



Using Blogs for Information Management

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Christina K Pikas

APL

The Johns Hopkins University
APPLIED PHYSICS LABORATORY

Givens:

Managing your own information

- The best ideas come to you when...
 - You're on deadline for another project
 - You're not on your own computer
- When you have to write an article...
 - You can't find the envelope with your notes on the back
 - Your citations in *Refworks* don't ring any bells
 - You can't remember what it was you were going to say...

Givens:

Project Communications

- E-mail is broken
- Backchannel communications are key
- It's impossible for new team members to get up to speed quickly
- Version control is a huge issue
- Final reports are horrible to write



Agenda

- What I mean by *blog*
- The nature of blogging and communication in and between blogs
- How to manage your own information
- How to use blogs for project work

What is a blog?

- Reverse chronological listing of discrete posts each having a permanent link.
- Use the technology of the web
- Format, usage, methods of interconnection differentiate blogs from other web media

Anatomy of a blog

From STLQ.info, courtesy of Randy Reichardt

scitech library question

Occasional postings of interest to
engineering and scitech librarians

8Rs - The Canadian Library Human Resource Study

Posted at 11:52 on [June 21, 2005](#) in [The Library Profession](#). | 0 Trackbacks | | [Comments \(0\)](#)

:: The Canadian Library Association recently issued a press release announcing the [formation of the CLA President's Council on the 8R's](#). At last week's annual CLA Conference, the [8Rs Canadian Library Human Resource Study](#) was released. Of interest to all librarians, including those beyond Canada, the study "is a national research project that is examining important facets of library human resources from both organizational and individual perspectives over a period of two years."

The study draws its name from the eight core issues that the literature suggests are integral to human resource management in libraries: recruitment, retention, remuneration, reaccreditation, repatriation, rejuvenation, retirement and restructuring. The research team is currently gathering data through a series of surveys and focus groups from a number of different sources: library administrations, individual librarians and library technicians at all stages of their careers, library educators and MLIS students This will allow the study to present comprehensive view of the current and predicted needs of library institutions and library workers.

This research arose from the recognition that the existing literature on recruitment, retention, and leadership in the library profession is based on either anecdotal evidence or aggregate statistics, most of which are American. This literature predicts a crisis in succession management across the sector, as senior staff retire in significant numbers, which may leave libraries with inadequate numbers of staff to fill these vacancies. If this crisis does indeed occur, it is anticipated that it will be compounded by the flattening of library organizations, the reduction in numbers of middle managers, and hiring freezes due to sustained cutbacks during the past decade in American libraries. While Canadian public, academic, special, and school libraries have also experienced some of these factors, there is a lack of primary data for the Canadian context. The question remains as to whether Canadian

BLOG PERSON

Where Am I?

Off to Toronto for SLA, 4-8 June 2005, followed by CLA in Calgary, 15-18 June. See you there? - Randy :-)

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About STLQ

Welcome to **The SciTech Library Question**, a blog featuring postings of interest to librarians working in science and engineering libraries. This site is maintained by [Randy Reichardt](#), Information Services Librarian (Engineering), Science and Technology Library, University of Alberta. Any opinions expressed on this site are my own, or those of the other contributors, and do not necessarily reflect those of the University of Alberta Libraries.

Occasional contributors:

- [Geoff Harder](#) - SciTech Library, U

Synthesis: The Digital Library of Engineering and Computer Science

Posted at 12:51 on [June 14, 2005](#) in [Publishers & Publishing](#) | 0 Trackbacks | | [Comments \(0\)](#)

:: [Morgan & Claypool Publishers](#), a new company in the STM publishing world, has launched its new series of "lectures", [Synthesis: The Digital Library of Engineering and Computer Science](#):

The basic component of the library is a 50- to 100-page "Lecture"; a self-contained electronic document that synthesizes an important research or development topic, authored by an expert contributor to the field. We believe that they offer unique value to the reader by providing more synthesis, analysis, and depth than the typical research journal article. They are also more dynamic and convenient than traditional print or digital handbooks, contributed volumes, and monographs.

The library and its lectures are organized in a hierarchical structure of disciplines and series. Each series is managed by a prominent consulting editor. The series editor guides lecture topic and author selection as well as peer review. New series and lectures will be added continuously and existing lectures will be revised as needed. This will make the collection dynamic in a way that has not been achieved with traditional reference or educational products.

The Synthesis platform provides the user with access to content in both PDF and HTML formats, with live links to references and sophisticated search and personalization functions.

I met with company reps Glyn Davies and Mike Jones at the trade show at SLA, who mentioned that the first five lectures are now available: Articulation and Intelligibility, Hf-Based High-k Dielectrics, Understanding Circuits, Spectral Analysis of Signals, and Recognition of Humans and Their Actions Using Video. This is an interesting approach to scholarly publishing, one I haven't seen before. I wonder how researchers will cite these "lectures", especially once an existing lecture is updated. Will the earlier version still be available?

For the moment, the subject emphasis is on electrical and electronic engineering and computer science topics. I hope the publishers choose to add lectures in the other major engineering fields, including chemical and materials, civil and environmental, mining and petroleum, mechanical, engineering management, and nanotechnology.

[Post a comment to 'Synthesis: The Digital Library of Engineering and Computer Science'](#)

[Original Source](#)

[Scirus](#)

Articles and Presentations

- [Weblogs: Their Use and Application In Science and Technology Libraries](#) - *Science & Technology Libraries*, 25(3), 2005, p 105-116
- [RSS: Moving Into The Mainstream](#) - column in [Ei Update v3 n1 March/April 2005](#)
- [Throw Another Blog on the Wire](#) - article in *Feliciter*, 2003, #2
- [Weblogging on Campus and Beyond \(p13\)](#)
- [eduBlogging: Growing Weblogs and Online Communities](#) - May 2003
- [Blogging 101: Blogging Basics for Health Sciences Librarians](#) - presentation to [NAHLA](#), February 2004
- [Throw Another Blog On the Wire: Weblogs in the Library World - ALC, April 2004.](#)

Archives

By Category

By Date

Syndication

- [Atom 0.3](#)
- [RSS 1.0](#)
- [RSS 2.0](#)

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Anatomy of a Post

From STLQ.info, courtesy of Randy Reichardt

Source:

<http://stlq.info/archives/001707.html#001707>

scitech library question

Occasional postings of interest to
engineering and scitech librarians

You are here: [Home](#) > [December 2004](#) > [Thursday 9](#) > AZoNano Launch Online Open Access Journal of Nanotechnology

AZoNano Launch Online Open Access Journal of Nanotechnology

Posted at 10:23 in [Nanotechnology](#) and [Open Access](#).

:: A new, open access [journal on nanotechnology is forthcoming](#):

[AZoM.com Pty. Ltd.](#), Sydney Australia and the UK-based [Institute of Nanotechnology](#) are pleased to announce the forthcoming launch of the Online Journal of Nanotechnology.

The *Online Journal of Nanotechnology* is based on a free access publishing model, coupled with what is believed to be a unique development in the field of scientific publishing – the distribution of journal revenue between the authors, peer reviewers and site operators.

The Online Journal of Nanotechnology at AZoNano.com will publish high quality articles and papers on all aspects of nanotechnology and related scientific, social and ethical issues. All the contributions will be reviewed by a world class panel of founding editors who are experts in a wide spectrum of nanotechnology science.

Via [On Christina's Radar](#).

Trackback Pings

Trackback URL: <http://www.podbaydoor.com/mt/mt-tb.cgi/1686>

Comments

0 comments and 0 trackbacks received. [Post a comment](#).

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Search

Content



Content

Varies

- Links only
- Very personal or rants
- Authoritative, reliable
- Extended essays
- Sterile or impartial
- Urban legends, rantings of a paranoid

Typically

- Lots of links
- Paragraph length posts

The Blog Cycle (the act of blogging)

Read > Think > Blog (check links) > Get Comments

- Retaining anonymity is difficult
- Effort on content, not graphic design, presentation or technology
- Each post has one and only one author

The nature of blogs: interaction

- Linking
- Commenting
- Tracking back
- Aggregating tags/categories
- Reading and communicating elsewhere

How to manage personal information

Data > Information > Knowledge

- Distill ideas
- Practice writing for later publication
- Test new ideas with low or no risk
- Searchable
- You control the information!

More than “keeping found things found”

- Include analysis with the links
- Add context – in time, relationship to other items, meaning to field
- Teach and learn
- Re-trace your path to re-find information later

Blogs for Teams

- Force communications into a linear, chronological listing
- Automatically retain shared archives
- Available from anywhere
- Searchable
- Copy and paste to project reports

Team Collaboration

Member posts > members comment > new posts

- Attribution to contributor
- Encourage contributions from introverts and lurkers
- Channel contributions from extroverts
- New team members or management can quickly check project history/status

More benefits for team work

- Each post has linked comment space
- Time shift reading updates
- Control of information flow (real time or delayed)
- Save bandwidth and file storage over e-mail

Summary

- It's the format, not the content that makes it a blog
- Use what's right for *you*
- If project members feel that it's too much effort or that the information is being taken from them, they won't use it
- Blogs can be an effective and inexpensive addition to your organization's information management toolkit

Contact Information

Christina K. Pikas, BS, MLS
R.E. Gibson Library & Information Center
The Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics
Laboratory

Voice 443.778.4812 (Baltimore)
 240.228.4812 (Washington)

E-mail Christina.Pikas@jhuapl.edu

Blogs <http://christinaslibraryrant.blogspot.com>
 <http://cpikas.blogspot.com>