

# ACRL Delaware Valley Chapter Newsletter

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## *President's Report*

*Katherine Furlong, Lafayette College*

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### *A growing proposition*

It's fall, and the corn in front of the library is ready to be harvested. That's right, Lafayette College has been growing corn on its campus as part of its first year orientation program based on Michael Pollan's 2006 book *The Omnivore's Dilemma*. The corn is there to remind the entire campus community of our connectedness – we are all part of the same living and learning experiment. The corn has inspired poetry, art, jazz compositions, engineering experiments and biology lessons. The harvest will not only feed our students (served, of course, on and with recyclable corn-based plates, cups and utensils) but some of the corn has been shared with local food banks. All this activity on campus is inspired by a book, and the library has tried, in our own corny way, to tie our outreach to the book and the overall theme of sustainability. The Corn on the Quad project has seeped into everything we do on Lafayette's campus.

Consciously or not, the corn has also been influencing our ACRL-DVC board activities. The board met at Lafayette in early June, on the day the corn was planted. Is it entirely coincidental that the fall program is planned around a theme of outreach and campus involvement, and the proposed spring program is going to center on "green" libraries? I would be amazed (amaized?) if there wasn't some connection.

### *Community connections*

One of the best ways to stay connected with colleagues is through our local ACRL chapter. I hope that many chapter members will be able to attend our November 21st program at Penn State Great Valley, "Putting Librarians in *their* Place: A New Look at Outreach." We're taking a broad look at "embedded" librarians and investigating innovative ways that librarians partner with faculty members for collection development, acquisitions, instruction and research. The morning will feature presentations by Marty Kesselman (Rutgers University and editor of the book *Global Librarianship*) and Wayne Bivens-Tatum (Princeton University). The afternoon will feature a panel of librarian-faculty partners from Villanova University, Rosemont College and Saint Joseph's University. We'll discuss ways of being entrepreneurial, and how to evaluate and assess librarian involvement across campus. The board is excited by the program we've planned, and I'm proud to report

that while Lafayette's corn may have swayed our reasoning, the program topic was suggested by member feedback after the spring program. Again, the strength of our organization lies in its members, and staying connected to their ideas.

### *Homegrown talent*

One of the most rewarding things about being vice president of the chapter last year was receiving all of the applications for the chapter's student stipend. The applicant pool was especially strong, and it was exciting to read all of the applications submitted by the current crop of library school students. Thanks to the support of the membership, our finances allowed us to award two stipends at our spring 2008 meeting – you'll get to read one of the winning essays, by Brigitte Burris – and look for Julia Grover's essay in the Spring Newsletter!

### *Planting more seeds*

Earlier this summer, I was pulling together information for a PaLA-CRD LSTA grant (oh, the acronyms!) and again, contemplating the vast talent pool that we have here in the Delaware Valley Chapter. We are, in some ways, our own best resource, and I am proud to serve as president of such a diverse and talented group. We have a busy chapter – in addition to our fall and spring meetings, we offer a mentoring program, we are increasingly active in legislative action and we support future academic librarians through the aforementioned stipend program. If you're currently a member, thank you. If you'd like to become more involved, you can read about various opportunities in the newsletter. And if you're *not* currently a member, please consider joining us. At \$10 a year, we're the best deal in town. If you're not sure of your membership status, just check the mailing label on this newsletter for the year – "2008" means you're a member in good standing. If your label has an earlier date, or no date at all, we invite you to join, or re-join, our chapter. For your convenience, there's a membership form on page 7.

Thanks, and I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at Great Valley in November! In the meantime, if you have any questions, ideas or concerns, please don't hesitate to share them with the board. We'll be glad to hear from you.

~ Katherine Furlong, ACRL/DVC President

## 2008 Spring Program Review: Wrestling with e-Reference Resources

Pat Newland, West Chester University, with Naomi Cohen; photos by Christopher Dixon

The Delaware Valley Chapter hosted its spring program and annual business meeting on May 9, 2008, at Penn State Great Valley in Malvern. Eighty attendees enjoyed our interesting and timely program, Wrestling with e-Reference Resources. During the morning session, Rebecca Albitz, Electronic Resources and Copyright Librarian at Penn State University, gave a presentation titled "Copyright, Licensing, and Electronic Resources: An Overview." She addressed negotiating with publishers and vendors, managing your licenses, and dealing with licensing violations. Following that, Derik Badman, Digital Services Librarian at Temple University showed his hand-drawn slides presenting a wide-ranging look at e-Reference topics from A to Z. His presentation, "ABCs of E-Reference," is currently available at his website <http://www.madinkbeard.com/library/>.



FEATURED SPEAKERS REBECCA ALBITZ AND DERIK BADMAN

The afternoon session began with a panel discussion featuring representatives from three e-reference vendors: John Dove, CEO, Credo Reference; John McLaughlin, Account Executive, American Library Sales, Gale/Cengage Learning; and Robert Asleson, Chairman, Paratext. Each gave a brief introduction to his company's principal e-reference products, situating them within the current e-reference environment as well as discussing trends in e-reference resources.



MODERATOR ALEXIA HUDSON WITH CREDO'S JOHN DOVE

Rebecca and Derik then joined the vendor representatives as all five fielded questions from the audience on issues librarians are facing as they acquire and provide access to these resources. The lively question-and-answer period was moderated by Alexia Hudson, then Reference & Instruction Librarian at Penn State Great Valley. The vendor representatives welcomed audience suggestions for improving their products; they see collaboration both among vendors and between vendors and librarians as offering exciting possibilities for an expanding range of e-reference products in the future.



Panelists (left to right)  
JOHN McLAUGHLIN (GALE) AND ROBERT ASLESON (PARATEXT)

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## Millersville University Celebrates Fifth Annual LibraryFest

This fall marked the 5th anniversary of Millersville University's *LibraryFest*. The yearly celebration is an event designed to draw students, faculty, and staff (both old and new) into the library to learn about available services, become comfortable with the building, and have some fun. Over 550 people turned out on September 10th and enjoyed free food (hot dogs, cookies, beverages, candy), Library Olympics (book cart race, anyone?) and chances to win over 35 prizes including a SONY iPod radio. Visitors who completed a five-stop passport trip received a free *LibraryFest* drawstring backpack. Library faculty and staff who volunteered for the event found that they enjoyed the day as much as the students did!

~ Erin Dorney, Outreach Librarian at Millersville



## Saint Joseph's University Library Introduces Café and Lounge Areas



Saint Joseph's University celebrated the grand opening of its new Library Café on September 25th with giveaways, hourly raffles and juice taste tests. The café serves beverages, snacks and salads so that library users can refuel without leaving the building. The café area includes dining tables as seen above, as well as upholstered seating. Other renovations were completed this summer to the Francis A. Drexel Library. One corner of the first floor has been transformed into a quiet study lounge with comfortable seating and new computer workstations. Sections of translucent Kalwall were replaced with transparent glass windows to open up lovely views of greenery outside. All of these changes were in response to feedback gathered from student surveys. Come and visit when you're in the neighborhood!

~ Naomi Cohen, Saint Joseph's University

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# ACRL/DVC 2008 Student Stipend Co-Winner's Essay

## The Open Access Institutional Repository: Implications for the Future

Brigitte Burris, University of Pennsylvania

Academic librarians today are faced with challenges affecting their ethical obligation to provide access to information, a problem for which there is no simple solution. Outdated scholarly communication models, antiquated copyright laws, and the exorbitance of scholarly journal subscription costs increasingly prevent libraries from providing scholars and students with adequate access to scholarly information. This decade's advances in online communication have afforded at least one viable solution to these issues: the open access institutional repository. The potential benefits, particularly the wider dissemination and preservation of the institution's scholarly output, have more and more academic institutions hastening to initiate their own open access repositories, and frequently asking their libraries to create and maintain them.



ACRL/DVC PRESIDENT KATHERINE FURLONG PRESENTS  
A STUDENT STIPEND AWARD TO BRIGITTE BURRIS

This model, while promising, also presents a number of possible repercussions and implications for the future that merit thorough analysis. Although current attempts at open access institutional repositories exist concurrently with the traditional journal publishing industry, is it realistic to believe they can remain so? The gradual decline of the for-profit scholarly journal industry seems a likely possible progression, the ramifications of which demand consideration. In this event, how sustainable will the open access model be, and are academic institutions and libraries willing to make the changes necessary to sustain it? Will they take up the responsibility of arranging the peer-review process, editing submissions and marketing? How will scholars vet the quality of new research, if not by the standards and reputation of the publisher? The potential ramifications extend also to the institution's allocation of funds. Will the funds to cover the costs of maintaining the repository and the peer-review process be taken from the library's budget, or from external sources? How will the funds originally allotted to journal subscriptions be redirected within the institution? Ultimately, how will libraries prepare for these challenges?

These are just a few of the many questions that require careful consideration before a new model of scholarly communication can be responsibly proposed and sustained. Only with a sound, well-thought-out plan that addresses all of these concerns will librarians garner the trust and support of their institutions' scholars, whose participation is so fundamentally necessary to a repository's success. Academic librarians today are in a pivotal position to not only champion open access, but also to encourage sensible discussion of these very

plausible developments. Their ethical obligation to provide continued access to information depends on it. Thorough analysis and evaluation of the possible repercussions of any potential solution will help librarians and their institutions make thoughtful, deliberate choices in creation of a sustainable scholarly communication model for the 21st century.

### ARCL Arts Section News

*William Hemmig, Bucks County Community College*

I am the current Vice Chair/Chair-Elect of the Arts Section of ACRL, and I would like to encourage all DVC members with an interest in arts librarianship to join the section and participate in its activities. The section will be celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary next summer at the Chicago ALA conference with a special program and reception. I am looking for members interested in participating in the work of the section's committees and discussion groups during 2009/2010, including the program planning committee for the 2010 Annual Conference in Washington, DC. We have also been producing Arts Guides to ALA conference host cities that ALA members have found to be very useful for finding cultural opportunities during conferences; if any DVC members are interested in the arts scene in Washington and would like to help with the guide for 2010 annual we'd love to hear from them. Anyone with interest or questions can contact me at [hemmigw@bucks.edu](mailto:hemmigw@bucks.edu). Information about the section is also available on our website, <http://ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/acrlsections/arts/arts.cfm>.

# ACRL Chapters Council News from 2008 ALA Annual

Pat Newland, ACRL/DVC Chapters Council Representative

The ACRL Chapters Council Meeting was held Sunday morning, June 29, 2008, at the Hyatt Hotel in Anaheim, California. Several ACRL board members and other officers were present.

Julie Todaro, ACRL President, reminded members about the ACRL President's Program, Predictably Irrational, with speaker Dan Arierly, Ph.D., author of the book of the same title. Julie also called attention to the ways ACRL keeps members informed, such as the ACRL wikis ([http://wikis.ala.org/acrl/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://wikis.ala.org/acrl/index.php/Main_Page)), for instance, the ACRL/LAMA Guide for Architects wiki on space planning, the ACRL Positioning the 21st Century Library in the Competitive Academy wiki, and the ACRL Recruitment and Retention wiki for both employers and employees.

Erike Linke, President-Elect, spoke on the theme for the coming year, advocacy. Relatively few academic librarians participated in the 2007 ALA Annual Library Day on the Hill legislation effort. Erike hopes to capitalize on interest generated by the coming national election to get academic librarians involved as advocates.

Mary Ellen Davis, ACRL Executive Director, reported that changes to the bylaws passed by 97-98% of the vote. One of those changes established interest groups as a way for members to connect with other members having similar interests. A petition (<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/resourcesforwork/acrlforms/IntGroupPetition.pdf>) to create an interest group requires only 25 signatures. Mary Ellen pointed out other types of virtual connections, such as the ACRL blogs. The Insider (<http://www.acrl.ala.org/acrlinsider/>) discusses ACRL business matters and the ACRLog (<http://acrllog.org/>) discusses academic issues. This past spring, the first Springboard professional development online program was launched. The program was on the use of computers and gaming in education, with Henry Jenkins, Co-Director of the MIT Comparative Media Studies Program and the Peter de Florez Professor of Humanities. It has been archived at <http://www.learningtimes.net/acrl-jenkins-springboard.html>. ACRL's OnPoint series (<http://www.acrl.org/ala/acrl/acrlproftools/OnPoint/onpoint.cfm>) offers free live chat sessions on specific topics through Meebo. ACRL has produced tipsheets (<http://www.acrl.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/resourcesforwork/tipsheets/tipsheets.cfm>) on a variety of topics, such as effective discussion groups. Some tipsheets and related material are for members only, for instance, the Making the Meeting Series.

Registration for the ACRL 2009 National Conference in Seattle opens in September. Journalist and author Naomi Klein will be the opening keynote speaker; Ira Glass of *This American Life* will be the closing keynote speaker.

Mary Ellen reminded those chapters (such as Delaware Valley) that are 501(c)(3) organizations that they cannot, as organizations, support or oppose any candidate in political elections.

John Saylor, the ACRL web developer, talked about e-learning opportunities through ACRL. Online 3-week, 90 minute seminars (<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlproftools/elearning.cfm>) are being delivered using Moodle; there will be 14-16 seminars per year on various topics; coming up, Virtual Reference Competencies I. Group rates are available.

Michael McLane, ACRL visiting program officer, is in charge of the Legislative Advocacy Program. More than 50 academic librarians have been selected to be legislative advocates. ACRL is looking for many more members to join them--ideally, there would be one per legislative district. For more information, see <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlissues/washingtonwatch/acrladvocates.cfm>.

Chapters Council elections were conducted for a new vice chair/chair-elect and secretary. The current secretary, Judith Pinnolis, New England Chapter, was elected vice chair/chair-elect. Anna Saylor, Washington Chapter, was elected secretary. For the 2008/2009 year, they will be joined by Kevin Merriman, Chair, and Kathy Parsons, Iowa Chapter, Past-Chair.

Chapter representatives gave summaries of events and issues in their chapters. The Washington State chapter is planning an event for ACRL National in Seattle next year. With the ACRL National Conference in Philadelphia in 2011, our chapter will soon begin planning for our turn as host chapter.

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## National Library Legislative News

Larissa Gordon, ACRL/DVC Legislative Liaison

### Become an ACRL Legislative Advocate

ACRL is looking to enhance its current legislative network by recruiting interested members to act as advocates. Advocates are expected to become familiar with legislative issues and to develop relationships with local politicians and their campus communities in working to promote ACRL's legislative agenda. Interested individuals can apply at the website listed below. Those chosen will serve a two year term with the possibility of renewal. To learn more about this program, which began in March 2007, go to: <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlissues/washingtonwatch/acrladvocates.cfm>. For a list of current advocates, including a few librarians from the Delaware Valley, go to <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/aboutacrl/acrlmembership/acrlmembers.cfm>.



Check our website [www.acrl-dvc.org](http://www.acrl-dvc.org) for information about membership, events and chapter governance.

## Chapter Members in the News

**Steven J. Bell**, Temple University, served as the keynote speaker for Indiana University Libraries' Annual Librarians Day Program on May 30, 2008 delivering the talk "From Encounters to Experiences: Using Design Thinking to Exceed User Expectations".

On June 13, Steven served as the keynote speaker at the New Jersey Library Association's Future Tech for Libraries Symposium, speaking on "Why Are We Doing This?: Designing Future Technology Adoption Into the Business of Libraries".

Steven was also the guest editor for the July 2008 Urban Library Journal special issue on "The Creative Library" (<http://lacuny.cuny.edu/ulj/>)

Steven Bell, John Shank (Penn State Berks) and Greg Szczyrbak (Millersville University) co-authored the chapter "Instructional Technologies" for the *Information Literacy Instruction Handbook*, edited by Christopher N. Cox and Elizabeth Blakesley Lindsay (ALA Editions, 2008).

**Brigitte Burris** has just started a full-time position at the University of Pennsylvania, as Collection and Content Analyst in the department of Collection Development and Management.

**Erin Dorney** is the new Outreach Librarian at Millersville University.

**Alexia Hudson** is now Reference & Instruction Librarian at Penn State Abington.

**Rachel McMullin**, Ph.D., is the new Humanities and Information Literacy Librarian at West Chester University.

**Kristine Mudrick**, Francis A. Drexel Library at Saint Joseph's University, has been appointed to PALINET's Electronic Information Resources Advisory Group (EIRAG). The Group provides guidance as related to cost and pricing models, content, evaluation, and future directions.

On July 17, 2008 **Tim Siftar** of Drexel University's Hagerty Library spoke to the Saint Joseph's, Villanova and La Salle tri-college library staff gathering on the topic of "Introducing RefWorks to the Drexel Community." His slides can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/4rvskj>.

**Cynthia Slater**, Business Reference Librarian at Saint Joseph's University's Francis A. Drexel Library, has been elected Vice Chair/Chair-Elect of the College & Research Division of the Pennsylvania Library Association. Her term begins January, 2009. Each year the CRD division provides a spring workshop, sponsors sessions at the annual PaLA conference, and reviews grant applications from across the state for LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) grant money from the state library to be used in support of professional development and library programs for academic librarians and libraries.

Cynthia has also joined the Membership Committee of the Business Reference and Services Section (BRASS) of the American Library Association. Her term runs 2008 - 2010.

On May 9, 2008, **Bill Smith**, Librarian for Public Services at Wilmington University Library, was awarded the Distinguished Librarian Citation by the Delaware Library Association at a ceremony in Dover, Delaware.



Read more about Bill in the Wilmington University Library Fall/Winter 2008-2009 Newsletter: <http://www.wilmu.edu/library/newsletter.html>

## Library News

**Dickinson College** and **Millersville University** will celebrate the launch of the digital project "*Slavery & Abolition in the US: Select Publications of the 1800s*" on October 30th, 2008. The collection consists of digitized books and pamphlets that demonstrate the varying ideas and beliefs about slavery in the United States throughout the nineteenth century. Materials were drawn from the Special Collections holdings at both partner institutions and utilize CONTENTdm digital collection management software. The collaborative project was funded in part by LSTA digitization grants and will be freely available to the global community. The collection can be found at: <http://deila.dickinson.edu/slaveryandabolition/index.html>

Thanks to a 2008 PASSHE Diversity Grant, **West Chester University Library** is collaborating with Learning Communities and the Department of Student Affairs to start a book club called "The Communiversity Book Club." A variety of events are planned this fall around the book *Like Water for Chocolate*, by Laura Esquivel, in conjunction with Hispanic Heritage Month.

**Wilmington University Library** received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families/Education Unit after the April 17, 2008 program "Inspired by Books - Teaching Troubled Youth". The certificate was presented by Ms. Cari DeSantis, Cabinet Secretary of the Delaware DSCYF, in recognition of the Library's collaboration in a National Library Week program which provided opportunities for presentation and display of enrolled youth poetry and artwork. At the event, instructor Billie Travalini described her new book, *Teaching Troubled Youth*, as the culmination of a project to get DSCYF students to "value reading and writing in a beautiful and practical way."

# ACRL—Delaware Valley Chapter Membership Dues Form—Join or Renew Today!

*About your membership...*

- Your dues are paid for the calendar year noted on your mailing label. Dues received after October 1st, 2008 will renew your membership through 2009. Join today!
- Members whose dues fall into arrears will be removed from the mailing list.
- Dues are payable on the first of the year and your membership is current for one calendar year. Your dues cover the costs of mailing newsletters and program announcements, as well as maintaining our web presence. The Chapter also supports an annual stipend to support the education of future librarians.
- Please notify us of address changes, employment updates, retirements, etc. Help us keep our mailing list current!

Complete this form and mail it, along with your check, to Marjorie Rathbone, Treasurer. Please contact Marjorie ([rathbone@sju.edu](mailto:rathbone@sju.edu)) with any questions about your membership.

Make check payable to: **ACRL/DVC**

Mail to: **Marjorie Rathbone  
Francis A. Drexel Library  
Saint Joseph’s University  
5600 City Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19131-1395**

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**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address (please include your 9-digit zip code):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

New member?       Renewal?       Change of address?

National ACRL Member?     Yes (pay \$10)     No (pay \$15)

## *Nominating Committee Forming*

The ACRL/DVC Board of Directors is now accepting volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee for the spring 2009 board elections!

The Nominating Committee features five Chapter members, including the past president as committee chair, and is charged with identifying chapter members to be nominated to run for the following positions in 2009: Vice President/President-Elect, Director-at-Large (3-year term), and Secretary (2-year term). The Committee shall meet as often as its members deem necessary to perform the Committee's responsibilities.

Note: Membership on the Nominating Committee does not preclude status as a candidate, as potential nominees are reviewed and candidates selected through an anonymous process.

To volunteer, and/or for more information, contact Gregory Szczyrbak, ACRL/DVC Past President, by e-mail to [greg.szczyrbak@millersville.edu](mailto:greg.szczyrbak@millersville.edu) or phone (717) 871-2479.



*Naomi Cohen, Newsletter Editor*  
*Francis A. Drexel Library*  
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*5600 City Avenue*  
*Philadelphia, PA 19131*

Check your mailing label - your dues are paid through the year indicated.  
NOT A CURRENT MEMBER? JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!

### **FALL PROGRAM**

*Putting Librarians in their Place:*  
*A New Look at Outreach*

November 21, 2008  
PENN STATE GREAT VALLEY  
MALVERN, PA

See enclosed brochure for  
program details and registration form.