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CLS Chair's Column, Spring 2006

Judging from past newsletters, the Chair of CLS is supposed to write a column on pithy issues facing college libraries or comment on the affairs of the organization. Past columns offer a commentary on the comings and going of chairs and committees and provide a snapshot of what lies ahead. I can't bear to do it.

CLS is a great organization and ACRL is a decent parent with all kinds of meaningful initiatives. But you can read about those on the listserv archive or web site. I don't want to reflect on another new initiative or environmental scan. I'm taking a break from the crisis in publishing, cost of budget-wrecking e-journals and benefits (or pitfalls) of federated searching when

teaching information literacy skills. I'm declaring a momentary moratorium on hand-wringing over how ill prepared high school students are to do college level work.

Instead, I want to talk about the pleasures of browsing and encourage you all to take a walk through your stacks if you haven't done so in awhile.



Robin Wagner, CLS Chair

Who browses anymore in an academic library? Almost no one. Certainly not me. We are trained to

(Continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

<i>CLS Friday Night Feast</i>	2
<i>Special Katrina KUDOS</i>	4
<i>Call for Spectrum Mentors</i>	5
<i>News from our ACRL liaison</i>	5
<i>Katrina KUDOS: two stories</i>	6
<i>KUDOS</i>	7
<i>CLS Program</i>	8

Ray English: ACRL Academic Librarian of the Year

Ray English, Azariah Smith Root Director of Libraries at Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, is the 2006 ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. The award, sponsored by YBP Library Services, recognizes an outstanding member of the library profession who has made a significant national or international contribution to academic/research librarianship and development.

English will receive a \$3,000 award on Monday, June 26, at 4:30 pm., at a ceremony and reception during the ALA conference in New Orleans.

"Ray English is an influential librarian," said award committee chair Les Canterbury. "He is a leader in various organizations at the state and national levels including the Oberlin Group of Liberal Arts Colleges, OhioLINK, and other units of

(Continued on page 4)

Special points of interest:

- Watch COLLIB-L for details about ALA Annual Conference meeting locations. Times are listed on p. 5
- Check out the location of the Friday Night Feast at www.bourbonhouse.com

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CLS Chair's Column, Spring 2006 (*cont.*)

(Continued from page 1)

be information seekers. We know what we want. We google it. We use our journal locator tools to find the full text of articles. We never leave our seats. If we want a book, we search online, find the call number, grab and go.

Or we request it on interlibrary loan and have it delivered to our desk, as I did the other day when I wanted to find the short story on which *Brokeback Mountain* was based. I googled the movie, found the name of the short story, and looked up Annie Proulx online. I discovered that *Close Range: Wyoming Stories* was checked out until May 15—no point in recalling it (although I could have done that online too). I pulled up a consortium borrower form and ordered it. The volume arrived from the University of Pittsburgh in 48 hours. I never had to leave my desk.

I used to browse. In fact I used to be a first class browser. I credit certain professional opportunities to a series of serendipitous browsing experiences.

In college I discovered that perusing

back issues of *Life Magazine* was a way to beat the steamy heat of a Carlisle, Pennsylvania summer. The college's archivist, who also was probably looking for air-conditioning, plucked me from the stacks one August evening and offered me a job my junior and senior years in Special Collections. "You're always here doing research," she said. "That's the kind of student I want." Little did she know it had everything to do with a different kind of sweat!

But I fell in love with old, popular magazines and became a history major. I might have been one of the few people at my school, in the years before bibliographic instruction (when the term information literacy had not passed the lips of any librarian), who knew what primary sources were and used them!

That student archive position led me to a post-college job in a university Special Collections where I spent my time as a paid snoop. I read dead

(continued on page 3)

CLS Friday Night Feast at ALA

Eight years ago, the tradition began. This year CLS returns to the city where the first dinner was held and to one of the finest Dickie Brennan restaurants: The Bourbon House in New Orleans. The menus is fabulous: shrimp remoulade, spinach salad, and a choice of one of three entrees—pan sautéed Gulf fish with meuniere sauce, grilled pork chop, or a vegetarian choice—topped off with vanilla pots and coffee/tea. The best part of the dinner, however, is the chance to relax with colleagues, so reserve your seat for Friday, June 23rd (form available on the CLS web site).

For six years The Haworth Press, Inc.'s contribution has kept costs reasonable (this year \$31 for CLS members, guests \$43) and also underwritten ten free dinners for prospective new members. As such, The Haworth Press, Inc. gift has advanced the Sections opportunities to develop new leaders and attract new members. We'll have a chance to raise a glass in their honor again at this dinner. See you there!

CLS Chair's Column (*cont.*)

people's letters. I was browsing manuscripts and getting a salary for it! I was hooked.

Browsing paid off again in my first librarian job at a large university. We were doing reclassification from Dewey to LC the summer I was hired. I was assigned to the 300's, starting with economics, a subject about which I knew nothing and cared even less.

But right near the 330s were the 360s and 370's—public welfare, charities, social services—which in this particular library consisted of shelves of 19th century advice books for women.

"She's such a hard worker. She's really getting into this reclass thing," said my new co-workers, impressed that I headed off to the stacks each day with cheer. Little did they know I was having a time of it, browsing the fun stuff. That fun stuff became the basis of my thesis some years later.

But I digress in my effort to prove my browsing bona fides. Returning to my most recent epiphany on the virtues of browsing—

I'll confess to being out of practice. I don't even browse at book stores very often, not with Amazon.com at my fingertips. But on the day of rediscovery, I was using my *Brokeback Mountain* short story strategy to find a poem. It wasn't working.

I'd heard a snippet of a poem at a memorial service and wanted to find the whole thing, complete with interpretation. I googled; then used the MLA and our catalog online. Eventually I abandoned the online approach and decided to go and

browse in the stacks. Off to the PS 3535s where I found my poem and another dozen collections by the author, as well as commentary in a volume on multiple poets of the same time period and genre. I was browsing. I actually sat on the floor.

In the process I discovered that we possibly have a dyslexic shelver. I found several shelves of PS 3553s mistakenly shelved with the 3535s. I put them where they belonged—which was right by the PS 3563s, home to some pretty good new fiction, which led to another browsing tangent.

In the end, I left the stacks with my poem, two volumes of explication, an anthology of different poets, two collections of short stories and two novels that looked interesting. I also made a vow to come back again!

I learned that we need to check our shelvers more closely. I made a note to see if we were still shelf-reading on a regular basis. I discovered a whole bank of fluorescent lights were out in the Ps making browsing (or the see-grab-and-

go method of retrieval) very difficult.

I ran into a faculty member who needed help finding something in the Qs. The catalog indicated "available" but the book was not on the shelf. I talked to a home-schooling parent who was studying electricity and was hoping we had something accessible to middle school age students. All of a sudden I found myself browsing in science!

I realized how long it had been since I spent any time in our stacks. And what a pleasure to actually handle books and see what we've been buying with our budget! Many of our books come in on approval, fully processed, and are whisked off to the stacks. How perfectly decadent to spend time browsing the collection and connecting with your library users.

No matter what you do in your library, it probably has been a while since you spent any time in your stacks. So I'm urging you all to take the walk-about challenge in your own library—and see what you discover!

Publish, Don't Perish: Helpful Hints for Authors

The ACRL New Publications Advisory board and the CLS Research committee are co-sponsoring "Publish, Don't Perish: Helpful Hints for Authors," a program at the Annual Conference on Sunday, June 25th from 1:30-3:30 pm. Location to be announced.

Share your professional knowledge through writing! This program is the place to start if you have ever wanted to publish a book or journal article. Join the panelists for a spirited presentation. Learn practical ways you can turn your ideas into the reality of becoming a published author.



Gulf Coast & Katrina KUDOS

Swarthmore College Library, Pennsylvania, raised \$1,000 selling Mardi Gras beads at the Circulation desks for the Southern University of New Orleans.

This issue of the CLS Newsletter is honoring those in the CLS community who are stepping forward to help out in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast region by providing a special Katrina KUDOS section. Congratulations to all those CLS members who are doing their bit to assist with recovery efforts.

The Associated College Libraries of Central Pennsylvania donated \$5,000 from their treasury to ALA's Hurricane Katrina Library Relief Fund, to help rebuild Gulf Coast libraries.

The Occidental College Library sent \$5,500, the proceeds from the library's fall book sale, to the library at Dillard University, a historically black university in New Orleans.

The Davidson College Library, North Carolina, sent four desktop PC's to a small public library in Louisiana.

The Friends of the Library at Willamette University, Oregon, dedicated the proceeds of their book sale, and then matched it, to Dillard University in New Orleans.

Gogebic Community College, Michigan, will be sending its Director, Walt Lessun, to ALA-New Orleans in June where he will devote a full day to assisting in ALA's community rebuilding project. Walt is unsure if he can handle a day's worth of physical labor so he signed his wife, Anna, up for the same program.



Reference Float at Tufts

Tisch Library at Tufts University held a weeklong Mardi Gras event to raise money for the Southern University of New Orleans Library which was ravaged by Hurricane Katrina. The library had a Library Float "Jumbo-Laya" Parade and raffled off prizes, including local gift certificates, BRUINS tickets, and a PC flat pane. They raised \$1,200 and filled Tisch Library with Mardi Gras spirit!

Musselmann Library at Gettysburg College, Pennsylvania, will be sponsoring a poetry reading in April that will, through book sales, raffle proceeds, and donations, serve as a fundraiser for a library in the New Orleans area. The reading will feature the writing group Three Genres in the Rain, four writers who represent three literary genres.

Ray English Named ACRL's Academic Librarian of the Year *cont.*

(continued from page 1) the American Library Association. Under his direction, Oberlin College has led a Mellon Foundation initiative involving six academic libraries that's designed to attract a more diverse population to the library profession through undergraduate internships."

English is a founding member and chair of the ACRL Scholarly Communications Committee and recently was elected to the steering committee of SPARC, of which Oberlin College is a founding member. He also has lectured and written extensively on scholarly communication issues and open access. Since 1988, English has served on more than 15 ALA and ACRL committees and is a former ACRL Board member (1996-98).



text adapted from ACRL news release, Feb 14, 2006

News From Our ACRL Board Liaison

Hi CLSers! There was quite a bit of Board activity at the Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio, and I want to share a few highlights with you. The Board met all day Thursday in what is becoming a regular feature of our conference schedule. This day is dedicated to planning and gives the Board the time and opportunity to focus in on strategic issues for the association.

One of the topics at Midwinter was annual conference programming. Professional development is a very high priority for our membership, yet we also get feedback about content redundancy, scheduling, and program quality. We want to make sure that ACRL provides the best forum we can possibly offer, recognizing, of course, that our resources are finite. We agreed to form a task force to make recommendations that we can share with association leadership at the annual conference in New Orleans. The task force's charge is to:

- Create a more structured association-wide vetting process with the goals of improving quality content, quality of delivery, alignment with the strategic plan, topic timeliness, balance in equity issues across units,

addressing scheduling limits, and mechanism for repurposing of content generated.

- Examine opportunities to provide alternative and less formal professional development venues at ALA annual conferences.

This year's programming is not affected. Any changes will impact 2008 programming. We also continue to discuss board structure, asking ourselves if the board is nominated and comprised in a way that best supports the strategic plan. We confirmed our commitment to a representative board structure and to keeping the size of the board generally the same. We've asked an existing task force to look at other ways to ensure that there is openness, consistency and inclusiveness on the board. Some ideas include advisory boards, board interns, and continuing to revise the nominating and board recruiting processes.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions, concerns or ideas!

Lori Goetsch, lgoetsch@kus.edu

Meeting Times at Annual

Saturday, June 24

8:00-10:00 a.m.: CLS Executive Committee I

10:30-12:00 p.m.: CLS All-Committees

Sunday, June 25

9:00-11:00 a.m.: CLIP Notes Advisory Board

10:30-12:00 p.m.: CLS Program Big Ideas, Small Staff

1:30-3:30 p.m.: College Library Directors Disc. Group

Monday, June 26

1:30-3:30 p.m.: CLS Executive Committee II

Call for Spectrum Scholar Mentors

If you are interested in developing the next generation of academic librarians and ensuring a diverse workforce, consider becoming a Spectrum Scholar mentor through the ACRL Dr. E. J. Josey Spectrum Scholar Mentor Program. The goal of the program is to link participating library school students and newly graduated librarians, who are of American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander descent, with established academic librarians, who will provide mentoring and coaching support; serve as a role model in academic librarianship; and provide guidance in seeking a career path and opportunities for leadership in the profession. Because many of the Spectrum Scholars are part-time library school students, a mentor must make a commitment for a minimum of one year beyond the degree or a maximum of five years. Please contact Theresa Byrd at tsbyrd@owu.edu for more information on how to join this program.

Katrina KUDOS cont. Two Libraries Share Their Stories

The **University of Central Florida Libraries** sent animal supplies and computers to the disaster-stricken Gulf Coast area.

The St. Francis/Best Friend's Animal Sanctuary in Tylertown, MS, a shelter only a few miles north of Lake Ponchartrain, received hundreds of animals left stranded in New Orleans.

The shelter had likewise suffered significant hurricane damage and the number of animals coming in quickly outstripped its resources. Shelter volunteers sent out an appeal for crates, fencing, tarps, and food. The list of needed supplies was circulated within UCF Libraries and within two days 1,500 lbs of needed supplies had been collected.

Two library volunteers delivered the supplies on September 13th. Power and water had been turned on that morning and shelter volunteers felt the shelter (and the animals) had taken a turning point that day. Supplies were pouring in and a large donation of kennels meant that dogs that had been kept in crates and carriers for days on end were finally able to walk around.



At the same time, UCF Libraries sought permission to donate 106 computers to the Louisiana Library Association for distribution to Louisiana schools affected by the disaster. After receiving university approval library volunteers delivered the computers in October. Dr. Beth Paskoff, Dean of the LUS library school, accepted the computers on behalf of the Louisiana Library Association

Submitted by Penny Beile
University of Central Florida



Here at the **University of Rochester** we had a grand celebration to raise money for the Southern University at New Orleans. A committee of about 10 volunteers began meeting in December to develop a program. We planned a series of events around Mardi Gras which we called JambaLibrary. Other groups on campus: our Inter-faith Chapel, the Black Student Union, the Frederick Douglass Institute, and the College Writing Center donated money or co-sponsored events with us. To date we have raised over \$5,000 which we plan to send to SUNO's book vendor, Midwest Books.



The highlights of our week included a book sale and a jazz event. In February we collected over \$2300 in the book sale. All books sold for \$1.00.

The library sponsored three lectures on: "Abandoned in a Wasteland: Katrina, Anarchy, and America's Poor," "Music in New Orleans: Then and Now" and "Hey Now!: Musical Maestros Professor Longhair & Clifton Chenier." The lectures were not well attended but they were outstanding. We now know that noon is not a good time for drawing a student crowd.

The final event on Friday Feb 24 was held in a wonderful, recently renovated space in our main library. The campus jazz ensemble and four jazz faculty from the Eastman School of Music performed to a capacity crowd. Everyone enjoyed music, food, and a raffle of donated items including a wonderful bicycle that many folks coveted. Traditional New Orleans treats were served and we had lots of beads and masks. It was all great fun.

Submitted by Vicki Burns
University of Rochester

Kudos

John Barnett, Gettysburg College, published "Food *con pasión* in San Antonio: A quick-fix, sure-fire, hot-plate-coming-through! guide to good eats at ALA Midwinter," *American Libraries* 37(1): p. 64-9, January 2006. He also attended the Frankfurt Book Fair in German from October 17 to 23, 2005, one of four recipients of an ACRL award that sponsors American librarians' participation at the fair. In addition, he presented with Mary Holland, Gettysburg College, a poster session "Creating links, developing collections: building a general collections website @ your library," at the PALINET Annual Conference, Philadelphia, on November 15, 2005.

Steven Bell, Director of the Library at Philadelphia University made the following presentations: "Googilization and Google Migration: What Does It Mean and How Does it Affect You?" at the December 2, 2005 NetGen Symposium held by the New York Chapter of ACRL in New York City; guest speaker for the November 18, 2005 Soaring To Excellence satellite teleconference program "Google and Your Patrons;" co-presenter with John Shank, Penn State Berks, "Building an Online Learning Community" for "Blended" Librarians" at EDUCAUSE 2005 in Orlando, FL, October 2005; co-authored the article "Keeping Up With Google: Resources and Strategies for Staying Ahead of the Pack" with Michael Krasulski, Philadelphia University in *Internet Reference Services Quarterly*, 2005, Vol. 10, No. 3/4, pp. 211-223. Also, authored "Where the Readers are: Blogging to Courseware" in the Fall 2005 NetConnect supplement to the October 15, 2005 issue of *Library Journal*, Vol. 130, No. 17, pp. 8-13 and co-authored, with John Shank, Penn State Berks, "Conferences @ Your Computer: The Ins and Outs of Virtual Conferencing" in *Library Journal*, Vol. 131 (4): 50-53, March 1, 2006.

Beth Fuchs, Reference and Electronic Resources Librarian, Moravian College and Moravian Theological Seminary, Bethlehem, PA, co-presented "Benefits Abound! Student/Librarian Collaborative Web Testing" at the September Pennsylvania Library Association Annual Conference, Hershey, PA. Co-presented "Adventures in Marketing: CLAW (Committee for Library Awareness)" at the Southeastern Pennsylvania Theological Library Association, Winter Meeting at Philadelphia Biblical University; the presentation centered on planning and implementing a library awareness campaign, based on our own experiences of promoting Reeves library to the campus commu-

nity. In addition, she co-wrote and received a Library Services and Technology Act Digitization Grant for \$25,000 which was awarded by the Pennsylvania Office of Commonwealth Libraries for the expansion and enhancement of materials available on the Bethlehem Digital History Project website (<http://bdhp.moravian.edu/>), particularly on the education of young women.

Linda M LaPointe, Technical Services and Serials Librarian, Moravian College, published "Coffee Anyone? How Marketing Classes Helped Develop a Business Plan For a College Library Café" *C&RL News*, Vol. 76 No. 2, February 2006.

Eric Kidwell, Director of the Library, Huntington College, co-presented a poster session at the 25th Annual Conference on the First-Year Experience with Margaret Kinney, Huntington College, "Bringing Together First-Year Students and the College Library." Also, in addition to his regular responsibilities, he was recently appointed Program Coordinator for the Core Curriculum.

Debra C. Rollins, Coordinator for Information Literacy Outreach, Louisiana State University Alexandria, received the Louisiana Library Association's A.H. Benoit Mid Career Award presented to a member in mid-career who has made outstanding contributions to librarianship.

Carolyn Sheehy, Clare and Lucy Oesterle Director of Library Services, North Central College, has been appointed Director of Institutional Assessment and Accreditation. In addition to directing library activities, Sheehy will coordinate and direct all institutional assessment activities involving all units of the College.

Donna Skekel, Serials Librarian, Gettysburg College, published "The Method Behind the Madness: Acquiring Online Journals and a Solution to Provide Access." *The Acquisitions Librarian* Vol 17 no. 33/34 (2005): 63-71.

Philip Swan, Head of the Social Work Library, Hunter CUNY, received tenure and a promotion to Associate Professor effective January 1, 2006.

CLS NEWSLETTER
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CLS Program at the 2006 Annual Conference in New Orleans

Sunday, June 25th
10:30 am to noon

Big Ideas, Small Staff Successful Tactics for College Librarians

Are your dreams for your library bigger than your staff or your budget? This year's CLS program features a combination of in-person speakers and multimedia presentations from libraries like yours. Join us to learn how they made big ideas a reality, and be inspired to implement innovative solutions for your own library!

Nancy Goebel
Augustana, University of Alberta
Creating discipline-specific information literacy courses

Susan Barnes Whyte
Linfield College
Launching community-wide literacy programs

Lisabeth Chabot
Ithaca College
Growing their own federated search system

Nancy Magnuson
Goucher College
Promoting a special collection

Janelle Wertzberger
Gettysburg College
Recruiting students to the profession

Annie Donahue
University of New Hampshire at Manchester
Fostering peer instruction in and beyond the library

Terry Ballard
Quinnipack College
Digitizing collections on a shoestring