I confess.
I'm a lurker.
I subscribe to listservs to which I've never posted, and, truth to tell, never will.

This confession brings me to an offer I have for you. The Oklahoma Chapter of ACRL Executive Board is busily engaged in planning the November Fall Conference, and in all of those other things we do. We’re inviting you to shred lurker-hood and engage in the activities of your organization. To assist in this endeavor, I’ve compiled the following list. (No cracks from the peanut gallery—especially if you’re an OU/MLIS grad!)

10 FREE & INEXPENSIVE WAYS TO STOP LURKING

1. Read this newsletter. Pass it around to staff and colleagues. Post it on the bulletin board in the copy room. Share your news with us.

2. Let us know what you want to see and don’t want to see in this newsletter.

3. Let us know what you want this organization to do and to be for you.

4. Let us know what you like and HATE about the annual Fall Conference.

5. We’ll keep you posted on volunteer opportunities. (See page 4.)

6. Ever wanted to see your name in lights? Consider running for an officer or board position in OK/ACRL. (Election is in the fall; we’ll keep you posted. But, you can contact us now.)


8. Recruit students to academic librarianship. (Some day, some of us want to retire!)

9. Encourage paraprofessional staff to attend the Fall Conference. Last year we awarded three grants to enable support staff to attend. Facilitate their attendance.

10. Fill out a current membership form so we can keep our membership list up to date. (Yes, even if you’re a free member because of your ALA membership.)

See, that wasn’t so bad! We’ll still love you if you lurk, but we would really like for you to join us.

RHONDA TAYLOR, President
Oklahoma Chapter /ACRL
**PERSONNEL NEWS:**

- **NETA L. COX** started July 1 as Reference/GovDocs Librarian at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Graduated with her MLIS from OU in May.

- **JULIA CRAWFORD,** Visiting Patents & Trademark Librarian, comes to Oklahoma State University after serving as a medical librarian at St. John’s Regional Health Center in Springfield, Mo. She received her MLIS from the University of Oklahoma and her BA from Southwestern Baptist University.

- **TOM JORSCH,** Assistant Special Collections Librarian at Oklahoma State University, received his MLIS from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He was the archival consultant at Harley-Davidson Motor Company, and he has interned at the Milwaukee Urban Archives.

- **RONALD W. KRIESEL** retired as Head Librarian at Mid-America Bible College in August. The new Library Director is Linda Bollenbacher.

- **DAVID OBERHELMAN,** Assistant Humanities/Social Sciences Librarian at Oklahoma State University, received his MLS from the University of Pittsburgh, and he has been involved with teaching at the collegiate level at Texas Tech and the University of California-Irvine. He has a BA from Rice, a MA and PhD from the University of California-Irvine.

- **BRIAN ROSSMANN,** Assistant Government Documents Librarian at Oklahoma State University, earned both his MA (Classics) and MLIS at the University of Western Ontario. He has worked as a librarian for the Canadian Federal Government (Toronto) and the Public Service Commission of Canada (Ottowa).

- **CHRISTY RYAN** is the new Serials Librarian for the University of Tulsa McFarlin Library. She earned an MLIS from the University of Oklahoma and an undergraduate degree from Northeastern State University. She previously was employed at the University of Tulsa’s Law Library.

- The following librarians have joined the library faculty at East Central University: **DEBRA HOLSTER,** Government Documents/Special Collections Librarian; **DANA BELCHER,** Periodicals Librarian; and **LORI MARDIS,** Instruction Librarian.

**WHAT’S NEW?**

- **OKLAHOMA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY MABEE LEARNING CENTER.** We have completely redesigned our web page, added another electronic database and launched our e-reserves project. This semester students will be able to check out reserves for three classes twenty-four hours a day. Other classes are being added weekly. Access Services added Ariel to its quiver of service options. We expect to have the bugs worked out by March 1, 1998. Monthly updates MLC goings-on are added to the library’s newsletter, Speerings, available through our web page at www.okbu.edu/library/homepg/main.htm

- **OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY**’s Catalog Department recently became an independent library for NACO series.

- **SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY.** We have added electronic reserves and now have links from our OPAC to an increasing number of electronic journals. Tax forms are available on paper, on a stand-alone computer terminal, and from the library’s homepage. Plans are underway for a library computer training room.

- **OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.** Congratulations to its Interlibrary Services for making the top 100 list of OCLC net lenders. The unit was ranked number 62—before Princeton University and after the University of California, Los Angeles.

- **OU COLLEGE OF MEDICINE-TULSA** has added a computer classroom in the library. This was accomplished by moving several offices out of a Technical Services area. This will give staff an opportunity to teach classes on a more formal basis than in the past.

- **FRIENDS OF THE OSU LIBRARY** recently awarded H.E. “Ed” Cobb, Jr. of Tulsa the fourth annual Edna Mae Phelps Award for outstanding contributions to the Oklahoma State University Library. Besides being a charter member of the Friends of the OSU Library and serving as the OSU Library’s co-chair for OSU’s capital campaign, he established a substantial endowment for the organizations annual speaker series.

**POSITION AVAILABLE**

- Patent and Trademark Librarian at Oklahoma State University. See web page www.library.okstate.edu/personel/patents.htm
BEST WISHES

ROBERT H. PATTERSON, Director of Libraries at the University of Tulsa since 1981, will retire on May 31. Before Tulsa, Patterson held positions at Tulane, the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at the University of Texas at Austin, and a directorship at the University of Wyoming. Patterson was active in the national, regional and state scene, serving on elected boards and holding senior offices on various professional organizations including AMIGOS, ALA PLMS and RBMS, IFLA, OLA, TALC, the Oklahoma Conservation Congress, OLA, and ODL Advisory Council. He participated in the 1982 founding of OK/ACRL chapter, serving several terms on the board and as president in 1985-1986.

He founded and edited for fifteen years the journal “Conservation Administration News” (CAN), which in 1985 won the H.W. Wilson Ourstanding Library Award at ALA. In 1989, he was selected as a Council on Library Resources UCLA Senior Fellow. In the late 1980s, the growth of statewide networking initiatives drew him into the founding of ORACL, and he has served on the board of OCALD. He has widely lectured, largely on preservation issues and taught library administration at the OU library school.

One of his happiest professional moments, he says, was delivering the commencement address at his daughter’s graduation from the University of Texas library school in 1992.

OK/ACRL wishes Bob the very best in his retirement, and thank him for his service to Oklahoma libraries and to OK/ACRL over the years.

OK/ACRL WEB PAGE NEWS

Coming soon to a browser near you. Anne Prestamo and Steve Locy are designing the OK/ACRL web page. If you have suggestions for content please forward your ideas to prestam@okway.okstate.edu or slocy@okway.okstate.edu. Watch for the page’s debut in mid-April at www.library.okstate.edu/okacrl/

NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM

Enclosed in this issue of the Newsletter you will find a 1998 Membership Form. To join, renew, or update your address, please fill out this form and return to Laura Bottoms. We need this information from National ACRL members to keep out mailing list current.

FALL CONFERENCE PLANS

Greetings to the OK/ACRL Members,

The board is in the process of scheduling this year’s events, most importantly our annual fall conference. We are trying to bring issues and concerns of librarianship in an organized way to the attention of the chapter’s members. The more input into the planning process and shaping of the conference topic we receive, the more we can tailor the discussions and presentations to your needs.

Distance Education has many facets. It has effects on libraries’ changing mission statements, self-concept, and the type of services we provide to a newly defined clientele. We will attempt not only to explore our own role in this developing branch of academic learning, but determine what kind of expectations the various players in Distance Education envision for our libraries.

We would like to discuss the types of services needed, the impact of Distance Education on learning styles and the resources necessary to support them, the role of administrators (allocation of funds), faculty (expectations towards libraries), and database vendors (database access to students long distance) in Distance Education.

New policies will most certainly regulate or guide the academic entities involved in Distance Education. Three broader overall issues evolved from our discussions so far:

- Access needs to support Distance Education.
- Training and technical support for students, faculty, and libraries.
- Communication (electronic office hours, electronic requests and delivery of resources and materials, electronic reserves, chat rooms for interactive exchange of curriculum and ‘classroom’ management issues).

We invite all our members to participate in the shaping of our fall conference. If you would like to add ideas and concerns to our list of topics or feel that some issues in particular need to be emphasized, contact us through the OK/ACRL listserv that President Taylor was able to set up for us.

Send your comments to acrl@slis.lib.ou.edu
WHAT IS OBIC?

♦ The Oklahoma Bibliographic Instruction Council (OBIC) is a special interest section of Oklahoma/ACRL. The primary objectives of OBIC are:

1. To encourage and promote the interests of Oklahoma academic library bibliographic instruction programs
2. To develop the usefulness and efficiency of these programs
3. To increase visibility of bibliographic instruction statewide
4. To promote high professional standards
5. To facilitate communication among OBIC members
6. To disseminate and exchange information and resources with the membership
7. To cooperate with organizations that have similar or allied interests.

OBIC generally meets on the third Friday every other month at various college and university libraries around the state. Meetings usually have a guest speaker. Recent programs have included:

♦ The gentle art of Listening
♦ Using the World Wide Web in Library Instruction
♦ Personality Types and Teaching Styles
♦ Active Learning

Future possible topics may include:

♦ Censorship filters
♦ How to be an inspirational teacher
♦ Assessment of bibliographic instruction practices

OBIC BRIEF HISTORY

♦ OBIC has its roots in LOEX. Many of the bibliographic instructors from around the state had attended LOEX conferences and wanted to continue discussions begun at the conferences. Starting back in the early 1980s these instructors met on a very informal basis. It wasn’t until 1983 that the chair of Oklahoma/ACRL, Stanley Benson formalized the discussion group into an official special interest section of OK/ACRL. Bev Joyce, Bibliographic Instruction Librarian, University of Oklahoma was the first chair of OBIC. The first By-Laws were written in 1992/93 with Dell Hewey as OBIC chair.

OBIC MEMBERSHIP

♦ Anyone may attend an OBIC meeting. Those wishing to join OBIC may do so by joining Oklahoma/ACRL the Oklahoma chapter of the Association of College and Research Libraries.

NEXT OBIC MEETING

♦ The next OBIC Meeting will be held Monday, April 27 at 1pm in Tahlequah at Northeastern State University. Lunch will at 11:30 at a restaurant to be named later. If you have any question please contact Susan E. Hahn, OBIC chair, at (405)325-2917 or shahn@aardvark.ou.edu

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR OK/ACRL FALL CONFERENCE

♦ The OK/ACRL Fall Conference will follow the format of recent conferences with audience participation and focus on distinct issues as much as possible. Break-out sessions have unanimously received high marks in the conference evaluations of the last few years.

In order to focus on vital aspects of Distance Education we have planned to organize the break-out sessions according to academic units that are affected by the changes: faculty, administrative issues, libraries, and students. In fact, we would like to invite students and faculty that are currently involved with Distance Education to get first hand account of their experiences.

Please let us know if you would like to volunteer for chairing a break out session, if you know a potential candidate with a background in Distant Education whom we could contact. You can respond to the ACRL Oklahoma listserv provided by OU’s library school at acrl@slis.lib.ou.edu. We appreciate your input.