September 2009

ATG Deadlines

Editor

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I have never been a doodler — you know the kind that draw wonderful pictures and doodles on paper while they are listening to something … uh … kinda. I have never done that. Until now. I have discovered Doodle (www.doodle.com)! What a wonderful scheduling tool it is! Doodle will allow you to discover a time when 16 busy, super busy, mega busy people can all meet together in the same room! Hooray for Doodle!

And, while we were doodling in downtown Charleston, SC, our crack ATG team were putting together this issue of ATG which is guest edited by the marvelous Rosann Bazirjian (Dean of University Libraries, UNC-Greensboro). This issue is about entrepreneurship in libraries, a growing trend and includes articles by Steven Bell, Jennifer Calvo, Michael J. Crumpton, Anita Norton, Doug Boyd, and Adam Corson-Finney. Much to ponder and implement! We also have several opinion editorials by Jonathan Lauer (technology versus letterhead), Bob Holley (The Google Book Settlement) and Steven Shapiro (names, names, names), a couple of special reports from Mary Anyomi (website accessibility) and Carol Singer (purchasing print or online resources), and interviews with Steve Bosch and Beth Jefferson. Besides the regular columns: benefits and challenges of acquisitions in a consortium (BIZ of Acq), book selection then and now (Random Ramblings), social networking sites (Little Red Herrings), Dreams (Booklover), print and electronic reference collections (Lost in Austin), writing an acquisitions procedure manual (Building Library collections), and many, many more, we have some new submissions by Jesse Holden (Acquisitions Archaeology, don’t you love it?) and Steve McKinzie (590 Local notes about collection development and discards).

Guess it’s time to hush and get to reading. And I have to get back to my doodling! Still have to cajole some people into filling out their doodle! Can you believe it?

Love, Yr. Ed.

From Your (doodling) Editor:

Letters to the Editor:

Send letters to <kstrauch@comcast.net>, phone or fax 843-723-3536, or snail mail: Against the Grain, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the ATG Homepage at http://www.against-the-grain.com.

Dear Editor:

A little over a year ago I had the hubris to set myself up as a for-hire writer and consultant. While I’m frequently among the ranks of the self-unemployed, words matter to me, so it is with several kinds of professional interest that I peruse each issue of Against The Grain when it arrives. It is with some pride, and more than a little awe, that I read the articles written by my former colleagues Bob Nardini and Celia Wagner in the June issue of ATG. Pride at having, through no fault of my own, worked with both of these people, and awe because their writing is so effortless, yet so entertaining to read. Writers are not made by labels, but by the quality of their work. However they characterize themselves, Celia and Bob are exceptional writers who helped make the last issue of ATG a pleasure to read.

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AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES VOLUME 21 & 22 — 2009-2010

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Xan and Leah Hinds <leah@katina.info> have been setting up Facebook accounts and Twitter accounts for the Conference. In fact, yours truly just went in and signed up (I think) today! This means that there will be new and improved virtual connectivity with the Charleston Conference this year! Come on down! Hip! Hip! Hooray!

Was interested to see that the OCLC Board of Trustees has convened a Record Use Policy Council which will draw upon the fundamental values of the OCLC cooperative and engage with the global library community to develop the next generation of the WorldCat Record Use Policy. The formation of this council was one of the recommendations contained in the final report of the OCLC Review Board on the Principles of Shared Data Creation and Stewardship formed in January 2009 to represent the membership and inform OCLC on best practices for sharing library data http://www.oclc.org/us/en/worldcat/catalog/ FinalReport_ReviewBoard.pdf

Let’s see. Oh! We are trialing Green, a new database from Gale and I had a great conversation with the top-of-the-line Laura Berg <laura.berg@cengage.com>. Speaking about that, on top of everything else, Laura was out for a couple of days (bought her first home — sheer craziness, she says!) so we could not hook up at ALA in Chicago. On the plus side, Laura’s field partner, the blonde beauty Tracie Lee <tracie.lee@cengage.com> was at the booth instead!

More Chicago! Stopped by the Blackwell booth to see a taste of the results of an agreement between Blackwell and Ingram Digital, giving Blackwell eBook distribution rights to libraries around the world via Ingram’s MyiLibrary platform, with the exception of the United Kingdom and Canada. The agreement will allow Blackwell Digital Services customers to discover and order MyiLibrary eBooks via Collection Manager, the Blackwell interface. MyiLibrary currently hosts over 185,000 eBooks and is used by hundreds of academic, public, and professional libraries around the world. And Blackwell’s Collection Manager has just been released in a new version, providing sophisticated faceted search capabilities using the continued on page 16