The College Libraries Section—Association of College and Research Libraries

Volume 69 Number 1, Fall 1993. Damon D. Hickey, Editor

From the New Chair

It is my privilege to serve as chair of the College Libraries Section this year. The other members of the Executive Committee and I encourage you to find ways to participate in the section's activities: attend committee meetings that interest you; volunteer to serve on a committee, contribute comments to the listserv; contribute a paper on a subject of interest to college librarians at the upcoming ACRL National Conference in Pittsburgh; encourage a colleague to become a member. You are the section and we go forward because members like you get involved. We all look forward to seeing you in Los Angeles and Miami.

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CLS Committee Volunteers Needed

As vice-chair/chair-elect of the College Libraries Section, I will soon be making appointments to Section committees listed below:

CLIP Notes
College Library Leadership
Conference Program Planning —1995
Continuing Education
Fringe Benefits Study
Medium-sized Academic Libraries
Newsletter
Nominating —1995
Planning
Recruiting for College Libraries
Research and Publication on College Librarianship
Standards

I encourage each of you to become more involved in CLS. For more information on the committees, you can check pages 49-50 of the 1992/1993 ALA Handbook of Organization or contact me. If you are interested in an appointment to a CLS committee, please let me know. I'll look forward to hearing from you.

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Request for Program Participation—Teaching the Internet

The College Libraries Section of ACRL is co-sponsoring a three-hour program at the ALA 1994 Annual Conference tentatively titled "Teaching the Internet." The other program co-sponsor is the ACRL Bibliographic Instruction Section. CLS and BIS will each have a featured speaker. The program will conclude with short case studies or snapshots of librarians speaking about their experiences in providing Internet instruction.

The joint program is scheduled for the afternoon of Monday, June 27. The tentative plan for that morning includes an ACRL-sponsored poster session and handson Internet training.

For the CLS featured speaker, we hope to identify a faculty member who is using Internet resources in the curriculum. The Program Committee would welcome suggestions of names of faculty who would be good speakers and who have incorporated Internet use into the classroom and student assignments. Names and brief descriptions of the activity of such faculty would be very useful.

For the case studies portion of the program, we would appreciate receiving the names and brief descriptions of the activities of librarians who have had innovative and interesting experiences in teaching the Internet.

Please submit responses, including self-nominations, to

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Bitnet: PILACHOWSKI@denison.bitnet Internet: PILACHOWSKI@max.cc.denison.edu or via Internet to CLSPROGRAM@cc.denison.edu

CLS Documents Available

Several important documents are now available from the CLS Planning Committee:

The Manual of the College Libraries Section, originally prepared by the section's Historical Commission, presents a history of the section and a description of its policies and procedures, including by-laws and committee charges.

The CLS Strategic Plan outlines the priorities of the section and establishes its goals and objectives.

The 1992 Section Review is the latest 5-year review of the section's activities and programs prepared by ACRL.

For those of you with Internet access, these documents are available via the COLLIB-L listserv. To obtain copies, send an e-mail message to LISTSERV@willamette.edu. The text of the message should read, "index" (without the quotes). You will get a list of documents available from the listserv; these documents will be listed under the section, "Subarchive COLLIB-L." To retrieve a document, send the command, "get filename" (again without the quotes), where "filename" is the name of the document you wish to retrieve.

These documents are also available on the Hatfield Library Gopher. Gopher to jupiter.willamette.edu. The documents are in the directory, "Library Resources/Publications and Statements/COLLIB-L."

For copies of these documents by mail, contact

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COLLIB-L Listserv a Success

The need for better communication between the membership and the officers of the College Libraries Section has been recognized for some time. At the 1993 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, the CLS Executive Committee approved the creation of a listserv to enhance communication within the section, supplement its newsletter, and increase membership. The list would serve a dual purpose, it was decided, by functioning as a forum for communication among all librarians in predominately undergraduate institutions as well as linking the Executive Board with the membership. Mignon Adams, then section chair, charged Larry Oberg, university librarian at Willamette University, with undertaking the project.

In March of 1993, COLLIB-L, the College
Librarians Listserv, was made available to members of
the networking community. Within three months,
nearly 600 subscriptions were received from librarians
and support staff alike in the United States, Canada,
and several other countries. The rapid growth of
COLLIB-L demonstrates that more college librarians
have access to the networks than had been previously
estimated. Subscriptions have leveled off, but they
continue to increase. If growth is interpreted to indicate
approval, then COLLIB-L is a success, filling a void
where no equivalent forum had existed.

To subscribe to COLLIB-L, send an e-mail message to LISTSERV@willamette.edu. The text of the message should read, "sub COLLIB-L your name" (without the quotes).

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Who You Goin' a Call?— The College Library Director Mentor Program

Unlike the supernatural spirits faced by the intrepid threesome of "Ghostbusters," the problems faced by new college library directors are real. Alone, new college library directors face the all-too-common corporeal concerns of demanding faculty members, unsupportive administrators, and disgruntled staff.

Now new college library directors can call upon mentors through the College Library Director Mentor Program, funded for the first two years by the Council on Library Resources. This program is intended to enhance the leadership capabilities of newly appointed college library directors by matching them with experienced directors.

During its first year, fourteen new college library directors were matched with thirteen experienced college library directors (one experienced director served as mentor for two new directors). The 1992-1993 group of mentees included Patricia Basu of Hiram College, Ron Bryson of Campbellsville College, Vandelia Van Meter of Spalding University, Paul Chervenie of the College of Saint Elizabeth, Scottie Cochrane of Marymount University, Charlene Cole of Tougaloo College, Joyce Davis of Catawba College, Marion Gallivan of Gannon University, Trisha Morris of Ohio Dominion College, Elizabeth Mosby of Livingstone College, Mary Jane Scherdin of Edgewood College, Sue Stroyan of Illinois Wesleyan University, Kristi Tornquist of Southern Arkansas University, and Carla Wise of Union University (Tennessee).

The mentors for 1992–1993 were Mignon Adams of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, Lynne Blair of Rhodes College, Stan Campbell of Centre College, Oakley Coburn of Wofford College, Evan Farber of Earlham College, Michael Haeuser of Gustavus Adolphus College, Damon Hickey of the College of Wooster, Tom Kirk of Berea College, William Murdock of Pace University, Sue Myers of Austin College, Jim Parks of Millsaps College, Lennart Pearson of Presbyterian College, and Carolyn Sheehy

of North Central College.

During the year, the program funded site visits to the new and experienced directors' respective institutions. It also funded telephone, postage, and other communication costs. At the end of the year, the mentees participated in a three-day seminar held at Loyola University, New Orleans, prior to the American Library Association Conference. The program funded accommodations and meals for the new directors at the seminar. The new directors or their institutions had to fund travel costs to the seminar as part of their commitment to the program.

Evan Farber, college librarian at Earlham College, and Mignon Adams, library director at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, led the seminar. Topics discussed at the seminar include budgets, personnel, and campus politics. W. David Penniman, CLR president, addressed the group, and, along with Julia Blixrud, CLR program officer, discussed with the participants issues facing college libraries and higher education today. Mary Lee Sweat, library director at Loyola, and her assistant, Anita Cage, served as excellent hosts.

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CLS Newsletter Semi-Annual Again—For Now

Having limited each of its sections to one newsletter last year (which is why volume 8 of the CLS Newsletter had only one number), the ACRL Board has now restored the option of two awaiting further recommendations from its new Membership Communication Task Force.

In the belief that all forms of human communication are important, and that multiple channels of access are better than single ones, this issue of the Newsletter includes the mailing addresses, telephone numbers, FAX numbers, and e-mail addresses of its contributors.

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Back to the Present

Like many of you, my daily routine now includes plowing through umpteen messages that arrive on my desk through the Internet. One recent discussion concerned professional nomenclature. In the minds of many, "librarian" no longer suffices to identify practitioners of our profession. It conjures up painful, ignorant stereotypes. It identifies who we are by where we work. Should we not call ourselves "information specialists" instead? "Information professionals?" "Knowledge queens (kings)?" You know the discussion. You know the arguments. You heard it all 15 years ago.

To my wonder, however, the obvious leading candidate in this new naming contest was missed entirely. It is clear to me that what I need to call myself to stay in this profession is "futurist." Future seems to be the only tense we recognize. It's all over the literature, both written and electronic. You know the headlines. You know the conference and workshop come-ons. Yes, we need to be planners, but each of us lives and works one day at a time. What happened to the here and now? I am pretty impressed with what we have now. Can't we pause a moment and celebrate? Are we so insecure about ourselves that we always have to peer into the wonderful and terrible future?

Honor and learn from the past. Anticipate and plan for the future. Live in the present. Is that not at least one formula for a balanced approach to life? If that is true for individuals, can it not also have some corporate truth? If so, I submit we are suffering significant illness as a profession. Let's get back to the present, at least now and then.

In that spirit, the vehicle in which these musings appear is, in my view, an excellent communication medium for the present. It is well-designed, accessible to all members of CLS, and has the benefit of an able editor. For the next few years, there is no other medium about which those three merits obtain.

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Tentative Schedule of CLS Meetings at Midwinter

Friday, February 2, 1994

9:00 A.M. Standards Committee

Saturday, February 3, 1994

8:00 A.M. Medium-Sized College Libraries Ad Hoc

Committee

9:30 A.M. Executive Committee

2:00 P.M. Chicago Program Committee

Miami Program Committee

Newsletter Committee

Nominating Committee

Planning Committee

4:30 P.M. CLIP Notes

Sunday, February 4, 1994

2:00 P.M. College Library Directors Discussion Group

Monday, February 5, 1994

8:00 A.M. College Library Leadership Ad Hoc

Committee

9:30 A.M. Miami Program Committee

Planning Committee

Standards Committee

11:30 A.M. Continuing Education Ad Hoc Committee

Network Advisory Council

Tuesday, February 6, 1994

9:30 A.M. Executive Committee

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