From the Chair

When fall rolls around, it is time for the traditional change in the leadership of the Section. Mark Cain has moved on to other activities, although he will continue to serve CLS as Past Chair for the next year. We certainly appreciate the work he put into moving the Section forward in 2002-2003. Thanks, Mark.

I am happy to be serving as Chair and hope we all have a productive year. For those who don’t know me, I am the director of the library at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin. Like most of you, my library is small with a total of 15 staff. While I try to keep all of us moving in the same direction and attend way too many meetings, I also provide reference service as part of the regular rotation, do a fair share of collection development, and am the one-person public relations department. Each day brings a little bit of everything. Sounds a lot like your job, doesn’t it? CLS is work above and beyond and something I believe is very important to my professional growth.

The Executive Committee deemed the CLS experiment with a Virtual Midwinter a success, so we will continue the practice again this year. Each committee will have a required winter meeting, but it will be conducted via e-mail, chat, discussion list, or conference call so that members do not have to travel to conduct mid-year business. Only a few committees and the Discussion Groups will meet in person in San Diego. The Executive Committee will conduct their business virtually, just like the committees. Very soon, an announcement will come on

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College Library Directors Mentor Program

This fall begins the 12th year of the College Library Directors Mentor Program. During the first 11 years, 159 first-year college library directors have participated in the program. During that same time, 92 experienced directors have served as mentors, including many who participated in the program originally as first-year directors. While there is overlap between the two groups, well over 200 have participated in the program in its first 11 years, which is a substantial portion of college library directors in this country. The participants represent more than forty states. This year should prove to be another ban-

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From the Chair (cont.)

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COLLIB-L with the time and format for these virtual meetings. If you are interested in participating, do contact the appropriate chair. As with many Association activities, CLS is again “out in front” with our virtual meetings. Other sections have inquired about our process; we hope they too will move toward our virtual model.

Partially because of tactics carried out by the Membership Committee, CLS had the largest percentage increase in membership of any ACRL section this past year, a whopping 6.17%. CLS now has 2409 members, which makes us the third largest section after the University Libraries Section and the Instruction Section. We are happy that so many of you have chosen to join us and we will continue to offer services and programs that you want. Be sure to tell me or any member of the Executive Committee what you like (and don’t like) about CLS offerings.

The 2004 Program Committee, chaired by Chris Millson-Martula of Lynchburg College, is formulating a program for the Orlando conference entitled, “A Library Balancing Act: Patron’s Rights vs. National Security.” The combination of panelists and activities they plan should allow each of us to go away with useful strategies for dealing with the changing national security picture. Plan now to join me at the program on Sunday morning, June 27th at 8:30 a.m.

By choosing to be a member of CLS, you have joined a group of hardworking, smart, creative, and friendly professionals. Each of us has way too much to do in our own libraries, but we contribute to CLS because we think our Association work is important and we get value back for our efforts. If you aren’t involved on a committee, do join one of the virtual meetings when they are announced. We appreciate your perspective and want to hear from you. If you are a committee member, I look forward to a great year working with each of you.

Susan Richards
University Librarian
Lawrence University
Appleton, WI

The Transformation of the College Library Workshop

The Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) announces a series of regional workshops in San Francisco, CA, February 26-28; Pittsburgh, PA, April 15-17; and Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN, June 3-5 on The Transformation of the College Library.

The workshops will focus on the dramatic changes now occurring in college libraries and are intended to help small and mid-sized colleges and universities deal successfully with these changes. All such institutions are eligible to apply; preference will be given to CIC members.

The workshops will address such critical issues as ad-
Selected Committee Reports from Toronto

CLIP Notes Committee. CLIP Note #33 on First Year Instruction (Malone and Videon) has just been published and is available from ALA. There is low stock on #17 (Emergency Planning), which will go out of print soon and low stock on #20 (Managing Student Employees). CLIP #23 (User Surveys) has sold 1,288 copies. There was discussion about revising that publication since it has been in print since 1995 and it is still a viable topic due to the interest in assessment in academe. The Special Collections CLIP Note survey has closed out and publication is projected to be at the end of the summer. There were some problems with the online survey and the Committee will investigate other electronic survey collection possibilities. The Marketing Practices CLIP Note survey has been delayed. The Copyright policies CLIP Note survey should go out in early fall. Future topics: Topics of interest to the Committee include government documents, space and remote storage issues, and recruitment. Other preliminary proposals submitted to the Committee include “keeping up” professionally and library cafes.

Communications Committee. After a discussion on the feasibility of and the need for continuing to provide the section Newsletter in both pdf and html formats on the CLS website, the Committee reached consensus to continue publishing a stripped down html version of the Newsletter and to provide one electronic version in pdf on the website. Web editor Ruth Connell reported on con-

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CLS 2002 Program Follow-Up

Attendees at the CLS program in Toronto gave the program, “Casting Our Nets or Ice Fishing: Recruiting Future College Librarians” high marks. The program focused on both the complex circumstances surrounding changes in the profession and the concrete steps each of us can take to assist with recruitment.

The keynote speaker was Maureen Sullivan. Panelists were Prudence Dalrymple, Jean Donham, and Sarah Nes-

beitt, and two new librarians (Lynda Duke and Jennifer Paliatka) made appearances on videotape. The insights and hints and ideas provided are too numerous for a quick newsletter update, so we encourage you to purchase the audiotape from ALA and/or to consult the CLS website for more information.

Tara Lynn Fulton
Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania
2003 Program Committee Chair

Recent Changes to COLLIB-L

The past few months have seen quite a few changes for the COLLIB-L discussion list. These changes include the migration of the list to the ALA server and the transfer of list manager duties. At the end of July the list was moved from the College of Wooster’s “Listserv” server to ALA’s “Listproc” server. The decision to make these changes was made by the CLS Communications Committee in conjunction with then listowner (and current CLS Vice-Chair) Damon Hickey.

Moving the list was primarily influenced by two factors. First, by moving the list to the ALA server, COLLIB-L can now accurately be described as what it has actually been for years: the official discussion list of the College Libraries Section of ACRL. Second, using the ALA server permits list management to be transferred more easily. When the list was privately owned, each time list management changed a new institutional home also had to be found. With the list on the ALA server, list management can change without altering list addresses, transferring subscriber lists, etc. The move to the ALA server was completed with minimal problems.

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The Transformation of the College Library Workshop (cont.)

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Advancing information literacy as an element of liberal education, the role of the library in teaching and learning through collaboration between librarians and faculty members, the changing use of physical space in the library, setting institutional priorities for library-related costs, and assessing the institutional-wide impact of changes in library services.

The workshops are designed for institutional teams and may include up to four representatives, including the library director, the academic dean or provost, the director of academic technology, a faculty member, and the individual with responsibility for faculty development programs. The chief academic officer and the library director must be members of the team. Each workshop will accommodate fifteen institutional teams. Partial subsidies for travel expenses are included.

These workshops are being organized by the Council of Independent Colleges in cooperation with the Council on Library and Information Resources, and funded by ACRL, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, and the Carl and Lily Pforzheimer Foundation.

Further information about the workshops is available on the CIC website at http://www.cic.edu/projects_services/index.asp.
College Library Directors Mentor Program (cont.)

The program continues to consist of three major elements: 1) the matching of first-year college library directors with experienced college library directors; 2) a two and a half day seminar with the first-year directors prior to ALA Midwinter; and 3) the New Directors list serv open only to participants in the program. I continue to manage the program, match the participants, and take care of most of the logistics. Mignon Adams, Director of Library and Information Services of the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia conducts the seminar, along with Tom Kirk, Library Director at Earlham College, and myself. Damon Hickey, Director of Libraries at the College of Wooster, manages the list serv. Obviously this program would not succeed without the contributions of many of the college library community, including the numerous experienced library directors who have served as mentors over the years.

Comments from the participants this past year probably can best convey the benefits of the program:

*Having someone to talk with that was not associated with my parent institution helped to provide an objective and neutral opinion of some of the political situations I faced this year.*

Recent Changes to COLLIB-L (cont.)

In the beginning of August with the list migration done, list management duties were transferred to me, J. Michael (Mike) Thompson, Copy Cataloging Manager at the University of Houston. On August 11th with Damon’s help, I began my term as list manager. I would like to thank Damon for his years of service to COLLIB-L and especially for his help with this transfer of list management. He has really helped to make this transition as seamless as possible.

Finally, I would like to encourage all members of CLS to join COLLIB-L. The list provides both a convenient means of keeping up with CLS activities and a good forum for discussing college library related issues with colleagues from across the country. More information about the list can be found on the CLS website. Please, note that with the switch to the ALA server the discussion list addresses have changed. To execute commands (like subscribing to the list) the address is now listproc@ala.org. To post a message to the list the new address is COLLIB-L@ala.org. Anyone with additional comments and questions can contact me at JMThompson@UH.EDU.

J. Michael Thompson
University of Houston
COLLIB-L List Manager
Medium Sized Libraries Discussion Group Activities

The MSLDG met in Toronto on June 23rd. Thirty one people participated in a lively discussion on the topic of “Building an Assessment Culture in your Library.” The discussion primarily centered on accreditation standards and where they are going since many attendees have or soon will be undergoing review. LibQual+ and assessment in general were also strong themes. There were many questions raised and much advice was exchanged.

At Midwinter in San Diego, on Sunday January 11th, 9:30-11:00 a.m., there will be 2 topics of discussion:
1) PROJECT MERLOT (40 MINUTES). Come and advise representatives from Project MERLOT’s Library Advisory Committee on the best role for libraries and librarians in making the content of MERLOT available to faculty and students. MERLOT is the Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (http://www.merlot.org).

2) ASSESSING VIRTUAL REFERENCE (40 MINUTES). Is e-mail reference the success we thought it would be? Is 24/7 the future of reference? Are your users getting what they need? How can you figure out how well you are serving your customers? Is virtual reference the best way to expand services beyond library hours?

Our discussion topic for Annual is ASSESSMENT, ASSESSMENT, ASSESSMENT! WHAT TO DO and HOW TO DO IT. Are you involved or interested in library assessment? Do you have to do it but you’re unsure how or what is best? Do you know about output measures? Are you perplexed by how to best evaluate services, collections, and users’ satisfaction? Are you trying to figure out the best assessment practices? If you are, come and join us for a discussion on assessment tools. Learn from colleagues about their experience with surveys, questionnaires, focus groups, and case studies.

Assessment, Assessment, Assessment!

Jo-Ann Michalak
Tisch Library, Tufts University
Medford, MA
email: jo-ann.michalak@tufts.edu

Selected Committee Reports from Toronto (cont.)

(Continued from page 3)

Converting the CLS site to the new ALA website format using their content management system. There have been innumerable problems with the new ALA tool and Ruth found the process tedious with unsatisfactory results. She had to upload each page individually (over 500 pages) using a system that is slow, frequently down, and not compatible with Netscape. The urls are long and ugly, the headers and side bars crowded and unattractive, and there are many broken links. If anybody notices broken links, please bring them to Ruth’s attention. Regarding the COLLIB-L listserv, the Committee approved moving the listserv to the ALA server and also approved Mike Thompson as the new list manager, replacing Damon Hickey.

Membership Committee. The Committee discussed methods of increasing contact with new CLS members such as giving them a small gift, or expanding the mentoring activity by identifying them earlier and contacting them prior to the annual conference, accompanying them to CLS programs, or interacting more during the feast. Methods of mentoring new members or potential new members was suggested as a good topic for the Committee’s midwinter meeting. Susan Richards distributed a summary report of CLS Membership Committee activities. In her discussion of the report, she praised the Committee for the success of its recruitment efforts. CLS, with 2,409 members as of February 2003, is the third largest section within ACRL and achieved the largest growth rate between August 2002 and February 2003, an increase of 6.17%. Specific activities noted in Susan’s report include: letters to new members and dropped members, letters to library school students, recruitment on COLLIB-L, and letters to state ACRL Chapters.

To see the full minutes of all CLS Committee meetings, go to the CLS website under Committee Information.
KUDOS (cont.)

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topic of “Questions of Importance to Academic Librarians.” To read the interview online, go to: http://faculty.jscc.edu/scohen/nelsoninterview.html.

Susan M. Ryan, Associate Library Director at Stetson University in DeLand, FL, was promoted to Professor, effective August 2003. Ryan has published widely, especially in the field of government information. Her most recent publication was “Library Web Site Administration,” Journal of Academic Librarianship, v.29 n.4, 2003:207-218.

Carolyn A. Sheehy, Director of Library Services at North Central College in Naperville, IL was awarded the Melvin R. George Award from LIBRAS, a consortium of 17 private college and university libraries in the Chicago metropolitan area. The award is given to someone who has made a significant contribution within LIBRAS to library service with special emphasis on library cooperation.

Risë L. Smith, Public Services Librarian at Dakota State University in Madison, SD, was promoted to Professor, effective July 1st, 2003. Risë is very active in information literacy instruction and assessment as well as serving as the designer and author of much of the content of Mundt Library Online, the website of the Karl E. Mundt Library.

Kendra St. Aubin, Collection Development Librarian, has been promoted to the rank of Associate Librarian at Bridgewater State College, MA, effective September 1st, 2003. She is also serving as Secretary of the Rhode Island Chapter of the Special Libraries Association for 2003-2004.

Medium Sized Libraries Discussion Group (cont.)

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It’s obvious from our discussion group topics that assessment is a hot issue.

If you want to learn more about assessment, here are some upcoming workshops and presentations from Bill Nelson and Bob Fernakes on Assessment and the Standards for Libraries in Higher Education:


And remember, Standards and Assessment for Academic Libraries: A Workbook, authored by Bill Nelson and Bob Fernakes, is now available for purchase from ACRL.

CLS Friday Night Feast Follow-Up

Forty librarians and guests sampled a variety of Indian delicacies at the 5th annual CLS Friday Night Feast, held this year at Dhaba Restaurant in Toronto. Chef PK and his wife Taruna provided a warm welcome, offering individually prepared dishes and providing very attentive service. New and not so new CLS members had the chance to relax in a comfortable dining setting while enjoying excellent cuisine prepared in Tandoor ovens. Our thanks to Haworth Press for their continued sponsorship of the Feast.

Volume 19, Issue 2
We May Be Meeting in Fantasyland
But We Still Have To Live In The Real World

If you’re like many librarians, living in the age of terrorism has impacted you directly both personally and professionally. What should you do to attain a reasonable balance between society’s need for national security and your customers’ legitimate needs for privacy and confidentiality? Are those needs under attack or rather under a protective umbrella? Attendance at the CLS Orlando program on Sunday, June 27th at 8:30 a.m. will enable you to pick up some tips from colleagues who have already addressed these issues. Of equal importance, you will develop skills, through hands on activities, that you can take back to your library to undertake those actions that are appropriate for your situation. Don’t miss A LIBRARY BALANCING ACT—PATRON RIGHTS VS. NATIONAL SECURITY.

Chris Millson-Martula
Lynchburg College
Lynchburg, VA