



Alabama Association of College & Research Libraries

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From the President ...

THINKING LIKE OUR STUDENTS I've been working this week to clean off my desk and clear out some files. We've just migrated from Dynix to Horizon – without the benefit of a systems administrator – so I'm clutching at straws to restore some sense of order to my days. I came across my notes from last year's ALA conference in Toronto and found the scribbled phrase "thinking like our students." This phrase brought to mind a recent discussion I had with another librarian as we wrestled with Horizon to find out why we seem to have lost our "see" and "see also" references.

Using lists from the old system, we started comparing hits using subject and keyword searches. When we got to "Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome," I realized that no user would be likely to enter this phrase instead of "AIDS." It made me wonder if finding the missing "see" and "see also" references was so important now that library systems do a good job with keyword searching. 'Lest I get email from catalogers, I do know that precision is affected and that records for older titles may not reflect the current popularity of the abbreviation "AIDS." But, the bottom line is that library users are not interested in searching; they're interested in finding.

As academic librarians, we need to keep in touch with our users and, as part of a "graying" profession, we probably need to be reminded occasionally to "think like our students." One way I try to keep in touch is to read Beloit College's "Mind Set List," currently available for the Class of 2007 at http://www.universities.com/Schools/B/www.Beloit_College.asp. I get a better perspective when I'm reminded that, in addition to being congenitally addicted to cell phones, today's college and university students have always had unleaded gas, have always used stores with scanners at check-out, and have always had Lean Cuisine.

Another source on "thinking like our students" is "Our Incoming Students: What Are They Like?" by Linda J. Sax in *About Campus* (Jul 2003, pp15-21), which is available via the AVL. On the ACRL web site, you can find the "OCLC White Paper on the Information Habits of College Students : How Academic Librarians Can Influence Students' Web-Based Information Choices" (June 2002).

Speaking of order and influence, I am pleased to be working this year with these AACRL officers and board members: Jennifer Long, Vice President/President-Elect; Carla Waddell, Secretary; Kate Ragsdale, Treasurer; Rosemary Arneson, Member-at-Large/ACRL Chapter Liaison; Eric Kidwell, Legislative Liaison; Della Darby, Newsletter Editor; and Beth Ashmore, Webmaster.

We will also have the benefit of the wisdom of Past President Patty Pilkerton to help us through the year. Some of you will be hearing from her soon as she begins the process of recruiting officers for the 2005-2006 nominations. I am also recruiting volunteers to serve on a By-Laws Review Committee for the year. We need a review of the current by-laws to check for errors and to propose changes and updates, including the addition of the Legislative Liaison and Webmaster as official members of the Executive Board. Please contact me at dgrimes@sheltonstate.edu if you are interested in serving.

I have scheduled the first board meeting for September 14, at 1:00 p.m., here at Shelton State Community College in Tuscaloosa. All board meetings are open to all members, so feel free to join us.

Deborah Grimes

National Library Legislative Day

Although I have been to Washington many times, this was my first visit as a lobbyist. The city never fails to impress me. With this trip, I got a real “behind the scenes” look at how Washington runs.

National Library Legislative Day began with a pre-conference on Sunday to introduce those of us who had never lobbied before to lobbying methods. We were told, when talking to our senators and representatives and their aides, to emphasize what our libraries need and how they fit into our communities. Emily Sheketoff, Associate Executive Director of the American Library Association managing the Washington Office (ALA WO), gave us the five “p”s of lobbying: Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance. She also suggested inviting those in Washington to events at our libraries and emphasizing why we are crucial for the community. She suggested using examples of how local libraries have helped their communities in our talks.

Monday was the Briefing Day, or the day when we would hear about issues on which ALA was specifically working. The day was a full day of issue briefings that informed and prepared us for the congressional visits. It began with a “Fast Track Summary” that briefly introduced us to hot issues and key messages for congress. After that, we broke into plenary sessions. I attended the session on surveillance, privacy, and the Patriot Act. Speakers at that session were Joseph Zogby, Senator Richard Durbin, and Brooke Roberts. I later went to the session on Copyright which featured Jonathan Band, a lawyer at Morrison & Foerster. Key issues brought up during these sessions were:

- Supporting the Security and Freedom Ensured (or SAFE), Act (S 1709 and HR 3352)
- Supporting the Freedom to Read Protection Act (HR 1157)
- Supporting the Digital Media Consumers’ Rights Act of 2003 (HR 107)
- Supporting the Consumers, Schools, and Libraries Digital Rights Manage-

ment Awareness Act of 2003 (S 1621)

- Supporting the Benefit Authors without Limiting Advancement or Net Consumer Expectation Act of 2003 (HR 1066)
- Not supporting the Database and Collections of Information Misappropriation Act (HR 3261), and instead supporting the Consumer Access to Information Act of 2004 (HR 3872)
- Not supporting the Anti-Terrorism Intelligence Tools Improvement Act of 2003 (HR 3179)
- Continuing funding of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA)
- Funding the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program

Between sessions we had lunch. I attended the Association of College and Research Libraries Legislative Luncheon. Emily Sheketoff and Mark Smith spoke on “Effective Strategies for Your Capitol Hill Visit.” ACRL issues at this year’s National Library Legislative Day were anti-circumvention technologies, database protection, digital rights management, broadcast flags, distance education, and public domain legislation. ACRL supported funding for the LSTA, the Federal Depository Library Program and the GPO, Library of Congress, the National Agricultural Library, and the National Library of Medicine. ACRL also promoted access to government information and amending the USA PATRIOT Act.

The following day, Tuesday, was the actual Legislative Day. Rebecca Mitchell, Director of the Alabama Public Library Service (APLS), had set up appointments for us with Alabama senators and representatives. In addition to Ms. Mitchell, Derrick Mitchell and Cutter Hughes were also part of the Alabama delegation, representing public advocacy of libraries. Ms. Mitchell and I presented a united front, with both of us thanking everyone for E-rate and LSTA while emphasizing the importance of the Alabama Virtual Library to all communities in Alabama. We first met with a representative for Congressman Robert Adherholt, followed by those for

Congressman Jo Bonner, Congressman Spencer Bachus, Congressman Mike Rogers, Congressman Artur Davis, and Senator Jeff Sessions. When we arrived at Senator Richard Shelby’s office, we were pleased to be able to meet directly with Senator Shelby, who was very concerned with education and libraries in Alabama. We then met with a representative from Congressman Terry Everett’s office before meeting with Congressman Robert E. “Bud” Cramer.



As the representative for Alabama academic libraries, I thanked Bachus for cosponsoring the Digital Media Consumers’ Rights Act of 2003 (HR 107) which attempts to restore the balance between fair use and copyright in the digital environment and allows libraries to circumvent technology for non-infringing uses, such as preservation and changes for the vision-impaired. I asked the other members of the house to sponsor HR 107. I also asked everyone to sponsor HR 2601, the Public Domain Enhancement Act, which allows abandoned works to go into the public domain more easily. Ms. Mitchell and I emphasized the relationship between all libraries and all students and communities in Alabama and how continuing funding and voting for bills that will allow works to go into the public domain more quickly will help those in Alabama, especially those in poorer and underserved areas.

The day was even more exciting than I thought it would be. After five and one-half hours of walking and talking, my feet were sore and my voice was hoarse. Unfortunately, I did not stay for the reception that evening. The ALA Washington Office

Legislative Day cont.

staff members were helpful and efficient and provided several links to more information from the Office of Government Relations in the Washington Office. Some of those links are: ALA Washington Office Newline (ALAWON): www.ala.org/washoff/alawon; ALA Legislative Action Center: <http://congress.ala.org>; Copyright Web Site: copyright.ala.org; UCITA: Issues and Concern for Libraries: www.ala.org/washoff/ucita; Issues Briefs: www.ala.org/washoff and www.ala.org/oitp

Thank you to the Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries and the University of Alabama at Birmingham Mervyn H. Sterne Library for giving me the opportunity to represent Alabama academic libraries at National Library Legislative Day 2004.

— Delores Carlito
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Mervyn H. Sterne Library

Annual Dinner Meeting and Program

It was with great anticipation that we gathered for a good time composed of a fine meal, invigorating dinner discussions, and best of all, a guest speaker. The location was a funky place called Silver Spoon a la Carte Café in Montgomery, Alabama. Conversations lengthened as we sipped a delightful strawberry brew. The business meeting commenced, as expected, with kudos for all. Each officer gave an insightful report. The guest speaker, Dr. Fred M. Heath of the University of Texas at Austin, addressed the past, present, and future within the field of technology. He reminded us of those old 5.25" floppy disks which were used daily just a few years ago and left us with an awe inspiring tale of being ready for change. The meeting ended with great appreciation for Dr. Heath and with the gavel being passed from Patty Pilkerton to Deborah Grimes.

— Carla Waddell
Secretary

ACRL Chapters Council Report

The ACRL Chapters Council met on Sunday, June 27, 2004 during the ALA Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida. Elections were held for the officer positions of Vice-Chair and Secretary. The Chapter Council officers for 2004 are: Chair, Vibiana Bowman, Rutgers University; Vice-Chair, Mark Emmons, University of New Mexico; Past-Chair, Locke Morrissey, University of San Francisco; Secretary, Wendy Starkweather, University of Nevada-Las Vegas; and Editor of Chapter Topics, Debbie Malone, DeSales University.

Camila Alire, ACRL President-Elect, reported on planning for the ACRL National Conference to be held April 7-10, 2005 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The theme of the conference is "Currents and Convergence: Navigating the Rivers of Change" and the keynote speakers are William J. Mitchell from MIT and Sylvia Hurtado from the University of Michigan. ACRL members planning to attend are encouraged to volunteer to assist with preconferences, meeting rooms, and the Internet Cafe. To volunteer, please email Robert Rose (roserrf@uwec.edu). ACRL members are also encouraged to volunteer for ACRL division and section committees. To volunteer, please submit a committee volunteer form available at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/resourcesforwork/acrlforms/acrlforms.htm>.

Frances Maloy, ACRL President, reported on the ACRL Strategic Plan which was adopted by the ACRL Executive Board during the conference. She spoke about ACRL's core purpose (leading academic and research librarians and libraries in advancing learning and scholarship) and values (visionary leadership that is receptive to change, commitment to member services, integrity and transparency, diversity, continuous learning, and dedication to the values of higher education, intellectual freedom, and the Library Bill of Rights). She also spoke about the big audacious goal which is the need for academic and research librarians and libraries to be seen as indispensable in advancing learning and scholarship. She outlined the main strategic areas of the plan (higher education and research, the profession, the associa-

tion, and sustainability) and identified the goals and objectives in each area. The ACRL Strategic Plan is available at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/whatisacrl/acrlstratplan/stratplan.htm>.

Mary Ellen Davis, ACRL Executive Director, reported on some of the topics discussed at the Executive Board meeting. She discussed open access to ACRL publications, possible changes to the dues structure, and virtual meetings. More information is available in the Board/Executive Committee meeting documents which may be viewed by ALA members at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/acrlboard/acrlboarddirectors.htm>.

The following news items were mentioned: ACRL's Effective Practices Clearinghouse is accepting submissions. The goal of the clearinghouse is to recognize effective practices in academic libraries in areas such as programs, services, facilities, technology, and initiatives and share them so they are accessible to academic librarians and the entire education community. More information is available at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlissues/effectiveprac/effectivepractices.htm>.

ACRL has a new recruitment video entitled "Faces of a Profession @ Your Library". For more information, visit <http://www.ala.org/ala/pr2004/march2004a/academicrecruitmentvid.htm>.

The awards for Best Practices in Marketing Academic and Research Libraries @ Your Library will be presented at the ACRL National Conference. The deadline for submitting a portfolio is October 29, 2004. See <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlawards/bpaward.htm>.

ACRL is offering a number of online learning opportunities. More information is available at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlproftools/elearning.htm>.

ALA Editions and ACRL/CHOICE have agreed to co-publish the successor to Books for College Libraries. The new work will be titled *Resources for College Libraries* and will be an electronic resource. The target publication date is 2006 and contributors are needed.

— Jennifer Long
Vice-President/President-Elect

News From the Membership

Della Darby, Lori Northrup, Carla Waddell, and Heather Watters, Samford University, had their article, "Cooperation in a Multi-Faceted Reference Department: Blending Resources, Personnel, and Services of Reference, Instruction, Interlibrary Loan, and Government Documents" published simultaneously in *The Reference Librarian* (no. 83/84) and as *Cooperative Reference: Social Interaction in the Workplace*, Hawthorth, 2003.

John-Bauer Graham, Library Instruction Coordinator, Jacksonville State University, has been invited to join the Board of *Journal of Academic Librarianship*. His term will officially begin January 1, 2005 but he will begin reviewing papers in August.

Dr. Mike Malone, executive director of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, appointed Mrs. Sherida Downer, director of university libraries at Auburn University, to represent ACHE on the Alabama Virtual Library Council. She replaces Dr. Jerry Stephens, whose term expires on September 30. She joins Dr. Janice Franklin, Alabama State University, and Dr. Paul Mohr, ACHE, to represent higher education.

Dr. Paul Mohr, ACHE, has been elected chairman of the AVL Council beginning 1 October.

Patty A. Pilkerton, University of Alabama at Birmingham, visited Cuba July 1-10 as a Global Exchange Consultant. The group of six librarians (three from Alabama, and three from California) visited libraries to learn about the current state of the library system in Cuba.

"We visited Biblioteca Nacional Jose Marti – the National Library of Cuba – in Havana and met with the director and key staff members. We learned about the history of the library itself; the National Reading Program in Cuba, begun in 1998; the cultural mission of all Cuban libraries; the image of librarians as professionals;

ASCUBI (La Asociación Cubana de Bibliotecarios), the Cuban Librarian's Association; and other library issues, such as collection development, technology, patron services and usage, and budgets.

"The group also visited Biblioteca Ruben Martinez Villena – the public library in Old Havana City; the National Library of Science and Technology (IDICT) – a department of the Institute of Science (Academia de Ciencias de Cuba); the School of Communication, Journalism and Library Sciences at the University of Havana; the Museum of Literacy (Museo Nacional de la Campana de Alfabetización); the UNESCO Document Center; the National School of Library Technicians; Biblioteca Publica Ramon Guiteras – the Provincial Library in Matanzas Province; Biblioteca Antonio Maceo – the Municipal Library in Bauta, Cuba; Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes – the National Art Museum; and the Library at the University of Havana.

"At each library we met with directors and key staff, and came away with a much greater understanding of the issues and challenges facing the libraries in Cuba as they move into the 21st century."

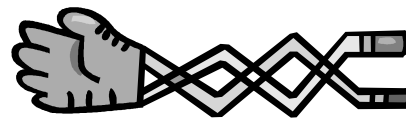
Dr. Bob Schrimsher, Pharmacy Librarian and Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Samford University presented a poster on the *International Journal of Pharmacy Education*, of which he is the editor, in Seoul, Korea at the 4th Asian Conference on Clinical Pharmacy, July, 24-26, 2004. He also gave a presentation on "Writing for Publications: Helpful Hints for Publishing Scientific Articles."

Alabama A&M University has appointed **Dr. Clarence Toomer** as its library director. Dr. Toomer will come to Alabama in August from the position of Dean of Library and Learning Services, Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina. He has B.A. in Sociology (Livingstone College); M.L.S. (North Carolina Central Univer-

sity School of Library and Information Sciences); and an Ed.D in Adult and Higher Education (North Carolina State University at Raleigh).

Dr. G. Garry Warren, director of information technologies for the University of North Alabama, has been named Interim President of the University.

University Libraries at The University of Alabama, in partnership with the UA School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS), has been awarded a \$449,201 grant from the Institute of Library and Museum Services (IMLS) under the program Recruiting and Educating Librarians for the 21st Century. Funding will cover tuition for ten students who have completed a graduate degree in another subject to study academic or research librarianship through the SLIS program. The grant also covers a stipend for these students who will work 20 hours per week each semester in University Libraries. Practical training and classroom theory will be combined with a mentoring experience to prepare students in the program for a career in academic or research librarianship. The purpose of the 26 grants awarded by IMLS under this program is to recruit and educate new librarians to help to offset a national shortage of library professionals.



Welcome to New Members

Amy Butler, Instructional Services Librarian, University of North Alabama

Donna Miller, Reference Librarian, Troy State University at Dothan

Michelle Sears, Electronic Services Librarian, University of Alabama

Treasurer's Report

On April 16, 2004 the balance in the AACRL bank account was \$7,432.76.

Since that time checks for \$1,573.56 (caterer, annual meeting), \$26.95 (speaker gift, annual meeting), \$40.00 (annual meeting refund, illness), and \$410.20 (speaker expenses, annual meeting) have been issued. Total expenses were \$2,050.71.

Deposits of \$80.00 (annual meeting), \$66.00 (membership dues), and \$1.55 (interest) were made to the account. Deposits totaled \$147.55.

As of July 26, 2004 the balance in the AACRL bank account is \$5,529.60.

— Kate W. Ragsdale
AACRL Treasurer

Call for Proposals

AACRL and CUS will co-sponsor Best Practices programs at the Alabama Library Association Annual Convention in Birmingham in April 2005.

You may submit a proposal for a one-hour program or for a ten-minute mini-session. Mini-Sessions focus on low-cost or no-cost practical ideas that can be described in 10 minutes or less. Mini-sessions will occur simultaneously; the audience will be divided into small groups that progress from one session to the next. There can be four or five mini-sessions in a one hour program. If you have a short presentation on academic libraries – management tips, bibliographic instruction lessons, professional development ideas, home page designs, surveys, etc. – and would like to share your ideas with others, please submit a Mini-Session proposal.

Please use the enclosed form, or the form at <http://www.samford.edu/groups/aacrl/annual.htm> to submit your program proposal.

AACRL Liaisons

Athens State University Dr. Robert Burkhardt	MacArthur State Tech. College Bill Niblett
Air University/Maxwell AFB Dr. Shirley Laseter	Miles College Geraldine Bell
Alabama A&M University Pat Ford	Northeast Alabama State Comm. College Arlen Grede
Alabama Dept. Archives & History Ed Bridges	Northwest-Shoals State Comm. College Rachel Hogan Trapp
Alabama Public Library Service Rebecca Mitchell	Oakwood College Janneth Lewis
Alabama Southern Community College Angela Roberts	Samford University Thomas (Tom) E. Skinner
Alabama State University Dr. Janice Franklin	Shelton State Community College Debbie Grimes
Auburn University Montgomery Barbara Dekle	Snead State Community College Carol Parham
Auburn University Marcus Kieiltyka	Southeastern Bible College Information not available
Ayers State Technical College Tom Humphrey	Southern Christian University Kay Newman
Bessemer State Technical College Diane Gregg	Southern Union State Comm. College Kathy Reynolds
Bevill State Community College (Fayette) Sally Middleton	Spring Hill College Bruce Whitham
Birmingham-Southern College Billy Pennington	Stillman College Robert Heath
Bishop State Community College Robert Parker	Talladega College Dr. Helen Bush Caver
Calhoun State Community College Lucinda Beddow	Trenholm State Technical College Zenobia Blackmon
Central Alabama Community College Gerson Miles	Troy State University Dr. Henry Stewart
Chattahoochee Valley St. Comm. College Leard Daughety	Tuskegee University Juanita Roberts
Concordia College – Selma Minnie McMillan	University of Alabama at Birmingham Delores Carlito
Drake State Technical College Kathryn Neal	University of Alabama at Huntsville Dr. Wilson Luquire
EBSCO Information Services Information not available	University of Alabama Anne Edwards
Enterprise State Junior College Susan Sumblin	University of Mobile Jeff Calametti
Faulkner State Community College Rheena Elmore	University of Montevallo Kathy Barone
Faulkner State University Brenda Turner	University of North Alabama Celia Reynolds
Gadsden State Community College Information not available	University of South Alabama Vera Finley
Huntingdon College Flora Reese	University of West Alabama (UWA) Neil Snider
Jacksonville State University Sonja McAbee	Wallace State Comm. College/Dothan Mike Grantham
Jefferson Davis State Community College Jeffrey Faust	Wallace State Community College/Dothan/ Alabama Aviation Technology Campus Megan Johnson
Jefferson State Community College Bill Buchanan	Wallace State Comm. College/Hanceville Bill Simpson
Judson College Meg Truman	Wallace State Community College/Selma Hallie Jordan Perry
Lawson State Community College Barbara Greene	
Lurleen B. Wallace State Jr. College Mary Beth Green	

Please send updates or changes to Rosemary Arneson: ArnesonR@montevallo.edu

Is the date on your label 12/03? Renew now to avoid the back-to-school rush. Use the form at <http://www.samford.edu/groups/aacrl/memb.htm>



AACRL Newsletter
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**AACRL/CUS
Convention Program Proposal**

Presenter (s) _____

Contact Info _____

Title / Topic of Presentation _____

Description _____

Equipment Needed _____

Audience _____

Full Session _____ Mini Session _____

Preferred Date: _____ Wednesday, April 20
_____ Thursday, April 21

Please send the completed form by November 1, 2004 to:

Della H. Darby
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800 Lakeshore Drive
Birmingham, AL 35229

Or dhdarby@Samford.edu