

A View from the Chair, Spring 2008

More Than Ever It's Important to be a Virtual Learner

When it comes to continuing professional education, academic librarians are conflicted. On one hand we acknowledge that participating in continuing education programming is one of our most important responsibilities. In repeated surveys studying what members value most about their membership, ACRL finds that access to continuing professional development is consistently the number one response. On the other hand, while we greatly value it, we typically neglect to take the time required to participate in these programs. That's understandable since we are all so busy and traveling to conferences and programs can take considerable time. What to do? Take a closer look at virtual learning.

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CLS Chair
Steven J. Bell

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Calling All Retirees!

The Membership Committee has founded a new mailing list entitled "CLSRetirees." The purpose of the list is to assist CLS in keeping in touch with CLS members who have retired. In the past, many of these individuals, along with their collective knowledge and experiences, were simply lost to the organization. A second purpose for the list is to provide a forum for members, no matter how far they are from ending their careers, in which they can discuss retirement issues. In the future we hope to be able to use this new link to end-of-career librarians to foster new mentoring relationships with younger CLS members.

Librarians can join the list by visiting <http://lists.ala.org/sympa/lists/divisions/acrl> and either clicking on first login (if they are not currently members of any lists), or by adding CLSRetirees to their bullpen of lists. Postings can be made by sending messages to clsretirees@ala.org

Please help us spread the word about this new list by communicating its existence to any librarians curious about, pondering, or immersed in retirement!

Shawn Fields, CLS Membership Chair

Special points of interest:

- Watch COLLIB-L for details about our Annual committee meetings. Everyone is welcome to participate!
- Check the Annual program for final details on WHEN & WHERE the CLS Discussion Groups will meet.

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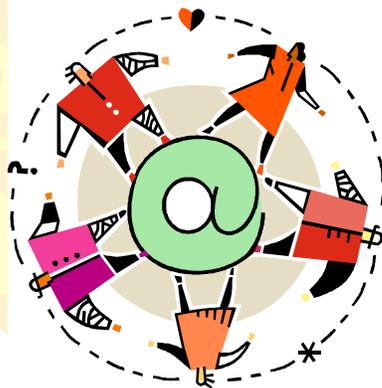
View from the Chair (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

CLS members who are newer to the profession are likely familiar with learning in online environments. For the last few years virtually every LIS program has offered online courses, and it's rare to find a student that graduates without having taken at least one online course. But what about the rest of you? Yes you, the academic librarian who earned his or her MLS ten or twenty years ago. Have you taken an online course or participated in a virtual learning session, whether it is a one-hour webcast or ACRL's virtual online National Conference, last held during the Baltimore conference in 2007? If you answered no to the above, what are you waiting for? The availability of and options for participating in virtual learning programs are expanding exponentially. ACRL now offers more than a dozen regular virtual learning workshops. And while cost is sometimes an issue, there are ample numbers of free online learning programs. In fact, last fall CLS offered its second annual, totally free conference repeat program. In March 2008 ACRL announced its first ever Springboard Event: a members only, totally free webcast. When ACRL starts offering a free webcast, you know that virtual learning is for real. [Ed. Note: see related article on ACRL's new chat series, p. 4]

Let's consider some of the excuses you've given for not participating in virtual learning opportunities:

- *Technology is a barrier.* The truth is that taking part in an online learning session has never been easier. Once you register online, you will receive the instructions needed to attend the session. There are several different platforms for delivering online instruction (e.g., Elluminate, Adobe Connect, Horizon Wimba, etc.), and all require a simple set of tests for first-timers to make sure a computer is correctly enabled to run the learning platform. At most, programs require a properly configured Java client – very common on today's computers. Once all is in place and your computer passes the technology readiness tests, you are ready to connect. Just sit back and learn right from your own desktop at work or at home. As far as equipment, beyond an internet connected computer about all you might need is a microphone. In most cases this is only needed if you want to talk to the speaker(s).



- *It's not as personable as and lacks the interaction of a face-to-face (F2F) program.* Bullbleep. At a F2F conference program everyone sits quietly and listens to a presenter – no interaction at all. Most online learning platforms offer both a chat discussion area and VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). As a veteran of hundreds of online webcasts it's my observation that virtual learning participants talk to each other constantly during a program presentation in the chat room and can easily communicate with the presenter using VoIP. I've seen librarians exchanging e-mail addresses in the chat room so they could contact each other after the session. A seasoned presenter knows how to get you involved in the program, so there's little risk that you'll fall asleep in front of your computer.

- *I'm just too busy for this.* Bullbleep again! You can engage in a virtual learning program in as little as one hour. Most programs are held at times convenient to east and west coasters and everyone in between. At the Blended Librarians Online Community we once had a librarian in Japan log in at 5:00 am local time in order to participate in one of our free webcasts. That librarian certainly found the time to get involved. Look, I know you are busy. But what's the tradeoff between tending to e-mail for an hour and learning about an exciting new service launched by another library or hearing from experts who can update you on the latest higher education issues? What's the cost of missing something that can make you a better academic librarian? And here's where your "too busy" excuse really gets shot down: most online virtual learning programs are

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C.L.I.P. Notes Committee Update

C.L.I.P. NOTES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, January 13, 2008

9:00am-11:00am

Loews Regency Ballroom

ALA Midwinter Philadelphia

CLIP Notes Survey Standard Questions

Eleanora Dubicki prepared a draft revision of the CLIP Notes Survey Standard Questions and members reviewed the suggested changes. The suggested changes would create consistency in the data captured in each survey. The merits of asking open ended questions as opposed to offering survey respondents ranges to select was thoroughly discussed and members debated which would make better sense in terms of data analysis. The suggestion was made that since many of the standard questions are answered routinely by libraries for IPEDS, the standard institution questions could mirror those. Jill Gremmels volunteered to check on the IPEDS questions and classes. If the information aligns with what we are seeking, our questions could be revised and survey respondents would be directed to use the data provided from the most recent IPEDS.

Eleanora also suggested that having an updated list of libraries that currently participate in the CLIP Notes surveys would be of use to the Committee. Amy Arnold will check the status of libraries currently participating in the surveys. Once this information and the IPEDS information are received, Eleanora will revise the standard questions and send out them by email to members for review and feedback.

ACRL Publishing Office Representatives and Copyright CLIP Note

Kathryn Deiss and Dawn Mueller joined the Committee for a short time to answer questions and provide feedback/direction on current projects. Their presence was helpful to Jill Gremmels and Rachel Crowley, who have been editing and working on the *Copyright CLIP Note*, along with Patricia Keogh, for the past year. They reported earlier in the meeting that after several rounds of editing, it would be ready for submission to ACRL by February. Kathryn indicated that if submitted by February, expect publication to be in June, before Annual, with the possibility of it being available prior to June. Committee members will have the opportunity to review the document one more time before submission to ACRL.

Dawn responded to a variety of questions posed by Jill and Rachel in terms of formatting, since the *Copyright CLIP Note* includes samples in Word and PDF, as well as URL links to documents. Dawn indicated that she could work with the current submission and would deal with any technical issues once it is submitted. Dawn also suggested to committee members that we may want to request submissions in a specified format, which may help avoid this situation in the future; we

would not exclude submissions based simply upon format. A clean, consistently formatted document is preferred for final submission, but Dawn indicated she would provide assistance whenever possible.

Blogs and Wikis in Libraries CLIP Note

The camera ready stage for this title was originally set for November 2007 but compiler, Beth Avery, recently changed jobs and it is still in the survey stage. Although behind schedule, Kathryn explained that once a manuscript is submitted, ALA determines the production timeframe and projected publication date. However, Kathryn indicated that a 2008 target date for publication was still feasible.

Emergency Preparedness CLIP Note

A change in lead editor has delayed completion of this title and no publication date has been set as of yet. Amy will follow up and check on the status of this title.

Orientation for New Librarians

Amy reported that after further review of preliminary findings, the research did not fit the scope of a CLIP Notes publication and the proposal will not go forward.

CLIP Note #22 Allocation Formulas in Academic Libraries

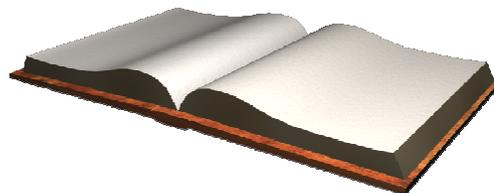
Since this was published in 1994, Amy has contacted Jane Tuten and Natalia Poppeliers about possibly updating the content for this publication. The Committee felt it may be wise to revisit some of the older titles and determine which should be considered for updating and whether a timeline for updating should be adopted. Amy will look into which titles have been updated and which ones should also be considered for revision.

Future Topics for CLIP Notes

While there are few CLIP Notes in progress, the Committee discussed a number of potential topics for future publications. Some possible topics include issues related to orientation, outsourcing technical services, information literacy, assessment and instruction. While no final decisions have been made, we expect to have one or two topics selected in the near future.

[Ed. Note: see Call for CLIPS, p. 7]

Respectfully submitted by,
Nancy J. Weiner



View from the Chair (cont.)

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archived so that you can view it at your convenience. So far, that's pretty rare for F2F programs.

Virtual learning programs will never entirely replace F2F conferences. The value and pleasure of seeing good friends and engaging in upfront and personal discussions is invaluable to our professional existence. But with the costs of conference travel skyrocketing, along with a growing awareness of the environmental impact of that travel, doesn't it make sense to explore new venues for professional development? And with the rapid pace of change in our profession, can you really afford to miss these opportunities for keeping up with the latest developments in academic librarianship, technology, leadership and other skill areas that contribute to your expertise? I don't think so.

If you are still uncertain, here's a suggestion. If you are coming to ALA in Anaheim, make it a point to attend the 2008 CLS Annual Conference Program. The program is titled "Learning Virtually: Online Professional Development for Library Workers with Tight Budgets and Full Schedules". You'll be hearing from a variety of experts who can tell you more about how online learning can benefit us all. There is more information about the program in this newsletter (p. 6). I hope to see you there. And if you are still not convinced that the future of continuing professional development is virtual learning, contact me. I'll be glad to make you my personal guest – and will provide personalized attention - to help you participate in a future virtual learning program or webcast event.

Addendum to my fall 2007 column: In my previous column I focused on the value of innovation for personal growth, for the advancement of college libraries and for the future of CLS. Remember, more innovation equals more funding. I hope that CLS will have an exciting announcement to make at the ALA conference about innovation and how we plan to promote and acknowledge it within our ACRL section. Stay tuned.

Steven J. Bell, Temple University

ACRL Announces Chat Series



CHICAGO—The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) is pleased to announce ACRL OnPoint, a new live chat series. Each informal monthly chat session provides the opportunity to connect with colleagues and experts to discuss an issue of the day in academic and research librarianship.

All ACRL OnPoint chats are free and open to the public. Sessions are unmoderated, 30-45 minutes in length and take place in a Meebo chat room. All chat sessions begin at 1pm CDT.

While no registration is necessary to participate, ACRL recommends creating a quick and easy Meebo account for the best experience while participating in ACRL OnPoint discussions.

Full details are available on the ACRL Web site at <http://www.acrl.org/ala/acrl/acrlproftools/OnPoint/onpoint.cfm>.

Future ACRL OnPoint chats include:

May 2008: Green Libraries – Share ideas about what libraries are or could be doing to meet the growing "greening" of college and university campuses.

June 2008: ACRL 101 – Find your path to participation to get the most out of your ACRL membership and discuss ACRL activities at the 2008 ALA Annual Conference with Associate Director Mary Jane Petrowski.

Visit <http://www.acrl.org/ala/acrl/acrlproftools/OnPoint/onpoint.cfm> for additional information, including future chat dates, full descriptions and chat transcripts. Send ideas for future ACRL OnPoint chat topics to acrl@ala.org with the subject heading "ACRL OnPoint."

David Free
dfree@ala.org
312-280-2517

Submit a Proposal for 2009 ACRL Conference



The ACRL National Conference Executive Committee invites proposal submissions for its 14th National Conference to be held in Seattle, March 12-15, 2009. The ACRL 14th National Conference offers a forum for an exciting and energizing exchange of ideas on research, practices, developments, and visions in the field of academic and research librarianship. The conference theme, "Pushing the Edge: Explore, Engage, Extend," reflects the promise and the challenge of the Northwest. The ACRL National Conference Executive Committee invites submitters to send their edgiest, most "out-there" proposals, to help make ACRL 2009 a truly groundbreaking conference!

Full text of the Call for Participation is available online at www.acrl.org/seattle (Click "Proposals").

ACRL @ Annual

Save the Date: ACRL Membership Meeting/ACRL 101



All ACRL members are cordially invited to attend the ACRL Membership Meeting from 8:00-8:30 a.m., Saturday, June 28, at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim.

Following the membership meeting, we are offering a special First-Time Attendee Orientation from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the same room to help new members and members new to the Annual Conference get the most out of the conference (and membership). The session will help new members and first-time attendees:

- meet section representatives and learn how to become more involved
- make the most of the exhibits
- pick programs that meet your needs
- meet other first-time attendees
- find answers to any questions you might have about the conference or ACRL

Check the ACRL Insider (<http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/>) for more details in early June.

ACRL Preconference Offerings

ACRL is offering three professional development preconferences in conjunction with the 2008 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim, California. All preconferences will take place on June 27, 2008. Registration materials are online at www.acrl.org (click "Events & Conferences").

- **"Assessment of Academic Library Effectiveness: Using ACRL Standards for Continuous Evaluation"** (Friday, June 27, 2008, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.): This full-day preconference will introduce the ACRL *Standards for Libraries in Higher Education* as a framework for assessing all academic libraries.
- **"Library Instruction 2.0: Building Your Online Instruction Toolkit,"** (Friday, June 27, 2008, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.): In this preconference, explore the continuum of technologies available for web-based instruction, from proprietary screencasting software to open-source, "2.0" services and technologies. Be introduced to the conceptual and philosophical underpinnings of Web 2.0, and gain practical, hands-on experience applying these principles to your teaching.
- **"Mindfully Resolving Conflicts: Facilitation for Diversity Issues"** (Friday, June 27, 2008, 1:00 – 4:30 p.m.): This experiential workshop combines role play, training vignettes and exercises, and discussion to address issues such as racism and cultural differences. Participants, through mindful listening and inquiry, develop observation, intervention and facilitation skills for working with diverse communities.

Complete details about these preconferences are available online at www.ala.org/acrl/events (click "ACRL @ Annual"). The advance registration deadline is May 16, 2008.

Questions? Contact Margot Conahan at mconahan@ala.org or 312-280-2522.



Learning Virtually.

Online Professional Development for Library Workers with Tight Budgets and Full Schedules.

Saturday, June 28, 2008, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

2008 ALA Annual Conference, Anaheim CA (location TBA)

Poster Session to Follow 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Planning training and professional development for library staff or for yourself? Have limited funds? How can e-learning be a solution for your library or institution?

Many innovative technologies are available for delivering flexible and inexpensive on-site programs. This program will feature some current trends in e-learning as addressed by creators, experts, and librarians involved with virtual learning, the role of the e-learner, and the use of virtual space in training and development via e-learning.

Panelists include:

Jon Stahler, ACRL E-learning
Dan Balzer, The Green Room
Jon Finkelstein, LearningTimes
Elaine Fabbro, Athabasca University

A Poster Session featuring the best work of your colleagues who are already working in the field will follow the program. Don't miss it!

This program is co-presented by the College Libraries Section, Community & Junior College Libraries Section, and the Distance Learning Section. For more information, contact David Wright wrightd@surry.edu.

Call for CLIPS!

Interested in a Publishing Opportunity?

The *CLIP* (College Library Information Packet) *Notes* Committee welcomes volunteers interested in compiling titles for this series, published by the College Libraries Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries. Anyone wishing to compile a *CLIP Note* should have knowledge and interests relevant to the subject of the proposed publication. Compilers must also be employed in academic libraries of the type served by the *CLIP Notes* program.

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*.

Each *CLIP Note* is basically comprised of three components: (1) information gathered from surveys sent to participating libraries; (2) analysis of survey results and review of literature; and (3) sample documents (e.g. policies and procedures) submitted by the surveyed libraries and pertinent to the particular *CLIP Note* topic.

Publication of *CLIP Notes* is done under the editorial direction of the CLIP Notes Committee Chair, Amy Arnold—arnolda@etsu.edu, (423-439-4714). More detailed information on the College Library Section – CLIP Notes webpage at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/acrlsections/collegelibraries/collpubs/clipnotes.cfm>

Kudos

Dr. Dawn Thistle, Director of Library Services at Assumption College, Worcester, Mass., has been appointed Interim Director of Information Technology & Media Services. She continues to serve in the library. Kudos also go out to the wonderful Assumption College library staff who are keeping things going!

Steven Bell and **David Murray** (Temple University) co-authored the article “Exploring the Faculty Blogverse: Where to Start and What’s in it for Academic Librarians” in the October 2007 issue of [College & Research Libraries News](#).

Steven Bell was a presenter for the October 26, 2007 broadcast of the Soaring to Excellence Teleconference, “Finding the Trends That Matter: Get Your Environmental Scan On”.

Steven Bell and **John Shank** (PSU) co-authored the chapter “Librarianship + Technology + Instructional Design = Blended Librarian” in [Information Tomorrow: Reflections on Technology and the Future of Public and Academic Libraries](#), edited by Rachel Singer Gordon (Information Today, 2007).

Steven Bell authored the article “Design Thinking” in the January-February 2008 issue of [American Libraries](#).

Steven Bell conducted a full day workshop for the Tampa Bay Library Consortium on the topic “Are You Feeling the Pressure? The Ratcheting Up of Library Technology” on February 1, 2008 at the Seminole Community Library in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Allen S. Morrill is now the Director of the Langenheim Memorial Library at Thiel College in Greenville, PA.

Karen Lehmann and **Jill Gremmels** published "Assessment of Student Learning from Reference Service" in the November, 2007, issue of [College & Research Libraries](#) (p. 488-501). The article was awarded the Iowa Library Association/ACRL Research Award in March 2008.

Alice Crossetto, Coordinator of Collection Development, University Libraries, University of Toledo presented “The Vanishing Gypsies” at the 27th Annual Charleston Conference: What Tangled Webs We Weave, Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition, Charleston, South Carolina, November 7 – 10, 2007.

Jan Lee, Associate Director of Library Services at Ottawa University, was awarded the Distinguished Service Award from The College and University Libraries Section of the Kansas Library Association in October, 2007.

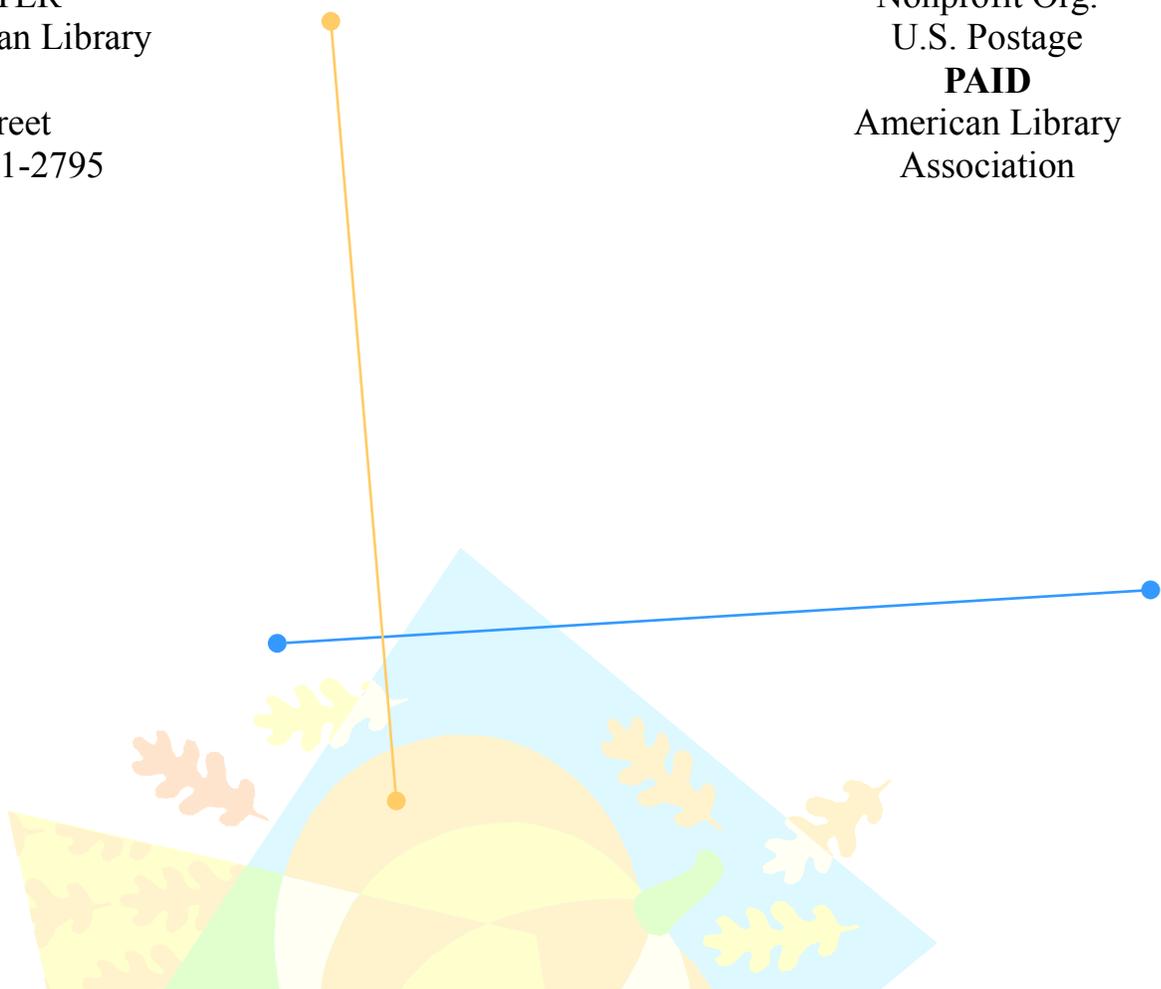
Barbara Fister recently published a “Views” column in [Inside Higher Ed](#), titled "Face Value," on the tradeoffs we make when participating in commercially-driven distribution channels. Available at: <http://insidehighered.com/views/2008/02/18/fister>.

Barbara Fister has published a novel entitled [In the Wind](#) (St. Martin’s Press, April 2008).

David Jensen, Director of Libraries at Hope College received the Provost's Award for Service to the Academic Program at the Annual Hope College Faculty Recognition Luncheon, January 7, 2008.

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It's Feast Time!

Come eat and make merry with your colleagues at the 10th annual Friday Night Feast in Anaheim on Friday June 27th at 7:30pm!

We will enjoy a fabulous meal and delightful conversation at Mr. Stox, an award-winning restaurant continually rated by Zagat as outstanding. Mr. Stox is close to the convention center and promises excellent food, live music and, of course, ample opportunity for you to get to know your colleagues in the College Library Section. Serials Solutions and Taylor & Francis are the generous sponsors of this dinner, keeping the price affordable for CLS members at \$35 per person. The cost for guests is \$67.

To tantalize you, the menu will offer as appetizers: artichoke ravioli tossed with tomato cream, artichokes, pine nuts and Parmesan cheese and a garden greens salad with blue cheese, walnuts, and roma tomatoes on assorted leafy greens. Your entrée: You will have the choice of Mesquite grilled salmon or chicken, or slow-roasted aged prime rib, or a vegetarian entree. And for dessert: a berry tart made with seasonal berries over a vanilla bean pastry cream tart on a pool of berry sauce. Is your mouth watering yet?

This year, you can register online: <https://marvin.foresightint.com/surveys/Tier1Survey/ACRL/251>

Space is limited and the registration deadline is June 2nd so be sure to register early!

Any questions? Please contact:

Susan Barnes Whyte
CLS Member at Large
swhyte@linfield.edu

