In keeping with the themes of “New Directions” and “Louisiana Libraries Embracing Change,” this school year has been a time of change for the Academic Section. Chairman Neil Guilbeau resigned his office last October upon moving to another state. An orderly transfer of power was effected by Guilbeau, previous section chairman Michael Matthews, and the novice vice-chair (yours truly). I’d like the Academic Section to have a larger presence and be even more useful as a network and resource; please offer suggestions and assistance to pbrown@lsue.edu. Many thanks to those already involved.

LLA ballots for next year’s officers were e-mailed last month. The good news is that several candidates are stepping up to the leadership plate this time. Ballots are due March 14, so if you’ve not yet voted, there may still be time. Jeremiah Paschke-Wood will represent the Academic Section on the Louisiana Libraries editorial board. A former journalist, he is now instructional services librarian at UL Lafayette.

It’s almost time for the annual conference, which misses Mardi Gras by only three weeks this year. But head for Lafayette anyway, to meet your colleagues, learn some new ideas and plans, do some business, and pass a good time. North Louisianians, you may still find some beads hanging from tree branches.

The conference program will again feature our newly popular combined Meet-and-Greet and Business Meeting, on Thursday afternoon in the Cajundome’s Vermilion Room. Ticket prices are still $7 (pay when you register) and will include a token for one drink from the cash bar. The poster session in the lobby is back by popular demand; we’re co-sponsoring it with the Public Section.

There’s a musical theme to the Convention Center sessions, which will be held in rooms called Jazz, Zydeco, Blues, and Gospel. What kind of music are you?

Our section’s concurrent sessions include 22 presentations, panels, and group discussions, mostly in these widely appealing categories:

- collaborations among various types of schools and libraries
- career management
- RDA, Sirsi/Dynix, and LOUIS
- military users, church libraries, and problem patrons
- disaster readiness
Elaine B. Smyth is the recipient of the Outstanding Academic Librarian Award presented by the LLA Academic Section. Elaine serves as Interim Dean of LSU Libraries and Kathleen and Joel Ory Endowed Professor. From July 2011 to February 2013, Elaine was Assistant Dean of LSU Libraries. She was Head of LSU Libraries Special Collections from November 2006 to June 2011. From July 1999 to October 2006, Elaine was Curator of LSU Libraries Special Collections. Elaine is current chair of the Louisiana Advisory Council for the State Documents Depository Program. She has written books and many articles on rare books and manuscripts.

The committee thinks she definitely fulfills the evaluation criteria for the Academic award, as she serves as a model for other librarians and potential librarians, has an impact on the profession of librarianship as a whole and within her specialty discipline, conducts research and shares it, and participates actively in professional activities. The committee finds Elaine B. Smyth deserving of the Outstanding Academic Librarian Award.
**Centenary College** submitted by Kristi Kohl

In an ongoing effort to maintain collaboration between colleges and public schools in northwest Louisiana, Magale librarians hosted the Caddo Parish public school media specialists for an all-day in-service on campus in September 2013. Magale Director Christy Wrenn and Reference Librarian Kristi Kohl welcomed the group and discussed the significance of the growing relationship between public and academic librarians in strengthening our students’ information seeking skills. In addition, Kristi encouraged all media specialists to invite her to speak to their college-bound students about the importance of academic integrity at the post-secondary level. Since the in-service, Kristi has visited 3 local high schools and spoken to over 250 college-bound students about proper research, copyright and fair use of intellectual property.

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**Louisiana State University** submitted by Michelle Donlin


Mitch Fontenot, Information Literacy/Outreach Librarian, published the following article in *College & Research Libraries News*.


The LSU Libraries has recently launched an email newsletter. Contact Sigrid Kelsey at skelsey@lsu.edu or visit www.lib.lsu.edu to subscribe.

The LSU Libraries have been awarded an NEH grant to host the documentary film-based program, “Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle.” Scheduled to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, this program is designed to encourage communities across the country to revisit the history of civil rights in the U.S. and to reflect on the ideals of freedom and equality that have helped bridge deep racial and cultural divides in American life. The Libraries will screen the films over the period of six weeks from January 20, 2014 to February 28, 2014. In conjunction with the screenings, the Libraries will host panel discussions on the issues raised by the films. Discussions will focus in part on Baton Rouge’s history during the civil rights struggle of the twentieth century. Related exhibitions and other events are also planned. In addition, LSU Libraries is coordinating its activities and collaborating with the East Baton Rouge Parish Library, Baton Rouge Community College, the West Baton Rouge Museum, Southern University, and Shiloh Baptist Church. For the film schedule and more details, visit: http://www.lib.lsu.edu/sp/subjects/createdequal.

EXHIBIT NEWS:

LSU Special Collections has two exhibits this Spring:

“La Langue Mondiale: French as the Language of Art & Thought,” November 4, 2013-March 8, 2014. This exhibit is a multi-faceted exhibition exploring French contributions to and influence on art, culture, and science over the centuries from Europe to Louisiana. Art history students under Professor of Art History Darius Speith curated materials in the first floor gallery, examining artistic life in nineteenth-century Paris from a literary perspective. The second floor gallery, curated by Head of Special Collections Jessica Lacher-Feldman and Assistant Curator of Books Michael Taylor features major scientific works, such as volumes of Diderot’s *Encyclopédie*, Buffon’s *Natural History*, and *Description de l’Égypte*, a record of the scientific expedition that accompanied Napoleon in Egypt.

“The Relentless Pursuit of ‘Equal’: Integrating LSU” is in the Hill Memorial Library Lecture Hall from January 21 to March 29, 2014. In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1964, this exhibition traces the evolution of LSU from an institution embracing an official policy of racial segregation to one actively promoting the concept that “cultural inclusion at LSU is paramount to the success of the university.” To read more about it, visit: http://exhibitions.blogs.lib.lsu.edu/?page_id=798#A10.
Kim Pullen, Head Liaison Librarian, and Julia Esparza, Clinical Medical Librarian, recently published an article “Tools for Practice: Information Resources for the Respiratory Therapy Student” in Respiratory Care Education Annual.

On Wednesday, October 23rd, a reception was held in the Health Sciences Library to honor the contributing artists of the second “Art from the Heart of LSU Health Shreveport” exhibition. Faculty, staff, and students from various departments and schools contributed their unique artwork, including paintings, photographs, drawings, jewelry, needlepoint, beadwork, decorative glass and bonsai trees. Many of the pieces were for sale. The show was on display in the Library until December 6th and was sponsored by the Medical Communications Department and the Health Sciences Library.

The Academy of Health Information Professionals is the professional development and career recognition program of the Medical Library Association (MLA). Six faculty members at the LSU Health Shreveport Library have Academy credentialing as recognition of their academic preparation, professional experience, and professional accomplishment. Three of these were evaluated by the MLA Credentialing Committee this year and approved for five-year renewal: Will Olmstadt, Associate Director, Distinguished Level; Julia Esparza, Clinical Medical Librarian, Distinguished Level; and Betty Tucker, Collection Management Librarian, Senior Level.

The current issue of Medical Reference Services Quarterly features an article on "The Librarian’s Role in Linking Patients to Their Personal Health Data and Contextual Information." This article was written by Talcia Tarver, Digital and Information Services Librarian, Dixie Jones, Library Director, and Mararia Adams, Assistant Director of Library Systems, with Alejandro Garcia from the LSU Health PELICAN Project. The article appears in the journal's "Informatics Education" column, which is co-edited by Kimberly Pullen, Head Liaison Librarian.

Dee Jones will retire from the Health Sciences Library on January 3. Dee has been Head of Cataloging since December 2003, and has also managed the institutional archives. Prior to her appointment at LSU, she worked as Special Collections Librarian at the University of Southern Mississippi for 29 years. While serving as a faculty member with the library, Dee oversaw such projects as the “LSU Health Sciences Center-Shreveport: A Chronological History” website, the “John C. McDonald, M.D.” website, and the “Art from the Heart” student/employee art show. She has been a recipient of the Elizabeth K. Eaton, PhD, Research Award, and has received the William D. Postell, Sr., Professional Development Award twice. She has presented numerous posters and contributed papers at regional and national conferences, including the poster that was awarded first place for best research poster at the 2013 Medical Library Association Annual Meeting.

Susan Richard, Associate Dean of University Libraries, and Betsy Miguez, Assistant Dean of Public Services, received funding for a Student Technology Enhancement Program grant entitled “Edith Garland Dupré Library: Promoting Interaction and Collaboration.” The grant will provide 3 large screen monitors and 3 mobile white boards to create student collaboration areas. The monitors will be mounted on the wall, and tables will be placed under them for group interaction.

Dupré Library celebrated the 75th anniversary of its Federal Depository Library during the Fall 2013 semester. Events included an open house, exhibits and a slideshow presentation. The anniversary was an opportunity to commemorate and acknowledge all who worked to ensure access to government publications and information throughout the years and to promote the depository library to the University and the community.

The Friends of Dupré Library Annual Book Sale, organized by Head of Collection Development Andrea Flockton, raised over $1900. The sale was held November 7-9, 2013.

The University Archives and Acadiana Manuscripts Collection recently received a valuable collection related to Queen Elizabeth II’s Royal Proclamation that acknowledged the wrongs committed against the Acadians. Lafayette attorney Warren Perrin donated papers and other materials that document his 15-year quest to obtain an official apology from England for the expulsion of Acadians from Nova Scotia in the 1700s. He made the donation in December 2013 on the 10th anniversary of the proclamation.

Certified therapy dogs and their handlers visited the Library during finals to help students de-stress. Promoted as a “fun and furry event,” the dogs’ visit drew a large crowd of students into the Library and created much positive publicity. The new Dupré Library Outreach and Events Committee planned this event. Take a look:

Academic Section Officers
2013-2014

Patricia Brown (Louisiana State University Eunice)
Chair
pbrown@lsue.edu

Melinda F. Matthews (University of Louisiana at Monroe)
Secretary
matthews@ulm.edu

Notes & Tracings
is on the web:
www.llaonline.org/fp/newsletters.php

See you at the Conference!

LLA Annual Conference
Cajundome Convention Center
Lafayette, Louisiana

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March 26-28, 2014