



Oklahoma Chapter Association of College and Research Libraries

Newsletter September 2000

<http://okacrl.okstate.edu>

President's Address

The students have returned to campus, and, hopefully we have all survived the first weeks of classes. Now, if we can make it through the fall semester... And with the fall semester comes the annual OK/ACRL fall conference. The OK/ACRL board members have been hard at work to make this a great conference for you. This year's topic is:

Forging Partnerships between Libraries and Information Technology

Our speakers are Phil Moss, Associate Vice Chancellor of Technology, Oklahoma Board of Regents; William Crowe, Spencer Librarian, former Dean of Libraries and Vice Chancellor of Information Technology, University of Kansas; and Dennis Aebersole the new Chief Information Officer, University of Oklahoma.

Fuzzy about what exactly is information technology?? Unsure what an Information Technology department

really does?? Curious to know if a relationship between the library and the IT department would work?? Is it for your library??

Have all of your questions answered at the conference.

Consult the chapter web page at <http://okacrl.okstate.edu> for conference information and registration forms. Please note the conference is a little earlier this year, Friday, October 27 2000. Therefore, early conference registration is due by October 12.

Five reasons to attend this year's conference:

1. Learn about libraries and information technology
2. Hear personal experiences
3. Meet OU's new Chief Information Officer
4. Catch up with old friends
5. Meet some new friends

Hope to see you at the conference!!

Susan Hahn, President, Oklahoma Chapter of ACRL

"Forging Partnerships between Libraries and Information Technology"



UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL
OKLAHOMA

ACRL Annual Fall Conference
Friday, October 27, 2000
Pegasus Theater
University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond

Pre-Registration **Deadline: October 12**

Pre-Registrants are invited to bring a guest. (a library paraprofessional, a student interested in librarianship). We request that you register your guest with the pre-registration form.

9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:40 a.m.	Phil Moss
11:00 a.m.	William Crowe
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m.	Dennis Aebersole
2:45 p.m.	Discussion & Summary

Candidates for the ACRL officer and board member positions will be introduced during the conference. Election ballots will be part of the conference packages. Read the candidates' profiles in this newsletter.

❖ *Special Library Feature* ❖

Fire Protection Publications Library

The Fire Protection Publications Library is located at Oklahoma State University and is part of the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology. Holdings consist of material that relates to the operations of Fire Protection Publications, Oklahoma Fire Service Training, the International Fire Service Training Association, the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress, the School of Fire Protection and Safety Technology, Fire Protection Society, and the Stillwater Fire Department.

The Library began as a support center for the research needs of the Fire Protection Publications (FPP) editorial staff, and over the last five years has grown to offer research assistance to anyone interested in fire related topics. The Library and Archives now contain books, reports, serials, videos, cd-roms, photographs, slides, manuscripts, objects, textiles, films, recordings, etc.

The Fire Service programs at Oklahoma State can trace their history to the early 1930's when the Stillwater Fire Department served as host to statewide training sessions. The need for uniform training material and methods became greatly apparent. Fire professionals from Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas met in Stillwater and began the process of peer review and writing training manuals for firefighters. The same procedure is used today with fire professionals from around the world meeting every year at the annual IFSTA Conference to review and validate the manuals.

The Library collects titles relating to fire prevention, fire-fighting, arson, terrorism, public education, training, management, wildland fires and many other fields of study. There is a selection of instructional videos that many volunteer fire departments check out. Students from the Fire Protection and Safety Engineering Technology program and the Fire and Emergency Management master's program

use the library to research papers. We also get requests for assistance with research from fire professionals from around the world. The Fire Protection Publications Archives serves as a repository and preservationist of materials that show this history. Susan F. Walker, head of the FPP Library and Archives, began the archives in 1995. Since then the archives has received donations from people connected with the early history of fire programs, the Stillwater Fire Department, and the School of Fire Protection. Today, the archives contain over 400 collections ranging from audio/visual material to textiles.

Anyone who would like to donate material or request information regarding the history of the Fire Service Programs, the School of Fire Protection, or the Stillwater Fire Department should contact the FPP Archives or the Library at 405-744-7046.

Susan F. Walker

Langston University Libraries received a \$15,000.00 grant from the Boeing Companies to assist us in purchasing equipment to enhance our Microcomputer Training Lab, and to help support the cost of continuing education for librarians and staff. The Libraries were also benefited by a large grant from NASA to the University. This grant enabled the Libraries to purchase around \$30,000 worth of titles in the sciences. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation donated 41 titles from the Library of America series to the LU Libraries.

Connors State College Library and the Westbrook Library Learning Center

Endeavor's Voyager went online at CSC in June. Voyager and WebVoyage are being implemented at OSU A&M institutions including Connors, OSU/OKC, OSU, OSU-Okmulgee, OSU-Tulsa, Oklahoma Panhandle, Langston, NEO A&M and the College of Osteopathic Medicine. Vera Ward is the new full-time technician in Warner and Peggy Caughman is the new part-time technician at our Muskogee branch library service center. Both have previous library experience. LLC Director, Margaret Rigney, assumes the chair of Eastern Oklahoma District Library System Board of Trustees in August.

ALA Pre-conference on Legislative Advocacy

On July 7, 2000 the Association of College and Research Libraries sponsored an ALA pre-conference entitled, "Legislative Advocacy: Key Roles for Today's Academic Librarians." Over fifty librarians from around the country gathered to learn what they could do to effectively influence lawmakers at the state and national levels.

The first speaker, Stephanie Vance, provided practical advice for "Communicating with Elected Officials." Vance's first-hand experience on the staff of a U.S. Congressman in Washington, D.C. provided an excellent springboard for her remarks. She demonstrated keen understanding of the issues facing libraries, and tailored her instruction on communication to academic librarians. Ms. Vance stressed that finding out "what the legislator is passionate about" is a key to success. Articulating concerns and desired actions in terms of the legislator's passion is a sure key to being heard. Further, she stressed that messages should be thoughtfully developed, relevant, and well articulated. Passing along a letter that another librarian wrote often rings hollow.

From the lobbyists' perspective, Richard Schoell of the University of Illinois, stressed that for academic librarians to fail to become politically active is to be left behind. Schoell stressed two points: first, academic librarians need to get their agenda on the university's lobbying list. Otherwise, legislators can be confused by different or mixed messages from within the same university community. Second, librarians should seek to build a base of support and look for champions who can help amplify their case with legislators.

Emily Sheketoff, Associate Executive Director, ALA Washington Office, spoke briefly on the issues of importance to academic librarians on the legislative front. The event concluded with a hands-on activity facilitated by Anne Beaubien, University of Michigan. Ms. Beaubien presented a five-step method for constructing a message. After learning the steps, participants worked in groups to craft a letter or phone dialogue for use in contacting a legislative representative. The steps included:

- 1) Pick an issue and develop 3-4 points to tell the congressional staffer.
- 2) Put key points into bullet sound bites.
- 3) Take the library jargon out and say things more simply.
- 4) Prioritize the message and hook the points together.
- 5) Add a personal story.

The Legislative Advocacy pre-conference was very informative and enlightening. I was inspired to return home and write my legislators regarding proposed funding cuts of a federal agency, which would have an impact on my work as a Patent & Trademark Librarian. The steps presented by Ms. Beaubien helped me to confidently craft my message.

In closing, I'd like to share a remark made by Ms. Vance. In her work as a lobbyist for National Public Radio, she ran into many legislators who wanted to mentally bundle up NPR with Public Broadcasting (PBS). They simply failed to see the divergent needs and funding differences of NPR and PBS. She found that NPR was treated as the "ugly stepsister" of PBS. Along these same lines, she pointed out that libraries for libraries' sake can be confusing to legislators. Legislators often bundle up the needs of libraries with education, and don't see the difference between the two. Worse, legislators can treat libraries as the "stepsister." It can be our mission, if we choose to accept it, to inform legislators about the unique needs of the academic library community.

Julia Crawford
OK ACRL VP/President Elect
Patent & Trademark Librarian
Oklahoma State University
juliac@okstate.edu

OK/ACRL Seeks Legislative Advocate

Intrigued by the Legislative Advocacy activities? WE NEED YOU! Each chapter is required to provide the name of one member who will act as the legislative contact. We're looking for a member willing to be the recipient of email alerts, etc. Contact Julia Crawford (juliac@okstate.edu) if you're interested.

Call for Papers for the
Annual Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Assn. and
Southwest/ Texas American Culture Association March
7-10, 2001

Sheraton Old Town Hotel
800 Rio Grande Blvd
Albuquerque, NM 87104

For more details visit the Associations's web site at <http://www2.okstate.edu/swpca>

The Libraries and Popular Culture area solicits paper proposals from librarians, graduate students, library school faculty, collectors, writers, and other aficionados (yes! including people who use libraries, too!) of popular culture and libraries! Also welcome are proposals for slide shows, video

presentations, workshop formats, and panels organized around common themes. We welcome proposals related to archives, museums, and other information settings, too.

Suggested topics:

- profiles of popular culture collections
- reports of research studies in the area of popular culture and libraries
- marketing popular culture materials to library users discussion of intellectual freedom issues related to popular culture resources
- collection building, popular culture resources
- organization, and description of popular culture resources
- technology and popular culture in libraries

Other topics are welcome!!!

Send a 200-word abstract to the area co-chairs by November 1, 2000:

Rhonda Harris Taylor / Judith Overmier
School of Library and Information Studies
401 West Brooks, Room 120
University of Oklahoma
Norman, OK 73019-6032
PHONE (405) 325-3921
Email: rtaylor@ou.edu or rovermier@ou.edu

Meet the Candidates for ACRL Officers and Board Members

Vicepresident / President-Elect

Gwen Dobbs

Dobbs is Reference/Instruction Librarian and Media Center Interim Director at the University of Central Oklahoma and current Chair of the Oklahoma Bibliographic Instruction Council. She received her MLIS in 1997 and BFA in 1991, both from the University of Oklahoma.

Cynthia Montgomery

Montgomery is Technical Services Librarian at Bartlesville Wesleyan College. She recently served on the University of Oklahoma SLIS reaccreditation committee and Onenet's subcommittee on shared databases. She earned her MLIS at OU and completed a doctoral fellowship at University of Pittsburgh.

Secretary

Adriana Edwards-Johnson

Edwards-Johnson is the Government Publications Librarian at the University of Central Oklahoma. She is the Secretary of OLA GODORT and a member of OLA's "Navigating the Information Future" Committee. She received her MLIS from OU in 1999.

David Oberhelman

Oberhelman is an instructional and reference librarian at OSU. He was formerly on the faculty of English at Texas Tech University. He holds a PhD from UC-Irvine and an MLIS from the University of Pittsburgh. Oberhelman is the chair of the OLA Ethics committee, Mountain Plains Library Association New Members Round Table and past chair of UCD presentations/poster committee.

Beth Reiten

Reiten is Digital Library Services Librarian and Library Web Editor, OSU. Reiten is a member of ACRL's Distance Learning Section Web Committee and currently serves on OSU Library's Information Literacy Task Force. She received her MLS from University of Wisconsin- Madison.

Treasurer

Audrey DeFrank

DeFrank is the current OK-ACRL Treasurer and has served as Serials Librarian at the Al Harris Library, SWOSU since 1999. She earned her MLIS from OU in 1998 and is a member of OK/ACRL, SIGALO, OLA, ALA, AILA (American Indian Library Association). She is currently ENC Access Center Coordinator at SWOSU.

Mark Vargas

Since August 1998, Vargas has been Director of Nash Library at the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma. Prior to this he held positions as Archivist at the Milwaukee Urban Archives, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Assistant Archivist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; historical researcher at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and librarian at the Wentworth Institute of Technology. Vargas received his M.A. in History and MLS from the University of Maryland.

Board Members

Suzanne Holcombe

Holcombe is Documents Librarian, Oklahoma State University. She is Government Relations Chair of the SLA Environment & Resource Management Division, and a member of SLA Information Technology Division, OK-ACRL and OLA GODORT. She also serves as Oklahoma State Data Center and Business & Industry Data Center Affiliate. Holcombe's MILS is from the University of Michigan.

Andy Lupardis

Lupardis is Government Documents Librarian at University of Tulsa, and previously, Serials Cataloger at TU. She is a member of OLA GODORT and received her MLS from Rutgers University.

Marilyn Moore

Moore is Government Documents Librarian at Northwest Oklahoma State University. Prior to this she held the position of Library Automation Technician at NWOSU. She has a bachelors in Biology/Library Science minor and is currently completing her MLIS at OU.