

## NEW DIRECTORY TRACKS SCHOLARLY E-JOURNALS & DISCUSSION LISTS

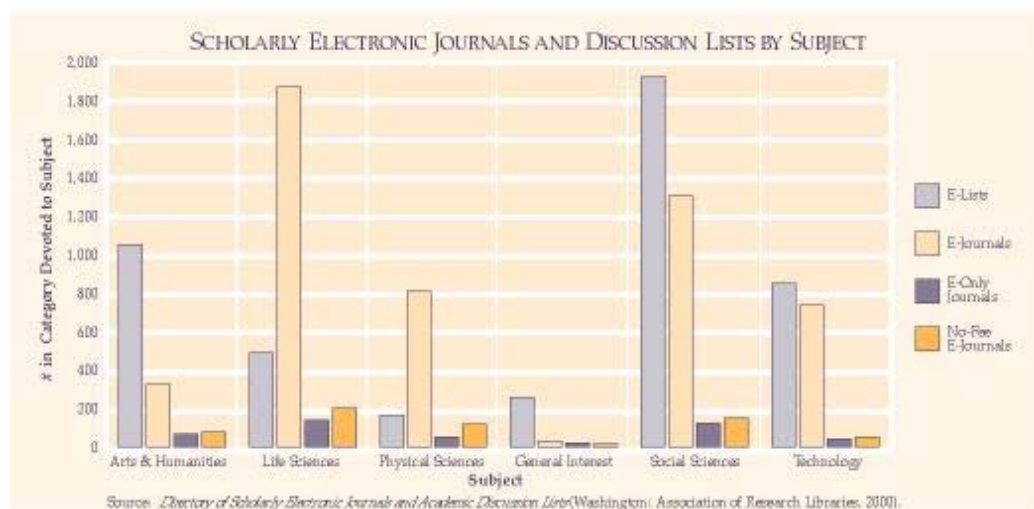
by Dru Mogge, Program Officer for Internet Services

Following the tradition begun in 1991 when the first ARL *Directory of Electronic Journals, Newsletters, and Academic Discussion Lists* was published, ARL has again produced an extensive catalog of serials available online. The latest publication, the first edition of the ARL *Directory of Scholarly Electronic Journals and Academic Discussion Lists*, focuses on peer-reviewed e-journals and includes Diane Kovacs's directory of academic and professional e-conferences. Together these two resources, available in print and online, serve as an essential reference tool for research librarians.

The growth of electronic publishing over the last 10 years is phenomenal. In 1997 when the last *Directory* was published, it contained over 3,400 titles, including 1,049 that were identified as peer-reviewed. The current print *Directory* contains over 3,900 titles, all of which are peer-reviewed. The online version contains more than 900 additional peer-reviewed e-journals. The number of fee-based titles has risen dramatically, confirming the notion that traditional academic publishers, who were at first leery of the new medium, have now joined the ranks of e-publishers.

The academic lists section of the *Directory* has also seen significant growth. In 1997, the Kovacs team identified just over 3,800 lists; the current edition contains over 4,600 entries. These lists, or e-conferences, are made up of discussion lists, newsgroups, MUDs, MOOs, mailing lists, and interactive web chat groups. The Kovacs team screens and evaluates the lists based on topics of interest to scholars and professionals for use in their scholarly, pedagogical, and professional activities.

All entries in the *Directory* were analyzed for subject content and keywords were assigned based on a thesaurus created especially for the *Directory* project. The accompanying chart shows the distribution of subjects across e-journals and lists as well as for e-journals that are without a fee and those that are available only in electronic form.



In addition to its periodically updated listings, an online version of the *Directory* offers users the ability

to browse through individual entries or search for specific items. Searching the online version has been enhanced since the last edition was released and includes the ability to search both the e-journals and lists section by subject at the same time.

The *Directory* was edited by Dru Mogge and Peter Budka of ARL. The e-journal section is compiled and maintained by ARL. The e-conference entries are contributed by Diane Kovacs of Kovacs Consulting. A freely accessible list of e-conference titles which Diane Kovacs and her team compiled is available at <http://www.kovacs.com/directory/index.html>. The *Directory* is available for purchase as either a print and electronic package (members, \$65; nonmembers, \$95) or electronic access only (members, \$50; nonmembers, \$70). The online version is also available as a one-time download. Consult either the website <http://www.arl.org/scomm/edir/> or email [pubs@arl.org](mailto:pubs@arl.org) for order information.

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