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Association of College and Research Libraries. Iowa Chapter

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ILA/ACRL Newsletter

vol. 21, no. 5, Fall 2011

Welcome to the Fall 2011 ILA/ACRL newsletter. You can find information about the ILA/ACRL sponsored sessions being held at the ILA Conference, an award winner, and candidate statements and information.

ILA/ACRL Sessions at the Iowa Library Association Conference

ILA/ACRL Fall Program Committee: Kathy Parsons, Iowa State University, Chair; Rebecca Stuhr, formerly of Grinnell College, James O' Gorman, St. Ambrose University, Randy Roeder, The University of Iowa

L2L: Library to Library Collaborations Between School, Public, and Academic Libraries

Thursday, October 13 11:05 am

OMG, L2L is so TTLY rad. Do you know that K12, public, and academic libraries can be BFAW? Come hear three librarians describe their experiences in creating collaborations with other types of libraries in their communities.

Betsy Thompson, Director, Sioux City Public Library, will talk about the Sioux City Library Cooperative, founded in 1986. She will share examples of projects that have built trust among libraries in the Sioux City area and will address the “why and how of cooperation”.

Dan Chibnall, User Services and Instruction Design Librarian, Grand View University, will describe his library’s program visiting local high school AP classes. Librarians present learning techniques, used in colleges, which involve real life activities and then require the students to think about complex ideas in a new light. They also touch on personal responsibility in college, the failures of Google and Wikipedia, and the use of on-campus resources.

Rebecca Funke, Director of Library Resources, Des Moines Area Community College, will speak about her library’s partnership with the Kirkendall Public Library in Ankeny for joint programming activities surrounding the One Book One College One Community project. She will also address collaborations with local high schools regarding information literacy—providing library instruction to dual credit students and sharing the need for and importance of good research skills in college. Discussions between K12 and higher education librarians from across the state, where potential partnerships and initiatives to better meet the needs of our high school students and information literacy as they transition to college, will be investigated. The audience should come prepared to participate by sharing examples of collaboration and cooperation among their local libraries whether in the same town, county, or region and to

inspire colleagues by sharing “aha” insights—something they want to go back and do that was triggered by this program.

Reading the Garden: Unique Library Collections at Seed Savers Exchange

Thursday, October 13 3:30 pm

Cicero once wrote to his friend Varro: “If you have a garden and a library, you need nothing more.” At the intersection of reading and gardening, a horticultural library collection can fuel perennial passion, inspire fruitful vision, and share down-to-earth wisdom in wonderful ways. Add to the Venn diagram a circle for the rich human stories behind heirloom seeds, and the result is a unique library and archive among the gardens of Seed Savers Exchange (SSE), located at Heritage Farm on 890 acres of woods, hills, and streams near Decorah, IA.

SSE began in 1975 as a simple exchange of heirloom seeds among passionate gardeners and amateurs who sought to preserve the rich gardening heritage of their ancestors. The organization’s library was initially the personal collection of SSE founders Diane Ott Whealy and Kent Whealy. That library collection grew organically as volumes were donated by members, offered as review copies, or purchased as needed. Now numbering about 4,500 volumes, including nearly 1,500 rare and special collection items, the Robert Becker Memorial Library at Seed Savers Exchange is managed by full time professional librarian, Bill Musser, who serves the research needs of the organization and the visiting public. Bill will share some of Seed Savers’ rare books, seed saver stories, and special collections with the participants in this session.

Musser says, “If you think Jethro Tull was just a British band from the 70s, or that the phrase ‘eat dirt’ is just a nasty expression, your attendance at this session is required.” Seed your mind and see what grows in your future.

The Academic Library’s Place in the Information Economy

Friday, October 14 10:20 am

Think you know what the academic library’s place is in the information economy? If so, then you may want to think again. John Buschman, Associate University Librarian for Scholarly Resources and Services at Georgetown University’s Lauinger Library, has written extensively on the changing and threatened role of libraries and of librarians. In numerous articles and books, both authored and edited, Buschman ponders the peril to our profession when we turn patrons into customers, purchase newer and higher speed hardware at the expense of building strong collections, and seek to compete with cappuccinoserving, mall-based bookstores. In his view, our proper role is nothing short of preserving the vital public space where people may learn from diverse writers and engage in the messy work called democracy.

But this public space is comprised of both democratic and economic parts, and the economic portion is ascendant, squeezing and challenging the democratic share. In response to the new

economy where so much of our public debate centers on costs, budgets, and the bottom line, Buschman quotes American library historian Wayne Weigand, "... capitalism may not appreciate what it is we do, but democracy does." Some institutions are too important to be left to market forces.

John Buschman has won numerous awards, including ALA's Elizabeth Futas Catalyst for Change Award (2004). This award honors a librarian who, according to ALA, "... invests time and talent to make positive changes in the profession of librarianship." He is also the recipient of the research award from the New Jersey Library Association, College & University Section. With an academic background in history, sociology, American studies, library science, and doctoral work in liberal studies, he has a unique perspective in which to interpret social trends over the last thirty years.

Come ready to be challenged, engaged, and maybe reconnected to the role, purpose, and promise of libraries and of librarians.

ILA/ACRL Officer Candidates

Vice President/President-Elect

Amy Paulus

Amy Paulus received a B.A. degree from Iowa State University and M.A. in Library and Information Science from the University of Iowa in 1998. Amy began work as a Library Assistant in the Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery department at the Main Library of the University of Iowa, later taking a librarian position in 2004. In 2007, she expanded her responsibilities as Head, Access Services and continues in this position. Amy has been active in ILA/ACRL since 2004, chairing the Newsletter Committee and Fall Conference Program and serving on various committees and as the ACRL Chapters Council Representative.

I am pleased to run for the position of Vice President/President-Elect of ILA/ACRL. At the University of Iowa, ties are being strengthened with the community colleges in the area and library services may change as a result. There are great opportunities for the libraries across the state to collaborate on these partnerships and ILA/ACRL is a great mechanism to do so. ILA/ACRL has also made significant strides in including teacher librarians to further strengthen the ties between school and academic libraries. Given increasing legislative and financial uncertainties, we need to explore these opportunities for partnership to create richer and sustainable library services across the state of Iowa. I would honor the opportunity lead ILA/ACRL in supporting our libraries as well as individuals within these libraries who need local and cost-effective opportunities for mentoring, life-long learning, and networking.

Secretary/Treasurer

Natalie Hutchinson

Natalie Hutchinson has been the Library Director of Geisler Library at Central College since February 2008. She holds an MSLIS from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She began her career at Central College in 1994, serving as Reference and Instruction Librarian until 1998, when she moved to Maine to serve as the Information Literacy Coordinator at the University of Southern Maine. Prior to returning to Central, Natalie was the library director at St. Joseph's College in Standish, Maine for five years. Since her return to Iowa, Natalie has again become a member of ILA/ACRL, and has served as member-at-large on the ILA/ACRL Executive Board.

In these challenging economic times, it is increasingly important that libraries work together to keep the needs of our users front and center. One of the best ways that we can do this is through the kind of collaboration that happens through ILA/ACRL. I have very much enjoyed my work on the ILA/ACRL Executive Board, and would be proud and honored to serve as its Secretary/Treasurer.

Steven Johns

Steve Johns received his BS (Business) from Iowa State University, and his MLIS from the University of Texas. Steve has been Public Services Librarian at Des Moines Area Community College for the past three years. Prior to that he was on the library faculty at Iowa State University where he served as Library Faculty Secretary (2002) and Library Faculty Vice-President (2003). Steve served as the ISU "correspondent" for the ILA Newsletter Committee from 2004-2006. He has served on the ALA Poster Session Review Panel since 2004, and on the Editorial Board of Journal of Web Librarianship since 2006.

"I'm a strong believer in professional service and would be honored to serve as ILA/ACRL Treasurer."

Member-at-Large

Anne Marie Gruber

Anne Marie Gruber is Assistant Director for Library Instruction and Public Services at Charles C. Myers Library at the University of Dubuque. She received an MLS from the University of Iowa and a BA from the University of Northern Iowa. She has served UD for 6 years, including 3 years as Reference & Instruction Librarian. She currently coordinates an extensive information literacy program integrated into the Core Curriculum at UD and has expanded her library's creative partnerships with Career Services, Student Activities, and the Bridge Program for at-risk students. She has also supervised 3 undergraduate and 2 library science graduate student internships in public services.

Anne Marie has served as Secretary/Treasurer for ILA/ACRL (2008) and, together with her UD colleagues, received the first ILA/ACRL Advocacy Award (2007) and the ILA/ACRL Research Award (2010). She has presented at ILA/ACRL and LOEX, has published several articles, and recently collaborated with two UD faculty members to co-author a communication textbook. I am honored to be considered for At-Large Representative for ILA/ACRL. In a time of uncertainty and change, academic librarians in Iowa and across the country are working hard to respond creatively and assert the role of libraries on our campuses. I admire the dedicated librarians who have integrated information literacy into college curricula and have focused on the library's integral role in student learning. When I was a new librarian, I benefited from the professional sharing and guidance ILA/ACRL provides. I look forward to working with my statewide colleagues to ensure quality professional development opportunities through conferences and other ACRL activities. ACRL is the voice of academic librarians and I would be honored to contribute to our association by serving as At-Large Representative on the board.

Gregory Wool

Gregory Wool is a monographs cataloger at Iowa State University with the rank of Associate Professor. He holds an M.A. in German from Indiana University and an MLS from Rutgers. He has been with Iowa State since 1991, and before that served as a serials cataloger at the University of Nebraska—Lincoln.

Greg has served several terms as Chair or Vice-Chair of the ILA Resources and Technical Services Forum, and is the current Chair. He has also served as chair of ILA GODORT and as Editor of ILA's ACRL Newsletter. His activities in ALA include two terms on the Subject Analysis Committee of the Association for Library Resources and Technical Services (ALCTS) and the ALCTS Policy and Research Committee, as well as Secretary of the ALCTS Council of Regional Groups. Recent service includes the Research and Planning Committee of ALA ACRL's West European Studies Section and chairing the ALA GODORT Cataloging Committee.

Publications include: "A Meditation on Metadata", *The Serials Librarian*, v. 33, no. 1/2, 1998; "On Pins and Needles: Using Structured Metadata for Collocation and Browsing Capability", *The Serials Librarian*, v. 41, no. 3/4, 2002; "Filing and Precoordination: How Subject Headings Are Displayed in Online Catalogs and Why It Matters", *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly*, v. 29, no. 1/2, 2000.

"Much like the world as a whole, the library profession is changing fast and becoming harder to recognize. It remains important to facilitate learning but also keep our eyes on the ball in order to improve and enhance what truly matters. I am proud of my involvement in ILA. As an ACRL Member-at-Large I would do my best to help advance the principles and practice of librarianship."

ILA/ACRL Fall Conference Scholarship

The Iowa Chapter of ACRL is pleased to announce that Samantha Bouwers has been awarded a scholarship to attend the ILA Fall Conference in Council Bluffs. Samantha is a current student in the School of Library of Information Science at the University of Iowa. If you see Samantha at the conference, please introduce yourself and welcome her!

Awards Committee: Mary Iber, Chair, Kris Stacy-Bates, Jennifer Sterling, Leslie Ross Fern, and Steven Johns