You probably know what CLS stands for. If you don’t, we are the College Libraries Section. However, you may not know all that CLS can do for you.

For many years, it has been my pleasure and privilege to work with and be associated with a group of intelligent, hard-working colleagues who have been willing to devote their time and efforts to advance the cause of college librarianship, helping not only libraries as organizations but also their staffs. Their efforts have made the section what it is today.

In mid-2011, the following represents a snapshot of the myriad ways in which the section can serve as a valuable resource for you and your colleagues.

To enhance organizational effectiveness and strengthen the programs of library services that a college or small university library typically offers, the section offers the College Library Director Mentor Program, the College Library Web Site of the Month on the section’s homepage (http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/about/sections/cls/clshomepage.cfm), discussion groups for college library directors and medium-sized academic libraries at both the Midwinter meeting and Annual Conference, and one of ACRL’s best-selling publications, CLIP Notes (College Library Information Packet). The recently published CLIP Note (#42), Collection Development in a Changing Environment: Policies and Organization for College and University Libraries, is the first in the series to be published digitally. Under the leadership of Jill Gremmels, the CLIP Notes Committee has been exploring publishing options to insure the series’ continuing relevance for libraries. Another CLS committee is currently working on the creation of a Webinar to assist staff as they prepare for and proceed through the process related to a regional accreditation.

To support professional development as well as contributions to the profession, the Research for College Librarianship committee offers the “Your Research Coach” Program that links aspiring authors with experienced authors who are willing to serve as mentors to better enable the former to get published. The committee is also planning to revive InPrint, an online resource that connects authors of articles with appropriate journal publication venues. An upcoming event that you won’t want to miss is the section’s program at the Annual Conference. This year, we are pleased to jointly sponsor with the University Library Section Academic Librarian Lightning Round: Innovative New Roles. The session will take place Saturday, June 25 from 1:30 pm until 3:30 pm, and I hope to see you there.

Lastly, we were pleased to host a reception at the ACRL conference in Philadelphia to both recruit new members to the section as well as extend our appreciation to current members for their membership and involvement in the section; approximately seventy individuals attended, and it was very good to see many of you. Many thanks to Mary Heinzman and the Membership Committee for planning this event. The section’s main social event of the year, the Friday Night Feast, will be held once again on the Friday of the Annual Conference in New Orleans. Information about the event will be forthcoming.

Thus, as you can see, the section has much to offer you. Be sure to take advantage of it and also share your expertise. You, your libraries, and your colleagues will all be winners. See you in New Orleans.

Christopher Millson-Martula, CLS Chair 2010/11
It’s always sunny in Philadelphia?
......A view from a first-time attendee...

Not so, as the attendees of this year’s ACRL conference learned. However, just because it was dreary and gray outside, doesn’t mean that the forecast for a great conference wasn’t favorable inside the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

At the first-time attendees’ orientation, ACRL president, Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, told us not to worry, because everyone who is attending this conference is overwhelmed. How could one not be with so many fabulous papers, presentations, panel sessions, poster sessions, discussion groups, and round tables from which to choose?

The highlight of the conference for me was the “Value of Academic Libraries” panel session with Mary Ellen Davis, Lisa Janicke Hinchliffe, and Megan Oakleaf. Not only do I believe that this report and the panel session at the conference will be groundbreaking for our profession, it really provided a great lens with which I could view everything that I attended. Many of the sessions I attended addressed the idea of assessment of libraries and collaboration with our campus colleagues -- Are we doing it correctly? How can we improve our relationships across our campuses and help our colleagues to understand what we do? Oakleaf pointed out in a couple of sessions that our student affairs colleagues are ahead of the game and could provide us with a model of how to proceed.

Another highlight of the conference was the CLS Meet and Greet, which was sponsored by Taylor & Francis. This was a great opportunity to get to know and relax with other college librarians from across the country. (Also, the spinach and artichoke dip was delicious!) Ironically, after a pair of gray, dreary, rainy days, I finally saw some blue sky as I was walking back to my hotel room from the Meet and Greet event!

If I’m going to be honest, the real highlight of my time in Philadelphia was the closing keynote speech by What Not to Wear host Clinton Kelly. Kelly gave us his seven tips for personal image transformation and lasting change with his trademark humor and snarky remarks. This idea of image transformation and perception was thought-provoking to me as a librarian, not because of fashion or style, but because of our perception amongst our colleagues.

It seems to me that this theme of image or perception relates to most of the sessions that I attended throughout this conference. How do our peers in higher education, including on our own campuses, perceive us? Is our image favorable? Are we proving, through assessment and data, that we are an asset to our

Campuses? Although these questions are difficult and complex, I truly believe that we, as a profession, need to begin addressing them. The ACRL 2011 conference certainly has given us a great launching pad to do just this.

-Amanda L. Folk
Reference/Instruction Librarian
Univ. of Pittsburgh @ Greensburg
Steven J. Bell, Associate University Librarian for Research and Instructional Services, Temple University (PA), published an article entitled “Fit Libraries are Future-Proof” in the October 2010 issue of American Libraries and “Fish Market 101: Why Not a Reference User Experience?” in the November 15 (Reference Supplement issue), Library Journal. Steven also presented “Designing the Future-Proof Library: Using Design Thinking to Make it Happen” for the Missouri Library Network Corporation on Nov. 9, 2010 in Ballwin, MO and participated in a panel presentation at the ALISE Conference on Jan. 5 with “A Modest Proposal: Integrating Design Philosophy Into the LIS Curriculum”.

Robin Wagner, Library Director at Gettysburg College (PA) has published “A Little Bit of Love for Me and Murder for My Old Man: The Queensland Bush Book Club,” in Collections, Characters & Communities: the Shaping of Libraries in Australia and New Zealand, Melbourne: Australian Scholarly Publishing, 2010. Robin was recently invited to present papers at the University of Queensland and the State Library of Queensland on books and reading in the Australian Outback in the early twentieth century.

Lynn Scott (Scottie) Cochrane retired from Denison University's William Howard Doane Library Jan. 28, 2011, after 10 years at the university and 40 years in academic libraries. Before going to Ohio (aka libraryland) in 2000, Scottie held library positions at Marymount University, Arlington, VA; Virginia Tech; Virginia Commonwealth U., the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, and Penn State. She is back at home now with her husband, Louis Middleman, in Washington, DC. Her Denison e-mail remains: cochrane@denison.edu, and she hopes to keep in touch with library friends.
Annual Conference Information Online

Find updated program details and speaker information on the ACRL at Annual Conference Web page. Go to www.acrl.org, select “Conferences & Events,” and click on “ACRL @ ALA Annual Conference” for the latest!

Locations for programs and meetings will be available on the ALA Web site approximately one month prior to the beginning of the Annual Conference; look for the “Event Planner” link on the ALA Annual Conference Web site at www.ala.org/annual. Fully registered attendees can create a personalized agenda and search for meeting, program, and event times and locations.

RBMS Preconference Registration now open!

52nd Annual RBMS Preconference
*In the Hurricane’s Eye: Challenges of Collecting in the 21st Century*
Tuesday, June 21 to Friday, June 24, 2011
Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Registration and housing are now open for the 52nd Annual RBMS Preconference!

The preconference will feature four plenary sessions exploring cultural stewardship, regional collecting, the value of special collections, and preservation and disaster recovery, as well as short papers, case studies, discussion sessions, and seminars on a variety of topics of interest to all of us who work with special collections. Three full-day workshops will also be offered on Tuesday, as well as our largest Booksellers’ Showcase ever, with 42 dealers, a Welcome Reception, and the traditional New Members Mixer. Please make sure you arrive in Baton Rouge early enough on Tuesday to take advantage of these exciting events!

Register early for best availability of events and hotel rooms. Register before May 18 and save $50 on the registration fee. For full information please see the preconference Website at: [http://www.rbms.info/conferences/preconferences/2011/](http://www.rbms.info/conferences/preconferences/2011/).

The Local Arrangements team in Baton Rouge has done a wonderful job preparing to make everyone feel welcome. An array of tours, receptions, and a restaurant night are being offered to ensure that we all have a very enjoyable time during our visit to Baton Rouge. We’re very excited about bringing the RBMS preconference to Louisiana for the first time, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Henry Raine
New-York Historical Society
RBMS Chair, 2010-2011

Steven Escar Smith
Texas A & M University
Chair, 2011 Preconference Program Committee

Elaine B. Smyth
Louisiana State University
Chair, 2011 Preconference Local Arrangements Committee
Visit the ACRL e-Learning site to register for online learning opportunities this summer!

Online Seminars:

- Designing Usable and Accessible Web Pages (May 16-June 3)
- Successful Budgeting in Academic Libraries (May 23-June 10)
- Learning Objects: Creating Instruction to Go (May 31-June 21)
- Instructional Design for Online Teaching and Learning (July 11-29)
- Implementing Online Teaching and Learning: Using Moodle and Other Web 2.0 (August 8-26)

Live Webcasts:

- The Library’s Role in Ensuring the Success of International Efforts on Campus (July 12)

ACRL e-Learning Frequent Learner Program

Did you know that individuals or groups that sign up for 3 e-Learning courses or Webcasts will receive complimentary registration to one additional course or Webcast? Contact Margot Conahan at mconahan@ala.org or (312) 280-2522.

Photo courtesy of Anna Mary Williford, Univ. of Pgh. At Greensburg
Showing @ the ALA Film Program in New Orleans!

Hope to see you there!

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