



Notes & Tracings

Newsletter of the Academic Section

From the Chair by Patricia Brown

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The March LLA Conference in Shreveport was another success for our Association. The Academic Section sponsored or co-sponsored 24 programs, and 40 or so people attended the *Meet-and-Greet* business session. The Section is also moving toward closer collaboration with ACRL-LA, and both groups voted to combine the two outstanding academic librarianship awards. (More on this later.)

During my term as section chair, I have focused on the future of academic libraries and library users. Given the financial and technological pressures on higher education, the library of the future could become like Edward Tufte’s description of Microsoft:

big bureaucracy engaged in *computer programming* (deep hierarchical structures, relentlessly sequential, nested, one-short-line-at-a-time) and in *marketing* (advocacy not analysis, more style than substance, misdirection, slogan thinking, fast pace, branding exaggerated claims, marketplace ethics) (Tufte 7).

Suggestions from the audience at LLA’s “FutureTalk” last March focused on digital information-access computers “w/paper backup in storage.” The question of digital or print is not yet closed, as varied options will be conceptualized, debated, and implemented. The other major issue is “content” vs “service”; we can’t beat Google at its game, but we can be the best at our own mission to collect, evaluate, organize, and provide access to information and knowledge.

“Be happy!” was my simple favorite suggestion for the future. The most unusual proposal was to invite celebrities to form and fund a national library committee with “the great minds of librarianship (the innovators, progressives, strategic minds)” to come up with a plan to revolutionize the way we think about libraries. Al Gore, Bill Gates, Oprah Winfrey, Bill Nye, Neil DeGrasse Tyson, Warren Buffett, and Steven Spielberg were mentioned as “well-known and rich and smart.” According to media scholar Siya Vaidhyanathan, libraries lost a major opportunity to direct the future when Google.com took off in 2008:

“...we could have launched something like a “Human Knowledge Project”... is it not important enough to promote, debate, and fund publicly? [if not], let’s drop the whole idea and allow a fractured, privatized system, with all its inherent inequalities of access, to prevail (Vaidhyanathan 203-04).

Finally: If you value LLA and the Academic Section, talk it up to your colleagues. Our Association and its Annual Conference can be a thriving, useful vehicle for advancing librarianship and higher education in the state, but not without participation by academic librarians and collaboration with others.

“We cannot begin with the very thing we are trying to end with. We must tease out the answer, allowing the mind to go through its natural, and logical, procedure” (House 28). Keep thinking; from your values and your experiences during these troublous times, keep thinking.

(Continued on page 2)

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Patricia Brown
Chair

Academic Section news

Academic Section Business Meeting submitted by Melinda Matthews, Secretary

LLA Academic Section Meet and Greet
Minutes
Thursday, March 26, 2015

The LLA Academic Section/ACRL-LA Meet & Greet was held from 4-5:45 pm on March 26, 2015 at the 2015 LLA Conference in Shreveport, Louisiana at the Shreveport Convention Center. Chair Patricia Brown called Meet and Greet to order at 4:05 pm. Patricia said there will be thirty minutes of Meet and Greet, then she will call a business meeting for about five to ten minutes, and then go back to Meet and Greet. Patricia called the meeting to order at 4:50 pm. Paul Kelsey was introduced as the President of ACRL-LA. Celise Reech-Harper was introduced as the editor of *Louisiana Libraries*. Susan Richard was introduced as the editor of *Notes and Tracings*. Melinda Matthews was introduced as the current secretary. Melinda asked to be assigned again as the Chair of the LLA Outstanding Academic Librarian Committee. Patricia Brown noted the cash bar is not in Room 201. It is down the hall. The cash bar is not limited to wine and beer. Patricia said enjoy the tacos.

President Robert Bremer thanked not just the vendors but presenters for their excellent presentations. Sonnet Ireland, University of New Orleans librarian, was introduced as the new LLA Academic section chair. Sarah Simms, Nicholls, is the new Academic Section Secretary. The meeting ended at 5:03 pm.

Officers Elected

2015-2016 Academic Section Officers

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Sonnet Ireland, UNO - Chair  
Patricia Brown, LSUE - Vice-Chair  
Sarah Simms, Nicholls - Secretary

### *From the Chair, cont...*

(Continued from page 1)

P.S. The next column will be from the 2015-16 Chair you elected, Sonnet Brown Ireland of UNO.

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#### Works Cited

House, Jeff. "The First Shall Be Last: Writing the Essay Backwards." *English Journal* 82.6(1993):26-8. <http://www.ncte.org/library/NCTEFiles/Resources/Journals/EJ/1993/0826-oct1993/EJ0826First.pdf>

Tufte, Edward R. *The Cognitive Style of PowerPoint*. 2nd ed. Cheshire, CT: Graphics Press, 2006.

Vaidhyathan, Siya. *The Googlization of Everything*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2011.

## Library news

### *Louisiana State University* submitted by Lois Kuyper-Rushing

**David Dunaway** was hired as Science Librarian in March, 2015. Dunaway served as Patent & Trademarks Librarian at the LSU Libraries since 2012.

**Andrea Hebert** was hired as the Education and Distance Learning Librarian in Research & Instruction Services in March, 2015. Since 2013, Hebert has served as Reference Librarian and Student Worker Supervisor at the LSU Libraries.

**Linda Smith Griffin**, Head of Cataloging, was appointed to the ALA/Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS), Leadership Development Committee, 2015-2017.

**Michael Taylor**, Curator of Books, and **Jennifer Mitchell**, Head of Manuscripts Processing, published a chapter, "Google in Special Collections and Archives," in Carol Smallwood, ed., *The Complete Guide to Using Google in Libraries*, vol. 2 (Rowman & Littlefield, 2015).

#### Digital Project Offers Access to the History of Free People of Color in Louisiana

Researchers interested in exploring multiple aspects of the history of free people of color in Louisiana can now do so in a recently-completed, free online resource available at <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/fpoc/>. "Free People of Color in Louisiana: Revealing an Unknown Past," is a collaborative digital project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities that brings together and provides access to over 30,000 pages of family and personal papers, business records, and public documents from the LSU Libraries' Special Collections, the Louisiana State Museum Historical Center, the Historic New Orleans Collection, Tulane University's Louisiana Research Collection, and New Orleans Public Library. LSU Libraries received the \$194,152 two-year grant in 2013; it concluded at the end of April 2015. For additional information about the project contact **Tara Laver** at [tlaver@lsu.edu](mailto:tlaver@lsu.edu).

### *Louisiana State University Eunice* submitted by Patricia Brown

**Patricia Brown** contributed "Studying Sources: Truth, Method, and Teaching Bibliography" as chapter 7 in *Not Just Where to Click: Teaching Students How to Think About Information* (Heather Jagman and Troy Swanson, eds. ACRL, 2015). The book is a theoretical, pedagogical, and epistemological cutting-edge anthology for information literacy instruction in academia.

On April 10, Warren and Mary Broussard Perrin talked about the history of the Acadian "diaspora," the subject of their new book *Acadie Then and Now: A People's History*.

The outdoor event *Refreshments: Spring Poetry* marked its third annual celebration on a beautiful April afternoon.



Photo credit: Dr. Billy Fontenot

### *Nicholls State University* submitted by Van Viator

**Hayley Johnson** and **Sarah Simms** presented at program at the LLA Conference in Shreveport, "Change Gonna Come?: *Changing America* at Nicholls State University." Hayley and Sarah presented a poster session at LLA, "Stop, Collaborate, and Listen: Collaborating to Create Sustainable Partnerships Focused on Student Learning Outcomes." Hayley and Sarah also presented a poster session at the Alabama Library Association/SELA joint conference titled, "You Got It (The Right Stuff), Now What? A Critical Examination of Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration in the Classroom."

**Sarah Simms** participated in a panel discussion at LLA, "The Tenure Process in Academic Libraries: What Does It All Mean?"

## Library news

### *University of Louisiana at Lafayette* submitted by Jean Kiesel

**Sheryl Curry**, Associate Professor and Interim Assistant Dean for Technical Services, received the Lucy B. Foote Award, given by the Subject Specialists Section of LLA, at the LLA Conference in Shreveport, March 25. Curry was honored for her years as Review Column Editor of *Louisiana Libraries*, and for her initiatives in providing access to environmental information.

**Jeremiah Paschke-Wood**, Assistant Professor and Head of Instructional Services, chaired a panel discussion on “The Tenure Process in Academic Libraries: What Does It Mean?” at the Louisiana Library Association 2015 Conference in Shreveport, March 26. The program covered what being on the tenure track means, ideas for handling the workload, and suggestions on how to prepare for the process. Jeremiah is the new chair of the LALINC Information Literacy Interest Group.

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### *University of New Orleans* submitted by Norma Mukherjee

**Sonnet Ireland**, Head of Government Information, Microfilms, and Analog Media, presented at LLA, “The Google Driver’s Manual.” She also presented two programs at SELA/ALLA, “Googling for Answers” and “The Google Driver’s Manual.” Sonnet published a chapter, “Google Drive for Library Users,” in Carol Smallwood, ed., *The Complete Guide to Using Google in Libraries*, vol. 2 (Rowman & Littlefield, 2015).

**Florence Jumonville**, Chair of the Louisiana and Special Collections Department, has retired after 18 years and nearly 43 years as a member of the library profession.



**Connie Phelps**, Chair of the Services Department, has been selected as the 2015 winner of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Women and Gender Studies Section (WGSS) Career Achievement Award. The award honors significant longstanding contributions to women’s studies in the field of librarianship over the course of a career. Connie will be presented with the award and a plaque at the WGSS program in June during the American Library Association Annual Conference in San Francisco.

**Jennifer Jackson**, Learning Commons & Instruction Librarian, presented several conference sessions. The first two sessions were presented at LLA. “If You Build It Will They Come?” was presented in collaboration with Brian McDonald, Library Associate in Research & Technology Support, and discussed the issues and challenges that can arise when designing a library instruction classroom. The second session, “Stand & Deliver,” identified tips and tricks for designing handouts. Her last session was presented at the SELA/ALLA conference. “Engaging First-Year Students While Promoting Information Literacy” highlighted the approaches she used in developing library instruction sessions for first year students. To view these presentations please visit her website at [www.infoandlit.com](http://www.infoandlit.com).

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## *Academic Section Officers*

*2014-2015*

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### Notes & Tracings

is on the web:

[www.llaonline.org/fp/newsletters.php](http://www.llaonline.org/fp/newsletters.php)

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Save the Date!!  
Mark Your Calendars!!

2016 LLA Annual Conference

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February 24 - 26, 2016

Baton Rouge, LA