



Library Info Alert



An IRC Publication
December 2010
Issue 7

Library Info Alert focuses on recent developments in the field of library science and information management in the United States. The Library Info Alert contains summaries of recent articles from leading library-related periodicals and recommended Internet sites. Our goal is to help the growing number of Greek librarians to maintain their libraries as centers for information and lifelong learning in the electronic environment of the 21st century.

1. Gaming 2.0

By Sandy Farmer
(*American Libraries*, November/December 2010, pg. 37)

"The most exciting things have happened at the Houston Public Library's Central Library since it reopened in May of 2008 after a two-year renovation: Families are playing together and enjoying each other's company; brothers, sisters, strangers, and friends are playing and learning together. Teen boys, who now think the library is the best place to be, ride buses an hour and a half each way to visit. Parents say they now believe their teens when they say, "Mom, I'm going to the library today." And the borrowing of library materials has risen consistently over the last 20 months."

2. Wait! You Can't Retire Without Sharing That with Us

By Amy Hartman, Meg Delaney
(*American Libraries*, November/December 2010, pg. 36)

As libraries face the departure of staff with well-honed reference skills, years of experience in the community, and deep knowledge of the collection and traditional resources, how can we identify and retain their departing expertise - the gold in the library's intellectual vault? How can we ensure that newly minted employees with e-knowledge skills have access to and a growing appreciation of what is most valuable in traditional knowledge? Now, perhaps more than ever before in the

history of our profession, what we do and what we will be affected by retirement's brain drain. We need to be proactive in finding ways to hold on to valuable skills and knowledge. This is more than just succession planning; it is the redefinition and reinforcement of our core services and values.

3. Gutter Talk and More: Picture Paratexts, Illustration, Design at Storytime

By Megan Lambert
(*Children and Libraries*, Winter 2010, pg. 36)

This article presents a book approach as an interactive story time model that invites children to engage with the picture book as a visual art form by allowing the oral reading of the text to be punctuated by questions and responses to illustration, design elements, and what scholars Maria Nikolajeva and Carole Scott refer to as "picture book paratexts."

4. Ebook Update and Outlook: Considering Your Digital Collection Strategies

By Dick Kaser
(*Computers in Libraries*, December 2010 pg. 33)

"Whether yours is a public, academic, special, or government library, ebooks will be an increasingly important element in your collection in the years ahead. At least that's what the ebook vendors told me during recent interviews. Some librarians would seem to agree, but they might also

point out that integrating ebooks into a collection is not all that easy."

5. A Hope in the Future: Library Building Projects Put Dreams on Solid Ground.(editorial)

By Terence Huwe

(*Library Journal*, December 2010, pg. 29)
"A daylong event presented in partnership with the South Carolina State Library and the Greenville County Library System (GCLS), SC, gave many of us who attended a needed shot in the arm at a time when so many libraries are enduring budget, service, and staff cuts. As South Carolina state librarian David Goble put it, "If any library dies, it is a problem for the entire library ecosystem.... This event gives us confidence that we will make it through."

6. Librarians as Leaders in Professional Learning Communities through Technology, Literacy, and Collaboration.

(*Library Media Connection*,

October/November 2010, pg. 10)

The article focuses on the role of librarians as leaders in professional learning communities through collaboration, literacy, and technology. It says that librarians are in the key position to help in the development of strong professional learning communities. It discusses several efforts of librarians to improve learning,

which include learning the latest educational technology and its classroom implementation, developing love for reading, and improving student writing skills.

7. A Framework for Information Policies with Examples from the United States.

(*Library Philosophy and Practice*, September 2010)

What is "policy?" It is a word often used in a very general way. What is encompassed by this term, and how might we apply it to the role of information in society? Where library and information issues are concerned, we would hope that a national policy would guide the development of both infrastructure (things like telecommunications networks and computers and library buildings), and content (everything from copyright agreements to actual documents).

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