

ILA/ACRL Newsletter

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Attention!!! --- Register now for Iowa ACRL conference May 18, St Ambrose University, Davenport (see registration form at <http://www.iowaacrl.org/>)

President's Piece

As the old saying goes, “tempus fugit.” Sometimes it flies really fast. It seems like just yesterday that Ed Goedecken was the able leader of our organization and I was following along taking notes. And now I am the leader. Ed has done a fantastic job as president of ILA/ACRL. He deserves much appreciation for the job that he did last year. Thank you, Ed! I am very grateful that you are still around to help us this year. We certainly need your expertise.

As you may know, several members of the ILA/ACRL community participated in the Library Services Task Force last year. The Task Force was commissioned to “make recommendations to the Iowa Commission of Libraries on positioning libraries to effectively and efficiently meet the future needs of Iowa” (Footnotes. January/February, 2001, p.1). The recommendations were made in early January, adapted by the Commission and submitted to the Iowa State Legislature. This was a dynamic way for all types of libraries to have input to the legislative process and it will be very interesting to see the results. If you have questions or would like further information, Robin Martin (Central College) and Rebecca Spriester (Iowa Valley Community College District) would be good resources.

The Spring Conference is well underway. It will be held May 18 2001 at St. Ambrose University in Davenport. The committee is providing a conference that will be well worth your time and money. Staying in sync with the year 2001, the theme of the conference is “2001 A Library Odyssey: The Future Is Now.” Dr. Richard Varn, Chief Information Officer for the State of Iowa, is the keynote speaker. I am sure that he will be as thought provoking as he was at the ILA Conference in Dubuque. You also will have the opportunity to hear papers from colleagues around the state and to do valuable networking with other academic librarians. You can find out more about the conference at <http://www.iowaacrl.org/conference/2001/index.html>. I look forward to seeing you there. The Spring Conference Committee is comprised of Jennifer Davis, Chair, St. Ambrose University; Mary Heinzman, St. Ambrose University; Joyce Lindstrom, Iowa State University; Susan Moore, University of Northern Iowa; Linda Nelson, Scott Community College; Kathy Parsons, Iowa State University; and Kris Stacy-Bates, Iowa State University.

The ILA/ACRL Fall Program Committee for the ILA Conference in Davenport has also been at work planning a program for us that speaks of information literacy issues. Stephen Dew,

University of Iowa, is the chair of this committee. If he calls on you for help, please seriously consider it.

And this is a natural segue to a recurrent theme of many professional organizations. Just as ILA/ACRL needs the time and expertise of people like Ed Goedecken, Jennifer Davis, and Stephen Dew, we need the expertise of all of our members and potential members. Each one of you has talents that are very valuable to all of us in ILA/ACRL. For those of you who share your talents willingly and ably, thank you. For those of you who are considering becoming involved, I strongly encourage you to "take the plunge." You may need to sacrifice some time, but I have experienced myself that the rewards are worth it, both personally and professionally.

See you at St. Ambrose on May 18th!

--Jane Campagna, Scott Community College, President ILA/ACRL

ACRL 10th National Conference, March 15-18, 2001 – Report

Reports on "Crossing the Divide", the ACRL Conference in Denver on March 15-18, 2001. Attendance set a record with 3300 attendees. The conference was well planned, with excellent speakers and programs. See <http://www.ala.org/acrl/conferenceupdate.html> for a wrap-up message. Planning has started for the next ACRL conference April 10-13, 2003, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Keynote and featured speakers:

Michael Hawley of the MIT Media Laboratory (<http://www.media.mit.edu/>) described new and fun uses of technology and described some of his projects with computers in underdeveloped countries. Fun facts: the Furby has a \$7 microchip which is 4 times more powerful than what Apollo took into space, and 70% of the Lego Mindstorm sets, new in 2000, were sold to adults. Patricia Limerick, University of Colorado, on the contributions of the American West to America. Prof. Limerick gave an amusing speech addressing what people think the west is and how it is important to our understanding of ourselves.

Clifford Lynch, Coalition of Networked Information, mentioned some current topics and invited questions and comments, resulting in a wide-ranging discussion on fair-use, new technologies for libraries, authentication, library profession, next wave of technology, crackdowns on access from corporate, governmental, judicial and legislative bodies, and the future of "brick and mortar" libraries.

Claire Gaudiani, President of Connecticut College, led the way to one of the first "merged" environments of information technology and the library. She talked about her three most important values in higher education - curiosity, generosity and integrity.

--Lisa Martincik and Ann Ford, University of Iowa

One of the dominant themes of the 10th ACRL National Conference in Denver, CO, was information literacy. Literally dozens of presentations covered the efforts of academic librarians to initiate information literacy programs. Below is a sampling from the programs.

A common theme in these programs was the need for assessment. Instruction librarians at James Madison University <<http://library.jmu.edu/instruction/>> described "An Online Competency Test for Information Literacy." Entering students at JMU face a battery of competency-based general education requirements they must complete by the end of their first year in order to register for classes the following year. The instruction librarians have developed an Information-Seeking Skills Test, based upon a Web-based instruction program in information literacy. The online test is administered in a secure testing lab on a walk-in basis. Remedial instruction is provided to those students who fail the exam. The JMU librarians shared highlights from the first round of testing (1999-2000 academic year).

An issue much on the minds of library collection managers is the continuing crisis in academic publishing, and cooperative alternatives to high-priced commercial publishers. The session "Creating Change: Scholarly Communications in Transition" brought together a panel of speakers to address the future of scholarly publishing. Henry Hagedorn, Professor of Entomology at the University of Arizona, described his decision to quit the editorial board of a commercial journal and start his own "renegade" electronic journal, the Journal of Insect Science <<http://www.insectscience.org/>>.

Ken Frazier, Director of Libraries, University of Wisconsin, Madison, considered "The Librarians' Dilemma: Contemplating the Costs of the 'Big Deal'" <<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/march01/frazier/03frazier.html>>. He urged collection managers not to give in to the convenience of "bundled" subscriptions with big publishers that obligate the library to subscribe to all of a company's journals.

Kristen Gerhard of Iowa State University spoke about the Iowa Regent Universities and their response to the crisis in academic publishing <<http://www.lib.iastate.edu/library/scholcomm/homepage.html>>.

Rick Johnson, enterprise coordinator for SPARC <<http://www.arl.org/sparc/>>, spoke of the need to "re-intermediate" the academic librarian in the information flow from author to user.

Heather Joseph of BioOne <<http://www.BioOne.org/>>, a nonprofit electronic journal publisher in the biological sciences, described their efforts in assisting scholarly societies which lack the means of publishing electronically on their own.

Lynne Bradley of the ALA Washington office <<http://www.ala.org/washoff/>> provided a legislative update to apprise ACRL members of recent government actions likely to affect libraries. She believes Congress will revisit the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) this session, with the aim of addressing distance education, which was not seriously considered in the current law. She described ALA's continuing efforts to educate members on the significance of UCITA, the uniform commercial code addressing information technology that is being considered on a state-by-state basis in local legislatures. Government information policy in the Bush administration is still somewhat unknown; the appointment of a new Public Printer should signal the administration's intentions regarding the Government Printing Office and the future of the Federal Depository Library Program.

"Digital Reference: The Future of Academic Reference?" brought together a panel of speakers to consider the future of reference in the Internet world. David Lankes of the Information Institute of Syracuse <<http://iis.syr.edu/>> started things off with an assessment of the current state of affairs in digital reference. He cited the need to begin moving from a digital reference model reliant upon lists of links (the portal model) to real-time, human-intermediated services. This new model would emphasize the expertise of individuals, whether librarians, faculty members, or commercial "AskA" experts. He proposed a standardized electronic format for the interchange of reference questions, the Question Interchange Format (QuIP), as a means of transporting reference requests across Internet services. Linda White of Library of Congress described an existing digital reference service of international scope, the Collaborative Digital Reference Service (CDRS) <<http://www.loc.gov/rr/digiref/>>. With sixty-seven member libraries located in Europe, North America, Asia and Australia, the CDRS aspires to be a 24/7 operation--with a reference desk always open somewhere on the planet. White reiterated Lankes's call for a standard interchange format, as CDRS seeks to develop "Request Manager" software to automatically route queries to libraries with particular expertise. The Library of Congress and OCLC are collaborating on CDRS to advance the cause of digital reference.

-- *Steve Ostrem, University of Iowa*

News from Iowa College and University Libraries

Quad Cities Academic Libraries

All academic libraries in the Quad City area (St. Ambrose, Kaplan, Marycrest, Muscatine C C, Clinton C C, and Scott C C) have joined other area libraries in establishing the Quad-City Cooperative E-Library. The E-Library is a subscription to netLibrary for a 1,149 electronic book collection.

Quest College, Davenport, IA, has undergone a name change to Kaplan College. Kaplan, Inc., purchased the Quest Educational Corp. in July of 2000. The change from Quest College to Kaplan College became official in January 2001.

Kaplan College received approval from NCA to offer Bachelor of Science Degrees in Applied Management Concentration and Information Technology Management Concentration. The library was reviewed by the accrediting

--*Marlene Metzgar, Kaplan College*

St. Ambrose

The St. Ambrose University Educational Policy Committee has approved a one-hour credit Information Literacy class as part of the new General Education Requirements for all undergraduates. Librarians are developing the curriculum for this course, which will be offered beginning Fall 2001.

The St. Ambrose University O'Keefe Library's collection of books and materials on Ireland, the Irish peoples and the Irish in America has been significantly enhanced by the generous gift of Dr. Lawrence J. McCaffrey, class of '49. Dr. McCaffrey is a noted historian and co-founder of The American Conference for Irish Studies. Information on the collection can be found at: <http://library.sau.edu/irish/indexA.htm>.

John Pollitz was elected to the Board of Directors of IREN this spring for a three-year term. Staff changes: Barb Kuttler was hired as a reference librarian this fall. She has a B.A. in Music from Marycrest College, and an M.A. in Library and Information Science from the University of Iowa. Prior to coming to St. Ambrose University, Barb has worked at Black Hawk College, Quad City public libraries, and the Department of the Navy Library in Yokosuka, Japan.
--John Pollitz, St. Ambrose University

Community College News

Des Moines Area Community College

Lisa Stock became Director of Learning Resources at the DMACC, Ankeny campus library, in September 2000. Previously, Lisa was a Public Services Librarian at Drake for twelve years. She graduated from University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science and her undergraduate degree is from Iowa State University.

Muscatine Community College

Tom Hannifan, MCC Library Director, will retire at the end of June 2001. He has planned a number of things including "travel, Habitat for Humanity, a local homeless shelter (not as a guest), becoming certified as a field investigator for the State Archaeologist, continuing work with a group that is restoring an 1848 grist mill as an educational and tourist attraction, playing my trombone, and running for the Board of Directors for ILA. I threaten my wife that I will learn to play the bagpipes. She is beginning to take it seriously."

Iowa Western Community College

Ellen Van Waart joined the IWCC, Council Bluffs campus library, as Director of Learning Resources, in December 2000. She previously worked at the Nebraska Library Commission for nine years as Continuing Education Coordinator.

Scott Community College

There have been several changes in staff at the Scott Community Library. Linda Dykstra left SCC last fall to join her husband in Casper, Wyoming. Linda Nelson was promoted to full time Library Assistant last October. Carol Brade was hired in January to complete SCC's library staff.

Iowa Community Colleges Internet Consortium

The following seven community colleges have joined forces to provide distance education through the Iowa Community Colleges Internet Consortium (ICCIC):

Eastern Iowa Community College District (Clinton Community College, Muscatine Community College, and Scott Community College)

Iowa Lakes CC

Iowa Western CC

Northwest Iowa CC

Southeastern CC

Southwestern CC

Western Iowa Tech CC

The librarians from these community colleges have met several times during the past 18 months to develop a website for library services for ICCIC students and faculty. Those library services are available at www.iowaconline.org/Libraries/ICCOCLibhome.htm Ann Coulter from Southwestern Community College is the webmaster.

Hawkeye Community College

HCC and Upper Iowa University have created a partnership in which Upper Iowa's Waterloo Center is now located on HCC's campus. The HCC library provides services for the Waterloo Center's staff, faculty and students.

Kirkwood Community College The KCC Library will be installing a new library computer system this summer. Endeavor Information Systems was chosen.

KCC's newest part-time librarian is Jill Jack. Other part-time librarians are Annie Locher and Nancy Sweet.

--Janet Dellinger, Hawkeye Community College

News of the Iowa Private Academic Libraries

The 2001 Iowa Private Academic Librarians (IPAL) Annual Meeting will be in Des Moines on the Grand View College Campus, Friday May 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The presenter will be Dr. James Elmborg from the University of Iowa School of Library and Information Science Department. He has previous experience at liberal arts institutions and one of his areas of expertise is information literacy. The title of his talk is "Information Literacy and the Liberal Arts: Revision or Revolution."

During the discussion sessions there will be an opportunity to hear about and discuss innovative ways of teaching critical thinking skills and helping students develop behaviors needed to become information literate. During the afternoon session the members will be addressing issues concerning consortia projects.

Sharman Smith, Iowa State Librarian, Dr. John Hartung, President of Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (IAICU), and Dennis Linderbaum, President of the Iowa College Foundation, will be special guests at the Noon luncheon.

--Sandra Keist, Grandview College

News of the Iowa Public Academic Libraries

University of Iowa Libraries

Staff changes and professional openings:

Retirements: Dick Kolbet, Special Collections, and Marjorie Wilhite, Serials Acquisitions.

Resignations: Melanie Wilson, Nov 00 and Neville Prendergast, April 2001, both from Hardin Library for the Health Sciences

New professional staff: David McCartney, University Archivist, started January 2001 and Nancy Kraft will start April 16 as Preservation Librarian.

Professional openings (watch <http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/lib/jobs.html>):

Head, Hardin Library for Health Sciences

Departmental Information Specialist, Information Systems and Technology

Instruction Librarian, TWIST program

Special Collections Librarian

Systems librarian (interviews underway)

University of Northern Iowa, Rod Library,

Staff changes and professional openings (see <http://www.library.uni.edu/>)

Dean of Library Services

Web Manager and Instructional Design Librarian

Iowa State University Library

ISU has a new look for their library web page, and a new name. Have a look "e-brary@Iowa State University" at <http://www.lib.iastate.edu/>

Staff changes: (see http://www.lib.iastate.edu/libinfo/reptempl/empl_pro.html for vacancies - None right now)

Newsletter Committee:

Ann Ford, Chair, University of Iowa

Jan Dellinger, Hawkeye Community College

Sandra Keist, Grandview College

Marlene Metzgar, Kaplan College

Steve Ostrem, University of Iowa

Colleen Valente, University of Northern Iowa

[Back](#) to the ILA/ACRL home page.