

# ILA/ACRL Newsletter

vol. 23, no. 5, September 2013

In this newsletter, you'll find

- Biographical information and personal statements from each of the candidates running for elected positions on the ILA/ACRL Executive Board.
- Previews of the conference sessions sponsored by ILA/ACRL for the ILA Fall Conference (October 16-18, 2013) at the Marriott Conference Center in Coralville, Iowa.

## ILA/ACRL Officer Candidates

Voting will take place online this fall. Members should expect an email shortly after the ILA/ACRL conference from one of the Executive Board officers which will include a link to the voting booth.

### Vice-President/President-Elect

**Leslie Ross Ferm** received a BA degree from the University of Akron in 1996, an MA in Library and Information Science from the University of Iowa in 2005, and a Master of Organizational Leadership from St. Ambrose University in 2012. Leslie began her tenure as a Reference and Instruction Librarian at St. Ambrose University in 2005. In 2012, she took over the coordination duties for the Library's Information Literacy instruction program. Leslie has been active in ILA/ACRL since 2007 and has served on committees including Fall Program, Awards, and Newsletter (chair), and will shortly begin her role as the K12 and Higher Education Committee's representative for the Mississippi Bend AEA region. She has also served as a mentor to a new academic librarian through ILA's mentoring program and was selected to participate in the ILA Leadership Institute.

*"It is truly an honor to be nominated for the position of Vice President/President-Elect of ILA/ACRL, an organization that is near and dear to my heart. I would be grateful for the opportunity to serve in a leadership role alongside committee and board members that are committed to serving Iowa academic libraries. It is great to see the progress that has been made to foster connections between academic and teacher librarians to develop programs that will lead to increased levels of college readiness among our incoming students. The organization is also doing a great job advocating for libraries at the state and federal levels and providing support for Iowa librarians through mentoring opportunities and programs. My plan for the ILA/ACRL includes fully supporting the great work the organization is doing now. Also, I am committed to strengthening connections, forging new partnerships, and promoting communication not only within and among our libraries, but also within and among our colleges and universities. Specifically, I would like to address how online education and changes in*

*accreditation procedures are changing the face of higher education, which directly impacts academic libraries in many ways. One of the challenges we face today is developing methods to deliver and assess our services and instruction in a manner that effectively demonstrates the value of what we do. I would love the opportunity to discuss this concern and any others with the ILA/ACRL community and to take any action necessary to ensure that our libraries continue to function as the 'heart' of our campus communities well into the future."*

**Anne Marie Gruber** earned a BA in Communicative Disorders from University of Northern Iowa in 2002 and an MA in Library & Information Science from University of Iowa in 2005. Following a graduate assistantship at Iowa State University, she started her career as Reference & Instruction Librarian at University of Dubuque and has served as Assistant Director for Library Instruction & Public Services since 2008. Anne Marie has been active in ILA/ACRL, serving as past Secretary-Treasurer and currently as At-Large member of the Executive Board. She is active professionally through publishing and presenting at conferences, primarily focusing on information literacy topics. She has also served on ILA's Membership Committee.

*"I gladly accept the nomination for Vice President/President-Elect of Iowa-ACRL. I value this organization and would be honored to continue my service through this leadership position. There are several areas I would like to see Iowa-ACRL emphasize, which reflect my professional values:*

*"First, no matter our individual roles in libraries, we each have a responsibility to support lifelong learning; I would like to see Iowa-ACRL continue to emphasize information literacy as a key value libraries bring to their institutions. Secondly, the association can strengthen our opportunities for supporting new and prospective librarians through mentoring as well as stronger connections with library science programs. Finally, I want to help ACRL continue to facilitate sharing knowledge and collaboration, emphasizing informal channels such as regional meet-ups and increased use of social media outlets. I look forward to continuing to give back to the association to benefit members, libraries, and library patrons."*

## **Secretary-Treasurer**

**Andi Beckendorf** is the Research and Instruction Librarian at Luther College. Andi received the BA degree from Luther College and MA in Library Science from the University of Iowa and also holds the MA and DMA in music performance from the University of Iowa. Prior to her focus on information literacy, Andi has also worked in reference and electronic resources, supervised interlibrary loan and was library web manager at Luther. She also spent one year as interim assistant director at the Decorah Public Library. She is a longtime member of ILA/ACRL, and has twice served on the Spring Conference Planning Committee, including as the local arrangements chair for the 2012 conference at Luther College. She currently serves on the Instruction Subcommittee of the Music Library Association and is a member of the Board of

Trustees of the Decorah Public Library. Andi has presented on active learning and pedagogy at ILA/ACRL, LOEX, and the Music Library Association annual meeting.

*"I am pleased to be nominated for the position of Secretary-Treasurer of ILA/ACRL. I have always been impressed by the dedication and creativity of Iowa librarians in bringing services to their respective communities in the name of learning and inquiry. In a time of lean resources and increasing demands on time, it will be especially important for academic librarians to rely on colleagues not only for best practices but also for innovative ideas and new partnerships. Through strong collaboration, I am confident that professional organizations such as ILA/ACRL will continue to sustain our work and foster contributions to the profession. I look forward to the possibility of serving as a resource to colleagues in ILA/ACRL."*

**Jenny Parker** is Reference and Instruction Librarian at Clarke University. She received her BA from the University of Iowa and MLIS from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Prior to her position at Clarke University she worked for the Dubuque County Library, served as a graduate intern at Charles C. Myers Library at the University of Dubuque and as a student assistant at the University of Iowa Map Collection. She has taken advantage of continuing education through ILA and ILA/ACRL conferences, and was grateful to participate in the ILA Leadership Institute in the summer of 2012.

*"I am honored and excited to accept the nomination for IA-ACRL Secretary-Treasurer. We have so many academic librarians doing creative things in Iowa; as our economy recovers I think it is important that we come together in a spirit of collaboration. I would be happy to offer my services to ILA/ACRL and be a part of the executive board. If elected Secretary-Treasurer I would work to be a conscientious steward of ILA/ACRL's finances and records."*

## **At-Large Representative**

Carrie Dunham-LaGree currently serves as the Librarian for Digital Literacy and General Education, as well as the Campus Coordinator for Information Literacy, at Drake University. She received a BS from Simpson College in Journalism and Mass Communications and an MSIS from the University at Albany. Before moving to Iowa in 2011, she worked as an Information Literacy and Reference Librarian at the University at Albany and had internships at the Baseball Hall of Fame's Giamatti Research Library, Siena College, and the New York State Library. Carrie has been a member of ILA-ACRL since she moved to Iowa and is in her second year of service on the Electronic Communications Committee. In 2012, she was named an ALA Emerging Leader and also currently serves on three ACRL committees.

*"I am truly honored to run for an At-Large Executive Board member position. In the two years I've been in Iowa, I have thoroughly enjoyed my work and fellowship with ILA-ACRL members. I have particularly enjoyed serving on the Electronic Communications Committee, which has helped me quickly get to know many of the facets of ILA-ACRL by contributing to its website and following its activities on social media. While I've been blessed to participate in ACRL activities*

*nationally as well, my heart is truly in Iowa. I immensely value our shared passion, commitment and dedication for making Iowa academic libraries the best we can, and I look forward to continuing to strengthen our partnerships, shared initiatives. If elected I pledge to work hard for all ILA-ACRL members and libraries."*

**Julius Fleschner** is the Reference and Instruction Librarian at Briar Cliff University. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Master of Library and Information Science from the University of South Florida. He has worked professionally as a librarian for nearly 3 years. Julius is new to Iowa, having moved in 2011 from Daytona Beach, Florida. He is also a blogger at the iLove Instruction Blog. <http://ilove-instruction.blogspot.com/>

*"I am very excited to run for the At-Large Executive Board Member for ILA/ACRL. It has been a wonderful experience work with the librarians in Iowa over the last few years. I have found our community welcoming and friendly and wish to contribute more actively. If elected to this role, I will advocate for more distance learning opportunities for librarians in Iowa. Additionally, I hope to further infuse technology into the routine roles of ILA/ACRL."*

## **ILA/ACRL-Sponsored Sessions at the Iowa Library Association Conference**

[123rd Iowa Library Association Conference](#)  
[Healthy Libraries Build Healthy Communities](#)  
[October 16-18, 2013 - Coralville Marriott](#)

The following sessions of the ILA conference are specially designed for college and research library staff, although the principles will be relevant for others, too. Both speakers have national recognition. And the ACRL Business meeting is a way to meet other ACRL members and find out what is happening in the organization.

### **Thursday "ACRL specials"**

**Peter Murray**



## **Open Source and You with Peter Murray**

Thursday October 17, 11:05-11:55 am

The FOSS4Lib.org website contains tools and resources to help libraries decide if/ and /which/ open source software is right for them. In this session, the project leader for the FOSS4Lib website, Peter Murray, will lead participants through various scenarios that libraries find themselves in when looking at open source and how the tools on FOSS4Lib can help.

## **Library Linked Data with Peter Murray**

Thursday, Oct. 17, 3:30-4:20 pm

After an introduction to linked data concepts and how they apply to library data, the session leader will moderate a discussion of the impact of library linked data: what can linked data do for libraries? how do we prepare for linked data? how will using linked data change our workflows, and how will this challenge us? if a library's bibliographic data is to come from a mesh of linked data statements, what role do we want and expect the existing standard-bearers to take? and what role do we need and expect libraries to take?

## **ILA/ACRL Business Meeting**

Thursday, Oct. 17, 4:30-5:15

## **Friday "ACRL specials" Steven Bell**



## **From Gatekeeping to Gate Opening: An Evolving Higher Education Role for Academic Libraries with Steven Bell**

Friday Oct 18, 10:05 - 10:55 AM

In the past the academic library has focused its energy on building collections and developing mechanisms to provide access to content. Librarian services developed around the role of being the gatekeeper to the content. In a rapidly changing higher education landscape in which there are new alternate paths to a diploma, will the academic librarian's traditional gatekeeping

function still matter? In this session, Steven Bell, Associate University Librarian at Temple University and ACRL past-president, will share four different, but interrelated conceptualizations of how academic libraries could evolve to a “gate opener” role that is a better fit for Alt-Higher Ed. Gate openers focus on the experience that community members have in interaction with the library and librarians, to help them develop solutions for learning and academic success.

### **Cutting through the Noise: Academic Librarians Need to Capture the Signal with Steven Bell**

Friday, Oct. 18, 11:20 AM - 12:10 PM

Our community members continuously engage in a conversation about the campus library. Positive or negative, librarians can learn much from what is being said if we are able to hear it. The challenge we face is that the volume of societal noise makes it exceedingly difficult to effectively capture or deliver the truly important signals. In this presentation, Steven J. Bell, Associate University Librarian at Temple University and ACRL past-president, will share insights and observations about communicating with our members in an age of digital distraction in which there is constant competition for attention. Too often the answer to the question, “Can you hear me now” is “No I cannot.” For better academic libraries, we need strategies to improve our capacity as both antennae and beacon.