

## **Current awareness**

### **Recent articles on blogs and beyond**

#### **How and Why to Try a Blog for Staff Communication.**

**Gordon, Rachel Singer, Stephens, Michael**

**Computers in Libraries; Feb2006, Vol. 26 Issue 2, p50-51**

**Abstract:** This article discusses the benefits of Weblogs for library staff communication, and describes the steps to start an internal Weblog. An Internal Weblogs can be a way to reduce e-mail and paper clutter, a vehicle to share knowledge and experiences, a way to create buy-in for projects, a powerful communication tool, an easy way to create dynamic Web pages, and a method to make searchable archives. The first step in starting an internal Weblog is choosing and installing software, followed by planning and making policies. The third step is to train the staff members who will be using the Weblog. The final step is promoting the Weblog for staff awareness.

#### **Financial Management and Blogs.**

**Latham, John R.**

**Information Outlook; Jul2005, Vol. 9 Issue 7, p36-36**

**Abstract:** Focuses on the author's view on financial management and on dealing with blogs in the library setting. Call on members to find as many ways as possible to establish the financial situation of the organization; Importance of understanding fundamental financial management terms; Use of blogs by libraries to help market programs and services, publishing online newsletters, library construction news, and links to new resources.



**Building a Home for Library News with a Blog.**

Goans, Doud; Vogel, Teri M.

**Computers in Libraries; Nov/Dec2003, 23(10) p20-26**

Abstract: Focuses on creating Weblogs for libraries. Information on Weblogs; Details of the functions of libraries and librarians; Discussion on the importance of Weblogs for libraries; Factors which must be considered before creating Weblogs.

**Preparing for the Birth of Our Library Blog.**

Blair, Joanna; Cranston, Cathy

**Computers in Libraries; Feb2006, Vol. 26 Issue 2, p10-54**

Abstract: This article describes the process of creating a Weblog for the Colorado State University Libraries. A meeting was called to determine the needs of various blogging projects and to establish a plan for acquiring software and implementing it. The departments that were pushing for the use of blogs were the Instruction and Research Services (IRS), and the Digital and Collection Services (DCS). They had two subcommittees by the end of the meeting. One would take the list of software features identified during the discussion and recommend appropriate software to purchase.

**Health and Medical News on the Web: Comparing the Results of News-Providing Web Resource.**

Cunningham, Kay

**Medical Reference Services Quarterly; 24(4)2005, p17-40**

Abstract: News changes constantly. That change and the abundance of Web-based news resources available complicate finding the news. This



paper reviews sixteen different online news sources for their coverage of recent health and medical issues; both general-interest and medical news sites are included. Three health-related news stories were searched in all resources within set timeframes to provide a comparison of coverage. Features and types of resources are described. The use of RSS feeds and weblogs to find news is also discussed with suggestions for using news aggregators to control the flow of information.

### **The Library Blog: Innovative Idea or Wasted Words.**

**Bell, Steven**

**Library Issues; Jan2006, Vol. 26 Issue 3, p1-4**

**Abstract:** The article presents the author's view about academic library blogs. Basically, blogs are personalized and often opinionated periodicals. One would rarely find any academic library blog that are dynamic, challenging, newsworthy, regularly updated, or entertaining. The major problem with library blogs is that they are created by librarians. In spite of numerous challenges to create a good library blog, only a few academic libraries are demonstrating that it can be done. According to the author, academic library blogs first began to appear approximately two years ago. Those libraries that pioneered the blog used them as an instrument to propagate information about the library and its resources. A library blog can be a useful know-how for marketing and promoting the library update. But often they fail to reach the user population. The major difficulty that several librarian bloggers come across in reaching their users is that they have little control over. The challenges for library blogs are to create more interesting content that appeals to readers.





### **Why Should I Blog?**

**One-Person Library; Mar2006, Vol. 22 Issue 11, p3-6**

**Abstract:** The article discusses the reasons for a librarian to blog. Blogging as a customer service, explores the use of the weblog to help children learn to use the web effectively and explore areas of interest to them. Another is the application of blogging as a marketing tool, wherein every time a post on a blog is read, a potential customer can count on librarians to provide current awareness services. Lastly, for people who considers blogging as a professional activity, benefits includes getting noticed and impressing superiors and at the same time improving a person's communication skills.

### **Translating research into practice: the role of web-based education**

**Weingardt, Kenneth R; Villafranca, Steven W**

**Journal of Technology in Human Services; 23(3/4) 2005, pp.259-273**

**Abstract:** Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) constitute a major focus of recent efforts to narrow the gap between research and practice. However, CBGs cannot effectively change clinical practice unless they are effectively disseminated. The present article describes a web-based course designed to teach nurses about a CPG for the management of alcohol withdrawal. In it, we outline the details of our web-based course, including its technical characteristics, organization, structure, and clinical content. Next, we outline several adjunctive strategies that may improve the effectiveness of such web-based educational interventions. Finally, we discuss other ways that web-based education may prove useful in disseminating evidence-based practices in human service delivery settings.

