

CLS Chair's Column, Fall 2006



Despite the challenges that make it to my desktop every day, I truly believe that this is a time of great opportunity for academic libraries. Two recent examples illustrate my perception. My library owns an eight-minute black and white video produced by two Ithaca College students in 1974. The student actors come to the library and get assistance with their research project on the Roaring Twenties. The helpful librarian shows them the card catalog, the *New York Times* on microfilm (which the students view on an old Recordax reader), and the *Readers Guide to Periodical Literature*. We showed this video to the parents of the class of 2010 during orientation sessions

Liz Chabot, CLS Chair

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Chart your Course to Baltimore

Join your colleagues in Baltimore, March 29-April 1, 2007, and return to your campus with an enhanced sense of purpose! The **ACRL 13th National Conference** offers an exciting and energizing exchange of ideas on research, practices, and visions in the field of academic and research librarianship.

Hear fresh perspectives during keynote sessions with Michael Erik Dyson, one of the nation's most renowned public

intellectuals, and professor at University of Pennsylvania. Also at ACRL this year, John Waters, filmmaker, and Nina Totenberg, NPR's award-winning legal affairs correspondent.



Choose from more than 250 peer-reviewed programs focusing on issues to help you stay ahead in an ever-changing profession.

Adapted from ACRL website

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

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this summer. Many could relate to the activities portrayed. We then moved to our current website and demonstrated e-books, database linking, citation software, visual search interfaces, the Historic New York Times database, and our research portal—in full color of course. The parents were wowed—even those who were familiar with personal technology were intrigued and impressed with the services and resources provided by academic libraries in the digital age. We also organized successful orientation sessions for new faculty—the participants did not want to end their conversations and brainstorming with liaison librarians to move on to the next session on their schedules. I cite these activities to highlight the fact that we have continuing opportunities to surprise and delight the vast majority of the world beyond the library staff.

Every library has resource challenges, the big three being financial, personnel, and facilities. Sometimes I think our biggest challenge is ensuring that our customers know what we have to offer—all for their benefit and edification! For this reason, we

established a marketing and outreach team in my library. Team activities have ranged from staffing an information desk in the student union to teaching interested College staff how to use our business and consumer resources for personal investment and related financial decision-making. Getting out our messages is a never-ending endeavor, but we have seen small efforts reap great rewards. I do not have a Friends of the Library organization or any endowed funding sources, so we rely on new initiatives and opportunities. One success story—we submitted the winning proposal for a senior class gift project. Our project involved renovated space to create collaborative study rooms. We developed some mock ups for the space which were displayed near the voting stations. Students were able to see the immediate benefits of this proposal.

Most academic libraries compete for resources on their campuses. We no longer have the luxury of receiving continuous and increased funding levels. It behooves us to create compelling messages for target audiences and to marshal their support, particularly students. We need to develop

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Teaching Information Literacy Skills to Social Sciences Students and Practitioners

ACRL is pleased to announce the publication of “Teaching Information Literacy Skills to Social Science Students and Practitioners,” a second discipline-based casebook. Compiled by Doug Cook and Natasha Cooper, this volume is based on the ACRL Information Literacy Competency Standards, and presents cases on learning situations and how they can be analyzed and addressed.

Also included are descriptions of instruction sessions for each case, notes and team teaching resources. Each case explicitly reflects one or more of the ACRL Information Literacy Standards.

This practical collection of cases and applications brings a new set of resources to librarians doing instruction in the

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CLS Chair's Column (cont.)

our opportunities, document our success stories, and continuously cultivate strategic alliances.

In the Spring 2006 Chair's Column, Robin Wagner reflected on her journey as a library user and librarian. When I went to library school in the mid 1970's there was one class in PL-1, a computer programming language. I used punch cards to attempt to create successful computer programs. There was also one class in management. I remember thinking that I wanted to be a librarian, not a manager. My primary desire was to introduce people to the rich resources available in libraries. I still have the same goal, but the playing field certainly has changed. The challenges and the opportunities will continue to present themselves in this age of the user experience.

Speaking of opportunities, CLS will hold it's first-ever webcast in November. We will be offering an interactive encore presentation of the CLS 2006 program presented in New Orleans, "Big Ideas, Small Staff: Successful Tactics for College Librarians." The webcast will allow us to reach CLS members who were unable to attend the program and provide an additional opportunity for collaboration among college librarians. For more information, see the related article in this newsletter on page 8.

Thanks for reading to the end!

Lis Chabot
Ithaca College

KUDOS to participants of College Library Directors Mentor Program

CLS offers a special KUDOS to the newest members of the College Library Directors Mentor Program. This program, now in its 15th year, matches first-year library directors with an experienced college library director. The purpose is to enhance the leadership capabilities of the new directors and to help them meet the challenges involved in directing small college libraries. The program, originally grant-supported by the Council on Library and Information Resources, is now self-supporting and relies on funds from the institutions of the participating first-year directors.

This year's participants include:

Paul Mathias,
Valley Forge Christian College
John Stemmer,
Bellarmine University
James McCloskey,
Wilmington College
Richard Fyffe,
Grinnell College
Rodney Lippard,
Barton College
Mary Heinzman,
Messiah College

Dan Speidel,
Rivier College
Barbara Whitney Petruzzelli,
Mount Saint Mary College
Dan Masler,
Antioch University, Seattle
Melissa Jadlo,
St. John Fisher College
Felice E. Maciejewski,
St. Norbert College
Faye Priestly,
Johnson C. Smith University

To date, 64 men and 144 women have participated as first-year directors in this program. Larry Hardesty is the program director and moderator of the mentor list-serv, and he is always looking for first-year college library directors to join the program.

For information on how to qualify for the program, the scope of activities, the history, and the cost, please see the link on the CLS web site under Programs & Discussion Groups.

CLIP Note Committee Announces New Publication

The CLIP Notes Committee is pleased to announce the publication of the latest CLIP Note Series, sponsored by CLS and published by ACRL: Managing Student Employees in College Libraries, 3rd edition. It was compiled by Michael Kathman and Jane Kathman and is available from ACRL.

Ordering information can be found on the ACRL web site at <http://www.ala.org/publications>. ACRL members receive a 10% discount on any purchase.

Friday Night Feast and Haworth Press: The Proud Tradition Continues

By all available accounts, this year's Friday Night Feast with 65 attendees was one of the largest ever. That was particularly fitting, since for the first time the Feast returned to the city where the proud tradition began in 1999: New Orleans. Then too, the site was a Dickie Brennan restaurant, the Steakhouse. For 2006, however, the Feast was held in the spacious second floor room of Dickie Brennan's Bourbon House, one of the first restaurants to open after Hurricane Katrina.

Managing partner Dickie Brennan was there to greet everyone and to express his thanks to the American Library Association for helping the city of New Orleans rebuild after Katrina. His appreciation in part extends as well to



the Haworth Press, Inc., which has continuously and generously supported this event, making it affordable for CLS members and absolutely free to ten lucky prospective new members.

Haworth Press, Inc. founders Bill Cohen and Patrick McLoughlin named their press after the township of Haworth (England), the home of the famous Bronte sisters. Although Haworth Press, Inc. headquartered in Bingham-



ton, NY, publishes more than 200 journals, CLS members will be particularly familiar with *College & Undergraduate Libraries* (C&UL). C&UL editor Christopher Millson-Martula (Lynchburg College Library Director) shared a

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Clip Notes Committee Looking for Compilers

The CLIP Notes Committee welcomes volunteers interested in compiling titles for the series. Anyone who wishes to be authorized to compile a CLIP Note should have knowledge and interests relevant to the subject of the proposed publication. Criteria considered in approving a proposal include expected interest in the topic; timeliness of the topic; and expected availability of useful documents for reproduction in a CLIP Note.

Publication of CLIP Notes is done under the editorial direction of the CLIP Notes Committee. A Lead Editor is assigned from the committee and works closely with compilers at every phase of the project.

If you are interested in receiving CLIP Notes surveys or would like to compile a survey, please contact Ann Watson, Chair, CLIP Notes Committee at Watson@denison.edu. More information can also be found on the CLIP Notes Committee page on the CLS website.

CLS College Libraries Section

Association of College and Research Libraries • ALA

Friday Night Feast cont.

Your CLS Management Team enjoying Friday Night Feast: Robin Wagner, Past Chair 2005-2006, Steven Bell, Vice-Chair, Chair Elect, Lis Chabot, Current CLS Chair 2006-2007.



CLSers enjoying good food and company at the Bourbon House.

few words with everyone about their upcoming articles, and, as every good editor does, solicited submissions.

Many thanks to Kitty McNeill (Associate Dean, Library Services, Oxford College of Emory University) who as a member of the Membership Committee revived another Friday Night Feast tradition with its origins in New Orleans. She met the prospective new CLS members whose dinners were covered fully by the Haworth Press, Inc., and personally escorted them to the Bourbon House.

This year's event was arranged by Alice Bahr (Dean of Libraries, Salisbury University), and next year promises to be even better. Dawn Thistle, Member-at-Large and Director of Library Services at Assumption College, is already planning for 2007. Think Friday. Think Feast. And plan for some firsts: this will be the first Feast in the nation's capital.

ACRL Information Literacy Publication cont.

social sciences. Contributors cover such topics as data literacy, visual literacy and developmental research skills training. Information on teaching undergraduate, graduate, and international students, and how to incorporate information literacy into various social science curricula are also presented.

Ordering information can be found on the ACRL web site at <http://www.ala.org/publications>. ACRL members receive a 10% discount on any purchase.



Publish or Perish: A CLS Co-Sponsored Program at ALA

By Steven Bell

ACRL's New Publication Advisory Board and CLS co-sponsored the "Publish or Perish: Helpful Hints for Authors" program at the ALA Annual Conference in June, 2006. I attended along with several CLS colleagues as we were graciously invited to briefly describe the *Your Research Coach* program. I spoke for just a few minutes on my experience as a research coach, explaining how I've helped the partners with whom I've worked. There was lots of good advice and practical strategies from the speakers (Marie Radford, Rutgers University, Tony Schwartz, Florida International University, and Patricia Neal-Schuman, Neal-Schuman Publishers). Their suggestions for would-be authors included starting small but thinking big, creating time for writing, dealing with rejection letters, communicating with editors, and much more.

One of the common threads among the speakers was the need for and value of seeking out help from others. Perhaps Tony Schwartz nailed it when he said "writing is a social interaction." In other words, authoring even if you are writing solo, involves others. Less experienced writers may be intimidated about asking for help, but the presenters' message was that your colleagues are often glad to provide help—and help can come in many forms.

Even more could have been said about the essential importance of having a good, workable idea. As Walt Crawford wrote, "first have something to say." You need a good idea to write about before you start writing anything of substance. If an idea is not well focused or too far a field from your expertise the writing process is bound to become a struggle. The intangible factor is passion. Passion for your topic can make the difference between hitting a wall during the writing process and getting to the finish line.

Attendees were clearly challenged by getting started, and several questioners wanted advice on good ways to kick start the writing process. In almost all situations where help is needed the source is likely to be a colleague (although Tony recommended seeking colleagues outside your institution who are not your friends and much more likely to provide realistic feedback). For those who need or want to publish or present more regularly—or just want to get that first professional article or presentation under the belt—the good news is that there is help out there, both in print and from colleagues.

Embracing Change: Upcoming CLS Program at ALA

The ACRL CLS Program for ALA Annual Conference in Washington DC, "**Embracing Change: Energizing and Engaging Library Staff**" will be presented on Monday, June 25th, 2007, 10:30-noon.

Libraries are constantly evolving as user expectations change, technology develops, budgets constrain, and opportunities emerge. As these and other priorities shift, adaptation is the key; as is the need for nimble organizations, mindful managers, dedicated employees, and creative work environments.

This program will address methodologies for engaging library staff in change and development activities to cultivate a nimble organization by capitalizing on opportuni-

ties, implementing change, and emerging from the experience improved and energized!

We are planning to have Kathryn Deiss of ACRL as the main speaker with a panel of 3 practitioners.

Lis Chabot (Chair, 2006-2007) and Steven Bell (Chair, 2007-2008) are planning to present a Webcast of this program in the fall of 2007 to make it widely available.

KUDOS

Steven Bell, Philadelphia University, authored the article “Search Alternatives and Beyond” in *EDUCAUSE Quarterly Journal*, Vol. 29 No.3, September 2006. He also participated as a panelist for the program “Next Stop Blogging: Building a Professional Blog for your Library” for the LITA (Library and Information Technology Association) program that took place at the ALA Conference in New Orleans. Steven spoke about integrating library blog content into courseware sites.

Beth Fuchs, Moravian College & Moravian Theological Seminary, co-authored an article “Behavioral Citation Analysis: Towards Collection Enhancement for Users” in *College & Research Libraries*, Vol. 67, No. 4, July 2006. She also co-presented “CLAW– Committee for Library Awareness” at the Pennsylvania Library Association’s Lehigh Valley Chapter Spring Conference in May 2006.

Irene Harold, Keene State College, authored “Planning and Executing an Annual Library Lecture” in *Library Administration & Management*, Vol. 20, No. 2, Summer 2006. She was also appointed co-chair of Keene State College’s Centennial Steering Committee. The centennial will be in 2009.

Robert Kieserman, Arcadia University, was recently promoted to Director of the new Business Information Research Center in the Department of Business/Healthcare Administration & Economics at Arcadia. BIRC will provide library support to all of the undergraduate business administration and healthcare administration students as well as all of the students in Arcadia’s new MBA program.

Steve McKinzie, Catawba College, formerly the social sciences librarian at Dickinson, is now the Director of Library Services at Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Carole Myles, Assumption College, has been promoted to Head of Reference and Instructional Services, Emmanuel d’Alzon Library, Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts. Prior to her promotion, Myles served as Reference & Electronic Services at Assumption.

Michele Reid, McDaniel College, received a 2006 McDaniel College Faculty Book Award.

Deborah Robinson, St. Petersburg College, has been appointed Director of Libraries at St. Petersburg College, Clearwater, Florida. She served previously as Assistant Director of the Library at Howard Community College in Columbia, MD and as Head of the Instruction Program at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD.

Carolyn A Sheehy, Clare and Lucy Oesterle Director of Library Services and Director of Institutional Assessment and Accreditation at North Central College, has been appointed co-chair of the planning team for the College’s Strategic Plan 2007-2012.

Sharon Weiner and **Patricia Breivik** were Co-Chairs of the first Peabody Academic Library Leadership Institute, held at Vanderbilt University from July 9-13, 2006. The 18 participants discussed the higher education context for libraries with leaders in higher education and librarianship. During the Institute, Sharon gave a presentation with James Hearne on “The Symbolic Value of Libraries.” The Institute will be held again from July 8-13, 2007.

Ann K. Wheeler recently presented at the LOEX conference with colleague **Pam Harris**, Swarthmore College. Ann also presented at the RLG conference, and she was recently selected to be the columnist for *C&RL News*’ “Job of a Lifetime.”

David A. Wright has been appointed Associate Dean of Learning Resources at Surry Community College in Dobson, NC, effective October 2, 2006. Prior to his appointment at SSC, Dr. Wright served as Library Director at Mississippi College.

Mickey Zemon, Executive Director of the Emerson College Library and Chair of the College Library Section 2000-2001, is retiring in December and was recently made Library Director Emerita.

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Webcast of “Big Ideas” program available to CLS members

CLS Webcast coming to your desktop in November, 2006.

CLS is pleased to offer an online encore presentation of the successful 2006 Annual Conference Program: “**Big Ideas, Small Staff: Successful Tactics for College Libraries.**” The program will be offered as an interactive webcast on Thursday, November 16th, 2006 from 3:00-4:00 EST.

Tune in to learn about using an open-source application to create a research portal, creating a paid internship program, using students to launch a digitization project, developing discipline-specific information literacy classes, collaborating on a speaker series with a public library, and developing an award-winning marketing campaign to promote a special collection.

Registration will be limited to CLS members and handled by ACRL. After the webcast, the archive will be made available to all CLS members.

CLS *College Libraries Section*

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