# Alabama Association of College and Research Libraries

**Executive Board**

**President:  Rosemary Arenson**
Carmichael Library
University of Montevallo
Montevallo, AL 35115
(205) 665-6110, arneson@montevallo.edu

**Vice-President/President Elect:  Tim Dodge**
Reference Department
Ralph Brown Draughon Library
231 Mell St.
Auburn University AL  36849-5606
(334) 844-1729, dodgeti@auburn.edu

**Past President:  Robert H. Schrimsher**
McWhorter School of Pharmacy
Samford University
800 Lakeshore Drive
Birmingham, AL  35229
(205) 726-2161, rschrim@samford.edu

**Secretary:  Lori Northrup**
University Library
Samford University
800 Lakeshore Drive
Birmingham, AL  35229
(205) 726-2079, lanorthr@samford.edu

**Treasurer:  Susan Herring**
Athens State University
407 East Pryor Street
Athens, AL 35611
(256) 216-331132, susan.herring@athens.edu

**Member-at-Large/ACRL Chapter Liaison:**
**Alyssa Martin**
Rosa Parks Library
Troy University, Montgomery Campus
252 Montgomery Street
Montgomery, AL 36104
(334) 241-8601, almartin@troy.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: Beth Ashmore**
University Library
Samford University
800 Lakeshore Drive
Birmingham, AL  35229
(205) 726-2038, beashmor@samford.edu

**Newsletter Editor:  Jill E. Grogg**
University Libraries
The University of Alabama
Box 870266
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487
(205) 348-7994, jgrogg@ua.edu

# From the AACRL President ….
## *Rosemary Arneson*

**AACRL needs you!**

Jill Grogg, our newsletter editor, is stepping down from that position. Beth Ashmore will take on the task of compiling the March 2008 newsletter, but we need a volunteer to take on this task for the future. If you are interested in serving as our editor, please get in touch with me as soon as possible! Email me at arnesonr@montevallo.edu. Thanks and best wishes to Jill for her service to AACRL, and to Beth for agreeing to help out during the transition.

As many of you know, I am an active member of the library community in the virtual world Second Life. The University of Montevallo has a building in Cybrary City, part of the Info Island archipelago, and I worked with a group of librarians from around the world to create Info Island International, which opened in September 2007. One of the challenging aspects of working in Second Life is that things change very quickly. Because most of the places in Second Life are the creations of the residents, a building you visit one day may have disappeared the next. The avatar for a person you meet may be a dragon, a bat, or a human, depending on the person's mood.

While the changes we experience in our real life libraries may not be quite as dramatic as those of Second Life, they are constant and they are unsettling. A number of our libraries across the state have bid farewell to directors and senior librarians as they retire. Others of us have experienced changes in top leadership as presidents and provosts move on to new opportunities.

If changes in administration touches a nerve with you, you'll want to join us for our spring workshop on February 27, 2008, at Jacksonville State University.

As I've found through working in Second Life, change is constant, but sharing it with great colleagues makes it fun.

# AACRL Workshop on Administrative Changes

**Mark your calendars!**

On **Tuesday, February 27, 2008**, AACRL will host a workshop on dealing with administrative change in libraries at the Houston Cole Library at Jacksonville State University.

At this point, the workshop is still in the early planning stages, so watch the AACRL listserv for notices with updated information in early 2008.

The AACRL Programs Committee hopes to locate speakers who can provide a variety of perspectives on this topic.

The Programs Committee consists of the following:

- Tim Dodge (Auburn University), Committee Chair and AACRL President-Elect/Vice-President
- Rickie Brunner (Alabama Department of Archives and History)
- Donna Chow (South University)
- John-Bauer Graham (Jacksonville State University).

*Tim Dodge,*
*AACRL Vice-President/*
*President Elect*

# NIH Open Access Mandate Dominates Legislative Report

Perhaps the biggest, most recent federal legislative news that impacts academic and research libraries is the announcement that Congress had passed a bill that would require research conducted through NIH funding to be deposited into the PubMed Central database.

The bill further stipulates that such research would be available within a year of publication. Thus legislation has faced opposition from publishers as well as the White House, where it was expected to receive a presidential veto. Indeed, ALA reported in mid-November, that President Bush had vetoed the Labor, Health an Human Services (LSSA) domestic spending bill that included the new public access provision for research funded through the NIH.

ALA has reported that while the bill enjoyed wide support in both houses of Congress, it narrowly missed approval by the two-thirds that would be required to override the presidential veto, and believes such an override is unlikely to occur.

As reported in the Academic Newswire from *Library Journal* (November 15, 2007): "The veto means publishers opposed to the public access policy are likely to get one more shot to try to remove or amend the policy during negotiations. Although the bill was

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*"Congress [has] passed a bill that would require research conducted through NIH funding to be deposited into the the PubMed Central database."*

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vetoed for its overall spending, the White House's 'Statement of Administration Policy' (SAP) memo 'noted' that any NIH policy 'should balance the benefit of public access to taxpayer supported research against the possible impact that grant conditions could have on scientific research publishing, scientific peer review and on the United States' longstanding leadership in upholding strong standards of protection for intellectual property.'

That mention suggests those opposed to the policy could have another, albeit remote, opportunity to revise or slash the policy. Supporters say that heavy bipartisan support for the policy suggest(s) it will survive intact, though advocates for the policy are urging supporters to contact their representatives. The NIH public access policy, strongly supported by libraries for years, would require researchers to deposit their final articles in the NIH's PubMed Central database to be made freely available within a year as a condition of grant funding."

It is important to note that the current policy provides for voluntary submission of NIH-funded research, rather than requiring it. As a result, it has been reported that only 5% of such research has indeed been submitted for public access.

*Eric A. Kidwell,*
*AACRL Legislative Liaison*

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## ACRL Pres. to speak at Annual Dinner

The AACRL Programs Committee is pleased to announce that Julie Todaro, President of the Association of College and Research Libraries, will be the keynote speaker at the AACRL annual dinner and business meeting on Wednesday, April 23, 2008, in Birmingham. This event is also in the early planning stages, so watch for more information in the near future. The Programs Committee consists of the following:

- Tim Dodge (Auburn University), Committee Chair and AACRL President-Elect/Vice-President
- Rickie Brunner (Alabama Department of Archives & History)
- Donna Chow (South University)
- John-Bauer Graham (Jacksonville State University).

*Tim Dodge,*
*AACRL Vice-President/President Elect*

## Treasurer's Report
### *November 26, 2007*

On August 1, 2007, the AACRL account balance was $5,813.38. Since then, deposits of $126.00 (dues) have been made. Disbursements of $672.31 (for newsletter expenses, reimbursement for Legislative Day, and website hosting) have been made, and $19.56 in interest has accrued. The account balance, as of November 26, 2007, now stands at $5,286.63.

*Susan D. Herring, AACRL Treasurer*

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### Welcome New Members!

- **Amy Butler**, Acquisitions and Collection Development Librarian, University of North Alabama
- **Robbin Glaser,** Technical Services Librarian, Troy University – Dothan
- **Ellen K. Wilson,** Instructional Technology & Reference Librarian, University of South Alabama

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# *News From the Membership*

Auburn University Montgomery has announced the retirement of **Betty Tims**. Betty joined the AUM Library in October of 1983 as Government Documents / Serials Librarian after receiving her MLS from the University of Alabama. In 1984, she became the Library's Coordinator of Government Information Services and liaison to the Government Printing Office's Regional Depository Libraries Council. She served in this position until 2002, when she became Head of Public Services in the Library. In addition to her service in Documents, Betty has served as a coordinator for Library Instruction while at the same time holding down her main assignments. Betty has provided exemplary leadership and outstanding good judgment. She is the only two-time winner of the Friends of the AUM Library award for Librarians.

**Paula Barnett-Ellis** and **Laurie Charnigo** attended the Mississippi Library 2.0 Summit at Mississippi State University on June 15. Paula and Laurie presented a poster "Facebookworms: The Impact of a Digital Trend on Academic Libraries" which was based on their recently published study on the use of and perspectives of librarians towards online social networking sites, such as Facebook.

**Naomi Gold** joined the Samford University Library as a Reference Librarian in August 2007. She is a 2006 graduate of the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alabama, where she was involved in providing virtual reference services. In addition to the MLIS, Dr. Gold holds a PhD focusing on the psychology of religion from St. Michael's College, University of Toronto, and an M.A. in Religious Studies from Washington University in St. Louis.

**Aaron Trehub**, Auburn University Libraries, and **Sue Medina**, NAAL, gave an overview of the Alabama Digital Preservation Network (ADPNet) at WebWise 2007, "Stewardship in the Digital Age: Managing Museum and Library Collections for Preservation and Use" in Washington, DC. They described Alabama's need for a digital preservation initiative and summarized plans to create a distributed, statewide digital archive using LOCKSS software. ADPNet is a NAAL project funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, NAAL, and seven NAAL members. The conference proceedings have been posted at: http://www.imls.gov/news/events/webwise07.shtm.

Sue also gave the same presentation for Southeast region virtual library directors at SOLINET's Virtual Library Summit in Atlanta.

**Ellen K. Wilson** started in August as Instructional Technology and Reference Librarian at the University of South Alabama. This is her first job as a librarian. She was graduated from Simmons with honors in May. Ellen is already teaching Freshman English library sessions, designing online tutorials, revamping the library's webpage and adjusting to life and weather in the Deep South.

# Nominations Sought for AACRL Positions

Have you considered becoming more active in AACRL by running for an officer position?

In spring 2008, AACRL will elect a Vice-President/President-Elect, a Secretary, and a new Member-at-Large/ACRL Chapter Liaison.

With these three positions becoming vacant, there is an abundance of opportunities to serve. Serving as an officer in the AACRL can be of benefit not only to yourself, but to your academic organization.

According to the AACRL bylaws available on the AACRL Web site at http://www.aacrl.org/bylaws/bylaw2005.pdf, "The Vice President/President Elect shall serve a one-year term as Vice President/President-Elect, a second one-year term as President, and a third one-year term as Past President. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Member-at-Large shall each serve one two-year term, the terms of the Secretary and Member-at-Large shall be staggered with that of the Treasurer."

Nominees must be current members of (or be willing to join) both AACRL and ACRL. Self-nominations are welcome. Please send nominations and/or inquires to Bob Schrimsher, AACRL Past President, at rhschrim@samford.edu.

*Bob Schrimsher,*
*AACRL Past President*

# AACRL Calendar

**January 11-16, 2008**
American Library Association
Midwinter Meeting
http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/midwinter/2008/home.htm

**February 27, 2008**
AACRL Workshop:
Administrative Change
Details about location and registration coming soon to http://www.aacrl.org!

**March 14, 2008**
AL SOLINET Users Group Meeting
Jacksonville State University,
Jacksonville, AL
http://www.ache.state.al.us/NAAL/

# Check the date on your label!
# Renew your membership at
# http://www.aacrl.org/membership

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