As was typical of the ACRL conferences, many events were held in historical venues that showcased the city as well as the diversity of interests in the association. Interestingly, over 400 people attended the virtual online conference. This option allowed those with limited travel budgets to “attend” many of the programs and will undoubtedly become more popular as some institutions are forced to scale back on funding for travel and professional development.

—Christine Crowley

Philadelphia was the perfect setting for the recent ACRL conference as it helped inform the theme chosen—”A Declaration of Interdependence.” A difficult political climate and troubled economy have affected libraries everywhere and on all fronts—staffing, resources, organization, tax support. Librarians have found our own resilience in knowing that we must keep abreast of cooperative efforts and find ways to share resources like never before.

Programs and keynote speakers alike presented their thoughts and ideas to enable us to do more with little more (or even less!) and find ways to interconnect with each other as well as our constituents—the faculty, staff and students of our academic institutions. I had the pleasure of introducing keynoter Tiffany Shlain, filmmaker, activist, and commenter on where technology is taking us. Our own Kenley Neufeld (above) introduced Raj Patel, another keynoter who spoke on sustainability.

Tiffany Shlain, filmmaker, activist, and commenter on where technology is taking us. Our own Kenley Neufeld (above) introduced Raj Patel, another keynoter who spoke on sustainability.
What would a library conference be without the social events that allow us to network as well as see the local sights? Alice Lubrecht may have moved to the state library in Pennsylvania but she is still one of “us” as she planned the Friday night dinner. A fun evening at Maggiano’s, following the opening reception of the conference exhibits, was enjoyed by a large group. The dinner is an opportunity to network, socialize, share stories and insights about our workplaces, and match faces with names from the listserv.

Below (photo on the left) are dinner attendees Alice Lubrecht, John Russell (Johnson County Community College, KS) and Scott Drone-Silvers (Lake Land College, IL). The photo on the right shows John Russell, Christine Crowley and Micaela Ayers (Butler County Community College, KS) at the exhibits opening.

**CJCLS Dinner and Awards night will be Friday, June 24 in New Orleans.** Sign up at:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JDM5PK2   

Thanks to Ebsco Subscription Services for supporting the cost of the dinner and underwriting the cash awards. If you have questions, contact David Wright, Chair, CJCLS wrightd@surry.edu or 336-386-3252.

**MY FAVORITE PROGRAM AT ACRL**

Okay, the editor’s choice just because I can...looking to promote your services and really engage students? Lyda Ellis, Instruction Librarian & Assistant Professor, University of Northern Colorado and Andrea Falcone, Instruction Librarian & Assistant Professor, University of Northern Colorado did a wonderful demo on Xtranormal, a movie-making program anyone can use.

See it at

http://www.xtranormal.com/
**STAYING IN TOUCH**

While most of us are subscribers to the CJC-L listserv, some may not have learned just how valuable it is! Recent topics have been information literacy instruction and standards, library cafes, laptop checkouts, rocking chairs in the library, dealing with the national survey instruments, and other professional interests. We also have some regular posters (yes, I mean Walt Lessun!) who offer humorous insights on workplace issues. The list is active and helpful. Those who post run from new librarians to the seasoned veterans, department staff to directors and deans. If you aren’t a member of the community, please consider joining the conversation. You won’t regret it. Instructions are at http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/communicate/emaildiscussionlists/index.cfm

**AND THE WINNER IS...**

Congratulations to Kenley Neufeld and his staff at Santa Barbara City College—winners of the ACRL Excellence in Libraries Award for the community college category. This prestigious award recognized their efforts with outreach, working closely with their ESL department.

Lora Mirza, Georgia Perimeter College, won the EBSCO Community College Learning Resources Leadership Award.

The EBSCO Community College Library Program Achievement Award went to Leslie Bussert, head of instruction services at the University of Washington Bothell and Cascadia Community College Library.

Joseph Sanchez of Red Rocks Community College (CO) library was named a Mover and Shaker by Library Journal, as was Jaime Hammond of Naugatuck Valley Community College (CT).

More congratulations are in order! The Council of Chief Librarians of Community Colleges in California announced that their incoming president is Kenley Neufeld. Kenley, I believe you have raised the bar on professional activity and involvement. —CC
After 43 years of working in libraries (academic and public), I find that I have the blessed opportunity to retire. I began my professional career as the director of a small public library in rural northwestern Iowa. I am ending it as the dean of a large community college library in south Texas. There were detours along the way in Massachusetts, Kansas and Missouri. I’ve made friends in many places and done just about everything except cataloging.

My avocation is the theatre and I plan to spend a lot of time there. Along the way I earned enough graduate credits in theatre to teach at the college level so I am saying goodbye to my last class there, too. On that subject, I might change my mind. Working with students very directly has been very rewarding.

Retiring is scary and freeing at the same time. There comes a time when you want the time to meander down that different path before it’s too late. I’m grateful that my experience has put me in a good place to do that and I am leaving my somewhat-now-grown-up baby, Northwest Vista College Library, in someone else’s hands. I will also be signing off the CJCLS listserv. That might be hardest of all, as the conversations we have had over the years have been stimulating, educational, outrageous and fun. I like to think I have contributed to all of those! Our section has been a godsend to new librarians as well as the more seasoned ones.

In September I am off to China with Camila Alire and the People to People Ambassador program. What a great swan song!

Christine Crowley
—Editor