

Notes & Tracings

Newsletter of the Academic Section

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From the Chair by Patricia Brown

Forward into the Future

In Manning’s 2006 *The History of Higher Education in Louisiana*, there’s a chapter on college football but not one on libraries.

So you’ve read the reports, studied the studies, analyzed the articles, and shared your own stories about the popular ignorance of libraries. Even in the academic world, there are misconceptions about what libraries do -- and why. Our future depends on replacing this ignorance with knowledge and appreciation.

How?

At the LUC Past and Future poster session (October 16, 2014), there seemed to be almost as many answers as there were librarians. Suggestions ranged from literacy education to Library Jeopardy, from physical collections to open-source publishing. There was no consensus; should the library be “the center of all learning” or “the place to begin research”? Should it serve the common good or adopt a “concierge” model?

The liveliness of the LUC discussions show that librarians are sometimes eager, sometimes anxious, for their future. From ACRL to OCLC; from Second Life to mashable API; from the Pacific Islands Association of Libraries, Archives, and Museums to the South by Southwest tech fair in Austin, Texas: people are wondering what our future might look like. Below are a few choices.

Options for the Future of the Library

I. Elimination.

This option is not as incredible as it may seem. Remember last year’s BESE attempt to remove the requirement for school librarians from state Bulletin 741? On the other hand, Verlene J. Herrington (2013), Chief Librarian and Director of Academic Technology at Guttman Community College, would keep the librarians, but:

“Could you do your job without a library?”

Without hesitation, the answer was “Yes.”

Though it’s hard to imagine how a chief librarian would work without a library (however defined), budget committees seem to be taking Herrington’s comment literally. University budgets have been sliced and the LOUIS consortium underfunded. In order to continue their good work, academic libraries in our state are exploring different futures.

II. Valorizing Electronics.

While UL-Lafayette moves its books upstairs to make way for a learning commons on the first floor, UL-Monroe has decided to convert almost all of its collections from paper to digits. Library dean Donald R. Smith cited S. R. Ranganathan’s laws of library service in explaining the controversial decision. According to Dean Smith,

the intention is that existing spaces for study and new spaces be equipped with the latest technology to promote active learning with spaces for group work and classroom and seminar presentations. To allow for these new spaces, much of the existing print collection will be deselected. NOTE[e-mail communication]

While UL retains its librarianship, S. Houghton-Jan et al. argue that future-thinking libraries should

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“Even in the academic world, there are misconceptions about what libraries do -- and why. Our future depends on replacing this ignorance with knowledge and appreciation.”

Patricia Brown
Chair

Academic Section news

Outstanding Academic Librarian Award - nominations needed!

The Academic Section of the Louisiana Library Association annually presents the Outstanding Academic Librarian Award to publicly recognize an individual who has made an especially significant contribution to further the development of academic libraries/librarians/ librarianship within Louisiana.

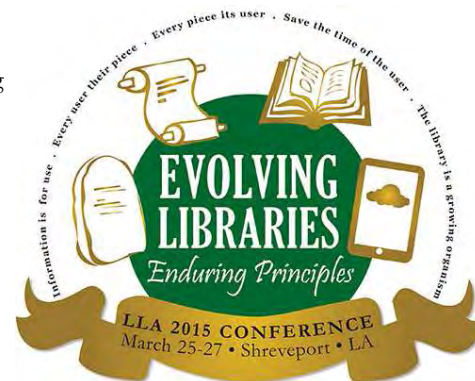
Evaluation Criteria are:

1. Participates actively in professional activities which enrich the ability of academic librarians to enhance library usage.
2. Conducts research which enriches the ability of library users to more fully utilize current information resources and technology and shares this research with other Louisiana academic librarians. This can be demonstrated either through publication or through public presentations.
3. Serves as a model for other librarians or potential librarians who can help further the impact of Louisiana academic libraries on the education and/or livelihood of Louisiana's students and residents.

Award guidelines are posted at the LLA webpage: <http://www.llaonline.org/fp/files/forms/oal.pdf>

1. Each nominee shall have ONE letter of nomination from the nominator. Also, the nominator shall solicit the nominee's most recent curriculum vitae.
2. The nominator shall also solicit up to TWO additional letters of nomination (for a total of THREE letters) from librarians who are familiar with the nominee's work. The librarians need not be from the same institution as the nominee. All nomination letters should attest to the qualities and/or works of the nominee, and make a convincing argument for his/her nomination.
3. By making a nomination, the nominator accepts the following responsibilities:
 - a. To solicit the nominee's most recent CV, either from the nominee or his/her supervisor
 - b. To write ONE letter of nomination for the nominee
 - c. To solicit an additional TWO letters of nomination from librarians familiar with the nominee's work for a total of THREE letters.
 - d. To assemble all of these materials into a PDF or Word document and submit this document to the chair of the committee no later than Monday, December 1, 2014 (deadline).

Nomination letters, CVs, and questions should be directed to Melinda Matthews, Chair of the Outstanding Academic Librarian Award Committee at matthews@ulm.edu, 318.342.1067 (office), 318.342.1075 (fax).



Library news

Centenary College *submitted by Kristi Kohl*

Jeanette Curtis is the new Public Access Librarian. Jeanette will act as Magale's weekend and evening librarian. She comes to the Library with extensive experience in public library and academic library settings. She previously held positions in Indiana, Ohio and Texas offering reference and information literacy instruction, managing book collections and processing acquisitions. Due to her familiarity with Magale Library and experience in research and customer service, Jeanette will adjust to her new role quickly and easily.

Jeanette earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Beloit College and her Master's Degree in Library Science from Indiana University. She is currently taking classes in cyber information technology at Bossier Parish Community College and has acquired certifications in CompTIA A+, Network+ and Certipoint IC3.



Image submitted by Magale Library

Library news

Louisiana State University *submitted by Lois Kuyper-Rushing*

Stanley Wilder is the new Dean of LSU Libraries. Wilder previously served as University Librarian at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, and at the University of Rochester as Associate Dean of Information Management Services, following 10 years at LSU. "We are pleased to have Stanley Wilder join LSU's leadership team as Dean of LSU Libraries," said LSU President & Chancellor F. King Alexander. "Wilder understands the role that research libraries play in our fast-paced world, and we look forward to the vision he brings to our libraries." Wilder is an active researcher and speaker. In 1994, he served as a Visiting Program Officer for the Association of Research Libraries, and has been publishing his research on ARL demographic issues ever since. He has also published many papers relating to collections and library technologies, this in addition to his controversial critique of the literature of information literacy, published in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* in 2005. Wilder was recently elected as incoming president of ASERL.

Cristina Caminita, Agriculture and Instruction Librarian, was appointed chair of the LLA Membership Committee. Cristina presented twice at the United States Agricultural Information Network's May 2014 conference in Burlington, VT: a panel presentation titled "Community and Collaboration: Embedding the Agriculture Librarian in a First-Year Residential College" and a poster session, "Info U: Creating and Delivering a Transliteracy Workshop for a 4-H University Summer Program." Cristina recently published the chapter "E-Books and Patron-Driven Acquisitions in Academic Libraries" in the ALA Editions title *Customer-Based Collection Development: An Overview*.

Alice L. Daugherty was elected chair of the ACRL Distance Learning Section (DLS) for 2014-2015. She provides leadership and guidance over the DLS Executive Board, DLS committees, and the DLS membership. For more information about the Distance Learning Section look at the DLS website: <http://distancelearningsection.wordpress.com/about/>. Daugherty was invited by the ACRL President and Past-President to serve on the ACRL Task Force on Standards for Proficiencies for Assessment Librarians and Coordinators, and she was invited to serve as chair of the LALINC Statistics Task Force. Daugherty was recently appointed to the editorial advisory board for the Emerald Group Publishing series *Advances in Library Administration and Organization*.

Lois Kuyper-Rushing was named Associate Dean of Public Services at the LSU Libraries. Previously she served as Head of Music Resources and Interim Assistant Dean.

Jessica Lacher-Feldman, Head of Special Collections, was selected to participate in this year's Harvard Graduate School of Education's Leadership Institute for Academic Librarians, at Harvard University, July 27-August 1, 2014.

Tasha McClain joined LSU Libraries as the new Government Documents/Microforms and Circulation Supervisor Librarian in the Government Documents department. Originally from Alexandria, Louisiana, Tasha earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology from Northwestern State University of Louisiana before moving on to the University of North Texas to earn a Master's of Library Science, as well as a graduate academic certificate in digital content management. Previously, Tasha worked as a reference and instruction librarian at Prairie View A&M University in Prairie View, Texas.

Marty Miller was elected Vice-Chairperson of ACRL-LA.

LSU hosted the Southeast Music Library Association (SEMLA) conference, October 2-4. This was preceded by a day-long preconference entitled "Music in Libraries" which attracted participants from Louisiana as well as other states in the southeastern region.

EXHIBITS

"Cooperative Extension at LSU: Commemorating the Centennial of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914" is on exhibit from September 22, 2014 to January 24, 2015, in the Upper and Lower Main Galleries, Hill Memorial Library. The cooperative exhibition presented by LSU Libraries, LSU College of Agriculture and LSU AgCenter examines the full scope of Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service activities in Louisiana over the last 100 years, this exhibition includes photographs, oral histories, published materials, manuscript and archival records, rare books, and ephemera from every major collection including: University Archives, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History, Rare Books, and the E. A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection. Selected items highlight the diverse experiences of Louisianans over the past century in rural and urban regions, from a variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds, across age, gender and socio-economic groups, and cover topics from corn and home demonstration clubs to wetlands research and disaster response.

"The Greater University: LSU Agricultural & Mechanical College" is on exhibit from September 2 to December 20, 2014 in the Lecture Hall, Hill Memorial Library. "The Greater University" features historical documents and photographs that tell the story of LSU's expansion and move to the present campus from downtown Baton Rouge in 1926. Materials are drawn from the University Archives, housed in LSU Libraries Special Collections.



Images from University Archives, LSU Libraries Special Collections

Library news

Louisiana State University Eunice submitted by Patricia Brown

Louisiana's Poet Laureate, **Ava Leavell Haymon**, visited Eunice on September 25-26. She came to teach classes, read at the library and the downtown coffee shop, and generally make poetry visible, audible, and enjoyable. **Darrell Bourque**, a former laureate, followed on October 22. His visit focused on The Amede Ardoin Project and featured music and readings from Bourque's new chapbook, *If you abandon me, comment je vas faire: The Amede Ardoin Songbook*.

To emphasize the library's emphasis on collaborative instruction, an information literacy plan was written, published and distributed to faculty and administration at the beginning of the fall semester.



Darrell Bourque and Ava Leavell Haymon

Louisiana State University Health Shreveport submitted by William J. Olmstadt

The Library is saddened to report that **Kimberly Pullen**, Head of the Library Liaison Program, passed away on Thursday, September 25, 2014, after a valiant battle with breast cancer. Ms. Pullen was instrumental in developing the liaison program, in addition to teaching many classes. She was passionate about creatively promoting the library to the public and the medical school. Prior to coming to LSU Health Shreveport, she was Reference, Instruction and Assistant Systems Librarian at Bossier Parish Community College Library, and a branch manager at Shreve Memorial Library. She earned a BS in home economics at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, and an MLS at LSU. She was a past member of the LLA Academic Section, Automation and Technology Interest Group, Reference Interest Group, and served on the LaSSAL Board of Directors. Throughout October, the Library at LSU Health Shreveport hosted a food donation drive in her memory, to benefit Food Bank of Northwest Louisiana.

McNeese State University submitted by Pati Threatt

Frazar Memorial Library's more than \$6.5 million renovation began on August 4, 2014. Some of the things included in the renovation are: new paint job, floors, ceilings, air conditioning and heating system, lighting, a new entrance, windows, and more technology. When completed the building will look like a completely new library. The project is expected to be completed in Spring 2016.

Jerome Marcantel, Information Resources Librarian, earned tenure in the discipline of Library and Information Science.

Debbie Johnson-Houston, Library Director, was promoted to Associate Professor of Library and Information Science.

The following members of Frazar Memorial Library have been recognized for professional accomplishments, and University President Service Pin Awards were presented to them on September 11, 2014:

Mary Jane Bloomquist, Head of Circulation/Assistant Professor, for 15 years of service.

Leola (Jeannie) Brock, Library Specialist 3 Government Information, for 25 years of Service.

Lyn Comeaux, Library Specialist 3 Acquisitions, for 25 years of service.

Patsy R. Picard, Administrative Coordinator 4 Library Director's Office, for 15 years of Service.

Library news

University of Louisiana at Lafayette submitted by Jean Kiesel

Betsy Miguez, Assistant Dean of Public Services, retired on October 18, 2014. Betsy worked in public, school and academic libraries in the state for more than thirty years. She served as LLA Secretary (2005-06) and 2nd Vice-President (2012-13), and she chaired the Academic Section (2008-09). Betsy participated on numerous LLA committees and was a frequent conference speaker.

Librarians from the Edith Garland Dupré Library presented several programs at the LOUIS Users Conference in October. **Emily N. Deal**, Distance Learning and Virtual services Librarian, and **Jeremiah Paschke-Wood**, Instructional Services Librarian, presented "Creating an Online Orientation to the Academic Library" on Thursday the 16th. On the same day, **Allison Gallaspy**, Head of the Cataloging Department, Deal and Paschke-Wood presented "Bringing User Experience into Focus", on using a student focus group to assess undergraduate student perceptions of the library and its services and resources. On Friday Oct. 17, **Andrea Flockton**, Head of Collection Development, and **Cara Chance**, Head of Reference and Research Services, presented "The Personal Librarian: Providing Individualized Services for Students".



Betsy Miguez

Sarah Philipson recently joined the faculty of the Edith Garland Dupré Library as Instructor of Library Science/Head of Electronic Resources and Serials. Sarah earned an MLIS from the University of Arizona school of Information Science and Library Science in 2013, and a BA in English and Art from Hunter College of the City University of New York in 2010. Previously she worked as Project Coordinator in the Archives of Harry Winston Inc. of New York and worked in the publishing industry.



Sarah Philipson

Jane F. Vidrine, Archives Specialist, and **Jean S. Kiesel**, Louisiana Room Librarian, collaborated on *Evangeline Parish*, (Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 2014). Part of the publisher's Images of America series, the book features historic photographs of people, places and events important to the parish's past.

Sheryl M. Curry, Head of Information Technology and Web Services, and **Cara Chance** were awarded an instructional improvement grant from UL Lafayette, "Acquisition of the Screenleap Collaborative Sharing Grant". The software will enhance reference service with remote users.

University of New Orleans submitted by Norma Mukherjee

Sonnet Ireland was promoted to Associate Professor and given tenure at the August University of Louisiana System Board Meeting. Ms. Ireland has worked at the Library since January 2009 and has acquired many responsibilities during her first five years. She started as the Federal Documents Librarian with subject responsibility for political science and urban studies and is currently the Federal and State Documents Librarian, subject Liaison to the College of Business, Microforms and Analog Media Librarian, and Reference Librarian.

In commemoration of the seventieth anniversary of D-Day (June 6, 1944) and the centennial of the start of World War I (July 28, 1914), the Earl K. Long Library exhibited materials pertaining to both conflicts.

"D-Day + 70" drew mainly from four collections: the Norman King Harrison Collection of World War II Photographs, the Ambrose/*Pegasus Bridge* Collection (the manuscript of one of Stephen Ambrose's early books), Higgins Industries (emphasis on landing craft and the ramp that won the war), and the Francis C. Grevemberg Collection (in observance of the 100th birthday on June 4 of this distinguished soldier from New Orleans).

"The First World War in New Orleans" illustrated ways in which New Orleanians contributed to the war effort. Materials came from the World War I Miscellany Collection, the Frank B. Moore Collection, the Photographs Collection, the Archives of the Orleans Parish School Board, the Sheet Music Collection, and the Rare Books Collection.



This photograph from the Moore Collection, printed from a glass negative, shows newly enlisted New Orleans soldiers.

Louisiana Library Association

Academic Section Officers

2014-2015

8550 United Plaza Boulevard
Suite 1001
Baton Rouge, LA 70809



877.550.7890 (toll free)
225.922.4642 (voice)
225.408.4422 (fax)
office@llaonline.org

Patricia Brown, LSUE.....Chair
pbrown@lsue.edu

Sonnet Ireland, UNO.....Vice-Chair
sebrown3@uno.edu

Melinda F. Matthews, ULM.....Secretary
matthews@ulm.edu

Notes & Tracings

is on the web:

www.llaonline.org/fp/newsletters.php

Susan Marshall Richard, UL Lafayette

Editor

smr@louisiana.edu

From the Chair

(Continued from page 1)

use social and open-source media to “liberat[e] data from its container” (376-77). While this might be convenient for web architects, it may also obliterate the original condition of the material. As webbed data gains its “freedom,” it loses context, authority, even meaning. One might as well just google...

The iconoclastic former ALA president Michael Gorman asserted that “the position and future of libraries in universities and university systems has always been about money and power” (“Treason of the Learned” [1994] 130).

III. Embracing the Business Model.

Although more than seventy years have passed since Walter Benjamin and Theodor Adorno warned about the coming rule of the corporation, library leaders are accepting it more often, even as they champion the values of information literacy and access. Brian Mathews (2014), for example, adopts ideas from “practitioners of strategic foresight”; Barbara Stripling (2013), from *Forbes* magazine; Michael Harris and Stan Hannah (1996), from the *Harvard Business Review*; Lizabeth Wilson (2012), from her university’s “sustainable academic business plan.” The economic metaphor has taken over professional discourse, but more in the spirit of the Koch brothers than of Andrew Carnegie.

Where is the influence of Paulo Freire, George Soros, Neil Postman, J.-F. Lyotard? Instead, Michael Levine-Clark hopes that libraries “will be as efficient and information-rich as Amazon, iTunes, or Google. But the library will also offer services...” (436). So far, however, the corporate-profit model is serving education about as well as the university-hospital privatization plan is helping patients.

Will the future change that as well? Or will we continue, in the words of LSU Eunice Library Director Gerald Patout, as “a place to study, to collaborate, to learn” and to teach?

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