



Library
Choice



Association of
Subscription Agents
& Intermediaries

ASA NEWS

July 2010

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the July non-member edition of *ASA News*. News items this month including a useful article on the future of eBooks, interesting developments at Amazon and a slightly mind-bending site which explains just how Google works. How can you resist...

News From The ASA

ASA Conference 2011

Planning continues for the ASA's next annual conference which will be held in London 21st-22nd February 2011 (make a note of the date). We have had a good response to our call for speakers and topics and regrettably cannot accommodate any further suggestions from non-ASA member organisations.

More Publishers Endorse Library Choice

The American Medical Association, Duke University Press and Euromoney are the latest publishers to endorse the ASA's *Library Choice* initiative. The number of publishers signed is presently at 37 and looks set to continue to grow as the word about Library Choice spreads. To find out more, visit the [Library Choice](#) pages of the ASA website.

News From ASA Members¹

CoxNet Goes from Strength to Strength

(27/7/10) WT Cox Subscriptions have released the latest version of *CoxNet* after previewing the newly designed customer interface at ALA 2010 in Washington, DC. Following rigorous customer feedback, testing and enhancement, this impressive serials management tool is available to serial librarians to help them manage their print and electronic serial collections. The redesign of the back-end database and enhanced features of the user interface deliver additional information and improve flexibility and functionality providing greater collection management detail and tools for the library. Enhanced administrative controls enable page customization and account manipulation. Despite these significant enhancements, WT Cox Subscriptions has managed to keep simplicity and ease-of-use at the forefront of the user interface. Most data and functions can be obtained with two clicks from the main homepage. For full information click [here](#)).

¹ News is welcomed from all ASA members. Please contact info@subscription-agents.org to get your story included in *ASA News*.

Enhancements to SwetsWise Selection Support

(6/7/10) Swets has added functionality to SwetsWise Selection Support, its class leading evaluation and analysis tool, which enables libraries to assess the value of package deals. This highly sought after feature enhances the capabilities of SwetsWise Selection Support by allowing customers to evaluate titles at package/deal level as well as on an individual title level, and enabling them to group titles together and gather reports on usage, cost and the price-per-use of an entire package, simply and effectively ([more on this](#)).

Industry News

RIN Open Days

Readers of ASA News may be interested in a series of free events being organized by the Research Information Network (RIN). Three events will be put on during the course of autumn to explore the huge changes that are taking place in the ways research information and data are created, managed, used and disseminated; and to consider the implications for all those in the academic realm and beyond with an interest in the good health of the UK research base. The three events are entitled: (1) The future of scholarly publishing – where do we go from here? (2) Research data: policies and behaviours, and (3) Quality assurance – responding to a changing information world ([details and booking](#)).

UK Research: Is Copyright a Help or a Hindrance?

(22/7/10) A new report from the research community, compiled by the British Library, looks at the UK's existing intellectual property framework, reflecting the challenges researchers face on a daily basis and highlighting a consensus across all sectors on the need for reform to meet the demands of this highly dynamic landscape. Sourced directly from researchers, the report presents a 'grassroots view' of the current copyright framework in the UK. Describing the barriers they encounter on a daily basis, the contributors' feedback not only highlights the obstructions to creativity but also puts forward proposals for reforming UK intellectual property legislation to reflect the needs of today's researcher ([download a copy of the report](#)).

Amazon: E-books Overtake Hardcover Sales

(20/7/10) FT.com reported recently that Amazon is now selling more e-books than hardcover books. E-book sales overtook sales of hardbacks – as distinct from soft or paperback books – during the past three months, when Amazon sold 143 Kindle books for every 100 hardcover books. In the past month, that ratio jumped to 180 e-books for every 100 hardcovers ([more on this](#)).

ICOLC Re-issue Economic Impact Statement

The International Consortium of Library Consortia (ICOLC) has reissued its Statement on the Global Economic Crisis to update information providers on the state of library and library consortia budgets in 2010. The updated statement features interesting and useful new information concerning library and consortia budgets, and publisher pricing; it also highlights the added potential negative impact of exclusivity on prices, expressing the strongly held belief of ICOLC members that, over the long-term, multiple distribution channels for licensed content provide the most affordable and suitable options for access across diverse library communities. (To view the statement in full click [here](#)).

BL Exhibition: Growing Knowledge – The Evolution of Research

(8/7/10) The British Library has announced an interesting forthcoming exhibition on the spectacular transformations we can expect to see in the world of research. *Growing Knowledge – the Evolution of Research* (12 October 2010 – 16 July 2011) will showcase some of the latest research tools, content and spaces in a fully interactive future-research environment. The exhibition will stimulate and inspire

visitors, as well as consult with them on the research services they want to experience from the library of the future ([more on this](#)).

'Citing Articles' Function on Google Scholar

(1/7/10) Google has announced an important new feature of Google Scholar: a facility enabling users to search and browse articles which have cited articles of interest. Users will be able to examine an article's influence by looking at citations to it and to search within this set. For more on this and a demonstration using a much-cited paper from Einstein, visit the [Google blog](#).

People News

IOP

Huge congratulations to outgoing Managing Director of IOP Publishing, Jerry Cowhig, who has been made a Member of the British Empire (MBE) 'for services to science' in the Queen's birthday honours list. An impressive award for an impressive professional ([full story](#)).

Elsevier

Elsevier has appointed Martin O'Malley as Managing Director of the newly formed Global Sales & Customer Marketing group in the Science & Technology (S&T) division, which includes the sales teams for Academic & Government, Books and Corporate Markets, effective 1 July. O'Malley's appointment follows the announced departure of Roy Jakobs, Managing Director for Academic & Government Sales and Customer Marketing. Jakobs will be leaving Elsevier this summer to take a senior position in the lighting division of Philips ([full story](#)).

RLUK

Congratulations also to Phil Sykes, University Librarian at Liverpool University since 2004, who has been elected Chair of the RLUK Board as of 1 July 2010. Phil will be speaking at the 2011 ASA Conference.

Required Reading

Article Assessing the Impact of Google Book Search

An article published in the *Minnesota Law Review* may interest those readers of ASA News who work with eBooks. UC Berkeley law professor Pamela Samuelson's article entitled *Google Book Search and the Future of Books in Cyberspace*, explores how the future of eBooks may be affected by the approval or disapproval of a settlement of the Google Book Search (GBS) litigation. The article discusses impediments to mass-digitization projects, such as GBS, and shows how Google overcame them. It also describes the litigation that challenged Google's mass-digitization project, the proposed settlement agreement, and some reasons why the settlement has become controversial. The article contrasts some glowingly positive predictions about the future of books if the GBS deal is approved, with predictions of far more negative futures for books that some critics foresee. The author recommends that major research libraries collaborate in the creation of a digital library of books from their collections as an alternative to GBS, regardless of whether the proposed settlement is approved ([read the article](#)).

New RIN Report on the Use and Relevance of Web 2.0 for Researchers

(6/7/10) This new RIN report looks at the extent of adoption of different web 2.0 tools in different subject fields and disciplines, and the different types of researchers who are using them. The project enquired into the factors that influence researchers to adopt and use Web 2.0 tools, and conversely the factors that prevent, constrain or discourage usage (read the full story and download a free copy of the report [here](#)).

Web-Watch

How Google Works

When you have a minute, take a look at [this site](#) which shows you how Google works. Prepare to be amazed. (Also, make notes as there may be a test next issue...).

The Future of Publishing...?

This [short clip](#) is worth a few minutes of your valuable time: try and stick it out as, just as you're tiring of the litany of 'Generation Me' clichés, there's a twist in the tale...

Key Forthcoming Meetings

- **ALPSP International Conference 2010**
8-10 September 2010, Wyboston, UK
- **Frankfurt Bookfair 2010**
6-10 October 2010, Frankfurt, Germany
- **Online Information 2010**
30 November-2 December 2010, London, UK
- **ASA Conference 2011**
21-22 February 2011, London, UK

Training/Continuous Professional Development

- **ALPSP**
The full schedule of ALPSP training and events can be found [here](#)
- **Renew Training**
Full course information available [here](#)
- **Society for Scholarly Publishing (SSP)**
A schedule of SSP meetings and CPD events is maintained [here](#).
- **STM**
Keep up with STM courses and events [here](#).
- **UKSG**
A full schedule of UKSG training and events can be found [here](#).

As always, please get in touch if you have items you would like included in a future edition of ASA News.
Best wishes

Sarah

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