A Message from the ASLS President

Aprille C. Nace, ASLS President

Fall is beginning to settle in and the Annual Conference is just around the corner. This year’s conference programs and continuing education workshops offer a broad range of exciting topics. ASLS programs range from Digitization to Green Libraries to Web 2.0. Carol Anne Germain and Elaine Lasda Bergman are putting together a booth that highlights products of academic & special libraries. Look inside the newsletter for more information on how you can contribute to making the booth a success. We hope you will all stop by and say hello at the ASLS Booth. While you’re at the ASLS Booth don’t forget to purchase your raffle tickets. This year’s raffle once again features items donated by The Corning Museum of Glass.

ASLS, RASS, and SMART have joined forces to hold a joint section reception. This is a great opportunity to say hello to old friends, forge new friendships, and meet your ASLS Board members. The reception, featuring a variety of hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar, will be held at the conference hotel so more folks can stop by before attending the Vitality Fund Event. We will hold a brief membership meeting during the reception to welcome new board members and announce award winners.

A big thank you to Erin Rushton, this year’s conference programmer, for all her hard work to make the ASLS programs a success. And finally, a special thank you to all of you; your membership in NYLA and ASLS is critical as we stand together to advocate for libraries across the state during these difficult economic times.

Spotlight on a Special Library

Founded in 1991 as Albany Molecular Research, Inc, AMRI scientists perform services that include drug discovery, pharmaceutical development, and manufacturing pharmaceutical intermediates for many of the world’s leading healthcare companies in addition conducting internal research and development. AMRI’s librarians and staff play a key role in the equation by ensuring research needs of the scientists leading these projects are met with the right tools.

Located in AMRI’s corporate headquarters in Albany, NY, the library’s users work in various locations in the United States as well as locations in Hungary, India, and Singapore with some of the library’s heaviest users never having set foot in Albany, NY. What began as a small room adjoining laboratories, staffed by a part time librarian, has become a full fledged research library with two full time librarians and a part time staff of two, who in addition to managing the library and its resources, also address the records management needs of the company.

An important part of the library collection consists of journals in various chemistry related disciplines such as analytical, medicinal, organic chemistry, biochemistry, pharmaceutical sciences, trade publications, and medical journals. With a global user base emphasis has shifted to electronic resources that include journals, databases such as SciFinder and Beilstein Crossfire, and variety of other reference resources. Demand for interlibrary loan is heavy and continues to increase steadily. Librarians work closely with chemistry teams to identify resources, address issues, and promote library services by participating in new employee orientations as well as attending departmental meetings and many a long distance phone call. This can be challenging with worldwide locations but so far the staff has received positive feedback for its efforts in reaching all of AMRI’s locations effectively.

Patti C. McCall, M.A. M.L.S
Corporate Librarian
AMRI
The National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) is a unique program coordinated by the National Library of Medicine to advance the progress of medicine and improve the public health by providing health professionals with access to biomedical information and the public with information to enable them to make informed decisions about their health.

New York University Langone Medical Center’s Ehrman Medical Library administers the program in the Middle Atlantic Region (MAR), including Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

NN/LM works with libraries to reach health professionals and the public. Currently over 750 libraries in the four-state region are members of the National Network, including 184 public libraries and 91 academic libraries. The Network is clearly more than just medical libraries—it is a collection of many different libraries, all of whom are interested in health information. Libraries that support health sciences curriculums or provide health information to their communities are encouraged to become members and take advantage of member benefits. Membership in the Network is free and provides numerous benefits.

**Members Reap the Benefits!**

Membership in the National Network of Libraries of Medicine is free and has minimal requirements. You can find out if your library is a member by visiting the NN/LM Member Directory (http://nnlm.gov/members/adv.html) and searching by name of institution, city, or state.

Members can share in numerous benefits, including:

- **Training and Educational Opportunities**: The Middle Atlantic Region offers numerous classes for library and information professionals. Courses cover consumer health, technology, resource sharing, and medical information searching. MAR provides both in-person training and convenient, 1-hour online sessions. You can learn more about our educational opportunities at our web site http://nnlm.gov/mar/training/.

- **Funding**: A major responsibility of the Middle Atlantic Region is to providing funding for health information initiatives from member libraries. MAR has created several unique awards for health literacy projects, exhibiting opportunities (promoting health information services at local events), and even small projects awards to fund unique projects at member institutions. A full list of funding opportunities, open awards, and application information can be found at http://nnlm.gov/mar/funding/.

- **Promotional Materials**: The National Library of Medicine has created several promotional materials for your use in classes, training sessions, or even at the reference desk. Materials highlight different NLM resources, including NIH Senior Health, MedlinePlus, PUBMED, and TOXNET. The Middle Atlantic Region makes materials available for free to member libraries. To order, simply visit our site and submit your request http://nnlm.gov/mar/outreach/materials.html.

- **Networking and Support**: With over 750 libraries participating in the Network, the Middle Atlantic Region has many opportunities for collaboration, support, and networking. If you are interested in working with other libraries on a project or want to know where in your community you can refer patrons for more information, contact the Middle Atlantic Region to learn what is available among the member libraries.

**Get Involved!**

If you are already a member, then begin taking advantage of the services listed above.

If you are not a member, consider joining. The online membership application is easy-to-complete http://nnlm.gov/mar/services/renewal/newmember.html. After completing the form, a member of the MAR staff will contact you within one week.

Please feel free to call us toll-free from Delaware, New Jersey, New York or Pennsylvania, 800-338-7657, or e-mail us at rml@library.med.nyu.edu.
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Programs at NYLA Sponsored by ASLS

I Just Want to Make Another Copy
Sponsor: ASLS
A quick tour through multimedia copyright geared to the needs of academic and special libraries.
Speaker: TBD

Demystifying Web 2.0 to the Staff of the Metropolitan Museum of Art
Sponsor: ASLS President’s Program
Session will focus on how a group of librarians at the Thomas J. Watson Library of the Metropolitan Museum of Art convinced museum staff to integrate Web 2.0 tools into their daily work. Presenters will show how they addressed concerns particular to their target audience: relevancy of Web 2.0 tools to scholarly research and the concern with authority and security. A look at museum-wide outcomes and future plans will conclude the session.
Speakers: Jennie Pu, Metropolitan Museum of Art; Deborah Vincelli, Metropolitan Museum of Art

Partnering with Google and Microsoft
Sponsor: ASLS
The partnership of academic libraries with search engine giants like Google and Microsoft has caused a lot of discussion in the library world. Patricia Renfro from Columbia University will discuss her own Library’s projects with Google and Microsoft to digitize books from their collections.
Speaker: Patricia Renfro, Columbia University

What Else Can You Do with a Library Degree?
Sponsor: ASLS, NMRT
Learn about non-traditional library careers! A panel of speakers from non-traditional and special libraries will discuss careers in fields other than public, academic and school libraries.
Speakers: Patti McCall, AMRI; Joan Oliver; Rebecca Rich-Wulfmeyer, Albany Institute of History; Art Polly-Alida Farrington, P. A. Farrington Associates; Amanda Latreille, New York State Library & Libraries for the Future

Hey, Ho, Let’s Go! Managing Your Digitization Project
Sponsors: ASLS, NYLINK
A panel of speakers will share practical tips and guidelines on how to plan and manage digitization projects. Audience members will have an opportunity to ask questions and share their own experiences.
Speakers: Jean Currie, SCLRC; Susan D’Entremont, CDLC; Maria Kessler McShane, College of Saint Rose

Green Libraries
Sponsors: ASLS, LAMS, NYSALB
The presenter, trained by Al Gore and the Climate Project as one of the “1000 Climate Messengers,” will discuss developments and solutions libraries are adopting to make their libraries more environmentally friendly and reducing their “carbon footprints”. Sustainable building designs, conservation of non-renewable energy and LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification, and more will be discussed.
Speaker: Frederick Stoss, SUNY Buffalo

Library “Products” Needed for ASLS Booth!

Has your library contributed to research or products at your institution? Perhaps information provided by your corporate library helped to create a new product for your company. Or, the information you obtained was critical in creating an important report or peer-reviewed article. If so, ASLS would like a sample or copy for our booth at the 2008 NYLA Conference. Please send items to Elaine Lasda Bergman, Dewey Graduate Library, University at Albany, 135 Western Avenue, Albany, NY 12222. Feel free to e-mail Elaine (ebergman@uamail.albany.edu) or Carol Anne Germain (cg219@albany.edu) for more information.
Additional Programs at NYLA

In addition to the great programming that the Academic and Special Libraries Section (ASLS) is sponsoring, there are several workshops that should be of interest to staff of academic and special libraries. The programs highlighted below touch on issues that can impact library services including funding issues, technology implementations and patron needs and expectations.

Thursday, November 6

You’ve heard the term Multiple Intelligences but you weren’t sure how it could be applied to library services? New Member’s Round Table section presents an afternoon workshop titled “Multiple Intelligences Revisited” (2:30 to 3:34 pm) with speakers Zahra M. Baird from the Chappaqua Library and Nomi Naeem from the Brooklyn Public Library. The presenters will provide a theoretical overview of the concept and provide practical case studies of how to incorporate MI in improving library services.

SMART’s Rudi Weiss Lecture with Jim Hendler from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute presents on the “semantic web” – an extension of the World Wide Web. Also in this time slot is “Issues and challenges: Views from Academe” – a panel discussion with faculty members from New York’s seven library and information science school on issues that are impacting the library profession and ASLS sponsored workshop on “Demystifying Web 2.0 to the Staff of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.”

All four presentations are in the 2:30 pm to 3:45 pm time slot. As a conference attendee at both NYLA and ALA, it’s rare to find two relevant sessions in one time slot. Finding four is virtually unheard of. How do you choose?

Friday, November 7

If you are concerned about funding issues (and who isn’t these days), plan on attending two NYLA’s Legislative Committee sessions. Session I is at 8:00 am and will feature elected officials and library leaders discussing how to keep library needs and issues in the funding forefront. Session II is at 10:30 am and will feature the State Education Commissioner, Richard Mills, Regent James Dawson, and Deputy Commissioner Jeffrey Cannell discuss the pivotal role libraries play in advancing statewide education initiatives.

However, you’ll have to choose again because also at 8:00 am, is the NYLINK/SLSA sponsored program “Making Connections: High School to College and Beyond” – a presentation on how school libraries have collaborated with academic and/or public libraries to prepare high school students for college level research. Speakers include Carole Ashbridge, Sackets Harbor Central School, John Thomas, Jefferson Community College, Barbara Hough, Yonkers Middle/High School, and Ann Gunning, NYLINK.

And finally, NY3Rs program “Meet the Bloggers” at 4:00 pm with Western New York’s own Ken Fujiuchi (Buffalo State College), Jill Hurst-Wahl of Hurst Associates, Ltd., and David Rothman from Community General Hospital who share their blogging experiences.

NYLA’s 2008 conference program is packed with great programs and interesting speakers. Attendees will be sure to come away with some great information and maybe even be inspired to implement some new ideas at home.

Booth Volunteers Needed

Here’s an easy way to get involved with ASLS and meet the board members!

Looking for a way to guarantee you’ll network with academic and special librarians at NYLA?

Are you a warm, welcoming person, preferably with a nice smile?

If so… ASLS wants YOU!

We are looking for friendly ASLS members to staff the booth at the 2008 NYLA Conference in Saratoga. Experienced ASLS members will show you the ropes. Contact Elaine Lasda Bergman (ebergman@uamail.albany.edu) for more information.
The second Quarter of 2008 saw a healthy influx of dues, plus we received the money for last year’s Ridley Internship. The newsletter cost has been reduced by about 90% since it has been moved to an electronic format. The other significant expense this quarter was for the board meeting in Corning, NY.

**Supplement to the Treasurer’s Report for the months of July and August of 2008:**

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During the months of July and August, we paid the registration for Angela Thor, our Conference Scholarship winner. In addition, we reimbursed the Steiner Library for their Ridley Internship, which has been completed. Again, we have saved significant expenses with the electronic newsletter. Get-well flowers were also sent to a board member as a miscellaneous expense.

**Please support ASLS at the 2008 NYLA Annual Conference!**

~Volunteer for the booth~
~Submit “products” for the booth~
~Visit the booth~
~Purchase raffle tickets~
~Attend ASLS programs~
~Come to the reception~
Dear Lorol,

I’ve been a NYLA member for a while now and have joined a couple of sections. I’ve thought about being more active, perhaps holding a Board position, but no one has ever approached me. I think I have some ideas to offer and I pride myself on being a team player. How does one get on either a Section Board or NYLA Council? I’m starting to feel………

Somewhat Unpopular

Dear Poised to Grow in Popularity,

Glad you are speaking up and asking because that is exactly what you should do. The structure of NYLA and its Sections’ nominating process is that the Past President for that year is the Nominating Chair for the next election. They are responsible for developing a slate of candidates to put before the general vote. While it is true that people are often nominated by someone else, there is nothing wrong with contacting the Nominating Chair and indicating an interest in running for office. Most Chairs would welcome your approach - it can be a difficult task to find people interested in serving. Best of luck to you!

Lorol

Tips for Mid-Career Librarians

Dear Lorol, c/o the ALS Newsletter editors:
Judyf@senylrc.org or killian@senylrc.org

NYLA Legislative Committee Report

Since 20% of State revenues come from Wall Street, New York State is facing a financial crisis. Librarians should be aware that:

- This crisis is impacting aid to library programs.
- NY3R’s programs which benefit academic and special libraries will be negatively affected by reduced funding. Examples: digitization projects, resource sharing programs, consortial database purchases, continuing education.

NYS Coordinated Collection Development Aid to academic libraries will be reduced by the same percentage as other library programs.

How much will the impact be? We don’t know yet. Probably 2-10% this year with larger cuts next year. These reductions are made worse because they come after more than a decade with no library funding increases (two years saw one-time increases in funding).

What will NYLA Legislative Committee do?

- Urge the State Legislature to restore Library Aid funding to 2007/2008 levels ($102 million) because in hard economic times library use goes up.
- Make clearer the connections between libraries and education beginning with pre-k and the connections between libraries and employment.
- Work with the NY Alliance of Library Systems and the Department of Library Development to revise outdated laws and regulations.

What can YOU do?

- Educate yourself about New York State legislative issues and libraries: attend the NYLA Legislative Committee co-sponsored programs on Friday morning at the NYLA conference in Saratoga, read the advocacy emails sent out by Michael Borges.
- Contribute to New Yorkers for Better Libraries PAC, which helps to bring library information to the Governor and the Legislature. Follow this link to learn more: http://www.nylibs-pac.net.

Jean Sheviak
ASLS Representative
NYLA Legislative Committee
The 2008 NYLA Annual Conference

Connecting, Collaborating, Cooperating

November 5—8, 2008

Saratoga Springs, NY

For registration and conference information, go to: www.nyla.org

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