View from the Chair

It is hard to believe that spring has finally arrived. I am certainly looking forward to the sun and warmth of Las Vegas. I have a feeling that most of us are ready for clear blue skies.

It is always amazing what the section is able to accomplish each year. I wanted to express my appreciation to everyone who volunteered for a committee appointment, and the time they have contributed. The hard work of the committee chairs and members make the accomplishments of the section possible. It has been wonderful working with CLS members this year, and a pleasure to serve the section as chair.

Here are a few highlights of the section’s accomplishments over the past year. The Your Research Coach program is flourishing. To date the committee has matched 14 partners with a coach.

It is a wonderful opportunity to match new researchers with experienced writers who can provide advice, guidance, and encouragement. The Communications committee has a new feature called “A Day in the Life of a CLS Member”. It showcases the complexities and variety that comes with working in a college library. The Leadership committee had a strong pool of applicants for the ACRL/CLS ProQuest Innovation in College Librarianship Award. Congratulations to the 2014 recipient, Moraine Valley Community College Library, for their work on the “One Book One College” program. This generous award from ProQuest highlights the innovative ideas of college librarians.
Membership in the CLS section continues to remain strong and the Executive Board strives to meet the needs of our members. At the 2014 Midwinter Meeting, the Executive Board set two goals:

1. Conversation, connection, collaboration, and celebration for librarians who serve primarily undergraduate and teaching-focused institutions.
2. Nimble section which is responsive to the needs of members.

These goals define the importance of maintaining a section that is focused on the work of college libraries and helping college librarians succeed. The programs and committee structure of CLS should reflect the needs of our membership. Thus the Executive Board has decided to disband the professional development committee. ACRL has several interest groups and committees focused on professional development and the CLS committee was often duplicating the work of other groups. The Medium-sized discussion group will have a name change. Medium-sized can be hard to define and over the years the discussion group has focused on current topics which are of interest to college libraries no matter the size. Therefore Current Topics in College Libraries discussion group should clearly define the purpose of the group. At the ALA Annual Conference, the CLS program “Science + Form = Function: The Impact of Neuroscience on Architecture & Design” explores the connection between physical space, personal experience, and well-being. It is a timely topic as libraries are exploring new definitions of the brick-and-mortar facility. The CLS conference program and the discussion groups provide a great opportunity to focus on ideas and issues that are essential to college librarians. Another opportunity to talk with college librarians is the Friday Night Feast. WT Cox has generously agreed to sponsor this year’s dinner. Their sponsorship of the Friday Night Feast helps to keep the cost of the dinner affordable so be sure to stop by the WT Cox booth, and thank them for supporting the College Libraries Section.

See you in Las Vegas!

Tech It Out

There is certainly no shortage of instructional technologies and tools available today, but effectively incorporating these tools in library instruction can be challenging. Tech it out is a new blog by Megan McGuire and Serene Rock, Library Faculty in the Maricopa Community College District (Arizona), devoted to new and emerging technologies and the very practical instructional application of these tools for information literacy instruction and beyond.

In this blog, we discuss various tech tools that can be used for information literacy instruction, promoting and marketing library resources and services, or other library related activities. We explain how to use each tool and share examples from our own classes or experiences. Tech it Out!
A Day in the Life of a CLS Member is a new blog that features short interviews with different CLS members in order to:

- Introduce CLS members to one another and encourage professional connections
- Highlight the positive experiences and professional development that comes from CLS membership
- Showcase the diversity and enthusiasm of CLS members

Consider contributing! This is a very small time commitment. It consists of sending in a photo and answering four fun short questions in 50 words or less. You can learn more on our nomination page.

If you are at all interested in being featured, or know of a CLS colleague who you think would make a great feature please do let us know!

Connect with CLS

The ALA Midwinter Meeting and Annual Conference provide excellent opportunities for CLS members to connect with one another, but what about the months in between these events? Don’t worry--CLS has you covered! You can exchange ideas through Collib-L, our always active listserv for college librarians, “like” the CLS page on Facebook and share comments and photos with colleagues, or follow CLS on Twitter (@ACRL_CLS). You can also subscribe to the CLS College Libraries list on Twitter for continuous news and fun from your peer institutions.

This fall the CLS Communications Committee created a new opportunity for you to learn more about your fellow CLS members through the new A Day in the Life of a CLS member feature. If you’d like to nominate yourself or a colleague to be featured, you can do so on the site’s nomination form or email Monica Berger at monicabergerbklyn@gmail.com for more information.

You can also learn more about CLS on our organization homepage, which now has quick and easy links to CLS projects and publications.

Staying connected with CLS gets easier every year but we’re always looking for new ideas. If you have any suggestions, please contact Veronica Arellano Douglas, CLS Communications Committee Chair at varellano@gmail.com.

Pinteresting in Academic Libraries

The Merced College Libraries, the Merced College Learning Resources Center and the Los Baños Campus Library have launched a Pinterest page. We have boards with research guides, search tips, library humor, book reviews, library displays, community events, and college news at both campuses. Our objective is to engage our college community and have some fun while learning about new resources and ideas. Check out our boards on Pinterest!

The Merced College Libraries Pinterest account was created by Joey Merritt, Associate Librarian and Lindsay Davis, Reference Librarian. It is primarily maintained by Joey at the Merced Campus, with assistance from Lindsay at the Los Baños Campus. If you are interested in launching an account for your library and would like more information about our experience thus far, please contact us: joey.merritt@mccd.edu or lindsay.davis@mccd.edu.
The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) announced the recipients of the 2014 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award earlier this year. Sponsored by ACRL and YBP Library Services, the award recognizes the staff of a college, university and community college library for programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution. This year's recipient for the college library award is Lafayette College in Easton, Pa. Skillman Library of Lafayette College impressed the selection committee with its digital scholarship experimentation, as well as its pioneering in acquisitions models.

College Lafayette College seeks to be a model for other colleges and has been in the forefront on getting grants and experimenting with digital scholarship in the liberal arts setting,” noted Joyce Ogburn, chair of the 2014 Excellence in Academic Libraries Committee and dean of the libraries at Appalachian State University. “The library implemented new models of acquisitions for journals by combining strategic cancellations with article by article purchase. They led the way for other liberal arts colleges by developing consortial approaches to patron driven acquisitions for ebooks, joining Hathi Trust and implementing the Ithaka faculty survey on their campus.”

ACRL/Choice seeks reviewers

Resources for College Libraries (RCL), a publication of the Association of College & Research Libraries’ Choice magazine and ProQuest, is currently seeking academic librarians with collection development experience in the arts and humanities to participate as peer referees. Available online at the Resources for College Librarians website. RCL provides a list of over 85,000 core titles across 61 subjects that are essential for undergraduate libraries.

We are currently seeking peer reviewers for the following RCL subjects: American Literature, British Literature, Classical Languages and Literatures, Dance, Drama and Theater, French Language and Literature, General Language and Literature, Germanic Languages and Literatures, Italian Language and Literature, Music, Other Literatures in English, Philosophy, Religion, Russian and Eastern European Languages and Literatures, Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures, and Visual Arts

Referees will be responsible for comprehensively evaluating the RCL subject’s bibliographic content, along with its taxonomic organization. All referee work is scheduled for completion by August 15, 2014. Please consider submitting your name to participate in this one-time professional service opportunity. To volunteer as a reviewer, contact Anne Doherty (RCL Project Editor; adoherty@ala-choice.org) with your contact information, CV/resume, and a brief description of your qualifications, particularly any experience maintaining or assessing core collections in the subject area.