In the Spotlight: New IACRL Website

Lauren Jensen
Monmouth College

This month, the IACRL Newsletter shines the spotlight on a project of our own—the new IACRL website.

The Publications Committee had discussed a website redesign and update during committee meetings for some time, and this year we were glad to welcome the technical expertise and assistance of Wade Stewart on the redesign project. At the time of the redesign, Stewart was the Library Technology Specialist at AC Buehler Library at Elmhurst College; he is now the Web Coordinator at Straight North, an internet media company.

Before Stewart started on the project, the committee spent time deliberating graphics, color scheme, layout, and navigation. Ellen Corrigan, Chair of the IACRL Publications Committee, conveyed ideas and the committee’s wish list to Stewart.

When asked about his methodology and planning for the website, Stewart said he jumped right in. “I decided right away that the content management system Drupal would be the best choice for this project.”

Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year: Call for Nominations

IACRL annually bestows the Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year Award, which recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to academic or research librarianship, and particularly those whose activities have had notable effects within Illinois. The award will be presented at the ILA Annual Conference, to be held at the Peoria Civic Center, October 9-11, 2012. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor the achievements of friends and colleagues.

A nominee should have demonstrated achievement in one or more of the following areas:

- Service to the organized profession through ILA, IACRL, and related organizations
- Significant and influential academic or research library service
- Contributions to the development of academic or research librarianship through research or publication

See Nominations, page 6
A Message from the IACRL President

Susan Swords Steffen  
Elmhurst College

Every year, once we get to March, I always feel like we are on the home stretch: spring cannot be far away even in northern Illinois, soon the academic year will finish with a flourish and begin to wind down, leaving us with time to regroup, rethink, and rejuvenate.

Throughout the year a group of volunteers has been hard at work planning our conference and working on rethinking and rejuvenating IACRL. I hope that we will all take some time this spring to think about how we can contribute to the health and vitality of academic libraries and librarians in Illinois.

On March 16, we will gather to think about how to “Adopt, Adapt, and Accelerate” the academic library this year and beyond at the IACRL 2012 Conference in Oak Brook at the Doubletree Hilton. You can register online. Steven Bell, ACRL 2011-2012 Vice-President and Associate University Librarian for Research and Instructional Services at Temple University, will be our keynote speaker, and we have an interesting program of speakers from all areas of Illinois academic library life as well as a new “unconference” track where you can meet and talk with others interested in common topics.

Volunteer for an IACRL committee. There are positions available on the Membership, Publications, Continuing Education, Awards, and Nominations committees. Or, let me know what you are interested in, and we will find a place for you. You can volunteer by sending me an email at (susanss@elmhurst.edu) to let me know of your interest.

Recognize the work of your colleagues by nominating them for Illinois Academic Librarian of the Year or another ILA award. Elizabeth Clarage, past chair of IACRL, is the chair of the Nominations and Awards committees, so let her know who you think deserves recognition at ecclarage@hotmail.com.

Plan to attend the ILA conference in Peoria in October. Academic librarians on the ILA Conference Planning Committee are working hard to plan a series of programs relevant to academic librarians. We need everyone and all are welcome. Let’s make the rest of 2012 a year of excitement and activity for IACRL.

2012 IACRL Election Announcement

The slate of candidates for IACRL officers for the 2012-2013 term is as follows:

President-Elect
Pattie Piotrowski  
Assistant Dean for Public Services, Illinois Institute of Technology

Ted Schwitzner  
Head of Content Management & Scholarly Resources, Illinois State University

Secretary/Treasurer
Andrew Lenaghan  
Assistant Professor & Librarian, Joliet Junior College

Ken Orenic  
Reference/Instruction Librarian, Dominican University

Candidate statements are forthcoming and will be posted on the IACRL website.
IACRL Spring 2012 Conference Preview

The Illinois Association of College and Research Libraries’ biennial conference will be held March 16 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Oak Brook. The conference is broadly themed as "Adopt, Adapt, Accelerate." More than 35 peer-reviewed sessions will address outreach, public services, reference, student services, e-resources, and assessment. A variety of poster sessions will be available during the luncheon break to give presenters and conference attendees the chance to talk and exchange ideas on new projects.

The conference keynote speaker will be Steven Bell, ACRL 2011-2012 Vice-President and Associate University Librarian for Research and Instructional Services at Temple University. His presentation is titled "Adopt a Design Approach to Accelerate Library Innovation.” Keeping with the conference theme, Bell “will explore how academic librarians can put the design approach, a process that designers use to identify problems and develop thoughtful solutions, to work in their libraries to accelerate ideation, innovation and implementation in times of constant change and challenge."

In conjunction with the IACRL Conference, the Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI) will host a forum on library discovery services on March 15, also at the DoubleTree Oak Brook. CARLI has arranged this information session so library staff can learn more about the features that these products offer and how they can be implemented in Illinois libraries. Vendors EBSCO, Ex Libris, OCLC, and Serials Solutions will each give an informative presentation and demonstrate their products, as well as answer audience questions. For more information on the forum, visit the CARLI website.

For conference information, please visit the IACRL conference website, or go to ILA's event website to register for the event.

Conference Schedule

Thursday, March 15
3:00 p.m. Early Registration Opens
5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Cocktail Reception
7:30 p.m. Dinner with Colleagues

Friday, March 16
8:00 a.m. Registration Opens
8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Breakout Sessions
10:15 - 10:30 a.m. Coffee Break
10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Breakout Sessions
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Poster Sessions
11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Luncheon Keynote
1:45 - 2:45 p.m. Breakout Sessions
2:45 - 3:15 p.m. Ice Cream Break
3:15 - 4:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions
4:15 - 4:45 p.m. Wrap Up

Recent Publications by IL Academic Librarians


Walter to Receive ACRL/EBSS Award

Ellen K. Corrigan
Eastern Illinois University

Scott Walter, Associate Dean of Libraries at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, has been named the 2012 recipient of the Distinguished Education and Behavioral Sciences Librarian Award by the Education and Behavioral Sciences Section (EBSS) of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL).

According to the ALA press release, the award recognizes “a distinguished academic librarian who has made an outstanding contribution as an education and/or behavioral sciences librarian through accomplishments and service to the profession.”

Walter’s selection is based on his extensive history of service, publication, and editorial work, detailed in the press release. “Scott Walter has provided service and leadership to EBSS, ACRL, ALA and AERA,” states award chair Cynthia Crosser. “EBSS wants to recognize Scott for his many contributions to our field.”

Asked his reaction to receiving the award, Walter said, “It’s an honor, of course, and humbling. The people who have won this award in the past are among the people I looked to as models when I first became a librarian and it is a wonderful recognition to be able to join them.

“It’s also a special award because it is given by the people with whom I have worked in the profession the longest—my first ever committee meeting was visiting the EBSS Instruction for Educators meeting at Annual when I was still in library school—and who are among the closest readers of my work because it is work rooted in a field that they know so well. Education was my background before I became a librarian, and it is still the field that most informs my work in looking at instruction, in looking at the academic library as a component of the university, and in looking at librarians as teachers and as scholars, and so receiving an award from my colleagues in EBSS is truly something to treasure.

“Although I am long removed from active work as an education librarian, I will always be a member of the section and will always take the opportunity to work with education librarians, whether on my campus, in my state, or in the national arena. I’m hoping the award bestows me ‘lifetime membership’ in that club.”

Walter will be presented with the $2,500 prize during the EBSS program on June 23 at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The award is sponsored by John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Librarians on the Move

Tracy Ruppman
Loyola University Chicago

Ann Johnston, from Olivet Nazarene University’s Benner Library, completed her MLS at the University of Illinois in December. She is now head of the Library Informatics Department at Benner.

Meanwhile, Craighton Hippenhammer, former head of the Library Informatics Department, has started a new Digital Initiatives Department “for the purpose of creating new digital spaces for scholarship and archives and developing [the] institutional repository” at Olivet Nazarene University.

Priscilla Matthews, Senior Cataloging Librarian at Illinois State University’s Milner Library, has retired after 33 years of distinguished service.

After 16 years of teaching, Dr. Marilyn Lester retired as Adjunct Associate Professor from Dominican University’s Graduate School of Library and Information Science. Dr. Lester was formerly Dean of the University Library at National-Louis University and Executive Director of the West Suburban Higher Education Consortium. She continues to consult with libraries, most recently in Chicago, Pennsylvania, and Iraq, from her home in Elkhorn, Wisconsin.

Sherry Cmiel, Information Services Librarian at Parkland College, won the Illinois Council of Community College Administrators 2011 Innovation Award and also the National Council of Instructional Administrators 2011-2012 Exemplary Initiatives Award for “Promoting, Preserving, and Showcasing Scholarship” (SPARK: Scholarship at Parkland).
Paula Kaufman has been named the 2012 ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. Kaufman, Juanita and Robert E. Simpson Dean of Libraries and University Librarian at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, was also the recipient of the 2011 IACRL Academic Librarian of the Year award.

The award recognizes “an outstanding member of the library profession who has made a significant national or international contribution to academic/research librarianship and librarian development,” according to the ACRL press release.

Award committee chair John Budd cited Kaufman’s “exemplary” record of leadership, collaboration, and scholarship as reasons for her selection.

ACRL Academic/Research Librarian of the Year Paula Kaufman.

“She has been a distinct leader at several organizations and has been influential in every venue in which she has worked. Nominees and supporters uniformly extol her abilities to build consensus, to develop multi-institutional groups and to work with diverse and sometimes opposing bodies. She also has an outstanding record of publications and presentations through which she clearly communicated managerial, organizational and development topics,” Budd said in the press release.

Kaufman’s career in librarianship has spanned more than four decades and includes service as the Dean of Libraries at the University of Tennessee and an administrator at Columbia University. She is an active member of ILA and a founding member of CARLI. Her scholarly work focuses on changes in publishing, challenges in library management, and innovations in services.

Kaufman will be presented with the $5,000 award at the joint ACRL/ALCTS President’s Program at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. The award is sponsored by YBP Library Services.

Sarah L. Johnson, Professor of Library Services at Eastern Illinois University’s Booth Library, has been named the 2012 recipient of the Louis Shores Award, which honors “an individual reviewer, group, editor, review medium or organization for excellence in book reviewing and other media for libraries.” The award is presented by the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA).

In addition to her reviews and readers’ advisory books, Johnson’s authorship of the blog Reading the Past and her use of social media as a reviewing tool were noted in her selection. “The award committee was impressed with both the breadth and the depth of Johnson’s work,” said committee chair Barry Trott in the ALA press release. “Johnson is also to be commended for her use of a variety of tools—print and electronic—to reach out to readers as well as provide a model for other reviewers in a rapidly changing publishing world.”

Says Johnson of receiving the award, “I’m familiar with the Louis Shores award, of course, and thought it was something I might aspire to, years down the road. I was so surprised and thrilled to get the call that I was this year’s recipient—I hadn’t even known I’d been nominated. I was also pleased that the committee cited my historical fiction blog, which I’ve been writing for the past six years.”
Letters and supporting documentation should be sent to the ILA office (ila@ila.org/fax: 312-644-1899).

For more information, contact IACRL Awards Committee Chairperson Elizabeth Clarage at (815) 713-8479 or ecclarage@hotmail.com, or visit the award website.

~~ Nominate a Colleague

Nominate Yourself! ~~

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.