Chair's Corner by Nancy Colyar

Mark your calendars! It’s time for LLA Conference! This year the conference will be held in the Lafayette Hilton & Towers beginning Saturday, March 3. For the most up to date information on lodging, registration, and sessions, please see the web page at http://www.leeric.lsu.edu/lla/fandr/index2.htm.

Our Outstanding Academic Librarian Award will be presented at the Awards Luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 3.

We are fortunate to have Dr. Bill Nelson of Augusta State University in Augusta, GA, at two Academic Section-sponsored sessions. “Partial Applications of ACRL Standards” will be presented from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 3, and “GALILEO: The Georgia Consortium Experience” on Sunday, March 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Dr. Nelson has been Professor and Library Director at Augusta State University since 1993. He received B.A.s from Centenary College in both English and History. Postgraduate degrees include a M.A. and a Ph.D. in Latin American Studies, and a M.L.S., all from Louisiana State University.

Use your creativity to design the new symbols for LLA. The new logo will be used on all official LLA documents. Entries should be sent to David Duggar, President, by March 28, 2001. More information at the LLA web page:

LLA Logo Contest
LLA would like a new logo as we enter the new millennium.

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Southern Art provide international access to a major collection of southern art and historic documents. Over the past three decades, New Orleans entrepreneur and art collector Roger Houston Ogden has assembled one of the finest collections of southern visual art. The project, entitled “The Preservation of Louisiana’s Treasures Program,” was provided by a $198,000 grant to digitize the artwork.

The LSU Digital Library will digitize the collection to allow people to view oil paintings, watercolors, ceramics, sculptures and other works by southern artists for research and recreational purposes. The Digital Library website is http://www.lsu.edu/diglib/.

Special Collections has received a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), Washington, DC, for a two year project which will create a digital repository of research materials in three languages relating to the era of the Louisiana Purchase, 1800-1815. This project will digitize materials from Special Collections and from the City Archives at the New Orleans Public Library. The materials will be a part of the LSU

Chair’s Corner, continued

on Tuesday, March 6, on “Copyright Laws in the Age of Technology.” Our presenter will be Laura Gasaway, Director of Law Library and Professor of Law, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. We would like to thank the USGS National Wetlands Research Center for providing the workshop location. (Pre-registration required.)

Our Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect Fred Hamilton from Louisiana Tech has worked very hard all year to prepare and organize the Academic Section sessions for you. He has also attended the LLA Executive Board sessions in my stead more than once. I’d like to thank him for all his diligence and service to the Academic Section this year.
Library News, continued

Digital Library.
Grant money of $219,618 was used to hire one full-time librarian and two graduate students to work on the project, and will be used to fund work by an advisory panel of public school teachers who will help to devise lesson plans to use the digital library.

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
ALEXANDRIA
Bolton Library

The International Paper Company awarded an educational grant to the library for a child-sized reading table and benches, items greatly needed by students whose children accompany them to the library.

Floyd Bennett, head of technical services, attended the LOUIS meeting in Baton Rouge for System Administrators in December.

Anna Burns, director, attended two meetings at Nunez Community College: The Louisiana Chapter of ACRL and the annual Fall Assembly of Academic Library Directors. LSUA will be the site for the Spring 2001 Directors’ Meeting in March and the Database “Round-Up” on January 26.

The library displayed the award-winning “100 Years of Forestry in Louisiana” photograph exhibit prepared by the Society of American Foresters.

Alexandria currently has one of the eye-catching LOUIS billboards. It is in an excellent location on MacArthur Drive.

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE
Dupré Library

Denise Goetting joined the faculty on January 3, 2001, as head of cataloging. She was previously director of the Materials Center and Instructor of Library Science in the Department of Education at University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Ms. Goetting completed her B.A. in English education at USL and she received her MLIS in Library Science from Louisiana State University.

Jan Opocensky Rice joined the faculty of the Reference Department in November of 2000 as Assistant Professor/General Reference Librarian. Jan received her Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1981. Since then she has been a reference librarian at Michigan State University, Washington State University and University of Missouri-Columbia. Most recently she was medical librarian at Lafayette General Medical Center.

The library was officially dedicated in a festive ceremony on Friday, October 27, 2000. The construction and renovation project was begun in September of 1997. In the next three year period 88,000 square feet of new space were added to the library and 90 percent of the existing 125,000 square feet of old space was refurbished and renovated. The library was open to the patrons during the entire construction period; library services were available to the students and faculty even during days of noise and dust.

The dedication ceremony was attended by about five hundred students, faculty, staff, and friends of the Dupré Library. Among those present at the dedication were members of Louisiana State Legislature, past directors of the library, and Dupré family members. The UL Lafayette School of Music Jazz Ensemble and dancers from the UL Lafayette Department of the Performing Arts enhanced the celebration. At the conclusion of the reception, President Authement of UL Lafayette buried the Centennial Time Capsule in the front lawn of the library.

The library hosted an exhibit of artifacts from an eighteenth century shipwreck. The artifacts are from the El Nuevo Constante, which wrecked off the coast of Cameron Parish during a hurricane in 1766.

Archaeological investigations of the El Nuevo Constante shipwreck began in 1980, a year after Texas shrimper Curtis Blume discovered the wreck when he found copper
ingots from the ship’s cargo in his nets. Hundreds of artifacts were recovered from the wreck, including copper ingots, trade ceramics from Mexico, rare leather goods, and raw material for making dyes. Many of these were on display until February 1, 2001.

The Friends of the Dupré Library hosted a lecture in conjunction with the exhibit on Friday, January 19, 2001. Dr. Paul E. Hoffman, Professor of History at LSU, told the story of the rediscovery of the wreck of El Nuevo Constante and his research about the ship and her last voyage. The title of Dr. Hoffman’s talk was “Chocolate Pudding and Old Documents: Investigating the Wreck of El Nuevo Constante.” The “chocolate pudding” is a reference to the murky waters surrounding the wreck and the difficulties of salvage. The lecture was very well attended and the audience was allowed to handle some of the artifacts raised from the wreck.