

Editorial



*No sign of any volcanic ash
as your Eds revolve around the skyline
atop an Icelandic restaurant*

Once again the UKSG Annual Conference has come and gone and the feedback received by the Committee has been extremely positive. The Edinburgh International Conference Centre was a brilliant venue – the staff were friendly and helpful, food and drinks were available with minimum queues, and the facilities such as the lecture theatre and breakout rooms were first class. With a record attendance, an excellent programme and a beautiful city flooded with sunshine, pretty much everyone was happy. Take a look at the ‘Students’ view’ feature and find out what our sponsored students felt about the conference and see some of the photos taken throughout. A highlight for *Serials* was the announcement of the new editors who start in January 2011. We are pleased to announce they are Lorraine Estelle, CEO JISC Collections and

Steve Sharp, SABER Team Leader, University of Leeds. Welcome on board to both of them and we are very happy that they have already started work shadowing your current editors to ensure that the handover goes as smoothly as possible.

The conference was held later than usual this year and we are therefore very grateful to many of the conference presenters who provided us with their papers in time to include them in this July issue. Ted Bergstrom discusses the economics of the big deal in ‘Librarians and the terrible fix’ while Jill Russell and Tracy Kent present an institutional case study on supporting open access publishing. Philippa Sheail – the winner of our student competition – takes us on a trip around the real challenges in a virtual world and Sue White and Graham Stone tell us how they maximize



LORRAINE ESTELLE
CEO JISC Collections



STEVE SHARP
SABER Team Leader, University of Leeds

use of library resources at the University of Huddersfield. E-books feature strongly in this issue and the first of our conference papers on this topic, by Eelco Ferwerda from the OAPEN Project, discusses new open access models for monographs.

Continuing the e-book theme, we also publish three further papers on the topic. Terry Bucknell talks about the big deal approach to acquiring e-books, Sarah Thompson assesses a pilot project on user-driven purchasing (a hot topic at the conference) and Elizabeth Mallett provides the findings from an e-book reader pilot at The Open University and Cranfield University. It would appear that e-books are really coming of age and librarians and publishers alike are striving to work out the opportunities and challenges associated with them. Sticking with books (and providing the most intriguing title in this issue – ‘*Dangerous Citizens Online*’) Rebecca Kennison and colleagues provide an interesting insight into an author-press-library partnership.

In this increasingly complex electronic world, standards and guidelines are needed more than ever and the joint UKSG/NISO KBART Recommended Practice summarized by KBART co-chair Sarah Pearson allows content providers to greatly

increase the accessibility of their products. Accessibility is the theme of Nicole Harris’s paper on the rollout of federated access management in the scholarly publishing world, with an increasing take-up by publishers. There has always been a variety of additional content that authors have submitted along with their articles to the journal publisher. Todd Carpenter describes how NISO and NFAIS have partnered to produce Recommended Practices for how publishers, libraries and other information providers should address the issues surrounding supplemental materials to journal articles.

Our profiles continue to be highly popular – judging by the usage statistics – and in this issue we feature Tom Sanville, the new director of licensing and strategic partnership at the US library consortium LYRASIS, and Hildegard Schäffler from the German DFG consortium. David Prosser talks about his new role at Research Libraries UK (RLUK) and our profile of Mel Collier spans a hugely successful international career in both libraries and the commercial sector.

Helen & Hazel