



ISSUED BY THE COLLEGE LIBRARIES SECTION OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE AND RESEARCH LIBRARIES,
A DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Fall 2005

Volume 21, Issue 2

CLS Chair's Column, Fall 2005

It is traditional for the new CLS chair to offer introductions in the fall newsletter, and to provide a snapshot for what is in store for CLS in the coming months. Leading off in the transitions department is Damon Hickey, College of Wooster. Damon has moved to the illustrious and well-deserved post of Past Chair of CLS. We greatly appreciate the work he put into moving the Section forward in 2004-2005. I am especially glad that he will be around for guidance and advice in the year ahead.

Lis Chabot, Ithaca College, comes on board as our new vice-chair. Lis is responsible for making all the new committee appointments and as Spring is the appointment season, we will have a number of

vacancies to fill. So if you've been thinking about becoming more involved in CLS, Lis is the one to talk with. There is a committee volunteer form on the CLS web site and it is not too early to express an interest in serving.



*Robin Wagner,
CLS Chair*

There are also two committee head changes this year. Ann Watson, Denison University, has assumed leadership of the

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News to Note:

Sailing into the Future—Charting our Destiny is the theme of the 13th Annual ACRL Conference to be held in Baltimore, March 29-April 1, 2007. A call for participation will be issued in November. Details are available on the ACRL web site.

CLS '06 Program: Big Ideas, Small Staff

Do you have big dreams for your library? Do you ever feel constrained by small budgets and small staffs? Would you like to hear from other college librarians who made their dreams a reality not in spite of, but *because* they work in college libraries? If so, you'll want to attend the CLS program at the 2006 ALA Annual Conference: Big Ideas, Small Staff: Successful Tactics for College Librarians.

On Sunday, June 25th, from 10:30 am to

noon, presenters will address some of the most significant challenges college libraries and all libraries with limited staffs face: library instruction, greater access to resources, digitization projects, information literacy, public relations, community outreach, and recruitment.

The University of New Hampshire at Manchester will talk about their peer instructional mentors program. Ithaca Col-

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CLS Newsletter (ISSN 0887-3550) is a semiannual publication of the College Libraries Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611-2795; 800/545-2433, ext. 2519. This publication is sent free of charge to members of the ALA/ACRL College Libraries Section. For membership information contact the American Library Association.

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CLS Chair's Column, Spring 2005 (*cont.*)

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CLIP Notes committee, and Kendra St. Aubin, Bridgewater State College, stepped into the chair of the Membership Committee this summer.

I am happy to be serving as CLS chair. For those of you who don't know me, I am the director of the library at Gettysburg College in Gettysburg, PA. I've been in this job for nine years—a little longer if you count the three years I worked for IT at Gettysburg. Like most of you, our library staff is small and we manage to serve a student population of about 2,500 as creatively as we can with resources that never seem to stretch far enough.

That is why I've asked the 2006 CLS program chair, Irene Herold, Keene State College, to craft a program that highlights the creative things that are happening in college and small university libraries. We work at institutions that stress the personal, the residential, and face-to-face communications — which make us different from much of the rest of higher education. Creating this sort of learning environment is labor intensive, and

we're often not staffed to handle the kind of one-on-one education our clientele expect.

What do you do when you've got big ideas and a small staff? That's what you'll find out at the CLS program at Annual. The program (*see page 1*) features a mix of speakers and multimedia presentations. Librarians are sure to come away with some new ideas of how to make a difference back at home.

That brings me to my closing comment—about making a difference. As I am writing this, powerful Hurricane Rita is barreling towards the Texas Coast. We have daily reminders of the destruction wreaked by Katrina in New Orleans and the Gulf region. Like people across the country we have opened our hearts and our pocketbooks to help various hurricane relief efforts.

For those of you who may not be aware, the American Library Association has a number of ways that librarians can help directly in rebuilding the library communities that were damaged or destroyed by the hurricanes. Once basic needs are met,

Friday Night Feast and Haworth Press: A Proud Tradition

Just seven years ago in 1999, the inaugural Friday Night Feast took place at Dickie Brennan's Steakhouse in New Orleans. Since then, CLS members and prospective members have enjoyed Asian fare in San Francisco, down-home Southern cooking in Atlanta, Indian cuisine in Toronto, and, most recently, bruschetta, spinach artichoke al Forno, roast chicken Vesuvio, and warm apple crostada at Maggiano's Little Italy in Chicago.

If all goes well, the Friday Night Feast will return in its eighth year to another Dickie Brennan's restaurant in New Orleans: the Bourbon House, specializing in seafood. Underwriting this event since 2002, the Haworth Information Press has been a major factor in its success.

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CLS Chair's Column (cont.)

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the long and arduous process of rebuilding the public spaces—the schools, public libraries and other institutions that figure prominently in to our civic lives—will begin. Some reports cite over 600 public schools destroyed in the hurricane.

If you check out the ALA web site you will see a link for the “ALA Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund” that is accepting donations to rebuild libraries. For a more personal approach, there is another link for the ALA’s “Adopt a Library” program which will pair U.S. libraries of all types with a library in the Gulf Coast region in need of assistance. Support for the adopted library can range from providing replacement books and computers to financial backing and volunteer services.

Another link will lead to the “Hurricane Katrina Book Relief Campaign.” This is a joint endeavor by the Library of Congress and the non-profit organization *First Book*. *First Book* has been operating for nearly fourteen years and is a foundation set up to give children from low-income families the opportunity to read and own their own books.

All these initiatives provide a secure way online for individuals, groups, or library communities to make donations. Just imagine the impact if your library adopted a library or rallied your students to each give fifty cents to the *First Book* relief project. The library directors of the 24 Associated College Libraries of Central PA, my local consortium, plan to donate \$5,000 from our consortium treasury to ALA’s Katrina Relief Fund. They need it more than we do. We’re considering adopting a library as well. I hope CLS members reading this will take up the challenge to lead the way on your campus and find a way to make a difference.

Bits and Bytes: Using Technology to Train Academic Librarians as Coaches

During the CLS conference program at ALA Annual in Chicago this past June, four speakers shared their experiences with two different online coaching programs designed for librarians. Melanie Hawks of ACRL and Juli Hinz, University of Utah, spoke about “Coaching for Performance” from a program designers and a participant perspective. Program goals included self-directed learning, engagement of different learning styles, creation of a geographically dispersed community, and more personalized interactions between facilitators and participants than are possible in an in-person, time-limited setting with 35 students.

Challenges included using community-building tools such as chat: that technology itself and time differences were barriers. Unstructured discussion forums were not a success: participants needed specific assignments and reminders to generate online activity. Successes included access to rich content and expertise in a setting customizable to a participant’s local situation.

Kathryn Deiss from the Metropolitan Library System and Sonia Bodi from North Park University spoke about the Teach*Model*Coach program, developed with IMLS funding for Chicago’s Metropolitan Library System. The program used a combination of in-person and online tools and meetings for both the whole group and for active learning sessions between individual learners and coaches.

One difficulty was that many school librarians were not able to effectively participate in chat sessions, where much serendipitous learning occurred, due to low-speed Internet access and/or instant messaging restrictions. Overall learning through immersion in the topic supplemented by technological tools was very successful.

Both programs enjoyed technological successes and challenges and everyone learned a lot!

Megan Fitch, Kenyon College

CLIP Notes Committee Activities

The CLIP Notes committee is working hard on updating the participating institution mailing list. A query as to whether the institution would like to continue as a survey participant for CLIP Notes will be included, as well as a form to update contact and address information.

There are several publications in the works. The committee is shooting for a publication date by ALA midwinter 2006 for the nearly completed CLIP Note on Plagiarism. Data for the Emergency Response CLIP Note is being compiled and analyzed now.

*Anne Watson
CLIP Notes Committee, Chair*

“Your Research Coach”

“Your Research Coach” is nearing the end of its first year as a program. It was created for academic librarians seeking assistance with research and scholarly projects, which can lead to publications or presentations. It helps by matching those seeking help with an experienced “coach,” who can offer advice, support and suggestions to improve the chances for success. The program is sponsored by the Research for College Librarianship Committee. It has had a successful first year. Seventeen partners have been working with ten coaches on a variety of projects.

One successful partnership was between Lisa Allen, a new librarian at Kutztown University, and her coach Beth Avery, Director of Library Services at Western State College of Colorado. Lisa had submitted a proposal to present a paper at the 2005 ACRL conference in Minneapolis, which was accepted. Beth Avery was able to look at her outline and offer suggestions on issues that veteran librarians might bring up and some issues that she needed to think about before the presentation. They worked together on the phone and via e-mail. They were both able to join a discussion group for librarians, which was fortuitous since Lisa’s research topic was a very timely one. In addition to discussing Lisa’s research, she and her coach were able to discuss librarian positions, what one might look for in a position, and developing a career track.

Other success stories include a librarian who successfully revised her thesis and had an article accepted by the *Journal of Academic Librarianship*. Another partner and coach

developed a survey instrument to gather data for her project. Still another partner was encouraged to take a research project that had come to a dead end and revitalize it with some new approaches and a way to wrap a theoretical framework around data that will be collected from leaders in the practice of information literacy.

Both partners and coaches have reported enjoying the partnership experience. The “Your Research Coach” program affords mentoring to librarians whose institutions cannot offer such support, and who need to publish or present to attain tenure. For those who elect to become coaches, the experience can add to one’s own resume and experience. By working closely with someone from a different setting, both the coach and the partner expand horizons in the field of information science.

The Research for College Librarianship Committee would like to further expand this program and have more partners and coaches involved. Our goal is to double or triple our numbers in the next year, to 20-30 coaches and 40-50 partners. To become a partner or a coach, you may apply on the CLS website. If you have any further questions, please contact Rebecca Miller (Coach Coordinator) at rlmiller@lakeforest.edu or Rob Lenholt (Partner Coordinator) at rlelholt@stetson.edu.

Rebecca Miller & Nancy Bohm

IMLS Grant to Simmons College Library

The Simmons College Library has been awarded a grant of \$661,449 by IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services) under its Librarians for the 21st Century program. The Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science and the University of Massachusetts Boston Library are partners in this project, which aims, ultimately, to recruit a diverse population to the library profession in Massachusetts and throughout the country. Development and dissemination of a library internship program for high school students will be the focal activity of the proposed project. Over three years, the project will build on H. W. Wilson Foundation-funded pilot internship programs at Simmons College and the University of Massachusetts Boston, to develop a high-quality,

flexible internship curriculum that can be adapted for any library. Guidance for recruitment, funding and management of an internship program will be developed to complement the curriculum. The entire program package will be made readily available on a Simmons College Web site for any library that wishes to establish its own internship program. The project is known as *MassBLAST*, Building Library Awareness and Staff for Tomorrow in Massachusetts.

Doris Ann Sweet, Simmons Library

A Plug for Poster Sessions by Steven J. Bell, Director, Gutman Library, Philadelphia University

In January 2005 I spotted the “Call for Poster Sessions” for the ALA annual meeting in Chicago. I never thought of myself as a poster session kind of guy, and initially pretty much ignored the announcement. For some reason it seemed to me that only the delivery of a paper or participation on a panel were worthy ways to professionally contribute to the conference. That sort of thinking, I discovered, was misguided. With no obligations for a paper or panel, but equipped with a potentially good idea, I decided to submit a proposal for a poster session. If nothing else, a poster session would offer a great way to stay busy between CLS meetings and program.

Since I like developing conference programs with colleagues I asked John Shank from Penn State to collaborate with me. That turned out to be a good idea since John had experience creating conference posters, and I knew nothing about it. We decided that I would develop the content for the poster, and that John would lend his design skills to creating the poster. And, perhaps most importantly, he

would print the poster and bring it to the conference. Having attending plenty of poster sessions I knew I liked taking a handout away. So I prepared a 4-page handout that explained our research and contained a small scale copy of the poster.

On our big day John and I met on the exhibit floor at the Chicago Convention Center. I remembered to bring transparent push pins to mount the material. As promised by John, the poster looked great. All that was left was for the conference goers to actually come over and look at our poster. And that they did. Owing to the location of the poster sessions and a lack of no-conflict time for exhibits and posters, our traffic was far lighter than witnessed at ACRL in Minneapolis. That was both bad and good. A poster presenter clearly wants as many people as possible to come over and chat. But we discovered that fewer people meant more substantial conversations with each one.

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New CLS Webmaster Appointed

CLS membership would like to offer a huge thank you to outgoing webmaster Ruth Connell of Valparaiso University, who deserves the credit for establishing a sleek and user friendly website and keeping it populated with up-to-date information. Thank you, Ruth, for all your hard work. It is, and has been, much appreciated.

With Ruth’s departure, CLS has appointed David Casens, Director of Development for the Library and

Information Services at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville.

David has over eleven years of experience working in libraries and library administration and seventeen years of experience working in the development field. He holds a Master of Arts in History from SIUE and his library degree from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. We welcome him onboard as the new CLS webmaster.

CLS ‘06 Program: Big Ideas, Small Staff (*cont.*)

(Continued from page 1)

lege will offer an alternative to a high-priced federated search system. Quinnipac College will review their efforts to preserve the past and begin a digitization project on a shoestring. Augustana College (Canada) will demonstrate their ability to develop and deliver 21 for-credit, discipline-specific information literacy courses. Goucher College will highlight their successful promotion of a special collection, which led to national publicity, increased support for special collections, and greater student use. Linfield College will speak about their outreach to the local bookstore, the public library, and its own English Department to develop community-wide literacy programs. And Gettysburg College will discuss their proactive program for recruiting to the profession.

A planned open mike time after the presentations will offer an opportunity to share concrete information about conceiving, launching, and maintaining big ideas with small staffs. Join us!

KUDOS

Janis M. Bandelin, Director of Libraries at Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina was elected to the ACRL Board of Directors and will serve 2006-2009.

James A. Buczynski, Seneca College of Applied Arts & Technology, Toronto, presented “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell: Challenging the IP Rebel Mindset in Online Learning” at the 34th Annual Workshop on Instruction in Library Use at the University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario.

Lynea Anderman has been appointed the Directory of the Library at Pennsylvania Institute of Technology in Media, PA. She was previously the Director of Library Services at Warren County Community College in Washington, NJ.

Steven J. Bell, Director of the Paul J. Gutman Library at Philadelphia University published the following articles in spring 2005: “Don’t Surrender Library Values” BackTalk Column Opinion Piece. *Library Journal* 29: 79, May 15, 2005; “A New Strategy for Enhancing Library Use: Faculty-Led Information Literacy” (with Bill Miller) *Library Issues* 25(5): 1-4, May 2005; “Creating Community Online: Technology Shapes the Next Wave of Professional Development for Librarians. *American Libraries* 36 (4), April 2005.

Lis Chabot, College Librarian, Ithaca College Library was recently elected to the NYLINK Council, as an Independent Higher Education Institution representative.

Mickey Zemon and **Alice Harrison Bahr** published “Careers and/or Children: Do Female Academic Librarians Pay a Price for Motherhood?” *College and Research Libraries* 66 (5): p. 394-405, September, 2005.

Barbara Fister, Gustavus Adolphus College, published the following articles: “Reading as a Contact Sport: Online Book Groups and the Social Dimensions of Reading.” *Reference and User Services Quarterly*, 44 (4) Summer 2005: 303-309. “Copycat Crimes: Crime Fiction and the *Marketplace of Anxieties*” *Clues: A Journal of Detection*, 23(3) Spring 2005: 43-56. She also presented the plenary address “Smoke and Mirrors: Finding Order in a Chaotic World” at the 34th Annual Workshop on Instruction in Library Use at the University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario.

College Library Directors Discussion Group

At the June 2005 ALA Annual meeting of the CLS College Library Directors Discussion Group in Chicago attendees were directors, those interested in director perspectives on topics, and even a vendor who wanted to hear what topics were on folks’ minds.

Twenty-four attendees discussed the following topics: institutional repositories, multi-generational students, e-products, human resources, staffing and career paths, and information literacy and getting campus-wide faculty participation.

If you’ve never attending the Discussion Group, the two-hour session is loosely structured. Topics are solicited from all attending, and then those with the majority of

interest are selected for discussion. There are usually two rounds of discussion where three or so topics are discussed and then a different three topics finish out the second hour. Those in attendance move to the table/topic that they want to talk about.

Chicago was the last meeting for outgoing co-chairs Nancy Magnuson from Goucher College, and Rachel Crowley from Briar Cliff College. Their service and graceful facilitating of discussions was appreciated.

The next meeting of the CLS College Library Directors Discussion Group is scheduled for Sunday, January 22, 2006, from 10:30-12:30 at Midwinter in San Antonio. All are invited to attend!

Friday Night Feast and Haworth (*cont.*)

Haworth Press, publisher of over 200 journals and more than 80 original titles each year, is headquartered in Binghamton, NY. Founders Bill Cohen and Patrick McLoughlin named the press after the township of Haworth in England, which was the home of the famous Bronte sisters. Haworth's first publishing project in 1978 was the *Library Security Newsletter*. The press has branched out into an alphabet soup of fields as diverse as Social Policy, Ethnic Studies, Horror and the Supernatural, Eating Disorders, Herbal Medicine, and Gay Male Fiction.

Thanks to Haworth's generosity in supporting the annual CLS feast, 59 librarians attending ALA in Chicago enjoyed an evening of tasty dining and good conversation. The Haworth contribution subsidizes the overall cost of the meal and enables CLS to offer meals at no cost to prospective new members. "One of the main intentions of the Friday Night Feast is to recruit new members," said CLS chair Robin Wagner. "Offering an informal setting like the Friday Night Feast gives librarians a chance to mingle, and for new librarians to consider becoming professionally active, volunteer for CLS committees and talk with more experience librarians about publishing," she added. "Haworth literature is on display at the dinner so new librarians (and old!) can become acquainted with Haworth journal and monograph titles." Of particular



Librarians enjoying Friday Night Feast

Interest is Haworth's *College & Undergraduate Libraries*. Three C&UL editors attended the dinner this year, including current editor, Lynchburg College Library Director Christopher Millson-Martula.

Those in attendance were certainly appreciate. University of Notre Dame librarian and first-time attendee Laura

Fuderer remarked: "I appreciated Haworth's kind sponsorship of the CLS dinner in Chicago. It gave me a much needed opportunity to network with old friends and meet new acquaintances."

Another first time attendee, Kevin Hastings-Merriman, Head of Library Collection Management at the McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana returned home and sent in his CLS membership check. "I do hope Haworth's sponsorship will continue in the future. Funding is always short and academic librarians looking for



CLS members Damon Hickey and Steven Bell at Friday Night Feast

a niche in ALA would be very lucky to have the opportunity to spend time with the CLS group," he said.

Special thanks go to Stephen Stoan, Director of Library and Information Services at Drury University in Springfield, Missouri for organizing the 2005 feast and to Alice Bahr, Dean of Libraries and Instructional Resources at Salisbury University in Maryland who is planning the 2006 feast.

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A Plug for Poster Sessions (*cont.*)

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With a moderate number of visitors (about 100 in 90 minutes) we had more time to talk to each one of them, and that was tremendously rewarding. We spoke to librarians from Argentina, Brazil, and Russia (via a translator). Most every one of them took our handout and appeared to be interested in replicating our experiment.

So, if you, like the old me, thought that poster sessions were not worth the time or were only for new librarians or those less qualified to present, lose all those pre-conceived notions. A poster session is great fun, and it can be prepared in a reasonably short amount of time once you have all of your data and findings. It can help to have a colleague who is good at creating posters, but if not you could go to <http://www.postersession.com> and create one on the web which is then mailed to you.

For individuals who would like to learn more about our poster session (on library blogs and courseware systems) and see the poster and handout, go to:
<http://staff.philau.edu/bells/webpresent.html>
(scroll down to the ALA poster session section).

*Steven J. Bell, Director,
Gutman Library, Philadelphia University*

CLS College Libraries Section

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