2006

Barbara Nelson Obituary

Nancy Gibbs  
*Duke University*, gibbsrn@mindspring.com

Bonnie MacEwen  
*Auburn University*

Follow this and additional works at: [http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg](http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg)  
Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg)

**Recommended Citation**  
DOI: [http://dx.doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.4946](http://dx.doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.4946)

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.
Barbara Nelson Obituary

Submitted by Nancy Gibbs (Head, Acquisitions Department, Duke University and former colleague of Barbara’s at Auburn University) <gibbsm@ mindspring.com> and Bonnie MacEwen (Auburn University)

Barbara Nelson came to Auburn as Gifts and Exchange Librarian in 1978. She was named Outreach Librarian in 1979, and was appointed as Chair of the Acquisitions Department in 1998. Her many friends and associates include colleagues at Auburn University and throughout Alabama and the Southeast; friends and associates with the Association of Christian Librarians, where she served as editor of the Christian Periodical Index for over a decade and from whom she received the Emily Russell Award for Outstanding Contributions in the Area of Christian Librarianship in 2000; colleagues in the Alabama Library Association who worked with the bibliography of Alabama Authors; and fellow worshippers at the First Presbyterian Church of Opelika. Barbara Nelson’s contributions to Auburn University were numerous and wide-ranging. In addition to her guidance and supervision of the Acquisitions Department, Barbara served on more than a dozen university committees (including serving as Chair of the Religious Affairs Committee, Program Review Committee and on the SACS Self-Study Steering Committee). She served on and chaired a host of Library Committees, including more than a dozen search committees, and contributed more than twenty articles and papers to the literature of academic librarianship. She was also responsible for the selection of literature for the Library’s Juvenile Collection, and shaped that fine collection during her tenure at Auburn.

More than her professional accomplishments, friends and associates will remember Barbara Nelson for the personal qualities that defined her: her religious faith; her concern for and willingness to assist those in need; the deep affection of her colleagues that matched her own affection for them; and her unfailing good humor and pleasure in life. The grace, resiliency, and courage with which Barbara faced recurring cycles of sickness and treatment during the last years of her life will serve as a model and ideal to many who knew her.

And guess who else is working for Serials Solutions? The young and vibrant Anne Lenzi, Becky Lenzi’s younger daughter! Just graduated from University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington. Hoo hoo!

And, speaking of U. of Puget Sound, I remember when the astute Desmond Taylor, Li brary Director, was one of ATG’s first subscribers! Hoo hoo again!

Well, the traveling Charles Lowry <clwry@ umd.edu> could not be in Charles ton this year. Why? At the advanced age of 30 and precisely at the time of the Conference, Charles’ wife’s nephew has decided to get married. Oh well … Next year?

Have been talking to Susan Peterson, the newly appointed CEO of Blackwell Book Services, <susan.peterson@blackwell.com> and, boy, is she a pistol! We are looking forward to an upcoming interview in the next few weeks.

And we forgot to tell you that Gary Rautenstrauch, once of Blackwell’s Book Services, has surfaced at AMS in San Diego, California. I heard he’s now CEO of AMS, Advanced Marketing Services, www.advmkt.com.

Speaking of interviews, we have several in the pipeline and ready to run. Coming soon are interviews with Lorcan Dempsey (OCLC), Zoltan Papp (Academia Kiado), Susan Peterson (Blackwell Book Services) (we told you about her above), Chris Warnock (ebrary), Hazel Woodward (Cranfield University) and several others.

And speaking of Blackwell Book Services, had a delightful time talking to the informed Jay Hemery <jayhemery@blackwell.com> about the virtual approval plan and eNotes (New Titles E-mail Announcement Service). Followed up with the perfect John Laraway <John.Laraway@ Blackwell.com> who helped the competent Shirley Jeffries, our order Librarian, understand the process.

Another bit of good news. Jill Emery is now Head Librarian, Serials and Electronic Resources at the University of Texas Libraries at Austin. And I was just reading the intriguing “guru interview” with Jill by Arnaud Pelle in Emerald Insight, www.emeraldinsight.com/info/librarians/Management_Resources/man_gurney.jsp.

Speaking of the Fiesole Retreat in Lund, just got a notice from the inimitable Chris Beckett <chris@ scholinfo.com> that the rather large (and funny!) PowerPoint file of his presentation in Lund is available at www.scholinfo.com/presentations/2006/8/10/ the-new-world-order-in-collection-developmentnext-the-commercial-perspective.html.

And speaking of the papers from the Fiesole Retreats, visit the Casalini Website at http:// digital.casalini.it/retriev/. Plans for future Retreats are in the works. Looks like the 2008 Retreat will be in Hong Kong. The dates are not set yet but we hope to announce them in Charleston in November. The 2009 Fiesole Retreat will be in Fiesole, Italy itself, near the palatial Casalini headquarters. digital.casalini.it/retriev/