

ADINET (Advanced Information Network of Libraries in Gujarat)
e-News Digest

No. 102

Mar – 2024

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Pause & Ponder

“The surest way to keep people down is to educate the men and neglect the women. If you educate a man you simply educate an individual, but if you educate a woman, you educate a whole nation.”

– James Emman Kwegyir Aggrey

****Readers Please Note****

Follow the “Title” of each News to continue to Read further

Digitizing our oldest documents for Library of Congress



Thousands of people are spending hours transcribing millions of pages from the Library of Congress. NBC's Gary Grumbach spoke with some of the volunteers who are digitizing and

preserving the works of many historical American figures from Teddy Roosevelt's private thoughts to Susan B. Anthony's letters to friends...

Source: [NBC News, 09 Mar 2024](#)

Meet the woman who helped libraries across the U.S. 'surf the internet'



When former librarian and author Jean Armour Polly first introduced the idea of having computers in libraries in the early 1980s, she was met with pushback.

"People scoffed and said, 'Why would you go to a library to use a computer?'" she said.

Even when the internet rolled around, many librarians felt they were supposed to be the sole gatekeepers of knowledge and information.

"But I just knew it would be a wonderful thing. You know, school kids could use [computers] in schools, but what about the lifelong learners? And adults and seniors?" Polly said...

Source: [LAist, 08 Mar 2024](#)

How I made a place for myself in academia—by focusing on my writing



"How did you publish so much as an immigrant?" Realizing I wasn't a native English speaker, people asked variations of this question countless times as I interviewed for faculty positions last year. I knew that disclosing my struggles was unlikely to land me a job, so I would laugh and say, "I enjoy writing!" But the truth is writing did not come easily. I arrived in the United States at age 9 knowing only Spanish. As an undergrad, I spent months laboring over my senior thesis. I finally thought it was good enough—only to get it back from my mentor covered in bright red changes, showing how far I had yet to go. But I knew I needed to develop my publication record to stand out in a world where backgrounds like mine are scarce...

Source: [Science, 07 Mar 2024](#)

World Book Day finds children are put off reading for pleasure



As World Book Day runs its annual event to promote reading for pleasure

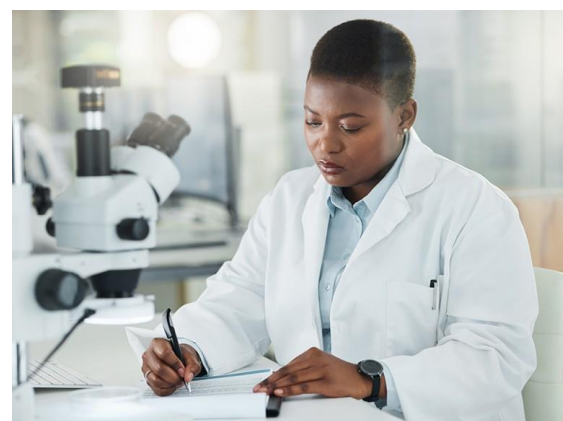
among children, it has revealed new research showing that more than a third of children cannot choose what they want to read, and one in five feel judged for what they do read.

"Children have told us that they think that reading choices are judged by the adults around them," said Cassie Chadderton, CEO of World Book Day. "It discourages them, it puts them off reading for pleasure and by choice".

The survey of 1,000 7- to 14-year-olds in the UK – conducted by consultancy Beano Brain in January – also asked children about their parents' hobbies. Only 25% of children said their parents relax by reading at home, while 56% said their parents scroll on their phones and 52% watch TV. "Adults usually tell you to read, but then they go on their phones," one 11-year-old "non-reader" told researchers. "My teachers and my dad do that!"...

Source: [The Guardian, 07 Mar 2024](#)

Nature publishes too few papers from women researchers — that must change



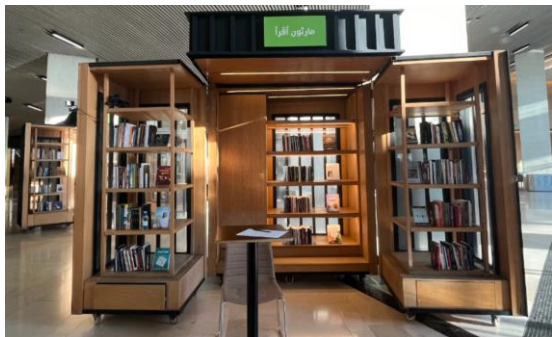
Researchers submitting original research to Nature over the past year will have noticed an extra question, asking them to self-report their gender. Today, as part of our commitment to helping to make science more equitable, we are publishing in this

editorial a preliminary analysis of the resulting data, from almost 5,000 papers submitted to this journal over a five-month period. As well as showing the gender split in submissions, we also reveal, for the first time, possible interactions between the gender of the corresponding author and a paper's chance of publication.

The data make for sobering reading. One stark finding is how few women are submitting research to Nature as corresponding authors. Corresponding authors are the researchers who take responsibility for a manuscript during the publication process. In many fields, this role is undertaken by some of the most experienced members of the team...

Source: [Nature, 06 Mar 2024](#)

Reading marathon promotes library culture, greener future



A reading marathon to promote library culture and environmental awareness was recently organized in Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Morocco, with over a quarter of a million pages read.

The Arab libraries that participated in the three-day event were King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture, also known as Ithra, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Egypt and the National Library of Morocco.

The goal of the marathon was to plant one tree for every 100 pages read,

which Ithra estimates would take an average reader one hour. The center said that 326,250 pages were read during the reading marathon, equivalent to 2,504 trees...

Source: [Arab News, 04 Mar 2024](#)

More than 2 million research papers have disappeared from the Internet



More than one-quarter of scholarly articles are not being properly archived and preserved, a study of more than seven million digital publications suggests. The findings, published in the *Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication* on 24 January¹, indicate that systems to preserve papers online have failed to keep pace with the growth of research output.

“Our entire epistemology of science and research relies on the chain of footnotes,” explains author Martin Eve, a researcher in literature, technology and publishing at Birkbeck, University of London. “If you can’t verify what someone else has said at some other point, you’re just trusting to blind faith for artefacts that you can no longer read yourself.”

Eve, who is also involved in research and development at digital-infrastructure organization Crossref, checked whether 7,438,037 works labelled with digital object identifiers (DOIs) are held in archives. DOIs —

which consist of a string of numbers, letters and symbols — are unique fingerprints used to identify and link to specific publications, such as scholarly articles and official reports. Crossref is the largest DOI registration agency, allocating the identifiers to about 20,000 members, including publishers, museums and other institutions...

Source: [Nature, 04 Mar 2024](#)

From UC Berkeley to rural India, an anthropologist works to expand library access



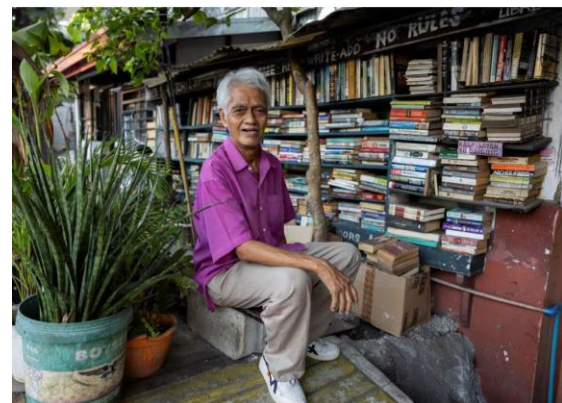
Aarti Sethi conducts a read-aloud session in January in, Yavatmal District, Maharashtra. The group is discussing a bilingual book in Marathi and English. English is a language of power and aspiration, and library members are keen to learn it, Sethi said. Along with books in Marathi, the library is also a space for democratic access to English.

In her many years of fieldwork in rural central India, UC Berkeley Anthropology Professor Aarti Sethi pondered what could make a real difference in the lives of people there. She realized the answer was knowledge: a public library system, an asset scarcely available in the region, which would open doors to literacy and knowledge.

In India, there is no national public library system. Marginalized communities have little access to basic educational resources. Sethi's realization of this disparity led to her involvement in the Free Library Network, a collective effort pushing for a national public library system in India. Along with her longtime collaborator, Indrajit Labhane of the Free Library Network, Sethi helped open the first community library in a small village in rural Maharashtra, a state in western India...

Source: [Berkeley News, 04 Mar 2024](#)

Philippine 'library home' stacked with books to inspire reading



"A good book is easy to find" reads the sign on Hernando Guanlao's two-storey home located on the outskirts of the Philippines' main financial district which he has turned into a public library where anyone can borrow books for free.

Called the Reading Club 2000, Guanlao's library showcases a wide variety of books he hopes will inspire people, especially young curious minds to read, especially at this time when reading ability among Philippine students remains low...

Source: [Reuters, 04 Mar 2024](#)

SRCC Dream Library Donated Over 14,250 Books To Underprivileged Children



SRCC Dream Library, a project initiated by the Connecting Dreams Foundation - SRCC Chapter, aims to enrich the lives of the underprivileged by establishing libraries in Orphanages, NGOs, and Old Age Homes. With around 38 libraries set up and over 14,250 books donated, impacting more than 3,500 lives, the project is committed to its mission of spreading knowledge and positivity.

Quoting Garrison Keillor, "A book is a gift that you can open again and again." The students of CDF SRCC view books as conduits of dreams, capable of transcending boundaries and inspiring limitless possibilities. Through Project Dream Library, they endeavour to provide underprivileged children with access to education, recognising it as their fundamental right.

The recent expansion at NGO Gurudikshaam saw over 100 books donated to more than 70 underprivileged children, promising not just enlightenment but also potentially altering the trajectory of their families. Recognising education's transformative power, the project believes in the ripple effect, where educating one generation can uplift many more to come...

Source: [NDTV, 29 Feb 2024](#)

Diamond Open Access: Global Paradigm Shift in Scholarly Publishing



This innovative model, which has garnered considerable attention in recent years, represents a departure from traditional Open Access models by ensuring that research outputs are freely accessible without imposing financial burdens on authors and readers.

This widespread endorsement and support for Diamond Open Access journals, repositories and platforms represent a paradigm shift towards dismantling the barriers hindering the access and distribution of publicly funded research. It is not just about broadening access; it's a commitment to bibliodiversity, affirming equitable access to scholarly publishing and research outputs regardless of geographical, financial or institutional constraints.

In the words of Prof. Jean Claude Guedon, the Open Access movement is more than simple right to access to scholarly and scientific research...

Source: [UNESCO, 21 Feb 2024](#)

**This issue has been compiled by the
Institute for Plasma Research (IPR)
Library, Gandhinagar**