Hello Academic Section members!

The 2020 LLA Annual Conference is fast approaching, and the Conference Planning Committee is working hard to make this one of the best yet! The Academic Section has sponsored twenty-five programs on Thursday and Friday, including sessions discussing marketing and outreach, mentorship, virtual reality technology, preservation of archives and special collections, and management. If you haven’t already, I encourage you to review the complete conference schedule at llaonline.org. The agenda will also be available on the conference app, so download it to plan your schedule and network with fellow conference attendees.

We are co-sponsoring a breakfast with the LLA Subject Specialists and ACRL-LA on Thursday morning (7:30-8:50). The event will feature guest speakers Hayley Johnson and Sarah Simms presenting their talk "Social Justice and the Librarians: Utilizing Research to Uncover Marginalized Histories." The Academic, Subject Specialist, and Preservation Interest Group business meetings, and door prize giveaways will follow. There are a limited number of meal tickets ($12), so get yours today! All are welcome to come and listen to the speakers and participate in the business meetings, but only those attendees with a ticket will be able to eat.

The Louisiana Virtual Academic Conference held this past November was a success and feedback has been positive. The one day conference brought together 120 participants from Louisiana and nineteen other states. Conference participants who were LLA and ACRL-LA members, presenters, and library school students attended free of charge, while paid registrations raised $400. The money raised will be split between the LLA Academic Section and ACRL-LA.

The theme of this year’s conference is Envisioning a Brighter Future. As this is a time of significant change for LLA, now is the perfect time to get involved and help shape the future of the association. Ballots for LLA and section officers went out recently, and while we were able to secure candidates for both Academic Section offices, there was only one candidate in each category. Sadly, this has been an ongoing trend at both the section level and association-wide. LLA is your organization, and I encourage everyone from seasoned librarians to those new to the profession to get involved. That is the only way to ensure the continued growth and success of the Louisiana Library Association.
**Election of Officers**

Elections for Section Officers were held in February. Nominations included:

- **Vice Chair/Chair-Elect**: Angela Dunnington, Southeastern
- **Secretary**: Shanna Clevenger, Delgado

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**Louisiana Library Association Annual Conference**

*Academic Section to sponsor a variety of events and breakout sessions, and other programs of interest*

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**PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS & SESSIONS**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2020**

- **8:00 am - 5:00 pm**
  - Registration

- **9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**
  - *A Rich Gumbo - A Holy Trinity: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Your Library*
  - **SEPARATE PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

- **10:00 AM - noon and 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM**
  - *Shivering Spines: A Murder Mystery*
  - **SEPARATE PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

- **5:00 pm - 6:30 pm**
  - *President’s Program and Welcome*
  - Robert Fieseler, author of *Tinderbox: The Untold Story of the Upstairs Lounge Fire and the Rise of Gay Liberation*, is the keynote speaker.

- **6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**
  - *Exhibits Opening*

- **CONFERENCE EVENTS & SESSIONS**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020**

- **7:30 AM - 8:50 AM**
  - *Academic Section/ACRL-LA/Subject Specialists Breakfast & Meetings*
  - **TICKET REQUIRED**
  - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
  - *Registration*
  - *Exhibits Open*
  - **9:00 am - 10:00 am**
    - *Beyond Book Displays*
    - *Branding 101: Consistent, Clear, and Creative Communication*
    - *Mapping Your World: Using ARC-GIS to Tell Your Story*
  - **10:00 am - 11:00 am**
    - *Exhibits No Conflict/COFFEE BREAK*
  - **11:00 am - 12:00 pm**
    - *Preserving Black Catholic History by Re-discovering and Re-engaging: The Oral History Projects of Xavier University of Louisiana*
    - *Making Space for Mentorship*
    - *The Bright Future of LLA*
    - *Working Smarter Not Harder: A Self-Efficacy-Based Training Model*
  - **2:00 pm - 2:50 pm**
    - *Poster Sessions*
  - **3:00 pm - 3:50 pm**
    - *In-House Tools & Processes for Working with Federal/State Depository Materials*

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**CONFERENCE EVENTS & SESSIONS**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020**

- **3:00 pm - 3:50 pm**
  - *Portable VR and You: How to have a high quality, portable VR experience*
  - *Privacy and Public Archives: Dealing with Sensitive Materials in Special Collections*
  - **4:00 pm - 4:50 pm**
  - *Current Perceptions of Information Literacy Among Teaching Faculty and Students*
  - *Mental Mastery, or How to Survive the Next Meltdown*
  - *The Prosperity Pipeline: Seamless Library Services under the La. Board of Regents’ New Master Plan*
  - **5:30 pm - 9:00 pm**
  - *Awards Reception and Ceremony*

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**CONFERENCE EVENTS & SESSIONS**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020**

- **7:30 AM - 8:50 AM**
  - *GODORT Breakfast & Business Meeting*
  - **TICKET REQUIRED**
  - 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
  - *Exhibits Open*
  - **9:00 am - 9:50 am**
    - *Page to Link: A Case Study in Evolving Staff Structure from Physical to Digital Collection*
    - *You’re a Manager. Now What?*
    - *Catching FYRE: Librarians as Research Mentors*
    - *Teaching Data Literacy with the LDL: Louisiana-Based Data Sets and Online Tools*
  - **10:00 am - 11:30 am**
    - *LLA Membership Meeting*
    - **1:00 pm - 1:50 pm**
    - *Diversity Interest Group Business Meeting*
    - *It’s Alive! Bring History to Life with Primary Sources from the Library of Congress*
    - *The Awesomeness of Pre-1972 Sound Recordings*
  - **2:00 pm - 2:50 pm**
    - *Academic Library Outreach Services with Mini Pop-up Libraries and More!*
    - *All Together Now: Collaborating to Save Louisiana’s Cultural History*
    - *Free Tech Tools for Writing*
    - *Library Technology Plans: Why and how to write them*
    - *Louisiana Libraries Editorial Board Meeting*
Library news

Louisiana State University submitted by Kimberly Friedman

Garrett Armstrong presented “Coders as Your Force Multiplier” at LUC on October 16, 2019.

Gina Costello presented “Online Practitioner-Oriented Graduate Programs: Are They Meeting the Needs of New Professionals?” at the Mid-South Educational Research Association Annual Meeting on November 7, 2019.

Jen Cramer, with Troy Reeves (University of Wisconsin, Madison), led a workshop on October 18, 2019 at the annual Oral History Association conference. The workshop was titled, “What Does Done Look Like? Oral History Project Management.” Jen Cramer’s elected position of Council Member for 2016-19 for the Oral History Association was extended through 2020.

David Dunaway’s articles “LOUIS Membership with Open Textbook Network Brings Incentive for Faculty OER Advocacy on Campuses” and “Bibliometrics for Faculty Evaluation: A Statistical Comparison of h-indexes Generated Using Google Scholar and Web of Science Data” were published in CODEX, Volume 5, Issue 3.


Rebecca Kelley and Brittany O’Neill presented “Adding Media Literacy to Your Toolkit” at LUC on October 16, 2019.


Mikel LeDee presented “The Library as Performance Space” at LUC on October 16, 2019.


(Continued on page 6)

Louisiana State University Health Shreveport submitted by David Duggar

Library faculty were active at the annual meeting of the South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association, held in Oklahoma City, October 11-16, 2019. Montie Dobbins, the immediate past president of the chapter, co-facilitated a round table on how libraries can serve first responders. Montie also began a term as the President-Elect of the Hospital Library Interest Section of the chapter. David Duggar completed his term as Secretary of the Hospital Library Interest Section. Julia Esparza, on behalf of several Library staff, presented a poster about the Library’s recent relocation of the institutional archives. Julia, who is the current President of the Medical Library Association, delivered the association update during the chapter business meeting. Will Olmstead presented a lightning talk about outsourcing the Library’s writing consultant service. He also began his term on the program committee for the chapter meeting in Houston in October 2020.

Julia M. Esparza, as President of the Medical Library Association, presented the MLA Update at the Midwest Chapter Annual Meeting on October 6 in Milwaukee, WI, and at the Pacific Northwest Chapter Annual Meeting on October 28 in Boise, ID.

Will Olmstead was appointed to the Public Policy Advisory Council for the Special Libraries Association, for a 2-year term through 2022. This committee advises the association on policy issues that impact information professionals.

Erin Ware joined the Library as Reference Librarian on January 2. Erin is a graduate of LSU School of Library & Information Science, and a certified school media librarian. She has also worked at Baton Rouge General Hospital and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.

In cooperation with the Ophthalmology Interest Group and the Shreveport Red River Lions Club, the Health Sciences Library held an Eyeglass Drive collecting 103 eyeglasses and 43 cases.
Because the life of a student is that of someone on the run between classes, meals, family commitments, and extracurricular activities, the Noel Memorial Library is running alongside students with their new Research on the Run booth. Essentially a roving librarian, the booth is an outreach component of the library’s Research and Instruction Services Department. Unveiled in a soft rollout leading up to final exam week in Fall 2019, the booth was set up in the University Center, a hub for students including the campus dining facility and the campus wide computer lab. This location was chosen because it is a popular place where students congregate between classes. Jessica Hawkes, First Year Experience and Undergraduate Success Librarian, reported a successful rollout and will be expanding outreach opportunities to the university’s adjacent student housing as well as freshman orientation events using the booth.

Noel Memorial Library hosted the second annual Conference for Young Adult Literature Louisiana (CYALL) on November 8th. CYALL’s mission is to create an opportunity for educators, librarians, scholars, and students to discuss strategies and techniques that can be used to infuse young adult literature into the secondary school curriculum and other venues such as libraries and college courses. The conference also serves as a forum to discuss, demonstrate, and champion learning strategies in teaching young adult literature and discuss trends currently in the format. The goal is to provide advocates with avenues to help teens overcome adversity in their lives through the development of programming and spaces that allow young adults to learn and grow.

Anna Tapia MacDonald formed the Watson Library Programming & Outreach Committee to foster campus wide partnerships and collaborative opportunities through programs and events each semester. The committee hosted several successful events this year. Finals week included the “Random Snacks of Kindness Cart” where the students received encouragement and snacks from their library staff. Drawings for “Mugs of Kindness” were very popular with 422 students entering the drawing. Photos of the events were posted on the library website each day as part of our social media presence. The final event was “Cards for Our Military” which included the participation of the Military Science Department, NSU fraternities and sororities, and numerous departments across campus. In total 973 holiday cards were signed by students and faculty and were distributed to local VA hospitals and to Fort Polk.

Heather Ritter was hired in July as the new Library Associate/Head of NSU Leesville Library. Heather was previously the Library Associate at the NSU Leesville Library. In January, Elizabeth Doss joined the library as the Assistant Library Manager at the NSU Leesville campus.

In November, Mary Linn Wernet delivered a brief presentation on Kate Chopin to an Alexandria neighborhood book club. Mary Linn and Sharon Wolff read a selection of poems from A. L. Alexander’s 1943 work, Poems that Touch the Heart before the 11th Annual Natchitoches-NSU Multicultural Christmas Concert in December.

Sharon Wolff was elected Vice President of the Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association. Northwestern State University will host the annual meeting in September.

The Cammie G. Henry Research Center hosted several events in November and December including the AP Chapter of Philanthropic Education Organization (PEO) monthly meeting, Caroline Dormon Nature Preserve Membership/Tornado Recovery Reception, and the Cherokee Plantation on the Cane River book signing event. With Natchitoches celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the movie, Steel Magnolias, the Research Center loaned and Mary Linn Wernet assisted as docent with the Association for the Preservation of Historic Natchitoches (APHN) on several pieces from the Steel Magnolias Collection for an exhibit at the Association’s Lemee during the APHN Fall Tour and the citywide event, Blush and Bashful Weekend.

In January, the Research Center hosted a reception to officially open their new exhibit. Designed and installed by Sharon Wolff, the exhibit consists of 1918 photographs of Shreveport businesses and industry commissioned by the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce, on loan from private owner Ed Chopin.
Library news

Southeastern Louisiana University submitted by Angie Balius

Kathryn Carlson was hired as a Reference and Instruction Librarian. Kathryn will be teaching a for-credit information literacy course, LS102. Among her many talents, Kathryn is a singer and song-writer who plays with the Fugitive Poets, a Baton Rouge band.

Emilee Flores is now Interlibrary Loan Supervisor. She earned a Bachelor of General Studies degree from Southeastern Louisiana University. She brings three years of library experience to the position, having worked as a Night Weekend Circulation Media Supervisor and as a student at Sims Memorial Library.

Aarron Gomez joined the Access Services team as Night/Weekend Circulation Media Supervisor. He earned a Bachelor’s of Arts degree in English from Southeastern Louisiana University. Arron brings many years of customer service experience to the position having most recently worked as a Service Agent for Enterprise Rental Car. At Sims Memorial Library, he oversees the Circulation and Media library service points on a night and weekend rotation.

Nicole Zimmer is the new Evening & Weekend Supervisor in the Serials Department. Nicole graduated from Southeastern in 2018. She worked as a student assistant in Circulation from Spring 2015 to Fall 2018.

University of Louisiana at Lafayette submitted by Susan Richard

Zack Stein was interviewed by Judith Meriwether of KRVS radio to discuss the work and mission of the library’s Special Collections. Zack spoke about the importance of archives preservation, the history of the department, the unique materials available to users, and the mission and goals of Special Collections. The full interview can be accessed at https://www.krvs.org/post/apres-midi-afternoon-classics-february-13-2020-zack-stein-and-linda-frese.

Cheylon Woods has been selected an Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentor. This award is presented by the UL Lafayette Office for Research, Innovation and Economic Development to those who have demonstrated extraordinary commitment to undergraduate students and their advancement as researchers.


To celebrate 70 years of US-Indonesia bilateral partnerships, the Consul General of Indonesia and UL Lafayette hosted several events on December 3, 2019. One of the events held in Dupré Library was a Silent Disco Fashion Show, which was put on by a hospitality management planning class. The students gave out headsets for the audience members to listen to the music for the fashion show, which featured exclusive designs by Ronny Billiardo, an emerging young fashion designer from Indonesia.

University of Louisiana at Monroe submitted by Megan Lowe

Academic Section Officers
2019-2020

Heather Plaisance, UL Lafayette..................................Chair
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Blair Stapleton, UL Lafayette.......................Vice Chair/Chair Elect
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Jim Bass, LSU Shreveport.................................Secretary
james.bass@lsus.edu

Academic/ACRL-LA/Subject Specialist Breakfast, March 26, 2020

LLA Academic/ACRL-LA/Subject Specialist Breakfast Buffet

- Biscuits
- Crepes stuffed with scrambled eggs
- Fruit with yogurt dip
- Brabant Potatoes
- Bacon and Sausage
- Coffee and Juice

Louisiana State University continued from page 3


Elisa Naquin was hired as Metadata & Digital Strategies Librarian for LSU Libraries.

Darcee Olson presented the workshop “Laying Down the Beats, Laying Down the Law; Music and Media Copyright and Licensing at the LSU Digital Media Center” on November 26, 2019. Darcee Olson’s interview by the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries was published on January 14, 2020. http://www.aerl.org/2020/01/5-questions-with-darcee-olson/.

Elissa Plank presented “Training Student Workers to be Peer Coaches” at LUC on October 16, 2019.


Zach Tompkins was hired at the University Archivist for LSU Libraries.

Scott Ziegler and Steve Marti’s article “A Hidden Gem Becomes a Fertile Mining Ground: Historic Prison Admission Books and Data-Driven Digital Projects,” was published in The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, Vol. 143, No. 3. Scott Ziegler, Leah Powell, Gina Costello, and Elizabeth Joan Kelly’s (Loyola) project, “…And 25 of our closest friends: The Louisiana Digital Library as Community-Focused Data” was funded by Collections as Data: Part to Whole.