Autumn is always an interesting time of year on college campuses. With the advent of late summer most colleges again become bustling hubs of activity as students return and classes begin. The autumn has been no different, yet, for me it holds a slightly more frantic pace. Just prior to the American Library Association Annual Conference at the end of June members of the CLS Executive Committee learned that our vice-chair/chair-elect would be unable to fulfill her term as chair. The CLS Executive Committee turned to the bylaws and, following a period of consultation, as me to serve the coming year as chair of the ACRL College Libraries Section.

I was just finishing a term as Past-Secretary of CLS which gave me insight into the issues CLS has been dealing with over the past few years. And, so, here I am, writing my first Chair’s Column for the CLS Newsletter.

I am pleased to have been asked to take this responsibility and I look forward to working with the members of the CLS Executive Committee during this coming year. We have begun planning for the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Dallas from January 20–23, 2012. It is expected that the CLS Executive Committee will meet on Saturday morning, January 21, 2012, from 8:00-10:00 a.m. All CLS members are welcome to attend.

The two CLS discussion groups will also meet at the ALA Midwinter meeting. The Medium-Sized Academic Libraries Discussion Group is tentatively scheduled to meet on Saturday, January 21, 2012, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. The College Library Directors Discussion Group is tentatively scheduled to meet on Sunday, January 22, 2012, from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
I would like to update the membership on your elected officers who serve on the CLS Executive Committee. As noted above, I will serve as Chair of CLS this coming year. I am the Library Director at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio and have been a CLS member for over a decade. Your Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect is Jill Gremmels, Director of the Library at Davidson College. Jill will be working throughout this coming year making committee appointments and preparing to take over the chair’s role at the end of Annual Conference 2012. Amy Badertscher, Director of Library Services at Kenyon College will serve as the CLS secretary during the year while Chris Millson-Martula, Director of the Library at Lynchburg College will complete his term as Past-Chair of the section. Our two members-at-large are Carolyn Carpan, Director of Public Services at Hamilton College and Ann Watson, Dean of the Library at Shepard University. These are your elected officers for 2011-12 and help direct the work of the CLS Executive Committee.

In addition to the elected members, committee chairs serve as members of the CLS Executive Committee. CLS has a robust committee structure and I encourage you to volunteer for a committee. You can find more information about the CLS committees at the CLS web page. http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/clsl/clshomepage.cfm

In addition to the CLS Committees there are two active discussion groups that meet at the ALA Midwinter meeting and ALA Annual Conference: the Medium-Sized Academic Libraries Discussion Group and the College Library Director's Discussion Group. These are open to anyone and the conveners will post the discussion topic on COLLIB-L prior to those meetings.

We are always looking for good library staff to work to further the mission of the section.

I look forward to serving as your chair for the coming year. If you have any questions, or suggestions, please feel free to send them to me at dlehman@wittenberg.edu.

ACRL AWARDS

Nominations are now being accepted for ACRL’s Excellence in Academic Libraries Award. This award recognizes an outstanding community college, college, and university library each year. Further information is available on the attached flyer, the ACRL website under “Awards & Scholarships,” or at this direct URL: http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/awards/excellenceacademic.cfm

Submission deadline is Friday, December 2, 2011.
QR or “quick response” codes are visual matrix codes that may be scanned for information access. Or, practically speaking, you can scan a QR code with a mobile device and pull up a link, a short text message, or a business card file.

To get started, get free QR code apps through major app stores and find free QR code generators online. Then you can use them to bookmark information that library users may wish to quickly access without typing in a long series of keystrokes.

Here’s one example. I assembled a display about lowbrow art, an emerging art movement. This featured images from a variety of popular lowbrow artists. Next to the display, I placed a list of the names of the featured artists and QR codes linking to their websites. For example, if a user found the work of artist Tara McPherson interesting, s/he could scan the QR code and visit her website. Of course, the user could write down the URL, or type it into the address bar of the web browser on a mobile device. But that takes time, so many people won’t bother.

The QR code, however, provides instant access to outside resources, thus making the display more engaging. QR codes can be used to direct users to further information about their research topics. For instance, many of our students search for print books on literary criticism. So in the PS call range in the stacks, we placed a placard inviting users to scan a QR code for more information. Scanning the code opens up our online research guide on literary criticism on the user’s mobile device.
The lowbrow art display facilitated with QR codes.

We took advantage of the QR code’s ability to provide instant access by making tour videos accessible through them. We shot 18 short videos about the functions of different parts of the library and then loaded them onto YouTube. Next, we made small posters naming each area of the library and providing a QR code that links to the relevant tour video.

As users explore the library with mobile devices, they can scan a QR code to watch a video describing the functions of that area of the library. Thus QR codes facilitate a self-guided video tour of the library.

These are just three uses that the librarians at the Lone Star College – North Harris Campus have found for QR codes. Other potential uses include distributing user surveys and providing contact information about library staff members. QR code readers and generators are free, so there’s no cost to using them. Just jump right in!

A QR code links users to information at the point of need

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**Library News**

The Lone Star College - North Harris Library in Houston is piloting a device lending program starting this fall. The program consists of two Nook e-readers and four iPods.

The Nooks circulate for two weeks, and are available on a first come, first served basis. There are a few classical titles already pre-loaded on the devices. In order for borrowers to check out the Nooks, borrowers must read, accept, and sign the Nook checkout policy that just basically states that they are responsible for the device, and that they are not to purchase/add any e-books into the Nook.

The iPads check out for in-library use for a period of two hours. They are also on a first come, first served basis. iPad borrowers will be able to browse the internet, browse our website, and use the preloaded apps. One of those preloaded apps is a free QR code reader. With this app, borrowers will be able to experience the QR code tour of the library developed by my colleague David Puller. The devices come with basic general instructions; however staff may still need to provide borrowers with some assistance with using these devices.
The Ottawa University Myers Library has partnered with the Franklin County Historical Society in Ottawa KS and Franklin County libraries and museums to create a historical digital repository. The repository debuted earlier this year, and partners will continue to grow the historical repository by adding their unique historical content to it over the next few years. The Franklin County Historical Society Digital Repository is located at http://www.franklincokshistory.org/

The Mulva Library at St. Norbert College is participating in the Wisconsin Heritage Online Project, a collaborative digitization program dedicated to making Wisconsin’s cultural heritage resources available to a broad audience of students, teachers, scholars, genealogists, and history buffs. As one of the projects, the library collaborated with the College’s Center for Norbertine Studies to make available documents from the history of the Premonstratensian (Norbertine) Fathers in Wisconsin.

This project digitized the diary of the travels of the Austrian Norbertine priest Father Maximilian Gaertner, O.Praem., of Wilten Abbey in Austria. Fr. Gaertner arrived in Wisconsin in 1846, and remained in Wisconsin until recalled to Wilten Abbey in 1858. He worked primarily with another Norbertine of Wilten Abbey, Father Adalbert Inama. Fr. Gaertner’s diaries are an invaluable record of his travels and work in Wisconsin during these years. These diaries are handwritten in German and includes drawings, prayers, news clippings and other mementoes that Fr. Gaertner saved in his diaries. The letters of Fr. Inama are also available on Wisconsin Heritage Online. The Gaertner diaries can be found at: http://tinyurl.com/yw3n5b

On June 30 2011, Ann M. Watson was appointed Dean of the Scarborough Library at Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

Lizah Ismail, Outreach and Instruction Librarian at the A. J. Eastwood Library at Limestone College won the Outstanding Paper Award for the article: “What Net Generation Students Really Want: determining library help-seeking preferences of undergraduates” which was published in Reference Services Review, Volume 38 Number 1, 2010, pp. 10-27. The award was presented in August 2011 at the International Federation of Library Associations’ (IFLA) World Library and Information Congress in Puerto Rico.

Lizah also authored the papers “Getting Personal: Reaching Out to Adult Learners through a Course Management System”, The Reference Librarian, Vol 52, Issue 3, 2011 (July issue) and Britannica Online. A critical review in the Charleston Advisor, Vol 13, no 1, 2011 and presented a paper as part of an American Library Association Panel in New Orleans in June 2011 entitled, “Closing the Gap: Determining library help-seeking preferences of adult learners – a case study of graduate social work students at a liberal arts university”.

Eamon Tewell, Senior Library Assistant at Moore College of Art & Design in Philadelphia, PA will be joining the Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, New York as a Reference Librarian.

Kathy Kempa was promoted to Reference and Electronic Services Librarian at Southeastern University Library.
Grace Veach, Director at Southeastern University published an article entitled: “Divination and Mysticism as Rhetoric in the Choral Space” in the KB Journal this Summer.

Phyllis A. Bratton, Director of the Raugust Library in Jamestown, N.D. received the North Dakota Library Association’s President’s Recognition Award for seeing the association through a transition. It started while she was president, but involved an extra two years of work beyond that. The award was given on September 22, 2011, by NDLA President Rita Ennen. Phyllis says that she still has two more tasks to finish before she will be pleased with the whole transition, but they are manageable.

Andrew Pearson, library director, Bridgewater College (VA), was elected chair of the State Council of Higher Education of Virginia Library Advisory Committee (SCHEV-LAC) for the 2011-2013 term together with Mary Sellen, university librarian, Christopher Newport University, elected as Vice Chair and Cherie Carl, Dean of Learning Resources, Rappahannock Community College will be secretary. This is the first election under the newly revised bylaws for SCHEV-LAC and represents the first time a private college director has been selected to lead the group. The Library Advisory Committee works with the State Council of Higher Education on issues of library importance. LAC consists of librarians from 21 public and three private colleges and universities. This committee also includes the director of library automation and learning resources, the senior coordinator of academic affairs from the Council of Higher Education, the VIVA Project director from George Mason University and the librarian of Virginia from the State Library.


EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION OPENS DECEMBER 2, 2011 ADVANCED REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 13, 2012

Register at http://alamidwinter.org

Submit a proposal for ACRL 2013

The ACRL Conference committee invites you to submit a proposal for ACRL 2013 Imagine, Innovate, Inspire. The conference, to be held in Indianapolis, April 10-13, 2013. Session Formats: Proposals are sought for a variety of formats including contributed Papers, cyber zed shed presentations, panel sessions, pre-conferences, virtual conference webcasts, workshops, poster sessions and roundtable discussions. (Session format descriptions are online.)

How to submit proposals: Proposals must be submitted via the Program Proposal form available online at www.arc.org/acrlconference. Click “Program”.

Deadlines: May 11, 2012: Proposals are due for contributed Papers, panel discussions, workshops and pre-conferences.

November 9, 2012: Proposals due for cyber zed shed presentations, poster sessions, roundtable discussions and virtual conference webcasts.
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