

# Newsletter of the LLA Academic Section

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Susan Marshall Richard  
Editor

## CHAIR'S CORNER

by  
**Jules Tate**

When asked to run for Vice-chair/Chair-elect, I had no idea what I was getting into. But, it has been exciting and, I hope you'll agree, productive.

In case you don't know (I didn't), the primary function of the Vice-chair is to facilitate the section's programs. When I did realize what I was getting into, I worried we wouldn't be able to get quality programs in the months before the conference. Was I wrong!

As soon as people found out we were looking, offers for presentations and recommendations for speakers started flowing in. I can't imagine what putting a program together was like before e-mail.

This year's Vice-Chair, Nancy Colyar of LSU, has done an amazing job on the conference. By the way, Nancy has represented the Academic Section at the LLA Executive Board on more than one occasion when I was unable to attend. In fact, her advice and initiative has made my job as this year's section chair as easy as can be.

For up-to-date information and registration materials for the Annual Conference to be held in Alexandria from March 14-17, 2000, go to the website: <http://www.leeric.lsu.edu/lla/go-red/index2.html>

I cannot thank Joe McNeill of McNeese enough for chairing the Outstanding Academic Librarian Award Committee. Members were Bob Heriard of UNO, Jane Robinson of Southern University Baton Rouge, and Martha Henderson of Northwestern. The committee took their new charge to identify a recipient quite seriously.

Finally, I realized around Thanksgiving that one of my duties was to get a nominations committee named; and at that point, they would only have a week or two to meet the LLA deadlines for the ballots. I panicked, but Nancy Colyar once again was there to calm me down. I am extremely grateful to Dr. Anna Burns of LSU-Alexandria for chairing the Nominations Committee, and to Dr. Rebecca Stenzel, La. Tech, and Kay Adams, Southeastern, for serving on

it. I knew these people could get a list out very quickly. Nomination Committee members were concerned, though, that they would be tempted to just re-cycle old names and risk the loss of new blood in LLA. As it turned out, there was no need to worry. The candidates comprise a good mix of people, who will assure new ideas and perspectives as the Academic Section moves on.

I believe that my only remaining duty is to chair the membership meeting at the Conference. I look forward to seeing you then; I am grateful for the opportunity you gave me to serve you and our profession.

## **Conference News**

The following is a list of programs sponsored by the Academic Section at the LLA Conference in Alexandria, Louisiana, March 14-17, 2000. Wednesday, March 15, 10:00a.m. Cataloging Titles of Aggregator Databases (co-sponsor, Serials Interest Group) (Marsha Aucoin, Anne Stanton, Sara Zimmerman).

Presenters will talk about adding information to existing records and maintaining the file, creating original records, and the Consortium perspective and activity in extracting/loading files.

Wednesday, 11:00a.m. Red Rover, Red Rover, Send Some GIS Right Over! (John Anderson, Cindi Wolff).

Discussion of uses of GIS (Geographic Information Systems) data for anyone. There will also be a demonstration of the features and data available on the Louisiana GIS CD. This recent product is a Louisiana-specific geographic data resource developed as a multi-agency project involving the LSU Department of Geography & Anthropology and several state agencies.

Wednesday, 2:00p.m. DEED-Net (Rebecca Stenzel).

Discussion of DEED-Net, a Board of Regent's grant that provides internal document delivery services for distance education students and enhances interlibrary services for Louisiana's academic libraries.

Thursday, March 16, 9:00a.m. Space Planning and Moves (Mike DiCarlo, Rebecca DiCarlo).

Library moves occur for basically three reasons: a move to accommodate a reorganization of materials/departments, a move to accommodate addition of space to an existing facility, or a move to a totally new facility. In all three cases, the planning and execution of the move will be accomplished by the staff or outsourced to a professional mover. The amount of staff involvement is obvious if the move is planned and accomplished totally by the staff. However,

enlisting the services of a professional mover to plan and execute the move does not totally eliminate staff participation. The presentation will focus on staff involvement with regard to all types of moves and how to make the move "a time to remember".

Thursday, 10:00a.m. Disasters: Prevention and Response (Elaine Smyth).

Fire ravages the Los Angeles Public Library, flood waters inundate Stanford University Library, mold invades the Earl K. Long Library at the University of New Orleans. Disasters can and do strike libraries everywhere. In this presentation, Smyth will cover the essentials of disaster preparedness, response, and long-term recovery, with special emphasis on basic and easy steps that library staff can take to improve prevention of and response to disasters, even if they lack a full-fledged disaster response plan.

Thursday, 1:00p.m. Joint Academic Section/ACRL-LA Business Meeting.

Jules Tate will convene the meeting. The Award for Outstanding Academic Librarian will be presented.

Thursday, 2:00p.m. Status of Libraries in our Community Colleges.

President of Louisiana Community and Technical College System, Dr. Wayne Brown will discuss the status of libraries in the System.

Friday, March 17, 8:00a.m. Seven Habits of Highly Effective Support Staff (co-sponsor with LASSAL)

(ALA President Sarah Long). Becoming highly effective support staff requires self-knowledge and an awareness of the techniques which can lead to that goal. Sarah Long discusses how Steven Covey's seven habits can be a tool for support staff seeking a productive approach to the changes and challenges of the 21st century.

## **LIBRARY NEWS**

### **LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY EUNICE LeDoux Library**

The Library, in cooperation with the Continuing Education unit at LSUE, is sponsoring a series of six films made in Louisiana. The goals of the programs are to familiarize users with the extent of the library's collection, to analyze and critique films, and to bring the campus and townspeople together in educational and social experiences. The first film, *Down by Law*, was shown in January. The film was made in 1989 in New Orleans and the Atchafalaya Basin.

**LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY**  
**Prescott Memorial Library**

On January 11, Peggy Lou Schenk, reference, Rebecca Stenzel, director, and Michael DiCarlo, associate director, presented a faculty development program to the College of Applied and Natural Sciences. Incorporating the theme of the food pyramid into the presentation, faculty were shown how to use the daily recommended guidelines to guarantee a healthy and well-balanced research diet.

The "Pyramid of Information" laid a good foundation with generous portions of books, journals, and full-text databases followed by smaller portions of Government Documents and Web Reference Services. Distance Education and Services to Remote Users added flavor and fiber to these guidelines. The last research guideline to be explored was Internet resources which are to be added to the diet sparingly. Opportunities for personal exploration and question and answers concluded the session.

**MCNEESE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Frazar Library**

The Archives Department and the SWLA Historical Association are conducting Photo Fairs across the Calcasieu area. The first was held at the SWLA Historical and Genealogical Library in Lake Charles in October. Area citizens brought their old photographs to be copied and entered into an old photo contest. The copied photos are added to the Archives collections. Those photos winning in different categories were published in the local newspaper and their owners won cash prizes. Another photo fair was held in DeQuincy at the Railroad Museum January 22. The Archives and the Historical Association hope to work with other historical agencies and conduct fairs throughout the five parish area.

Kathie Bordelon, archivist, has been awarded the Calca Commendation Award for advocacy of historic preservation. Presented by the Calcasieu Preservation Society, the Calca award recognizes excellence in the field of preservation and supports the goals of preservation through advocacy, urban pioneering, restoration, suitable infill with appropriate new construction, business decisions that reduce urban sprawl, and personal commitment to historic preservation.

Kathie Bordelon and Patrick Webb attended the unveiling of the Boardwalk Historical Plaques along the lakefront in Lake Charles. Fifteen plaques describe topics important to the history of the area, including Jean LaFitte, steamers on the lake, Indian villages, early forts, the first bridge across the river, cemeteries, and historic districts. The Archives Department was cited along with the Calcasieu Preservation Society for helping to select the topics, researching and writing the scripts.

Stacey Magedanz has left to accept a position at California State University at San Bernardino. She served as reference librarian from 1996-1999.

On November 17, 1999, the McNeese student body approved a self-imposed assessment of \$39.00 per student, \$20.00 of which is designated for library use. Each student will pay this additional amount upon registration for the Spring, 2000 semester. The vote was a positive endorsement of the importance of library services on campus, and will enable the purchase of more books, journals, and equipment. The proposal passed with a majority of 68 percent. Other portions of the assessment will be used for a variety of university-wide improvements.

**NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Ellender Library**

The Library celebrated its Fourth Annual Cajun/Zydeco Music and Dance Exhibit with a theme of Mardi Gras held from January 24 to March 7, 2000. A program opening the exhibit was held on Wednesday, February 16, 2000.

**NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Watson Library**

Mary Linn Wernet, archivist, has been elected President of the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association. Catherine Jannik, assistant archivist, has been named Secretary of the group.

Mary Linn Wernet will present a paper, "A Fresh Look at Some Old Documents," at the interdisciplinary conference, Southwest: A Region in Transition, Texas Christian University, February 17-29. She also will chair a session, Claiming the Land: Early Settlers in Texas.

Ada Jarred and Mary Linn Wernet have had their paper, "Virtual Natchitoches vs. Actual Natchitoches," accepted for presentation at the Plantations of the Mind: Marketing Myths and Memories in the Heritage Tourism Industry Conference, University of Charleston, April 6-9.

Martha Henderson, catalog librarian, continues to chair the meetings of the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education.

**SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**  
**Cade Library**

Deidra Douglas was recently appointed reference librarian. She formerly worked at the Ascension Parish Library

Dawn Kight, head systems and technology, was recently appointed as visiting program officer for the Association of Research Libraries. She will serve for 6 months as a consultant to ARL on their "Initiative to Recruit a Diverse Workforce."