
News from SCONUL

SCONUL funding transparency workshop

SCONUL's funding transparency workshop in May examined issues of financial reporting management and found general unawareness of impending HEFCE requirements for library data. One of several conclusions was that libraries in higher education need to be more aware and proactive in identifying new or non-traditional data requirements.

Conservation Oscar

Several SCONUL members including the British Library have been shortlisted for a 'Conservation Oscar'. The awards, supported by Paul McCartney, reward the expertise of British conservators, and are organised by the Institute of Conservation.

RIN/NERC/JISC study

Consultancy Key Perspectives have been appointed to undertake the joint RIN/NERC/JISC study on publication and quality assurance of research data outputs. More information is at <http://www.rin.ac.uk/data-publication>

'Put it in the Depot'

'Put it in the Depot' is the catchphrase of the new Edinburgh-based Depot, a national JISC-funded repository to enable all UK researchers to deposit their academic papers and other outputs under terms of Open Access. (see <http://depot.edina.ac.uk/>)

e4libraries project

The e4libraries project was launched in July to improve the efficiency of the library sector. The MLA (Museums, Libraries and Archives) and BIC (Book Industry Communication) will jointly manage the project to help apply technology to inefficient manual systems. (see http://www.mla.gov.uk/website/news/press_releases/e4libraries_project)

JISC Capital Programme funding opportunities

JISC's final Capital Programme Circular has invited proposals for over £4 million of funding in the areas of e-Learning, e-Research: e-Infrastructure, and Users & Innovation.

Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills

A major reshuffle by new Prime Minister Gordon Brown has seen responsibility for English universities and their libraries pass to the new Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) led by Southampton MP John Denham.

University of Cumbria

From 1 August, St. Martin's College, Cumbria Institute of the Arts and the Cumbria campuses of the University of Central Lancashire will merge to form the new University of Cumbria.

Clive Field receives OBE

Clive Field, recently-retired Director of Scholarship and former SCONUL representative at the British Library, was awarded an OBE in the recent Birthday Honours List.

SCONUL annual library statistics 2005/06

SCONUL's Annual Statistics, published in August, showed further evidence of the switch to a 'clicks and mortar' approach as book loans remained steady and consultations of electronic resources increased.

Council of New Zealand University Librarians

Finally, a thank you from Ainslie Dewe at the Auckland University of Technology who enjoyed the 2007 SCONUL conference so much that she has invited all SCONUL members to visit CONZUL (The Council of New Zealand University Librarians). Contact ainslie.dewe@aut.ac.nz