Join ACRL in Social Media!

Just click on one of the links below to connect:

Facebook  Twitter  LinkedIn  RSS
Intriguing research at the forum included Bonnie Fong’s study of research instruction for graduate students in chemistry. She was followed by Megan Bresnahan and Andrew Johnson who presented “Reskilling for new areas of research data and scholarly communication support.” Ruth Vondracek then spoke on her experience with a user needs assessment of Oregon Explorer (a natural resources digital library). The forum closed with a presentation of “The Perceived Intrinsic Value of Leisure Reading & Leisure Among Undergraduates as a Predictor of Their Academic Achievement” by Edward Gonzalez and a group of his students at IUPUI.

Monday morning brought our main conference program “There’s An App for That: The Use of Mobile Devices, Apps and Resources for Health and Sci-Tech Librarians and Their Users.” With a badly needed backdrop of breakfast snacks, coffee and tea, our panel of speakers delved into the use of mobile device apps and how libraries were coping with this new realm. This was cosponsored by our friends in the Health Sciences Interest Group and had a strong tie to medical libraries.
Letter from the Chair

We held our STS Poster Sessions right after the main conference program. The room was definitely abuzz with conversation about 17 posters on the h-index, evaluating information evaluation abilities of students, chemistry information literacy, and many others.

One particular poster by Jane Nichols of Oregon State University Libraries and Jennifer Gilley of Penn State New Kensington entitled Connecting Theory to Praxis: Developing a Research Agenda for Your Section, happened to spark an idea that I had imagined for the Science & Technology Section. By the time this newsletter is published you’ll see that I’ve made a call for a Research Agenda Task Force. This should be an exciting development for all of us because I’ve just submitted a proposal for an Emerging Leaders Team to consider the design and launch a virtual collaboratory that will ‘house’ our research agenda among other features. The Emerging Leaders Teams get to choose their projects, so let’s hope the proposal has legs. I envision our Research Agenda being compiled by a forward thinking task force and our entire membership welcome to team up with colleagues to explore the ideas that are generated.

When it comes to task forces, I have to mention one more that is currently underway and one that will be formed shortly. The one that is underway is the Oberly Award Task Force. The Oberly Award is described on the ALA web site:

The Oberly Award was established in 1923 in memory of Eunice Rockwood Oberly, librarian of the Bureau of Plant Industry, United States Department of Agriculture from 1908 to 1921. She was the Bureau of Plant Industry’s representative to the Congressional Joint Commission on Reclassification of Government Employees and was instrumental in gaining a fairer recognition of library activities. This biennial award is given in odd-numbered years for the best English-language bibliography in the field of agriculture or a related science.

In recent years, the award has expanded to include all of natural sciences and the definition of ‘bibliography’ has been broadened to include more modern forms of bibliographies. You may recognize the recent survey that the task force sent out to the membership. ALA has asked that we determine what to do with this award since its endowment is around $25,000 and needs to be a minimum of $50,000 by their new standards. ALA gave STS some options and the Oberly Award Task Force will share their recommendation with us at Midwinter in Philadelphia.


**Letter from the Chair**

Our third task force also will involve an award. We have recently learned that the sponsor of the STS Innovation Award has backed away from their support. So, the Innovation Award Task Force will be looking at re-envisioning the award and making suggestions for its future. As the calls for task force participation come out, please consider chipping in some volunteer time.

I’ll close with thanking you again for this opportunity to serve as your STS Chair. The lifeblood of STS is in its membership. Your attendance at and participation in STS events is the core to our strength. Our committees and task forces will keep that foremost in our minds. I hope to see many of you in Philadelphia in January of 2014 or perhaps Las Vegas in June.

Matt Marsteller, STS Chair  
Carnegie Mellon University, Science Libraries  
Phone: 412-268-7212  
E-Mail: matthewm@andrew.cmu.edu

**STS Dinner at ALA-Midwinter**

The STS Dinner at Midwinter is sponsored through the generosity of [IOP Publishing](http://www.iop.org). The Dinner will take place at Molly Malloy’s in the Reading Terminal Market on Sunday January 26th from 7pm until 10pm (with food served around 7:30pm). Registration will be announced in late October on the STS-l listserv.

For more information, please contact [Kathy Szigeti](mailto:kathy.szigeti@ala.org)

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MOLLY MALLOY’S  
EAT. DRINK. ENJOY.
Letter from the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Greetings!

First, let me state how honored and delighted I am to have been elected chair/chair elect of STS. This is a wonderful organization to be a part of, and I hope that I can continue to provide the leadership that we have come to expect.

We live in exciting times, as our profession and our roles as science librarians continue to evolve. This can mean changes as liaisons, greater leadership in data issues, closer collaborations with instructors in teaching information literacy, new models of scholarly communication, and likely a host of other things we have yet to imagine. I want STS to support its members by providing programs and mentoring for professional development and guidance in these developing areas. STS is a great resource for the community of science librarians.

Please consider volunteering for one of the STS Committees as a way to get involved in the many activities of the section. Start here at http://www.al.org/acrl/membership/volunteer/volunteer. We have twelve committees, several Hot Topics discussion groups, and program planning groups, so there is a place for you! By volunteering for one of these you can be active in the section right away. Meeting minutes, agendas, and other public committee documents can be found on the ALA Connect site at http://connect.al.org/.

I am always open to hearing from members about thoughts and concerns, and I welcome any feedback. My email is mbracke@purdue.edu, and I hope that you stop by and chat with me at the conferences.

Our conference schedule is also something to look forward to, with Midwinter in Philadelphia, and the Annual meeting in hot and sunny Las Vegas (start saving your quarters for the slot machines!). I hope to see you all there!

Wishing you a wonderful autumn,

Marianne Stowell Bracke,
STS Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Purdue University Libraries
(765) 496-9620
mbracke@purdue.edu
Tribute to Norma Kobzina

STS has lost Norma Kobzina, a loved and valued colleague, leader, and friend this year.

Norma Kobzina worked at the University of California at Berkeley for over thirty years as the library liaison to the College of Natural Resources, building strong ties to faculty and programs across the campus. She was a born teacher, a generous mentor and the Ultimate Librarian. Norma managed to combine breadth and depth of expertise with generosity, openness of mind and curiosity about the world. Her joyous sense of life permeated everything she did, and the smile that was always on her face radiated happiness and good will. She has left a lasting legacy for students, faculty, researchers and colleagues, both on campus and across the country.

The Library has set up the Norma Kobzina Fund to help support the natural sciences collections and services that Norma loved and to which she devoted her professional life. Donations to the Norma Kobzina Fund can be given at [http://givetocal.berkeley.edu/](http://givetocal.berkeley.edu/) by searching for Norma Kobzina. Until December 1, 2013, your donation will be doubled, thanks to a challenge gift. For every dollar raised, the anonymous donor will contribute two dollars meaning that a $100 gift will become $300. The challenge applies to a total of up to $20,000 in gifts (the donor will contribute a maximum of $40,000). If the total fund reaches $50,000, it will become an endowment fund.

Photos of Norma and brief memorials from her friends and colleagues can be viewed at [http://lib.berkeley.edu/LAUC/remembrances/kobzina](http://lib.berkeley.edu/LAUC/remembrances/kobzina)

Text courtesy of UC Berkeley Libraries
Are you a member of the American Chemical Society (ACS), the American Society for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T), National Science Digital Library (NSDL), the Medical Library Association (MLA), or another sci/tech organization?

Do you normally attend the conference of one of these organizations? Would you like to be more involved in STS, or would if you “had the time?”

If so, the STS Liaison program could be a great opportunity for you!

STS maintains a liaison program to encourage STS members to report on the meetings and activities of science and technology organizations. Liaisons have an opportunity to present to the community about what they’ve learned, as they help develop connections between librarians and other professions.

In Spring 2013 the STS Liaisons Committee sponsored an online forum featuring liaisons discussing the organizations they work with and we hope to do this again in 2014.

STS-appointed liaisons:
- Are needed for the organizations mentioned above
- Are expected to serve at least a two-year term (if possible)
- Attend the annual conference or meeting of their assigned organization
- Report back to the STS community

WANT TO BECOME A LIAISON FOR STS?
Let us know by October 31, 2013 to claim your organization!
(Organizations are claimed in the order of contact)

Contact: Fran Rosen (rosenf@ferris.edu) or Maxine Schmidt (mschmidt@library.umass.edu)

Co-Chairs of the 2014 STS Liaisons Committee (http://www.ala.org/acrl/sts/acr-stslia)

For more information, please visit:
http://www.ala.org/acrl/aboutacrl/directoryofleadership/sections/sts/stswebsite/liaison/STSLiaison
College Science Librarians' Discussion Group

The College Science Librarians' Discussion Group has a new Co-Chair: Donna Braquet, Biology Librarian at University of Tennessee Knoxville. Donna will join Barbara Harvey (Science Librarian at Grand Valley State University) as Co-Chair. Donna's initial appointment will run through June 2014, as she is replacing Brian Lym. Brian stepped down as Co-Chair because he accepted a position as Dean of Libraries at Adelphi University in New York – congratulations, Brian!

The College Science Librarians Discussion Group will meet virtually for Midwinter, and we will be planning the program for the discussion session at Annual in Las Vegas in 2014.

Barbara Harvey and Donna Braquet, Co-Chairs

2014 ALA Program Planning Committee

The 2014 STS Conference Program Planning Committee and the ACRL Health Sciences Interest Group collaborated to submit a proposal to ACRL for the program in Las Vegas. The title of the proposal is “Sticking with STEM: how the academic library can help to retain successful students.” If accepted, the goal is to recruit three speakers to address the hot topic of student retention and success and how libraries can contribute to institutional goals relating to retention, particularly with students in the health sciences and STEM disciplines.

Judith Emde and Ariel Neff, Co-Chairs

Scholarly Communications Committee

STS Scholarly Communications Committee is partnering again with the ALCTS Collection Management Section to offer a scholarly communication/collections-themed program (exact title and speakers to be determined) during the regularly scheduled CMS forum slot on January 26th, 4:30-5:30pm.

Will Hires and Julie Speer, Co-Chairs

Science Resources: Discovery & Access Committee

Sandra Barclay, new member of the Science Resources Committee, has agreed to serve as STS Liaison to the MARC Advisory Committee (MAC). Sandra is Cataloging Librarian and Assistant Professor of Library Science at Kennesaw State University, and serves as library liaison for Mathematics & Statistics and for Nursing. As a member of MAC, she will be part of a group providing input to the Library of Congress on MARC issues. MAC formerly met with the ALA MARBI (Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information) committee. With dissolution of MARBI, MAC will continue its work but meet as an independent entity.

Betty Landesman and Larayne Dallas, Co-Chairs
ALSA News

Call for Award Nominations

Excellence in Academic Libraries Award
$3,000 and a plaque
Sponsored by YBP Library Services

Academic/Research Librarian of the Year
$5,000 and a plaque
Sponsored by YBP Library Services

Information for many other award opportunities may be obtained on the ACRL Web site:
http://www.ala.org/acrl/awards

or by contacting Chase Ollis at (312) 280-2521 or collis@ala.org

DEADLINE: December 6, 2013

Apply for ACRL Immersion ’14 (Teacher and Program Tracks)

ACRL is currently accepting applications for the Information Literacy Immersion ’14 Program (Teacher and Program tracks) to be held July 20-25, 2014 at Champlain College in Burlington, VT. Immersion ’14 provides four-and-a-half days of intensive information literacy training and education for academic librarians. Immersion allows you to embrace your educational role by embarking on a path of teacher development and pedagogical inquiry in a community of practice for academic librarians devoted to collaborative learning, individual renewal, and instructional effectiveness.

Acceptance to Immersion ’14 is competitive to ensure an environment that fosters group interaction and active participation. Complete program and track details, along with application materials, are available online. The application deadline is December 6, 2013 and notifications will be issued in February 2014. Questions concerning the program or application process should be directed to Margot Conahan at (312) 280-2522 or e-mail mconahan@ala.org.
Bring the ACRL Standards Workshop to You

Bring the one-day workshop, “Planning, Assessing, and Communicating Library Impact: Putting the Standards for Libraries in Higher Education into Action,” to your campus or consortia. The workshop is led by one or two expert presenters at locations across the country upon request. Libraries in higher education are increasingly required to demonstrate their value and document their contributions to overall institutional effectiveness. The Standards for Libraries in Higher Education is a framework for library planning and assessment that can be used for a variety of circumstances including annual planning, program review, and accreditation self-study. Through presentation, discussion, and group activities, learn how to use the Standards to communicate your library’s impact.

Contact Margot Conahan, Manager of Professional Development, at mconahan@ala.org; 312-280-2522, to discuss dates and locations, pricing, and for complete workshop details.
About the Signal

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We're on the Web!
www.ala.org/acrl/sts