I am happy to report that LLA held a fantastic conference in Alexandria this past March filled with positive comments from the surveys and verbal feedback. It was a grand opportunity to meet with colleagues from throughout the state and a chance to make new friends as we came together to celebrate Louisiana librarianship.

There were many activities for the Academic Section held throughout this past year. Our partner organization, ACRL-Louisiana Chapter invited our section to a free webinar viewing in the Fall for professional development on fighting fake news. I’d like to thank Marty Miller, this year’s ACRL-LA chapter president for extending this invitation to the Academic Section. This event was held in three locations at LSU, ULM, and McNeese with high attendance.

For this year’s LLA conference, the Academic Section sponsored and co-sponsored a combined number of nine sessions with 22 members from the section presenting. We also co-sponsored a pre-conference event, “Grants and Proposal Writing,” with the Subject Specialists Section. I would like to thank Will Olmstadt, Subject Specialist Chair, for arranging two phenomenal presenters from the National Library of Medicine, Debbie Montenegro and Bethany Livingston. The session had a large turn-out of 14 participants and the feedback was extremely positive.

We also held a luncheon during the conference with the combined efforts of the Subject Specialists Section, ACRL-LA, and the Preservation Interest Group to provide librarians an intimate setting to share stories and to get to know each other better. My deepest gratitude goes out to LOUIS for sponsoring this event. The decorations were beautiful and brought to you by Megan Lowe, ULM. I am so thankful for her assistance in the set-up. It was my hope that librarians from different sections were able to network with each other and create new partnerships in the believe that with collaboration, anything is possible. I received so many positive comments from members, especially on our guest speaker, Teri Galloway, Associate Commissioner of LOUIS. We had a total of 32 participants.

I am happy to announce that two members from our section received awards at the conference. Congratulations to Marty Miller and Andrea Hebert from LSU for receiving Article of the Year in Louisiana Libraries. This would be a good time to encourage everyone to submit articles to the journal and to give you an inspirational idea that presentations made at conferences would make great articles for the journal.

Praises also go to our section’s newsletter editor, Susan Richard from ULL. Notes & Tracings provides the section with information and updates on academic libraries and librarians in the state.

In other good news, I would also like to offer my congratulations to Megan Lowe from ULM on her election as LLA 2nd Vice-President for the upcoming year. I would also like to congratulate our new section officers for the upcoming year:

- **Chair**: Jennifer Hamilton, ULL
- **Vice Chair/Chair Elect**: Heather Plaisance, ULL
- **Secretary**: Sarah Dautreive, Fletcher Community College

I know the Academic Section will be in good hands with the best and brightest academic librarian leaders and they will do a fantastic job. Be looking for the section to shine bright with some incredible accomplishments coming your way.

It has truly been a pleasure serving the section and LLA as the Academic Chair, and I humbly give my gratitude to my colleagues for giving me this wonderful growing opportunity.

“Gratitude and Growth”  

*Ellen Jenkins*  
*Chair*
Academic Section Business Meeting submitted by Heather Plaisance, Secretary

LLA Academic Section/ACRL-LA Business Meeting
Minutes
Thursday, March 9, 2018

Meeting called to order at 1:03 p.m. by LLA Academic Section Chair, Ellen Jenkins. Susan Richard moved to approve the minutes from the 2017 business meeting. Marty Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

I. Chair Report
Jenkins thanked Teri Oaks Galloway, Associate Commissioner of LOUIS for speaking at the Academic/ACRL-LA/Subject Specialist/Preservation Interest Group Luncheon.

II. Reports
Louisiana Libraries Editorial Board Representative - Sarah Simms
Jenkins reported on behalf of Sarah Simms. Encouraged submissions for publication to Louisiana Libraries, and conference presenters should consider turning their presentation topics into articles.
- Membership - Stephanie Orr
  ABSENT
- Notes & Tracings Editor - Susan Richard
  The Notes & Tracings newsletter, published three times a year, is an excellent way to reach out to the academic section membership, and everyone is encouraged to submit news from their library. Notes & Tracings is available on the LLA website under the Publications tab.
- Tellers Committee - Caitlin Cooper
  ABSENT

III. Award Committees
- Outstanding Academic Librarianship Award - Sarah Dauterive, Chair
  The committee did not receive submissions for the award.
- Thorpe Grassroots Grant Award - Heather Plaisance, Chair
  The committee did not receive submissions for the award.
- Attendees discussed ways to increase submissions for section awards. Jenkins reported that the number of LLA awards given out this year was low and that LLA President, Patricia Brown, would address this issue at the LLA Business Meeting.

IV. Vice-Chair’s Program - Jennifer Hamilton
Everyone is encouraged to consider serving as a section officer or help recruit members to do so.

V. Newly Elected Officers for 2018-2019
Chair: Jennifer Hamilton, UL Lafayette
Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Heather Plaisance, UL Lafayette
Secretary: Sarah Dauterive, Fletcher Technical Community College

VI. ACRL-LA Business Meeting - Marty Miller, President
The webinar “Fighting Fake News” was a success. The webinar was hosted at LSU, UL Monroe and McNeese. ACRL-LA will pursue other webinars to offer at different locations.

Everyone is encouraged to submit content to Codex. The journal uses a Creative Commons license where authors keep their copyright, but must acknowledge Codex as first publication should an article be published elsewhere.

ACRL-LA needs a Vice President and a Secretary for the upcoming year. Brittany O’Neill, LSU, will serve as President.

VII. Announcements
Jenkins congratulated Mary Miller and Andrea Hebert on winning the LLA Article of the Year Award.

Meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m.
Library news

Louisiana State University submitted by Sigrid Kelsey

Cristina Caminita has been elected Secretary of the United States Agricultural Information Network (USAIN) for a two year term. Gina Costello was named Associate Dean for Technology and Special Collections. Prior to this appointment, Costello was serving as the Associate Dean of Technology Initiatives and as the Interim Associate Dean of Special Collections. Amanda Hawk is the new Special Collections Head of Public & Research Services. Prior to accepting her new position, Hawk worked as a Special Collections Archivist and Athletics Archivist at the University of Maryland at College Park. She began her career as a Public Services Assistant at Princeton’s Mudd Manuscript Library. Andrea Hebert and Marty Miller are recipients of the 2018 Louisiana Library Association "Article of the Year" award, for their article titled "Using FSA-OWI Photographs to Teach Information and Visual Literacy," which was published in Volume 79, Issue 3 (Winter 2017) of Louisiana Libraries. Andrea Hebert has been elected incoming Secretary/Archivist of the Distance Learning Section (DLS) of the American Library Association (ALA).

Matthew Jordan has joined LSU Libraries as Technical Services Cataloging Associate in Special Collections.

Hayley Johnson’s article, “#NoDAPL: Social Media, Empowerment, and Civic Participation at Standing Rock,” was published in the Fall 2017 issue of Library Trends. https://digitalcommons.lsu.edu/libraries_pubs/28/

Cara Key and Mike Waugh presented "Creating Reproducible Metadata Pipeline Using Technology Best Practices" at the 2018 Digital Initiative Symposium at the University of San Diego on April 24, 2018.

Cara Key was appointed to the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) Planning Committee.

Marty Miller was awarded a grant from The Metropolitan Center for Eastern Art Studies' Library Grant Program to purchase books about Asian art for the Libraries.

Brittany O’Neill was elected Vice-President & President Elect of ACRL/LA for 2017-18. On March 29th, Jo Ann Palermo delivered a guest lecture on MARC for LSU LIS 3004, Introduction to Technical Services.

Sigrid Kelsey was appointed to the ACRL Impactful Scholarship and Metrics Task Force; the ALA American Libraries Advisory Committee; and the ALA Publishing Committee.

Aaron Lercher is chair of the membership committee for the Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics Division (PAM) of the Special Library Association (SLA). This is an active group of 115, a number that Lercher is trying to increase.

Linda Smith Griffin was formally recognized by the LSU African and African American Studies program for her service to their program.

Hayley Johnson and Sarah Simms presented at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana on their WWII Camp Livingston enemy alien internment research. They also presented at the World War II Japanese American Internment Museum’s annual event in McGehee, Arkansas. Additionally, they were invited by the Alexandria Museum of Art to serve as panelists for a discussion on Camp Livingston and internment held in conjunction with the exhibit “Witness to Wartime: The Painted Diary of Takuichi Fujii.”

Simms and Johnson also received two additional grants to continue their research. They were awarded the 2018 ALA Carnegie Whitney Grant and the 2018 NewsBank/Readex/GODORT/ALA Catharine J. Reynolds Research Grant. They presented a working paper at the Association of Asian American Studies annual conference held in San Francisco, CA. They also presented “The Accidental Researcher(s): A Case Study in Librarian-led Historical Research and Social Justice” to the Louisiana State University School or Library and Information Science in association with the Society of American Archivists – LSU Chapter. Additionally, they presented to the St. John’s University Library Division of Library and Information Science.

Library news

Louisiana State University Health Shreveport submitted by David Duggar

Will Olmstadt has been appointed Executive Director of the Health Sciences Library effective June 1, 2018.

A continuing education course proposal by Julia Esparza, Monté Dobbins, David Duggar, and Alexandria Brackett (now at Yale University) titled “Not Just Numbers: Teaching Students to Think Using Practical Curriculum Exercises” was accepted for the 2018 Medical Library Association (MLA) Annual Meeting. They will be teaching this full-day course on Saturday, May 19, in Atlanta, Georgia.

Julia Esparza, Head of User Education and Outreach Services, was elected by the Medical Library Association as President-Elect. She will assume this office at the conclusion of the MLA Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on May 23, 2018.


Julia Esparza has been selected through a competitive process to participate in a course on “Biomedical and Health Research Data Management for Librarians.” The goal of the course is to help librarians implement or enhance research data management training and services at their institutions. The program is sponsored by the National Library of Medicine and the National Network of Libraries of Medicine Training Office. Following eight weeks of online coursework, Esparza will complete a Capstone project to apply her new skills and knowledge to the support of data management services at LSU Health Shreveport. The experience will culminate with a Capstone Summit, held in April at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, where Esparza will share her Capstone project and meet with experts in data science.

Southeastern Louisiana University submitted by Angie Balius

Sims Memorial Library welcomes Ryan Castillo, a new Reference & Instruction Librarian. Ryan comes from Waukesha, Wisconsin, where he taught information literacy classes for eight years at Briggs and Stratton College. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies and an MLIS from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He is an avid hiker and is looking forward to exploring Louisiana and Gulf Coast nature.

Brett Williams is the new Interlibrary Loan Supervisor. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences and Psychology from Southeastern Louisiana University. Brett brings over five years of library experience to the position, having worked as a Cataloging Student Assistant and Night/Weekend Circulation/Media Supervisor at Sims Memorial Library. His new role includes overseeing the borrowing, document delivery and lending processing for our institution.

Ben Bell, a Reference/Instruction Librarian, was recently named Outstanding Teacher by the Southeastern Chapter of the Gamma Beta Phi Society. Bell is in his fourth year of teaching Southeastern’s for-credit information literacy class.

University of Louisiana at Lafayette submitted by Susan Richard

Sherry Curry, Assistant Dean for Technical Services, was appointed lead investigator on a Board of Regents/Northwestern State University grant after the departure of the former lead investigator. The grant, “Scaling OER Adoption at a High Intensity Research University,” was awarded in 2017 to fund portions of an online MBA program implemented at UL Lafayette.


Jennifer Hamilton was elected Chair of the Academic Section of the Louisiana Library Association for 2018-2019.

Heather Plaisance, Head of Reference & Research Services, was elected Vice Chair/Chair Elect of the Academic Section of the Louisiana Library Association for 2018-2019.

Zack Stein, Head of Special Collections, was elected Chair of the Subject Specialist Section of the Louisiana Library Association for 2018-2019.

Janelle Zetty, Head of Cataloging, was elected Vice Chair/Chair Elect of the Subject Specialist Section of the Louisiana Library Association for 2018-2019.
During Spring finals week, the Library partnered with PAWS NELA to offer students, faculty and staff a chance to interact with therapy dogs. The campus community had three opportunities to visit the therapy dogs – Monday, May 7 from 6-8pm; Tuesday, May 8 from 8:30-10:30pm; and Wednesday, May 9 from 11:30am to 1:30pm. PAWS brought Molly, Andy, and Jack to meet with members of the ULM community. This event was such a huge hit that the Library ended up on the local news on KNOE. The Library plans to continue this event and to expand it to make sure that graduating seniors also get a chance to interact with the therapy dogs. Check out the video here: http://www.knoe.com/content/news/ULM-students-get-a-furry-surprise-during-finals-week-482225931.html.

The Library also offered board games, card games, coloring books with crayons, and puzzles for stress relief. The puzzles were available on a table on the first floor of the Library; anybody walking by could stop and work on the puzzle at their convenience. The board games, card games, and coloring books with crayons are now available at the Library’s Circulation Desk. These games and opportunities will continue to be offered throughout the year – not just finals time.

The Library shared information about both of these stress relief-oriented opportunities via campus-wide emails and various social media channels. More than 100 students and several faculty and staff members came to visit with the dogs. The Library received a lot of positive responses in the form of emails and calls as well as comments on social media sites.