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If Rumors Were Horses

Katina Strauch
Against the Grain, kstrauch@comcast.net

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Collecting Books and Other Artifacts

by Kirstin A. Steele (Assistant Professor and Collection Management Librarian, Daniel Library, The Citadel, Charleston SC) <steeckl1@citadel.edu>

At the 2004 Charleston Conference, keynote speaker Michael A. Keller noted that librarians’ preoccupation with journals has often prevented us from collecting more contemporary, less traditional cultural artifacts (e.g., video games or early versions of automated library systems). Dr. Robert Martin of IMLS noted how the missions of libraries, museums, and some broadcasters have become so similar as to eat through the walls of our separate “silos.”

Those two addresses helped to gel thoughts I’d had about why people and libraries collect certain books. A larger question, of course, is why humans collect things at all, sometimes things that are barely useful. For this issue, I have focused on two questions: why individuals collect what they do, and why it is important to individuals to find their collections a perpetual home. One inspiration is the Chapin-Horowitz Collection of dog books at the Earl Gregg Swem Library at the College of William & Mary. Another is the variety of collections just in my own family.

In addition to books about dogs, I collect refrigerator magnets shaped like insects and coloring books, and harbor unfulfilled desires to collect wooden chairs. My motivations are fairly straightforward: I like dogs and enjoy reading about them; and my inner six-year-old still enjoys coloring and the fun shapes that magnets come in. Chairs are useful and interestingly made; sometimes I don’t actively collect because they take up a lot more space than magnets and books! I purchase a lot of jigsaw puzzles, but I never keep them. I don’t expect any of my little collections to find permanent homes after I’m dead.

My paternal grandmother collected salt and pepper shakers in animal shapes, and my maternal grandmother collects rocks... sometimes not real pretty ones! My sister collects miniature tea cups and saucers. Understated by space limitations, my mother collects furniture. Buttons, postcards, and keys...

I solicited short essays from my family and acquaintances about their collections, asking how they started their collections, why and if they continue to collect, whether they think the collection is an “important” cultural record, and where they would like to see their collection in 100 years. I found it interesting that in this small sampling, the men had concrete, large-scale collections, while (like me) the women chose things they enjoyed looking at or handling. No conclusions, just interesting!

Nothing I’ve gathered here addresses library collection development directly, but I hope these essays generate thought on strategic collection planning and maybe the balance between collecting for perpetuity and collecting for short-term or pleasure reading. On a personal note, I’ve found it much easier to get rid of stuff at my house since I have acknowledged that I don’t consider my bug magnets important cultural records. Or are they?

If Rumors Were Horses

Back from San Antonio. I ran into a lot of great friends and colleagues. And San Antonio is especially fun. Even spent some time with my daughter-in-law Lindsay who lives in the area. We had some great times!

Hoo ha! The fabulous Karen Hunter, Senior Vice President, Elsevier has been awarded the 2006 CSA/Urlands Serials Librarianship Award (formerly Bowker/Urlands Serials Librarianship Award), recognizing her leadership in the collaborative development of the electronic delivery of scholarly information. Karen’s colleagues in libraries and in publishing organizations describe her as a “thought-leader” and “innovator” with concerns that go “beyond any interests she may have as an employee of a single publishing company.” A dedicated explorer of the yields of electronic delivery, she has spearheaded many important research initiatives that influenced the thinking of an entire professional community. Two key collaborative projects were TULIP (The University Licensing Program) (1991 to 1995) which involved nine major research universities in the United States and other partners and its successor PEAK (Pricing Electronic Access to Knowledge), a collaboration with the University of Michigan and other partners. She actively champions a range of projects addressing the challenge of archiving digital information and orchestrated Elsevier’s project planning effort in its collaborative work with Yale University Library on the 2001 Andrew W. Mellon Grant, “Archiving Electronic Journals.” These projects were characterized by the open sharing of research findings. Karen was an early supporter of the Coalition for Networked Information...
Remembering Papa Lyman

20 September 2005 — Lyman W. Newlin

San Fernando Cathedral, San Antonio, TX

Remembrance by Mike Markwith <michael@teldan.com>

It was 34 years ago exactly to this day, January 20, 1972, that Lyman became an institution in my family. Lyman and I had worked together for about two years prior to this day in 1972 and on this day my first daughter, Aimee, was born at 6:30 am. By noon, Lyman decreed she was engaged to Fred Newlin, his eldest son who was two or three. This is only one reason why I will always be close to Lyman.

Lyman was my bookselling mentor and I was not alone as “young lads” mentored by Lyman. We met by phone in 1970 but not in person until 1971. He was in New Jersey responsible for Publisher Relations at Abel and I was newly appointed manager of Approval book purchasing (or Advance Information Acquisitions) in Portland.

Lyman introduced me to the professional world of bookselling. He also introduced me to New York City in 1971. West coast boy goes east for the first time and has real New York publisher meetings with Elsevier, McGraw-Hill, Random House, and Academic Press including lunch at the Netherlands Club complete with gin & tonic. He also introduced me to the wonders of room service breakfast: fresh hot eggs, toast, bacon, strawberries, black coffee, and meeting while eating. Glorious.

Lyman and I worked together for Richard Abel for three years before I was moved into sales. We enjoyed early morning and late afternoon phone calls (Oregon time) as well as many, many conversations about books and the people who inhabited bookselling lore. He knew them all.

Lyman was a role model, even a hero to this young professional. He was always positive and supportive and never negative about someone (unless that person wanted to give us less discount!). He did not harbor negative feelings though he lost a career (Abel), lost many books (fire), and lost income (Abel). We should all have Lyman’s attitude about how we deal with one another.

And he was a damn good democrat.

Lyman was a friend and “father figure.” When we saw each other at conferences, most recently in his motorized cart, it was always: “Hi dad” “Hi son.” He was a robust man who in later life used a cane and then the cart to get around, but he was always a friend to me and so many others.

Lyman unified people. I believe he played a major role in coaxing Dick Abel from “exile” to attend the Charleston Conference and share his valuable perspective on bookselling and libraries. It meant a lot to those of us who worked for Dick to see him again and Lyman was primarily responsible — remember this is the man who could have but didn’t carry a negative thought regarding Abel.

Lyman never quit working. At age 85 he contacted me at Swets to help him with a client of his in Mexico regarding journals (he called them “magazines”). He said to me, “I don’t know anything about this journal business, hell I only know Capt Billy’s WhizBang or some such title, but I have a client who has some questions and hope you can help...” I did what I could.

He was a damn good democrat.

Our relationship ended as it began: on the phone. Last August I called and we talked and reminisced. He told me at ALA in Chicago about the new cancer and that he was going to go through chemo. I didn’t realize it was the last time we would ever talk. We made plans for dinner in Charleston in November and he said it would be his last conference. He was excited about the new issues in our business as he was excited about seeing friends and continuing his work. But it was just too tough to travel.

Lyman was my friend for 35 years. How many of us meet someone for the first time when that person is 60 years old and can say that they are a friend for 35 years? To say Lyman was special doesn’t do justice to the man who thought or to Lyman. My late mother always said that “growing old isn’t for wimps,” Lyman was not a wimp.

Lyman had a strong faith in his God, in you and me, in his love for his family. He was an avid naturalist and it may be corny but I find these words of the 93rd Psalm the best way to memorialize Lyman:

And he will raise you up on Eagles wings
Bear you up in the breadth of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun
And hold you in the palm of his hand.

Thanks “Dad.” 🦅

Rumors from page 1

tion and CrossRef. Her ability to represent the views of the library world to the publishing world and the views of publishers to librarians during her 30-year career continues to have a profound and positive influence within our industry. Electronic journals as we know them today, and indeed, the electronic delivery of scholarly communication has been shaped by Karen Hunter’s thoughts and deeds. Ms. Hunter has earned both the respect of librarian and publisher colleagues and the 2006 CSA/ Ulrichs Serials Librarian Award. Ms. Hunter was a library assistant and librarian at the Cornell University Libraries before joining Elsevier in 1976. Her undergraduate degree is from the College of Wooster and she earned graduate degrees in history, library science, and business administration from Cornell, Syracuse and Columbia universities respectively. This award for distinguished contributions to serials consists of a citation and $1,500 donated by CSA. The announcement was made by Marilyn Geller <mgeller@Lesley.edu>, Chair, CSA/Ulrichs Serials Librarianship Award and Collection Management Librarian, Lesley University Library. Congratulations to Karen, most deserving of this Award!

Speaking of Awards, Denise Benjibennett, Pam Cenzer, and Paul Kirsh have been awarded the 2006 Reference Service Press Award from RUSA/ALA for the most outstanding article published in RUSQ (PREviously RQ) during the preceding two volume years. Here’s a citation to the article: “A Class Assignment Requiring Chat-Based Reference”, Reference & User Services Quarterly, Winter, 2004, Vol. 44 Issue 2, p. 149-163. Pretty exciting! And remember that the awesome and energetic Pam <pam.cenzer@gmail.com> (with cohort Susan Campbell) were the mentors at the 2005 Charleston Conference and will be the same at the 2006 Conference. They can answer any questions you might have especially if you are a “newbie” planning on attending the 2006 Conference. Come on down!

Paul Ginsparg, physicist and Internet scholarly communications pioneer, is the latest recipient of the Paul Evan Peters Award. This was announced by the Coalition for Networked Information (CNI), the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), and EDUCAUSE. The award will be presented on April 3, 2006, at the CNI Membership Meeting in Arlington, VA, where Ginsparg will deliver the Paul Peters Award lecture at the opening plenary. A professor of physics, computing continued on page 10

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and information science at Cornell University. Ginsparg has distinguished himself as the visionary behind arXiv (http://arxiv.org), an Internet e-print archive for articles in the sciences, which allows scholars to circulate and comment on research prior to publication in traditional peer-reviewed journals, thereby significantly reducing the amount of time it takes for an article to be available to researchers. Started in 1991 as a service for preprints in physics, arXiv eventually expanded to include mathematics, computer science and quantitative biology. Today, the resource boasting open access to over 350,000 articles. Ginsparg joins previous award recipients: Brewster Kahle (2004), Vinton Cerf (2002), and Tim Berners-Lee (2000). www.cni.org

And this just in—The most-deserving Jill Emery, Director of the Electronic Resources Program at the University of Houston Libraries, is the 2006 recipient of the Esther J. Piercy Award for her success in the world of serials librarianship, especially her knowledge of electronic resources licensing and pricing models. Jill shaped how libraries use and acquire electronic resources and influenced the development of new and improved products and services by sharing her expertise with colleagues, publishers, and vendors. Very active professionally, Jill was elected Chair Elect of the Serials Round Table of the Texas Library Association in her second year out of library school. She currently serves on three publisher advisory boards as well as two elected national offices, Chair of the ALCTS Serials Section and a Board Member-at-Large of NASIG. Library Journal acknowledged her achievements in naming her one of 50 Movers and Shakers for 2004. Emery has a BA in Literature from Texas A&M University at College Station and an MLIS from the University of Texas at Austin. The recipient of the Esther J. Piercy Award, established by ALCTS in 1968, receives a $1500 grant donated by YBP, Inc. and a citation in recognition of her accomplishments. The award jury consisted of chair Larry Heiman, Karen Brown, Julie Moore, John Radencich, and Bonnie Tijerina.

Still another award! Ray English, Azariah Smith Root Director of Libraries at Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, is the 2006 Association of College and Research Libraries’ (ACRL) Academic/Research Librarian of the Year. The award, sponsored by YBP Library Services, recognizes an outstanding member of the library profession who has made a significant national or international contribution to academic/research librarianship and library development. English will receive a $3,000 award on Monday, June 26, 2006, at 4:30 p.m. at a ceremony and reception during the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in New Orleans. YBP Library Services sponsors the reception. Under English’s leadership, Oberlin became the first private, liberal arts college library to join OhioLINK. In addition, he participated in a cooperative effort with four other Ohio private colleges in establishing a new consortium, the Five Colleges of Ohio, which received a major grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for library resource sharing. He also coordinated a $475,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to incorporate information literacy into the liberal arts curriculum of each of the Ohio Five schools. In addition, English was co-project director of an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) National Leadership grant to create a library diversity intern program at Oberlin College from 2000-2002. The Oberlin College Library received the 2002 ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award in the college category. English received his A.B. with honors in German from Davidson College in 1969. He earned his Masters in German literature from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1971, where he also received his M.S.L.S. in 1977 and earned his Ph.D. in German literature in 1978. Previous award winners include Ravindra Nath, (R. N.) Sharma (2005); Tom Kirk (2004); Ross Atkinson, (2003); Shelley Phipps, (2002); Larry Hardesty (2001); and Sharon Hogan (2000). www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlawards/acrlbibrarian.htm

News from two Charleston Conference regulars. The fantastic Ian Rowlands will join the new UCL Centre for Publishing in April as Director of Research. Ian comes from City University where he has led the Information Science course, teaching information management, scholarly communication, and research methods. He has extensive publishing industry experience with Pira International, with a special interest in bibliometrics, citation analysis, and online publishing. He has worked on projects funded by various organizations including the Wellcome Trust, the Publishers Association, the International Association of STM Publishers, Elsevier Science, Institute of Physics Publishing and the European Commission.

And the double-fantastic Anthony Watkinson <anthony.watkinson@btinternet.com> became Director of Industry Liaison in February at the UCL Centre for Publishing. An active publisher at Blackwell Publishing he is also consultant to the Publishers Association, to the International STM Association where he runs an annual Journals Management Course, and director of the Charleston Library Conference. Trained as an ecclesiastical historian, Anthony taught in both the History and Theology departments of the University of Cambridge and was a librarian at New College, Oxford. Anthony now has over thirty years experience of publishing management.

The Charleston Conference 2006 is November 8 (preconference and Vendor Showcase) and November 9-11 (main conference)! Mark your calendars! And we are updating the Conference Website and should have it updated by the end of February or early March. Be sure and visit it and tell us what you think. What’s missing, what needs more, that sort of thing. Ramune Kubilius and Leah Hinds and Regina Semko will do their best to answer your questions. www.wclatina.info/conference

The great John Chambers <jchambers continued on page 12

<http://www.against-the-grain.com>
Rumors
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@bos.blackwellpublishing.com—has left Wiley
and is now Director of Book Sales at Blackwell
Publishing! Apparently, John needed to move
to New England for family reasons. I’ll bet up
in heaven Lyman is surprised!

And just heard from the illustrious but truly
fabulous (I guess that’s the way newlyweds are)
Heidi Hoerman <heidihoerman@yahoo.com>
who gives us more wedding news. His name is
Bill Urton. (They are not changing names. Just
try saying “hoermanurton” or “urtonhoerman”
three times fast, Heidi quips.) Bill is a statisti-
cian working for Blue Cross/Blue Shield in
Columbus. He has his Ph.D. in Sociology from
Illinois. Heidi and Bill got married at Heidi’s
mom’s house in Connecticut on December 30th.
It was a relaxed wedding with the family but
Heidi says she wore the full bride’s costume.
Read on. “It’s the first time for both of us and
we met through Yahoo Personalos. We are com-
bining stuff into my house because I had three
bathrooms and he only had one. We are very
crazy campers!” Hoo-ha! Sounds idyllic!
Many happy returns! Yasoo, as the Greek say-
ging goes.

Some of the buzz at ALA related to
Blackwell. It seems the elegant Philip
Blackwell (grandson of Basil Blackwell) has
stepped down as Executive Chairman after six
years. Philip Blackwell has worked in the trade
for over twenty years as both publisher and
bookseller. Most recently he returned to
Blackwell via the management consultancy
Cap Gemini, where he ran the CRM and
eCommerce practices. Previously he has
worked at Hodderheadline PLC, Blackwell
Publishing, and B Dalton Bookseller in
America. The Blackwell Family owns two in-
dependent and separate companies: Blackwell
Publishing and Blackwell Limited (BL), the
retail and library supply business. BL has an
annual turnover of circa £200 million from two
core operating divisions (Blackwells
Bookshops and Blackwell Book Services) and
employs approximately 800 staff in the UK. The
Blackwell’s Bookshops division, integrates
retail, online and mail order and exhibitions,
within a single business under a single man-
agement and has a turnover of £68 million. As
well as 61 retail outlets throughout England,
Scotland and Wales, Blackwell’s Bookshops
division has responsibility for Heffers and
Blackwell’s Online. Blackwell’s Bookshops
can be segmented as follows: Flagship (Ox-
ford, Cambridge, London and Edinburgh.)
Academic and Professional (Aberdeen, Bristol,
Cardiff, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle,
Leeds and Sheffield.) Campus (Campus shops
nationwide.) Specialist (Art- Oxford, Law-
Holborn.) Blackwell’s Book Services (BBS)
is based in the USA and has offices in Portland,
Oregon and Blackwood, New Jersey, as well as
in Oxford. Blackwell’s Book Services special-
izes in the supply of books and bibliographic
support products to academic, research, and
leading public libraries throughout the world.
It is a market leader in combining traditional
bookselling expertise with the latest develop-
ments in library technology. Word is that Philip
will pursue investment opportunities outside of
the existing businesses.

www.havocinteractive.com

Moving right along. Philip Blackwell will
be replaced by Gerry Connolly. Connolly’s
appointment marks the conclusion of the Busi-
ness’ succession planning which commenced
with the previously announced appointments
of Vince Gunn as Chief Executive and Martyn
Osborne as Finance Director of Blackwell UK
Limited, and of Gary Ranststrom as CEO of
Blackwell’s Book Services. At this time, Vince
Gunn and Martyn Osborne will also be joining
the Board of Blackwell Limited. Gerry Connolly
is a chartered accountant with international
experience acquired in career postings with leading multi-national com-
panies in Africa, Europe, and the USA. He
brings with him wide experience with both large
and small companies in diverse industries in-
cluding the library supply business as well as
involvement in significant change management
initiatives which will prove invaluable to the
group as it develops its future strategic plans.

Mr Connolly commented, “I am tremendously
excited to have the opportunity to return
to an industry about which I feel so pas-
ionately, and particularly with a com-
pany which has such a long-established
name and respected name in the business.”

These appointments under line Blackwell’s
commitment to the growth of
its retail and library supplies businesses,
both of which are participating in a period of
great change. These changes present unpre-
cedented challenges to our management and
staff, but equally create great opportunities for
the future of Blackwell. The brand transformation
work which began in July 2005 will continue in
developing the “Knowledge Retailer” propo-
sition in the year ahead. We also look forward
with renewed vigour to serving the interests of
our partners in the academic publishing and
library communities.” Blackwell Limited, estab-
lished in 1879, is a UK book retailer and
specialist supplier of books and bibliographic
support products to leading academic and re-
search libraries throughout the world.

www.blackwell.com/
breakingnews.tol.ie/news/story.asp?id=
169936138&p=y9937x24

Check out this article by Ian Youngs, “Li-
braries fear digital lock down” in the BBC News.

The cut line reads, “Libraries have warned that
the rise of digital publishing may make it harder
or even impossible to access items in their col-
clections in the future.” Since many publishers
have restrictions on digital items, some DRM
digital rights management tools may obstruct
legitimate uses of this material. And suppose
people are unable to unlock restricted works
when future generations are able to view them
because of technological changes? “This is
going to be one of the significant challenges for
us over the next few years,” says Dr. Clive Field
of the British Library. Read more at
news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/hi/technology/
4672380.stm and from Edupage (Feb. 3, 2006)
— www.educase.edu/Edupage/

More from Edupage (Feb. 3, 2006) — The
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has agreed
to review a patent held by Forgert Networks
on the JPEG compression technique. An organ-
ization called the Public Patent Foundation had
petitioned the patent office to review the patent.
The Public Patent Foundation is a nonprofit or-
ganization committed to minimizing what it sees
damage that patents cause, and last year it
reportedly persuaded Pfizer to narrow its patent
claims on Lipitor. The JPEG patent is ex-
tremely lucrative for Forgert, especially since
the explosion of digital cameras in the past few
years. The company has reportedly earned more
than $100 million from the patent, which admi-
isters from Forgent said could be worth $1 bil-
lion. CEO Richard Snyder said his company
has thoroughly investigated the patent and is
confident it will be upheld. He said there are
no “convinving arguments of in-
validity” and the compa-
y “look[s] forward
to an efficient re-
examination.”

The Public Patent Fu-
novation said that
when the patent
office agrees to re-
consider a patent, it makes changes in 70
percent of cases, though that does not always mean the patents are
invalidated. From — ZDNet, 2 February
2006 news.zdnet.com/2100-5959_22-
603454.html. www.educase.edu/Edupage/

While poking around the BBC Website, I
learned that by the end of February, Jeeyes, P.G.
Wodehouse’s well-known valet, will disappear
from the Ask Jeeves Website! The Ask Jeeves
Website which was purchased in March 2005 by
IAC/InterActive for $1.85bn (£970m) is
“repositioning our brand and Jeeves will be
retiring,” according to Rachel Johnson,
Ask’s vice president of marketing in Europe.
Apparently in the future, Ask Jeeves will be
known as Ask. “The initial decision to axe
Jeeves was greeted with dismay by many and a
campaign to save the valet briefly flared into
life.” Gosh! I wonder what Bertie thinks?
Golly Jeeves Whiz?
news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/hi/technology/
4701474.stm — Published: 2006/02/10
17:46:18 GMT

More from the BBC Website and of inter-
est to all you who have BlackBerrys! — As
we all know, RIM, the Canadian-based firm, is
being sued by NTP which wants the
continued on page 14

<http://www.against-the-grain.com>
BlackBerry service turned off because of a patent dispute. What’s going to happen? And there’s more, see this issue, Bet You Missed It, p.76. blogs.wsj.com/law/2006/01/17/blackberry-ntp-blow-by-blow/news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/business/4699246.stm

And this just out from Edupage (Feb. 13, 2006) — Microsoft has teamed with Vodafone to challenge BlackBerry in the portable email market. The Windows Mobile E-mail service will allow users to send and receive email from portable devices and to access and edit Microsoft Word and Excel documents. The service will also allow users to have mail sent to Microsoft Outlook clients forwarded to handsets. Microsoft’s Pieter Knook said, “It’s an exciting time for companies who are now realizing the true business potential of mobile solutions.” news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/4709184.stm — BBC, 13 February 2006

Still looking for news about Don Jaeger and the demise of the Alfred Jaeger Company! A week doesn’t pass that I don’t get a call or email inquiring about Don and what has happened to him. Latest email was from Linda and Chet Pletzke <pletzke@mindspring.com>. Remember them? Long-time Charleston Conference participants, the couple from the Library of Congress and Uniformed Services University respectively have retired for the past four years but stayed in touch with Don. They miss him. So do all of us. (see ATG Dec 2005/Jan 2006, Rumors, p.12.)

STAT-USA, in conjunction with the Bureau of the Census and Beyond 20/20, has announce that they will be adding part-level data to the USA Trade Online product starting with the December trade data release (due February 10). This level of detail is currently not available anywhere else, including on the Census-released data DVDs. This is a major addition to the database and is being made available at no additional cost to USA Trade Online subscribers. home.stat-usa.gov/start/new

From Liblicense (Feb. 7, 2006) — The German coalition for action “Aktionsbündnis” now has its Webpages translated into English. This coalition for action is supported by all research organizations and a lot of universities in Germany. Have a look at www.ubevechshbuendnis.de/index.html.

PNAS is launching a new section in the journal on Sustainability Science, an emerging field of research dealing with the interactions between natural and social systems. Sustainability Science focuses on the challenge of sustainability: meeting the needs of present and future generations while substantially reducing poverty and conserving the planet’s life support systems. www.pnas.org/misc/sustainability.shtml

Some Reference Librarians are upset about the widespread use of Wikipedia. Well, this article points out some of the reasons. See, “Congress made Wikipedia changes” by Matthew Davis from the BBC News, Washington. It goes on to say, “Online reference site Wikipedia blames US Congress staff for partisan changes to a number of political biographies.” Since Wikipedia is produced by readers, apparently changes can be made easily with which how many on Capitol Hill are removing “unpalatable facts” from articles.

news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/technology/4693376.stm

Speaking of changing content — Safari Books Online, LLC, has launched Rough Cuts Service. This is the opportunity to get an exclusive sneak peek into the latest books covering new technologies. A joint venture between technology publishers O’Reilly Media, Inc. and Pearson Technology Group, a division of Pearson plc (NYSE: PSON), the beta version of the new Rough Cuts service gives readers online access to works-in-progress before they’re published as print books. Readers who buy a Rough Cuts title get immediate access to an evolving manuscript. They can read the book online or download and print a PDF version. The initial version of a Rough Cuts book will not be fully edited, subjected to final technical review, or completely formatted. Scheduled to be fully built in a software package, the Rough Cuts PDF is updated every time the author and editor make changes as they progress toward the finished book. Using the Rough Cuts service’s built-in Notes feature, readers can send feedback, suggestions, bug fixes, and comments directly to the author and editor. Four O’Reilly titles are available now, and up to eight additional Rough Cuts books from both O’Reilly and Pearson Technology Group will be added in the first quarter of 2006. A Rough Cuts title typically becomes available two to six months prior to a book’s publication. It is updated as the author and technical reviewers progress, so users have access to new versions as they are created. Readers have three purchase options through Rough Cuts program: buy the online version, at a substantial discount from the suggested retail price for the print book; buy both the Rough Cuts and, when it is released, the print book at a special package price; or place an advance order for just the finished book at a pre-publication discount. For more information about the Rough Cuts service and registration for the program, visit ny.safari.com/roughcuts.

ProQuest Company (NYSE: PQE - News) has announced that during a review related to its internal controls assessment required by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, the company discovered material irregularities in its accounting. As a result, the company intends to restate certain of its previously issued financial statements. The accounting irregularities that have been identified primarily affect ProQuest’s Information and Learning division. While the results for the Voyager Expanded Learning business have been included in the segment results for the Information and Learning business unit since the first quarter 2005, the accounting irregularities do not involve Voyager. Based upon its initial findings, the company believes that its deferred income and accrued royalty accounts are materially understated in previously issued financial statements. The company expects that it will need to restate certain financial statements.

University of California at Berkeley has settled a sexual harassment lawsuit brought by its former vice provost, who said the school failed to properly handle complaints of sexual harassment and discrimination. The whistleblower, , 59, was the university’s vice provost for student affairs. He filed the lawsuit in June 2005, alleging that the university failed to respond to his complaints of sexual harassment and discrimination. The university reached a settlement with the whistleblower in November 2005. The terms of the settlement are confidential, and the university has agreed to pay the whistleblower an undisclosed sum. The university has also agreed to implement new policies and procedures to prevent sexual harassment and discrimination.

Peter S. Oppenheimer, the Apple's senior vice president of Worldwide Marketing, announced that the company has sold 3 million Macs in the first quarter of 2006. This is an increase of 50% over the same period last year. The company also reported a 40% increase in revenue from its Macintosh business, with revenues of $2.8 billion. This was driven by strong sales of the new MacBook Air, which was introduced in January. The MacBook Air is a thin, lightweight laptop that is designed for students and professionals who need to travel a lot. It is powered by an Intel Core 2 Duo processor and has up to 10 hours of battery life.

The same holds true for libraries. Brockhaus/German Books recognizes that every collection is as unique as a face. We develop a deep understanding of each customer's library and its unique requirements. Our customers choose from a full range of library services and enjoy services tailored to their individual needs.

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<http://www.against-the-grain.com>
Robert has done some interesting research on buying and selling out of print books. He is coming to Charleston in November to tell us all about it.

A group of publishers, librarians, and learned societies have launched a community initiative employing the LOCKSS technology to support a large dark archive that serves as a failsafe repository for published scholarly content. Controlled LOCKSS (CLOCKSS), aims to provide assurance to the research community that a disaster, which would prevent the delivery of content, will not obstruct access to journal content. CLOCKSS content or the orphaned content would only become available after a trigger event, such as the material was no longer available from the publisher. In these situations, a joint advisory board, representing societies, publishers, and libraries, will begin the process to determine if the content is orphaned and whether it should be made publicly available. The board ensures that content is controlled but that no one person or sector has authority over orphaned digital materials in the system. The initial two-year pilot includes research libraries, commercial and society publishers. During this time, publishers and librarians will continue to work closely to collect and analyze data and develop a proposal for a full-scale archiving model. As part of a longer-term strategy to permanently preserve published work, CLOCKSS will report the findings to the wider community and begin the dialogue about a global infrastructure to ensure preservation of all past, present, and future digital scholarly content.

NC LIVE (North Carolina Libraries for Virtual Education) has signed a three-year agreement to provide the nearly 200 libraries in the consortium with access to more than 1,300 eAudioBook titles from Netlibrary and Recorded Books. Available titles include perennial bestsellers from authors such as Stephen King, Dan Brown, Patricia Cornwell and Alexander McCall Smith; easy-to-understand language lessons for beginners, intermediate level speakers and English as a Second Language students covering 39 languages; Newbery and Caldecott Award-winning titles for children and young adults; and timeless literary classics from writers such as James Joyce, Mark Twain, Victor Hugo and more. www.nclive.org/authtome.php

Tis the season: Awardees! Six libraries are winners of the John Cotton Dana Library Public Relations Award. Jointly sponsored by the H. W. Wilson Company and the H. W. Wilson Foundation, Bronx, N.Y., with the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA), a division of ALA, this Award has been awarded continuously since 1946. Two South Carolina Libraries were among the six winners: Charleston County Public Library (Charleston, S.C.), for its innovative project, "Remembering the Cooper River Bridges," an aggressive public relations effort with local media partnerships, which dramatically increased the public's awareness of the significance of Charleston's bridges, and raised the library's public profile with nearly $800,000 in free news coverage. Also, the continued on page 18
Speaking of Alexander Street Press, ran into the amazing Stephen Rhind-Tutt <RhindTutt@alexanderstreet.com>, president who is expecting a second little one in June. Pretty exciting. And, brainstorming about libraries and information, Stephen says that “free is the way to go.” Watch for his op ed, coming up in the April issue of ATG.

We had a conference call about the 2006 Charleston Conference a few days ago. Watch for updates on the Conference Website http://www.katina.io/conference. And meantime be sure to mark your calendars for November 8 (preconferences, Vendor Showcase) and November 9-11 (main conference). See you soon!

This is from Liblicense and was posted by Joseph J. Esposito <espositoj@gmail.com> (15 February 2006) “Why Publishing Should Send Fruit-Baskets to Google.” It’s about Google’s new Book Search.

From the Boing Boing blog. www.boingboing.net/2006/02/14/why-publishing_shoul.html

Speaking of Liblicense, a brief post from the fabulously splendidly wonderful Ann Okerson <ann.okerson@yale.edu> appeared in early February. Until mid-April, Ann will be on professional leave, working with the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) in Washington, DC. Ann will be reading Yale email daily and that remains the best way to reach her.

The Registration to the 3rd Nordic Conference on Scholarly Communication, Beyond Declarations—The Changing Landscape of Scholarly Communication to be held 24 - 25 April 2006, Star Hotel, Lund, Sweden is open at www.lib.lu.se/nocse/06.

Atypon has appointed Kelly Peters to their expanding, UK-based Client Services team as Customer Relations Manager. Kelly officially joins Atypon Limited on Wednesday 1st March, 2006 and will be responsible for supporting the Atypon Publisher partners on the Atypon Link platform. Kelly has been in the information industry for over five years, most recently with Swets Information Services, where she has held a number of client service support roles including Electronic Media Specialist (supporting suppliers and customers in the UK, USA and Internationally) and Electronic Products Coordinator for SwetsWise.

Since 1996, Atypon has focused on providing software and technology services to the information industry. Atypon has two electronic publishing propositions, Atypon Link and Atypon Premium, which work together with other custom modules provide online content hosting solutions to over 60 publishers. Atypon Premium clients include major Websites such as Blackwell-Synergy, Annual Reviews and CrossRef as well as mid-sized commercial and not-for-profit publishers. Atypon Link provides a fully managed low-cost e-publishing solution to a growing group of international publishers including Walter de Gruyter, the American Marketing Association and Thomas Telford. www.atypon.com

From Edupage, 15 February, 2006—Nicholas Negroponte will step down from the chairmanship of MIT’s Media Lab, which he co-founded in 1985, to pursue his project of supplying $100 laptops to developing countries. news.edweek.com/2006/02/22/d020900x.html

More from Edupage—Google will provide email service for students of San Jose City College under a new agreement just announced. The college, which is part of the San Jose/Evergreen Community College District, has about 10,000 students, some of whom remain students for years while others only stay for one semester. Under the new deal, Google will provide accounts and storage for students through its Gmail service. The arrangement is similar to those Microsoft has through its Hotmail University program. Google is soliciting other colleges and universities to participate in its email offering.

Chronicle of Higher Education, 15 February 2006(sub. req’d) chronicle.com/daily/2006/02/2006021501t.htm

The 2006 Allen Press Emerging Trends Seminar will take place at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, April 26, 2006. www.allenpress.com/static/seminar06-email-1.htm

John Wiley & Sons, Inc., and The American Ceramic Society (ACerS) have signed a multi-year agreement to jointly publish books and meeting proceedings, effective March 2006. Under the agreement, Wiley and ACerS will co-publish approximately 20-30 books and proceedings per year in the fields of ceramics, ceramic engineering, glasses, composites, crystallization, abrasives, ceramics, whitewares, and advanced ceramics. Wiley will oversee the publishing services for these titles, including production, marketing, and distribution worldwide. Wiley and ACerS will collaborate on editorial development.

www.wiley.com,
www.ceramics.org.

It’s hard to keep up with the energetic Helen Henderson! Here’s what she’s been up to. The British Library, HighWire Press, Ringgold Inc., Swets Information Services B.V. and a group of HighWire-affiliated publishers have launched an initiative to explore the creation, prototype implementation and value of a common institutional identifier that can be used throughout the entire industry, from publisher to end user. The start of every calendar year is a turbulent time for all parties involved with the journal supply chain, with missing issues, lost access to electronic journals and problems relating to the setting up of initial access. Many of these problems occur because of communication breakdowns somewhere along that chain. Although each company or organization involved has its own way of recognizing customers, users, clients and subscriptions, one of the aims of this project is that, in the creation and utilization of a standard institutional identifier, these problems will be eliminated, mitigated or at the very least diagnosed earlier. As qualified representatives of all stages in the chain, the participants in this pilot project share...
Books That Matter
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folksonomies. In a section called “The Social Life Of Metadata”—a characteristically fun and catchy Morvillian phrase—Morville analyzes how taxonomies, controlled vocabularies, and ontologies, work and what their strengths and weaknesses are. His explanation of ontologies was particularly useful for me, as I’ve found the term and its relation to the Semantic Web very slippery. He explains that ontologies are systems that structure semantic relationships between controlled terms, offering “a taxonomy and a set of inference rules,” and in doing so help provide an infrastructure that captures more than just the associative relationships between entities that the traditional thesaurus offers.

Morville also goes further, asking why ontological approaches like the Semantic Web, and RDF (Rich Description Framework) have “failed to change the world” when they have not become “an integral component of every Web project.” His answer is that “the vast majority of information systems do not warrant the application of structured metadata and controlled vocabularies.” Almost as significant is the fact that “the design of shared classification systems is surprisingly complex, messy, and expensive.” There is a certain “fallacy” in a “rules-based definition...most categories we employ in everyday life are defined by fuzzy cognitive models rather than objective rules.” And, finally, he raises the point that “the design of taxonomies and ontologies is inherently political and moral;” a particular view of the universe is always being imposed.

Contrast this expensive, inherently biased structure with that of the “swarms of social software buff buzz ing around the blogosphere” who are participating in the “broad sociotechnical phenomenon” of social software, which, simply put, is software that “supports group communications.” Such tools have exploded on the Web in recent years, including blogs, Wikipedia, del.icio.us, Flickr, and many others. These tools are characterized by informal social classification or “folksonomies,” and here again, Morville gives us the history of this term. He quotes another writer (David Sifry of Technorati—see http://www.technorati.com) on the merits of folksonomies: “Unlike rigid taxonomy schemes that people dislike, the case of tagging for personal organization with social incentives leads to a rich and discoverable folksonomy. Intelligence is provided by real people from the bottoms-up to aid social discovery. And with the right tag search and navigation, folksonomy outperforms more structured approaches to classification.”

Morville is even-handed throughout this book, and it is probably not chance that led him to present this particular argument in another’s voice. He concludes in a measured manner not that folksonomy is better than structured classification, but that “we don’t have to choose. Ontologies, taxonomies, and folksonomies are not mutually exclusive.” The “formal structure of ontologies and taxonomies” works well situations like a corporate website where it is worth the investment entailed; but folksonomies thrive in the blogosphere where their “casual serendipity...is certainly better than nothing.” To capture this distinction, he repeats a particularly apt metaphor that originated with high-profi le blogger David Weinberger: “The old way creates a tree. The new rakes leaves together.” Both the structured hierarchy of the tree and the shifting piles of independent leaves are important, useful, and signiﬁcant. The strength of his discussion about this topic, like all of those in the book, is that Morville gives us the background in a manner that those new to the topic can understand, he analyzes the various positions, he uses vibrant language to help capture abstract ideas, and he offers the reader his own conclusion, which is usually some middle ground between extremes. It’s educational, it’s satisfying, and it’s somehow both exciting and reassuring at the same time.

Morville’s chapter on “inspired decisions” was one of my favorites. He summarizes the key research on how humans make decisions, and how the human brain makes choices—the deep evolutionary reliance on emotion, and tendency to seek and detect patterns in all information we process. This “bounded irrationality” is not presented as a problem or failure, but simply what is. (Unlike the macroeconomics class I took as an undergrad, what is described actually sounds like what real people do.) What’s new about this book, rather than, say, an introductory social science book about human cognition, is that he condenses important concepts and relates them to life in the virtual universe of the Internet.

For example, some of his observations are that:

• The Internet allows us to take advantage of the “power to make better decisions.” In part this is because the Internet allows us to take advantage of “collective intelligence,” the connections other users make for us, with fewer barriers than in the past.
• But at the same time since we “absorb most of our information passively and rely on who we know for much of what we know...and the smallest of barriers will deter us.”
• Systems must be designed in such a way that there are not too many choices, for as Morville shows, research is clear that too much information prevents us from concentrating and effectively deciding.
• Humans operate in a world of personal networks, “fuzzy goals, imperfect information, and limited time” with “partially rational minds” that “adapt well enough to ‘satisfice’ but don’t generally optimize.”

With my “limited time” and “partially rational mind,” I was “fuzzy” about why I picked up Morville’s book (although his appealing and inspiring talk at the London Online Conference played a big role in that decision). The book did not disappoint, and I think it did much more than “satisfice.” In fact, I think Ambient Findability is a gift for librarians and publishers who are seeking a conceptual grasp of information seeking and finding in our Webbed world.

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Endnotes

1. All review headlines and review quotes as seen on Amazon.com 2/5/06.
2. Weinberger’s blog is at http://www.hyper.org/blogger.

Medical Library as the Associate Director of Content Management. Her last day at Rush University is tentatively March 3. You can reach her after March 3 on her Yahoo email at: <lizlorbeer@yahoo.com>. She says that she should have UAB email in April. Ramune adds that Liz seems to like to live in “B” cities—Buffalo, Boston, (Chicago), now Birmingham.

CrossRef has a new trial service for its members. In partnership with Inera, CrossRef has deployed a custom version of Inera’s eXtiles(r) refXpress that parses unstructured, free-text references into granular and valid XML and returns any matching Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) for those references. The Free-Text Query form is now available on a trial basis to members on the CrossRef Website. The simple cut-and-paste form accepts references formatted in common bibliographic styles and returns the DOI for the article if one is found. One or more references may be pasted into the form on this page; each reference must

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<http://www.against-the-grain.com>
New Mackenzie & Harris Titles for 2006

The Encyclopedia of Invasions & Conquests—
From the Ancient Times to the Present; Second Edition
A comprehensive, in-depth exploration of the 150+ invasions and conquests that have played a remarkable role in shaping our world and defining its boundaries physically, politically and culturally.

The Encyclopedia of Warrior Peoples & Fighting Groups; Second Edition
Explores the origins and leadership of these outstanding combat forces, their accomplishments, their decline or flourishing, and assesses their influence on the groups, methods and equipment of warfare that followed.

Suitable for the reference collections of all public, high school, and academic libraries—ABRA

From Suffrage to the Senate: An Encyclopedia of American Women in Politics; Second Edition
A comprehensive and valuable compendium of biographies of the key players in women’s politics, past and present, along with an examination of the wide range of women’s movements.

A well-researched, skillfully organized reader on American women’s influence on public life. Recommended for all public and academic libraries—Library Journal

The Value of a Dollar: 1600–1865: The Colonial Era to the Civil War
From the Development of the Colonies to the Civil War, this volume details what Americans paid for various items, how much they made in various professions, and what they spent their money on. Plus, handy Conversion charts make easy work of calculating comparing values to today’s dollar.

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This solid reference will reach from high school to college-level libraries with its survey of invasions from ancient to modern times—Bookwatch

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IT’S TRUE!!!!!

Fiction Contest in
Against the Grain
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How many of you are working on the
Great American Novel, Short Stories, Poetry?

Here’s your chance to get into print and reach thousands of readers starved for fiction that tells the story of libraries and librarians, publishing and bookselling, but we’re open to any original work—your imagination is the limit.

A fiction page will become a regular feature of ATG after this contest, so sharpen your pencils and tell us your story.

Submission lengths, generally, should be 2,000 to 5,000 words. Deadline for entries is August 15, 2006.
ians may be happening just when the need for them is lessening.

To return to my fiddling metaphor, Campbell suggests "Librarians must widen the discussion and raise the questions concerning the future of academic libraries" instead of making beautiful music while our libraries/profession are being consumed by the flames of newer technology (page 28). He doesn’t try to answer the question but emphasizes that each campus must confront this question.

I think he is right but I find it difficult to come up with some possible answers that I could advance on my own campus to get the discussion going. I guess I would like to return to the ideas [a bit updated] advanced last year in my tongue in cheek short story in ATG of what the librarian whose library was destroyed by a tsunami should do (March 2005):

- Buy as many eBooks and e-journals as possible and get the faculty to use them for teaching purposes instead of our legacy printed collections that cost people and space.

- Tell the faculty to rely upon Google Print for old books and give them an account with which they can buy new books from Amazon.com.

- Build new space, or convert the old space generated by selling off all the books that can be found in Google, for enormous information commons complexes for student study needs. Provide most services 18 hours a day but keep it open the other six hours.

- If our newly emptied old buildings still have surplus space — turn them into gyms, theatres, etc., for all the people who are spending too much time in front of their computers.

- Replace paper and books conservators/ hindery staff with more systems librarians able to deal with the new problems that come with digital forms of information.

- Look at the work that needs to be done and hire accordingly. Hire more subject specialists and make sure help desks are manned with people who know what they are doing. When a professional librarian is needed, hire him or her but don’t start with a near religious belief in the need to find clones for ourselves. Cut the rest of the staff to the point that only those needed to do the above are left.

Do I really believe the above? I think I may be "just kidding." Or am I? I suggest that you find Campbell’s article and spend some time thinking about these questions.

PS. I would like to thank Mark Miller of Montgomery College in Takoma Park, Maryland who kindly pointed out that in my September 2005 Backtalk article I referred to myself as an ex-patriot when I should have said that I was an "expatriate." Thanks so much for correcting me. All my patriotic relatives back home in Idaho will be much relieved. — AF

Endnotes

Innovations Affecting Us
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emerging issues that include archiving and copyright concerns. How libraries will use this technology remains to be seen in many cases, but it may become more important if coursecasting proves to be a positive supplement to the university or college student’s learning experience.

According to the most recent Pew Internet & American Life Project Report on Podcasting (April 2005), over 22 million American Adults own an iPod or other MP3 player and of those 22 million, 29% have downloaded a podcast. More specifically, almost 50% of the people who own an iPod or other MP3 player and have downloaded podcasts are between the ages of 18-28. The report is available from http://www.pewinternet.org/PPFR1154/report_display.asp. Accessed 20 January 2006.

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participation? If the price is right, yes. In the United States, the requested amount is $5,000 a year for three years for Ph.D. institutions, $2,000 a year for schools offering Master’s degrees, and $1,000 for institutions with undergraduate programs. More than 400 libraries worldwide have committed to the Endowment. Combined with a National Endowment for the Humanities challenge grant, the library fundraising arms secured commitments of $1.3 million in its first year.

To be sure, there is a free rider problem that the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy has not fully overcome. Some schools have not contributed (and may not be aware of the importance of their contribution), but nonetheless benefit from the contributions of others. The SEP has an outreach plan that targets institutions meeting criteria such as size, location, the kind of degree in philosophy it awards, and so forth. When a reader from one of the targeted institutions attempts to access an entry, the system (using IP checking) returns a notice at the top of the page gently reminding the reader to speak to his/her library about the benefits of financial participation. The hope is that, much like NPR’s pledge drives (or the IRS’s own quasi-open access policy), the demonstrated researcher interest will convince the library to support the model.

The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy is forging a new path in scholarly publishing. It is neither a subscription service nor an author pays model. Its content is free, but only so long as the community that benefits from it provides the necessary funding to attain its endowment threshold. It is operated not by individual scholars or university administrators or libraries, but by a combination of all of the above. Will the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy succeed? Early returns, both in terms of content quality and financial planning, are promising. Will the model be replicated and extended by others? Time will tell.

Rumors
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He also held various sales and marketing positions in Addison Wesley and Simon and Schuster. Beale holds a bachelor’s degree from Loughborough University, UK, has studied extensively in the United States, and is an active member of the UK Publishers Association. He and his family will be relocating to the Ann Arbor, Michigan area in the coming months, and he will be based out of the ProQuest global headquarters there. www.il.proquest.com/

Do you have ARTstor? We do in our library and are learning more about its functionality and content every day. Was talking to Bruce Heterick <Bruce.Heterick@jstor.org> about it. (He has been home recuperating from double-hip replacement surgery. Ouch!) Anyway, Bruce says that Max Marmor and Kathryn Wayne will be doing an article on ARTstor for ATG. Stay tuned.

A fascinating article to read — "Vatican ‘cajuses in’ by putting price on the Pope’s copyright" by Richard Owen in The Times, January 23, 2006. Seems that the Vatican has decided to impose strict copyright on all papal pronouncements. www.timenline.com.co/article/0,22,13569-20051510.html.

And, finally, be sure and read Bob Nardini’s Issues in Vendor/Library Relations, this issue, p. 75. It reminded me of my father, a research economist. When I was in high school, he gave me a small book called How To Lie With Statistics. It taught me a lot, just like Bob’s column cn numbers ... very .. umm ... factual.

Signing off. See you in April.

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