ALA Annual Convenes in San Francisco

The American Library Association met in San Francisco, CA on June 14-20, 2001. A wonderful place for a conference – San Francisco has outstanding meeting facilities, great restaurants, and abundant sightseeing opportunities. The home of the Golden Gate Bridge, Fisherman's Wharf, the Coit Tower, Chinatown, Cable Cars, and Lombard Street – “the crookedest street in the world” – San Francisco is a unique city.

The ALA/ProQuest Scholarship Bash featured rock group “Three Dog Night.” This group struck gold in 1971 with “Joy to the World.” Their concert provided excellent memories for those of us old enough to remember 1971. Youngsters born since then had a lovely time as well.

For the first time this year, Annual Conference programs were pulled together into thematic tracks. This effort made the mammoth list easier to wade through, since (relatively) similar programs were found together. Now if someone could only invent a way to expand time so that we could go to every session that looked interesting.

Old Friends, New Partners

Nancy Koller

The EBSS Program “Old Friends, New Partners: Academic Libraries Redefine K-12 Outreach” for the 2001 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco was held on Sunday, June 17, at 2:00 p.m., and was followed at 4:00 p.m. by a poster session (10 presentations) which further enhanced the initial program with examples of successful projects by academic libraries throughout the United States.

Reaching out to potential university students was the focus of the program. There were three panelists whose experiences were very different both in the design of the program and their degree of success. Panelist Gloria Rhodes, Multicultural Outreach Librarian at California State University San Marcos, began by presenting some sobering figures about K-12 students in California: seven of eight schools do not have a librarian half time or more; the average number of library books per student in California schools is

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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
1,021 Reasons to Join EBSS

Brian Quinn, EBSS Chair

If you were to ask an outside observer for some possible reasons to join EBSS, you’d probably get a variety of responses. One might be the exciting programs that EBSS sponsors, like “Old Friends, New Partners: Academic Libraries Redefine K-12 Outreach” which was held recently at ALA Annual in San Francisco. Another might be the special trips that EBSS arranges, such as the trip to the National Library of Education at ALA Midwinter in Washington earlier this year. A third response might be all the interesting publications that EBSS produces, including the Directory of Curriculum Materials Centers, Fifth Edition, and the Directory of Test Collections in Academic, Professional and Research Libraries.

Perhaps the best reason to join EBSS, however, is the members themselves—all 1,021 of them. They are a remarkably dynamic, creative, and likeable group of librarians from a variety of different kinds of libraries across the United States. They bring to the section enormous enthusiasm, expertise, and energy that help to drive the many activities and projects of the section. You’ll find them to be extremely approachable, friendly, and welcoming to new members as well as current and previous ones.

The open, accepting nature of the members is reflected in the section itself, which allows members to take on as much responsibility as they wish, and rewards them by nominating them for offices in the section. EBSS is unusual in that even a new member may become a committee chair or even an officer of the section in a relatively short period of time if the person shows initiative and promise.

If this sounds like an exceptional opportunity to join a group of some of the most talented and knowledgeable librarians in the fields of education and the behavioral sciences, it is. As a new member, you’ll be able to share ideas and experiences with like-minded colleagues. You’ll learn about cutting-edge products and services - what works and what doesn’t work. You’ll be able to “talk shop” and tap into the vast collective pool of experience and knowledge that your EBSS colleagues share. And you’ll be able to do it all in the company of people that are not only professionally accomplished, but also down-to-earth and fun to work with.

So what are you waiting for? Please accept our invitation to learn more about EBSS and to get involved. Visit our web page at http://www.lib.msu.edu/corby/ebss/. Subscribe to EBSS-L, our section listserv. Sit in on EBSS committee meetings at ALA Midwinter in New Orleans. Attend our Current Topics Discussion session. Come to the EBSS Social Hour and chat with our members. Volunteer to serve on an EBSS committee by completing a volunteer form on the EBSS web site at http://www.lib.msu.edu/corby/ebss/vol.htm. Whatever way you choose to become involved, we’re looking forward to meeting you, talking with you, and learning more about your interests.

Current Topics Discussion at Midwinter

Don’t miss the Current Topics Discussion at Midwinter in New Orleans. This exciting session is scheduled on Saturday, January 19, 2-4pm.

Watch EBSS-L for details.
Helga Visscher Steps Down as Newsletter Editor

This is the first of a series of articles about EBSS’s strongest resources - its members. If you would like to write a short biographical sketch or if you have an idea regarding a member to feature, contact Doug Cook at dlcook@ship.edu.

Helga Visscher has faithfully reported the news of the EBSS Section of ACRL since she became the Newsletter Editor in 1996. If you have served on a committee with Helga you know that her friendly personality and her excellent ideas make her a first-rate committee member. As the Newsletter Editor Helga has been a vital part of the executive team for EBSS. Helga has stepped down as the Newsletter Editor and has moved on to other responsibilities.

Helga is currently the Education Reference Librarian at the University of Alabama. “What’s a Minnesota raised, Lake Woebeogon type woman like me doing in Alabama?” Helga writes, “I am the only one of my siblings who does not live in the Twin Cities. I have followed my husband with his jobs. Shortly after moving to Alabama with a toddler and another on the way, the Education Library needed a part-time reference librarian.”

Helga’s hobby is pretty clearly traveling the world. Via one professional excuse or another Helga and her husband, a physics professor at Alabama, have been all over the world. Her passport has stamps from Edinburgh, Xia Men, Hong Kong, Beijing, Berlin, Oaxaca, Cancun, Iceland, England, and Pittsburgh. (Note: Pittsburgh is pretty exotic if you are from Alabama.) Helga was most excited about a trip she and her husband recently made to Iceland. “During the summer of 2000, my husband and I traveled to Iceland and participated in the “Viking Challenge Tour” a week long expedition of hiking, white water rafting, kayaking, bird watching, whale watching from a boat, and horseback riding.”

When Helga isn’t globetrotting she is the Education Reference Librarian, at McLure Education Library, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. Helga plans, provides and organizes library instruction. She also does, “all the regular things: Collection Development, train student workers, do lots of one-on-one library instruction, attend meetings, fix paper jams in printers and copiers, nag students to behave...” She serves on a number of campus-wide committees - International Students and Scholars Committee, Committee on Student Life, Continuous Quality Improvement Council, and advises a student group – Lutheran Student Fellowship.

Helga is currently a member of the EBSS Membership and Orientation Committee. She has consistently maintained membership in the ALA Library Instruction Roundtable, and attended their programs. She is a member of the Association for Library Services to Children, another Division of ALA. Helga has also been a member of the International Association for School Librarianship since 1987.

I will miss working with Helga as the Newsletter Editor. I had the great fortune to work with her as Assistant Editor before taking over this year. Helga’s concern for producing a quality newsletter set the tone for the Section.

Thank you, Helga, for being a vital part of EBSS. You will be a tough act to follow.

EBSS Distinguished Librarian - Charles Thurston

Nancy Koller

Prior to the “Old Friends: New Partners” program at ALA Annual, Lorna Lueck, Chair of EBSS, presented the EBSS Distinguished Librarian of the Year Award to Charles B. Thurston, Education Reference Librarian, University of Texas, San Antonio where his responsibilities also include instruction and collection development. He was chosen for his significant contributions to the profession through his many publications and his valuable service since 1980 on numerous EBSS committees, many of which he chaired.

During his acceptance speech, Charley thanked his mentors - Ann Randall, Toyo Kawakami, and Eva Kiewitt.

The Distinguished Librarian Award is given each year to a recipient who has made an outstanding contribution as an education and/or behavioral sciences librarian through accomplishments and service to the profession.
Old Friends, New Partners  
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eleven; the average imprint date for school library books is 1972. Rhodes thus explained the importance of positive and instructive library experiences for California school children. She described her program for fourth graders called “I Am Going to College.” Children learn college is a viable option. The intimidating impression of libraries and librarians is eliminated. On a practical level, the students are motivated to become excited about successfully completing a research project.

Rhodes added that writing successful grants to help fund such projects is critical, and that often obtaining campus administrative support is not only not difficult, but that the mandate for such programs comes from that quarter. Rhodes urged all academic librarians to be proactive in this type of endeavor.

Dr. Sandra Millard, Assistant Director for Library Public Services and Program Director, UDLib/SEARCH, University of Delaware (below left)

Gloria Rhodes, Multicultural Outreach Librarian at California State University San Marcos (below center)

Stephanie Sterling-Brasley, Instructional Outreach Coordinator, College Library, UCLA described the problems and time needed to set up a successful program between the university, high schools, and community colleges. The premise under which they operated was that “college begins in kindergarten.” A pilot project indicated the critical factor of training teachers to incorporate technology into curriculum. (Teachers kept referring to information technology but never information literacy.)

Sterling-Brasley reinforced the message of the other two speakers that the most important factor for the success of any program was for librarians to assist teachers in improving their information literacy skills, which could then be taught to students. Another victory for the UCLA program was to convince the local schools to require an information literacy competency requirement for graduation at the high school and community college level.

Information Literacy Standards and EBSS

Helga Visscher

The ACRL preconference, “Reaching Students and Faculty: Putting the Information Literacy Competency Standards to Work,” provided grounding in the basics of the ACRL Information Literacy Standards, and how to present them to students, teaching faculty and librarians.

EBSS’s own Jo Ann Carr welcomed all those who attended the conference. The workshop covered fertile ground. Information Literacy Standards have to be used in the context of student needs, campus or distance learners. The instruction must be connected to the mission, and accreditation needs of the institution. Information Literacy Standards can be presented as a part of a one-shot class, or infused throughout the curriculum as a whole. The responsibility for assessment can be done by the librarian or the classroom teacher. This can be accomplished by questionnaires, quizzes, or just by asking a few students to describe the process in their own words.

Keeping other library faculty aware of the standards, as well as informing the teaching faculty of the multi-faceted approach to using these standards and assessing student learning is an important part of beginning to incorporate information literacy into the curriculum.
News from EBSS Members

Keep up with your EBSS colleagues by reading this new column. If you have a news item you would like to see included in the next issue, please email it as a Word attachment to Doug Cook, dlcook@ship.edu.

Doug Cook was elected in May to the Executive Committee of the Association for College Libraries of Central Pennsylvania. Doug is serving as the chair of the Programs Committee, which plans the semi-annual membership meetings. Doug is Reference and Instruction Librarian, Shippensburg University - dlcook@ship.edu.

In April, Judy Druse was awarded the Herrick Award for Outstanding Service to Washburn University. This award is given annually to only one individual on campus. This is quite an honor for a librarian! Judy is Curriculum Media Librarian, Washburn University - zzdrus@washburn.edu.

The University of Michigan Libraries has awarded $3,000 to Sally Haines Lawler in support of her work on the Task Force on Michigan Social Welfare and Social Work Archives. The purpose of the project is to investigate the history of social welfare in Michigan and to increase access to historical records within social service agencies and libraries. The grant will foster faculty-librarian collaboration at Wayne State University, Michigan State University, and the University of Michigan. Sally is Public Services Librarian, School of Social Work, University of Michigan - slawler@umich.edu.

Patricia O’Brien Libutti is now the Social Sciences/Education Librarian at Rutgers University, Alexander Library, New Brunswick, NJ. Tricia will be collaborating with the Learning and Teaching Division of the Rutgers Graduate School of Education on a Virtual Curriculum Materials Center. She has accepted the position of web master for the Education Division, Special Libraries Section, starting Winter 2002. Tricia is also busy stalking the perfect lunch restaurants in New Brunswick. Her email address is libutti@rci.rutgers.edu.

Scott Walter and Tricia Libutti will be editing a new ACRL publication, Digital Resources and Education Librarians: Innovation, Invention, and Implementation, with an expected publication date of December, 2002. (See related article for details.) Scott is Head of the Education Library at Washington State University - swalter@wsu.edu.

Ted Wygant has accepted a three year appointment on the Information Portal Committee with the library catalog system for Florida Community Colleges. The portal is called LINCC. The committee is currently deciding which databases to include. Ted is at Daytona Beach Community College - wygantt@dbcc.cc.fl.us.

ACRL to Publish E-Book on Digital Resources in Education

Patricia O’Brien Libutti (Rutgers University) - libutti@rci.rutgers.edu - and Scott Walter (Washington State University) - swalter@wsu.edu - are preparing a call for chapters for an e-book unanimously approved by the ACRL Publications Board - Digital Resources and the Education Library - Innovation, Implementation, and Invention. Submissions to be solicited from academic librarians, school librarians, special librarians, and scholars in the field of education will focus both on the new information resources relevant to the field in the digital environment and to the process through which such resources are developed within the education community.

A series of case studies will provide readers both with an introduction to the vast electronic resources available to anyone interested in education information, and to the challenges faced by scholars, librarians, and practitioners as they reshape their professional roles for an information age.

The e-book format will allow both for updates to content and to experimentation in multimedia publication.

A complete Call for Papers will be posted to EBSS-L and to other relevant discussion lists. Publication is planned for September 2002.

Test Directory Published

Nancy O’Brien

The EBSS Ad Hoc Committee on the Test Collection Directory (1997-2000) is delighted to report the September 2001 publication by ACRL of the Directory of Test Collections in Academic, Professional, and Research Libraries (ISBN: 0-8389-8167-4, cost: $28.00; ACRL member $25.00). This specialized directory provides researchers and practitioners with information about the location of test collections in the U.S. Information includes the size, availability, content, and focus of the collections. A number of indexes are also provided that allow the user to access the information according to restrictions on use, size, collections with historical materials, by collection strengths, and those searchable via online catalog/database. A bibliography provides access to further information about testing resources. Members of the Ad Hoc Committee were Dan Burgard, Annette Curtis-Carroll, Paul Fehrmann, Bee Gallegos, Cheryl Grossman, Nancy O’Brien, Rolland McGiverin, Betsy Simpson, and Ted Wygant.

Directory of Test Collections in Academic, Professional, and Research Libraries
ISBN: 0-8389-8167-4
ACRL member $25.00
Committee Highlights

Curriculum Materials
Committee
Chair, Jeannie Kamerman

Judy Walker will continue to maintain the Weblogiography site and continue updating Assessment/Educational Tests, Educational Administration, and National Standards. She will work on reformatting for parallel appearance. Trisha Lenkowski will investigate the possible topic “Free Resources for Teachers” as a new Weblogiography page. Penny relinquished her weblogiography assignment of E-Journals. Jeannie Kamerman will investigate the feasibility of creating a research methodology page and will continue updating Instructional Technology, and ESL.

We discussed the possibility of writing an article to help those preparing for an NCATE review. The article would include standards, personal experiences, and a survey of education schools and librarians who have gone through the process of accreditation.

Gerontology
Chair, Kay Womack

Guided autobiography was suggested as a topic to recommend for the 2002 Midwinter EBSS Current Topics discussion. Different terms for this research tool were presented. Additionally, the use of this tool with different populations and in intergenerational and interdisciplinary research was discussed. The committee felt that presenting this idea as a research tool and providing an introduction to its uses would be appropriate.

Instruction for Educators
Chair, Doug Cook

Sarah Beasley will become the new chair of the committee. Doug Cook will become the EBSS Newsletter Editor. The article which the committee has been working on, “Finding and Using Education Statistics on the World Wide Web” is in a final draft form. It has been presented to the EBSS Publication Committee. Because of the length of the article, the Publication Committee recommended that it be treated as a short book. The manuscript is being submitted to Hugh Thompson (ACRL Editor) for a decision. As Doug Cook and Scott Walter will be rotating off the Committee, an ad hoc task force will be formed to handle the article’s publication.

As a new project the Committee will undertake a revision of the October 1992 article “Information retrieval and evaluation skills for education students” in C&RL News, p583-588. The article is in need of revision and could lend itself well as a Discussion Topic at Midwinter. This project could also foster collaboration between AASL and ACRL.

Membership and Orientation
Chair, Barbara Kemp

The Membership and Orientation Committee is looking... cont’d on page 7
forward to an exciting year under the leadership of new chair, Laverna Saunders. At the annual meeting in San Francisco, we discussed goals for 2001-2002. Among the projects to be undertaken will be a survey of the membership in support of the Section's and ACRL's strategic planning efforts. Using information from the survey, EBSS leaders will be better able to plan and carry out programs and publications of interest to the membership.

The Committee also discussed ways of promoting membership in EBSS to academic librarians. One positive point to emphasize is the open nature of the Section, since it is very easy to get involved in Section activities. Another fact to promote is the wide range of interests that find a home in EBSS – we are education AND the behavioral sciences. During the upcoming year, we also plan to designate a formal liaison with the ACRL Membership Committee to aid in the efforts to strengthen the Membership & Orientation Committee's role in EBSS.

Psychology/Psychiatry Chair, Darlene Nichols

The committee met with two guests from the American Psychological Association: Linda Beebe, Director, PsyINFO, and Carolyn Gosling, Manager of Customer Relations. We had a lengthy discussion of APA's fulltext database, PsyARTICLES.

The committee also agreed that it would be useful to create a committee website. Guests to the meeting who were new psychology librarians expressed interest in having access to such a resource.

Publication and Communications Chair, Ted Wygant

Each member briefly described their liaison work with their specific committees. Some of the highlights from these discussions were: the Curriculum Materials Center Directory is out, the Ad Hoc Committee for the Digital Publication of the CMC Management Guide is still in revision, the Ad Hoc Historical Textbooks & Curriculum committee will be doing a survey this summer, the Social Work/Social Welfare Committee webliography is still being maintained, and the Instruction for Educator's publication is ready to be reviewed by the Publications Committee.

Kate Corby asked that her liaison duties be diminished due to her time spent on maintaining the EBSS Webpage and the fact that she is soon to become the vice-chair of EBSS. We also discussed the duties of the new EBSS newsletter editor, Doug Cook. We all thanked Helga Visscher for her hard work as the past newsletter editor. There was also a discussion about aspects of the EBSS Webpage. An idea to place a roster of committee members was introduced.

Ad Hoc CMC Guidelines Chairs, Ann Brownson and Gary Lare

A brief agenda overview was given, including the results of Gary Lare's discussions with Barton Lessin from the ACRL Standards and Accreditation Committee (SAC) regarding whether we should be developing standards or guidelines. As a result we will be developing guidelines. We went over the guidelines item by item, with discussion and changes made. After the discussion of each point was complete, there were brief comments about whether we should include quantification (related to budget and collection). Discussion of this topic will continue through email. We also will discuss terms that need to be defined in an introductory section and introductory remarks about the guidelines. Once these topics are addressed and completed to everyone's satisfaction, we will be able to go forward to SAC for the beginning of the review process.

Ad Hoc Digital Publication of CMC Management Guide Committee Chair, Jo Ann Carr

The Committee reviewed our charge: To extend the work of the Management of Curriculum Materials Centers Committee by developing a parallel Internet based publication. This publication should include the content of the print title and supplement it with case studies of CMCs, links among the articles in the management guide, links to CMC and other related organizations and supplementary narrative. This committee should work with the Ad Hoc Committee on the CMC Directory to develop an Internet based version of the Directory complete with searchable statistical tables.

Jo Ann indicated that the print publication was very close to completion although Hugh Thompson had requested that the profiles of CMC's be included. The Committee recommends that the profiles be included only in the digital publication. The print publication also needs to be reviewed by the Publications Committee before being sent to Hugh Thompson. A work plan was created and discussed.

Ad hoc Historical Textbook and Curriculum Collections Directory Committee Chair, Nancy O'Brien

The Committee reviewed the draft survey prepared by Venta Silins and distributed by email May 30, 2001. A number of revisions were suggested that would enhance the information solicited in the survey. It was decided that Judy Walker would actually implement the changes in the survey since she had volunteered to mount the Web-based survey at her institution and to compile and format the responses of the directory. She will have the survey linked to a database to facilitate formatting for publication.

In a discussion of distribution methods for the survey, it was agreed that the primary mechanism should be an email announcement that directed the recipient to the address for the Web survey. Each committee member would be responsible for distributing email announcements to various listservs and other recipients.
New Orleans in January! What better reason to have a meeting in New Orleans than to be able to visit the French Market and sip chicory-laced coffee at the Café Du Monde while experiencing the pleasure of ingesting one of the world’s great breakfasts – a big plate of sugar-covered beignets. Wiping powdered sugar from one’s fingers while leisurely planning the day’s meeting schedule. After faithfully attending meetings all day one can sit down to a bowl of gumbo and a little zydeco music to delight your stomach and your ears. Walking Bourbon Street one can always expect the unexpected.

At Midwinter, ACRL is sponsoring two workshops which you will want to consider attending.

The first is "Experience the Power of Collaboration: Steps to Creating Relationships with Faculty" to be held on Friday, January 18, 2002. Explore and enhance your ability to build successful collaborative relationships with faculty on your campus. Collaboration experts Dane Ward, University Libraries, Central Michigan University, and Dick Rapsa, Interdisciplinary Studies Program, Wayne State University, will help you transform your collaboration dreams into an institutional reality.

This workshop, which grows out of the best-selling ACRL book, written by the EBSS, Instruction for Educators Committee, “The Collaborative Imperative: Librarians and Faculty Working Together in the Information Universe,” will expand your knowledge of the range of collaborative projects. Learn about and practice the essential components of collaboration as you are guided through the “Five P’s of Collaboration”.

The second is "Digital Reference: Trends, Techniques, and Changes" also held on Friday, January 18, 2002. Consider the opportunities as well as the challenges and think about what niche may be available for librarians in the digital reference environment during the ACRL workshop, “Digital Reference: Trends, Techniques, and Changes.”

This half-day session will bring you up-to-date with the latest digital reference developments including assessments, software, training, research and standards. Gain a basic concept of the current state of the art in digital reference, digital reference projects, software packages and likely issues in creating a digital reference initiative in their local settings. The format of this workshop will be that of an executive briefing for decision makers. Speakers include: R. David Lankes, Virtual Reference Desk; Steve Coffman, LSSI; and Joseph Janes, University of Washington.