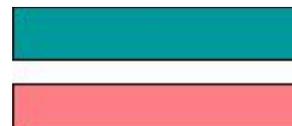


EBSS Newsletter



Fall 2005

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“Empirical Desires, Realized Dreams: Quantitative & Qualitative Research in the Era of No Child Left Behind” program at ALA Annual, June 2005

Panelists Lisa Markman, Associate Director of the Education Research Section at Princeton University; Harrison Dekker, Social Sciences Statistics Librarian, University of California, Berkeley; and Craig B. Howley, Education Studies Department and Aimee Howley, Educational Administration, Ohio University, discussed educational research at the EBSS sponsored program.

Lisa Markman opened the program with information about what constitutes the “scientifically based research” required by the No Child Left Behind Act. She defines it as “research that involves the application

of rigorous, systematic, and objective procedures to obtain reliable and valid knowledge relevant to education activities and programs.”

She spoke of educational research that is too often lax in these areas because they fail to use comparison groups or evaluators who are not independent. Her solution is to use randomized evaluations as a strategy. She included various ways of using randomization and addressed many of the concerns that educators have; including that randomization is too disruptive and not fair to all. She emphasized that we need more quality education research and referred to several web-based resources such as What Works Clearinghouse <<http://www.whatworks.gov>> and the National Longitudinal Study of Youth <http://www.bls.gov/nls>.

Second speaker, Howard Dekker, discussed educational research and university librarians using a course from the Mellon Faculty Fellowship for Undergraduate Research as an example.

He also cited Virtual Data Center as a model for enabling the sharing of data among universities. His list of “noteworthy web-based data tools” included Virtual Data Center <<http://www.thedata.org>>, DataFerrett/DataWeb <http://thedataweb.org>, Survey Documentation and Analysis <http://sda.berkeley.edu:7502/>, and Nesstar <http://www.nesstar.com>.

The other speakers, Aimee and Craig Howley, approached education research from a quite different view. Using a tale in the form of a “Chicken Little” metaphor, the Howleys point out the problems with scientifically-based research such as incorrectly assuming that educational practices are applicable across all populations. They assert that a common consequence of the current research emphasis is that the teachers end up “teaching the test” in order to improve scores.

They conclude that qualitative research is preferable because it takes into account *continued on page 4*



Kate Corby wins the 2005 EBSS Distinguished Librarian Award

The 2005 Distinguished Education and Behavioral Sciences Librarian Award was presented to Kate Corby at the EBSS program on Saturday, June 25 during the annual ALA conference.

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A Publication of the Education and Behavioral Sciences Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a Division of the American Library Association

EBSS Midwinter Schedule Changes

ALA’s new policy of uniform meeting times has necessitated changes in the EBSS schedule.

Check out the revised schedule on page 5.

Visit the EBSS Website at <http://www.acrl.org/ebss>

From the Chair

Doug Cook

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I was a slightly taken aback at Annual 05 (innocently performing my Vice-Chair duties) when I found out that over the summer the Incoming Chair (me) was required to create “ACRL Action Plans” for the Section. For the first time, the ACRL board asked Sections for innovative projects that supported the Association’s Strategic Planning efforts over the next two years. After getting numerous ideas from EBSS officers and friends, I stalled for as long as I could. I went on vacation to Yellowstone National Park. I photographed the bison. I rafted the Snake River. I went to a rodeo. I participated in a wolf tracking seminar. (Only saw tracks – no wolves.) The Action Plan deadline finally crept up on me in a hotel room in Cody, Wyoming. (Aren’t wireless laptops great?) Here is a summary of what we asked to be funded from ACRL.

2006 – A proposal to sponsor a classroom faculty member from the disciplines of the Social or Behavioral Sciences to attend ALA Annual 2006 and meet with members of EBSS who will be working on creating discipline specific Information Literacy Competency Standards.

2007 – A proposal to create an award program for the “Education and Behavioral Sciences Research of the Year.” Journal articles, scholarly papers presented at con-

ferences, books, theses, and dissertations would be eligible. The award would be presented at a proposed “Research in the Education and Behavioral Sciences Forum” to be held at ALA Annual. This could become the task of the new EBSS Research Committee.

2007 – A proposal to create a scholarship/ALA attendance program for diverse college undergraduate upperclassmen potentially interested in entering librarianship as a profession. We often enter the profession because we have been encouraged to do so by a practicing librarian. We proposed to provide an opportunity for mentor/mentee relationships by appealing to practicing librarians.

As with any proposal situation, I have no idea if these ideas will be funded by ACRL. Even without funding we may be able to use any of them interest you or your committee.

This year, as Chair, I would like to follow the lead of our 2006 Action Plan and focus on Information Literacy. The ACRL Board has formed a group which is “reviewing” Information Literacy standards created by the Sections since the implementation of the 2001 Standards. Several other sections have worked on discipline-specific Information Literacy Standards. I will be setting up an ad hoc Information Literacy Committee to inform EBSS’ efforts to look at standards related to our disciplines. This committee will be charged with pulling together EBSS documents which exist, looking at the 2001 ACRL standards, looking at discipline-related standards created by other sections, and gathering input from our non-library academic colleagues. I have also been in contact with the ANSS committee with a similar charge.



Doug and his wife, Carolyn, find wolf tracks at Yellowstone

CHOICE Kudos for Communications Website

CHOICE Subject: Humanities-Communication

Library resources for communication studies, Internet Resource <http://www.lib.washington.edu/subject/communications/lrcs/> Reviewed in 2005sup CHOICE.

[Visited May'05] Mounted by the Education and Behavioral Sciences Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, this site is an essential resource for communication materials for an academic department or specific group of professionals (e.g., advertising agency, film studio, newspaper, magazine publisher). Unlike most library resource pages, which usually support only a finite number of communication subject areas, this page covers the entire breadth of subjects encompassed by the

term "communication." The site offers a briefly annotated list of links to both print and electronic resources (the latter themselves linked) including vendors, archives, databases, and services. It provides vital information not only for those building a new library collection or updating one (the site's intended purpose) but also for anyone doing research in these areas. Most of the electronic resources require paid subscriptions, which may frustrate undergraduates but perhaps encourage them to negotiate access through departments or the library. As a reference tool, this site replaces some communication bibliographies of the past that have not been updated.

Summing Up: Highly recommended. All collections; all levels. - L. A. Beinhoff, Sauk Valley Community College

New EBSS Web Manager

My name is Jessica Albano. I am the Communication Studies and Assistant Newspaper Librarian at the University of Washington Libraries on the Seattle campus. These roles allow me to pursue my many professional interests, some of which include using the Web to improve access to library resources; using Web technologies in library instruction; marketing of subject librarians and the services that they provide; finding creative ways to provide reference service; and digitizing news-

papers to increase access to these valuable primary sources.

While I applied to be the EBSS Web Manager for many reasons, I am most excited by the opportunity to collaborate with the members of EBSS. My first task is to move the EBSS Web site to the ALA server. I would like to thank Kate Corby for continuing to maintain the current EBSS Web site while I undertake this challenging task. I look forward to working with all of you!

Kate Corby

continued from page 1

Kate is currently Reference Librarian/Education and Psychology Bibliographer at Michigan State University. Kate is well-known to most members of the library field who work with education materials, government agencies, or psychology resources.

While her entire career has been notable, she achieved prominent national visibility when she created her ERIC Reauthorization News Web page <<http://www.lib.msu.edu/corby/ebss/assesseric.htm>> that chronicles the status of ERIC (Educational Resources Information Center) as it has been reorganized by the federal government.

Judy Walker, EBSS Chair, presented the award -- a certificate and a \$1,000 check sponsored by John Wiley & Sons, Inc. Trudy Lindsey was on hand to represent John Wiley and Sons, and to add her congratulations to Kate.

Kate has the distinction of receiving an unprecedented number of nominations for the award. This recognition of her contributions to the field is well deserved.

Kate has used a variety of methods to keep the concerned public informed by providing accurate reports, the latest updates, and background on how she obtained her information regarding ERIC.

Kate was active in librarianship long before the ERIC

reauthorization thrust her into the public spotlight, however. She was the Chair of EBSS during 2002-2003, which followed a long record of activity in the American Educational Research Association, EBSS, and the Michigan Library Association.

Never one to slow down, Kate was elected as Councilor at Large to the American Library Association in 2003. She continues to make major contributions in other areas such as her editorial work. She currently is Brief Reviews Editor of the Education Review Editorial Board <<http://edrev.asu.edu/contact.html>>, an online review source, as well as co-editor of the education segment of the forthcoming Choice Reviews project, Resources for College Libraries. She is a steady contributor of articles to the library literature, and active in faculty governance at Michigan State University.

The Education and Behavioral Sciences Section is delighted to have Kate recognized with the 2005 Distinguished Education and Behavioral Sciences Librarian Award.

Thanks!

I'd like to thank several people for their help with this newsletter: specifically, Doug Cook for some of the great Chicago photos and Dana Peterman for help with the research program article. In addition, a number of section listserv readers helped with proofreading and editing.

From the Chair

Doug Cook

continued from page 2

Also, I would like to thank you all for your participation in the Section activities. One of the things which has always impressed me about EBSS is the amazing amount of volunteer spirit you display. When I put out a call last fall for volunteers I was overwhelmed by how many of you were willing (with only minor whining on my part) to help plan the EBSS Grant Writing Program at Annual 2006. Lisa Romero and Lee Lefleur not only volunteered to plan the program but to Co-Chair it as well. They have put together an excellent program.

Members-at-Large, Deborah Schaeffer and Melissa Cast have fostered more of your exuberant efforts by coordinating the Mid-Winter Current Topics Discussion Groups on Saturday afternoon, January 21, 2006. They will include:

- The Role of Electronic Textbooks in the CMC. Sponsored by the Curriculum Materials Committee
- University Politics 101: Working the System. Sponsored by the Higher Education Committee
- Meeting the Instructional Needs of Today's Education Student. Sponsored by the Instruction for Educator's Committee
- Librarian vs. Vendor: Winning Strategies and Useful Insights. Co-Sponsored by the Communication

Studies Committee & the Electronic Resources in Communication Studies Committee

A number of you volunteered for the new EBSS committees set up last year – the Ad Hoc Research Committee chaired by Penny Beile, the ERIC Users Group chaired by Judy Walker, the Electronic Resources in Communication Studies Committee chaired by Lisa Romero, and the Ad Hoc Best Collaborative Practices Committee chaired by Lori Mestre.

While I am expressing appreciation to EBSS members I would like to say thanks to Judy Walker who served as my mentor last year while I was Vice-Chair. I need to give Kate Corby thanks twice over -

first for guiding us through the ERIC reorganization, and secondly for serving for so long as the EBSS Web Master. Jessica Albano has been appointed as the incoming EBSS Web Manager.

And finally, our hearts go out to those who have gone through the recent hurricane damage in the South. I encourage you to contribute to the ALA Hurricane Library Relief Fund. Check ALA's website for details of the relief effort and opportunities to donate. New Orleans is one of my favorite conference cities. I trust that soon I will be able to sit in Jackson Square and drink coffee at the Café du Monde once again.

Have a great fall. I will see you in San Antonio.

“Empirical Desires...”

continued from page 1

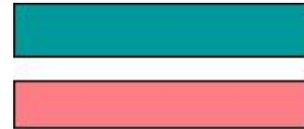
the complexity of individual school and classrooms. They anticipate that their current project, qualitative research in the form of case studies for the Ohio Department of Education, “will provide a resource to schools in the state” by providing ‘lessons learned’ that “might show a teacher or principal how to do something in a different way.”

The text of the Howley presentation along with the PowerPoint from Lisa Markham's presentation is available at <<http://lib.msu.edu/corby/ebss/05annual.htm>>.



Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House on the University of Chicago campus

ERIC Users Group Sponsors Panel Discussion



Responding to concerns about changes in ERIC, the ERIC Users Group sponsored a panel presentation. As Moderator, outgoing EBSS President Judy Walker opened the Program and introduced the panelists from CSC (Computer Sciences Corporation): Nancy Cawley, Mike Weber, Pete Dagutis, and Jane Atwell.

The program began with an update on ERIC by Nancy Cawley. One of the new features is an online submission form for ERIC documents. She reported that the eagerly awaited new 2004-2005 materials had just been released. At the present time [June 2005], the new material is available only through the official ERIC web site. CSC is in the process of establishing new relationships with publishers and database providers, and the availability of indexing is dependent on the new agreements.

The update was followed by questions from the floor. Information generated from the questions included frequency of updates. CSC reported that new records are expected to be added monthly, possibly more often, depending on the vendors. Pete Dagutis is in charge of the Thesaurus, and questions

sent to him will be forwarded to the Quality Assurance team. Selecting new terms for the Thesaurus will involve subject and content experts and the steering committee.

The vision for ERIC is to be inclusive for materials related to education, including gray literature and individually submitted materials. ERIC's priorities for inclusion are USDOE reports, peer reviewed education journals, major publishers of education journals, major education research association publications, and state education agency publications.

Other information was related to usability studies. Included in the studies were librarians in both higher education and K-12, K-12 teachers, people from nonprofits, and faculty and students of a local Chicago campus. There is a list of ERIC experts available at the ERIC web site <<http://www.eric.ed.gov>>.

Judy Walker closed with comments that representation from K-12 practitioners seems to be lacking and that an ERIC blog could be used to keep all ERIC users informed. There is link to the ERIC Users Committee on the EBSS web site.

Midwinter EBSS Schedule Changes

By Doug Cook, EBSS
Chair

Make sure that you check the Midwinter Schedule before you make your EBSS travel plans this year.

ALA has created uniform meeting times. Meetings can only begin at 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 1:30 pm, or 4:00 pm. Also ALA has created Section no/low conflict times each day so that members can attend ALA or ACRL programming. These changes have caused us to restructure our EBSS Midwinter schedule. Our Annual schedule will also be changed.

Here is the basic Midwinter schedule. Check the EBSS website for details.

SATURDAY, January 21, 2005

- 8:00-10:00 – EBSS Executive Committee
- 10:30-12:30 - Consolidated Committee Meeting (and others wanting to meet separately)
- 1:30-3:30 - Current Topics Discussion
- 4:00-6:00 - EBSS Social

SUNDAY, January 22, 2005

- 8:00-10:00 - Committees
- 10:30-12:30 – Committees
- 1:30-3:30 – Committees
- 4:00-6:00 – EBSS Advisory Committee (Exec and all Committee Chairs)



ERIC panel members answer questions after the program

News from Members

Jeff Luzius graduated from Auburn University May 13th with EdD in Higher Education Administration. He also started a new job September 1st at Gadsden State Community College in Gadsden, AL, where he is the new Library Director (Associate Dean for Library Services). He was formerly Head of Document Delivery and Education Librarian at Auburn University.

Sharon Weiner is the new Co-Chair of the National Forum on Information Literacy, along with Dr. Lana Jackman (<http://www.infolit.org>). Dr. Patricia Breivik had been the founding chair until her retirement this spring.

Roslyn Wylie retired as Teaching Materials Center Librarian at Milner Library, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois on August 31, 2005 after holding the position for almost 12 years. Her EBSS participation included membership on the Curriculum Materials Center committee for two terms, and on the EBSS Ad Hoc Committee for the Digital Publication of the Curriculum Materials Center Management Guide at the end of the project. Other ALA activities included membership in ALSC where she was a member of Library Services for Special Population Children and their Caregivers and Managing Children's Services; and YALSA where she was a member of the Media Selection and Usage Committee.

Scott Walter (University of Kansas) received his Ph.D.

in Higher Education Administration from Washington State University in August 2005 with the submission of his dissertation, "The Librarian in the Academy: Exploring the Instructional Role of Librarians in Higher Education." One of the survey instruments designed for use in the dissertation study was revised and became the basis for data collection for "Instructional Improvement Programs," which was released as an ARL SPEC Kit, also in August 2005. The Executive Summary of the SPEC Kit is available online at <http://www.arl.org/spec/SPEC287web.pdf>.

Hot Off the Press— *Directory of Historical Textbook and Curriculum Collections* by Nancy O'Brien

I am very pleased to report that ACRL has just published the *Directory of Historical Textbook and Curriculum Collections*!

You can find the order information on ACRL's Web page at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrlbucket/nonserialtitles/dirhistxbkcurrcoll.htm>

This publication is the result of the hard work of the EBSS Ad hoc Historical Textbook and Curriculum Collections Directory Committee: Judy Walker, Carrie Cooper, Venta Silins, Lorene Sisson, and two former members who had to drop out due to other commitments: Bar-

EBSS Proposals Funded

Three proposals were submitted by EBSS to ACRL as part of a requirement to submit an Action Plan. Of the three initiatives that were proposed, the news is just in that one was fully funded and another was partially funded. Completely funded was the proposal to create a scholarship for ALA attendance for diverse college undergraduates interested in librarianship as a profession.

Partially funded was a proposal to sponsor a classroom faculty member to at-

tend ALA annual and collaborate with section members. The proposal to create an award program for "Education and Behavioral Sciences Research of the Year" was not funded.

See Doug Cook's "From the Chair" article on page 2 more information on the proposals.

Slate of Officers for the Spring 2006 Elections

The EBSS Nominating Committee is happy to announce the slate of candidates for section office for the

Spring 2006 elections:

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Penny Beile
Natasha Cooper

Member-at-Large

Jessica Albano
Jennifer Fabbi

Thanks to all the members of the Nominating Committee for helping to put together such an excellent slate, and thanks, especially, to our candidates for agreeing to stand for election!

**Scott Walter, Chair
Nominating Committee**

Committee Highlights

Complete Committee Highlights are on the EBSS web site.
www.acrl.org/ebss



The **Communication Studies Committee** had a lively and productive meeting. Lisa Romero, the current chair, and Heidi Senior, the incoming chair, led a discussion about the future focus of the Communication Studies committee, focusing on what the committee should do to help the members do our jobs better and what will help us to interact with our students and faculty. The committee created a large list of ideas for future projects. It was recommended that the group begin with items that relate to the expertise of the members on the committee. Focus then shifts as membership shifts.

The **Curriculum Materials Committee** made assignments to update the CMC Webliography. The Committee's *Guide for Writing CMC Collection Development Policies* is set to be published on the EBSS website. Editing of the document as well as last minute additions were also discussed.

The **Higher Education Committee** is considering co-sponsoring a preconference for ALA Annual '06. The program, *Assessing and Beyond: Starting It off, Pulling It All Together and Making Decisions.* Current plans include a CTD at Midwinter entitled, "University Politics 101."

At the **Instruction for Educators Committee** meeting, progress on Sub-Group A/Ad Hoc Committee projects has been made. The Committee is looking forward to future projects, including proposing one or more current discussion group topics. ACRL has a view towards the creation of subject-specific versions of the ACRL Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education. The Committee could begin this work relative to education by updating the 1992 article "Information Retrieval Skills for Education Students," C&RL News, October 1992: 583-588. The Committee will delay decision on this until the scope of this ACRL initiative is clarified.

The **Psychology/Psychiatry Committee** worked on plans for a Committee Discussion Forum at ALA Annual in 2006. Working title for the program is "Tests and Measurement Instruments." Also discussed was the Committee's web page.

The **Reference Sources and Services Committee** discussed their website, Educator's Toolbox and solicited volunteers to maintain the site. Laura reported to the Committee that she had sent requests to se-

lected journal publishers to consider having their publications indexed in ISI.

The **Social Work/Social Welfare Committee** discussed their Social Work Selector's Toolbox. Also discussed were plans for programs for Midwinter and Annual 2006.

The **Ad Hoc Access to Government Sponsored Education Research Committee** discussed changes to the ERIC Thesaurus. They also considered how to ensure the continuation of the Educator's Desk Reference web project. Committee members discussed strategies for finding an institution willing to host a complete archival set of ERIC documents. The AD Hoc committee finished by making plans for disbanding.

EBSS-L

WHAT is EBSS-L? It is the listserv of the Education and Behavioral Sciences Section. It is devoted not only to Section activities, but also to sharing information in the fields of education, psychology, communications, and social work, to name a few.

WHO subscribes to EBSS-L? Members of EBSS and others that want to get and share information.

WHY do they subscribe? They can get information that helps them in the workplace. They can ask, and get answers to, puzzling questions. They can learn about new information sources in education, the behavioral sciences, and communications.

HOW do I subscribe? Go to <http://www.lib.msu.edu/corby/ebss/listserv> for instructions.



ERIC panel members get ready for the program



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