



July 2001

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS



Colleagues:

It was a pleasure to visit with so many of you at Oklahoma Library Association's Annual Convention. Specifically, I extend special thanks to 1) All who took time to join us at the OK-ACRL Brown Bag Luncheon and 2) OLA Conference organizers who graciously supplied the space for our meeting.

At the Brown Bag Luncheon, guests and board members shared great ideas for the upcoming OK-ACRL Fall Conference. It was discussed that every library continues to do important work, but measuring that activity is becoming more difficult in the electronic information age. Attendees made suggestions for possible speakers who could address the topic of assessment. Additionally, the by-laws change was discussed briefly (see more info in the newsletter about this election-related change).

It is with great pleasure that I announce OK-ACRL Board's formalized plans for our Annual Fall Conference! There is a separate newsletter entry regarding the conference, but here are the pertinent facts:

**What:** "Embracing Assessment: New measures for Academic Libraries"

**Keynote:** Peter Hernon of Simmons College in Boston

**When:** Oct. 22, 2001, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Where:** OSU-OKC

We are delighted that Dr. Hernon has agreed to be our keynote speaker. He is an expert in the field of library assessment as evidenced by his prolific publishing record and book awards. We anticipate that colleagues from neighboring states will want to take this unique opportunity to hear Dr. Hernon speak at a Midwest venue.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend this very important conference.

Best regards,

Julia Crawford  
OK-ACRL President

## 10<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL ACRL CONFERENCE CROSSING THE GREAT DIVIDE

Flying into Denver against the backdrop of the Rocky Mountains early in the morning was as good a day's beginning as any. And it got better from here on. The Convention Center was located within walking distance from most conference hotels and downtown Denver. I was immediately struck by the energy level in the registration area. Anticipation was in the air. Not a bad start, I thought.

It was a 'big topic' conference. All the buzzwords of contemporary issues jumped at the visitor from video screens, handouts, PowerPoint presentations ("those ugly PowerPoint presentations" - Clifford Lynch) and pages of the program: "student learning and assessment", "digital reference services", "web portals and web tutorials", "distance education", "eBooks", "seamless ejournal access" and more. Not surprisingly, many of these topics made inherent references to technology and the promises of the Internet. For example, librarians from North Carolina State created a customizable web portal in which patrons enter their user profile of research interests. An SQL database with a simple controlled vocabulary then connects subject librarians, new books/ materials, databases of interest, relevant campus/ library events with the patron who is informed of these resources and services when logging on under "My Library". Or consider this: Cornell University Library established digital reference support with email and chat modules similar to a chat room. Many students liked it so much that they queried reference librarians electronically rather than leaving their computer workstations 20 feet away from the reference desk. Many conference events, from small poster sessions to fancy vendor presentations in hotel ballrooms across town, addressed the need (and their particular solutions) for a single tool to access electronic fulltext journals residing in various database packages. Solutions ranged from small local databases to outsourcing to sophisticated add-ons for existing library automation systems. Conference sessions concerned with information literacy and library user education frequently acknowledged the digital fixation and electronic savvy of current student generations. Just take a look at Colorado State's animated multimedia Library Instruction module at <http://lib.colostate.edu/datagame> and see how you can reach Generation-Y students... And then, there was Clifford Lynch. Engaging, thoughtful - this is an understatement-, discussing long-term issues of information ownership and 'fair use' (print limits of two pages of electronic books do not seem fair or useful; "if I can't use it, I can't make 'fair use' of it"), the uses and benefits of 'recommender systems', i.e. web portals, and concerns about future net security.

It turned out that the large meeting rooms were still too small for the many interested librarians who found themselves

### SPRING WORKSHOP RESEARCH ON THE WEB: NOT NECESSARILY AN OXYMORON



Speakers Linda West, Abbey Warner, & Audrey DeFrank

On March 30, 2001 OK/ACRL held a spring workshop titled "Research on the Web: Not Necessarily an Oxymoron." Held at the University of Central Oklahoma, the workshop was attended by 26 librarians representing a variety of Oklahoma libraries. Morning presenters were Linda West (NSU) who detailed subject guides on the Internet and how to effectively use them, and Audrey DeFrank (SWOSU) who spoke of ENC Access Centers and Math and Science websites. The afternoon keynote speaker was Abbey Warner, (UCO) who presented a hands-on, informative and fun afternoon session on a number of issues related to web research.

leaning against walls and sitting in the aisles on the floor. Not always the best place to take notes. What made up for this minor inconvenience was the fact that many presenters posted their contributions on the web (the URLs are still working at this time). This turned the conference into a memorable experience that we can re-visit time and again. Some web addresses to visit:

Student Learning and Web Tutorials:  
<http://lib.colostate.edu/datagame>  
Teaching Information Literacy to Generation Y  
<http://www.library.csuhayward.edu/staff/ACRL/>  
Information Literacy: Visit ACRL for standards of information literacy at <http://www.ala.org/acrl/infolit.html>  
Web Portals and Personalized Library Support:  
<http://www.marquette.edu/library/waal/ACRLpresentation.html>  
and  
<http://www.Lehigh.EDU/library/infodome/>  
Ejournal Access: [www.library.plu.edu/journals/](http://www.library.plu.edu/journals/) and  
[dizzy.library.arizona.edu/library/teams/ejournals/gm/Charge.htm](http://dizzy.library.arizona.edu/library/teams/ejournals/gm/Charge.htm) and [www.usc.edu/isd/elecresources](http://www.usc.edu/isd/elecresources)

Thomas Thorisch, OSU Tulsa  
[thorisc@osu-tulsa.okstate.edu](mailto:thorisc@osu-tulsa.okstate.edu)

# Fall Conference Preview!



Peter Hernon

Oklahoma ACRL's annual fall conference will take place on Monday, October 22 at OSU-Oklahoma City. The conference is titled ***Embracing Assessment: New measures for Academic Libraries.***

Set to deliver the keynote address is Peter Hernon, professor at the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at Simmons College in Boston. Dr. Hernon has written 37 books and more than 160 articles. His co-authored book, *Assessing Service Quality* (ALA) received ALA's Highsmith Award for its outstanding contribution to library literature in 1999. He has a book forthcoming from ALA that deals with assessment planning and outcomes assessment.

Dr. Hernon's key note presentation "Assessment of Library Services: An Examination of Service Quality AND Outcomes Assessment" will be held in the morning of Oct. 22. Participants will hear from local speakers in the afternoon. Speakers will focus on assessment efforts in the state, design of measurement tools, and experiences with university administration.

Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend this very important conference.

## A FAREWELL FROM JULIA CRAWFORD

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve the last three years on the OK-ACRL board, first as Secretary and then as President-Elect & President. It is with regret that I announce my resignation as OK-ACRL President, effective July 1. Please welcome Gwen Dobbs, Curator of OU's Julian P. Kanter Political Commercial Archive, as new OK-ACRL President. I am moving to Kansas and will pass the reigns of the association to Gwen's capable hands. Next time you see her, please take a moment to congratulate Gwen!

Involvement in the OK-ACRL board has provided many service opportunities, not to mention treasured friendships. I encourage each of you to consider saying "yes" when asked to consider running for office. You won't be sorry. It is an easy way to become involved in your association at the state level.

We'll miss  
you, Julia!

Good Luck, Gwen!

## A REMINDER ABOUT PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGE

During the last two elections, some of the races have been particularly close. The OK-ACRL bylaws do not provide for resolution of elections in the case of a tie. At the April 20<sup>th</sup> Brown Bag Luncheon at OLA, we discussed the possible wordings for this bylaws change. We want to select a tie-breaking method that is fair to the candidates for office, as well as a method that is quick to administer (i.e. NOT a run-off election). We propose adopting a wording similar to National ACRL's bylaws <<http://www.ala.org/acrl/bylaws.html>>.

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### **According to the ACRL bylaws Article XIII, Section 2, part (a):**

" . . . In the case of a tie vote, the successful candidate shall be determined by lot."

We will vote on these changes at the Fall Conference in October. Your input is appreciated!!