At this moment, as we wait for another twelve inches of snow, spring seems far away. We have shoveled, dug, scraped and salted too many days. Most of us are sick of it even as we proudly watch our Olympians attempt to master the snow and ice in Vancouver—not always successfully. What starts as the excitement of a possible snow day quickly becomes the ennui with being housebound.

As the cycle moves forward, we anticipate the greening of springtime. Summer vacation plans loom on the horizon and while only a small minority of the world’s population can even conceive of “vacation,” we look ahead with excitement and expectancy. High school seniors are in the final throes of college visits and decisions. The cultural world of the performing arts looks forward to their summer performance homes.

After a quiet fall semester, ACRL/DVC is rolling forward. Because of the economy, the board made the decision to offer only one program this year—although we did provide opportunity to meet for a social event. Activities are underway and the cycle begins again. Very comforting and stable.

Our spring program will take place on Friday, April 16th at Penn State Great Valley. We will be meeting in the auditorium for this program as we are hopeful of a large attendance. Peter Hernon, author of 45 monographs and numerous journal articles, is our keynote speaker and Stephen Spohn, senior consultant for Planning and Assessment with LYRASIS in Boston, will engage us in a hands-on activity.

Peter will discuss the frameworks of assessment and evaluation, stakeholders’ expectations, student learning outcomes, the use of rubrics, and methods of assessment. Stephen will work with us to build a library assessment plan. Based on his four week online workshop, it will be very practical, with worksheets for brainstorming and data gathering to build the plan; he’ll engage us in activities to develop metrics that address today’s libraries.

After lunch, we’ll hear from librarians from several institutions about their assessment activities and their successes and near-successes.

In other chapter work:
* Elections for new officers and board members are taking place and, with a full slate of candidates, results will be announced at the spring meeting.
* The chapter’s student stipend will be awarded at the spring meeting. This is my favorite responsibility as an officer and board member: reading and evaluating the essays submitted by library school students.
* One bylaw change is anticipated and will be voted on.
* Mentoring, Newsletter publication, program planning, and advancing the chapter and providing opportunities for professional development continue.

*Finally, in collaboration with PaLA, the Delaware Valley Chapter is working on a pre-conference workshop for April 2011 when ACRL national will meet in Philadelphia.

I look forward to seeing you at our spring program.

-Bobbi Jacquet

“If winter comes, can spring be far behind?”

Percy Bysshe Shelley

Special points of interest:
* Save the date: Spring Program April 16, 2010
* Join/Renew Today! - p7
* Future Academic Librarians Stipend available - p8
Library Advocacy Day to be held during ALA Annual
Apply for a stipend to support your attendance at this event!
Larissa Gordon, ACRL-DVC Legislative Liaison

In past years the ACRL Delaware Valley Chapter has sponsored one of its members to attend National Library Legislative Day. This event, which is usually held in May, sees librarians from all over the country descend on Washington D.C. to receive legislative training from ALA, and to meet with elected officials during the event to advocate for the support of libraries and library related issues. This year, because ALA’s Annual Conference is being held in Washington D.C., the organization is changing the date of this event to coincide with the conference.

"For one year only, Library Advocacy Day will replace National Library Legislative Day. On June 29, 2010, library advocates from all 50 states and Washington, D.C. will meet at Upper Senate Park on the U.S. Capitol grounds. The event, which will begin at 11 a.m., will feature guest speakers, photo ops, and a chance to cheer on libraries!"¹

Librarians involved with this event will also have the chance to receive legislative training as they have in past years. There will be online training opportunities before ALA Annual and a face to face training workshop at the conference itself. This training is intended to prepare librarians to meet with government officials after the library rally.

To support the legislative efforts of ALA, ACRL-DVC is offering two $250 stipends to librarians who are interested in attending this event. Winners would be expected to attend one of the legislative training workshops, and then to join their fellow librarians in speaking with their elected officials after attending the Library Advocacy Day rally. Stipend winners would then be expected to write a summary of the event for the Fall ACRL-DVC newsletter.

To apply to receive one of the stipends please contact Larissa Gordon (gordonl@arcadia.edu). Stipend winners will be chosen by lot from those individuals who express interest. Stipends will be awarded after the newsletter entry is submitted. The deadline to apply for the stipend is March 15th.


ACRL/DVC needs your expertise!
Rachel M. McMullin, Vice-President/President-Elect

ACRL/DVC is looking for volunteers for two projects, our ongoing mentoring service and a new resume review service.

Mentors
In the past the mentoring program has focused on library school students, but we are now expanding it to include early career academic librarians and those who are considering a change in focus or a move to administration. Mentors answer questions, give advice, or just serve as a sounding board for their mentee’s worries and ideas. Our mentor list has not been updated in a few years, and many of our mentors have moved on to new jobs or even out of the area.

If you would like to volunteer, or have served in the past and would like to continue, please send an email to DVCmentoring@gmail.com that includes your areas of expertise and contact information.

Resume Review
ACRL/DVC would also like to begin offering a resume review service every spring. In part, this new program would involve several chapter librarians traveling to Drexel for an on-campus event. But the board also wants to make the service open to other students and practicing librarians. Volunteers would be sent a resume and example cover letter for each participant electronically. We hope to have each resume reviewed by two volunteers.
Photos from the Fall ‘09 Social at the Fox and Hound Pub & Grille

Marjorie Rathbone, Rachel McMullin, Susan Markley, and Bobbi Jacquet

Denise Brush and Tricia Lenkowsk

Jessica George and Rachel McMullin

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2009–2010 Board of Directors

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ACRL/DVC 2009 Student Stipend Co-Winner’s Essay
Distance Education
by Adam Cole, Drexel University

Editor’s note: Two Future Academic Librarian Stipends were awarded during the ACRL-DVC Spring 2009 Program to Adam Cole of Drexel University for his essay on distance education and to Kristyna Carroll for her essay on patron privacy. Kristyna’s essay appeared in the Fall ’09 issue of the newsletter. Details about the 2010 stipend on page 8.

As distance-learning programs proliferate, either course offerings through “brick-and mortar” universities or full-fledged online degree-granting institutions, the question of library access for students of these programs presents an ethical dilemma for librarians, one that I feel close to as a distance education student at Drexel University. A student who resides on campus can take part in the library services easily. Most simply, the physical holdings are at hand for the on-campus student; on top of that, reference services and information literacy instruction favor face-to-face interaction because of the way body language and expression can be read. For the librarians in a traditional institution that seeks to widen its service to online, these problems—"How can I ensure the students, those who are paying the same amount of tuition as our on-campus students, get equal access to us?"—can be difficult to resolve.

One of the first steps should be an analysis of user needs. An online program may invite a different kind of user, one who has differing expectations and background than the on-campus equivalent. After the needs analysis, an assessment of current services and how they cross over should be performed. In the case of access to the library’s physical holdings, delivery services and interlibrary loan for books and articles will likely bridge the gap. The question gets tougher as you approach the more individualized services a library offers. Chat, phone and email reference is commonplace, so adapting the reference service should not be problematic, but information literacy instruction is heavily course-integrated into many institutions. Options exist: the library could provide video tutorials on its website; the librarians could visit with the class through synchronous chat, Skype or Wimba classroom sessions; or librarians could provide specific office hours for the students to take part. Other problems will surely rise. One key to managing those problems will be a clearly documented policy on services for distance-education users, so that librarians and their community have a guideline for the ethics of equal access.

Adam Cole has a B.A. in Writing from Susquehanna University, an M.F.A. in Poetry from The Ohio State University, and an M.S. in Library Science from Drexel. Having just graduated from his library degree program in December, he is a Public Services Librarian at the Upper Moreland Free Public Library, where he coordinates programming for young adults and adults.

VOTE!

Ballots for the DVC Board Elections will be mailed separately in March and must be postmarked returned by April 2, 2010.

Don’t miss the opportunity to vote for:
Treasurer
Director-at-Large
Vice-President/President-Elect

Candidate information and ballots are sent to members who have paid their 2010 dues.
This year’s meeting at the Boston Marriott Copley Hotel on Sunday, January 17, 2010, was shorter than usual, as the Chapters Council’s ACRL Candidates Forum was scheduled to follow it at 10:30. At the forum, candidates for ACRL Vice-President/President-Elect presented their visions for ACRL and responded to a set of prepared questions. For information about this year’s candidates, Frank D’Andraia, Department of Information Studies at the University at Albany-State University of New York, and Joyce L. Ogburn, University Librarian and Director of the University of Utah Marriott Library, see the February issue of College & Research Libraries News or C&RL News online at http://crln.acrl.org/content/71/1/32.full for the candidates’ biographies and http://crln.acrl.org/content/71/2/88.full for their statements. Elections for all ACRL positions open March 16 and close April 23.

ACRL President Lori Goetsch was the only guest at this Chapters Council meeting. She announced that Megan Oakley, a professor at the Syracuse iSchool, was awarded the contract to conduct research on the value of academic libraries. A preliminary report will be out in March, and the results of her research will be presented at ALA Annual in June. ACRL is also working on a toolkit on the value of academic libraries. Papers already available on the value of academic libraries are available at http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/issues/value/futures.cfm.

Registration for the 2011 ACRL conference in Philadelphia will open in May. This will allow attendees to register in the current fiscal year or the next, whichever might be the better fiscal year. A payment plan may also be an option; details are still being finalized. Submit a proposal for the conference or check out the conference tracks at http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/national/2011/program/index.cfm.

The ALA strategic plan (ALA 2015) draft is available and is in the process of review by ALA constituents: http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/governance/2015%20ALAhead%20documents=strat_plan2015_dec_v.pdf

The entire membership will be invited to comment on it by mid-March; the final draft will be submitted at Annual. ACRL will start a new round of strategic planning once the ALA plan is finalized and will be asking for member feedback.

The Chapters Council has petitioned the ACRL Board for an increase in financial support for the chapters. A change in how funds are distributed has also been requested in order to give more assistance to active chapters. Currently chapters receive $1.00 per national member in the chapter’s service area.

Library News

Save the Date! National Library Advocacy Day A Rally for Libraries, Tuesday, June 29, 2010 11am EDT on Capitol Hill.

For one year only, Library Advocacy Day will replace National Library Legislative Day (NLLD). On June 29, 2010, library advocates from all 50 states and Washington, D.C. will meet at Upper Senate Park on the U.S. Capitol grounds. The event, which will begin at 11 a.m., will feature guest speakers, photo ops, and a chance to cheer on libraries! After the rally, participants will meet with their elected officials and their staffs.

Debbie Malone (DeSales University) will be coordinating the visits with PA legislators and their staffs, so look for email alerts and notices on the PaLA web site (http://www.palibraries.org) beginning in about March, 2010.

The states with the most people will be featured front and center, which means they are the ones that will be in the majority of pictures. Let’s make sure Pennsylvanians are present in force!

Temple University was awarded a $43,000 Saving America’s Treasures grant to conserve and digitize letters and photographs from the William Still Papers that are part of the Blockson African-American Collection.
Managing and Preserving Archival Collections presented by the Conservation Center for Art & Historic Artifacts (CCAHA) scheduled for May 25 & 26, 2010, Charleston, WV.

Attendees of this two-day program will learn archival management and preservation activities to improve intellectual control over collections, increase collections accessibility, and assist in long-term preservation initiatives. This program is an overview of archival best practices and is intended for anyone who works with archival collections. For more program information and to register online, go to http://guest.cvent.com/i.aspx?5S%2cM3%2cd31d6be1-cffb-47a1-a522-87f0a68119f9

ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries winners announced CHICAGO — The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) is announcing the recipients of the 2010 Excellence in Academic Libraries Award: The Bucks County Community College Library, Newtown, Pa.; the A.C. Buehler Library at Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Ill.; and the Indiana University Bloomington Libraries. Sponsored by ACRL and YBP Library Services, the award recognizes the staff of a college, university and community college library for programs that deliver exemplary services and resources to further the educational mission of the institution.

The Bucks County Community College Library, winner in the community college category, was cited for its commitment to assessment, collaboration and development efforts.

“We at Bucks County Community College are delighted to have been selected as the recipient of the ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award in the community college category,” said Maureen McCreadie, dean of learning resources. “We have long sought to collaborate, within Learning Resources, across the institution and with other colleges and professional organizations, to provide services in support of the College’s mission. That doing what we love, and following our convictions has led to receiving this prestigious award from the ACRL is a bonus beyond our imagining. Recognition from ACRL is truly an honor.”

Each winning library will receive $3,000 and a plaque, to be presented at an award ceremony held on each recipient’s campus. The winners also will receive special recognition at the ACRL/LLAMA joint awards program during the 2010 ALA Annual Conference in Washington D.C.

Additional information on the award, along with a list of past winners, is available online at http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/awards/excellenceacademic.cfm.

Hidden Collections CLIR Grant to Lehigh University and Moravian Archives. Lehigh University, in partnership with the Moravian Archives, has been awarded a $90,000 grant by the Council of Library and Information Resources (CLIR) under its Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives Program funded by the Mellon Foundation. This two-year collaborative project, “The Moravian Community in the New World: The First Hundred Years,” will process collections documenting the material culture, religious values and cultural diversity of the Moravian community of Bethlehem from its founding in 1741 until the opening of the community to non-Moravians in 1844 and the subsequent incorporation of Bethlehem in 1851.

Lois Fischer Black, Lehigh University’s Curator of Special Collections, will serve as the project’s Principal Investigator and Paul Peucker, Archivist of the Northern Province of the Moravian Church, will serve as Project Manager. Lehigh University’s proven leadership in innovative applications of library and educational technology will undergird a project that offers new opportunities for advanced students to become actively involved in the processing and use of primary documents. The project will highlight many historically significant collections held by the Moravian Archives, advancing its mission of serving as the primary resource center for Moravian history in North America.

Chapter Members in the News

Steven Bell, Temple University: Authored the article “The Librarian Entrepreneur? Demystifying an Oxymoron” in the September 2009 issue of Against the Grain.

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, 2009 will renew your membership through 2010. 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) 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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[ ] National ACRL Member? [ ] Yes (pay $10) [ ] No (pay $15)
STIPEND AVAILABLE for a future academic librarian.

The Delaware Valley Chapter of the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL/DVC) announces the availability of a stipend of up to $1,000, for a future academic librarian. Library school students living or working in the chapter’s service area (eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware) and who are currently enrolled in an ALA-accredited program, including distance education programs, are invited to apply.

Criteria for the award are:
1. Applicant must be a full-time or part-time student at the Master’s level; and
2. Applicant must demonstrate an interest in academic librarianship through employment, course of study, or research interests

To apply, please submit the following:
1. Resume
2. Cover letter that includes:
   a. Name, mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address;
   b. List of courses completed and in progress this term, including special projects towards the degree;
   c. Description of any employment experience related to academic librarianship
3. A one page, double-spaced, essay that comments on a current trend in academic librarianship. Possible topics include social networking, the explosion of digital materials, open access, assessment, and the changing role of technical services, but applicants are not limited to those topics.

The stipend will be awarded at the Chapter’s Spring Program and Annual Business Meeting on April 16, 2010 (attendance is not required) and the winning essay may be published in the Fall 2010 ACRL/DVC newsletter.

Applications must be submitted electronically as a PDF, RTF, or Microsoft Word document by 5:00 p.m. on March 19, 2010 to: Rachel McMullin, Vice President, ACRL/DVC, rmcmullin@wcupa.edu