News from the Field

Mary Ellen Davis

Applications/ nominations invited for *C&RL* editor

Applications and nominations are invited for the position of editor of *College & Research Libraries,* the bimonthly, scholarly research journal of ACRL. The editor is appointed for a three-year term which may be renewed for an additional three years. Applicants must be members of ALA and ACRL. Qualifications include professional experience in academic libraries, a record of scholarly publication, editing experience, an understanding of the scholarly communication process, and a broad knowledge of the issues confronting academic libraries.

Some funding for editorial assistance is available, and there is a small honorarium for the editor.

Appointment will be made by the ACRL Board of Directors at the 1995 Annual Conference, upon the recommendation of the search committee and of the ACRL Publications Committee. The incoming editor will assume full responsibility for *C&RL* in July 1996, after a year of working with the outgoing editor.

Nominations, or resumes and letters of application including the names of three references, should be sent to: *C&RL* Search Committee, c/o Hugh Thompson, Program Officer, ACRL/ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. The deadline for receipt of applications is December 15. Finalists will be interviewed at the Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia in February 1995.

Dynix and NOTIS Systems consolidated

Ameritech Library Services (ALS) announced just prior to the ALA Annual Conference in Miami Beach that Dynix and NOTIS Systems divisions were combining development efforts to form a single client/server product. The consolidated client/server product, based on the Marquis system, is available to all current Marquis and NOTIS Horizon customers without additional licensing costs. Release 4.0 of this software will be available in early 1995. Paul Sybrowsky, formerly Dynix president, was named president of ALS; Jane Burke, president of NOTIS Systems, is no longer with the company. ALS will continue to develop and offer three different software products: a consolidated client/server product based on Marquis, a Unix host-based product called Dynix or Dynix Scholar, and NOTIS' mainframe products. The newly consolidated company eventually plans to offer support services for these products under the new Library Systems Division by type of library—academic (the former NOTIS office), public (formerly Dynix), K–12 school (formerly Scholar), and special (formerly Marquis). Enhancements to the main product line, e.g., WinPac, retrospective conversion, and Vista, will continue to be offered and developed by a new Information Services group.

Alfred University holds "cardbecue"

Alfred University (AU) held a "cardbecue" to burn the 100,000 cards from its closed, 1,140-drawer card catalog. Using metal half-drums often used at pig-roasts, AU's Herrick Memorial Library staff held the "cardbecue" ceremony to acknowledge symbolically the end of its paper path and the beginning of a new computerized road. This ceremony follows a tradition

Photo credit: William G. Meegan

Steve Crandall (left), associate director of Herrick Memorial Library at Alfred University, feeds catalog cards into the flames while three members of the volunteer Hook & Ladder Co. look on.

Reinventing libraries: The Stephen F. Austin experience

Stephen F. Austin State University's efforts to give students a taste of the scholar's workstation has paid big dividends.

Rather than installing separate CD-ROM and microcomputer labs, the university's Steen Library elected to create an integrated environment in which students can select from their workstations everything from word processing, spreadsheet, and graphic applications to the library catalog, databases, electronic reserve materials, an online building directory, and Internet access. Consequently, students can conveniently conduct library research and cut and paste from a variety of sources in the formulation of reports and term papers. Menus are standardized across the workstations, facilitating management and promoting ease of use for the students.

Students are busy in the new integrated work environment at Stephen F. Austin State University.

The approach made possible the justification of a large laboratory (130 stations, including a large networked classroom) which is almost always fully occupied. Known as the Library Information Network Center, or LINC, the lab opened in the fall of 1992 and quickly became the campus' most popular student lab. While it is predominantly used for traditional microlab applications, library applications represent about one-sixth of total activity. Student assistants, called lab attendants, are on duty within LINC at all times to provide basic assistance. Reference assistance is provided through ten additional stations dedicated solely to library applications which are located adjacent to the reference desk.

The scale of this operation also justified the development of a substantial technical staff which, in turn, has permitted the development and maintenance of an extensive administrative LAN. At present, the staff supports about 150 separate applications librarywide, more than 100 of them across the network.

The library is now in the forefront of campus computing activities and enjoys broad support for its automation efforts. This spring the board of regents approved acquisition of a client/server-based Integrated Library System, a logical growth path for the library. The next major challenge facing the library is expansion of its bibliographic instruction efforts to insure user competence in the new technologies.—*Alvin C. Cage, Stephen F. Austin State University*

started in 1987 when, to mark the change from the Dewey to the Library of Congress system of classification, the library burned the cards with the Dewey numbers on them.

Let's talk about ACRL

ACRL-Forum, an unmoderated listserv open to all for discussion of issues pertinent to ACRL, academic librarianship, and higher education, has been established by ACRL. Ray Metz, director of library information technology at Case Western Reserve University, has accepted a two-year appointment as the listserv "owner." To subscribe send the message "Sub ACRL-FRM your name" to "listserv@uicvm" for bitnet users and "listserv@uicvm.uic.edu" for Internet users.

Questions? Contact Ray Metz at: metz@po.cwru.edu or Mary Ellen K. Davis (co-owner of the list) at mary.ellen.davis@ala.org.

Promotion/tenure documents sought

ACRL's Academic Status Committee seeks documents stating the criteria for promotion and tenure for librarians with faculty status. Send sample documents to: Gemma DeVinney, Coordinator of Reference & Instructional Servic-

es, Lockwood Library, SUNY at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14260; e-mail: lolgemma@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu.

Cartoonist wanted for *C&RL News*

Do you have a flair for drawing and an ability to express ideas in cartoons? Can you capture the humorous side of library issues in a single cartoon? *C&RL News* is seeking cartoonists/illustrators to prepare original material for its monthly publication.

If you are interested send a cover letter expressing your interest and experience along with three to five samples of your work to: Mary Ellen K. Davis, Editor, *C&RL News*, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

Librarians win Pittsburgh prizes

Thirty-five librarians who stopped by ACRL's booth during the ALA Annual Conference in Miami won prizes from Pittsburgh, site of ACRL's 7th National Conference. Prizes included free admissions to local museums, free drinks, free meals, and free lodging in Pittsburgh hotels. More prizes—including a free airline ticket to Pittsburgh—will be available at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia, February 3–9, 1995. ACRL's 7th National Conference will be held March 29–April 1, 1995. ACRL members will be mailed a registration packet in mid-November. (*Ed. note:* See Marcia Lowry's article on Pittsburgh on page 480).

Cal Poly Library participates in Electronic Village conference

The Kennedy Library of California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, participated in the first annual Electronic Village conference sponsored by the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce. The library exhibited its touchscreen electronic information kiosk to the 400 attendees representing the business, education, library, government, and nonprofit sectors of the community. Users accessed an alphabetized list of subjects by pressing the color touch screen. The kiosk then displayed text, graphics, animation, QuickTime full motion video, still photographs, sound, and a floor plan pinpointing the exact location of the materials within the library's 200,000-square-foot building.

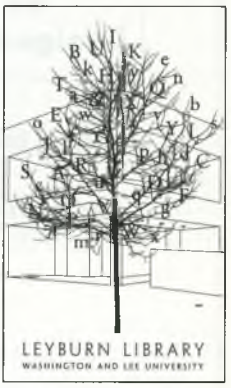
Univ. of Alabama and Washington & Lee dedicate libraries

The University of Alabama recently celebrated the opening of the Angelo Bruno Business Library and Sloan Y. Bashinsky Sr. Computer Center with a dedication ceremony. The $9 million

A view of the stacks from inside the Bruno Business Library at the University of Alabama.

state-of-the-art facility was funded through private gifts—primarily a $4 million gift from the Angelo Bruno family for the library and a $3 million gift from Sloan Y. Bashinsky Sr. for the computer center.

Washington & Lee University's Board of Trustees voted to name the University Library posthumously for James Graham Leyburn, a former dean and professor who retired in 1972 after 25 years of unparalleled academic service to the university. It is only the second building on campus in modern history to be named honorifically. A poster commemorating the event (right) was commissioned and is available for $15 from Barbara Brown, University Librarian, Leyburn Library, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA 24450; phone: (703) 463-8640. ■



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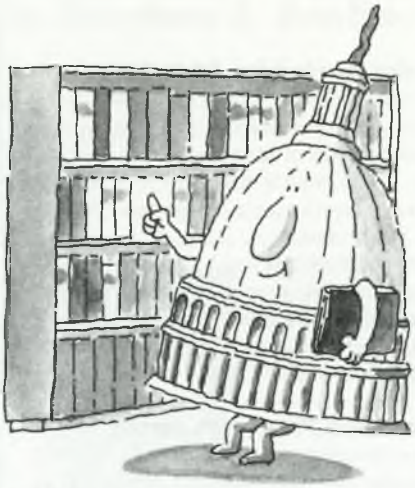

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