G a r y   P a t t i l l o

→*Fast*Facts

→ European digital library initiative

A new European digital library initiative aims at making Europe's diverse cultural and scientific heritage accessible to the world. The initiative, a project of the European Commission, will focus on online accessibility, digitization of analogue collections, and preservation of the digital material. Two million books, films, photographs, manuscripts, and other works will be accessible through the European Digital Library by 2008. This will grow to at least six million by 2010.

"Europe's Cultural and Scientific Heritage at a Click of a Mouse," European Commission, i2010: Digital Libraries Initiative. europa.eu.int/information_society/activities/digital_libraries/what_is_dli/index_en.htm. September 13, 2006

→ Access vs. ownership

A Canadian study presents the results of a survey that investigated whether university libraries have been able to stay abreast of changes that affect their access to electronic content. The average library had correct holdings information in their catalogs for just over one half of their electronic titles. Factors affecting perpetual access to e-content include licenses, transfer of ownership between publishers, publishers going out of business, bundled journal packages with fluid title lists, and consortial deals.

Andrew Waller and Bird Gwen (2006), "'We own it': dealing with 'perpetual access' in big deals," *Serials librarian* 50(1/2): 179–96. eprints.rclis.org/archive/00007182/. September 13, 2006

→ NASA World Wind

NASA World Wind is free open-source Windows software that lets you zoom from satellite altitude into any place on Earth in 3D. It is similar to Google Earth, but the two programs feature different elements. The capabilities of World Wind can be extended with user-authored add-ons. It provides direct access to the downloaded satellite images, and the open-source nature of the program guarantees that anyone can get the source code and create their own version of the program. World Wind covers Earth, Moon, Mars, Venus, Jupiter, and the Sloan Digital Sky Survey. Through add-ons it is possible to add additional worlds to World Wind.

NASA World Wind. worldwind.arc.nasa.gov/. September 1, 2006

→ Government secrecy

The Department of Justice reported that the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court approved 2,072 orders to conduct surveillance on foreign nationals in the United States in 2005. It rejected zero orders. Another Justice Department report on secret wiretap warrants indicated that the government issued 9,254 National Security Letters during 2005. These letters can be used to obtain information about individuals without the government applying for a court-reviewed warrant. The number of Freedom of Information Act requests has increased by 65,543 requests since 2004. Agencies overall have been unable to keep up with the number of requests, with 43 percent more pending requests this year than in 2002.

"Secrecy Report Card 2006: Indicators of Secrecy in the Federal Government," OpenTheGovernment.org. www.openthegovernment.org/otg/SRC2006.pdf. September 13, 2006

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