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And They Were There: Reports of Meetings -- SALALM, IFLA, and the 29th Annual Charleston Conference

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Reports of Meetings — SALALM, IFLA, and the 29th Annual Charleston Conference

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SALALM (Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials) — Berlin, Germany, July 3-8, 2009.

Reported by: **Suzanne Schadl** (Curator Latin America/Iberia, University of New Mexico)

The **Ibero-American Institute (IAI)** hosted **SALALM 54** just a few blocks from their doors in Berlin, Germany at the **Maritim Hotel**. There were nearly 230 attendees representing 21 different countries. European institutions were well represented as a result of first-time collaboration between **SALALM** and **REDIAL (Red Europea de Información y Documentación sobre América Latina)**. Another first was the launch of a **SALALM** blog at *http://salalm.blogspot.com/*.

The **Maritim's** decadent breakfast buffet was such an enormous hit that conference attendees had a hard time pulling themselves away for 8 AM meetings. Nonetheless, this conference generally followed the same format as previous conferences, with a late Friday working meeting of the **Latin American Microforms Project (LAMP)**, two days of committee and regional group reunions — including the **Latin Americanist Research Resources Project (LARRP)** meeting — followed by three days of regular conference sessions. Information on their projects is available through the **Center for Research Libraries** *www.crl.edu*.

As usual, **SALALM's** combination of theoretical and practical presentations interspersed with working sessions and committee meetings, broken up with dialogs between vendors and librarians, enhanced opportunities for international networking and exchange, further highlighting this year's theme of migrations and connections between the Americas and Europe.

Peter Altekrüger chaired the local arrangements committee which ensured that over 20 committee meetings, **LAMP** and **LARPP** planning sessions, 25 panels with approximately 90 paper presentations, and a boat tour got off without hitches. In addition to the papers, there was a roundtable discussion to plan future collaborations between **SALALM** and **REDIAL**. The stomping libreros reception at the **Gemäldegalerie (Old Master's Gallery)** in Berlin was also in keeping with **SALALM** traditions for symbiotic collaboration.

The opening keynote for the conference was given by **Ludwig Ellenberg**, Professor of Geography at the **Institut Humboldt-Universität** in Berlin. **Dr. Ellenberg** humorously employed visual media to present the unique relationship that German geographers have with Latin America. He suggested, rather tongue-in-cheek, that Germans are generally fascinated with the magical allure of the forest and driven there, at times, by overly strict rules for behavior and classification.

In **Ellenberg's** summation, engaging geography in Latin America was (and is still) an ideal escape and a unique opportunity to learn, while imposing scientific order in highly naturalized spaces. Regardless of the foundational reasoning, **Ellenberg** recalled quite seriously the long history of German geographical interest in Latin America, noting that Germans were present and active in Latin America during all of the following periods: Discovery and Conquest, Colonial and Imperial, Independence and National, Modern and Contemporary. **Ellenberg** demonstrated that Germans were among the first to bring knowledge from Latin America to Europe, that they too held colonies in South America, and that they helped to inform Europeans and non-Europeans alike of valuable resources and stunning geography of the region.

Ellenberg noted that Germans in Latin America addressed topics ranging from agrarian and urban development to coastal geomorphology after World War II, ultimately creating the **German Association of Latin-America Research (ADLAF)**. This same organization continues to support German geographers studying high mountain geo-ecology, wetland ecology, changing cultural landscapes, and climate change for the purposes of maintaining connections and collaborating on solutions.

Dr. Ellenberg's history of collaboration between German and Latin American institution helped to set the stage for a variety of papers address-ing connections and migrations between Europe, not just Germany, and the Americas. It also helped to illuminate the host institution's important role in promoting the study of Latin America. The **Ibero-American Institute**, which houses the largest specialist library in Europe for Ibero-American studies, offers numerous resources for academic and cultural exchange between Germany, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Iberia.

The **IAI** was an ideal platform for the inter-continental cooperation and dialog prompted at **SALALM 54**. In addition to facilitating an important alliance between **SALALM**, with predominately American membership, and **REDIAL**, the **Maritim** buzzed with panels offering glimpses of historical relationships between the peoples of Latin America and Europe. Topics ranged from immigration, emigration and exile, to the undeniable transmission and syncretism of ideas, knowledge, and cultural practices. In addition to these scholarly presentations, representatives from major Latin American collections and archives introduced new acquisitions and digital collections.

SALALM 54 created an ideal opportunity for exchange, between North, Central and South American as well as European libraries, librarians and book vendors. Building on those gains, **SALALM 55**, to be held July 23-27, 2010 at **Brown University** in Providence, R.I., promises to address the future of area studies librarianship. In increasingly globalized and digital contexts, there is even more promise for collaboration and dialogue even if budget cuts prompt decreased specialization and fewer area studies specialists.

IFLA 2009 — *"Libraries Create Futures: Building on Cultural Heritage"* — Milan, Italy, August 23-27, 2009.

Reported by: **Rebecca Lubas** (Head, Cataloging and Discovery Services, University of New Mexico)

This year's **IFLA** theme was ***"Libraries Create Futures: Building on Cultural Heritage."*** The host city of Milan provided an excellent context for the theme, a city where the treasures of the past cohabitate with modern design and fashion.

IFLA was an excellent opportunity to learn about the challenges faced the world over in caring for intellectual heritage. While there were many common themes and problems, there were also a host of issues in each cultural setting, unique to the local situation. Topics were varied and ranged from the technical, to the historical, the political, sociological, cultural, and ethnic. Being a truly international conference, it attracted participants and speakers from around the globe, and highlighted the importance of libraries and librarianship as repositories and propagators of knowledge and information, and their unique value to countries' history, identity, culture, and politics. A look at the program schedule and the papers presented will give a more complete picture of the wide range of topics that this conference covered. Here are just a few examples.

The panel presented at the Library History Special Interest Group provided a small sampling of the challenges faced by libraries as a result of the ravages of history and political upheaval. The panel demonstrated how a combination of new technology and old-fashioned library profession skills can meet these challenges. For example, **Adinel-Ciprian Dinca**, "**George Barițiu**" **Institute for History, Romanian Academy Cluj-Napoca**, Romania, presented a paper on the Lost Libraries of Transylvania. These libraries of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries were broken up and scattered far and wide among city libraries and other collections during the Reformation. Some volumes were destroyed or lost. The buildings were lost. However, the library's catalog survived. Having access to this resource is helping modern librarians create a virtual reconstruction of the libraries. In some cases they are even able to trace the original volumes for creation of a digital copy, and if the original cannot be found a similar copy is used.

Technology is also aiding in the preservation and access to cultural treasures in Kosovo. Gordana Stokic Simoncic, Library and Information Science Department, Faculty of Philology, **Belgrade University**, talked about the challenge of caring for Serbian manuscripts in the volatile political climate of the region. Manuscripts are being digitized to provide fewer barriers to access of these scattered collections.

Parliamentary libraries have a unique role in democracy. The Library and Research Services for Parliaments and Library History Special Interest Groups presented a panel on such libraries. **Christopher Murphey**, Director, **Ravensbourne Research Limited**, UK, presented on the history of the library and how the library developed with the political times. As newly formed democracies find their footing, the libraries that support them are presented with unique challenges. **Svjetlana Aligrudic** of the Library of the Parliament of Montenegro, chronicled the library's

blinking in and out of existence with the fortunes of the country over the last century, and its struggles to provide the latest and most relevant information to a nascent democracy.

Amongst all the business of a library conference, the vendor exhibits, local tours, and the practical meetings presenting the latest developments in standards such as UNIMARC and FRBR, the opportunity to learn about libraries' pivotal role in not just the preservation of cultural heritage but in actively making such treasures available made **IFLA 2009** stand out as unique as the libraries themselves.

The complete papers of the **IFLA Conference**, including translations, can be found at *http://www.ifla.org/annual-conference/ifla75/programme2009-en.php*.

The **76th IFLA conference** will take place 10-15 August 2010 in Gothenburg, Sweden. Next year's theme is: *"Open Access to Knowledge – Promoting Sustainable Progress."* Information about this conference can be found at: *http://www.ifla.org/en/ifla76*. 🐦

Report from the 29th Annual Charleston Conference — Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition, "Necessity is the Mother of Invention," Francis Marion Hotel, and Embassy Suites Historic District, Charleston, SC, November 4-7, 2009

Charleston Conference Reports compiled by: **Ramune K. Kubilius** (Collection Development / Special Projects Librarian, Northwestern University, Galter Health Sciences Library) <r-kubilius@northwestern.edu>

Column Editor's Note: *Thank you to all of the **Charleston Conference** attendees who agreed to write short reports that highlight sessions they attended at the 2009 conference. All attempts were made to provide a broad coverage of sessions, and notes are included in the reports to reflect known changes in the session titles or presenters that were not printed in the conference's final program. Please visit the **Conference Website** for presentation material (PowerPoint slides, handouts) and taped session links. The **2009 Charleston Conference Proceedings** will be published sometime in Fall 2010.* — **RKK**

Morning Preconferences — Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Ebrarians: Meeting the Challenges of E-resources Head on! New Professionals Discuss the Management of Electronic Resources — Presented by **Ryan Weir** (Serials and Electronic Resources Librarian, Murray State University); **Geoffrey P. Timms** (Electronic Resources/Reference Librarian Instructor, Division of Library Services Jack Tarver Library Mercer University), **George Stachokas** (Electronic Resources Librarian, Cunningham Memorial Library, Indiana State University), **Regina Koury** (Electronic Resources Librarian, Idaho State University)

Reported by: **Jennifer Ditkoff** (Keene State College, Wallace E. Mason Library) <jditkoff@keene.edu>

This preconference highlighted themes that were present throughout the entire conference. Among them were: access versus ownership, the changing roles of librarians, management of e-resources, and understanding usage statistics. **Weir** discussed the cost effectiveness of ownership versus access. He talked about providing library users with access to materials through leasing information or pay-per-use rather than spending more money to own the materials. **Timms** discussed issues with licensing e-resources and using homegrown ERM's for usage statistics. He also presented the idea of librarians as information providers rather than guardians of repositories. **Koury** brought up the importance of **COUNTER** compliant statistics, and **Stachokas** stated the need for library science schools to train students in the management of electronic resources. As libraries increasingly spend more on e-resources , library professionals will need to know how to manage e-resource licensing, access, and statistics to increase patron

satisfaction and usability. Although the preconference required an additional fee to attend, the topics were extremely relevant to every library. It was disappointing to see the same speakers and agenda on the program for free on Saturday (*Note: Innovation 2 session*), however, this topic has such a broad reaching influence on libraries today and needed to be its own separate preconference to allow more time for presenting ideas.

Negotiating With Vendors: Dos and Don'ts — Presented by **Buzzy Basch** (President, Basch Subscriptions); Others TBA
NOTE: Presenters who participated in this preconference include **Bruce Strauch** (J.D.) (Director of Mentor Association and Professor, School of Business Administration, The Citadel); **Arlene Sievers-Hill** (Head of Acquisitions, Kelvin Smith Library, Case Western University); **Adam Chesler** (Publishing Consultant); **Rick Burke** (Executive Director, SCELC- Statewide California Electronic Library Consortium); **John Cox** (johncoxassociates.com)

Reported by: **Beth Ketterman** (East Carolina University, Laupus Health Sciences Library) <KETTERMANE@ecu.edu>

Basch moderated this preconference which had multiple presenters, including campus attorneys, former publishing industry sales reps, current librarians, and lawyers who gave their perspectives on the negotiation process. Common themes throughout the individual presentations included the need for preparation before you go into a negotiation, neither side should be afraid to ask questions of each other, and that licenses are put in place to benefit both parties. The campus lawyer present for the class insisted that library problems tend to be at the low end of the priority scale for campus attorneys, so it's best to bone up on copyright law and license information as best you can. It was also suggested that any librarian should know their IP ranges. Some questions to ask of a vendor: what happens if you cancel in mid-term? do you retain access to what was subscribed to? in what format do you retain the information? what about course packs? archives? usage statistics? It was also mentioned that a vendor rep is oftentimes in the same boat as a librarian (i.e., not a lawyer). Some suggested Websites for further reading included: *licensingmodels.com*, *licensingdigitialcontent.blogspot.com, johncoxassociates.com*. Final note — it was suggested that libraries should consider coming up with their own license which they propose to vendors.

Master of License Negotiations: Your Three Hour Degree to Learn Practical Strategies and Tips — Presented by **Anjana Bhatt** (Electronic Resources Librarian, Florida Gulf Coast University)

Reported by: **Sallie J. Alger** (Andrews University, James White Library) < salger@andrews.edu>

Bhatt sent out a questionnaire several weeks before the session to ascertain where the attendees were in their experiences with license negotiations, and this served as a basis for her presentation and discussion. Points made during the three-hour preconference were: Never negotiate a license, and purchase of a database, without a trial period; your institution may require its attorney to review licenses; ask for a copy of the license and talk with your IT people during the trial period; always involve your institution's IT team when implementing new e-journal packages or databases; post a copyright policy on your institutions Website; read indemnification clauses very carefully, as your institution is the responsible party; be sure to acquire and file license agreements signed by both parties; and inform your users of the new databases available! The **PowerPoint** and **Florida Center for Library Automation** handouts were very helpful for future reference. This session, to me personally, was one of the most helpful presentations at the conference.

Afternoon Preconferences — Wednesday, November 4, 2009

The Changing Face of Library Workflow Management: Open Source, Grid Computing and Cloud Services — Presented by **Tim Daniels** (Assistant State Librarian for Technology and Infrastructure, Georgia Public Library Service); **John Little** (ILS Support Section Head, Duke University); **Andrew Pace** (Executive Director for Networked Library Services, OCLC)

Reported by: **Jolanda-Pieta van Arnhem** (College of Charleston Libraries, Department of Anthropology) <vanarnhemj@cofc.edu>

This dynamic panel provided an overview of the developing trends in ILS (Integrated Library System) as they move from often disparate client/server and even legacy mainframe systems focusing on print, inventory, ERM, digital collections, identity management, and open URL linking systems to the open source and cloud computing era we find ourselves in today.

Daniels provided an overview of open source ILS software, concentrating on governance and community structure, and citing his own experience with the **Evergreen** ILS and Georgia's **PINES** consortium. **Pace** discussed Library Management in the Cloud per **OCLC**'s Web-scale management services strategy, noting its focus on service-oriented architecture, adaptability to legacy systems, and reduced cost via a standards-based, united platform. **Little** discussed academic community source alternatives like **Kuali OLE**, an off-shoot of the **Open Library Environment Project (OLE)**, a planning project funded by **The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation**. **Little** stated that **Kuali**, currently in the planning phase with international participation from 15 libraries and consortia, will offer flexibility, sustainability, and integration into broader university enterprise systems, enabling libraries to control their own destiny in the face of vendor consolidation.

This forward-thinking preconference session provided valuable pretext to later sessions throughout each track by highlighting the impacts of ILS changes on cataloging, serials, acquisitions, circulation, and the OPAC. The session's new era ideology also provided a solid grounding for plenary talks by **David Lankes**, **Michael Stephens**, **Greg Tananbaum** and **Douglas Armato**, **David Nicholas**, and **Christopher Warnock** and **Mark Kendall**, all viewable online at *http://chsconf.blip.tv/*.

Morning Plenaries — Thursday, November 5, 2009

New Librarianship — Presented by **David Lankes** (Director, Information Institute of Syracuse, Syracuse University)

Reported by: **Jonathan H. Harwell** (Georgia Southern University, Zach S. Henderson Library) <jharwell@georgiasouthern.edu>

Lankes gave a rousing opening plenary on the future of librarianship with a humorous and evangelistic tone and an enthusiastic audience response. He began by declaring, "The best days of librarianship are ahead of us. The golden age…is coming soon, and it will last a long time. We are the right profession, uniquely positioned to lead in the Knowledge Age. However, we won't get there following current trends and with our current focus on 'recorded knowledge.' We need a new librarianship, focusing not on artifacts but on knowledge and conversation and dedicated to social action, leadership, and innovation."

Noting the media narrative about growing use of public libraries, he pointed out that the increase began not "when the economy sank," but in the mid-1990's with the advent of the Internet. Since then, **Wikipedia** and **MySpace** have put **Encarta** and **Geocities** out of business (my own interpretation of his graphs).

Apart from the question of the future of libraries, **Lankes** says the better question is, "What **should be** the future of libraries **and librarians in a democracy**?"

Using an image of **Uluru/Ayers Rock** to illustrate his claim that "there's no such thing as recorded knowledge," he said that the rock itself contains no knowledge, but that the people observing it bring the knowledge, and it might take geological, anthropological, or other forms. "It's not in the rock! It's in me!"

"Knowledge is created through conversation," **Lankes** explained. In an overview of conversation theory, he noted that conversants (people, not books) exchange language, seek agreements, and have dynamic and relational memories. The mission of librarians, he said, is to improve society through facilitating knowledge creation (i.e., conversation) in their communities. We do this through our core values of service, leadership, and innovation. As one audience member pointed out, the same mission could apply to publishers. In his response, **Lankes** said that we should all "do what the user wants, but only if it's for the good of society."

The full screencast, entertaining and inspiring, is available to view and share at *http://quartz.syr.edu/rdlankes/blog/?p=854*.

Pricing Digital Journals — Presented by **Adam Chesler, Moderator** (Publishing Consultant); **Christopher McKenzie** (Vice President and Director of Institutional Sales, Americas and EMEA, Wiley-Blackwell); **Tony O'Rourke** (Assistant Director, Journals/Head of Sales and Marketing,Institute of Physics); **David Stern** (Associate University Librarian for Scholarly Resources, Brown University)
NOTE: **Brian McCarthy** (Director of Sales, Ovid Technologies) *did not participate in this panel presentation.*

Reported by: **Mary E. Marshall** (Walter de Gruyter Inc.) <mmarshall@degruyterny.com>

After an introduction to the session by moderator **Chesler**, **Stern** provided a detailed explanation of the method being applied at **Brown University**. With illustrative examples showing how determining relative value could be based on price and usage, the speaker made clear that metrics were possible and valuable. With his broad responsibility for scholarly communication, the activity spent on the analysis is worth the time. The publishers' representatives were less explicit in addressing all the factors that go into pricing plans and what influences annual increases. **McKenzie** discussed new journal pricing with free access and how it was used to help with pricing. He mentioned the process but not the final application to price of the **Wiley** profit/loss analysis, incorporating usage information gathered during the free period and comparison to anticipated

demand based on historical trends and publishers projections. **McKenzie** discussed other factors including tiered pricing, managed deals, multiple year deals, price caps, and consortia offerings that were intended to help libraries cope with escalating prices. Following was **O'Rourke** on the pricing from a learned society's perspective, which did show that an institution's mission, i.e., serve the members but stay in business, was a key influence on how pricing may be set. **Mr. O'Rourke** provided specific cost factors such as the increase of submissions, administration, and the need for more customer support with more digital offerings offsetting any decline of print subscriptions but not necessarily lower prices for the online edition. The responsiveness of the society to the market was mentioned with a "no e-only" condition being eliminated, but, again, origination cost is still the same. This ended with "Is usage based appropriate? Or is tiered pricing better?" In conclusion, the speakers, moderator, and engaged audience offered an excellent session including the pertinent questions at the end.

I recommend the **Stern** presentation, which is available on the **Charleston Conference Website**, *www.katina.info/conference.*

"Raising Spirits in This Tough Economy": Results from CIBER's Global Library Survey — Presented by **David Nicholas** (Director of the Department of Information Studies, UCL Centre for Publishing and CIBER research group, University College London); **Christopher Warnock** (CEO and CTO, ebrary); **Mark Kendall** (Senior Vice President, Global Sales, YBP Library Services)

Reported by: **Tony G Horava** (University of Ottawa) <thorava@uottawa.ca>

This study is from the **CIBER Charleston Information Observatory**, which has a mandate to turn great ideas into robust research projects and promote international and cross-sectoral research. The aim of this project was to identify useful practices in difficult times. There were 835 institutions responding to the survey. The survey was conducted in English, which is a limitation acknowledged by the researchers. The results were quite sobering: 90% of libraries in North America are seeing a budget reduction of 20% this year, and 42% are expecting reductions over the next two years. North American libraries expect greater reductions in service hours than non-North American libraries. Most libraries are seeking savings in resource expenditures rather than cutting staff. "Doing things differently" is another theme that emerged: 56% of libraries said that they are accelerating the shift to e-only resources; 34.6% are directing users to free resources. Slightly over 40% of libraries are demonstrating value through better usage and outcomes data, while 23.7% are getting a better understanding of their costs. The economic downturn is perceived as an opportunity for innovative thinking about value, return on investment, and workflow efficiencies. The survey results didn't exactly raise spirits but vividly illustrated how everyone is the same boat, and that we can learn from each other's practices and experiences. A reassuring theme. Survey data will be available on the **Charleston Conference Website**, *www.katina.info/conference.*
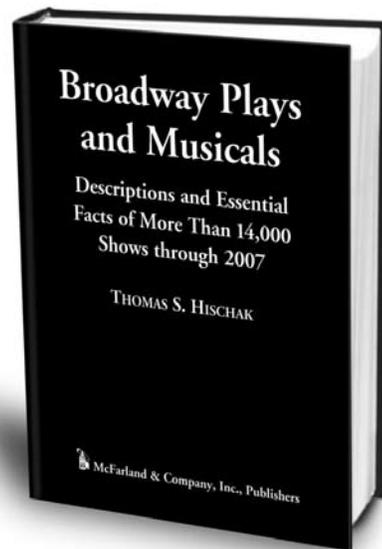

I Hear the Train A Comin' – Presented by **Greg Tananbaum** (CEO, Anianet); **Douglas Armato** (Director, University of Minnesota Press); **Kevin Guthrie** (President, Ithaka)

Reported by: **Anna Fleming** (Northwestern University, Galter Health Sciences Library) <a-fleming@northwestern.edu>

Tananbaum's slides of different modes of transportation enhanced his comments about our proliferating roles in scholarly communications where we become "hyphenates," librarian-marketers, and "prosumers" (producers and consumers of content). To poetry-lovers' delight, he even quoted **Walt Whitman's** famous declaration, "I contain multitudes" (*Leaves of Grass*, stanza 51). **Armato** wondered whether libraries and presses would continue to collaborate or would diverge. He quipped

that while information may want to be free, both university and commercial presses must have cogent business models to be sustainable. **Guthrie** discussed transformations we will see as books move to bytes. He extended the session's theme to talk about digital information as transportation where train tracks go everywhere in a constant flow. As books join journals on the network, the impact will be enormous. He wondered whether academic passengers would ride commercial trains or whether they would need specialized academic trains.

Lively Lunches — Thursday, November 5, 2009

Eany Meany Miney Mo Pick a Database To Let Go: Reexamining the Necessity of Traditional Science Indexes — Presented by **Barry Brown** (Science Librarian; Head, Access and Collection Services, Mansfield Library, The University of Montana)

Reported by: **Heather S. Miller** (SUNY Albany) <HMiller@uamail.albany.edu>

Having acquired many "trophy" databases over the years, **Brown** was forced to examine their value when confronted with budget shortfalls. After giving the audience a printout of the titles of about 40 electronic resources, he asked attendees to categorize them and choose those that would be most useful for a comprehensive search for a question in ecology, asking, "how would you test and compare them, prioritize and cut?" In order to answer this question, **Brown** studied the treatment in various databases of 20 top journals in the field, as well as the treatment of articles cited in them. He then ran overlap analyses in order to determine the most accurate, comprehensive, reliable databases. He did this for several natural sciences, successfully winnowing out the less useful databases to target for cancellation. He found that some traditional databases did not rank as highly as might be expected. He also pointed out that Montana

is committed to the federated search concept even though it causes the loss of use statistics and the fact that it does not work well yet. His focus is on building discovery and building personal connections with users to change information seeking behavior.

Using iClickers in Library Instruction to Improve Student Engagement — Presented by **Ed Rock** (Languages & General Education Librarian, Clemson University); **Bobby Hollandsworth** (Business Librarian, Clemson University)

Reported by: **Leslie Farison** (Appalachian State University) <farisonll@appstate.edu>

Clemson University began using **iClickers** in large sections of freshman level courses in 2006 and the libraries are now using them for Library Instruction. A handout compares products from four different Personal Response System vendors across several variables. The presenters demonstrated the **iClicker** product and reviewed the research concerning the merits of using Personal Response Systems. At the request of the Office of Undergraduate Studies, **The Clemson University Libraries** designed a successful plagiarism class in which they utilize **iClickers**. In many universities today students are required to purchase white **iClickers** for one or more of their academic courses at a cost of $35-$40. For this reason libraries have concerns regarding theft of the devices. **Clemson** resolved this problem by ordering the blue **iClickers** normally used by the instructor for student use. The presenters did a nice job of covering the basic **iClicker** information, but much more effort and imagination are needed to expand the applications for this product. A **PowerPoint** of the presentation and PDF's of the handouts are available at *http://www. katina.info/d/2009presentations.*

Making the Most of the Center for Research Libraries: A Members Round Table — Presented by **Sylvia Andrychuk** (Research and Instruction Librarian, Queen's University); **Mary Claire Vandenburg** (Research and Instruction Librarian, Queen's University); **Mary Wilke** (Director of Outreach Services, Center for Research Libraries)

Reported by: **Valerie Fortin** (McGill University Libraries) <Valerie.fortin@mcgill.ca>

About ten people attended this lively lunch session. **Andrychuk** and **Vandenburg**, the two speakers from **Queen's University** addressed three main questions: (1) How are member libraries making the most of **CRL** resources; (2) How are they being promoted; (3) How are faculty using **CRL** resources. A wide variety of approaches are taken at **Queen's** to promote **CRL** resources, including reaching out through the faculty/alumni newsletters, holding **CRL** sessions geared to faculty & grad students, including **CRL** as a research subject guide, promoting the **CRL** newsletter *Focus* on the library Web page, providing links to the **CRL** catalogue in their catalogue, including prominent information on how to borrow from **CRL** on the Web page, and providing links in course guides to **CRL** resources. The speakers also looked at other member Websites to see how other libraries are promoting **CRL** resources. **Wilke** then gave a brief overview of the support that is provided by **CRL** to its members. It is possible to request a reference consultation with **Wilke** or her staff, and usage statistics are provided to member libraries who request them. A list of resources available can be prepared, tailored to individual needs, and there was the suggestion made that any such lists prepared could be put on the **CRL** Website for possible use by other members. **Wilke** asked the audience to consider nominating someone for the **CRL Primary Source Awards**. These awards will recognize the contributions of faculty, librarians, library staff, or graduate students, for their creative use of primary source materials. There was a brief time for discussion at the end of the session.

Weeding with a Re-Purpose — Presented by **Michael Crumpton** (Asst Dean for Administrative Services, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro); **Mary Krautter** (Head of Reference and Instructional Services, University of North Carolina at Greensboro)

Reported by: **Beth McDonough** (Western Carolina University, Hunter Library) <bmcdono@email.wcu.edu>

Crumpton and **Krautter** did a nice job of challenging commonly-held assumptions about academic library collections. They described how their institution has worked toward transforming a library culture focused on counting books to one focused on teaching and learning. A useful review of the literature was provided, along with complete source information. The **UNCG** project aims to reclaim public space from the stacks, and was motivated by delays in funding for library expansion. The presenters shared a detailed space analysis that revealed that seating capacity had been reduced by more than 50% in the library since 1995. They also presented original observational research indicating that only 16% and 17% of patrons used library materials in the reference and reading rooms, respectively. The largest majority of patrons used their own materials in the reference and reading rooms — 60% and 71%, respectively.

The emphasis of this session was on planning and building consensus among library personnel. The discussion centered on "why" to weed, more than "how" to weed.

Learning to love gifts: How one library has increased efficiency, and realized the benefits of gift materials — Presented by **Michael A. Arthur** (Head of Acquisitions & Collection Services, University of Central Florida Libraries)

Reported by: **Christine Ross** (University of Illinois at Springfield, Brookens Library) <cmross1@uis.edu>

This lively lunch was certainly lively, thanks in part to a wonderful presentation and engaged and interested attendees. **Arthur** provided much useful advice and tips on streamlining and perfecting the gift book process. He urged the creation of a general policy specifying what formats are accepted and communication of this policy to those in circulation or wherever gift books are received. Upon receipt, donees should always complete a form acknowledging that the Library may, upon acceptance, dispose of the books in whichever manner deemed best, whether it be adding to the collection, putting in the book sale, sending to a branch library, or discarding. Further, all gifts should be acknowledged. Workflow for gifts processing involves a small part of two staff members' time at **Arthur's** institution. These staff members have been trained to do an initial scan of materials received and determine whether the volumes are eligible for addition to the collection (e.g., good condition, from major publisher, relevant subject area, etc). Only those items identified as good candidates for addition are passed along to the collection development director. The Library's annual report should always include statistics on gift books added to the collection and book sale proceeds.

LibraryThing and Social Cataloging — Presented by **Abby Blachly** (Head Librarian, LibraryThing)
NOTE: Replacement speaker Sonya Green (Librarian, LibraryThing)

Reported by: **Glenda Alvin** (Tennessee State University, Brown-Daniel Library) <galvin@Tnstate.edu>

LibraryThing (*www.librarything.com/*) is a social networking site that allows book lovers to share their collections with others and to catalog their personal collections using tags. Founded by **Tim Spalding** as a personal project, it has spawned other Websites of this nature like **Goodreads**, **BiblioCommons** and **Shelfari** (owned by **Amazon**) and was featured on **National Public Radio** last year. **Bowker** bought

a stake in **LibraryThing** and it's now available in libraries such as Seattle Public and Denver Public. It has over 910,000 members, includes 44 million books in twelve languages. **Green** explained all the fundamentals of **LibraryThing**, from signing up to be a member to accessing the **Library of Congress** and other libraries to look up books. Members can create their own profile page, befriend other members who share the same reading interests, and collaboratively catalog. **Green** discussed the merits of cataloging versus tagging, which allow you to use current terms such as "cyberpunk." Not only can members add their tags to their profile, but they can also add pictures of themselves and their favorite authors.

Academic Libraries without Print — Presented by **Allen McKiel** (Dean of Library Services, Western Oregon University); **Jim Dooley** (Head Collection Services, University of California Merced); **Robert Murdock** (Asst. University Librarian for Collection Development & Technical Services, Brigham Young University)
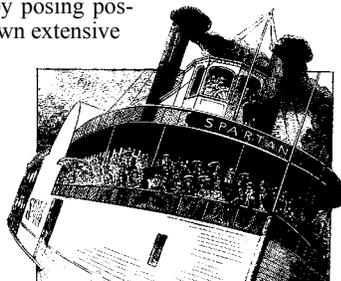
Reported by: **Tracy L. Thompson-Przylucki** (New England Law Library Consortium (NELLCO) <tracy.thompson@yale.edu>

This regular feature of the conference follows three libraries over the years as they transition from print to digital collections. Several themes were woven through the three very lively presentations. First, the impact of **Google** on the library profession and the information world cannot be ignored. From tools like **Google Wave** and **Sidewiki**, to **Google Books**, they are changing the way libraries and librarians work, and we need to pay attention and exploit opportunities that may arise as a result. We need to forge new collaborations, partner with our vendors in new ways, and think differently about work flows and staff resources. Second, eBook content is going to be the next major game-changer for libraries, just as e-journal content has been in the past. As the volume of eBook content increases, library usage patterns will change again. Third, despite the current economy it's an exciting time for our profession. Libraries and librarians will continue to play a key role in the scholarship of the academy. We need to figure out exactly what that role is and remain accountable to our institutions.

Collection Development & the College Curriculum Committee — Presented by **Terrie K. Sypolt** (Reference Librarian, University of Central Florida)

Reported by: **Ava Iuliano** (SLIS Student, University of South Florida) <aiuliano@mail.usf.edu>

In a very informative session, **Sypolt** shared her experiences with college curriculum committees and their impact on collection development. First, **Sypolt** delved into the process by which a college curriculum committee is formed, as well as their purpose. Concentrating on the Graduate College Curriculum Committee, **Sypolt** described the functions of the committee and how it impacts collection development decisions. The collection development librarian plays an integral role in reviewing the program proposals put forward by the curriculum committee, assisting faculty in finding programs to model the curriculum off of, as well as to advise when program-supportive resources are lacking. **Sypolt** stirred up an informative round of discussion by posing possible situations to the audience and sharing her own extensive knowledge and experience in working with College Curriculum Committees. Perhaps the most helpful information was taking **Sypolt's** very active collection development role. By making an effort to go out to faculty offices and departments and encouraging dialogue and communication between the library and academic departments, one can ensure smooth curriculum developments with the library's support.

How 'Necessity' Has Changed the Way Acqusitions is Done at One Academic Library — Presented by **Shelley Hawrychuk** (Collection Development Librarian, University of Toronto at Mississauga)

Reported by: **Jo McClamroch** (Indiana University, Wells Library) <jmcclamr@indiana.edu>

This session reviewed several adaptations in workflow along with a realignment of staff responsibilities as a response to staff reductions which began in 2006. The primary goal was to "determine what can be delivered more efficiently" both in acquisitions and in cataloging. A shift was made to do more ordering through approval plans and to reassign the remaining monograph ordering to reference librarians. Accounting functions were removed from the Acquisitions Unit, freeing up time for staff to handle more of the routine acquisitions work. Another time-saving move was to have books shipped as "process ready," thus eliminating multiple handling of material. Other changes were implemented including ceasing serial check-in (with some exceptions) and performing minimal claiming of missing issues. There were cost savings realized, and positions were retained. In the absence of an improved budget situation, however, more cost-cutting measures will likely be taken.

Tightening the Core: Using Circulation and Cost History to Reduce Spending on a Research Library's Central Approval Plan — Presented by **Richard Entlich** (Research & Assessment Librarian, Cornell University Library); **Maureen Morris** (Reference Librarian, Cornell University Library)

Reported by: **Christina Bellinger** (University of New Hampshire Library) <Christina.Bellinger@unh.edu>

Entlich and Morris gave a timely presentation on how the **Cornell University Library** cut 30% from the materials budget in response to the economic downturn of 2008. **Morris** represented the collection development side of the project, and **Entlich** represented the assessment side. The Research and Assessment Unit at **Cornell** is a new unit that provides internal data and research to support evidence-based decision making.

Faced with the task of making broad cuts quickly, the Collection Development librarians concluded that the approval budget with its specific profiles was the most effective target. Though approval books are supposed to be the core of collection development, they knew that they could identify publishers that could be cut from their approval plan without severely damaging their collections. They worked with the Research and Assessment Unit to gather circulation and cost data from the ILS and the approval vendor and were able to identify the high cost/low use publishers. The selectors had input into the final decisions about the publishers. One positive outcome is that the approval plan books that are purchased are more likely to circulate. However, selectors spend more time firm order ordering needed materials. **Morris** answered many questions about the methods that she used to keep the rest of the library informed about the process, including meetings and a wiki to which all library staff belong and can contribute. They intend to continue data-driven collection analysis. **Entlich** fielded many questions about the Research & Assessment Unit. People were interested in how the unit was formed, its charge, and its staffing. 🐿

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*That's all the reports we have room for in this issue, but we have many more reports from the **2009 Charleston Conference**. Watch for them in upcoming issues of **Against the Grain**. Presentation material (PowerPoint slides, handouts) and taped session links from many of the 2009 sessions are available at **www.katina.info/conference**. You may also visit the conference Website (www.katina.info/conference) for details about the **2010 Charleston Conference**. — KS*