OK-ACRL 2011: New Year Resolutions

Hope everyone had a lovely winter break and is ready for the new year!

If you’re like me, you spent your January 1st setting different goals for this upcoming year.

For our new year, OK-ACRL is ready to start 2011 with a series of resolutions to make ourselves more relevant and approachable to you.

One of the first things that will occur this year is an OK-ACRL membership satisfaction survey. This survey aims to get opinions from you, our base, as to what you would like from OK-ACRL.

Is there something you wish we did? Wish we didn’t do? Let us know! The electronic survey should go out in February and the Board will use your responses to better shape our organization and meet your needs.

Besides reaching out to you via a survey, the Board will be looking at how to improve our web services (website, social media outlets, etc.) to keep you better informed about our annual conference, workshops, interest groups, and other activities.

In addition to web content, we hope to reinstate a quarterly OK-ACRL newsletter, much like the one you’re currently reading.

I don’t know about you, but I want to hear about other Oklahoma college and university libraries’ projects and people now, and not wait until our Fall Conference! If you have a new project in place that you would like to brag about or share, or maybe you have a new librarian on board, please let us know! Just email oklahomaacrl@gmail.com with your news byte and we’ll get you into our upcoming OK-ACRL newsletter.

Finally, we are excited for our upcoming joint Fall conference with the Oklahoma chapter of the Special Libraries Association (SLA). While we can’t spill all the details just yet, we are sure this conference will be a swell one and not one to be missed.

I encourage you to look inside and hear from our various subgroups (COIL, D-SIG, PASIG) to learn about their upcoming calendar years and new leadership.

I’ll chat with you all soon and should you have any questions, please feel free to email me at alemon@occc.edu or send the group an email at oklahomaacrl@gmail.com

Sincerely,
Amanda Elizabeth Lemon
A Word from COIL...

Over the past few years COIL has been dedicated to exploring detailed aspects of library instruction. We have talked about tutorial creation, participatory learning, and distance instruction for the online learner. In 2011, COIL is going back to the basics.

COIL plans to examine the basics of library instruction—what are best practices? What is practical? What works? We plan to address these questions while building a hands-on workshop that will enable participants to work on techniques whilst in the company of fellow library professionals.

COIL plans to enhance meetings as well by encouraging members to use regular meetings as an active place to solve problems and seek solutions. The varied membership of COIL lends itself to a wide breadth of knowledge, and we can all benefit from shared experiences. In the past we have used regular meetings as pseudo mini-lectures. In 2011, COIL hopes to encourage members to bring experiences to our meetings so they can be discussed in a supportive environment.

COIL will be looking at new ways to be present on the Web by looking at social networking possibilities and working in conjunction with OK-ACRL and the sister subgroups on a unified web presence.

What OK-ACRLers ARE UP TO:

COIL’s own 2010 President Sarah Clark and Susan Chinburg, both from Rogers State University in Claremore, published their article “Research Performance in Undergraduates Receiving Face to Face versus Online Library Instruction: A Citation Analysis.” in the Journal of Library Administration [50.5/6 (2010): 530-542].

OK-ACRL Secretary Toni Hoberecht and COIL’s 2011 President Emily Brown published “COIL on Wheels: A Library Professional Development Roadshow” in the Medical Reference Services Quarterly [29/3 (July 2010): 286 - 293].

COIL and OK-ACRL member Frederic Murray, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, started the BookGrowl podcast in which Frederic interviews SWOSU faculty about books and DVDs. Listen here: http://www.swosu.edu/library/bookgrowl/

OK-ACRL/OU SLIS Mentor Program

Did you ever wish you had a librarian to talk with when you were starting your MLIS program, finishing your degree, or when you were out looking for a job? Well, now you can be that librarian and help guide a future OU SLIS student by becoming an OK-ACRL mentor!

How much time will be involved? That is up to you and your student. Maybe an e-mail or a chat once a month? Or, how about a job shadow day sometime this spring? Just be someone a student could contact with questions about the field and/or your job. Agree to meet at workshops and or conferences! And, keep in touch this next year through e-mail and chat.

Want to sign up as a mentor? Please visit: http://bit.ly/fA53VL

For a little more information (or the paper-based volunteer form), please see: http://scr.bj/fdbVqR
PASIG’s Year Ahead

Have you ever had to solve a problem at work, and you had no place to turn? Welcome to PASIG, OK-ACRL’s Public and Access Services Interest Group. Our mission “is to share information and ideas pertaining to Access Services including interlibrary loan, physical collection maintenance, public relations, and personnel management in Oklahoma Academic Libraries.” We are your place to turn to find answers to the everyday problems at the library. We offer several opportunities to meet and share ideas. First, you may join our Yahoo! Group. Send me an email at jlrempel@okcu.edu, and I will send you an invitation. Here, you can solicit your colleagues for help by posting your next big question to the list. Next, join one of our semimonthly online meetings on Vyew.com. Each meeting, we briefly cover PASIG business and then move on to discuss a predetermined topic of importance. Finally, we will present a free, half-day conference in June. We invite local librarians to share their work on topics that matter to our local community. If you miss us online and at our conference, join us for a dine-around at the OLA Annual Conference or the OK-ACRL Fall Conference. Hope to see you there!

D-SIG’s 2011 Plan

2010 was a great year for revitalization and transformation of the Digital Services Interest Group. 2011 will be a year of constructive and useful discussion for those interested in digital services and changing technologies. D-SIG plans bimonthly discussions over the latest trends and revisions in digital service, as well as serving as a sub-community of OK-ARCL where colleagues whose professional support and tacit knowledge can help you with your digital projects through shared experience, guidance, and professional courtesy. Meetings are held online, with one “person-to-person” planned in the summer to meet your fellow D-SIGians. Discussion and sharing continues all-year round through the D-SIG website at http://grou.ps/Dsig. We also occasionally meet in Second Life.

Have a story? A new project?
Or, maybe a new librarian? Let us know!

We want these newsletters to not just recap OK-ACRL board meetings, but provide you all with information about your fellow state libraries and librarians.

Are you working on a project that you wish to share? Do you have a new staff member that you would like to introduce? Have you recently published an article or book? Or, do you simply feel that one of your librarians needs to be showcased? Let us know so we can let everyone else know!

Simply send an email to oklahomaacrl@gmail.com with a 350 word max description of your project, new librarian or existing colleague!
Looking back over 2010
By: Robin Leech, Past-President

It has been a very busy and exciting year for OK-ACRL. The most exciting, I think, was our annual conference, held this year at Rose State College Professional Training Center. We were privileged to have our national president, Lisa Hinchliffe, here as our keynote speaker. Along with Lisa, Susan Gibbons was our guest speaker. These two presenters inspired and challenged all of us, and it was so great to have them in Oklahoma. Our conference drew a large crowd this year, 75 in attendance! I think it was a great success. Thank you to all that attended, I hope you were able to return home revitalized and excited, with many new ideas and plans. Thank you also for your feedback—we tried an online evaluation form this year, and hope that proved convenient for everyone.

Speaking of things online, we held our first online election this fall; we think this was also a great success. Please let us know what you think about voting electronically; we will be working throughout the coming year to make improvements to the system.

Our three Interest Groups are very active, all taking advantage of Web 2.0 freeware to enable meetings and communication throughout our state. D-SIG (Digital Services Interest Group) has been meeting regularly this year, many thanks to Casey Ashe and Adam Brennan (TCC) for their assistance in getting the group back up and running. Thanks also to Beth Jones (OCU), PASIG (Public & Access Services Interest Group) and Sarah Clark (RSU), COIL (Community of Oklahoma Instruction Librarians) for their dedicated work this year with virtual meetings and workshops.

Special thanks to Amanda Lemon (OK-ACRL President, 2011) for coordinating our new Mentoring Program with the University of Oklahoma SLIS. The volunteer mentors and their students met for the first time at our conference, and the mentors are looking forward to assisting these upcoming professional in any way we can. They are the future!