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2009 Charleston Conference -- 29th Annual Issues in Books and Serial Acquisition

Editor

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to you last year in connection with materials budgets funding formulas. And, guess what, Matthew has sent us some very useful and enlightening information about the American University in Cairo which was founded by Americans overseas to offer an American style of English language education. See this issue, p.81.

For those sports nuts who followed the NCAA basketball final four, I have to tell you that as an old-timer Tarheel, I am excited that UNC-CH won the tournament. I remember the Dean Smith days fondly (when we used to wrap all the trees in toilet paper and I even had a Dean Smith autograph somewhere). But I was also happy to see that Michigan State did so well! Noticed this article in the Chronicle of Higher Education. “The University of Michigan Press which will take its print book operation and shift it largely to digital. In two years, the press is expected to produce 50 of its nearly 60 book titles in digital format. “Digital publishing helps the U-M Press to adopt a business model more consistent with the university research goal to disseminate information as widely and freely as possible,” says Provost Teresa Sullivan. “In addition, the change aligns with the university’s ongoing effort to digitize its library collection, enhances U-M Press’s print on demand capacity, and increases the range and means of expression of published ideas and authors.” A new U-M press board will be created by July 1. See – “U-M redefining scholarly publications in the digital age,” by Frank Provenzano, March 16, 2009, www.ur.umich.edu/0809/Mar16_09/35.php. Also – “Farewell to the printed monograph,” Chronicle of Higher Education, March 23, 2009. www.chronicle.com/

I am sure that we have all seen the International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC) Statement on the Global Economic Crisis and its Impact on Consortial Licenses (January 19, 2009). This statement is adopted in principle by member representatives of consortia of ICOLC. Updated to adopters of the statement are poster periodically at: www.library.yale.edu/consortia www.library.yale.edu/consortia/icolc-econcrisis-0109.htm

Speaking of the Chronicle of Higher Education and the budget crisis, I was interested to see that at the recent ACRL conference, libraries urged publishers to keep their prices relatively stable given the current economy. See – “Publishers face pressure from libraries to freeze prices and cut deals,” by Jennifer Howard, Chronicle of Higher Education, March 27, 2009. chronicle.com/weekly/v55/i29/29a01301.htm

The H.W. Wilson Company has appointed the supremely capable John Regazzi to the newly created position of Chief Strategy Officer, reporting to H.W. Wilson President and CEO Harold Regan. Mr. Regazzi will focus on a broad range of initiatives, including new products, product enhancements, business development, and marketing. From 1981 to 1988, Mr. Regazzi was H.W. Wilson’s Vice-President of Computer Services, overseeing the company’s conversion from print to electronic publishing. He currently serves (and will continue on) as a full professor in the College of Information and Computer Science at the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University. In 1988, Mr. Regazzi was