A New Program Track at This Year’s NYLA Conference

“I wonder what’s going on at my old library school?”
“As an academic librarian, NYLA doesn’t offer me as much as I’d like!”
“I’d like to hear about new ideas being developed by NYS library educators?”

If you’ve said any of these things, the Library Education Track is for you at the upcoming Saratoga (doesn’t EVERYBODY like Saratoga?) conference! You can say “Hi” to some of your former professors at library school or meet former classmates again at these programs. At the November conference New York State’s library schools will be sharing some of the most exciting things going on at their schools with us. The wide variety and the potential application of the research topics are stimulating and inviting. Some examples . . . . . . .

Have you heard about the new rare books program at LIU’s Palmer School? Deirdre Stam, former director of the Drew University library and head of the Center for the Book at Syracuse University, will give a talk entitled “Rare Books Redux.”

Pratt Institute has four professors talking about LIS/MLS education. Tula Giannini is speaking on virtual user studies in libraries and using LIS students in this research, Bos-sheng Tsai on knowledge management application in marketing LIS education, John Berry on teaching professional writing in the LIS curriculum, and Marie Radford on the interpersonal communication aspects of librarians working with users.

The University at Albany has Hemalata Iyer speaking on Wordnet, a pre-search tool to aid concept identification, Joette Stefl-Mabry on using information technology and grades with public school students, and Philip Eppard on the InterPARES Project, an international project concerned with preserving authentic electronic records.

At the University at Buffalo, June Abbas is speaking on the Arteis Digital Library User Study, exploring how children interact with digital libraries and how students and teachers feel about them. Melanie Kimball is providing a close look at youth services in the public library from 1900-1930.

At St. John’s University, Nancy Becker is talking about web searching from the user’s perspective, Elizabeth Pollicino on library professionals as administrators in higher education, and Sherry Vellucci on metadata scatter on the web.

Dr. Ruth Small from Syracuse University—is speaking on the PLUS Program, a program that reinvents/reinvigorates urban school libraries.

Six library schools, fourteen professors presenting their latest research, and lots of opportunity to reestablish your relationship with your library school. Don’t miss these programs!

ASLS thanks Dave Harralson, Utica College, former ASLS President and Board member, for coming up with this great idea and making it happen.
Updated ASLS Officer Job Descriptions Suggest By-Laws Change

Below you will find updated job descriptions for elected ASLS officers and directors. The current Executive Board has discussed and approved changes in duties that will more closely align the positions with existing needs. In light of these changes, the EB is suggesting the separation of the positions of Secretary and Treasurer. This action will require a vote of the Section to change the Section’s Bylaws to so note the separation. Article V., Section 1., of the Bylaws states that “These officers and directors shall perform the duties prescribed by these Bylaws and the section manual, and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Section.” In the absence of an existing section manual the EB is proposing that the job descriptions presented be adopted as a part of the section manual that is being recreated. The vote to amend the Bylaws as stated will be presented to the Section membership with the election ballot in September.

Academic and Special Libraries Section of the New York Library Association
Job Descriptions of Officers and Directors
(Elected officer term begins immediately following the Section membership meeting at the NYLA annual conference.)

Vice-President/President/Past President (3 year commitment)
Vice-President (1 year)
- Program Chair for the Annual NYLA Conference
- Attends 3 NYLA Programmer’s meetings
- Chair of the ASLS program committee
President (1 year)
- Presides over meetings of the ASLS board and membership (4-6 meetings per year, one of which is at the annual conference)
- Sets agendas for these meetings
- Serves on NYLA Council as ASLS representative (at least 3 meetings per year, one of which is at conference)
- Approves section expenditures
- Appoints committee chairs
Past President (1 year)
- Participates as a member of the program committee
- Chairs Nominating Committee which nominates individuals for officer and director openings
- Oversees annual election process for vacant positions
- Chairs the Awards Committee (ad hoc committee)

Secretary/Web Master (2 year term)
- Takes minutes of board and membership meetings
- Maintains dynamic content of the ASLS website (e.g. current minutes, newsletter, current board roster, other events)
- Maintains records during his/her term – passes on to historian at end of term (retains minutes for three years)

Treasurer (2 year term)
- Maintains financial records of section
- Provides financial reports to section membership
- Develops and presents budget to board for approval
- Handles all financial transactions for the section
- Liaison with NYLA office
- Retains seven years of records (keep current 2-3 years/pass others on to historian)

Director (2 year term)
- Attends board meetings
- Works with rest of board to set direction of section
- Actively participates in activities of section
- Votes on decisions of board
- Participates as a member of the program committee

N.B. ASLS Bylaws, Article V., Section 7. No member shall hold more than one office at a time and no member shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office. Section 8. Officers/Directors who fail to attend two meetings without excuse from the President of the section will be replaced. Power to replace rests with the Executive Board as outlined in this article.
Slate of Candidates for 2003-2004

Attention All ASLS members!

Below you will find the slate of candidates as presented to the ASLS Board of Directors by the Nominating Committee chaired by ASLS Past President, Carol Ann Germain. As stated in the ASLS Bylaws, additional nominees may be added to the slate if the nomination is signed by five members of the Section and filed with the Nominating Committee by July 1, 2003. Nominees presented in this manner must be members of the Section in good standing and must have signified acceptance of the nomination in writing to the Nominating Committee.

Nominees:
Vice-Pres/Pres Elect: David Chatham, Nazareth College
Patti C. McCall, Albany Molecular Research, Inc.
Director: Deborah Emerson, Rochester Regional Library Council
N.J. Wolfe, Fashion Institute of Technology

Officers for 2004:
President: Jane M. Verostek, SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry
Past President: Cara Molyneaux, Union College
Secretary/Treasurer: Sheri Webber, Purchase College
Director: Kathleen Gundrum (through October 2004)
Director: Elaine Lasda (through October 2004)
Director: Frank Queener (through October 2004)

Is your library’s web page accessible to all?
Do you know how to determine if your library’s web page is accessible to all?

Website Accessibility - What It Means and How to Achieve It

A full-day CE workshop, sponsored by ASLS, will be presented at the NYLA Annual Conference. The workshop is designed to answer these questions and more:
- The importance of accessibility
- Accessibility design and legal issues
- Assistive technologies
- See Page 4 of this newsletter for more details

Register early - space is limited.
See the NYLA Bulletin coming in June for complete registration information.

The ASLS Newsletter is published three times a year by the Communications Committee of the Academic and Special Libraries Section of the New York Library Association, Jean Sheviak and Christine Walker, Co-Editors. ADDRESS: ASLS Newsletter c/o Capital District Library Council, 28 Essex Street, Albany, NY 12206; Phone: 518-438-2500 Fax: 518-438-2872; email: jsheviak@cdlc.org or cwalker@cdlc.org.
ASLS Announces Programs for the 2003 NYLA Annual Conference

Jane Verostek, ASLS Vice President/President Elect and conference program chair, reports that ASLS is very proud to be offering a full day CE workshop and double the usual sessions at the fall NYLA conference. The library school sponsored sessions which were described on page one, will be presented in addition to programs described below.

CE Workshop
The full day CE workshop Website Accessibility - What It Means and How to Achieve It will answer the question you’ve been asking yourself (or should have been asking yourself), “Is my library’s web page accessible to all?” At this presentation-style workshop, participants will become familiar with the importance of website accessibility including design and legal issues; assistive technologies such as Jaws, HomePage Reader, WindowEyes, and general browsers that can enhance your website. They will learn how basic website techniques such as images, tables, navigation, forms/PDFs, and testing through Bobby can enhance accessibility. The workshop is designed for those who already have some knowledge of web page development. Topics covered will be of value to those doing the technical development as well as those evaluating websites and making recommendations for improvement. The CE workshop instructor, Eleonora Morrell, is from MicroKnowledge Computer Training and Consulting, a division of VYTEK Wireless. Eleonora designed and leads the 5-day Web Design and Usability course offered by the New York State Office for Technology for NYS Webmasters. Located in Albany, MicroKnowledge of New York is a company dedicated entirely to computer training and technology consulting. MicroKnowledge has a strong interest in the library community and has worked with the staff of many libraries in the Capital District.

Conference Sessions
During the conference ASLS will be bringing back two very popular sessions, Glimpsing the Future and Hidden Treasures:

Glimpsing the Future
Ready for a YottaByte world where we carry the contents of a large library in our wallets? David Cossey from Union College will take you through a multimedia presentation relating technology developments to their impact on libraries and reading.

Hidden Treasures of Saratoga
Representatives from The National Museum of Dance & Hall of Fame, The National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame and The Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College come together to share highlights of their collections/museums.

Another topic that is returning based on the overwhelming reception it received at the 2002 NYLA conference is a session on Marketing Special Libraries. Three speakers (Barbara Beverley from New York State Department of Economic Development, Warren Hawkes of the New York State Nurses Association and Connie Alesse from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) will present tips and tricks used to market special libraries to specific patron groups and will share their wisdom and experience.

In an effort to respond to the latest trends and needs in libraries ASLS is excited to bring the following sessions to the NYLA conference:

Digitizing Special Collections
Three speakers who have experience with digitization projects (Eleanor Brown of the Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections of Cornell University Library, Joseph Barth from West Point, and Jill Ann Hurst - Digitization Consultant) will discuss how digitizing was done, either in-house or outsourced, how cataloging was handled, and how patron use has been affected.

Wireless Libraries and Circulating Laptops
George Emery of Canisius College will speak about the experiences of the Canisius College "Lending Laptops in a Wireless Library" program. Mr. Emory will speak about the outcomes of the program and the realities of such a program.

From Competencies to Competence
Carol Anne Germain from the University at Albany will offer ideas to assist with integrating information literacy competency standards into your library instruction and will focus on exciting strategies and techniques that librarians are using to achieve this goal.


Treasurer’s Report

ASLS is moving right on target with regard to its fiscal balance sheet. Over the past 4 months, we have gained $1400 in membership dues, just about one third of the expected revenue from this source. The primary membership renewal season occurs in mid-year. The Board also expects to earn extra revenue from our Continuing Education Program at NYLA this November.

With this in mind, the Board elected to donate $2500 to the NYLA Endowment Fund early in the year. This will constitute our largest expenditure in 2003. So, although our expenses are larger than our revenues for this 1st third of the year, we anticipate a positive balance by year’s end.

Beginning of Year Balance  
13,503.85

Revenues
Dues Allocation 1403.13
Total Revenues 1403.13

Expenses
Ridley Award 750.00
Newsletter 408.29
Meetings/Travel 262.97
NYLA Endowment 2500.00
Total Expenses 3921.26

Balance as of 4/30/03 10,985.72

Submitted by Sheri Webber  
ASLS Secretary/Treasurer  
sheri.webber@purchase.edu

Legislative Committee Report - Lobby Day a Great Success!

The March 18 Rally for Libraries on the Capitol steps in Albany was a great success! An enthusiastic crowd of library supporters cheered legislators, trustees, and librarians who spoke to the crowd of the importance of support for libraries. Earlier in the day Speaker Silver addressed the group assembled in meeting room 6 and spoke of his determination to restore cuts to libraries which had been made in the Governor’s budget. Speaker Silver, Senator Farley, Assemblywoman Galef, and other library supporters in the Assembly and Senate made good on that promise by first passing a budget which restored the cuts and then overriding the Governor’s veto of that budget. The Senate vote to override was unanimous.

What happens now? Please thank your legislators for their part in this process! Next, continue to educate your elected representatives so that they really understand the vital role academic and special libraries play in New York State.

Jean K. Sheviak  
ASLS Representative to NYLA Leg Committee

[Image of library supporters]
Conference Scholarship Available! Apply Now!

Send a Colleague to NYLA Conference on Scholarship. ASLS is again sponsoring a Conference Scholarship for full NYLA conference. ASLS members may nominate a colleague or themselves. Nominees should be a “front-line” librarian and an ASLS member. To nominate someone - or yourself - send a one-page letter, including brief biographical information as well as a statement describing why the nominee is deserving and what they might gain professionally from this award. Send or e-mail nominations to Carol Anne Germain, University at Albany LI128, 1400 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12222 (cg219@albany.edu).

ATTENTION
MEMBERS OF:

Northern New York Library Network
And
South Central Research Library Council

Your library is invited to apply for the 2003 ASLS/RIDLEY’S BOOK BINDERY Student Internship Grant. Since 1992, the Academic and Special Libraries Section (ASLS) of the New York Library Association has awarded an annual grant award of $1,000 to a New York state academic or special library to support a paid internship for one graduate student in library studies. The purpose of the grant is to provide practical work experience for a graduate library student who is interested in pursuing a career in academic or special libraries.

Each year, ASLS chooses the recipient library from one (or more) of New York State’s nine Reference and Regional Library Research Council regions. This year academic and special libraries from the Northern New York Library Network and South Central Research Library Council regions are eligible to apply for the internship grant.

For grant application guidelines and application form contact:
Carol Anne Germain (518)442-3590/cg219@albany.edu

Please note that the application form must be emailed, faxed, or postmarked by August 1, 2003.
**ASLS SPIRIT of Librarianship Award Application**

Each year ASLS presents this award to a section member who clearly exemplifies an exceptional and unique spirit in academic and special libraries. This award is cosponsored by the New York 3Rs. To nominate someone, fill in the following application.

Name of nominee ______________________________________________________

Contact information ______________________________________________________

Brief Biography ______________________________________________________

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______________________________________________________________________________

Why does this person exemplify the “spirit” of ASLS Librarianship?

______________________________________________________________________________
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______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Name of nominator _____________________________________

Contact Information _______________________________________

Mail completed application and any additional materials by July 15, 2003 to:
Carol Anne Germain
University at Albany LI128
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12222
 cg219@albany.edu
 518-442-3590
Nominate that EXCEPTIONAL librarian for the Spirit of Librarianship Award! (See Page 7 For details)