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From the Chair by Rob Bremer

Our 2009-2010 year has begun well! Vice-chair Don Smith of UL Monroe has gathered presentations for annual conference. Secretary Heather Plaisance of UL Lafayette has made arrangements for our annual business meeting and joint conference social with Louisiana's ACRL Chapter. Our Committees are up and running.

This year the Louisiana Library Association is emphasizing "Advocacy," the importance of publicizing the valuable role libraries play in our communities and their need for funding to maintain the many programs and services that help our communities thrive.

In keeping with our mission and in the spirit of collegiality, our Section will continue to collaborate with other groups of academic librarians in the planning and execution of activities that "provide for the exchange of ideas, enhance leadership for college and university libraries, and promote study and research relevant to academic libraries." As Louisiana's largest assembly of academic librarians, we remain the chief advocates for our profession in doing so.

You, as Section members, have two important duties to perform by (preferably well before) November 30. Please share with Committee chair Sybil Boudreaux at UNO your nominations for the 2009-10 "Outstanding Academic Librarian" Award. And, provide your Section Chair at Louisiana Tech with your nominations for 2010-2011 Section Vice-Chair and Section Secretary, including a brief biographical sketch for each nominee.

If you haven't done so already, do mark your calendar for our Association's 2010 Annual Conference, "Louisiana Libraries: The Heart of Our Communities," March 10-12 at the Baton Rouge Hilton Capitol Center, where we all had a rewarding experience last year.

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Rob Bremer
Academic Section Chair

Academic Section News

Committee Appointments

Outstanding Academic Librarian Award Committee

Sybil Boudreaux, University of New Orleans, Chair

Lila Jefferson, University of Louisiana at Monroe

Shelby Anfenson-Comeau, Louisiana State University Eunice

Grassroots Grant Committee

Van Viator, Nicholls State University, Chair

Eric Grunes, Centenary College

Walt Fontaine, McNeese State University

Louisiana Libraries Editorial Board

Dayne Sherman, Southeastern Louisiana University

LLA Conference Planning Committee and ACRL-LA Liaison

Don Smith, University of Louisiana at Monroe

Notes & Tracings Editor

Susan Richard, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Tellers

Betsy Miguez, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Michele Woods, Xavier University

Long Range Planning Task Force

Angela Dunnington, Southeastern Louisiana University

Charlotte Henderson, Southern University



Outstanding Academic Librarian Award



The Outstanding Academic Librarian Award Committee seeks nominations for the Outstanding Academic Librarian. This award publicly recognizes “an individual who has made an especially significant contribution to further the development of academic libraries/librarians/librarianship within Louisiana.”

The nominee must be an academic librarian currently active in his or her profession in Louisiana. On rare occasions a non-librarian who has made exceptional contributions to academic librarianship in Louisiana may be considered. Contributions must be of value to libraries or librarians as a whole, not to individual persons or institutions. Contributions, such as creating a "model library" on a particular campus, must be profound enough to be of wide interest and easily accessible for other libraries to benefit from their creation. Nominations must be made by a current member of LLA.

The nominee should be characterized by one or more of the following:

1. Actively participates in professional activities which enrich the ability of academic librarians to enhance library usage.
2. Conducts research and shares this research with other Louisiana academic librarians (either through publication or through public presentations) which enriches the ability of library users to more fully utilize current information resources and technologies.
3. Serves as a model for other librarians or potential librarians who can help further the impact of Louisiana academic libraries on the education and/or livelihood of Louisiana's students and residents.

Please send vitas and four letters of recommendation of any nominations by **Monday, November 30, 2009** to Sybil Boudreaux, Committee Chair, Outstanding Academic Librarian Award, Earl K. Long Library, University of New Orleans, Lake Front, New Orleans, LA 70148, Phone 504-280-1157, sboudrea@uno.edu.



Thorpe Grassroots Grant Award

The purpose of this award is to encourage library science students to attend state library conferences and to recognize outstanding graduates or undergraduate library science students. The prerequisites are: Must be a full-time or part-time graduate or undergraduate student majoring or minoring in library science and attending a Louisiana college or university. Can be a full-time or part-time student enrolled in a library tech program (two year) at an accredited two-year or four-year college. Individual must be a student at the time of application, but not necessarily at the time of conference. Must be a current member of LLA.

Qualified applicants should submit an essay of up to 250 words which discusses how the student will benefit from attending the LLA conference. A letter of recommendation from a current library instructor is also required. Selection will be based on the nominee's essay. The essay should illustrate the nominee's sense of direction and purpose, and his/her commitment to the profession. The winner of this award will receive an engraved plaque and a \$250.00 check from Thorpe Associates for expenses incurred in attending the LLA conference and a ribbon to be worn at the conference.

Send applications by **Monday, November 30, 2009** to Van Viator, Nicholls State University, Phone 985-448-4661, Fax 985-448-4925, van.viator@nicholls.edu.

LLA News

by Rebecca Miller, LLA Conference Publicity Chair

Plans for the 2010 LLA Conference are well underway, and Baton Rouge will once again be privileged to host the Louisiana Library Association in 2010. This year's theme, *Louisiana Libraries: The Heart of Our Communities*, has stimulated a program full of ideas to educate and inspire each attendee. If you haven't already, mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 10 through Friday, March 12, 2010 for three days of professional development, networking, and fun. Questions? Visit the Official Wiki of the LLA 2010 Conference at (<http://llaconference2010.pbworks.com>). Otherwise, we'll see you in Baton Rouge!



NMRT News

by Rebecca Miller, Co-coordinator, New Members Round Table

Because of the enthusiastic response to the petition begun in April, the **New Members Interest Group is back and an official group within LLA!** We are thrilled to revive an interest group that caters to the needs of new and budding information professionals. Our mission is to help those who have been LLA members for fewer than 10 years become actively involved in the Louisiana Library Association and the profession. Some of the near-future plans for this interest group include:

- Developing local meet-up groups/networking dinners for 7 different metro areas within the state
- Resume and job interview workshops for new graduates
- Young Professional Award, annual recognition of outstanding young professionals
- Mentorship opportunities with librarians around the state
- Special LLA conference functions

Interested in learning more? Visit the Official NMRT-LA Wiki (<http://llanewmembers.pbworks.com/>) for the Coordinators' contact information and all sorts of helpful resources.

Library news from around the state

Louisiana State University

Athena Jackson is the new Project Manager for the Digitizing Louisiana Newspapers Project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Jackson earned her B.A. from the University of Houston and her MLIS from North Texas State University. She will be working with a team in Special Collections to digitize 100,000 pages of Louisiana newspapers, 1860-1923, over the next two years.

Kay Jensen, Reference/Information Literacy Librarian, retired from the LSU Libraries on June 30, 2009.

Alice Daugherty and **Michael Russo** published "MeSHed Potatoes and Gravy" and "Fact Check au jus: A Fact Finding Activity," in R. Sittler and D. Cook (Eds.), *The Library Instruction Cookbook*. Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries, 2009.

Sigrid Kelsey published "Writing for Reference Books" and "Book Reviews," in *Writing and Publishing: The Librarian's Handbook*. Ed. Carol Smallwood. Chicago: The American Library Association, 2009.

Mark Martin and **Barry Cowan** published *Historic Photos of LSU Football*. Baton Rouge: Turner Pub. Co., 2009.

Faye Phillips published "Congressional Papers: Collection Development Policies," in *An American Political Archives Reader*, ed. by Karen D. Paul, Glenn R. Gray and L. Rebecca Johnson Melvin. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2009, 107-115. She has been named to the first class of Fellows of the Society of Georgia Archivists.

Michael Taylor published "The Linguistic Adventures of Matthias Alexander Castren." *Manuscripts*, May, 2009. He has been appointed to a two-year term on the Exhibition Awards Committee of the Rare Books and Manuscripts Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries. Michael participated in a week-long course, "Western Manuscripts and Documents Since 1500," at Rare Book School at the University of Virginia in June, 2009.

Kelly Blessinger, Assistant Coordinator, Reference, was elected Secretary/Treasurer of ACRL-LA for 2009-11.

"**Two Gentlemen from Louisiana**," an exhibition celebrating the opening for research of the papers of Senators John Breau and J. Bennett Johnston is currently showing in Hill Memorial Library. The exhibition runs through January 30, 2010.

The Coypu Foundation has awarded the Special Collections division a charitable donation of \$31,500 to support a major exhibition of ornithological books from the E. A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection and the publication of a catalog that will document the exhibition and be an original contribution to the history of ornithology. The focus of the exhibition will be the history of ornithology in the neotropics, an ecological zone that includes South and Central America, the Mexican lowlands, and the Caribbean islands. Scheduled for late Spring 2011, the exhibition with accompanying catalog will be curated by Tom Taylor, an expert in ornithological books, and Michael Taylor, Assistant Curator of Books. In addition to antiquarian books, the exhibition will feature the work of research associates of the LSU Museum of Natural History, who are international leaders in neotropical ornithology. Grant funding will further allow distribution of the catalog free of charge to selected libraries in the Louisiana, the United States, and to Latin American libraries with ornithological collections.



Library news from around the state

Louisiana State University Eunice

The LeDoux Library is one of 269 organizations nationwide to receive the “Big Read” grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. In this inaugural effort, the Eunice community will be reading and discussing Ray Bradbury’s *Fahrenheit 451*.



Loyola University

The 2010 edition of the *Princeton Review's* “Best 371 Colleges” honored the J. Edgar and Louise S. Monroe Library by ranking it in fifth place in the category of “Best College Library.” The library, which took seventh place in 2009, this year was behind only the libraries of Harvard, Princeton, Columbia and Duke Universities.

This summer, the library welcomed three new additions to its faculty. **Liz Cashman** joined the library as the outreach and development coordinator. Liz received her M.L.S. from McGill University. **Brian Sullivan** joined the library as the online learning librarian. Brian received his M.L.S. from Indiana University. **Malia Willey** joined the library as the information literacy/Learning Commons librarian. Malia received her M.L.S. at Indiana University and also her M.A. in History from the University of Maine.

Malia Willey and **Ria Newhouse**, Learning Commons coordinator, presented a talk titled “Learning Commons: Exploration and Application” at the LOUIS Users Conference in October, discussing the experiences, implementation, and evolution of the Monroe Library’s Learning Commons, as well as the theory behind this model.



McNeese State University

Nancy Khoury, after serving 20 years as Library Director, will be retiring at the end of 2009. Her leadership and many contributions will be missed by all.

Library news from around the state

Tulane University

Jennifer Corbin, instruction coordinator, was appointed as co-chair of the Library Instruction Round Table (LIRT) Membership Committee for 2009-2010. At the Association of College and Research Libraries National Conference in March 2009, Corbin presented a poster entitled "Are You Ready for the Future of English Composition? Information Literacy, Visual Literacy, and the Digital Video Research 'Paper,'" and led a Roundtable Discussion called "Beyond Subject Guides: Using LibGuides for Information Literacy Instruction."

Special Collections has a new department, the Louisiana Research Collection. It was created by merging the library's Louisiana Manuscripts Department and Louisiana Collection. The new department will oversee manuscripts and archives, books, serials, ephemera, maps, and images concerning Louisiana's history and culture. "We believe this will foster greater coordination of collection development and reference while simplifying access for researchers," said **Leon Miller**, the head of the new department. Miller was previously Tulane's manuscripts librarian. The Louisiana Research Collection is one of four departments within the Special Collections division, where it joins the jazz archives, architectural archives, and university archives.

The Louisiana Research Collection is pleased to announce that the Joel Fletcher papers are now open to the public. Joel Fletcher, author of the book *Ken and Thelma*, donated his papers to Tulane University in 2006. Joel Fletcher was a friend of John Kennedy Toole, author of *A Confederacy of Dunces* and Thelma Ducoing Toole, John's mother.

The papers consist of Joel Fletcher's research files for *Ken and Thelma*, a book about his friendship with Ken and Thelma Toole, and how *A Confederacy of Dunces* came to be published. The collection contains correspondence, drafts, reviews, and supporting materials. The collection contains criticism on previous biographies of John Kennedy Toole, and Fletcher's letters with Thelma Ducoing Toole, New Orleans author Poppy Z. Brite, University of New Orleans professor Kenneth Holditch, and friends of the Toole family.

The Louisiana Research Collection also has the papers of John Kennedy Toole. The addition of Fletcher's papers will considerably expand the scope of scholarly research on the life and works of John Kennedy Toole. The finding aid for the collection can be found at <http://specialcollections.tulane.edu/archon>.

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Andrea Flockton, technical services special projects librarian, is serving on the UL Lafayette Honors Convocation Committee.

Denise Goetting, head of cataloging, was recently promoted to the position of Associate Professor of Library Science. Denise is currently serving on the UL Lafayette Faculty Senate and on the Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information Committee (MARBI) of ALA, representing the Reference and User Services Association. This is an interdivisional advisory committee on standards for the representation of bibliographic information in machine-readable form.

"Louisiana in the Great Depression" is the subject of the current exhibit in the Jefferson Caffery Reading Room at Dupré Library. Materials on display highlight the activities of New Deal agencies, Governor Huey P. Long, and other major personalities of the time. New Orleans society and childhood memories of the Depression round out the topics featured in the exhibit, which was assembled by **Jean S. Kiesel**, Louisiana Room librarian.

Louisiana Library Association

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2009-2010

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NOTES & TRACINGS

IS ON THE WEB:

www.llaonline.org/fp/newsletters.php

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Mark Your Calendar!

March 10-12, 2010

**LLA Conference
Hilton Capitol Center
Downtown Baton Rouge**