



Library Hi Tech News

What's trending in libraries from the internet cybersphere - digital clutter
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What's trending in libraries from the internet cybersphere – digital clutter

Adetoun A. Oyelude

This is the first edition of the column for 2016. The vignettes from the Internet this year will be mainly from blogs. This edition covers issues germane mainly to libraries, technology use and maintenance of digital devices used.

2016 future technology considerations

Executives in the IT industry may be looking at three major issues in 2016. These are: Backup, File Storage and Access Control issues. Nancy Newkirk on 3rd December 2016 conjectured in her post that these issues are or will continue to be technology problems that executives try to solve. Get to know more from www.idgenterprise.com/resource/blog/looking-ahead-to-2016-the-technology-areas-were-considering/

Are you really smart?

David McRaney in a post of 25 November 2015 highlights how search engines make us feel we are smarter than we really are. He quotes the work of Mathew Fisher and describes an experiment carried out.

“According to the early studies of researcher *Matthew Fisher*, the side effect of a familiarity with search engines is an inflated sense of internal knowledge. Habitual googling leads us to mistakenly believe we know more than we actually do about any given subject – and here is the crazy part – that intuition persists even in moments in which we no longer have access to the internet. The more you use Google, it seems, the smarter you feel without it”. More can be read from <http://youarenotsosmart.com/2015/11/25/yanss-063-how-search-engines-make-us-feel-smarter-than-we-really-are/> and more of Fisher's research on internalizing knowledge can be seen at <http://campuspress.yal>

e.edu/matthewfisher/files/2015/03/pdf-16ueczx.pdf

Creating a culture for reading and readers

Sue Fritzgerald posted on 2nd and 9th January 2016 about events occurring in a library to promote a culture for reading and for readers. Through new furniture and new programmes in the library, students were encouraged to come in to use the facility. Asking the students to participate in making changes to the library worked wonders. The student library aides helped create a digital library flipagram. In addition, three new café tables acquired by the library brought this about. The librarian cashed in on that to talk to the users about books and reading. “Now I'm not saying these three tables will magically entice our students to read. I am saying look at something as easy as new furniture, hosting clubs, opening for lunches or before school, to help build the trust and relationships that will be the foundation for creating a culture of readers”. Connecting positively with users is the aim. More on this can be found at <http://unpretentiouslibrarian.blogspot.com.ng/>

What to do with digital clutter

What do you do with all the unwanted mails, tweets and other digital trash you get? It may be worthwhile learning how to get rid of them. The simple reason is that clutter breeds more clutter. From <http://toptrends.nowandnext.com/2015/11/24/digital-clean-up/> comes the following: “When people notice that others have violated the social norm of keeping a common work area neat, they become much more likely to litter that space, according to João Ramos of PwC Australia and Benno Torgler of Queensland University of Technology. In their study of professors, postgraduate

students, and a departmental common room at a university, the researchers found that 59 per cent of people littered when the room was already disordered, as compared with 18 per cent when it was neat. The findings suggest that eliminating signs of disorder may be an effective method of maintaining workplace compliance”. This statement stems from a paper by Ramos and Torgler (2015) full text downloadable at www.crema-research.ch/papers/2009-21.pdf titled “Are Academics Messy? Testing the Broken Windows Theory with a Field Experiment in the Work Environment”. It is worth the read; it is trending.

Coding in libraries

From the blogspot of The Unpretentious Librarian (a blog of the collaborative ideas, programming and thoughts of a secondary school librarian) found at <http://unpretentiouslibrarian.blogspot.com.ng/> comes the report on a coding event at the Pike Middle School Library. The unpretentious librarian in the 19 January 2016 blog spoke about teaching coding to secondary school students. An Hour of Code event is on, where computer science is demystified in a one-hour programme. This programme can be organized anywhere in the world, at least in 108 countries. People aged 4 to 104 can gain a lot from being taught to code. Read more about it from <https://hourofcode.com/us>

Netvibes programming the Web

You may be familiar with Internet of Things (IoT) but now Netvibes, a subsidiary of Dassault Systemes, has created a Dashboard of Things (DoT). “With DoT, you can now create Potions to automate interactions between your data, app and devices connected to your dashboard. *If A*

and/or B triggers happen, then do X and Y actions; otherwise, do U and T". Their intention is to help you make the Web programmable. To learn more about Netvibes and more about DoT, read their FAQ page: <http://faq.netvibes.com/knowledgebase/articles/489728-dashboard-of-things-introduction> Watch the video about it: <https://vimeo.com/119738189> or visit: www.netvibes.com/en/dashboardofthings

Connected devices and threat to network

With 111 LinkedIn and 9 Facebook shares as at 2 February 2016, the Windstream business blog at www.windstreambusiness.com/blog/2016/01/are-connected-devices-threatening-your-network trends a report posted by Winson McCray on 18 January 2016 about the need for security consciousness for those who have networked devices. According to him, "top security issues that are amplified by connected devices are:

- *Blurred network perimeters:* Connected devices have blurred network perimeters, making it harder for businesses to control access to critical data.

- *Network breaches are difficult to detect:* Threats to a network can't be stopped if they go undetected. Many businesses are struggling with the unknown threats that might be occurring internally, especially with users and their personal connected devices.
- *Lack of device and network audits:* It's time to ask yourself, "What's really happening on the company network?" Many employers have yet to complete an audit of the employees and devices with access to their core network.
- *Missing internal standards:* More often than not, internal vulnerabilities exceed external security threats. Businesses must define and set the standards of what good and bad security practices look like. IT teams should restrict the extent that outside devices can connect and roam around on proprietary corporate networks and also work to ensure that employees are educated on the company's security policy."

Security threats have to be addressed. Libraries are not left out in this. Read more from the windstream blog.

What to do in a Bring-Your-Own Device world

A post by on 15 January 2016 advances what to do in a Bring-Your-Own Device-driven world. Increasingly, people use the same devices for personal social contacts for work- or business-related matters. Conferences or workshops also request participants to bring their own devices. As such, it is imperative "as the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) trend continues to grow in the workplace, for companies to prepare with these crucial steps:

- define your mobility strategy and BYOD policies;
- upgrade your wireless network infrastructure; and
- implement solutions that support BYOD."

Libraries and information centres that do make such requests need to take such precautions as well. More on this can be read at: www.windstreambusiness.com/blog/2016/01/how-to-succeed-in-a-byod-dominated-world

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