

Preface and Acknowledgments

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Katina Strauch and Bruce Strauch, "Preface and Acknowledgments" (2014). *Proceedings of the Charleston Library Conference*.
<http://dx.doi.org/>

Preface and Acknowledgments

“The Importance of Being Earnest” was the theme of the 2014 Charleston Conference which took place in Charleston, South Carolina, on Wednesday, November 5 through Saturday, November 8, 2014, with over 1,600 participants. The far-ranging and diverse program, which focuses on the purchase and leasing of information of all types and in all available formats, is curated by an able team of Charleston Conference directors headed by Beth Bernhardt and Leah Hinds who have worked long and hard to compile this volume. Thanks are due to Leah and Beth and to all the Charleston Conference Directors who helped in assuring timely and professionally peer-reviewed submissions. Thanks are also due to the Purdue University Press team: Katherine Purple, Managing Editor, Dave Scherer, Scholarly Repository Specialist, Bryan Schaffer, Sales and Marketing Specialist, Dianna Gilroy, Production Editor, and many others behind the scenes.

In 2014, the Charleston Conference included eleven preconferences covering the evaluation of electronic resources, using Excel, content analysis, online learning, the library as publisher, building eBook collections for the long term, campus open access policies, online learning and the library, negotiating with vendors, advanced data analysis, and sustainable strategies for digital resource delivery and access. Ten plenary sessions; several hundred concurrent sessions; and lively lunch discussions, PechaKucha-like shotgun “shorts,” and poster sessions spiced up the offerings. In 2013, the Neapolitan format was introduced which allowed three plenary-level speakers to speak in large rooms during the same time slot. This innovation by the Conference Directors was very popular and was continued in 2014. The Conference Directors also continued Charleston Premiers during Saturday morning breakfast which were refereed and allowed companies to make 5-minute presentations about new and emerging products.

The Charleston Conference has a plethora of additional offerings including Juried Product Development Forums for publishers or vendors

who want to get feedback from librarians about new or emerging products, Dine Around dinners on Friday night at some of Charleston’s well-known restaurants, a Gala Reception on Thursday evening, and a Leadership Award for one of the Conference Directors.

The 2014 lead keynote speech by Anthea Stratigos of Outsell, entitled “Being Earnest is the New Normal,” energized us all to consider new approaches in our everyday environments. Other keynote and Neapolitan speakers included Charles Lyons, Bob Nardini, and Nicole Allen discussing the library’s changing role in providing textbook content; Todd Carpenter, Bruce Heterich and Brian Sherman and Scott Bernier were interested in discovery and fair linking; Adam Chesler, Jim Dooley, David Parker and Zac Rolnick tackled DRM and intellectual property rights; and John Rennie was interested in developments in science education; Scott Plutchak, Greg Tananbaum, and John Vaughn dissected the scholarly ecosystem; James L.W. West presented a fascinating historical view of price control and the publisher; and Carol Tenopir and Gabriel Hughes concentrated on download data.

There were breaks in the plenary and Neapolitan talks when a lively Oxford-style debate ensued between Rick Anderson and David Magier about whether library collections should be shaped by patrons or librarians. As well, a panel of James J. O’Donnell, Phil Richerme, and Christine Fair were brutally frank about what Faculty want librarians to know.

The Saturday sessions were equally stimulating. Beginning with Premier five-minute refereed presentations by new companies and products, the next plenary/Neapolitan talks were about crowd-sourcing of library services (Ilana Barnes Stonebraker, John Dove, Scott Johnson, and Tim Johnson); unavailable material on interlibrary loan (Jennifer Duncan and Carol Kochan), and Big Data, Retention, and Academic Libraries by Adam Murray.

The Concurrent sessions, Lively Lunches, Poster sessions, shotgun sessions, and the like that were

submitted and refereed by the editors are grouped into six categories in this volume: Collection Development, End Users, Management and Administration, Patron-Driven Acquisitions and Interlibrary Loan, Scholarly Communication, and Techie Issues.

In 2014, the Charleston Conference introduced several Charleston Seminars which were held prior to the main conference and preconferences. A Digital Curation Seminar was sponsored by the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science and the Charleston Conference for a full day on Monday, November 3 and a half day Tuesday, November 4 just prior to the main Charleston Conference. The luncheon/seminar on Saturday, November 8, 2014, was also held on the theme "Being Earnest With our Collections: Determining Key Challenges and Best Practices. The luncheon was moderated by Michael Arthur and included Michael Levine-Clark and Rebecca Seger, Jill Grogg and Robert McDonald, Jonathan Harwell and Jim Bunnelle as well as Rick Anderson discussing alternative serial distribution models, transitioning from legacy systems to cloud infrastructure, and future possibilities for ebooks. Information and slides from these presentations is located on the Conference website.

Many new ideas and innovations are implemented and shared at the Charleston Conferences!

Reports of many of the plenary sessions and concurrent sessions are included in this volume, many transcribed ably by Caroline Goldsmith. Archives of many of the papers are also loaded online at the Conference website.

And, of course, the city of Charleston was as beautiful and vibrant as ever!

The next Charleston Conference will be held November 4–7, 2015, with the theme "Where Do We Go From Here?" There will be several new offerings, several preconferences, and Charleston Seminars as librarians, publishers, vendors, aggregators and consultants from all over the world explore important changes within the industry that impact the way in which information is leased, acquired and made available. Charleston Conference information will be updated regularly. For archives and further information, <http://www.charlestonlibraryconference.com/>

See you in Charleston in November!

Katina Strauch, Founder and Convener, Charleston Conference

Bruce Strauch, Owner, Charleston Conference