

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Illinois Library Association Annual Conference Peoria Civic Center, Peoria Oct. 9-11, 2012

IACRL Conference Oak Brook Mar. 20-21, 2014

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A Message from the IACRL President	2
Meet President Elect Pattie Piotrowski	3
Meet Secretary Elect Andrew Lenaghan	4
ILA Annual Conference Preview	5

## In the Spotlight: Charlotte Johnson

### Former SIUE professor named IL Academic Librarian of the Year

Charlotte Johnson, former Associate Professor of Library and Information Services at the Lovejoy Library, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville is the 2012 recipient of the Illinois Library Association Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year Award.

The award, presented by the ILA Illinois Association of College and Research Libraries Forum, recognizes an Illinois librarian who is making an outstanding statewide contribution to academic or research librarianship and to library development. The award is sponsored by CARLI.

Charlotte Johnson has been a leader in promoting and developing eBook and electronic services in academic libraries. Her concerns and activities have centered on student accessibil-



2012 Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year Charlotte Johnson.

ity, collection development, and library services with eBooks and other electronic sources. She has planned and implemented many successful projects at the Lovejoy Library at SIUE that have enhanced the collections and services offered to the students and faculty.

Charlotte has shared her knowledge and has been a strong proponent of electronic collections and services through the authorship of numerous journal articles and monographs,

creation of exhibitions, and presentations at professional conferences and workshops throughout the country. She has also been an active member of the Illinois Library Association, American Library Association, American Association of University Professors, and other state, national, and regional professional organizations. Also with dedication to the local community and to SIUE she has been active with local arts organizations and has served on university committees and task forces including an elective position on the Faculty Senate.

Charlotte's professionalism and dedication to the cause of Illinois academic libraries have led her to a strong record of achievement and the distinction of being a leader in the field.

The Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year Award will be presented at the Illinois Library Association Annual Conference Awards Luncheon on Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at 12:00 noon at the Peoria Civic Center in Peoria, Illinois.

## Volunteers Wanted!

Volunteer for an IACRL committee to help us plan for the future of the association; we need your help and all voices will be heard. There are currently open positions on the following committees:

- Communications Committee
- Membership Committee
- Awards Committee
- Nominating Committee

To volunteer, email President Susan Swords Steffen ([susanss@elmhurst.edu](mailto:susanss@elmhurst.edu)) or President Elect Tammy Schnell ([Tamara.Schnell@ilcc.edu](mailto:Tamara.Schnell@ilcc.edu)).

**IACRL EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE  
2011-2012**

**OFFICERS**

**Susan Swords Steffen**  
President  
Elmhurst College

**Elizabeth Clarage**  
Past President  
CARLI

**Tammy Schnell**  
Vice President/  
President Elect  
Lincoln Land Community  
College

**Lynnette Fields**  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Southern Illinois  
University

**STANDING COMMITTEE  
CHAIRS**

**Elizabeth Clarage**  
Awards Committee  
CARLI

**Tammy Schnell**  
Conference and  
Continuing Education  
Committee  
Lincoln Land Community  
College

**Jeannette E. Pierce**  
Membership Committee  
Loyola University

**Elizabeth Clarage**  
Nominating Committee  
CARLI

**Lindsay Harmon**  
Communications  
Committee  
American Academy of Art

## A Message from the IACRL President

**Susan Swords Steffen**  
**Elmhurst College**

When I began my term as IACRL President, my goal was to reaffirm the importance of IACRL to the Illinois academic library community and to reinvigorate the organization with new leadership and a plan for the future. The leadership group that gathered in the summer of 2011 decided to go forward with an IACRL conference, to increase academic librarian participation in the ILA conference, to focus on building membership, and to explore some different formats for IACRL participation. Thanks to the dedicated work of a number of academic librarians from across the state we have made good progress toward these goals and have a team in place to continue this work in the future.

In March, more than 220 academic librarians from 74 academic libraries, plus 15 graduate library school students, gathered at the Doubletree in Oakbrook to hear 32 contributed sessions and a fascinating presentation by Steven Bell, Vice President/President-Elect of ACRL. Several of the sessions were presented in an unconference format to encourage participants to experiment with a new approach to sharing professional information. CARLI graciously agreed to sponsor a pre-conference on discovery systems that brought more than 100 people to Oakbrook a day early. To promote social networking, the conference began on Thursday evening with a reception and group dinners at area restaurants.

We had the best-attended IACRL conference in recent memory and demonstrated that gathering together in person still has an important and welcome role in our professional development. Thanks to all the Conference Planning team members who worked so hard to make the conference such a big success. I look forward to continuing this effort at the 2014 IACRL Conference that is currently in the planning stage.

This year we also worked on communications issues. The IACRL website was redesigned and the newsletter was published twice. The Membership Committee worked on identifying IACRL, ACRL, and Illinois academic librarians who do not belong to either organization and on creating communication channels to reach all potential members. We worked with ILA and CARLI to extend information to all Illinois academic librarians. Thanks to all those librarians who served on these committees, especially Ellen Corrigan and Jeanette Pierce, who chaired these groups.

We have also worked with the ILA Conference Planning Committee to consolidate and promote programming for academic librarians at the ILA Annual Conference. Academic library programming has been consolidated on Tuesday, October 9 with a brief IACRL business meeting and roundtable discussions in the late afternoon. Be sure to join us at the Awards Luncheon to congratulate Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year Charlotte Johnson.

Thanks to Elizabeth Clarage for chairing the Awards Committee that identified and selected Charlotte. Also, look for other academic librarians at the conference reception at the end of the day on Tuesday, or stop by the IACRL table in the Exhibits and let us know how you want to be involved. Discussions are ongoing to better coordinate IACRL with the ILA Annual Conference; stay tuned for more on this for 2016.

Volunteer for an IACRL committee to help us plan for the future of the association; we need your help and all voices will be heard. Whether you are interested in developing new skills in writing and web design or networking with academic librarians around the state or keeping IACRL moving forward, there is a job for you. There are currently open positions on the Communications Committee, the Membership Committee, the Awards Committee, and the Nominating Committee. Additionally, Pattie Piotrowski, Vice President/President Elect, needs lots of volunteers to plan and manage the 2014 IACRL Conference that will be held in March 2014 in Oakbrook. If you or someone you know is interested, get in touch with Tammy Schnell, ([Tamara.Schnell@lcc.edu](mailto:Tamara.Schnell@lcc.edu)) or Susan Swords Steffen ([susanss@elmhurst.edu](mailto:susanss@elmhurst.edu)).

IACRL is alive and healthy and setting off on a new course with new officers, new committee chairs and a new plan. The events and activities of 2011-2012 reaffirm the importance of IACRL to Illinois academic librarians. We need everyone to pitch in and participate. I look forward to seeing you all there.

# Meet President Elect Pattie Piotrowski

## What is your current professional position and what do you like best about it?

Assistant Dean for Public Services at Paul V. Galvin Library located on Illinois Institute of Technology's main campus in Chicago. I interact with so many facets of the campus community—staff, faculty and students—and I work with departments in both academic and student services, so no two days are ever the same. No chance to ever be bored and I like that! Collaboration is highly valued and that makes it easy to look forward to each new opportunity/challenge that arises.

## Why did you decide to become a librarian?

I didn't follow a traditional educational or career path and so had the luxury of choosing what I wanted to be when I was post-college age. The library profession was a perfect fit for me and I've never doubted my choice. Besides, as a lifelong reader and patron of libraries starting with the bookmobile that served my rural community when I was growing up, getting behind the circulation desk and beyond to access all the treasures within was an early goal of mine.

## What are you reading?

I always have a few books going at one time trying to whittle down the book stacks in my office and home. I'm currently enjoying:



**Pattie Piotrowski, 2012-2013  
IACRL Vice President/  
President Elect**

*From Values to Action* by Harry M. Kraemer

*The Lost Panoramas: When Chicago Changed Its River and the Land Beyond* by Richard Cahan and Michael Williams

And I've been catching up on the last few titles by Andrea Camilleri in the Inspector Montalbano mystery series. (Warning: You will crave Italian food if you read this series.)

## What do you think the most challenging issue for libraries will be in the next ten years?

I think the challenging issue resides within the profession itself.

There's an ever widening gap between library staff who understand the changing nature of libraries and are willing to adapt to technology, users and collections, and library staff who want libraries to remain what they were. Maintaining relevance and staying successful in a rapidly changing world is based on aligning the library with the needs of its users, but libraries are service based and the ability to reach and educate our users—student, faculty, staff and community—is done best by a dedicated, well-trained, and valued staff. A library's best resource is its staff, and library leadership should nurture, educate and support staff through the opportunities brought on by change.

## What do you look forward to most in your new IACRL position?

I'm surprised that the opportunity to present at and attend a local state conference where one can actively network and learn from peers isn't one taken by more of my professional colleagues in Illinois. I look forward to reaching out and expanding the professional circles within IACRL to include more colleagues from around the state. Watch for news about the 2014 IACRL conference, and I can't wait to see everyone there! Oh, and the jars of red M&Ms stashed in a secret location that [Secretary Elect Andrew Lenaghan] knows about.

*"I look forward to reaching out and expanding the professional circles within IACRL to include more colleagues from around the state."*

## Save the Date!

2014 IACRL Conference

March 20-21, 2014

Oak Brook

Volunteers are needed! Email Tammy Schnell ([Tamara.Schnell@ilcc.edu](mailto:Tamara.Schnell@ilcc.edu)) or Susan Swords Steffen ([susanss@elmhurst.edu](mailto:susanss@elmhurst.edu)).

**IACRL Newsletter**  
**Volume 35:2**  
**Fall 2012**

General Editor  
 Lindsay Harmon

Please send news  
 to the IACRL  
 Publications  
 Committee  
 c/o Lindsay  
 Harmon  
 lharmon@aaart.edu

*The Illinois  
 Association of  
 College and  
 Research Libraries  
 is an Illinois Library  
 Association forum  
 and a chapter of the  
 Association of  
 College and  
 Research Libraries.*

# Five Questions for Andrew Lenaghan

## IACRL Secretary/ Treasurer Elect

### What is your current professional position and what do you like best about it?

Associate Professor/Librarian at Joliet Junior College. It sounds like a strange thing to like, but because we have such a small staff and faculty for the Library, it forces us to work together in a very holistic manner—which I think helps us produce more creative projects for the students, and build really great ties with groups of faculty on campus, since we are all seeing the different moving parts together. Plus, I get to interact with students for most of my day, which is really nice.

### Why did you decide to become a librarian?

The line for being a licensed hot pretzel vendor was too long. Seriously, I always wanted to be either one of two people: an English teacher or a librarian. I worked in libraries since I was nine, so when I decided to not follow the path to becoming a high-school teacher, my second choice came pretty naturally.

### What are you reading?

*Technological Slavery: The Collected Writings of Theodore J. Kaczynski* ed. by David Skrbina

*Algren at Sea: Notes from a Sea Diary and Who Lost an American?* by Nelson Algren

*This Survey* by Lindsay Harmon



Andrew Lenaghan, IACRL Secretary/Treasurer Elect.

### What do you think the most challenging issue for libraries will be in the next ten years?

That is a huge question. There is so much going on right now! Speaking from our institution, it seems as though there is a disconnect when it comes to understanding why we use the library. Students from an early age are told over and over again, when doing research, that they should “go to the library.” I ask my students how many of them know why they were told that—a lot of the answers are blank stares, a few more utter words like “it’s reliable” and “that’s where all the good information is.” These are not wrong answers; rather, they are answers that are not fully aware. Overall, I think students really just assume that the library is part of the research process—and it is—but just seeing the library only as a stop along the way damages their ability to see all the po-

tential that the library holds for them, in and out of the classroom. Maybe the challenge is helping the student really understand the reason why we use the library, and in that understanding they will see we are not just a one-time resource space for their English 102 paper, but a place they can utilize well after they have left their academic training. It is a hope of mine (quixotic, I know) that showing people firsthand in the classroom why a library should be in their lives will lead them to promoting the library in their communities, their circles of friends, and their families. It is a pretty huge challenge...maybe this is a 20-year goal. Did anyone answering the survey say RDA yet?

### What do you look forward to most in your new IACRL position?

The perks—company car, food and gas card, jars of only red M&M’s, endless amounts of tote bags.

# Bouncing Higher: 2012 ILA Annual Conference

Come join your IACRL colleagues at the ILA Annual Conference in Peoria on October 9-11, 2012. There are various opportunities each day for academic librarians to share stories and experiences, listen and learn. October 9 is particularly rich with programming for academics, if you are looking to attend only one day.

The opening session features Kevin Carroll. "As an author, speaker, and agent for social change, it is Kevin's job to inspire businesses, organizations and

individuals to embrace their spirit of play and creativity to maximize their human potential and sustain more meaningful business and personal growth."

In the afternoon, Andy Burkhardt, author of the award-winning blog *Information Tyrannosaur* and Emerging Technologies Librarian at Champlain College in Burlington, Vermont, will discuss "how an approach to librarianship that focuses on people first can revolutionize every aspect of our libraries from policies and hiring to market-

ing and information literacy instruction."

Then stay for a short IACRL business meeting followed by an opportunity to meet informally with colleagues from other academic libraries. The Awards Luncheon and the Illinois Authors Cocktail Hour and Dinner will both be held on Oct. 9 and are included in the one-day registration option.

For more information and to register for either the full conference or for one day only, visit the [ILA website](#).

**ILA Annual  
Conference**

Oct. 9-11

Peoria Civic

Center,

Peoria

## IACRL and Academic Librarians at ILA 2012

### **Tuesday, October 9**

12:00-1:30 p.m.

#### **Awards Luncheon**

Presentation of Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year Award to Charlotte Johnson

1:45-2:45 p.m.

#### **Sex and the Library**

Todd Bruns, Ellen K. Corrigan, and Kirstin Duffin, Eastern Illinois University

**Sponsor:** IACRL

3:15-4:15 p.m.

#### **Human-Centered Librarianship**

Andy Burkhardt, Emerging Technologies Librarian, Champlain College, Burlington, Vermont

**Sponsor:** IACRL

4:30-5:30 p.m.

#### **IACRL Business Meeting and Discussion Groups**

Moderated by Tammy Schnell, Lincoln Land Community College

**Sponsor:** IACRL

### **Thursday, October 11**

11:30 a.m.

#### **Mentoring in the Library**

Elsie Martinez, Robert Morris University-Lake County Campus, and others



Membership in IACRL is obtained by checking the *IACRL Forum* box on the ILA membership application form, which can be found at the ILA website under the Membership section. Requests for applications can be made directly to ILA at:

33 W. Grand Ave.  
Suite 301  
Chicago, IL

Email: [ila@ila.org](mailto:ila@ila.org)

Phone: (312) 644-1896

Fax: (312) 644-1899

The mission of the Illinois Association of College & Research Libraries is to promote the interests of academic libraries and the personnel of those libraries; to enhance the abilities of academic library personnel to identify and meet the information needs of current and potential library users; to develop and promote leadership to the academic library community.

[www.iacrl.net](http://www.iacrl.net)