives, an overview of issues related to course design and development for credit-bearing information literacy courses in the disciplines, and strategies for identifying potential partners across campus and for promoting ILAC programs.

Complete details about these workshops can be found online at [www.ala.org/acrl/events](http://www.ala.org/acrl/events). Questions? Contact (800) 545-2433, ext. 2522; [acrl@ala.org](mailto:acrl@ala.org).

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