

**OKLAHOMA CHAPTER**

*of the* Association of College  
and Research Libraries, Inc.



July 2003

## **PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**

I've just recently returned from the ALA/CLA Annual Library Conference in Toronto. Toronto is a fantastic city and the conference was great. We missed all of you who couldn't attend! While I was in Toronto, I was reminded of how important networking is to a profession. By networking, I'm not talking about our computers; I'm referring to the personal interactions we create and participate in when we're out of our own personal realm. Our association meetings are a rich source of networking, and while budget and health concerns kept many from making the trip to ALA Annual this year, those who attended put the time to good use. After getting together with my colleagues at our meetings, programs and other activities I feel more energized and motivated now than ever.

One of the things it can be easy to forget is that you don't have to travel out of the country, or even out of the state, to interact with other academic library professionals. The sharing of ideas and energy happens all throughout Oklahoma at the many meetings and conferences held by our local library associations and chapters. I encourage you to not only attend these events, but to get involved. Serve on a committee, run for an office, learn how these organizations are run and help them to better serve their members and the academic libraries in the state. I guarantee that you'll find a new sense of belonging. In addition, you'll have an even larger network of colleagues you can call upon when you need a different viewpoint or a creative idea.

Speaking of creative ideas... "Creativity in the Workplace: How to be Your Creative-Best in Today's Challenging Information Environment" is the title of this year's combined Special Library Association and Association of College and Research Libraries (Oklahoma Chapters) conference. Dr. Gerard Puccio of the International Center for Studies in Creativity at Buffalo State University will be joining us on November 14<sup>th</sup> at Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City. Both organizations thank EBSCO and Kerr-McGee for assisting us to bring this exciting speaker to Oklahoma. We encourage everyone to attend what promises to be a fascinating day! Keep your eyes out for more information as we move closer to the conference date. Conference information will be mailed to members, as well as being posted on the OKACRL web site <http://okacrl.okstate.edu>

If you're interested in running for a position on the OKACRL board, please contact Jason Dupree at [dupreej@swosu.edu](mailto:dupreej@swosu.edu) or at 580-774-3031. As OKACRL vice-president/president elect, Jason will soon be scouring the state for interested individuals who want to get involved with the organization. Don't assume Jason will know where to find you – please make yourself known!

I hope the remainder of your summer is good and that you actually accomplish a large part of what you set out to do this summer!

Beth Reiten  
President, OKACRL

### **Retirements**

- ▶ RAY LAU, Director and Assistant Professor, J.W. Martin Library, Northwestern Oklahoma State University
- ▶ KAREN OLIVE, Learning Resources Center Director, Redlands Community College

## LEGISLATIVE CORNER

by Sherry Young, Cameron University

### **Library-Legislative Connection: Tips for Communicating with Legislators**

Legislators depend on librarians, library staff members, and library patrons for information regarding library needs and wants. In order to communicate successfully with legislators regarding library issues, library constituents need to capture legislative attention, explain the topic in understandable terms, and make lasting and favorable impressions.

#### **Capture Attention**

A person who captures the attention of a legislator begins the process of successful communication. Legislators, often overwhelmed with information, appreciate attention-getting communication. Because it appeals to both the sense of sight and the sense of hearing, a personal visit may better succeed in securing a legislator's attention than would a letter or phone call. A personal visit during which the visitor hands the legislator printed information focused on the topic at hand can increase the visitor's chance of obtaining the legislator's attention. The visitor who has taken the time to research the legislator's background before making a visit or phone call may discover some common interest or background that can be employed to help capture the legislator's attention.

#### **Explain the Topic**

Those who have been asked or directed to take some action know that it is often important to understand why the request has been made. When constituents approach legislators with recommendations for action, these constituents should provide detailed information about the issue at hand and why the legislative action being requested is important. Legislators do not understand library issues as well as librarians do; thus librarians should strive to explain thoroughly each issue in an easily understandable fashion.

#### **Make a Lasting Impression**

Those who have succeeded in capturing attention and explaining an issue need to then make a lasting impression on the legislator in order to increase the likelihood that desired actions will occur. Providing the information in two or more formats or in the same format on repeated occasions can accomplish this goal. One who makes a personal visit to a legislator may leave a printed summary of the topic with the legislator. Later thanking the legislator for taking the time to hear one speak about a topic both reminds the legislator of the topic and increases the likelihood that he or she will recall the issue addressed and the librarian's perspective toward it.

#### **Conclusion**

Legislators are busy individuals, often overwhelmed with information. They depend on constituents to raise and explain issues and to convey desired courses of action. It takes time, thought, and action to capture a legislator's attention, explain library-related issues, and take steps to make certain that legislators can retrieve related information from memory at appropriate times. The great impact library-related legislation has and can have on library services and research makes such efforts worthwhile.

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## CONFERENCE REMINDERS

### **OLA Workshops:**

"One-Two-Three Energy" August 5 at Stillwater Public Library. (focuses on grant writing)

"Support your Support Staff" August 21 at Ardmore Southern Oklahoma Technology Center

For additional information, contact Kay Boies at 405-348-0506 or [kboies@coxinet.net](mailto:kboies@coxinet.net).

### **OKACRL Fall Conference:**

Creativity in the Workplace: How to be Your Creative-Best in Today's Challenging Information Environment - November 14<sup>th</sup> at Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City

## CONFERENCE REPORT

Tamie Willis, Oklahoma Christian University

### Christian Colleges Librarians' Conference

Oklahoma Christian University was host to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Christian College Librarians Conference May 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>. Christian College Librarians, Inc. (CCL) (see <http://library.faulkner.edu/ccl/default.htm>) is an association of librarians from institutions affiliated with the Churches of Christ and other interested individuals. Representatives from Abilene Christian University, Lipscomb University, Freed-Hardeman University, and Pepperdine University were among the participants.

The conference started with an evening visit to the Oklahoma City National Outdoor Memorial. Dr. Brad Robison, Library Director of The Oklahoma City National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism acted as guide. The next morning he gave a presentation on the Institute's library. In the afternoon Jane Thomas, Collection Manager of the National Memorial Archives, not only spoke, but gave the group a tour of the Memorial's archive facilities and explained the arrangement, collection policy, preservation methods and shared many stories associated with the archives.

The second day centered on information literacy. Dr. Cecelia Brown, Assistant Professor at OU SLIS, presented her research on IL. It was not only interesting and informative, but it triggered thought provoking analysis and discussion of our own IL programs.

In the afternoon, a panel discussion was held about Oklahoma Christian's e-Campus initiative. John Hermes, Director of Computer & Network Services covered the technical aspects of a wireless campus, providing laptops for every student, and MyOC (OC's intranet portal). Jim Dvorak, Director of the North Institute (purpose is to help faculty use technology in their courses) discussed ways the faculty have incorporated technology into their courses to create a dynamic change in their instruction methods. Gail Nash, Assistant Professor of English discussed specific ways she uses the e-Campus within her courses, and Library Director Tamie Willis discussed the impact of the e-Campus on the library, current information literacy programs, and future IL plans.

## NEWS

- ▶ OSU Library puts Chronicles of Oklahoma online: The most recent example of the Electronic Publishing Center's work is the digitization of the first 20 volumes of *Chronicles of Oklahoma*. The Oklahoma Historical Society commissioned the project. The task took two years. It was the third major project for the EPC and their first with the Oklahoma Historical Society. The first 20 issues of *Chronicles* are available to search and view for free at <<http://digital.library.okstate.edu/Chronicles>>.
- ▶ Cameron University Library hosted two Amigos training workshops. On June 10, nineteen participants from ten different libraries in Oklahoma and Texas participated in "Making the Connexion" focused on use of new OCLC software. The following day, "MARC for Non-catalogers" introduced five library staff members to the international machine readable catalog standard. Recently purchased library classroom computers made this training possible.
- ▶ OKDIGITAL is a group of librarians and other cultural heritage professionals from all over Oklahoma that have been meeting to examine the feasibility of a statewide collaborative digital project. If you or your institution is interested in more information about OKDIGITAL or would like to be a part of this group, please contact either Cokie Anderson at [cokie@okstate.edu](mailto:cokie@okstate.edu) or Gina Minks at [gina-minks@utulsa.edu](mailto:gina-minks@utulsa.edu).

## FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

### Electronic version of our newsletter

Tired of waiting for the OK-ACRL Newsletter in your mailbox? Like to save this organization some money? You can receive future issues of the newsletter via email in PDF! Email me ([slocy@okstate.edu](mailto:slocy@okstate.edu)) your request to receive the newsletter through the web. If you are completing the OK-ACRL membership form, simply check the box requesting our newsletter be delivered to your email address.

Steve Locy, Treasurer

## JAMES JOYCE IS IN "GOOD COMPANY" AT TU

Gina Minks, Tulsa University

On June 16<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Special Collections at McFarlin Library at the University of Tulsa opened the exhibit "In Good Company: James Joyce & Publishers, Readers, Friends." Over 100 scholars from around the world attended the exhibit opening which was one highlight of the 2003 North American James Joyce Symposium that was held at the University of Tulsa June 16<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup>. This exhibit was curated by Lori Curtis, Head of Special Collections at the University of Tulsa, and Luca Crispi and Stacey Herbert, Joyce scholars from University of New York at Buffalo.

The University of Tulsa houses one of the world's premier James Joyce collections. To be accurate, the Joyce collection is a collection of collections – an assemblage of the libraries, papers and single items from individuals who influenced James Joyce, his writing and its reception in the world, and who in turn were influenced by him. TU's James Joyce exhibit features highlights from the University's collections of Harriet Shaw Weaver, Joyce's publisher and patron; Richard Ellmann, Joyce's biographer; Paul & Lucie Léon, Joyce's secretary and friend; Edmund Wilson, American author and literary critic; Lucia Joyce, Joyce's daughter; Rebecca West, novelist and journalist who wrote several influential articles about Joyce; Ellsworth Mason, editor of several books on Joyce's writing and correspondent to many of Joyce's family and friends; and Cyril Connolly, literary critic and essayist. Even the copy of *Ulysses*, inscribed by Joyce to his Aunt Josephine is included in the exhibit.

"In Good Company" is a free public exhibit. The exhibit is located in the Department of Special Collections on the fifth floor of McFarlin Library on the University of Tulsa campus. The exhibit is open Monday through Thursday, 8:00 – 5:00 and Fridays 8:00 through 12:00 throughout the summer. An online version of the exhibit catalog is available at <[http://www.lib.utulsa.edu/Speccoll/online\\_exhibits.htm](http://www.lib.utulsa.edu/Speccoll/online_exhibits.htm)>.



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