

but most of the material and links refer to US initiatives. The site welcomes new entries, which can be done by completing a form (although the form was not easy to find). It could become a useful one-stop shop for information about the subject.

#### Online physics journal

The Institute of Physics Publishing (IOPP) has announced that the Institute of Physics and the German Physical Society are to publish a new online journal, the *New Journal of Physics* (NJP). It will be peer-reviewed, published only on the Web and available at no charge. Now, here's the interesting bit — the journal will be financed by article charges paid by authors, so the peer review will need to be very rigorous. Further information is at <http://www.iop.org/Physics/News/0109j>.

#### ACORN

The ACORN Project (<http://acorn.lut.ac.uk/>) is a UK eLib funded project dealing with the provision of electronic short-loan material. One of its more interesting reports examines the benefits of image files, PDF and HTML as means of displaying documents. There's also some discussion of SGML, which is relevant in light of the current moves towards the use of XML.

#### Kinetica seminar

The National Library of Australia conducted a seminar early in July to look at issues arising from the outsourcing of technical services, with specific attention being paid to the potential for outsourced cataloguing for the National Bibliographic Database. The report of the meeting is at <http://www.nla.gov.au/abn/melbreport.html>

#### Digital formats paper from LC

The Library of Congress National Digital Library Program has released a revised version of the paper 'Digital formats for content reproductions' at <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/formats.html>. It describes the Library's approach to reproducing historical materials and lists the types of digital formats selected for this purpose. The paper includes discussion of formats for pictorial materials, textual materials, maps, sound recordings, and moving-image materials, and is illustrated with examples.

#### Something new under the Sun

Sun Microsystems continues to add to its education website at [http://www.sun.com/products-n-solutions/edu/success/segment\\_list.html](http://www.sun.com/products-n-solutions/edu/success/segment_list.html). New additions include the use by Stanford HighWire Press of Java to publish STM journals on the web, JSTOR's development of an electronic journal archive and access system and the Pennsylvania Keystone Project for state-wide academic library resource sharing.

#### Trellix

There's an interesting new product called Trellix, which is a document-preparation and publishing tool providing word-processing facilities together with hyperlinked layout designs. One of its good

points is that it encourages users to break up the text into screen-size portions. Of course, with the variety of equipment used today, defining a 'screen size' is a bit of a challenge. It doesn't require any HTML knowledge, but it does let you create web documents. It also features a map of your documents which gives you a good idea of the structure of the documents that you're preparing. It's at <http://www.trellix.com/html/trellixmarketing.asp>.

#### Buona SARA

Carfax Publishing Limited (<http://www.carfax.co.uk/>) publishes over 200 academic peer-reviewed journals across a variety of disciplines. They have recently established SARA (Scholarly Articles Research Alerting), a free service to deliver tables of contents for any available journal. You can register for individual titles or 'subject clusters' on their website or by sending a message to [SARA@carfax.co.uk](mailto:SARA@carfax.co.uk) with the word 'info' in the body of the message.

#### New (?) English dictionary service

The University of Michigan Digital Library Production Service has announced the availability of the Middle English Compendium at <http://www.hti.umich.edu/mec/>. It provides access to and interconnectivity among three resources: an electronic version of the Middle English Dictionary, a HyperBibliography(!) of Middle English prose and verse based on the MED bibliographies, and a full-text Corpus of Middle English Prose and Verse. The MED and the Corpus are encoded in SGML using the Text Encoding Initiative Guidelines. The Compendium is currently available for free during the testing period until 31 December 1998. After then, it will be available by institutional site licence only through the University of Michigan Press.

#### What, indeed?

'What are digital libraries?' is an article by Donald J Waters, director of the Digital Library Federation, from the July/August 1998 CLIR Issues, Number 4. He defines digital libraries as 'organizations that provide the resources, including the specialised staff, to select, structure, offer intellectual access to, interpret, distribute, preserve the integrity of, and ensure the persistence over time of collections of digital works so that they are readily and economically available for use by a defined community or set of communities'. Not a bad starting point. The full article is at <http://www.clir.org/pubs/issues/issues04.html>.

#### Nordic metadata

The Nordic metadata project has been running for the past two years and has become so famous that they even attracted visitors from Australia! The final report has been completed and is available in HTML format at <http://linnea.helsinki.fi/meta/nmfinal.htm> with a printed version due later this year. The project was such a success that a follow-up project, Nordic Metadata II has been approved to run until 2000. ■

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The ALIA home pages and the ALIA web service, ALIANet, can be found at the following URL:  
<http://www.alia.org.au/>

**SAVE YOURSELF THE TROUBLE OF TYPING THESE URLS!**

This column (with associated hyperlinks) is on ALIANet, and has the URL of <http://www.alia.org.au/incite/www/>

[Please note that full-stops at the end of any URL or e-mail addresses, or underlines, appearing in *inCite* should NOT be used]

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