



Newsletter

GREY LITERATURE NETWORK SERVICE

Contents

- Twelfth International Conference on Grey Literature
- Czech National Technical Library, New GreyNet Associate Member
- OpenSIGLE Feasibility Study FP7 Proposal: INFRA-2010-3.3
- Annual Review of GreyNet's Milestones and Deliverables
- In Advocacy of Grey Literature, Now in the line of IPCC fire
- *Advertisements:*
NTK, J-STAGE, Refdoc.fr, IIA Inc.
- About GreyNet's Newsletter

Twelfth International Conference on Grey Literature

Pre-Announcement

The Twelfth International Conference on Grey Literature (GL12) will be hosted by the National Technical Library in Prague, Czech Republic. This international S&T event will take place on 6-7 December 2010 and the official Call-for-Papers is forthcoming in February of this year.



Czech National Technical Library, New GreyNet Associate Member

NTK

building size: 263x21m
Národní technická knihovna
National Technical Library

The National Technical Library is a central professional library open to the public, which offers a unique collection of 250,000 publications freely accessible in open circulation. Its holdings form the largest collection of Czech and foreign documents from technology and applied natural sciences as well as associated social sciences. It

contains a total of 1.2 million volumes of books, journal and newspapers as well as theses, reports, standards, and trade literature both in print and electronic formats. Besides its own collection, part of the Central Library of CTU in Prague and the Central Library of ICT holdings are accessible in NTK. In accordance with its statutes, NTK manages the project of building the **National Repository of Grey Literature (NRGL)**. This project aims at gathering metadata and possibly full texts of grey documents in the field of education, science, and research. NTK likewise supports education in the field of grey literature through annual seminars in the Czech Republic. <http://nrgl.techlib.cz>

OpenSIGLE Feasibility Study FP7 Proposal, INFRA-2010-3.3

OPENSIGLE

SYSTEM FOR INFORMATION ON GREY LITERATURE IN EUROPE



This project proposal brings together a consortia of partner organizations and external advisors. OpenSIGLE is rooted in a European framework of cooperation among longstanding infrastructures including national libraries, research centres, and networked services. The outcome of this project would lend support to research initiatives and strengthen policy development for infrastructures in the field of grey literature, where open access to collections and other knowledge based resources stand central. The OpenSIGLE Repository with its technical know-how would be sustained by a coordinating infrastructure in the advancement of European cross-disciplinary research well beyond its geographical borders.

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Annual Review of GreyNet's Milestones and Deliverables

"An annual review of GreyNet's commitment to research, publication, open access, and education in the field of grey literature"

Beginning the Winter of 2009,



In January, GreyNet was once again asked by the University of New Orleans to provide a distance education course on grey literature for 3 hours credit. Twenty-three senior undergraduate students enrolled - ten more than the first semester in which the course was offered.

After a year of negotiations, GreyNet reached an agreement with Emerald to license the rights, whereby the full-text papers from the first four conferences in the International Series on Grey Literature (1993-1999) would become accessible via the OpenSIGLE Repository. This agreement guarantees that research results from the international GreyNet Community would be both comprehensive and available on an open access platform.



An agreement was signed with Elsevier in which articles from The Grey Journal, an International Journal on Grey Literature, would be abstracted and indexed in Scopus. TGJ likewise entered its first lustrum (2005-2009).

The GL10 Conference Proceedings were published and the GL11 Conference Announcement and Call-for-Papers distributed.

In the Spring of 2009,

A publishing agreement was signed with K.G. Saur Verlag in Munich for the publication of a monograph on grey literature. This agreement guarantees that the rights of the more than twenty contributing authors will remain with their own work. This monograph will be targeted to students and faculty at colleges and schools of library and information science as well as information professionals worldwide.



Spring also witnessed the GL11 Program Committee Meeting chaired by FLICC/FEDLINK, as well as a U.S. Workshop on Grey Literature in the Library of Congress in which thirty participants from various national libraries and federal agencies attended.

The first retrospective metadata records and corresponding full-text papers were added to the OpenSIGLE Repository. These retro-records originated in the Fourth International Conference on Grey Literature held in Washington D.C. in 1999. Retrospective records from the Third International Conference on Grey Literature held in Luxembourg in 1997 later followed.

The first 'guest edited' issue of The Grey Journal (TGJ) by Deni Seymour on Archaeology and Grey Literature reemphasized the thematic approach to the International Journal on Grey Literature and a subject-related approach to this field of information studies.

In the Summer of 2009,



A workshop subtitled 'Benchmarks and Forecasts' focusing on the supply and demand sides of grey literature was first held in Amsterdam.

Wiki's on the Grey Literature Network Service, GLISC, OpenSIGLE and other grey literature initiatives were launched under the guidance of Dr. Joachim Schöpfel from the University of Lille, France.

In the Autumn of 2009,

A site visit was paid to the newly constructed National Technical Library in Prague, where GL12 will be hosted. This was preceded by a National Seminar on Grey Literature in Brno, Czech Republic.

When autumn turned to fall, a newly established OpenSIGLE Consortium submitted an FP7 Proposal to the European Commission with the goal of creating a pan-European e-infrastructure that would better serve the OpenSIGLE Repository and further the advancement of open access to digital grey literature collections and resources.



GreyNet signed a Partnership Agreement with ICSTI, International Council for Scientific and Technical Information. This newly established partnership lends to GreyNet a multilateral base, elevating it from a bilateral one that it already shares with a number of ICSTI

Members. GreyNet seeks to provide ICSTI with an opportunity to further broaden its information activities to the social sciences and humanities.

Grey Literature became a published chapter in ELIS, the prestigious Encyclopedia of Library and Information Sciences.



The GreyNet Award 2009 for outstanding achievement in the field of grey literature was awarded to **Dr. Debbie Rabina** from Pratt Institute's School of Information and Library Science. The area of her research dealt with 'Copyright licenses and legal deposit practices of grey multimedia materials'. This award is in recognition for the author's contribution to the field of grey literature over the past year. Nominations for the GreyNet Award are based on (1) Results from the GL10 Participant Evaluation Forms, (2) Publication of the authors' paper in the GL10 Conference Proceedings, (3) Selection and publication of the authors' paper as a journal article, thus exporting and distributing research results originating in the GL Conference Series, and (4) Prior history of the author in the field of grey literature.

The relaunch of a U.S. Working Group on Grey Literature represented by the sectors of government, academics, business and industry.



And, the commencement of the Eleventh International Conference on Grey Literature hosted by FLICC/FEDLINK in the Library of Congress on 14-15 December 2009 in which 70 organizations from some 12 countries worldwide participated.

Yes, 2009 was truly a leap-year for the international grey literature community as well as for the Grey Literature Network Service, and 2010 holds as much in store.

In Advocacy of Grey Literature Now in the line of IPCC fire

For those of you who have been following this news article in the New Scientist, the Economist, Nature or elsewhere in the media, GreyNet has solicited response from the grey literature community. Please find below a recent reply by Bill Hubbard, JISC Research Communications Strategist, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom.

Dear Colleagues,

I think that the basis of Open Access has a lot to say about such incidents as the glacier-melt story. It is a clear message of transparency and accessibility and even though this might be a well-known message for ourselves, I think it is always worth making repeatedly in public forums.

In other words, open access brings traceability to materials - if all research material including grey literature were to be made open access as a matter of course, then tracing back references would be a matter of simple mouse clicks. In the case of the Himalayan glacier-melt, 1 or 2 mouse clicks away:

** IPCC claims glacier-melt and gives reference of a 2005 report by the conservation group WWF. This reference is to an open access report and so -

"click"

** 2005 WWF report quotes an interview in 1999 by Indian glaciologist Syed Hasnain. Either it mentions the interview in which case, the track is ended as a non-peer-reviewed source - or the interview itself was published in which case

"click"

** And the researcher has the source and can make their judgement as to its validity.

And of course, if materials were referenced and openly accessible so that they could be checked at this speed, anyone writing or editing a report would be able to recheck all of their sources before any report was ever published, rather than like at present, for example, relying on notes taken from some interlibrary loan 2 years prior, relying on a contributor to have checked their sources, or seeing that the source is a WWF Report and assuming that the sources they used would be peer-reviewed.

If reports and articles could have their references checked in this way by the sceptical scientific process, how much easier it would be. And of course the references could be checked by journalists, concerned members of the public, students, and others, as well as academic researchers.

Open Access transparency should act to reassure researchers and the public that their decisions and actions are based on a secure footing.

Maybe it would be worth writing a very short piece along the lines above, using the glacial-melt case as an example, titled "Himalayan Glaciers and the need for openness" - which should attract interest, reviewing the case for OA to grey literature, as above, and having the message "this case clearly supports the need for systematic, widespread open access to grey literature".

Since GreyNet International has a platform for public release of materials could this take the form of a Press Release, sent to all those principal sources that we know have mentioned the glacial-melt story? The glacier-melt story will keep being referred to for some time I am afraid, so if newspaper or news services have anything new to add to it, we might get a mention.

GL 12
TWELFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GREY LITERATURE
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Held in the National Technical Library in Prague, Czech Republic, on December 6 – 7, 2010.

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NTK
50°6'14.083"N, 14°23'26.365"E
Národní technická knihovna
National Technical Library

For the latest news on GL12 or National Repository of Grey Literature, visit our Web site at <http://nrgl.techlib.cz/>

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About GreyNet Newsletter

This serial publication endeavors to keep information professionals abreast of developments in the field of grey literature. The bimonthly newsletter gives exposure to GreyNet's information resources and frontline activities with special emphasis on the International Conference Series on Grey Literature. GreyNet's Newsletter replaces the monthly GL Conference Memoranda (2003-2008) and is made possible through the support of GreyNet's Associate Members and Corporate Authors: The British Library (United Kingdom), INIST-CNRS (France), New York Academy of Medicine (United States), and the National Technical Library (Czech Republic).

Grey Literature "information produced and distributed on all levels of government, academics, business and industry in electronic and print formats not controlled by commercial publishing i.e. where publishing is not the primary activity of the producing body." (Luxembourg, 1997 expanded in New York, 2004)