

CLS Newsletter

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The CLS Virtual Midwinter

From the Chair

Newton's First Law of Motion: "Every body continues in its state of rest, or uniform motion in a straight line, unless it is compelled to change that state by forces impressed on it" (*Encyclopedia Americana*). Said another way, we tend to do things the way we've always done them. Which makes change very hard.

In January, the CLS Executive Committee voted to cease requiring committees to meet at Midwinter. It was a simple motion, but the ramifications were enormous. How do we ensure that the business of the section moves forward? How do we maintain sufficient liaison between the section, ACRL, and the other sections of our parent association? How do we guarantee that the College Libraries Section continues to be as productive as it always has been?

As a first step, the CLS leadership has developed and approved a process by which virtual Midwinters will be conducted (see [Guidelines](#)). Each committee will continue to have a required meeting during the winter, but it will be conducted via e-mail, chat, discussion list or telephone. I will kick off the first virtual Midwinter in late November. Sometimes a committee may feel the need to meet in person at Midwinter, and in those cases, time and a room will be scheduled. Times and places will also be scheduled for the two discussion groups, the Medium-Sized Libraries and College Library Directors groups. To maintain appropriate liaison with the rest of ACRL, the CLS chair will attend as many meetings as possible; in fact, during the next year, the CLS chair will take his turn as chair of Sections Council. As appropriate, the Chair will enlist other CLS members who will be attending Midwinter in any event to help cover meetings of groups with which CLS needs to maintain connections.

This is a shakedown year, and making certain the College Libraries Section Virtual Midwinter is a success will be a major task of the section over the next year, but it will not be the only task. After all, we don't want to be a one-note wonder. Across the section, we must be as productive as we've been in the past. I think we can do it, though. The Membership Committee has some great ideas for increasing the

numbers of the section. Communications will build on the fine work it did last year on the newsletter and web site. The Standards Committee continues to take a leadership role, its outcomes-based standards for college libraries serving as the model for ACRL as a whole. The 2003 Program Committee is working on a very interesting program about recruitment, changing demographics, and the future of the profession. The *CLIP Notes* series is one of the best things our section does. Each of the other committees has a full agenda and impressive accomplishments as well.

For fifteen years I searched for my niche in ALA. I tried many different sections, but none of them felt right. Then nine years ago, I found a home in the College Libraries Section. CLS is a fantastic organization doing important things because of the hard work of wonderful people. I'm confident that the change to a virtual Midwinter will only make our section stronger.

Thank you for all you do for the profession, both at home and in CLS. I'm looking forward to a great year.

Mark Cain
Executive Director of Information Services
College of Mount St. Joseph
Cincinnati, OH 45208

ACRL 11th National Conference

ACRL Keynote Speakers by Mignon Adams, University of the Sciences in Philadelphia

Three very different keynote speakers will provoke, entertain, and inspire attendees at the ACRL National Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, April 10th to 13th, 2003. Different from each other, they will all sound changes on the conference theme, "Learning to Make a Difference."

Paul Duguid, co-author of *The Social Life of Information* (Harvard Business School Press, 2000) became interested in information when he worked at the Xerox Palo Alto Research Corporation with "extraordinary" scientists. Yet, when the computer scientists talked about information, they thought about "bits on a wire"; the social scientists meant people talking. Information is of course what libraries deal with. Thursday's opening keynote speaker will share his ideas on the library's role as a community, and the necessary interrelationship between librarians and their users and between other users.

The former head of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Bill Ferris, knows the South. Not only is he a native Mississippian, he's the co-editor of the *Encyclopedia of the South*, and newly affiliated with the Center for the Study of the American South at the University of North Carolina. He'll share his views with attendees at Saturday's lunch. A student also of Southern music, he's promised to bring his guitar with him to demonstrate the South's role in blues, country music, and rock and roll.

Belle Wheelan grew up in a time and in a family in which knowledge is power. Her parents reminded her—and she has never forgotten—that other African-Americans lost their lives because they could read. Her reverence for reading carried over to her ten years as a college president, when she presided over a moment of silence when the card catalog was closed. Formerly the president of Northern Virginia Community College, the second-largest community college in the country, Dr. Wheelan is now the Secretary of Education for the Commonwealth of Virginia. On Sunday, she'll share her look at the past with her view of challenges for the future.

Why you should attend ACRL's 11th National Conference

1. Stimulate your thinking about topics such as assessment, collaboration, innovations, teaching and learning, and technical and access services.
2. Take home practical ideas to put to use in your library.
3. Visit with vendors to find out about state-of-the-art products and services for academic librarians.
4. Network with colleagues from around the country during conference events.
5. Visit great attractions in and around charming Charlotte.

Available online at: <http://www.ala.org/acrl/charlotte/>

- *Registration and housing details
 - *Charlotte local arrangements information
 - *Exhibitor list
 - *Poster session and roundtable call for participation
-

CLS Friday Night Feast

Sixty academic librarians came together on June 14th for lively conversation and delicious Southern style food at the 4th annual CLS Friday Night Feast. This annual dinner took place at Atlanta's venerable Mary Mac's Tea Room and included an impromptu ragtime piano serenade by an 84-year-old retired music professor who is a regular patron of the restaurant. Eastern Kentucky University took the prize for "Best Represented" institution. Haworth's *College & Undergraduate Libraries*, the new sponsor of the dinner, picked up the entire tab. Next spring watch COLLIB-L and other electronic and print sources for an announcement of the Friday Night Feast in Toronto. Make your reservation and join us for a memorable evening of great company and food.

College Library Standards Workshop at Midwinter

Mark your calendar! ACRL is offering a workshop on College Library Standards.

Creating a Continuous Assessment Environment in Academic Libraries

Friday, January 24th, 2003
9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Philadelphia, PA

During this full-day session, work through the Standards for College Libraries (2000 edition) using the instrument "Standards and Assessment for Academic Libraries: A Workbook." Learn about the new concepts of the Standards, discover how the individual sections of the Standards are part of overall institution and library planning, and find out how to incorporate performance indicators and outcomes assessment measures to assess the impact of librarians and libraries on student learning. The workbook provides practical information throughout with checklists, forms, examples, and library assessment tools and techniques.

Speakers: Bob Fernekes, Information Services Librarian, Georgia Southern University and Bill Nelson, Professor and Library Director, Augusta State University.

Register online at: <http://www.ala.org/events/midwinter2003/registration.html>, or check the October issue of *American Libraries* for more information. Questions? Contact 800-545-2433, ext. 2522.

ACRL Awards Program

The deadline for submitting applications, proposals, or nominations for the upcoming ACRL 2003 awards is December 6th, 2002.

ACRL offers many opportunities for librarians and library school students to be recognized for their outstanding achievements. Apply or nominate someone today!

Please visit the [ACRL website](http://www.ala.org/acrl/award2.html) for information on all awards (<http://www.ala.org/acrl/award2.html>) or contact Stephanie Sherrod at 800-545-2433 x2515, ssherrod@ala.org for informational flyers. Awards will be presented next summer during the ALA Annual Conference in Toronto.

Guidelines for College Libraries Section Virtual Midwinter

Background:

In January of 2002, the College Libraries Section Executive Committee unanimously voted that CLS committees no longer be required to meet in person at ALA Midwinter.

The following procedures, approved in June of 2002 by the Committee, were developed in order to:

1. Ensure that the business of the Section is conducted throughout the year just as effectively as when face-to-face Midwinter meetings were required;
2. Provide mechanisms and procedures for conducting Section business virtually;
3. Ensure that effective liaison with ACRL and the rest of ALA continue at ALA Midwinter;
4. Serve as a model for other ALA units considering adoption of similar methods for conducting their business.

The Executive Committee hopes that requiring committee members to attend only one conference per year will broaden participation in CLS to include a more diverse group of college librarians, especially those "on the front lines."

Proposed Procedures:

For Committees in general and their members:

1. New committee members are strongly encouraged to attend a meeting of their committees at the ALA annual conference **prior** to beginning their appointment.
2. The CLS web site will include a web page for each committee. To enhance effectiveness of virtual meetings, committee web pages will include an optional photograph of each committee member, along with the member's name, position on the committee (chair or member), term, title, and home institution.

3. Committees **must** hold a virtual Midwinter meeting between November 1-30 with approved minutes distributed by December 15 to the Secretary and Chair. (They may hold additional virtual meetings at other times during the year, as needed, but this meeting is required.)
4. In order to adhere to the ALA and CLS open meeting policy, chairs of committees will announce the virtual meeting on COLLIB-L, a list of all virtual meetings will be posted on the [CLS web page](#), and an announcement will appear in *American Libraries*, along with instructions on how interested parties may participate.
5. The format of the meeting may synchronously or asynchronously employ such technologies as chat rooms on the web, ALA courseware, e-discussion lists, e-mail, telephone conferencing, or videoconferencing. Choice of format or formats will be at the discretion of the chair, depending on the technologies available to him/her.

For the Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee will hold virtual meetings at least two weeks before and one week after the ALA Midwinter Conference.

For Chairs of CLS Committees and Discussion Groups:

1. Each CLS-sponsored discussion group will continue to be assigned a meeting time and location at ALA Midwinter for those conference attendees who wish to discuss topics of common concern.
2. The chairs of CLS-sponsored discussion groups are not required to attend Midwinter. However, they must organize the groups' meetings and find facilitators to oversee the sessions if they themselves will not be present.
3. Committees that feel on occasion that they must meet face-to-face at Midwinter should consult the Chair, who will arrange meeting times and locations. However, since committee members are no longer required to attend Midwinter, committees should hold in-person meetings at Midwinter only when necessary.

For CLS Liaisons to ACRL Committees:

While liaisons to ACRL groups are no longer required to attend ALA Midwinter, they are still expected to monitor the activities of the committees for which they are responsible. This may include membership on an electronic discussion list. Liaisons are also expected to attend the ALA Annual conference meetings of groups to which they are liaison.

For the CLS Chair:

1. The Chair of CLS is required to attend ALA Midwinter.
2. In advance of the pre-Midwinter Executive Committee meeting, the CLS Chair will submit an agenda to members of the committee.
3. In order to ensure effective liaison with ACRL and ALA, the Chair or his/her designee will attend Sections Council, meetings of ACRL committees with which CLS maintains liaison, and other Association activities as appropriate.
4. Within the first week after Midwinter, the CLS Chair will provide the Executive Committee with a report on the conference and convene a virtual meeting of the Executive Committee to address any issues raised at the conference. This virtual meeting will be held during the first week after Midwinter.

For the CLS Vice Chair:

In the event that the Chair cannot attend ALA Midwinter, the Vice Chair will attend in his/her place.

For the Secretary:

1. The CLS Secretary will ensure that s/he has received minutes from all committees. S/he will then forward a complete set of the committee minutes and any other written reports to the CLS Executive Committee in advance of its virtual meeting.
2. The CLS Secretary will draft minutes of the virtual Midwinter meetings of the Executive Committee and send them to the committee for review. The Secretary will create final versions of the minutes incorporating any revisions and submit to the Executive Committee for final approval.
3. Within two weeks of the end of ALA Midwinter, the CLS Secretary will submit to ACRL minutes of all Midwinter meetings of CLS committees, including the Executive Committee.

CLS is leading the way by going virtual at Midwinter!

Committee Updates

CLIP Notes Committee: There are several publications at various stages: Assessment Tools for Information Literacy was submitted to ACRL in April. A formal proposal for a CLIP on access to rare books and special collections was reviewed by the Committee at Annual. A preliminary proposal for a CLIP on instruction for first-year students was also reviewed at Annual.

College Library Leadership Committee: Richard AmRhein reported on the progress to develop an article on what is necessary for successfully hiring a college library director. Types of persons to be interviewed (provost, search chair, hiring firms, etc.) have been determined and survey questions developed. Cynthia Peterson, with the help of Rita Gulstad, will conduct interviews over the next six months. The intent is to publish the article in *Change*, *Academe*, *University Business* or the *Chronicle of Higher Education* to reach the intended audience of higher education administrators hiring library directors.

Communications Committee: Ruth Connell, a member of the Communications Committee, has volunteered to serve as the new website editor, replacing John West who served as web editor for 5 years. Working jointly with the Membership Committee, the Communications Committee assisted in getting the CLS brochure updated and reprinted. The brochure now includes the section's new URL and updated text. The new brochure was printed in May and was distributed at the CLS program at Annual. The Newsletter design has recently been updated. Comments on the new design should be sent to the Newsletter editor, [Catherine Lee](#).

Continuing Education: The CE Committee is interested in developing an online tutorial on assessment of the Standards in cooperation with Bill Nelson and Bob Fernekes. The CE Committee is co-sponsoring a preconference workshop with the Standards Committee at the ACRL conference. CE will sponsor a library tour in Toronto. Topics discussed for future programs included: Portals and SFX technologies and digitization and conservation/preservation of special collections.

Research for College Librarianship: Under the leadership of former editor Alice Bahr, the InPrint files have migrated from the Spring Hill College server to an ACRL server.

Standards Committee: A proposal for a roundtable program at ACRL in Charlotte was discussed. Even though the Executive Committee has decided that CLS committees are not required to meet at ALA Midwinter, a sufficient number of the committee seemed to be planning to attend. Therefore, the Standards Committee will meet in Philadelphia for those who are there, in addition to holding a virtual meeting.

Excellence in Academic Libraries Winner

In recognition of "programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution," the staff of Oberlin College Library has received the 2002 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award in the college library division from ACRL and Blackwell's Book Services. The ACRL selection committee commended the library for "a tradition of leadership excellence both on campus and in the profession" and especially saluted Oberlin for its model programs aimed at recruiting students into the library profession.

"In many ways the description of the Oberlin College Library's many and varied activities reads more like those of a major university library than that of a liberal arts college," said Larry Hardesty, selection committee chair. "The library staff members are obviously a dynamic, hard working group who are engaged in many leading-edge activities that have positive ramifications far beyond the boundaries of campus."

"It's a great honor for the Oberlin College Library to receive the ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award," said Ray English, director of libraries at Oberlin College. "We're absolutely delighted by the selection. Winning the award is a testament to the dedication, professionalism, and service-orientation of our entire staff. I greatly appreciate the opportunity this award provides to celebrate the staff's many recent accomplishments, which are part of a long tradition of library excellence at Oberlin."

The Library received \$3,000 and a citation at an award ceremony held on campus May 1st. The College also received special recognition at the ACRL President's Program during the ALA Annual Conference in Atlanta with Cornell University Library and the Andrew G. Truxal Library at Anne Arundel Community College, winners in the ACRL university and community college categories, respectively.

Kudos Fall 2002

Alice Harrison Bahr and Nancy Bolton co-authored "Share the Experience: Academic Library, Public Library, and Community Partnerships," *The Southeastern Librarian*, v.50 n.2, 2002:26-31. Bahr, formerly Director of the Library at Spring Hill College, AL, is now Dean of Libraries and Instructional Resources at Blackwell Library, Salisbury University, MD.

Steven Bell, Director of the Library at Philadelphia University, PA, authored two articles, "The New Information Marketplace Competitors: Issues and Strategies for Academic Libraries," *Portal: Libraries and the Academy*, v.2 n.2, 2002:277-304 and "Discovering Cyberlectures," *NetConnect: A Library Journal Supplement*, Spring 2002.

Mark Cain, College of Mount St. Joseph, Cincinnati, OH, authored "The Freedom of 'Yes': A Personal View of Service," *EDUCAUSE Quarterly*, v.25 n.3, 2002:7-10.

Paul Frisch, Dean of the Library at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, TX, has published biographical articles on three baseball players (Frank Frisch, Buck Leonard, and Moses Fleetwood) in *Scribner's Encyclopedia of American Lives: Sports Figures*.

Catherine Lee, Library Director at Wesleyan College, Macon, GA, has been invited to participate in the ACRL@yourlibrary planning retreat to be held October 11th through 15th at Wonewok, the 3M corporate retreat in MN. Other college librarians participating include Theresa Byrd, Ohio Wesleyan University; W. Lee Hisle, Connecticut College; and Sue Stroyan, Illinois Wesleyan University.

Michael J. McLane, Executive Director of the Central New York Library Resources Council, was recently elected Vice-President/President-Elect of the Eastern New York Chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries. McLane has also been appointed to the Board of Directors of the New York Center for Books and Reading, the newest state Center affiliated with the Library of Congress Center for the Book.

Bill Nelson, Library Director at Augusta State University, GA and Bob Fernekes, Information Services Librarian at Georgia Southern University, have been appointed by the president of ACRL as the CLS representatives to the College and Research Libraries Standards Task Force. The new task force has been charged with adapting the current college standards for use by all types of academic libraries. In addition, Nelson and Fernekes presented two workshops on academic library assessment, "ACRL Standards 2000: A Workshop of Practical Solutions for Academic Library Assessment" for the Private Academic Library Network of Indiana, 14 May 2002, and "Assessing Academic Libraries: Practical Application of the ACRL Standards for College Libraries" for the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, 4 June 2002.

Will the Real Customer Please Stand Up...

Look ahead to the 2003 CLS Program in Toronto: "Casting Our Nets or Ice Fishing: Recruiting Future College Librarians"

Did you want to attend the CLS program at ALA in Atlanta on services for 21st century users but just couldn't fit it in? Here's your chance to see what you missed.

Four panelists who studied their student users talked about the services they designed for an increasingly web-savvy, mobile, constantly multi-tasking clientele. They asked the question: "Where are our customers working and how are they approaching their research?"

Each noted examples of college users who may appear to be working more independently, but actually required more assistance to become information literate. Several speakers addressed issues related to remote users and discussed ways to factor this into the design of services. Check out the CLS website for a summary of the program and helpful links which will lead you to charts, graphs, the author's notes, bibliographies, related documents, websites and the complete Power Point presentation (<http://www.ala.org/acrl/cls/designingservices.html>). It's not quite as good as being there but will offer a good snapshot of the day.

Panelists included: Rachel Cheng, Wesleyan University; Janet Cottrell, Kenyon College; Barbara

Valentine, Linfield College; and Maryann Hight, formerly of Bates College and now at Soka University of America.

—Robin Wagner, Gettysburg College, CLS Program Chair 2002

College of Mount St. Joseph Wins Educause Award

Wireless computing has been a big hit with students at the College of Mount St. Joseph since 2000. Now the College is the recipient of a top national award for this innovative approach to campus computing. The Mount's wireless laptop program, called MERLIN, is the recipient of the 2002 EDUCAUSE Award for Excellence in Networking: Innovation in Network Technology, Services and Management. The EDUCAUSE Award honors innovative programs and practices that improve network infrastructure and quality of service and that also have a positive effect on the campus. EDUCAUSE is a national association that supports the advancement of higher education through the intelligent use of information technology.

The EDUCAUSE Award recognizes the College of Mount St. Joseph for developing a "unique, flexible and resource-effective combination" of notebook computers, a wireless network throughout the campus, and a server that provides access to a wide range of software. Technically, the Mount's MERLIN program (an acronym developed at the Mount for "media-rich learning infrastructure") uses a wireless thin client solution to take advantage of the bandwidth of the Citrix server. This results in a wireless network that blankets the Mount campus and allows students to access a full range of software and Internet resources from their notebook computers.

The MERLIN program was developed by the Mount's information services and support staff under the direction of Mark Cain, executive director, to support the liberal arts and sciences core curriculum. Judges for the EDUCAUSE Award particularly commended the Mount's success in planning and in using technology creatively to support the curriculum.

"We are very excited about winning the award," says Cain. "MERLIN's wireless thin client solution is perfect for Mount's students who travel all over campus during the course of a day."

The announcement of the award is also posted online at www.educause.edu/awards.

Midwinter 2003 Information & Dates

Preconference Workshop—Creating a Continuous Assessment Environment in Academic Libraries (see [description](#) for details)

Friday, January 24th, 9:00–5:30

Standards Committee

Saturday, January 25th, 9:30–11:00

Medium-Sized Libraries Discussion Group

Sunday, January 26th, 9:30–11:00

College Library Directors Discussion Group
Sunday, January 26th, 2:00–4:00

[Register](http://www.ala.org/events/midwinter2003/registration.html) online (<http://www.ala.org/events/midwinter2003/registration.html>)

Exhibits Reception
Friday, January 24th, 5:15–7:30

Placement Center opens at Noon on Friday and closes at 1:00 on Monday

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. sunrise celebration
Monday morning
(Check the Midwinter Program Book for the exact time and location)