A Message from the ASLS President

Thank you to all ASLS members, the ASLS Board of Directors and ASLS committee members for your involvement in the 2003 Annual NYLA Conference held in Saratoga. Our ASLS conference sessions, meetings and booth were successful because of your individual contributions and overall teamwork!

For 2004 we have a new team with new members of the ASLS Board of Directors and committee chairs. A complete roster of board members can be found in this newsletter. Welcome new board members and committee chairs and thank you for your support of ASLS.

Feedback from ASLS and NYLA members has been reviewed and conference sessions for the next Annual NYLA Conference have been chosen with care by the ASLS Board of Directors. Along with our regular ASLS sponsored sessions I am happy to report that the ASLS New York State Library School Track will be returning in 2004. Preparations are currently underway for the Annual NYLA Conference "Connect to Your Community, Your Colleagues, Your Career" October 20th – 23rd, 2004 in Rochester. Be sure to mark your calendars.

As an ASLS member - there are several important ASLS items to keep in mind as we plan for the conference. Top on my list would be how to become more involved with ASLS. If you’re interested in becoming more involved in ASLS - whether as an active member or as a board member - please contact any member of the board or appropriate committee chair with questions, comments or ideas related to ASLS and NYLA. Next on my list would be the ASLS awards. Every year ASLS supports several awards including: the Spirit of Librarianship Award, the ASLS internship and a conference scholarship. Details on these awards can be found in our newsletter and our website. If you haven’t visited the ASLS website – please take a moment to do so. Our ASLS mission statement, directory of board members, committee chairs, board meeting minutes, newsletters and more can be found on the NYLA webpage. To find ASLS "online" visit http://www.nyla.org and under the "About NYLA" menu choose "Sections." Comments and feedback regarding our webpage are always welcome!

Recently I was asked by Kat McGrath, Assistant Director of NYLA, why I became involved in NYLA. I’d like to end this message with my quote to her. "For me - NYLA is - refreshing - essential - one of the best professional decisions I made six years ago - the perfect "vehicle" for giving yourself the chance to open yourself to new people, ideas, perspectives and opportunities."

Jane Verostek
ASLS President
Treasurer’s Report (End of year 2003)

ASLS experienced a year of giving in 2003. Not only did we contribute $2,500 to the NYLA Endowment Fund, but also $200 toward the NYLA mortgage in honor of Susan Keitel’s retirement. An unexpected expense of $1,000 was paid to the recipient of the 2001 Ridley Book Bindery Internship Award. The check that was originally distributed went uncashed. The amount was reallocated as an adjustment in 2002, but no further action had been taken. Our conference expenses this year were on par with previous years, even with the additional set of Library School programs.

Our incoming dues, conference revenues and grant monies coincide with the year’s budget predictions. We stayed well within our operating budget for the 2003-year. The balance sheet indicates a negative cash flow for the year because of our generous contributions. Our end of the 2003-year balance stands at $11,147.41. Below, I’ve provided a condensed financial statement for the 2003-year. Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding the financial status of ASLS and I will do my best to answer them.

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<td>Grants</td>
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<td>Total Revenues</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>9169.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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End of Year Balance $11,147.41

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

Call For Nominations

It’s time to get involved with ASLS! Do you know someone who would make a good treasurer, or member of the board of directors? Cara Molyneaux, ASLS Past President, will be developing a slate for the election to take place next summer, and she welcomes your suggestions. Positions to be filled include:

- Vice President/President Elect
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Director

All are two year terms. For further information or to suggest someone for an office contact Cara at molyneac@union.edu or 518-388-6279.
New Board Members and Officers Announced

Results of the fall 2003 election and vote on the proposed by-laws change were announced at the ASLS Board meeting held on November 5, 2003. Dave Chatham of Nazareth College was elected Vice President/President Elect and Debbie Emerson from Rochester Regional Library Council was elected to fill the vacant Director position.

Also on the ballot was a request for the membership to vote on a proposed change to the ASLS Bylaws. After a lengthy review of the job descriptions for each Board position, the Board recommended to the membership that the position of Secretary/Treasurer be split into two positions, and additionally that the Secretary position be named to include the ASLS Webmaster duties. The ASLS Bylaws state:

ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS.
Section 1. These bylaws may be amended, after approval by a majority of the Executive Board, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting at a general meeting of the Section, or in the absence of a general meeting, by a two-thirds vote of those members voting by mail, provided that a copy of the proposed amendment has been sent to each member of the Section at least three weeks before the date set for final action.

Accordingly, the change in the bylaws was approved by a vote of 37 yes; 3 no and 3 blank. The ASLS Ballot was mailed out nearly 400 members!

In other Board action, President Jane Verostek, with approval of the Board, made the following appointments: Secretary/Webmaster (to fill out the remainder of the term now that the position is split from the Treasurer position), Adina Mulliken of Syracuse University; Legislative Committee Chair, Jean Sheviak; Membership Committee Chair, Carol Anne Germaine of University at Albany; Web Committee Chair, Adina Mulliken.

The Board has learned that Dave Chatham will resign as ASLS Vice President/President-Elect since he has accepted the position of Library Director at Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina. Dave has already completed most of the ASLS 2004 NYLA Conference program planning, the major duty of the Vice President. The Board will carry out his duties for the remainder of this year. Good luck, Dave!
ASLS Announces Programs for the 2004 NYLA Annual Conference:
Connect to Your Community, Your Colleagues, Your Career
October 20 - 24, 2004  Rochester, NY

Building Information Literacy Dialogue

Three models will be proposed to encourage collaboration among faculty, librarians, and professional staff in order to build robust information literacy programs. Practical ideas for building dialogue will be shared. Speakers: Trudi Jacobson, Coordinator of User Education, University at Albany; Tom Mackey, Assistant Professor, University at Albany.

Let's Digitize Our Special Collections!

What does it take to digitize a special collection? Speakers will discuss the process and share their special projects and associated standards and costs affiliated with digitizing collections. Speakers: Pamela O'Sullivan, Special Projects Librarian, Central Library of Rochester and Monroe County; Marianne Buehler, Library Coordinator for Distance Learning, RIT Library, Rochester Institute of Technology.

Glimpsing the Future

This annual ASLS look into the future features a multimedia presentation relating technology developments to their impact on libraries and reading. Speaker: Dave Cossey, Chief Information Officer, Union College, Schenectady.

Hidden Treasures of Rochester

Representatives from local collections highlight some Rochester treasures you won’t want to miss. Toys, photographs, hands-on exhibits – find out what makes Rochester residents proud of their community and its culture! Speakers: Deb Jacobsen, Rochester Museum and Science Center; Nicole Ladewig, Strong Museum, Rochester; and a representative from the George Eastman House, Rochester.

Teaching as Performance

The inherent theatricality of the classroom calls for performance strategies from teachers. Gain tips on handling diverse classroom situations from a sudden loss of electronics to working with jaded students. Speaker: Carla List, SUNY Distinguished Librarian, Benjamin F. Feinberg Library, Plattsburgh State University of New York.

The Online Library @Empire State College

Since 1971 Empire State College has provided flexible learning opportunities for adults. Learn how a college chartered without a “traditional” library evolved to meet student research needs. Speakers: Suzanne Hayes, Information Resources Coordinator and Susan McAdam, Information Resources Coordinator; Empire State College, Center for Learning and Technology, Saratoga Springs.
ASLS Sponsored “Library Education Track” Programs a Success at the 2003 NYLA Annual Conference

Plans Underway for the 2004 NYLA Annual Conference

The 2003 NYLA conference in Saratoga marked the inauguration of a new track of programs sponsored by ASLS. “ASLS II” featured representatives from most of New York’s library schools talking about the research currently being conducted by faculty and students. Developed through the efforts of David Harralson, who recently retired from Utica College, the programs offered a chance for library practitioners to learn what is happening in library education as well as a chance for library educators to interact with those actively working in the field.

The University at Albany School of Information Science and Policy was represented by Professors Hemalata Iyer, Joette Stefl-Mabry, and Philip Eppard. Professor Iyer discussed her research focused on aiding understanding in the use of visual resources, where she is trying to determine if WordNet is the best software to use in accessing visual images. Professor Stefl-Mabry studied how primary school students access the computer through the use of the KidPix program and found that most students regularly use fewer than seven applications. Professor Eppard discussed his long involvement in the INTERPARES Project.

Two faculty from The University at Buffalo School of Informatics talked about their work. Archival materials such as library annual reports, scrapbooks, correspondence, and photos provided the source data for Professor Melanie Kimball’s research into the history and development of children’s libraries. Focusing on modern-day students, Professor June Abbass investigated the success of elementary student use of the Artemis Digital Library.

Dr. Deirdre Stam, Director of the Rare Books Program at the Palmer School of Long Island University, discussed the rare books course she has set up with the participation of many New York City libraries. Such programs have largely disappeared in most library schools, but this program is attracting not just traditional students or those who wish to enhance their current jobs, but also people who simply want to learn about rare books. The program is based at the Bobst Library, New York University.

Professors Tula Giannini, Bor-sheng Tsai, Marie Radford, & John Berry from Pratt Institute School of Library and Information Science represented a wide variety of research interests. Professor Giannini talked about a program in which the library faculty worked with subject-area faculty to develop library research training for graduate students. The research class takes students to the New York Public Library, the Brooklyn Public Library, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and many other libraries. Professor Tsai has found that the concepts of Total Quality Knowledge Management can help library and information science programs market themselves. A concern that LIS graduate students have not been taught to present themselves well in speech and writing led Professor Berry to create a course that requires graduate students to give speeches and to present papers orally and in written form. Interpersonal communication skills are the focus of Professor Radford, who has concluded that librarians don’t just answer questions. Rather, they have to consider the gender, culture, and personalities of the students they wish to help.

Professors Nancy Everhart and Nancy Becker provided an overview of recent research of the faculty members at St. John’s School of Library and Information Science. Sherri Vellucci focuses on making information easier to retrieve and making web sites more accessible. Beth Colacino works with case studies of school media specialists. Professor Everhart is working to establish benchmarks for school media programs. Marilyn Kay researches popular culture in adolescent media, especially contemporary ethical issues.

Particularly relevant to academic librarians, Professor Becker discussed in more detail her work on information

(Continued on page 6)
ASLS Award Opportunities in 2004

Conference Scholarship:
ASLS is sponsoring a scholarship to cover the cost of registration for the annual NYLA Conference which will be held next October in Rochester. To nominate a colleague or yourself please send a short letter, including biographical information and a statement explaining why you think the nominee deserves to receive the scholarship and how you think the individual would benefit from attending the conference. The nominee should be a “front-line” librarian and a member of ASLS. Send the nominations to Cara Molyneaux at Schaffer Library, Union College, 807 Union St., Schenectady, NY 12308 or to molyneac@union.edu.

Internship Grant:
ASLS is now accepting applications for the 2004 ASLS/Ridley’s Bindery Student Internship Grant. This annual internship is generously supported by Ridley’s Book Bindery of Syracuse. The $1000 award is given to a New York State academic or special library to support a paid internship for one graduate student in library studies.

This year the recipient library will be chosen from the Capital District or Central New York Library Council areas. Academic and special libraries in these regions are eligible to apply for the grant. The library chooses an intern to work on the project after the award is made.

Criteria for judging the successful internship project:
✦ Strength of the applicant’s statement of project need, the clarity of project goals, and the presentation of an achievable work plan.
✦ Evidence of value to the student in preparation for professional work in academic or special libraries.
✦ Evidence of value to the student through the successful implementation of a project that has the potential for significant impact on the host library’s programs or services.

For application information, contact Cara Molyneaux (molyneac@union.edu), ASLS Past President.

Library Education Track
(Continued from page 5)
literacy and teaching students the difference between searching the web and searching good databases. Students had often been taught good research technique but could not seem to apply what they had been taught. Becker found that students do not make “higher level” decisions when they research. They do follow their old habits of using Google first. Students really learn to search from friends, not from information professionals. In conjunction with ACRL, Becker is looking at peer learning mental modeling. She noted that students do not have a mental model of the information world.

Dr. Johanna Bradley, Director of the School of Library and Information Studies at Syracuse University, first described the changes in the degree requirements at the school and then shared the research of a number of her colleagues. Among that reported is the work of Professor Scott Nicholson, who seeks ways to improve the evaluation of library services for decision-makers through evidence-based librarianship. Professor Abby Goodrum’s research focuses on education and training for digital reference, or how people find and use digital images in a variety of settings including news agencies, medicine and museums. XML for data modeling of clinical health information is the research interest of Professor Catherine Arnott Smith. In Dr. Ruth Small’s PLUS program, Preparing Libraries for Urban Schools, she works on the preparation of models for intervention in urban classrooms.

ASLS is pleased to have been able to bring these programs to the wider library community in New York. Dave Harralson reports (from sunny Florida!) that all New York library schools are planning to participate at the 2004 conference in Rochester.
**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 Council. 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 to :

Cara Molyneaux
Schaffer Library
Union College
807 Union St.
Schenectady, NY 12308
molyneac@union.edu.
New York Library Association
ASLS/Academic & Special Libraries Section
c/o Capital District Library Council
28 Essex Street
Albany, NY 12206

TO: