A Message from the ASLS President

Regan Brumagen, ASLS President

Although NYLA’s annual conference seems far distant, ASLS is busy organizing the programming for the Saratoga Springs program this fall. Our conference programmer, Blake Carver, from the New York Power Authority, is planning an excellent slate of sessions, which you can read about in the Summer 2010 issue of this newsletter.

A little closer down the road is the Academic Librarians Conference, sponsored by ASLS and the NY3Rs. Registration is open now for Faster than the Speed of Bytes: Technology, Cognition, and the Academic Library that will be held on June 7-8, 2010 in Ithaca, New York. This exciting conference will offer an intriguing glimpse into the intersection between technology and cognition, including the psychological impacts of technology, the human interface with technology, and how technology may shape cognitive development itself.

Dr. Michael Stephens, Assistant Professor at Dominican University, will give the keynote address on Hyperlinked Users: How Academic Librarians Can Respond. Stephens will talk about the trends shaping the 21st Century student experience and what emerging research tells us about expectations for learning environments, creative collaboration and “always on” access to information.

The conference will also include programs on how technology may be affecting our neurological processes, an overview of the 2010 Horizon Report, geotagging, augmented reality, text reference, and e-readers. This conference offers a focused look at one of the most critical issues for library planning and services today. Register now by going to http://www.nyla-asls.org/AcademicLibrariansConference/.

The conference location, in fun and interesting Ithaca, is an easy drive from many parts of the state, and a short flight from the metro area. It will be a terrific time to engage with colleagues from other libraries wrestling with the same concerns your library staff face.

As always, please contact ASLS with any suggestions and ideas for future conference topics. You can reach me directly at brumagener@cmog.org.

Save the Date

The 2010 NYLA Annual Conference

The Library: Your Story Starts Here

November 3 – 6, 2010 ~ Saratoga Springs
June 7 & 8, 2010, Holiday Inn Downtown, Ithaca
http://www.nyla-asls.org/AcademicLibrariansConference/

$120 NYLA or NY 3R members: Regular Registration*
$145 Non-Member Registration
$50 MLS/MLIS Student Registration

Are we organically shaped by technology? If so, how can academic librarians respond? How do cognitive changes influence the way that we lead our libraries and teach our users? This conference will explore changes in cognitive development, based on new models of interacting with information and how these new models will impact collections and services. Participants will examine what this means for academic librarians and the way they interact with users. This event is brought to you by the NY 3Rs Association and the Academic and Special Libraries Section of the New York Library Association.

Featuring: Dr. Michael Stephens, Assistant Professor, Dominican University, speaking on Hyperlinked Users: How Academic Librarians Can Respond. What trends are shaping the 21st Century student experience? What does emerging research tell us about expectations for learning environments, creative collaboration and "always on" access to information? This presentation will provide a roadmap for serving our hyperlinked users online, in our physical spaces and wherever they happen to be. Mobile solutions, creation spaces and embedded librarians are all part of the equation.

Dr. Deborah Gagnon, Associate Professor of Psychology, Wells College, speaking on This Is Your Brain on Technology: The Technology Exposure Effect (TEE). The media offer a bewildering array of doomsday as well as more benign prognoses of the effect that excessive exposure to extant technologies - Twitter, FaceBook, GPS, Second Life, etc. - present to our cognitive and neural functioning. Is that GPS on your dashboard possibly shrinking your hippocampus? Or is it really the Holy Grail that the more spatially challenged among us have been searching for our whole lives? This talk will attempt to sort questions like these out and, more to the point, will reveal how technology may be changing our perception, attention, memory, reasoning, decision making, and problem solving processes.

The Horizon Report: Look Over the Horizon: Connecting Technology Trends with the Library of Tomorrow. The NMC Horizon Report is an important tool for educators and information specialists who must strategize for the adoption of new technologies in their organizations. Our panelists will present examples and offer a variety of perspectives on the 2010 Horizon Report as it will impact "The Library of the Near Future". Panelists include Mark A. Smith, Information Systems Librarian at NYS College of Ceramics at Alfred; Joan Getman is Sr. Strategist for Learning Technologies at Cornell University; Alison Miller, Manager, ipl2 Reference Services for Drexel University; Harry Pence, Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus from SUNY Oneonta where he currently serves as TLTC Faculty Fellow for Emerging Technologies.


(Academic Librarians 2010, Continued on Page 4)
**Writer Needed for ASLS Newsletter’s Mid-Careers Column**

Do you like to give advice? Now is your chance! The ASLS Newsletter editors are looking for a volunteer to write a column targeted to librarians in the middle years of their careers. Previously, this column was called “Dear Lorol”. Lorol has moved on to other ventures and we are in need of a new columnist. The column could continue in the same format, or be arranged in a new way. If you are interested, please email the editors: Judy Fischetti judyf@senylrc.org and Tessa Killian killian@senylrc.org.

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**Treasurer’s Report**

**Academic and Special Libraries Section**

**New York Library Association**

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E-readers in Action. Melinda Dermody, Librarian/Department Head Access Services; Scott Warren, Bibliographer for the Sciences and Technology; and Suzanne Preate, Digital Initiatives Librarian from Syracuse University speak about their e-reader pilot program.

Text Reference in Action. Virginia Cole, Reference & Digital Services Librarian, Cornell University Library and Joe Murphy (libraryfuture on Twitter), Science Librarian, Coordinator of Instruction & Technology, Yale Science Libraries. Hear from QuestionPoint/Text-a-Librarian & My Info Quest participants to learn about collaborative text reference opportunities.

Associated activities will include local tours, wine-tasting, and hiking.

Follow us on Twitter at AcLibCon2010.

The Holiday Inn has reserved a block of rooms for the evenings of June 6th and 7th at the rate of $139+ tax per room. When booking, mention the Academic Librarians conference. (607) 272-1000. Book early as we expect the rooms to go fast!

Traveling to Ithaca: Ithaca is a great place (some would say gorges!) to visit in the late spring. The airport is conveniently located with daily flights to LaGuardia, Newark, and Philadelphia—and at perfect times of the day for conference goers. The waiting time at the airport is always short and there are shuttles to area hotels. There is also daily bus service.

Thanks to our generous sponsors: WALDO, EBSCO, CCP Solutions, ProQuest, University at Buffalo Department of Library and Information Studies, and Mango Languages!

For more information, visit the conference website: http://www.nyla-asls.org/AcademicLibrariansConference/ Or contact Aprille Nace (naceac@cmog.org) or Mary-Carol Lindbloom (mclindbloom@srclc.org) for more information.

*Registration Note: If you are not a NYLA member and you work in a library within the state of NY, you probably still qualify for the discounted rate if your library or library system (including component public and school libraries) belongs to one of the NY3Rs Councils (though we hope you’ll join NYLA and add your voice to the statewide library organization!). Most academic libraries in New York State are members of a 3R’s council. If you are not a NYLA member, you must follow the “Register as a Non-Member” link. While this says you will be charged the $145, your card will not actually be charged until your 3R’s membership has been verified. You will then be charged the correct rate.

NYLA Legislative Committee Report

March 2, 2010 was NYLA’s annual Lobby Day in Albany. Given the state of the economy in New York State some people wondered if it was worth making the effort to attend. After all, there isn’t any money, right? However, almost 1000 library supporters decided that the library message still needs to be delivered, and they were right! Library funding has been cut four times in the past two years, and a fifth cut has been proposed by the Governor, while some other State programs have not seen any cuts. Our primary message that day was, “We understand that times are tough in New York, and we are not asking for more money. But, we cannot sustain a fifth cut that will take funding back to 1998 levels.” We saw legislators when they came to have pictures taken for READ posters, we heard speakers at a noontime rally, and we visited legislators and legislative aides in their offices. The 35 people in my group included public library staff and trustees, an academic librarian, and staff from CDLC and a public library system. Since much of library funding goes to library systems rather than individual libraries we told them about the role that library systems play in cost effective coordination of services.

(NYLA Legislative Committee Report, Continued on Page 6)
Tips for New Librarians
Taking it on the Road - Close to Home!

As a new librarian, you may find that you need to relocate for a professional position. This change will bring new working surroundings as well as an adjusted living environment. As a newbie, you may not know that much about this fresh setting, but take advantage of this opportunity to learn more. By planning mini field trips to local sites, you will discover more about the area and have the chance to network and meet new colleagues. There is no need to do this alone; here are some strategies to help make these excursions more professionally and personally rewarding:

♦ Query your supervisor (or mentor) for recommendations.
♦ Coordinate a semester long calendar and invite other campus colleagues to share and learn (you may educate them, too).
♦ Visit diverse library settings including academic, public and special libraries.
♦ Check into local archives and historical societies to gain knowledge of the community’s history.
♦ Take trips to non-library entities, such as museums, art galleries, parks, and book stores.
♦ Attend local festivals and events (e.g., Live@Five).
♦ Call ahead of time and let the “host library” know you are coming and request a few minutes of their time and expertise (let them know it’s informal).
♦ Bring handouts and other materials from your library as an informational exchange.
♦ Extend a reciprocal invitation to “host” sites.
♦ Incorporate visits to food eateries (mmm…you will be prepared to make recommendations).
♦ Use public transportation to become more acquainted with student experiences.
♦ Present your findings at library meetings to enlighten others who could not join you (bring back handouts).

As a librarian, you will find that patrons frequently ask for information about local events and activities, directions, and resources available at local institutions. If you are informed about your new home, you will be better prepared to answer these queries. Before long, you will be the seasoned community expert.

Academic and Special Library Section’s 2009 Spirit of Librarianship Award

Barbara Whitney Petruzzelli, Library Director of Curtin Memorial Library, Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, was awarded the Academic and Special Library Section’s 2009 Spirit of Librarianship Award. Barbara exemplifies the spirit of librarianship with her positive outlook, enthusiastic attitude, collaborative manner and impressive leadership skills. She inspires other librarians to be creative and to excel.

Barbara has been the director of Curtin Memorial Library since 2006. Prior to that, she worked at the Sojourner Truth Library, SUNY New Paltz for 12 years; serving as assistant director for eight years. Earlier, Barbara spent ten years working in marketing communications and investor relations for investment firms. Among her professional interests are library marketing and public relations. She edited a book entitled Real Life Marketing and Promotion Strategies in College Libraries, published in 2006, and has given a number of presentations on marketing library services.

Chui-chun Lee, Library Director at SUNY New Paltz said of Barbara, “She deserves it (the award). She is passionate about librarianship and professional growth. She is a great librarian.” Congratulations Barbara from ASLS!
The ASLS booth at the 2009 NYLA conference was a big hit! In keeping with the conference theme of Peace, Love and Freedom, our booth featured Peace, Love and Libraries. Many of our colleagues provided pictures from their libraries in the late 1960s and early 1970s, complete with protest marches, sit-ins, tie-dye and graffiti. Also on display, courtesy of booth co-chair Chris Walker, were items of clothing, jewelry and accessories from that era.

We are already soliciting ideas for our 2010 conference booth, and items for our raffle. Last year we had lots of items for the raffle. It was suggested that this year we try to have one really nice item to raffle off, for which we would sell tickets, and possibly other small items that would be give-aways. If any section members can come up with an item from their campus or library that we could give away, that would be very helpful.

This year’s conference theme is The Library: Your Story Starts Here. All of our libraries must have some good stories. It’s not too early to start collecting them.

It’s our goal to have ASLS win the best section booth at this year’s conference. The best booth contest is based on the votes of conference attendees, so we need to be proactive in getting people to vote for our booth! (We came close last year …) We’ll have a stack of ballots available at our booth this time around, and encourage everyone who stops by to vote for us.

Please send your ideas and your library stories to Debby Emerson, demerson@rrlc.org.

(NYLA Legislative Committee Report, Continued from Page 4)

We also explained that NYLA has sponsored several pieces of legislation that would help libraries without costing money – such as allowing libraries and library systems to cooperatively bid for services and products. Much of this legislation has been sitting in committees receiving little attention, so we asked that they consider action on these bills as well. More information about the bills and NYLA’s legislative priorities is at http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=1837

How did we do on Lobby Day? We won’t know until the State has a budget in place. We do know that we have to keep reminding legislators that what we do is important. Our libraries use the coordinated collection development money wisely. Our patrons benefit from regional automation programs and resource sharing program. Our staff members keep up to date with continuing education programs. If we can’t make our case, whatever funding there is will go elsewhere. Add your voice and help to make that case by using NYLA’s Online Advocacy Center at http://www.nyla.org/index.php?page_id=925.

Thank you for supporting these important efforts.

Jean Sheviak
ASLS Legislative Committee Representative
Libraries are the heart of their communities.

National Library Week 2010 (April 11—17) will celebrate the theme:

“Communities thrive @ your library”

Visit the ALA website for more information: http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/pio/natlibraryweek/nlw.cfm