2010

News and Views: News from the Association of Christian Librarians

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notable rise in the conference fees would make the cost prohibitive for a significant percentage of our members. We have investigated large hotels, conference centers and retreat locations as possible venues but, when all the costs are calculated, these locations are simply not economical options for us. At the same time, we will try to provide convenient motels for those who want more comfortable accommodations.

To keep expenses down, we might need to reduce the number of days. In an electronic age, maybe we don’t need conference bags or even conference notebooks. With a concern for the environment, we can just print out the handouts for the sessions we want. All of these steps help keep the conference affordable.

The ACL Conference will move appropriate functions to the Home Office. There was a time when the local library host was expected to make beds, stuff notebooks, collect money, make numerous trips to the airport, test microphones and move projectors. Many of these activities are being handled by the conference services department of the host college. Many of the routine administrative tasks will be done by the ACL Conference Administrator. The negotiating, the signing of contracts and the registration of attendees has been assumed by the Home Office Staff who have the experience to facilitate the “business” side of conferences. This change frees the conference committees to apply their professional wisdom to conference content and program planning.

An ACL Conference is a major event for the organization because it is a major event in the life of individual members, and the ACL Board is committed to make whatever changes are required to keep quality professional development delivered efficiently at affordable rates. See you at conference in Minnesota! ☝️

News and Views

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New York Move

Ray Morrison, former library director at MidAmerica Nazarene University in Olathe, KS, recently accepted a position at SUNY-Oswego in Oswego, NY as the Coordinator of Access Services. His main responsibility is circulation, reserves, stacks management, Interlibrary Loan, periodicals and media with additional time spent at the reference desk and in collection development. SUNY- Oswego has approximately 9,000 students and is located on the shores of Lake Ontario 30 miles north of Syracuse, NY.

Published Article

The November 2009 issue of *Christian Higher Education* features an article by Grace Veach (Dean of Library Services, Southeastern University, Lakeland, FL) titled “St. Augustine and the Christian College Composition Classroom: Water Into Flame” (pp. 440-453).

Changes at Northwest University

The Hurst Library at Northwest University hired David Austin (MLS, University of Washington, 2009) as the User Services Librarian. He replaces Lynette Sorenson who has moved to another position at Northwest University.

Retiring from Huntington University

Robert E. Kaehr will retire at the end of May 2010 after 37 years as a librarian and the past 34 as the Director of Library Services at Huntington University (Huntington, IN). This will allow him to spend time with his wife, children, and grandchildren, as well as travel, fish, do crafts, write, and to do some volunteer work. “Probably the first year will be spent making life simpler, cleaning house and removing our adult children’s stuff.”
Kent State Graduate

In August 2009, Linda Tipton graduated with a MLIS from Kent State University. She is not yet working in a library but it was a great learning experience as she focused her elective studies on cataloging.

Library Doubles in Size

Mary Ann Buhler and the staff and faculty at Manhattan Christian College are recuperating and rejoicing after moving the college library from very cramped quarters to beautiful facilities in newly renovated Jolliffe Hall. Essentially doubling the amount of space it had before, the new library has a conference room and three reading rooms, as well as offices for each of the two librarians. Many students enjoy studying and relaxing in front of the fireplace, which is the focal point as patrons enter the library.

Changing ILS

Kinlaw Library at Asbury College (Kentucky) recently moved from the integrated library system Horizon to Symphony. Both are Sirsi/Dynix products, but each is very different from the other. Jennifer Watlz reports that they are very pleased so far with Symphony, but there is a bit of a learning curve. The online catalog is a little “jazier” now for the public to use (http://library.asbury.edu/).

New Librarian in Minneapolis

North Central University has a new Reference Librarian. Ruth Paloma, a native of St. Paul, earned a BA at the University of Minnesota, majoring in Political Science and Global Politics. She entered the Master’s of Library and Information Science program at St. Catherine’s University in 2006, and graduated Fall 2009. She has been a welcome and rewarding addition to the team.

How the Library Was Saved ...

Tales Remembered

The Hartzler Library at Eastern Mennonite University was featured at the school’s recent annual homecoming because of an event that happened thirty years ago. On October 10, 2009 the library hosted a reunion of all former staff and students who had ever worked in the library. In true alumni fashion, the attendees all had stories but many of the tales came from the honored class of 1969. Three decades ago, when many campuses were experiencing unrest, even violence, the students of Eastern Mennonite College (as the school was known then) was in danger of losing a grant for a library building because the required matching funds had not been raised. The administration had given up hope of raising the final $110,000 but, rather than lose the opportunity, the students took matters into their own hands and raised the money by preparing bake sales, making appeals to churches, and organizing a now legendary auction. Business, community members and students donated items to be auctioned and as each additional $1,000 was raised, a bell was rung. One student sacrificed his prized musical instrument but his dorm friends pooled their resources to outbid all others so it could be returned to the student. Many such experiences were recounted. Finally the bell itself was auctioned off by President Myron Augsberger. Just before the deadline, all the money was raised, the bell was rung. The bell itself was auctioned off by President Myron Augsberger. It has now been relocated inside the library in 1979, the Unity Bell eventually developed a crack and could no longer be rung. It has now been relocated inside the library’s entrance area, ensconced in a case with the memorabilia that retells the story of the class 1969 who resolved that they were going have a library and they were committed to raising the money to build it.

ETS Paper Presentation

New Job, Same University

On June 1, 2009 Jeanette Parker began a new position as Serials Librarian at Edmund Stanley Library, Friends University, Wichita, KS. She has been working as the Night Circulation Manager/ILL Supervisor.

Conference Discount for Library Science Students

Are you a library science student who would love to come to our exciting conference at Northwestern College in Minneapolis, MN, but can’t quite come up with the full registration fee? ACL welcomes student participation by providing a special student discount on the regular conference registration fee (this does not cover room & board). The conference will help you learn more about the profession and provide many networking opportunities. Who knows, it might even help you land that post-graduation job!

Presidential Conference Scholarships

Three scholarships are available for first-time attendees to the 2010 ACL Annual Conference Northwestern College (Minneapolis, MN). Each scholarship covers the conference package — registration, lodging, and meals. Transportation and related expenses are not included. You must be an ACL member to apply. A letter of application may be sent to the ACL Home Office (P.O. Box 4, Cedarville, Ohio 45314–0004) or emailed directly to President Donald Smeeton (donald.smeeton@emu.edu).

ACL Research Award

How can you recognize outstanding student researchers, spotlight your library at your campus award ceremonies and make people aware of ACL, all at the same time? Participate in the ACL Research Award program! Libraries that are members of the Christian Library Consortium may present the award to deserving students based on the following qualifications:

- Must excel in research
- Must be in their last year of study (Associate, Bachelors, Graduate degrees)
- Must display outstanding characteristics
- Must demonstrate a record of leadership, ability, and character
- Must receive institutional faculty approval

For additional information see http://acl.org/researchaward.cfm.

In Memoriam

J. Richard Muntz, former librarian at Corban College and Graduate School (Salem, OR), died August 15, 2009 following a 15 year battle with cancer. He was 81 years old. After graduating from Wheaton College, he went on to earn graduate degrees from Western Conservative Baptist Seminary, San Jose State University, Northern Baptist Seminary, and Wayne State University. He served for 40 years as librarian and professor at three Christian colleges and seminaries and pastored churches in Illinois and Michigan. At Corban, Rev. Muntz served as Library Director from 1975–1994 and Associate Library Director and cataloger from 1994–2005. Since his retirement, he has been very involved with his church and enjoyed traveling, spending time with family, sports and writing devotionals which he posted on his Facebook page. ♠