

Faculty Senate Meeting
April 17, 2007
Announcements from Libraries Committee

Sign & Promote New Public Access Petition

Open Access supporters have an opportunity to sign a petition that could lend support to congressional efforts to advance public access. The petition will demonstrate clearly to U.S. policymakers the depth and breadth of support for access to federally funded research in the United States. Please sign the petition and forward it to your faculty.

<http://www.publicaccesstoresearch.org/>

More on FRPAA

Sen. John Cornyn [<http://cornyn.senate.gov/>](http://cornyn.senate.gov/) (R-Texas) has pledged to resurrect the Federal Research Public Access Act [<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d109:s.02695:>](http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d109:s.02695:>) (S.2695), which would require federally funded research to become publicly available online within six months of being published.

"When it's the taxpayers that are underwriting projects in the federal government, they deserve to access the very things they're paying for," said Cornyn spokesman Brian Walsh. "This research is funded by American taxpayers and conducted by researchers funded by public institutions. But it's not widely available." ...

The bill would apply to only federally funded research, but that's more than half the research in science journals, and up to 30 percent of in clinical journals (the rest is mostly paid for by pharmaceutical companies), ac Randy Dotinga, Open Access Launches Journal Wars [<http://www.wired.com/news/technology/medtech/0,72704-0.html?tw=wn_index_1>](http://www.wired.com/news/technology/medtech/0,72704-0.html?tw=wn_index_1), *Wired News*, March 14, 2007. In response, publishers hired a public relations firm, Dezenhall Resources, to discredit open source publishing.

Agencies developing plans to share data

The US government is considering a plan to store scientific data generated by federal agencies in publicly accessible digital repositories. The project is modeled on the information sharing in the genome community. This effort would cover all US science.

Scientists would be able to access data from any federal agency and integrate it into their studies. For example, a researcher browsing an online journal article on the spread of a disease could not only pull up the underlying data, but mesh them with information from databases on agricultural land use, weather and genetic sequences.

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v446/n7134/full/446354b.html>

MLA Scholarly Publishing Symposium: – May 23, 2007

Registration is open with more than 50 registrants for the half day symposium -- "Scholarly Publishing Issues: The Challenges and Opportunities Facing Libraries in an Open Access Environment." The symposium will be held the last day of the MLA meeting in Philadelphia and AAHSL is a co-sponsor.

<http://www.mlanet.org/am/am2007/ce/symposia.html>

SPARC-ACRL Forum on Public Access: Podcast NOW AVAILABLE

<http://www.arl.org/sparc/meetings/ala07mw/>

EPA libraries

The March issue of *The Scientist* has an update on the destruction of EPA libraries.

<http://www.the-scientist.com/2007/3/1/26/1/>

The Eigenfactor

Eigenfactor is a free tool from Carl Bergstrom <<http://octavia.zoology.washington.edu/>> and Ted Bergstrom <<http://www.econ.ucsb.edu/~tedb/>> for "evaluating the influence of scholarly periodicals and for mapping the structure of academic research." It aims to surpass the Impact Factor in accuracy and to remain free of charge for the scholarly community.

The Eigenfactor ranks journals using more than citation information to evaluate the importance of a journals – it works to overcome the weakness of the Impact Factor.

<http://www.eigenfactor.org/>

Open Access: How can we Achieve Quality and Quantity

Presentations and Podcasts from BioMed Central's recent colloquium are available featuring the following speakers:

* Sir Muir Gray, Director of Clinical Knowledge, Process and Safety for England's National Health Service Connecting for Health;

* Robert Kiley, Head of e-Strategy, Wellcome Library, Wellcome Trust;

* Richard Smith, Member of the board of Public Library of Science, former Editor of the British Medical Journal (BMJ) and Chief Executive of the BMJ Publishing Group.

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/about/oacolloquium/>

Low deposit rates at Institutional Repositories

There is considerable discussion on various listservs following an article in DLIB about the low deposit rate for the Cornell University's Institutional Repository (IR)

<<http://roar.eprints.org/index.php?action=search&query=cornell&submit=Search>> . The authors conclude that Cornell's DSpace is "largely underpopulated and underused by its faculty." It's definitely worth reading.

<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/march07/davis/03davis.html>