

## Administration Takes Action on Access

In a memorandum released on February 22, Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) director John Holdren directed federal agencies with more than \$100 million in research and development spending to develop plans to make the published results of federally funded research freely available to the public within one year of publication and require researchers to account more closely for and manage the digital data resulting from their research.

Holdren may have achieved many of the aims of the Fair Access to Science and Technology Research Act (FASTR), a recently introduced bill based on the National Institute of Health (NIH) Public Access Policy, as well as the previously proposed Federal Research Public Access Act, which was introduced last Congressional session (and in two previous Congresses) but never made it to a vote.

There are, however, differences between OSTP's directive and FASTR. FASTR set a deadline of six months after publication rather than one year. Also, while FASTR permits other repositories as an alternative to agency-maintained archives, OSTP makes that

the preferred plan, asking agencies to create "a strategy for leveraging existing archives, where appropriate, and fostering public private partnerships with scientific journals."

In one respect, the memorandum is stricter than the legislation: aside from the variance in the policy deadline, OSTP made it clear that agencies are expected to fund these activities with no increase in budget.

OSTP said the new policy "reflects substantial inputs from scientists and scientific organizations, publishers, members of Congress, and other members of the public," including some 65,000 people who signed a We the People petition.

Publishers' input, in particular, is clearly reflected in several key differences between OSTP and FASTR that closely mirror the American Association of Publisher's (AAP) critique of the legislation: the 12-month embargo is a guideline, and agencies are empowered to "tailor its plan as necessary." The memo also calls on agencies to encourage public-private collaboration, avoid duplication of existing mechanisms, and avoid "significant negative impact on intellectual property rights." AAP, which decried FASTR, supports the policy.

Libraries are explicitly referenced twice in the policy's text: as one of the

## Interview

### Naomi House

Naomi House is the founder of I Need a Library Job (INALJ.com). *Hotline* caught up with her to find out where the site is going, what trends she sees in jobs, and how she juggles a major labor of love with life as a full-time librarian.



#### What motivated you to start INALJ?

NH: After I found my position, my aunt sent me a job ad. I wanted to share it with my classmates. Elizabeth Leonard and I set up a Facebook and a Twitter page, and I decided to email a daily digest of all jobs I could find. Initially, I thought of it as a temporary thing to do for friends, but within a few months faculty and students at other schools were signing up. It has become a community.

#### How do you handle INALJ & your job?

It used to take four hours a night and full days on weekends. Then I wised up and asked for help. I now have over 150 volunteers, and we are growing!

#### What trends have you seen in jobs?

Boy, if you have Drupal experience, then you are in luck. Mostly, I am noticing that many more of us are taking jobs that are nontraditional but use our same skill sets.

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## Library of the Year

All libraries are good, some are great. *LJ* is looking for role-model libraries to vie for the honor of being the 2013 *Library Journal*/Gale Cengage Library of the Year.

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Postmark deadline: April 6, 2013

stakeholders whose views should be solicited by the agencies and as a possible partner for the agencies in maintaining repositories.

The policy was applauded by the Association of Research Libraries, its Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC) division, and the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), though SPARC and ACRL still called for the passage of FAS-TR, too, in part because administrative policies are easy to reverse.

## NYPL, Brooklyn Merge Technical Services

The New York Public Library (NYPL) and Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) will integrate their tech services departments, the libraries announced in mid-February, saving BPL \$2 million per year and NYPL about \$1.5 million.

Christopher Platt, director of collection and circulation operations at NYPL, will lead the combined operation, christened Book Ops. Charlene Rue, director of collection development at BPL, will be deputy director of collection management, and Salvatore Magaddino, deputy director of collections and circulation operations at NYPL, will be deputy director of logistics. Book Ops will be jointly operated and governed by both systems. Governance details are still being finalized, Platt said.

The plan was developed at the behest of New York City, which initially called all three of the city's library systems together and tasked them with finding ways to cooperate and share money, Platt told *Hotline*. But while the Queens Library was part of the original conversation, ultimately it implemented separate cost savings instead.

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## Breaking Down That Old-Book Smell



UK-based company Owlstone Nanotech is known for its bomb-detecting technology. But now the firm is turning its specialty to detecting the metaphorical ticking time bombs in the library. Owlstone's Lonestar portable gas analyzer can reveal the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that correlate with paper degradation.

Of course, so can the human nose—that old-book smell got its name for a reason. And so can Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry. Yet Lonestar can do it earlier than the nose and, the company claims, quicker than the spectrometer, “at the point of need,” as well as being easy for nonspecialists to use. It can be employed either in continuous sampling mode, to

monitor a whole room, or to analyze a single book.

Owlstone is currently working with the British Library to identify and quantify the range of VOCs emitted by paper as it ages and relate that data to the composition of the paper and how it degrades. The library is also investigating “how much of a threat acidic books are to their nonacidic neighbors.” The Heritage Smells Project, a similar collaboration between the University of Glasgow Library and researchers from the University of Strathclyde, is exploring the residue of past chemical treatment as well as acidic paper degradation.

The same product can also be used to uncover potato rot, melamine in milk, scavenger chemicals in crude oil, and more—so when not analyzing its collection, an academic library could also circulate its Lonestar for use by other departments.



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NYPL and BPL will consolidate their book-buying, collection management, selection, acquisition, cataloging, processing, and delivery functions. As a result, some 27 positions will be eliminated—but no actual staff members will be laid off. The systems were able to absorb the consolidation entirely via past and planned attrition.

“The staff savings is almost a side” benefit, Platt said. The main efficiencies come from handling more in-house that was previously done by outside vendors at greater expense, from sharing sorting and delivery and, as Rue pointed out, to negotiate deeper discounts because of the libraries’ greater combined volume of purchases. Rue also said the merger gives the systems the opportunity to streamline its processes.

The operations will be located at the Library Services Center in Long Island City, which NYPL moved into three years ago, when it combined technical services for its research and branch libraries. It is a “large, purpose-designed, state-of-the-art facility,” explained Platt. It contains “stuff that is usually shoehorned into a central library,” including an automatic sorter. Each system currently moves more than half a million items per month among branches, so, together, Book Ops will handle a full million per month. “But we have the capacity,” said Platt.

Rue said the costs of the project are already covered in the libraries’ current budget. “We did an extensive feasibility study and have been crunching numbers [continually],” she said. “Where we are now is preparing for the implementation phase.” The goal is to start implementation on April 1 and be fully implemented by the new fiscal year, which begins in July. However, said Rue, “That date could float depending on staffing levels and whether we have to hire.”

NYPL and BPL consider the tech services merger the beginning of a wid-

er collaboration. In this case, Platt said, “It lays the groundwork to allow patrons to return books to the other systems...it happens now on an ad hoc basis [when patrons return books to the wrong library by accident], but it will give us an opportunity to be more systematic.” Although Queens Library is not participating in the technical services integration, Platt hopes the library will eventually be a part of the integrated book return project. As to an even more ambitious collaboration, interoperable library cards, Platt said it “is still a possibility. It is kind of like a future phase; it involves new technology.”

## Library Documents a Town’s Gay Prom

Local history projects are a popular activity in many public libraries. The Hayward Public Library in the San Francisco Bay Area took that to the next level and spent nearly two years making its own documentary.

*Now We Can Dance: The Story of the Hayward Gay Prom* chronicles the 1995 creation of the prom and the significance of having a traditional high school dance for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender teens. The half-hour film also shows various reactions to the annual event, which draws hundreds of students. Interviews with early prom organizers, attendees, and supportive community members are interspersed with footage from the 2011 gay prom and interviews with recent prom-goers, volunteers, and even a protestor.

Hayward librarians were inspired to create the film after the prom was briefly mentioned in another library digital video project, said Laurie Willis, adult services and electronic services manager.

The library staff realized there was a bigger story behind the prom, Willis said, and they teamed up with several local teenagers to work on the film. The librarians taught the students how



Film crew at Gay Prom 2011, Hayward Public Library.

to shoot video with library cameras, conduct interviews and research, and do minor editing, said Willis, who directed the film and worked with co-producers Shawna Sherman and Sally Thomas, the youth services and adult services librarians. Additional assistance was provided by outside professionals, including filmmaker Debra Chasnoff, who won an Academy Award for a short documentary about General Electric and environmental pollution.

The documentary was funded by a \$10,000 grant from Cal Humanities, a nonprofit that promotes California cultural projects, and the Friends of the Hayward Public Library.

The film was completed in December 2012; the premiere at Hayward City Hall drew an audience of more than 200 people. The library plans to enter the documentary into film festivals, Willis said, and eventually wants to make educational packets with copies of the film to send to other libraries and schools.

Willis and Sherman noted that it is part of a big shift for the library to move away from just being a curator of items to creating original content. “It’s like a new role for the library, as a repository for community history,” Sherman said.

Willis encouraged other libraries to pursue making films on topics that are important to their local communities, if they have the funding and support.

“It’s not the kind of thing every library can pick up and duplicate,” Willis said. “But if the library gets the chance to do a big project like this, it’s worth doing.”

## Obituary: Brooke E. Sheldon, ALA President

Brooke E. Sheldon, dean and library educator, passed away on February 11 after a long battle with uterine cancer. She was born in Lawrence, MA, on August 29, 1931, but spent most of her childhood in Nova Scotia.

Sheldon earned her BA from Acadia University, NS; her MLS from Simmons University, Boston; and her Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh.

She began her library career as a young adult librarian at the Detroit Public Library and then became branch librarian of the Albuquerque Public Library, NM. She served at the Santa Fe Public Library, NM, as children’s coordinator and then became head of the Children’s Department, and director of library development at the New Mexico State Library. She was head of technical services and training at the Alaska State Library, and associate director for training for the Leadership Training Institute at Florida State University, Tallahassee, under a grant for the U.S. Department of Education.

Sheldon began her library education career as dean, School of Library and Information Studies at Texas Woman’s University, Denton, where she was also acting Provost. She subsequently accepted a position as dean and professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Texas at Austin. After her retirement from Austin, for three years she served as interim director and professor, School of Information Resources and Library Science at



The **Northside Branch Library** in Santa Clara, CA, contracted for **Tech Logic’s** Ultra-Sort, an automated book sorting system. It will be installed in the library this summer.

The **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library** acquired 44 new electronic databases from England-based scholarly publisher **Adam Matthew Publications**. Eight new titles will also be made available to students later this year.

**EBSCO Publishing** released 23 new eBook Subject Sets, which allow libraries to choose packaged titles in specific subject areas. The new sets focus on theology, cultural studies, literary criticism, and engineering.

Applications are now being received for the sixth annual **Google Policy Fellows** program. The chosen Fellow will spend ten weeks in residence at the American Library Association’s Washington Office.

**Ebrary** added over 2,350 new ebooks from several publishers to its catalog for library use. The company also created an app for mobile reading.

The **Waukegan Public Library**, IL, received the Upstart Innovation Award from the **Public Library Association**, a division of the American Library Association, for its community programming.

Three university libraries were awarded in-kind grants for 2013 from **LibQUAL+**, a library survey service: **Crafton Hill College**,

**Yucaipa, CA; Marylhurst University**, Lake Oswego, OR; and **Hong Kong Shue Yan University**.

**Robbins Library**, Arlington, MA, installed **D-Tech’s** eVendit self-service system, which allows patrons to use public laptops in any area of the library.

**EasyBib**, a research and citation tool, added a new browser extension to **Mozilla Firefox** to evaluate websites’ credibility and create citations directly from the sites. The company launched a similar extension for Google Chrome last fall.

**Innovative Interfaces’** Millennium integrated library system was chosen by the **Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina**, Peru.

According to the **National Archives** website, through a special partnership between the National Archives and the **Mount Vernon Ladies’ Association**, NY, George Washington’s personal copy of the Laws of the United States, First Session 1789, aka the *Acts of Congress*, will be exhibited at each of the 13 presidential libraries. It includes Washington’s copies of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and other legislation from the first session of Congress. The tour was to begin March 1 at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, CA, with its final stop at the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library in Independence, MO, September 21. See the tour schedule at [www.archives.gov/exhibits/acts-of-congress/schedule.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/acts-of-congress/schedule.html).

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the University of Arizona, Tucson. She continued teaching in the Executive MLIS program at San José State University, CA, and ended her teaching career as visiting scholar and lecturer, School of Library and Information Studies, University of Alberta.

Sheldon served as president of the Amer-

ican Library Association (ALA) from 1983 to 1984. She chaired ALA’s Committee on Accreditation and was co-founder of the Continuing Professional Education Round Table of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. She also served on the board of the Tocker Foundation and was an advisor and board member of the American Library in Paris.

As an advocate for diversity, Sheldon recruited and supported minor-

ities in the profession through her successful efforts to get funding as well as to hire minority faculty. She opened her home in Austin to those attending the first national conference of REFORMA and was supportive of REFORMA's activities and efforts.

Sheldon's love of travel was interwoven with her professional interests and demands as she gave speeches and consulted in numerous coun-

tries, including China, Taiwan, England, France, Argentina, Romania, Sweden, Germany, and Japan. One of her pleasures in retirement was to travel to exotic locales around the world.

Sheldon received many honors, including an honorary doctorate from Acadia University, the Professional Service Award from the Association of Library and Information

Science Educators, the Outstanding Lecturer Award from San José State, and the Library Leadership Award from the Arizona Library Association. The Brooke E. Sheldon Endowed Professorship in Management and Leadership was established at the University of Texas at Austin, in her honor.

The family has asked that in lieu of flowers contributions in her memory be sent to the Brooke E. Sheldon Endowed Professorship in Management and Leadership at the University of Texas at Austin and the New Mexico Library Foundation.

## Streaming Content from the Ephrata Public Library

A Roku lending program launched last year by Ephrata Public Library (EPL), PA, has proven so popular that the library is planning to invest in several more of the media streaming devices in the coming months.

"We're adding our third and our fourth [soon], and I would say this year we will probably add six to eight," said EPL executive director Penny Talbert. "There are always holds on them, and they're circulating for a week."

EPL purchased two Rokus last spring at the suggestion of the library's technology manager Laura Brandt. As Talbert noted, the units didn't require a huge initial investment to try. The basic Roku LT units cost \$50. For each unit, the library purchases dedicated subscriptions to Netflix and/or Hulu Plus, which currently cost \$7.99 per month each, as well as other content from TED, Allrecipes.com, the BBC, and other sources. Subscriptions are set up so that patrons can't use EPL's account to make additional purchases while they have the units.

For comparison's sake, Talbert noted that the total cost of the Roku and a dedicated subscription is less than libraries pay for content in many other

## Branching Out



The 92,000 square foot **Beverly Hills Public Library**, CA, has undergone a number of refurbishments over this past year, among them the inclusion of a new Teen Zone and updates to the lobby, passport office, and self-check system. But all lights were shining on February 10 on the long-awaited opening of the new 12,000 square foot Children's Library (pictured). The innovative space features the Friends of the Library Enchanted Woods room for the fairy and folktale collection, a wood-clad theater, a designated storytelling area, a family playroom, two glass-box AV-equipped study rooms, new computers, and an airy reading space. Each large wingback reading chair can accommodate a parent and a child, while custom dis-

plays showcase the 56,300-item collection. Designed by architectural firm Johnson Favaro, LLC, the entire remodel cost \$3.2 million, supported primarily through the City of Beverly Hills, with a \$100,000 contribution from the Friends of the Library.

The **West Hollywood Library**, CA (see *Hotline*, 10/10/11), has been recognized as "Best in 2012" and winner of the Ralph B. McClure Craftsmanship Award from the Woodwork Institute for its quality millwork. Among the features chosen for distinction are the library's bamboo coffered ceiling and the Children's Theatre. The 32,000 square foot, Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design Gold-certified library was designed by architectural firm Johnson Favaro, LLC, with general contractor W.E. O'Neil and millwork fabrication by SMI Millwork.

On January 22, the **Waukegan Public Library**, IL, reopened its North Shore Gas Literacy Suite following an \$85,000 renovation. The area was conceived in 2010 as a site for "no-cost educational opportunities for adults and families in reading, writing, math, or speaking English." It quickly became apparent that demand far exceeded space. The new suite of three classrooms encompasses 3,200 square feet of the library's total 75,000 square feet, nearly tripling the original allotment for programs and instruction.

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formats. Many individual ebooks, audiobooks, or single seasons of a television series on DVD cost more than one Roku unit, she said.

“If that television series is available on Hulu, do the math. It’s not only cost savings but space savings, and what you can offer your patrons.... This is a great way to send, basically, 100,000 movies home with a patron.”

Likewise, the Roku lending program may be a stop-gap relevant to the concerns of librarians who worry about the increasing push toward streaming-only content, such as the much buzzed-about *House of Cards* remake debuted recently by Netflix. In an attempt to compete with premium content creators like HBO, Netflix has in the works a number of programs available only to its streaming service customers, many of which may never become available on traditional physical media like DVDs.

#### HOW IT WORKS

Upon checkout, patrons receive the Roku unit, its remote and power cord, and an HDMI cable. EPL produced a video with straightforward setup instructions that patrons can view on the EPLDigitalLibrary section of the website. So far, most patrons haven’t needed much help, Talbert said.

“I’m really surprised how few problems we’ve had with people hooking them up to their televisions. Our technology manager Laura Brandt made the [setup instruction] videos, and we were prepared for this, but I still expected to get lots of calls from people asking how to hook it up to their wireless, or how to hook it up to their TVs.”

Of course, the process has drawbacks. Streaming movies will require a broadband connection, which many patrons may not have at home. And although the matter has not

been challenged in court, there have been debates about whether library programs that involve Netflix or similar consumer lending programs may violate those companies’ terms of service. Talbert said that the library staff have read the terms of service for the content



providers carefully and believe that EPL is in compliance, owing to the maintenance of dedicated subscriptions for each device and because EPL doesn’t use the devices to broadcast content to public audiences within the library.

#### PROVIDER BENEFITS

Regardless, those providers, along with Roku, may be pleased to learn that after the library introduces them to the technology, many EPL patrons decide to buy their own units and presumably their own subscriptions.

Delivering content and introducing patrons to the latest content delivery technology are both important components of the library’s mission, Talbert said. “That’s one of the ways we prove our value. We know more about technology than most people coming through our doors, and our job is to help educate them.”

As for the program’s potential impact on media circulation, “It is tough,” Talbert said. “Oftentimes, your funding is tied to circs, and that is an impressive number to be able to hand out to your local funding bodies, [whichever they] might be. So it’s important, but at the same time it’s not important enough to keep things away from patrons.”

### Reveal To Digitize Special Collections

Digital information veteran Jeff Moyer last month launched Reveal

Digital, a company that aims to use a lean, efficient funding model to digitize special collections and make them open access.

The company’s business model works by assessing the total cost of each project, including the conversion, copyright clearance, royalties, sales and marketing, hosting and ongoing development, and administrative costs. Then, a purchase price is determined by estimating the number of libraries that will buy the collection in its first four years.

To help ensure the accuracy of these sales estimates, each project will begin with a six-month open enrollment period, during which libraries can commit to purchase the collection via nonbinding agreements. If open enrollment is higher than anticipated, the price of the collection will be lowered. LYRASIS will act as the primary sales channel for these collections (though LYRASIS membership will not be required for purchases or open enrollment commitments).

Two years after the costs of a project are recovered, the resulting collection will become open access. According to the company, Reveal is currently in discussions with the HathiTrust and Internet Archive about providing long-term access to the content once the open access period is reached.

Libraries that pay for a collection will receive immediate access, including the option to load the collection locally on their own websites, as well as title-level MARC records and COUNTER-compliant usage reports. Libraries that contribute content will receive free copies of all digital files and metadata sourced from their library, as well as permission from rights-holders to display in-copyright material on their websites. Reveal will reimburse contributing libraries for all costs related to preparing materials for shipment, as well as shipping and reshelving.

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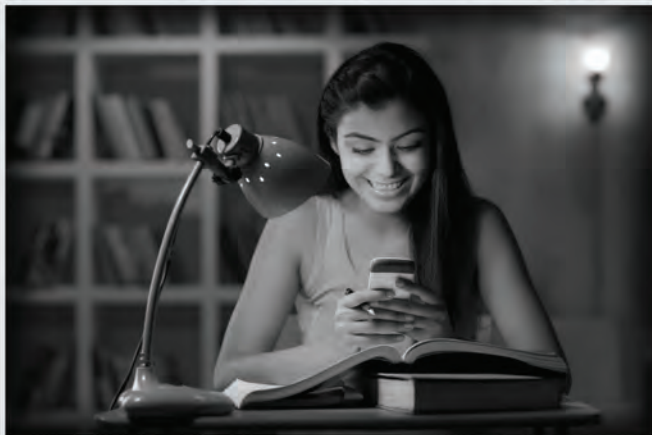
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