Traversing the trelliswork of the Internet

Standards pages

Warwick Cathro from the National Library has compiled a list of pages on the Web referring to standards relevant to library developments. They are:

- ISO — http://www.iso.ch
- ITSI World Wide Web service — http://www.itsi.disa.mil
- Z39.50 resources — http://ds.internic.net/z3950/z3950.html
- SGML Web page — http://www.sil.org/sgml/sgml.html
- GILS demonstration —- http://info.er.usgs.gov:80/gils/
- Z39.56 (SICI) — http://www.faxon.com/Standards/Z3956-SICI-Intro.html
- Unicode home page — http://www.stonehand.com/unicode.html
- ISSN Web pages — http://www.well.com/www/issnic

Another page is contained on the National Library's server at: http://www.nla.gov.au/lis/stndrds/grps/it19/salist.html and it contains a list of Australian and overseas standards of interest to libraries. The printed form was distributed in satchels at the Online and On Disc Conference. If you'd like a copy of this publication, please contact Standards Australia at PO Box 1055, Strathfield NSW 2135, Phone (02) 746 4700, Fax (02) 746 3333.
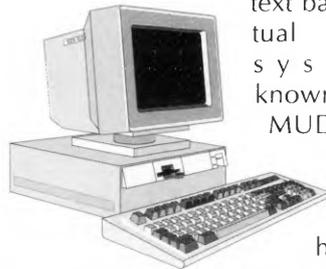
Australian Embassy on the Net

Although the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is still working on its Web server, the Australian Embassy in Washington, DC has opened a WWW site at http://www.aust.emb.nw.dc.us to provide general information on a wide variety of Australian topics. One notable feature is an extensive disclaimer which denies that the Commonwealth of Australia makes any warranty concerning the accuracy of any information found on or ex-

changed through the system.

The information covers economic and trade matters, history, people, government and culture.

WWW interface to Scholarly Electronic Conferences

Diane Kovacs and her team are famous for their Directory of Scholarly Electronic Conferences, covering lists, newsgroups, e-journals and more recently text based virtual reality systems known as MUDS or MOO'S. A new system has been set up by MIDnet at http://www.mid.net/KOVACS provides a multi-fielded searchable database made from the conference descriptions. You can search each description on subject, discussion name, topic information, contact address, and keywords. There is also a good amount of help information.

PACS review page

The Public-Access Computer Systems Review (PACS Review) is an electronic journal about end-user computer systems in libraries. It is distributed at no charge on the Internet and publishes papers on topics such as campus-wide information systems, CD-ROM LANs, document delivery systems, electronic publishing, expert systems, hypermedia and multimedia systems, locally mounted databases, network-based information resources and tools, and online catalogues.

It now has a World-Wide Web page at http://info.lib.uh.edu/pacsrev.html which in addition to links to past issues of PACS Review, has links to pages for the PACS News, PACS-L, and PACS-P.

Australian CD-ROM list

The Northern Territory University Library has announced CDROMOZ, a non-moderated public list for discussion on CD-ROM matters in Australian and New Zealand libraries. It is administered by Stephen Harrison at the NTU Library and all queries should be directed to him at stephen@library.ntu.edu.au

To subscribe, send a message consisting of the two words SUBSCRIBE CDROMOZ in the body of the message, followed by a blank

Approximately 70 people came to ALIA House to hear the Hon Bill Hayden AC officially launch ALIAnet

line, to: listserver@library.ntu.edu.au (note the spelling of 'listserver').

France on the Net
Anyone who subscribes to PACS-L will recognise the name Jack Kessler (kessler@well.sf.ca.us), a frequent correspondent on activities in France. He recently posted information on four notable French sites in the Internet:

GRENET / GREnobleNET — http://www.grenet.fr which concentrates on academic and research servers in the Grenoble region (a centre for scientific research and of information networking development for several decades) and general cultural matters.

RENNES / Universite de Rennes — http://www.univ-rennes1.fr has particular relevance to librarians and to anyone interested in information work in France, with. archives of many library and networking e-conferences in France.

CULTURE / Ministere de la Culture — http://www.culture.fr illustrates the great emphasis which the French place upon 'culture', and the great extent of their central government's involvement in it. The server at the French Ministry of Culture contains details and pictures of the recent prehistoric Combe d'Arc cave paintings, as well as art exhibitions.

The Centre Pompidou, including the BPI — http://www.cnac-gp.fr has information about the Centre and its activities, as well as pointers to similar organisations in France and elsewhere.

More online newspapers
Sinead Williams from Latrobe University started me looking for more online newspapers, reporting that Ieunet in Ireland was developing a site which they call International Newspapers. Further cruising revealed a site in the Netherlands, http://www.cs.vu.nl/~gerben/news.html which is the best that I've seen.

The Hon Bill Hayden AC chats with guests after the ALIAnet launch

It has around 100 papers and news services from around the world, plus links to many journalism resources.

More on electronic conferences
A number of US government bodies will be conducting an electronic open meeting entitled *People and their Governments in the Information Age*, from Monday, 1 May to Sunday, 14 May, 1995. It appears to be limited to US participants, but it indicates ways in which the technology of the Net may be used to bring together a diverse group of citizens.

It will be conducted through the World Wide Web, newsgroups, listservs (mailing lists), commercial online providers, and dial-up bulletin board connections. The meeting will focus on five topics: services, benefits, infor-
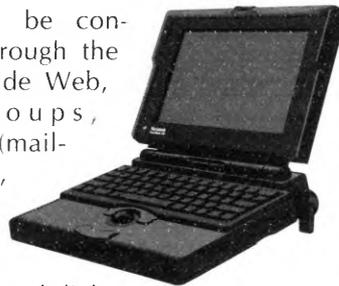
mation, participatory democracy and technology.

More information on the meeting can be obtained by sending a blank e-mail message to info@meeting.fedworld.gov and you will receive an automated response providing additional detail.

How to use the WWW
Harry M Kriz has provided an updated version of his document *Teaching and publishing in the World Wide Web*. The hypertext version is available at http://learning.lib.vt.edu/webserv/webserv.html with a plain text version at ftp://nebula.lib.vt.edu/pub/www/websrv02.asc (both versions were released in March 1995).

New sections are 'Who will access your server?' with information on who has used the document, and 'What role for publishers?' with Mr Kirz's ideas about academic publishing in the networked world.

How to catalogue Net resources

OCLC has announced the publication of *Cataloging Internet Resources: A Manual and Practical Guide*, by Nancy B Olson, editor. It provides 'a convenient single source of information by combining a discussion of cataloguing rules, appropriate MARC fields, and illustrative examples.'

You can get the publication in electronic form at ftp://ftp.rsch.oclc.org/pub/internet_cataloging_project/Manual.txt via anonymous FTP

Another site which offers similar information is the University of Michigan, featured in this column in the January *inCite*.

National Library of Canada and Electronic Publications

The National Library of Canada's Electronic Publications Pilot Project (EPPP) is now available from the Web and gopher. It uses 12 Canadian periodicals currently available only online, and is examining various means by which Canadian electronic publications can be deposited at the National Library, where they will be catalogued, permanently stored in a database and made accessible to library patrons across Canada.

Information on the status of the project and the publications it includes is now on the Internet infoserver at http:/www.nlc-bnc.ca/eppp/e3p.htm and at gopher.nlc-bnc.ca under Canadian electronic publications.

WWW publishing

In recent journals, there are two useful articles on Web publishing.

Powell, James. 'Spinning the World Wide Web: An HTML Primer' *Database* 18(1) (February/March 1995): 54-59. This has an overview of the Web, a description of HTML and a guide to marking up a document in HTML.

Vaughan-Nichols, Steven. 'Internet Publishing Tools Proliferate' *Byte* 20(3) (March 1995):30. This article gives information on a number of HTML authoring tools.

There is also a good introductory article covering concentrating on connecting and getting started:

Abernathy, Joe. 'The Internet: how to get there from here' *Australasian PC World* (March 1995):91-98.

Electoral information

With the assistance of the Australian Electoral Commission, the National Library has put information about Federal by-elections on its server. The data on current by-elections (Canberra and Wentworth) is at http://www.nla.gov.au/aec/aec.html and comprises information on the electorate, the candidates and the results of this and the previous election.

Searching NewJour

NewJour, the on-line service reporting new electronic journals and newsletters to the academic community, is almost two years old and has reported on

The group that made ALIAnet happen, (left to right *Ivan Trundle, Linda O'Brien and Kerry Webb*

over 200 different publications. It now has a searchable archive of all *NewJour* postings since the list began in 1993. The archive is available at gopher://ccat.sas.upenn.edu:70/11 Journals%2c%20Newsletters%20and%20Publications/newjour

It has a WAIS-indexed search function, by which you can ask for all the reports with a particular word and get a quick listing of titles to view. ∎