

Executive Board

President: Lori A. Northrup

University Library, Samford University
800 Lakeshore Drive
Birmingham, AL 35229
205-726-2079
lanorthr@samford.edu

Vice-President/President-Elect: Jennifer Long

Mervyn H. Sterne Library
University of Alabama at Birmingham
1530 3rd Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35294-0014
205-934-6364
jmlong@uab.edu

Past President: Charlcie Pettway Vann

Houston Cole Library
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road North
Jacksonville, AL 36265-1602
256-782-8434
cvann@jsu.edu

Secretary: Ellen Wilson

University Library
University of South Alabama
5901 USA Drive North
Mobile, AL 36688
251-460-7025
ewilson@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

Treasurer: Debbie West

Rosa Parks Library, Troy University
252 Montgomery Street
Montgomery, AL 36104
334-241-5820
debwest@troy.edu

Member-at-Large/ACRL Chapter Liaison:

Yingqi Tang

Houston Cole Library
Jacksonville State University
700 Pelham Road North
Jacksonville, AL 36265-1602
256-782-5757
tang@jsu.edu

Legislative Liaison: Eric A. Kidwell

Houghton Memorial Library, Huntingdon College
1500 East Fairview Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36106
334- 833-4420, ekidwell@huntingdon.edu

Webmaster: Steven Turner

The University of Alabama University Libraries
Box 870266
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0266
205-348-1638
steven.j.turner@ua.edu

Newsletter Editor: Kathy Wheeler

University Library, University of South Alabama
5901 USA Drive North
Mobile, AL 36688
251-460-7938
kwheeler@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

From the President

Greetings,

It's a pleasure to be writing to you from the month of December! I know that you have had very busy semesters, and I applaud your efforts on behalf of your patrons to provide the best in service, instruction, reference, and hospitality. Congratulations on a semester almost over!

The AACRL Executive Board has been busy this summer and fall. I hope you had an opportunity to join us for the workshop on cooperative collection development in October. It was a great day – good speakers, good food, and good conversations. I hope we can talk more about the many ways that we can join forces to make better use of our resources and spaces. You can see survey results from the post-workshop survey on the AACRL web site.

The bylaws committee has been working on updating the bylaws to reflect some changes made in recent years to committees, committee make-up, and officer duties. The proposed changes can be found at http://www.aacrl.org/bylaws_proposed_revisions_1130.doc. I hope that you have time to review these and to send me (lanorthr@samford.edu) your thoughts on the changes and suggestions for improvement. Ideally, I would like to include the updated bylaws again in the March issue, so that you can read them over before the annual meeting. We'll vote at that meeting to accept or reject these changes.

Jennifer Long and Eric Kidwell and their respective committees on program planning and legislative developments are planning great programs for us at the convention in April. I hope that you will plan to attend. If you didn't get an opportunity to submit an idea for a session or a mini-session at the convention, perhaps you can keep AACRL in mind for next year. We'd love to give you the opportunity.

As we head into the second half of the academic year, we'll be looking for nominations for several positions. I'm very happy to report that Mr. Steven Turner, University of Alabama, will be assuming in December the post of webmaster through 2014. Jason Battles has had to give up this position due to other obligations. Many thanks to Jason for his support over the years, and his suggestions for improvement to the site and its capabilities going forward. If you are interested in pursuing a particular position in AACRL, please feel free to contact your board members for more information.

Finally, I'd like to recognize at this mid-point in the year, the hard work that your AACRL committee members have undertaken this year. We have seven regular committees now, whose members you can see here: <http://www.aacrl.org/committees.html>. These folks have put a lot of effort into our work thus far this year, and I'm really grateful for their service. If you see them around, or have a chance to do so, let them hear your appreciation.

Grateful for teamwork,

*Lori Northrup
AACRL President 2011-2012*

Join AACRL Today!

Are you interested in promoting and serving academic libraries in Alabama? Are you seeking opportunities for professional engagement through involvement on the board? Do you want to be a member of a professional organization with low annual membership fees? Then Alabama ACRL is the best thing for you! AACRL membership is only \$10.00 a year or \$30.00 for three years.

AACRL offers workshops around the state and sessions at the annual Alabama Library Association Conference. Each year AACRL sponsors a dinner meeting with a speaker during ALLA. In addition, AACRL publishes a quarterly newsletter and maintains a listserv to enhance communication between members.

Don't wait! Renew or join now and start receiving valuable member benefits. Membership forms and brochures can be found on the AACRL web site at <http://www.aacrl.org/membership/index.html>

Reminder: If you serve on an AACRL committee, you should be a member of AACRL. Please renew your membership today!

Yingqi Tang

Member-at-Large/ACRL Chapter Liaison

GODORT Workshop at Samford University Library

On Monday, 30 January 2012, Samford University Library in Birmingham, AL, will host a workshop on locating and utilizing census data using the recently released American FactFinder 2 database (<http://factfinder2.census.gov>). This database, freely available from the Federal Government, provides access to a variety of census products, including the Decennial Census, American Community Survey, County Business Patterns, and much more. The workshop will be presented by Gale D. Brock of the U.S. Census Bureau Atlanta Regional Office.

This hands-on workshop is FREE, open to all, and geared towards those who wish to familiarize themselves with the new American FactFinder platform as well as beginners and those new to census data.

A flyer with more information can be found here: <http://www.jsu.edu/depart/library/government/blatham/CensusFlyer.pdf>. Please feel free to distribute. For questions or more information, contact Bethany Latham (blatham@jsu.edu) or Carla Waddell (ctwaddel@samford.edu).

Seating is limited, so please register as soon as possible. The registration form is available at: <http://www.jsu.edu/depart/library/government/blatham/CensusWorkshopRegistrationForm.pdf>. Completed forms should be emailed to blatham@jsu.edu.

AACRL Cooperative Collection Development Workshop

AACRL in partnership with NAAL and CUS held its fall workshop on Monday, October 10, 2011 in Birmingham. The topic of the workshop was Cooperative Collection Development and featured two guest speakers.

Timothy Cherubini, Director of Regional Services for LYRISIS, spoke about barriers, benefits, and conditions for success for cooperative collection development projects and the status today for group purchasing, patron driven models, shared electronic collections, print retention, and digitization.

Leslie Horner Button, Associate Director for Library Services at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, spoke about a cooperative collection development project to reduce unnecessary monographic duplication within the Five Colleges Consortium.

Presenters from various academic libraries described cooperative collection development efforts within the state including cooperative sharing of books through ALLIES, cooperative purchasing of electronic resources by consortia, cooperative retention of print journals by medical libraries, cooperative preservation of digital collections through ADPNet, and cooperative management and disposition of federal documents by ASERL members.

Approximately 55 people attended the workshop, and it received positive reviews. See the survey results on the AACRL website at <http://aacrl.org/AACRL.pdf>

*Jennifer Long
Vice-President/President-Elect*

Legislative News

Work is underway by the AACRL Government Relations Committee to sponsor an advocacy program at this spring's Alabama Library Association conference. The focus of the program will be the development of practical skills for becoming an effective library advocate, whether at the local, state or national level. The Committee is currently working to secure a nationally recognized speaker who has much experience with the issue. At the time of this newsletter, CUS and the Legislative Development Committee of ALLA have agreed to be co-sponsors, and the program has received initial approval from the conference committee. Further details about the program will be shared as they become available.

Other efforts by the Government Relations Committee have included the creation of a Facebook page as one means of informing the library community in Alabama, and particularly the academic/research library community, on legislative issues. You can find the page by searching for "Government Relations Committee of the Alabama Chapter of ACRL." Find us and "like" us. The Committee will also be developing a LibGuide on library advocacy, so look for news of this in the near future; and the Committee has reached out to the Legislative Development Committee of ALLA to see how our two groups can work cooperatively.

One of the most recent legislative issues at the federal level that has needed support from the library community has been the SKILLS Act (the Strengthening Kids' Interest in Learning and Libraries) " ... that ensures that every school is served by a state-certified school librarian and the school library program has access to the resources students need to become life-long learners."

This bill would amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 regarding school libraries. The reason the SKILLS Act is a relevant issue for those of us in the academic/research library field is, as Michael McLane has stated so well, "Remember: high school and elementary school students today are your students tomorrow!"

I think we can all agree that "tomorrow" has already arrived, as we work with students who have come to our institutions lacking adequate preparedness in even the most basic information literacy skills. AACRL sent e-mails to Senators Shelby and Sessions requesting their support for the SKILLS Act and posted notices to the above Facebook page and to the AACRL list asking others to do likewise.

*Eric A. Kidwell
Legislative Liaison
Chair, Government Relations Com.*

Annual Meeting

The AACRL Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 25, 2012, in conjunction with the Alabama Library Association Convention in Hoover (Birmingham). A delicious dinner will be served followed by an informative program and a short business meeting.

The program this year will feature Steven J. Bell, ACRL President Elect for 2011-2012 and Associate University Librarian for Research and Instructional Services at Temple University. More information will be available in the next newsletter.

Please mark April 25, 2012, on your calendar and plan to attend.

Jennifer Long
Vice-President/President-Elect

Best Practices Program

AACRL and CUS received an excellent response to the call for Best Practices programs for the Alabama Library Association Convention. There will be three full sessions and one session comprised of four mini-sessions (all happening at the same time!).

Topics include gathering, organizing, and sharing library statistics with LibAnalytics; Windows and Mac accessibility features for users with disabilities; career planning assistance for SLIS graduate students; online conferencing for reference and instruction; electronic books and use in the library; hosting an in-house professional development day; and founding an archives.

Jennifer Long
Vice-President/President-Elect

Proposed By-Laws Revisions

The Bylaws Committee has been working to update the bylaws so that they match our current practices, especially regarding committees and terms. In the process, of course, we've found a few other areas to tweak. You will have an opportunity to approve all these bylaws changes in the spring. Please take time now to review the proposed changes which can be found on the web site at <http://www.aacrl.org/index.html>.

E-mail Lori Northrup before February 15, 2012, at lanorthr@samford.edu to suggest changes or to express your concerns.

Lori Northrup
AACRL President 2011-2012

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Send the message SUBSCRIBE AACRL
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LISTSERV@LISTSERV.UAB.EDU**

News from the Membership . . .

Angela Rand, University of South Alabama, USABC, will be presenting at the upcoming (April 2012) Distance Library Services conference in Memphis. Her presentation, "Using Systematic Design to Create Effective Library Instruction for Distance Learning Students: A Model Based on Kuhlthau's Information Search Process (ISP)" will be published in the *Journal of Library & Information Services in Distance Learning*.

Debbie West, Kent Snowden, Erin E. Boyd, and Amy Smith at Troy University - Montgomery presented "Inventory of a Small Academic Library: Cooperation and Collaboration Through the Units" at the 31st Annual Charleston Conference in Charleston, SC, in November. Proceedings of the conference will be published in October 2012.

Ellen Wilson, University of South Alabama University Library, presented a poster entitled "Creating the Freshman Seminar Library Assignment" at the Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy.

Naomi Gold, University of Alabama, had a book chapter, "Rebels, Heretics, and Exiles: Blogging among Estranged and Questioning American Hasidim," published in the volume, *Blogging in the Global Society: Cultural, Political and Geographical Aspects*.

Beth Ashmore, Jill Grogg, and Jeff Weddle, of Samford University and University of Alabama respectively, have a new book coming out in March 2012: *The Librarian's Guide to Negotiation: Winning Strategies for the Digital Age* (Medford, NJ: Information Today, Inc.).

Amanda Price is joining the University of Alabama Libraries in January 2012 as Electronic Resources and Digital Integration Librarian.

Jaro Szurek is the new Chair of Cataloging and Metadata at Samford University Library. Mr. Szurek joined Samford University Library in 2003, as the Cataloging/Music Librarian and was awarded promotion to Associate Librarian in 2010-2011. Mr. Szurek will be responsible for managing all aspects of cataloging of University Library resources as well as reviewing existing and new policies and procedures. Mr. Szurek replaces **Della Darby** who is now serials librarian at the Law Library.

Marliese Thomas will be joining the Samford University Library team as Reference and User Engagement Librarian beginning January 9th, 2011. She will assist in reference and instruction as well as coordinate library marketing initiatives and outreach activities, including having primary responsibility for managing the web presence for Reference and Research Services.

Muriel K. Wells' article "Physiological Access as a Social Justice Type in LIS Curricula," will be published in the next issue of *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science*.

Muriel K. Wells presented a workshop on searching scholarly literature and using information resources at the Annual Conference of the Justice Department Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency and Prevention in October, 2011 in DC.

Stephanie Rollins, Samford University Library, presented a best practices session at the ALIRT meeting on 12/2. She spoke about using LibAnalytics to generate instruction statistics and how it can be used to give a more detailed picture of instruction endeavors at Samford. More information is available at: <http://samford.libguides.com/content.php?pid=205594&sid=2324146>

Nancy Fawley, Head of Gorgas Information Services at The University of Alabama Libraries, had a book chapter "Addressing Academic Integrity: Perspectives From Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar," published in the book *International Students and Academic Libraries: Initiatives for Success*.

Nancy Fawley has been selected by the ACRL Instruction Section Nominating Committee to run for the office of Member-at-Large during the spring elections.

Nancy Fawley will serve as the ACRL Member Mentor for a project to be worked on by a team of ALA Emerging Leaders. The project is a needs assessment for professional development resources for librarians teaching information literacy and library instruction through distance education.

William Worford, Research and Instruction Librarian at The University of Alabama Libraries, gave a presentation, "Transforming From the Podium Instructor to Roving Lecturer in a Classroom" at the virtual Library 2.011 conference this past November.

The **Troy University Dothan Library** has received several small grants: The Nippon Foundation, "100 Books for Understanding Contemporary Japan"; Target Early Childhood Reading Grant, to support the Education Department's Summer Spectacular Reading Program; Alabama Humanities Foundation Mini-Grant to support Drs. Kenneth Kanter's and Thomas Nadar's lectures relating to an ALA sponsored exhibit, "A Fine Romance: Jewish Songwriters, American Songs, 1910-1965."

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Kathy Wheeler, Editor
University of South Alabama Libraries
University Library
5901 USA Drive North
Mobile, AL 36688