

2007

2008 Charleston Conference -- 28th Annual Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition

Editor

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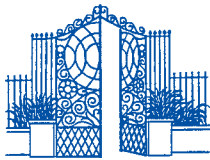
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I Hear the Train A Comin'
from page 08

Looking forward, I am not at all certain that one can devise comprehensive, fool-proof benchmarks to track the health of the library-vendor relationship. Perhaps one way to look at the macro-level state of affairs (as opposed to a micro-level view provided by, say, a specific customer satisfaction survey or focus group) is to consider progress in those areas in which libraries and vendors have significant scope for agreement. Examples include Open Data, third world access to content, reference linking, and metadata standards. Topics such as these present tremendous opportunities for trust-building. Their successful contemplation will yield wins for all parties.

Another significant way to qualitatively track library-vendor relations is to observe the dialog at events such as the **Charleston Conference**. Is there a spirit of collegiality, an esprit-de-corps that permeates the interaction among parties? In other words, when we scan across 2001 to 2007 to 2013, will we find **Charleston** attendees working collectively toward a common purpose of improving scholarly communication efficiencies? Or will we see vendors standing silently cross-armed as librarians throw daggers with their eyes? The general tenor of these interactions may in fact be a fairly accurate barometer of the library-vendor relationship.

And this is, as I see it, the value of the **Charleston Conference**. Among its myriad benefits, it offers an annual window into the state of the industry. How do librarians perceive their role? What technological and philosophical advances are impacting service delivery? How are the various scholarly communication actors working together or at cross purposes on important issues? The **Charleston Conference** helps provide a lay of the land — in 2001, today, and on into the future. 🐘

Rumors *from page 6*

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, the hard-working **Pam Censer** <pam.censer@gmail.com> and the even more hard-working **Susan Campbell** <scampbel@ycp.edu>, bless their hearts, are doing a great job of being Mentors to those new to the **Charleston Conference**! They have turned Mentoring into an art form.

Really! They are planning a **First Timers' Reception** (sponsored by **Coutts Library Services**) and all sorts of other activities. Gosh!

And speaking of **Susan**, can you believe that her grandson, **Gabe**, is ONE YEAR old! How the time flies! And being the adorable woman that she is, **Susan** has offered to knit a blanket and booties for my grandson! Not much time left so if you see her and she is not knitting, please remind her to get busy!

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www.katina.info/conference

2008 Charleston Conference — 28th Annual Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition

Call For Papers, Ideas, Conference Themes, Panels, Debates, Diatribes, Speakers, Poster Sessions, Preconferences, etc. ...

Wed., Nov. 5, 2008 Preconferences and Vendor Showcase — Thurs.-Sat., Nov. 6-8, 2008 Main Conference
Francis Marion Hotel & Embassy Suites Historic District, Charleston, SC

If you are interested in leading a discussion, acting as a moderator, coordinating a lively lunch, or would like to make sure we discuss a particular topic, please let us know. The **Charleston Conference** prides itself on creativity, innovation, flexibility, and informality. If there is something you are interested in doing, please try it out on us. We'll probably love it...

The Conference Directors for the **2008 Charleston Conference** include — **Beth Bernhardt**, **Principal Director** (UNC-Greensboro) <beth_bernhardt@uncg.edu>, **Glenda Alvin** <galvin@tstate.edu>, **Cris Ferguson** (Furman University) <cris.ferguson@furman.edu>, **David Goodman** <dgoodman@princeton.edu>, **Chuck Hamaker** <cahamake@email.uncc.edu>, **Heidi Hoerman** <hoerman@sc.edu>, **Ramune Kubilius** (Northwestern Health Sciences Library) <r-kubilius@northwestern.edu>, **Heather Miller** (SUNY-Albany) <hmiller@uamail.albany.edu>, **Jack Montgomery** (Western Kentucky University) <jack.montgomery@wku.edu>, **Audrey Powers** (UFS Tampa Library) <apowers@lib.usf.edu>, **John Perry Smith** (Total Information Inc.) <jps@totalinformation.com>, **Anthony Watkinson** (Consultant) <anthony.watkinson@btoopenworld.com>, **Katina Strauch** (College of Charleston) <kstrauch@comcast.net> or www.katina.info/conference.

Send ideas by **July 31, 2008**, to any of the Conference Directors listed above.

Or to: **Katina Strauch**, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409
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