

Issued by the
Communications
Committee,
University
Libraries Section,
Association of
College & Research
Libraries,
a division of the
American Library
Association.

ULS Universe

Volume 6, Number 2

Fall 2006

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Message from the ULS Chair

— Janice Simmons-Welburn

As in previous years, ULS is led by a dynamic and active executive committee, of which I am privileged to be a part. I am grateful for all of the support given to me by Sandy Yee, the ULS Executive Committee, and Cheryl Middleton, our Vice Chair/Chair elect. We are already off to a good start this year. Highlights of section activities include the following.

The ULS program and social at Annual this year in New Orleans were both a huge success. The program was so popular that the room



Janice Simmons-Welburn, ULS Chair

was literally overflowing with people! The social was also

very well attended, and the posters were an excellent addition. Sandy Yee and her committee are to be congratulated for all of their efforts to bring section members together in a forum that provided social and educational opportunities.

Plans are underway for next year's conference program, tentatively titled, "Leadership or Management: Which is it?" (see article below for more details). I am very excited to have ACRL President-Elect Julie Todaro

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Leadership or management?

— Ree DeDonato

The Conference Planning Committee is pleased to announce the ULS program they are planning for the 2007 annual conference in Washington, D.C. The working title is, "Leadership or Management: Which is it?" The program will be held on Saturday, June 23rd, from 1:30-3:30pm, and will be immediately followed by the ULS Social.

Program speakers include: Karen Williams, Associate University Librarian for Academic Programs at the University of Minnesota Library; Sheldon McCorn, Library Assistant and MLS student at the College Library, UCLA; and Julie B. Todaro, Dean of Library Services at Austin Community College.

Visionary and dynamic leadership and strong managerial skills are critical to the success of any organization. Given the expected retire-

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"The program addresses growing concerns about where our next generation of leaders will come from."

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ULS Universe is published in the Spring and Fall by the Communications Committee, University Libraries Section, Association of College & Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

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More than 5,000 librarians from a wide variety of university libraries make up the University Libraries Section (ULS) of the Association of College and Research Libraries. ULS is one of three type-of-library sections of ACRL.



Since its establishment in 1937, ULS has been actively involved in shaping the future of our library and university environments. ULS advances university librarianship, university library service, and the development of university libraries in institutions with graduate programs. In addition, ULS fosters cooperation both locally with university administrators and teaching faculty, and among colleges and universities on issues of mutual concern.

For more information about ULS and the section's activities, see: www.ala.org/acrl/uls.

Vote for ULS '07 officers!

— Carol Ann Hughes

The election won't be held until April 24th, 2007 (tentative date), but we are publishing the University Libraries Section slate early to encourage you to vote!

Our nominating committee is made up of Carol Ann Hughes, Chair, Faye Backie from Michigan State University, and Barbara Kemp from the University of Houston. Here is our slate for ULS, listed in order according to the lots drawn:

For Vice Chair/Chair-Elect (one-year term), nominees are Barbara Jenkins from the University of Oregon and Cory Tucker of the University of Nevada, Las



Vegas. For Secretary (one-year term), nominees are Betsy Baker, Library Consultant/Educator, and Glenda Thornton from Cleveland State University. For At-Large Member (three-year term), we have Mary Monroe of the Univer-

sity of Northern Illinois and Juli Hinz from the University of Utah.

The ULS Nominating Committee would like to thank the candidates for agreeing to serve ULS, and we also want to thank each of the ULS members in advance for participating in this important election. Don't forget to vote!

From the Chair, continued

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as a part of the program.

ULS will sponsor a workshop at the upcoming ACRL 13th National Conference entitled, "Campus Advocacy: A Grassroots Movement for Influencing Campus Dynamics." Planning committee members are Barbara Jenkins, Sandy Yee, Carol Hughes, Cheryl Middleton, Camila Alire, and myself. I hope that all of you will mark your calendars and attend. Attendance will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

I would like to say thanks to the Nominating Committee for producing a strong slate of candidates for positions in ULS, and to the Communications Committee and Kim Leeder for putting together this issue of our newsletter.

Thanks also to all the members of ULS for everything you do to make this an outstanding section in ACRL. I am very honored to serve as this year's chair, and I look forward to an excellent year of high-quality activities.

Join the ULS Listserv

Looking for a low-traffic way to stay up-to-date on ULS news and issues of interest to university libraries? Want to get in on the conversation? Then join *uls-l*, the unmoderated email list main-

tained by ACRL and the ULS Communications Committee. To subscribe, send an email to listproc@ala1.ala.org with "subscribe *uls-l* firstname lastname" in the message field.

Midwinter Discussion: New Frontiers in Online Learning

— Stephanie Atkins

Libraries are continuously looking for new ways to enhance student learning in a digitized educational setting. To address this important subject, the ULS Current Topics Discussion Group has



assembled an expert panel to explore new possibilities and trends in online learning. The discussion forum featuring this panel will take place on Saturday,

January 20, 2007, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Panelist Betsy Wilson from the University of Washington, Seattle, will provide the foundation for the discussion by examining the administrative, financial, and theoretical issues that enable libraries to pursue online learning possibilities. Panelist Susan Hollar of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, will talk about a Mellon grant-funded collaboration between Michigan University and Indiana University to integrate access to library licensed digital content through Sakai, an open source course management software package. Other

speakers, still to be determined at press time, will explore other facets of the subject.

Whether you come from an institution with a robust distance education program or from a campus that stresses the traditional face-to-face classroom experience, academic librarians from all types of institutions will benefit from an in-depth discussion of this topic and the opportunity to examine issues that cross all types of online learning.

The discussions should be provocative and create further debate in the library community. Don't miss the chance to explore this important topic!

Changes to ALA Website

As you may know, ALA is changing the content management system that provides their website infrastructure. This system makes it possible for over one hundred people from the various ALA units to independently manage their areas of the website. Now, all ALA units are being changed over one at a time, and all are planned to be on the new system by the end of October.

What does this mean to you? Most of the changes will be happening in the background. But updating the ULS site should become easier, so you can look forward to improvements to our pages in the upcoming months. For more information, go to ala.org and click the links for "Our Association," "ALA Web Site Resources," and "New Web Technology."

New ULS Universe editor

The ULS Communications Committee is pleased to introduce our new *ULS Universe* editor, Kim Leeder. Kim is Special Assistant to the Dean at the University of Arizona Libraries, where she handles writing and research projects for the dean of libraries. She completed her MLS at the University of Arizona in May of this year, and holds a second MA in English from the University of Nevada, Reno.

Prior to her employment at the University of Arizona Libraries, Kim spent two years as Assistant Editor for *Orion* magazine and another year as Associate Editor for a publications imprint at the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy at the University of Ari-

zona. She has also served as freelance editor on a variety of other publications, including newsletters for several organizations and an educational book on habitat gardens.



Kim Leeder, ULS Editor

Finding a new editor for the newsletter with appropriate background and experience is a huge help for ULS, and we look forward to a consistently published newsletter with quality presentation during the course of Kim's editorship. If you have news to share with the ULS membership, contact Kim at leederk@u.library.arizona.edu or (520) 626-1909, and she will include it in the next *ULS Universe*. Please join us in welcoming her to the University Libraries Section!

ULS REPORT FROM THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Successful social event

—Marilyn Hankel

At ALA in New Orleans, the ULS Membership Committee held a social event that immediately followed the well-attended ULS program, "Use What They Own, Go Where They Are: Plugging the Library into Student Gadgets and Habitats," on Saturday, June 24, 2006. We held a poster session simultaneously so there was an opportunity to meet others, learn from the posters, and enjoy refreshments—some with a local New Orleans flavor—all at the same time.

The social proved to be a very popular event with over 120 people in attendance. Thanks go to our generous sponsors: Proquest, Thomson Gale, and SirsiDynix. Thanks also to Sandy Yee for contacting our sponsors and raising the money.

On a personal note: As someone from New Orleans, I cannot express how grateful New Orleans residents are that the American Library Association came to New Orleans in June and has provided so much support to the city and its libraries in the aftermath of Katrina.

Annual program '06 a hit

—Kim Leeder

Library news delivered to RSS feeders. iPods loaded with course reserves. Library profiles on Facebook and MySpace. As academic libraries scramble to keep up with the technologies so effortlessly adopted by their students, ULS gave librarians at ALA Annual 2006 an opportunity to pause and reflect on the issue. At the ULS President's Program, "Use What They Own, Go Where They



Are: Plugging the Library into Student Gadgets and Habitats," Nancy Davenport and Lynne O'Brien addressed the topic before a packed room.

The two speakers expressed great enthusiasm for the ways libraries can take advantage of new technologies, and they reviewed a number of strategies they have seen in action. Their talk

was peppered by concern that libraries not use technology for its own sake.

Davenport, President of the Council on Library and Information Resources, emphasized the fact that students are becoming increasingly wired and that libraries need to meet them on their own turf. When looking at ways to use technology, she explained, librarians should be trying to bring content to the places (and the media) where students feel most comfortable.

O'Brien, Director of Duke University's Center for Instructional Technology, reviewed Duke's digital initiatives (such as their iPod First-Year Experience program), which have been created to spur educational interest in new technologies and foster instructional innovation. Her PowerPoint can be viewed on the ULS website under "Meetings and Events."

Overall, the message from both Davenport and O'Brien was that libraries should be moving ahead quickly to provide content in formats that fit easily into students' wired lives. It is important to assess the value of these new services, but at this point in the technological revolution, it is perhaps even more essential just to keep up.

ULS program for annual '07, cont'd.

(Continued from page 1)

ment of an estimated forty percent of the nation's librarians in the next decade, this program addresses growing concerns about where our next generation of leaders and managers will come from. The program intends to engage

the audience in discussing what defines good leadership and effective management, and to explore ways to develop future leaders and managers within the profession.

Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Leadership can come from anywhere in a library organization regardless of one's designated job title or position. So whether you are beginning, mid-career, or senior management, there will be something for you at the ULS program.

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Get involved!

Thinking about getting more involved in ULS? Everyone is welcome to volunteer for one of the section's stimulating committees or discussion groups. It's easy! Contact any one of the people listed on this page for more information, or fill out the ACRL Section Committee Volunteer Form to volunteer for a committee assignment next year. The form is available in the ACRL Forms section of the ACRL website.



Participating in a ULS committee is a great way to put your experience to work in the field, and even to learn a bit yourself. You can meet people with similar interests, and the extra service commitment is always a boon on performance and tenure reviews. Get started now!

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