

Library Trends

ALA 2006-07 Annual Report Released

<http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/may2008/annualreport.cfm>

The American Library Association's annual report highlights outstanding achievements in the library community as a whole, during the 2006-2007 year.

American Library Association Press Release
May 27, 2008

Portico and Ithaka Release Results of Digital Preservation Survey of U.S. Library Directors

<http://www.portico.org/news/060508.html>

Many libraries have foregone print journals for the same content in electronic databases. But how to preserve for posterity this most elusive form of journal ownership? A survey of U.S. library directors by electronic archiving service Portico uncovers some in-process strategies.

Portico Press Release
June 5, 2008

Encyclopedia Britannica to Follow Modified Wikipedia Model

<http://blog.wired.com/business/2008/06/ency.html>

Revered and "increasingly irrelevant" Encyclopedia Britannica recently announced plans to allow public editing of content online. The system will combine entries created and edited by an internal pool of experts with entries created and edited by any-old-body online.

Wired Blog
Eliot Van Buskirk
June 9, 2008

ProQuest Will Acquire Dialog from Thomson Reuters

<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6569978.html>

Command-searching in Dialog terrified and invigorated a whole crop of late 1990s/early 2000s-era library school students, and now that terrifying (and still command-searched?) database has been purchased by ProQuest. Thankfully, updating the Dialog platform appears to be ProQuest's first goal.

Library Journal
Lynn Blumenstein and Norman Oder
June 12, 2008

SearchTogether: A Tech Preview of Social Search Potential

<http://newsbreaks.infotoday.com/nbReader.asp?ArticleId=49627>

A new collaborative tool from Microsoft called SearchTogether allows numerous people to work on the same search strategy from different locations – either simultaneously or over a span of time. Implications for library instruction are discussed, but there are currently some significant barriers to full implementation.

Information Today
Greg R. Notess
June 23, 2008

Sarah's Top Technology Trends

<http://librarianinblack.typepad.com/librarianinblack/2008/06/sarahs-top-tech.html>

This listing of the top five trends affecting technology in libraries for 2008 covers ground from bandwidth to workload sustainability, and looks at topics as potentially unsettling as open access and the adoption of strange new technologies.

LibrarianInBlack Blog
June 29, 2008

LexisNexis Moves Into the Public Library Market

<http://newsbreaks.infotoday.com/nbReader.asp?ArticleId=49727>

During the ALA conference this month, LexisNexis announced a newly available public library version of its database. This version is similar to the academic version, and contains news, business, and legal content.

Information Today
Paula J. Hane
June 30, 2008

Business Trends

I.T. 2.0: How Changing Technology is Having Big Impacts on Business

http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/it_20_changing_technology_and_business_impact.php

What will become of the introverted I.T. geeks of yesteryear as the new cloud-focused, mobile, self-provisioning enterprise 2.0 takes over? S/He will become a strategic member of the organization, rather than the “mysterious man behind the curtain” – especially if s/he employs the skill sets listed in this post, from Read Write Web.

Read Write Web
Sarah Perez
June 6, 2008

How Brands Will Use FriendFeed

<http://www.web-strategist.com/blog/2008/06/10/how-brands-will-use-friendfeed/>

In last month's trends newsletter, we relayed the death of Twitter. This month, across the Web, FriendFeed is being billed as a more reliable replacement. But what does that have to do with your business? Forrester tech consultant Jeremiah Owyang forecasts the use of FriendFeed for brands to aggregate their presence online and push new information out to customers in a seamless and conversational interaction.

Web Strategy by Jeremiah
June 10, 2008

FriendFeed Can Disrupt Search and Reshape Advertising

<http://www.micropersuasion.com/2008/06/friendfeed-can.html>

Steve Rubel relates his recent addiction to FriendFeed and posits impacts on the business community as a whole. He sees the potential for FriendFeed to be as big as Google because it brings together social networking, online search, and peer recommendations – three “mega trends” in technology.

Micro Persuasion Blog
June 11, 2008

Lost in E-Mail, Tech Firms Face Self-Made Beast

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/14/technology/14email.html?_r=1&bl&ex=1213502400&en=ce19a1d9a8f54dd5&ei=5087%0A&oref=slogin

Over the years, technology companies have encouraged the sharing of information between people via email, instant messaging, and other communications technologies. A group of these companies, including Google, Microsoft, and IBM, are now trying to fight back against the ensuing information overload. How? More technology.

New York Times
Matt Richtel
June 14, 2008

Technology Trends

Misinformation Tangles the Web

<http://www.iwr.co.uk/information-world-review/news/2217786/misinformation-tangles-web>

The future of the Web is at a cross-road, according to the guy who created it: Tim Berners-Lee. Dealing with an overwhelming and often misleading amount of content is the next big problem for the Internet, said Berners-Lee at a recent conference.

Information World Review
Neon Kelly
May 29, 2008

The Future is Now? Pretty Soon at Least

<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/03/science/03tier.html?ex=1370232000&en=7388ea7c1e8f5b34&ei=5124&partner=permalink&exprod=permalink>

Predicting the future of technology is what Ray Kurzweil does best. His graphs look at technological advancement over time and use the "Law of Accelerating Returns" to predict where technology will be at a specific period in the future. And with technology affecting biology, medicine, energy, and just about everything else, his predictions have exciting implications for everyone.

New York Times
John Tierney
June 3, 2008

New Robots Exclusion Protocol Agreement Among Yahoo!, Google, and Microsoft Live Search

<http://newsbreaks.infotoday.com/nbReader.asp?ArticleId=49511>

Search engine robots scour the Web, clicking on every available link, and send information back to the search engine. Up until now, the Robots Exclusion Protocol let site publishers exclude links on their site from these robots; the new agreement gives site publishers additional choices for including and excluding links from robots.

Information Today
Avi Rappoport
June 12, 2008

Lazy Eyes: How We Read Online

<http://www.slate.com/id/2193552/>

This irreverent Slate article puts into practice the theories revealed by eye-tracking reports, Web design gurus, and online reading studies - which basically find that people are lazy as all get-out while reading online.

Slate
Michael Agger
June 13, 2008

The A.P. Asserts Tough (and Still Secret) View of Copyright on Blogs

<http://bits.blogs.nytimes.com/2008/06/20/the-ap-asserts-tough-and-still-secret-view-of-copyright-on-blogs/index.html?partner=rssnyt&emc=rss>

"Fair use" always seemed so fair, until the AP sent a threatening letter to the Drudge Retort for quoting snippets of their articles verbatim. The AP has since backed off this threat but has designs on creating a set of rules for bloggers to live by regarding AP content, which may forbid quoting headlines or anything from the first paragraph.

New York Times
Saul Hansell
June 20, 2008

Internet Overhaul Wins Approval

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/7475986.stm>

Internet regulatory group ICANN voted unanimously to radically change the way Internet addresses work. Previous restrictions on URLs grouped sites by .com, .org, .edu, etc. but the new

agreement allows any wording within domain names. Nike could have a .nike site, for example. The ruling also allows for non-roman characters in URLs.

BBC News
June 26, 2008

Once Nearly Invisible to Search Engines, Flash Files Can Now Be Found And Indexed
<http://www.techcrunch.com/2008/06/30/once-nearly-invisible-to-search-engines-flash-files-can-now-be-found-and-indexed/>

Web sites built using Flash (those fairly-common artsy-looking sites where the URL stays the same no matter where you navigate) have typically been ignored by search engines. That is, until Adobe's announcement today of a piece of software that makes these Flash files searchable.

TechCrunch
Erick Schonfeld
June 30, 2008