June 1999

Rumors

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Against the Grain

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TM

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Against the Grain

"Linking Publishers, Vendors and Librarians"

ISSN: 1043-2094

Informing American Librarians about the Euro: An Introduction

by **Beau David Case** (Head, European and Linguistics Collections, Ohio State University Libraries, 1858 Neil Avenue Mall, Columbus, OH 43210)
<case.42@osu.edu>

The BBC's *Money Programme* on December 13, 1998 aired a ten-minute feature on British perceptions of the euro, including the results of a telephone survey of 1,000 Britons (video available as a RealAudio file at <http://news.bbc.co.uk/olmedia/video/moneyprog/euro.ram>). The results were a bit of a surprise to the international business community, and undoubtedly are applicable to other non-euro countries. Of those polled: 51% did not know the new currency was called the euro, and common guesses at the name included curo, ecur, etu, eu, equader, and qudos; 48% of small business owners assumed the euro affected them, but only 13% of them were doing anything about it; 95% did not know that euro coins and bills would appear January 1, 2002; 90% did not know the value of the euro, and guesses ranged from one penny to eight pounds; and 70% were against UK participation in the euro. We cannot expect much better answers here in the US—hence this *ATG* issue on the euro. Although the emu and euro are

indeed the world's largest bird and kangaroo respectively, we are concerned here with the other EMU and the other euro: European Monetary Union (EMU) and the new common currency of its 11 member nations.

The euro was introduced on January 1 of this year, and although coins and bills are not yet in circulation, the euro is a serious international currency. The front page headline of the February 2, 1999 *Financial Times* made this clear: "Euro beats dollar in bond issues." In only its first month of trading, the euro pushed the dollar into second place in international bond market trading (the British pound ranked third). We now find ourselves in a dual currency world, with the upstart euro

challenging the once monolithic greenback.

Yet, like any other currency, the euro is susceptible to both economic and non-economic forces. The euro began international trading on Monday, January 4, 1999 at an exchange rate of one euro to \$1.17. By the end of April, however, the exchange rate was pushed down to \$1.06 due to news of lower than expected economic growth in Germany, and due

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Librarians have nothing to fear from the euro—unless they fail to read this ATG issue!

If Rumors Were Horses

Let's see. Which **Rumor** to print first? There are so many!

It's official! As of September 1, the steadfast and stupendous **Joyce L. Ogburn** (Old Dominion University) <jogburn@odu.edu> will be **Associate Director of Resources and Collection Management Services at the University of Washington**. Wow! Congratulations, Joyce!

The wonderful **Paula Kaufman** (remember her inspiring keynote in Charleston last year?) has been appointed University Librarian at the **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**. After 11 years at the U. of Tennessee-Knoxville, Paula will succeed **Robert Wedgeworth** and comes with tenure as a full professor. Congratulations, Paula!

It was April 16. It was a Friday. Things were

slow at the office. I was thinking of going home early. Then, Wham! In one fell swoop, I learned that the effervescent **Dan Halloran** is the new **President and CEO of Blackwell's Book Services (BBS)**! Dan has been CEO of **Academic Book Center** since 1986. Dan will also become a member of the board of **Blackwell Ltd.** **Barry Fast**, a partner with Dan and one of my favorite people of all time, will become Senior VP for Strategic Planning

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and Development at **BBS**. And there's more. Read our fascinating interview with Dan in this issue, p. 26. If you want to know even more, see www.blackwell.com and www.acbc.com.

Speaking of CEOs, the awesome, tireless, and incredibly hard working **Rick Lugg** has been appointed **President and COO** of **Yankee Book Peddler**. Rick has been with **Yankee** since 1981 and has held a variety of positions since then, most recently serving as Vice President of Library System Services. **Christina Van Beaver**, with **Yankee** since early 1997, has also been appointed Chief Financial Officer. Lugg and Beaver join **John Secor**, Chairman, **Glen Secor**, Chief Executive Officer and **Gary Shirk**, Corporate Director, on the **YBP Executive Board**.

Well. Longtime friend and mentor, **Fred Philipp**, who used to be President and CEO of **BBS**, is stepping down to make room for **Dan Halloran**. Fred will take over the management of **Blackwell's Information Services** offices in New York. Meanwhile, he is planning his retirement in 2000. I talked to Fred by phone the other day and he sounds mellow and content. He says his office looks out over the panorama of The Big Apple, but he and his wife **Judy** are looking forward to him spending some time at home! Fred has worked long and hard and deserves our thanks and best wishes. He says he will be in **Charleston** at the **Conference** so we'll have a chance to tell him in person.

The incredible **Carol Pitts Diedrichs**, Assistant Director of Technical Services at **Ohio State University Libraries**, Columbus, Ohio, has been named recipient of the **Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award** presented by the Acquisitions Section. The award, a citation and a \$1,500 grant donated by **Harrassowitz**, is given to recognize the contributions by and outstanding leadership of an individual to the field of acquisitions librarianship. "The contributions of **Carol Pitts Diedrichs** to this special area of librarianship have been varied and dynamic. She is editor-in-chief of the professional journal **Library Acquisitions Practice & Theory** (now **Library Collections, Acquisitions, and Technical Services**), a leader in **OhioLINK**, Ohio's statewide library consortium, active in the **North American Serials Interest Group**, and several **American Library Association (ALA)** committees. Diedrichs is cited for bringing vision and focus to groups she led and for her individual contributions at all levels," said **Dorothy Marcinko**, chair of the **Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award Committee**. A graduate of **Baylor University**, Diedrichs received her MLIS from the **University of Texas**. The award will be presented on Monday, June 28, at the **ALCTS Membership Meeting and President's Program** during **ALA The Annual Conference** in New Orleans, La.

And guess what? **Lyman Newlin** is still

writing away for **ATG**! When my hard disc drive was in the hospital, Lyman forgave me for not getting his article in this issue of **ATG**. And, guess what, again? **Lyman** turned 89 (!!!) on Wednesday, May 29! **Happy Birthday, Papa Lyman**. We love you.

After 22+ years in the **Texas Instruments'** library network, **Linda Kyprios** <Linda_Kyprios@clr.com> is now in the Marketing Communications Department of **RIA** (formerly Computer Language Research) in Carrollton, Texas. **RIA** (the Texas branch) produces tax and accounting software under the trademarks of **GoSystem**, **InSource** and **TrustEase**. Of course, we are all familiar with the print, CD and Web versions of the **Research Institute of America** publications—titles such as the **Federal Tax Coordinator** and **CHECKPOINT**. **RIA Group** falls under **Thomson Professional & Regulatory Inc.** And I also learned that Linda's husband is from Athens, Greece and that she has two sons (Evangelos and Apostolos).

Swets Subscription Service has announced a joint technology and marketing agreement with **MDL Information Systems, Inc.**, a leader in discovery informatics for the life science and chemical industries, whose software, content, and services provide the enterprise framework for identifying successful new products. Under the agreement, **MDL** customers can enable **LitLink/Standard Server** to access **SwetsNet**, currently providing over 1,500 titles from a consolidated source. **MDL Information** is a wholly owned subsidiary of **Elsevier Science** and has offices worldwide with headquarters in San Leandro, California.

The **1999 Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Academic Research Librarian of the Year** has been awarded to **Hannelore Rader**, university librarian at the **University of Louisville** (Kentucky). Pretty awesome!

And speaking of awesome, **Mary Reichel**, university librarian of the Carol Grotnes Belk Library at **Appalachian State University** (N.C.) is the 1999 recipient of the **Miriam Dudley Instruction Librarian Award**. Congratulations to both of these wonderfully talented women!

And speaking of talented women, **Lolly (Laura) Gasaway** tops my list! Have you bought her book, *Growing Pains: Adapting Copyright for Libraries, Education, and Society* (0837706458, \$75, Rothman) yet?

I guess you all have heard that several **Journal of Academic Librarianship** board members have resigned following purchase of the journal and other **JAI Press** titles by **Elsevier**.

Cell Press, publisher of *Cell*, *Immunity*, *Molecular Cell*, and *Neuron* has been bought by **Elsevier Science** as of April 1. **Dr. Benjamin Lewin** will continue as editor of *Cell* and *Molecular Cell*, and will remain responsible for the editorial management of the other journals. The future strategy of **Cell Press** will be to continue to publish high-quality scien-

tific information, developed primarily for the biological research community, and widely distributed via subscriptions to individuals.

EBSCO Publishing has completed negotiations for the acquisition of **NoveList™**, **CARL Corporation's** electronic readers' advisory resource for fiction readers. Introduced on the library market in 1994, **NoveList** is currently licensed for use in one out of every five public libraries in the U.S. The entire **NoveList** team will be joining **Ebsco** and will continue work on several research initiatives in the area of readers' advisory services. **NoveList's** partners in these efforts include the **Chicago Public Library**, the **St. Louis Public Library**, and the **Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning, Library Development and Services office**.

And the creator of **NoveList** is the innovatively awesome **Duncan Smith**, a librarian no less, who has just won the **UNC-CH Distinguished Alumnus Award** for 1999! Hooray and congratulations, Duncan!

Wade Pickren (Director of Archives and Library Services, American Psychological Association) <WPickren@apa.org> is considering having one of their librarians attend this year's **Charleston Conference** (November 4-6)! All you out there, tell him that he should do this, okay?

When surfing cable late one night, the intrepid **Becky Lenzini** (**The Charleston Advisor**) <becky@charlestonco.com> saw one of our wonderful contributing columnists **Sandy Paul** (SKP Associates) <skpassoc@CWIXmail.com> on television! Sandy was sitting behind **Pat Schroeder** (President of **AAP**) at a panel on the future of publishing at the recent **Book Expo** in L.A. Boy! What you don't see on television these days!

I can't believe it! **Joe Davis** has retired from **Majors Scientific Books, Inc.**, after 19 years of service as the southwest regional sales representative. **Davis** joined **Majors** in March of 1980 after 31 years in teaching and publishing. When Joe is not contributing to work, church, or the community, he spends his time reading, participating in water sports, boating, coin collecting, cooking, and spending time with his wife, Mimi, and their three children and grandchildren! Whew!

Title selections for the **1999 AsiaLink Sets** have been finalized and the sets are now available for purchase by libraries. **AsiaLink Sets** are preselected collections of fiction and non-fiction books in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese languages. If you want to know more, visit <http://www.oclc.org/oclc/menu/asialink.htm> or read the January/February **OCLC Newsletter** article by **Marcia Stout** (p.43-44).

NASIG has a new Web site. Here's the address <<http://www.nasig.org/>>. **NASIG** is a great organization and I need to renew my membership. Do you?

Bob Neville (College of Charleston) <neville@cofc.edu> sends this from **Tourbus**

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<<http://www.against-the-grain.com>>

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at www.TOURBUS.com. Several weeks ago, **Amazon.com** <http://www.amazon.com/> started an online price war saying that they will sell books from the current *New York Times* bestseller list at 50 percent off the cover price. Within hours, **Borders** <http://www.borders.com/> and **Barnes and Noble** <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/> followed suit. Unfortunately, the discounts only apply to online purchases and the week's bestseller lists may differ depending on which week each site dubs as the "current" week.

The wonderfully competent **Janet Flowers** (Head of Acquisitions, UNC-CH) sends word of a fascinating meeting **UNC-CH Press** had with **netLibrary**. She is writing it up for **ATG**! Also, the new Order Librarian at UNC-CH is **Nick Vincelli** (coming June 1) and the new Serials Librarian is **Selden Durgom-Lamoureux** (coming July 1). So, there's light at the end of Janet's tunnel!

And, speaking of **netLibrary**, **PALINET** member libraries will have access to **netLibrary**'s electronic books collection. If you want to know more, visit www.netlibrary.com. **netLibrary** will be at the **Charleston Conference** telling us even more. Come on down! Also, we will have an interview coming up with **Tim Schiewe** in September, I hope.

More on **ebooks**. According to the *Financial Times* (4/21/99), **Everybook** CEO **Daniel Munyan** predicts that e-books will have a vibrant future in universities, where freshmen will load their e-books with their curriculums for the next four years, receiving updates via the Internet.

The **Institute for Scientific Information® (ISI)** has announced the release of Version 1.4 of **Current Contents Connect (CC Connect™)**, which features a daily update of the **Current Contents database** and an option to link to selected and evaluated Web sites via **Current Web Contents**. Users are able to link to a Web site record from the search results or by browsing the Current Contents categories. Searchers also have the option to review a standardized description of each research-oriented Web selection prior to linking to that site. For more information about ISI or its products, email sales@isinet.com or visit <http://www.isinet.com>.

I wish I could have been there. On July 27 and 28 at the **Scottish Rite Auditorium** in Williamsport, PA, librarians, teachers, media specialists, and publishers convened to discuss upcoming needs, evolving trends, and future releases of the publishing world at a conference sponsored by **Brodart Company's Books Division**.

On Monday, April 12, the **National Library of Medicine** unveiled its new Web catalog, called **LOCATORplus**, which will allow anyone with Internet access to find out what books, journals, audiovisuals, manu-

scripts, and other items are contained in the world's largest medical library. **LOCATORplus** brings together a number of previously disparate databases, along with information formerly available only to staff, using state-of-the-art information retrieval technology. NLM's **LOCATORplus** can be found at: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/locatorplus/>.

Watch our September issue for a report from the **Fiesole Retreat**, held in Fiesole, Italy in March. **Eleanor Cook** ([Appalachian State](mailto:cookei@appstate.edu)) <cookei@appstate.edu> and **Fred Lynden** (Brown) <Frederick_Lynden@Brown.edu> both did excellent jobs of writing the Retreat up, it's just that we didn't have enough room to print it in this issue.

The **Fulbright Commission** in London is offering a special **Fulbright Librarian Award** for 2000-2001. The fellowship is designed for applicants who are U.S. citizens, hold the M.L.S. degree, have a minimum of 3 years of recent experience in providing a public library inquiry service, and who are experienced in use of Internet and maintenance of a Web site. The person selected for the award will help develop materials and information relating to 6,700 American airmen based in the Norfolk/Suffolk area who were killed between 1942-45. The original collection of books and videos was lost in a fire in 1994, but most wartime memorabilia came through the fire with only minor water damage. To request an application, those interested may send an email to <apprequest@cies.iie.org> or call 202-686-7878. Norwich should be mentioned when requesting materials so that applicants receive the special Norwich materials.

This is from web4lib@sunsite.berkeley.edu. **Industry Canada** and the **Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)** have just announced \$207,600 in funding to enable three Canadian university presses to publish six academic journals online. The six journals, scheduled to go online by the year 2000, are: The *University of Toronto Law Journal*, the oldest law journal in Canada, published by the University of Toronto Press. The *University of Toronto Quarterly*, published by the University of Toronto Press and acclaimed as one of the finest journals devoted to the humanities. The *Canadian Journal of Communication*, a highly-regarded quarterly in the field of communication studies and journalism education published by Wilfrid Laurier University Press for the Canadian Journal of Communication Corporation. *Studies in Religion*, published by Wilfrid Laurier University Press for the Canadian Corporation for the Study of Religion. *Criminologie*, published by Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal, is a twice-yearly journal aimed at researchers and other professionals interested in various issues regarding the justice system. *Circuit*, also published by Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal, is a well-regarded North American review of 20th century music. For further information, please contact: **David L. McCallum** <mccallum.david@ic.gc.ca>. (613) 237-5208

Dora Biblarz' interview with Don Cvatal in this issue (see p.30) is simply fascinating! I couldn't put it down! It got me to thinking. What about a History of Bookselling in the Twentieth Century? It needs to be done and **ATG** wants to help! Is there anyone/group/etc. out there who are interested in working on such an endeavor?

Was talking to Linda Defendeifer (University of Illinois College of Law) <defendei@LAW.UILLUC.EDU> the other day. Linda has agreed to edit the **PROCEEDINGS** of the **1999 Charleston Conference**! **ATG** will begin publishing this next year. Why not start something new in 2000? Right? Linda and I welcome your comments.

Speaking of millennia, have y'all seen a book published by Little, Brown this year called *The Year 1000, What Life Was Like at the Turn of the First Millennium: An Englishman's World* by **Robert Lacey** and **Danny Danziger**. This little book is fascinating and incredibly well written. I am late compiling Rumors because I couldn't put it down! I recommend it to all of us.

I don't know whether to be happy or sad, but I guess I'll be happy! The incredibly energetic and always cheerful **Rebecca Seger** <rebecca_seger@mcgraw-hill.com> will not be at the **Charleston Conference** this year. Why? She is expecting baby #3 in early September and she will be on maternity leave in November. Rebecca says she is feeling great and she plans to be at **ALA** in New Orleans. Good luck and best wishes and happy mothering, Rebecca!

The most wonderful, steady and reliable (not to mention on top of a million things) **Don Jaeger** <don@ajaeger.com> writes that he has been busy which is why we haven't gotten any columns from him. Among other things, Don was in Manchester, England where he headed three workshops on back volume acquisitions with members from **UKSG** and the **European Union of Libraries**. Don says it was an honor to be referred to by the incredible **John Merriman**, as an expert in the field. (And was John dancing at the time, Don?) Meanwhile back on the ranch, Don's son **Bryan** (who's the same age as my daughter **Ileana** — that's 16) was out in St. Louis with **Susan** (Don's wife) for the **National Hockey championships**. Guess what? Bryan's team was the representative from New York and they finished in first place beating **Missouri** 5-2 in the final game Sunday night. Maybe you brought them luck, Don. I stay away from my daughter's volleyball games, because they win when I'm not there and lose when I am there. Wouldn't that make a good horror novel?

My wonderful friend **Anne Jennings** <a.jennings@mindspring.com>, who can find anything if it exists, sends word of an interesting article we should know about. *The New York Times* ran an article (4/20/99) depicting the building controversy over patron privacy versus censorship of pornographic materials in libraries. See "Librarian Seeks Evidence of

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Complaints About Internet Misuse" at URL <http://www.nytimes.com/library/tech/99/04/cyber/articles/20library.html>. But, if you've been naughty and haven't registered to use the site, you will not connect to the article using this URL.

Speaking of an article in the *NYT*, did you see the bam-zowie article and PICTURE of **Ann Okerson** (what a wonderful chocolate-loving woman!) in the April 8 edition. Entitled "Books to Bytes: The Electronic Archive: Research Libraries Grapple With the Task of Preserving the Digital Present," (by Katie Hafner), this article points out many of the problems associated with archiving electronic materials. And perhaps some solutions.

I tell you. I don't know how she does it! **Ann Okerson**, that is. Ann moderates **liblicense-I** where there is always an interesting conversation going on, among countless other things. Ann has won the **LITA/Library Hi Tech Award** for her efforts "to discern the impact of online publishing on libraries." Congratulations, Ann!

Do you remember **The Two Jakes** with **Jack Nicholson**? Anyway, I have a new version. **The Two Toms**. I had emails the same day from two Tom's--**Tom Leonhardt** (Oregon Institute of Technology) <leonhart@OIT.EDU> and **Tom Izbicki** (Johns Hopkins University) <izbicki@jhu.edu>! Tom L. wants all you book reviewers out there to write him so he can add to his list of reviewers. How about it? You see, there is a third Tom, **Tom Gilson** (College of Charleston) <gilson@cofc.edu> who does the Reference reviews. But **Tom L.** does reviews of non-reference materials.

Continuing the Tom stories, **Tom L.** says that he's heavily involved in distance education, grant writing, community access television, plus he's chair of OIT's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Information Technology. Needless to say, he has been juggling several top priorities.

More on the moniker Tom. I got a really nice email from **Tom Izbicki** <izbicki@jhu.edu>—did you read his article on training selectors in the April issue (p.22)?—who said he loved the way the handouts accompanying that article were done. I thought that the layout was pretty cool, too, and it was done by my lovely, resourceful, and untiring graphic designer, **Toni Nix** who refuses to get email so y'all can't even write her and tell her you like it!

Jesse D. Jacoby (Community of Science) <jdj@cos.com> <<http://www.cos.com>> sends the following information our way. **Community of Science, Inc., (COS)**, has acquired the **BEST** and **CRIB** databases from **FT Business**, a unit of the **Pearson Company**. **BEST (British Expertise in Science and Technology)** is a database of more than 36,000 first-person profiles of scientists conducting research at universities in the United Kingdom.

BEST also includes information from selected universities and research organizations in continental Europe. **CRIB (Current Research in Britain)** is a database of over 40,000 currently funded research projects in the United Kingdom, which is published under agreement with the **British Library**. **NOD**, a sister database to **CRIB**, describes current research projects in the Netherlands. **Community of Science** will publish both databases in print and in CD-ROM format in the fall of 1999.

Speaking of the **Community of Science**, they have signed an agreement with the **Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU)** to develop an information-sharing network of Commonwealth universities on the World Wide Web. Under the terms of the agreement, **COS** will develop a Commonwealth view of its Expertise database for the **ACU** Web site. **COS** will make information from Commonwealth universities available to scientists and scholars at **COS** member institutions in the U.S., and will provide Expertise information from universities in North America to Commonwealth universities internationally. **COS** will also develop interactive electronic "communities" for senior administrative staff at **ACU** and **COS** member universities on the World Wide Web. The foundation for the Web-based Commonwealth network is **COS'** state-of-the-art university Expertise database, and the **Commonwealth Universities Yearbook**, which is produced by the **ACU** and includes authoritative information on the faculty and administrative staff at over 600 universities in 36 Commonwealth countries.

I have to tell you that at the **College of Charleston** we have a subscription to **MathSciNet**. The **American Mathematical Society** is truly wonderful to deal with. So when **Donald Babbitt**, the publisher, suggested that I bring this information about **MathSciNet** to the attention of *Against the Grain* readers, I thought it was a good idea. Over 500,000 reviews have been added to the **Mathematical Reviews** electronic database. The **American Mathematical Society** has completed its two-year project of adding fulltext reviews from the early archives of **Mathematical Reviews (MR)** to the **MathSci** database. During that project, all reviews from 1940–1979 were keyboarded—over 80,000 pages of **MR**. The number of searchable reviews from 1940 to the present now on **MathSciNet (MR on the Web)** totals nearly 1,400,000. The entire collection contains, for the first time online, searchable reviews of a major part of mathematics from the past 60 years. More information is available at www.ams.org/mathscinet/.

Whew! Read **Peter Stevens' Profile Encouraged** in this issue, p.62! He is quite something—climbing and hiking and cycling! And he also likes champagne!

And **David Marshall** (head of acquisitions, Georgetown University) is no slouch either. He is the person who takes care of the email address directory of publishers and vendors on

ACQWEB! See his **Profile Encouraged**, this issue, p.78.

I gave the wonderful **Bob Schatz** (Manager, North American Sales, **Everetts**) <everbob@yahoo.com> short shrift in the last issue of *ATG* but there was a reason! By the time I found out about his new job (!) *ATG* was at the printer and I had to squeeze just the news in, none of the frills. (Okay, I know what you are thinking: "why doesn't she do *ATG* online" but that's another conversation.) I was also confused about the fact that **AcBc (Academic Book Center)** and **Everetts** were trading partners but there was no mention of this relationship in the announcement about Bob. It all makes sense now that we know about the sale of **AcBc** to **BBS**.

And here is some more. From: the always-smiling and astute **Colin Harrison** <colin.harrison@everett.co.uk>: "Many libraries are aware of the working relationship that **Everetts** has had with **Academic** in recent years. We want to take this opportunity to reassure everyone that recent events in no way affect **Everetts'** ability to provide books and journals efficiently to the library community. While **Everetts** shared their bibliographic information with **Academic** and supplied some books from the UK for their approval service, we remained independent companies, serving libraries from our respective US and UK offices. The sale of **Academic Book Center** creates no service change whatsoever for **Everetts**, including ongoing system development projects." And *ATG* has an interview in the works with **Bob Schatz**. Watch for it in an upcoming issue!

An add on to the above, **Philip Bull** will continue to represent **Everetts**, but not **Academic**, in Australia and New Zealand, as will **Keith Renwick** in the UK.

Another one of my favorite people, **Bryan Ingleby** (Group Chief Executive, **Dawson**) after 17 years, is leaving effective June 1, 1999. Bryan's decision to leave is based on his view that his health would not allow him to give the minimum commitment necessary to drive the company forward during this period of rapid change. We will miss your leadership, Bryan, and Best Wishes!

Meanwhile, back at the office, **Dawson Holdings PLC** has announced that revenue for the first six months of the fiscal year grew by 17.7% as compared with 1998. Profit before tax improved by 5.5% at the 1999 midyear compared with the 1998 midyear results.

You know, the thing I like about acquisitions work, is that is never the same. **Dawson Information Services Group (ISG)** is consolidating the existing administrative support services of **The Faxon Company's** service centers located in Oregon, Illinois, and Westwood, Massachusetts. This consolidation is the result of the company's effort to streamline operations while providing greater focus to its customer service and product development areas. In addition to retaining its current

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customer service accounts, the Faxon Massachusetts Service Center has been designated the primary center for Subscription System IT functions, U.S. Sales and Marketing, global e-journal resources, and customer support and training. Also, as part of the consolidation, the **Faxon Illinois Service Center** will retain its current customer service accounts and become the primary center for finance and publisher services. <http://www.faxon.com>

And speaking more of Dawson. On April 20, at the **Canadian Online Information Summit**, **Dawson Information Quest (IQ)** received the award for the **Best New Canadian Online Science & Technology Product** of 1998. Sponsored by **Information Highways magazine**, the Canadian Online Product Awards recognize and honor online products that benefit Canadian organizations and consumers. <http://www.informationquest.com/canada.html>

The awesome **Judy Schott**, once of **Blackwell's Information Services**, has been appointed to the newly created position of VP, Strategic Initiatives at **RoweCom, Inc.**

The **CIC Center for Library Initiatives** is pleased to announce the creation and adoption of **Standardized Agreement Language** for use in negotiations with vendors. The language can be found on the **CLI Web site** at http://www.cic.uiuc.edu/cli/contracts/standardized_agreement_language.htm. This language represents a great deal of input and work by the **Electronic Resource Officers** and the **Collection Development Officers** of the **CIC**. Questions about the language can be directed to the attention of **Cindy Clennon** (Contract Coordinator, Center for Library Initiatives, Committee on Institutional Cooperation). clennon@uiuc.edu <http://www.cic.uiuc.edu/>

Ellen Finnie Duranceau (Assistant Acquisitions Librarian for Digital Resources, MIT Libraries) efinnie@po8.mit.edu tells me that this is the **FIRST TIME** in five years that she is coming to **ALA!** Hooray!

Heard from the wonderful **Danny Jones** (Director of Research & Development for North America, **Harrassowitz**) djones@ottosvc.com—did I tell you he hails from Charleston? Anyway, Danny didn't get the February issue of **ATG** and was asking if **ATG** came with attendance at the **Charleston Conference**. Yes, it does. That's the short answer. What the post office does with **ATG** is another question entirely.

This news is from **Claire Fund** cfund@cofc.edu. **Harvard University Library** has received a two-year, \$939,000 **National Endowment for the Humanities** grant to microfilm 9,000 deteriorating volumes drawn from history of science collections at six Harvard libraries. The **Harvard University Library Preservation Center**, which will manage the project, will also catalog the contents of the collections and make the informa-

tion available online. "The preservation of information on microfilm is more than taking a picture of something and putting the results on the shelf," said **Jan Merrill-Oldham**, head of the Preservation Center. "The film lives in such a rich and well-established system because there are real standards for cataloging and strategies for sharing information."

EBSCO Subscription Services is forecasting price increases of 8.5 percent to 10.5 percent for U.S. and non-U.S. titles of its journals for 2000. According to a company release, "Factors influencing prices for the year 2000 include publisher pricing policies regarding online journals, general conditions, and currency impact (this year the Euro will bring a new wrinkle to this factor)." ARL customers experienced an 8.3 percent price increase in 1999; Colleges and universities saw an 8.7 percent increase in 1999 prices. For an in-depth look at pricing and the serials market, see **LJ's Periodical Price Survey 1999**, 4/15/99, p. 48-53, as well as <http://www.ebsco.com>.

Speaking of the Euro, this issue of **ATG** has feature articles compiled and edited by the able **Beau David Case** (Head, European and Linguistics Collections, Ohio State University Libraries) case.42@osu.edu. And the **Harrassowitz News** (April 22, 1999) also has a rassession entitled: "What about the EURO?" **Harrassowitz** invoices will not be affected until December 2001. Until then, they will continue to show the currency of the library, e.g., US dollar (USD), and the Deutsch Mark (DEM) amount in invoices, price quotes, etc. From January 1, 2002, they will show the currency of the library and the Euro amount. 2002 is the year in which all 11 European currencies now united via the Euro will cease to exist. <http://www.harrassowitz.de/news/newsrequ.html>

Library leaders from 120 research universities and institutions in 23 countries met at **OCLC** on March 15-16 for the **17th Annual International Conference of Research Library Directors** to discuss dramatic changes in business and technology and the impact those changes have had on libraries. A summary is at <http://www.oclc.org/oclc/press/19990409.htm>.

This is from **OCLC Abstracts** (May 3, 1999). Founded in 1973 as a not-for-profit membership organization that provides services to libraries throughout **New York State** and beyond, the **SUNY/OCLC Network** recently changed its name to **Nylink**. <http://nylink.suny.edu/>

Speaking of link—linking is the word these days, isn't it? **Institute of Physics Publishing** now offers extensive linking to primary scientific content from around the world via **Axiom**. Visit <http://www.iop.org>.

The amazing **Chuck Hamaker** (UNC-Charlotte) cahamake@email.unc.edu just keeps reading and researching even though he has been building a new house! Chuck sends word of this provocative study about Table of Contents being added to book records in the

catalog and the impact this has had on circulation. <http://www.blackwell.com/news/issues/tocprint4.pdf>.

License Depot™—a new Web database of electronic journal and licensing resources—looks quite interesting. It's a database of over 4,000 titles which contains all the information a user needs to identify and order electronic journals. A product of the **Dawson Information Services Group (ISG)** and **The Faxon Company**, **License Depot** was introduced at **ALA Midwinter** and should be available in early summer of this year.

Swets and Zeitlinger Publishers have announced the launch of the online version of the **Annotated Bibliography for English Studies**. The free **ABES** online demo database may be accessed from <http://abes.swets.nl>.

The fabulous **Connie Kelley** (once at **UVA**) cak@unix.mail.virginia.edu has retired! May 7 was her last day, but she was still working 35 minutes into retirement! (The work goes on ...) Still, Connie is not going to sit around. I got breathless even thinking about this itinerary! Connie's husband **David**, she, and housemate, **Didi Pancake**, will leave on June 2nd for Minneapolis for the **SLA Annual Conference**, after which they will head west for the **Black Hills** of South Dakota, Mt. Rushmore, etc. In mid-June, they will arrive in Dallas, TX, where they will leave Didi with some mutual friends. Then, Connie and David will pick up the travel trailer that they ordered last December and make their way back to Virginia by way of Memphis (for barbecue) and the Appalachian Mountains. Then, on August 3rd, they will leave for Europe! In London, they plan to stay for several days with **Colin Harrison** (of **Everetts** fame) at his home in the country. Then Connie and David will be taking the train to Cardiff in Wales to visit several friends. They will return home late in September. Connie said she had to retire. Work began to interfere with her traveling schedule! She also says that they may even come to **Charleston** during the **Conference**! Maybe we can hitch a ride somewhere!

And, here are **Charleston Conference** dates for the next few years — Nov. 4-6, 1999; Nov. 2-4, 2000; Nov. 7-10, 2001 and Nov. 6-9, 2002.

And speaking of short shrift, **Bob Schatz** and **Audrey Melkin** will always be linked in my feeble brain since they got their jobs at about the same time and we slipped the information about their new jobs in the April **ATG** as it was in press. As we told you in April, the fantabulous **Audrey D. Melkin** audrey.melkin@catchword.com is now Vice President, Sales—North America, **Catchword**, working with the equally fantabulous (well, maybe not quite) **Chris Beckett** (Sales and Marketing Director, **Catchword**) chris.beckett@catchword.com. Audrey will be responsible for promoting **CatchWord's** publishing services and growing the pub-

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to a few select theater resources, including a costume page, links to Ancient Greek and Roman theater, the National Theater Design Archive, and Kabuki and Mask sites. If you are planning a trip to New York City, the link to lists of current Broadway, Off-Broadway, and Off-Off-Broadway shows is useful. Students interested in the history of British Theater can follow the links to information on the new Globe Theater, English Restoration Theater, and the 19th-century London stage. Links to further directories and educational theater resources on the Internet provide information on college and theater departments, theater training programs, and theater libraries and museums. By no means a comprehensive site in itself, this Webpage would benefit from better organization and annotation, but as an easy jumping-off point to a small but interesting amalgam of theater sites, this simple source is recommended.

Study Web: Fine Arts: Theater <<http://www.studyweb.com/arts/theatre.htm>>

A world of research for students, teachers, librarians, and the weekend scholar, **Study Web** organizes information based on age groups or grade levels, making this a particularly good resource for K-12 curriculum development. Graphics are indicated for students needing to download or print images for school projects. The theater page, only one of many valuable educational pages, lists, in alphabetical order links for plays, costuming, puppetry, theater history, bibliographies, national and international theater homepages, and theater online publications. Teachers, middle-schoolers, and theater buffs alike will enjoy scrolling down the varied list of links. Highly recommended.

Theater Internet Sites <http://www.lib.muohio.edu/~wortmawa/theater/TheaterInternet.html>

The Humanities Librarian at **Miami University of Ohio** developed a series of pages for bibliographic instruction. The Table of Contents lists General Theater Sites, Plays: Electronic texts, People: Playwrights, actors, others, Professional: Job listings, schools, Electronic journals, discussion groups, and Additional Sites. Browsing through the parent directory of this site <<http://www.lib.muohio.edu/~wortmawa/theater/>> provides other resources to students of theater. Some links are dead, but as an introduction to Theater resources on the Web, this is a decent starting point.

Children's Theater Resource Webpage <<http://faculty-web.at.nwu.edu/theater/tya/>>

A student project from the theater department at **Northwestern University**, the **Children's Theater Resource Webpage** offers viewers a bit of history, professional organizations for children's theater, and a few international links. Links to related sites on costuming, publishers, and puppetry are useful. What this site lacks in detail, it makes up

for in a nice variety of sites for children's drama and literature. A state-by-state list of children's theater listings also makes this site worth checking out.

Wild Wonderful World of Theater History <<http://www.montevallo.edu/thea/theahis/default.html>>

"**Wild Wonderful World of Theater History**" is a Website designed as part of the undergraduate degree requirements for a student at **University of Montevallo**, in Alabama. This "18-chapter paper" (quotes mine) can be accessed in one large file <http://www.montevallo.edu/thea/theahis/Theahis_ful.html> or by individual chapters. The chapters outline the history of Western theater from its origins of ritual and myth to the 1980s, with links to information significant playwrights. Students using the Web for school projects will appreciate the brief overview and numerous links, although, unfortunately, many of the links are dead or lead to large commercial vendor sites, but the scope of this student's project makes it a worthy, quick, graphics-free browse.

A Few Commercial Sites

Aisle Say <<http://www.escape.com/~theanet/AisleSay.html>> **The Internet Magazine of Stage Reviews and Opinions**

Very nearly a veteran site on the Web, "**Aisle Say**," now in its fourth year, is a comprehensive site that posts well-written reviews of theatrical productions. The scope of this site, though not strictly speaking historical, is impressive. Although **Aisle Say's** raison d'être is theatrical reviews primarily from home or American theater in New York City, critics from across the continent review productions from the Berkshires to Baltimore and from Toronto to Los Angeles. Regional theater, special feature, book, and recording indexes supply the theater buff with a wide variety of reviews to choose from. One could comfortably browse this site for hours and get a panoramic view of who is doing what and why in theater in North America. Highly recommended resource.

Chicago Footlights <<http://chicago.footlights.com>>

Self-proclaimed as "the premiere playbill for professional theater in Milwaukee and Chicago" this commercial site publishes playbills

for more than a dozen Chicagoland theaters. The site contains an archive for **Chicago Footlights** articles from 1996, and is frequently updated. Brief pieces such as "Women in Theater History," "Bad Ideas for Theater," and "The New Paradigm" will be familiar to theatergoers with a passion for keeping old Playbills. **Chicago Footlights** does a good job of archiving articles, although there seems to be a small editorial staff—most features are written by one or two contributors. Links to area theaters offer a brief look at performance schedules and types of productions. A handy site for those who want to know what is happening in the Chicago-Milwaukee performing arts world. The faintly annoying Java scroll offers a contact phone numbers.

History of Theater, Tupelo Community Theater Playbill <<http://www.ebicom.net/~tct/oftheatre.htm>>

A brief, well-written introduction to the history of theater from this commercial site for the **Tupelo (Ms.) Community Theater** is divided into sections: The first section gives a short overview of theater history from Ancient Greece and Rome through the Middle Ages. The influences of **Shakespeare**, the Protestant Reformation, and the Renaissance on theater are touched upon in section two. Theater from the Enlightenment to the present is highlighted in the third section; and the last section describes the development of community theater in America. The site is simply, but elegantly designed, and a few links, which need updating, lead the interested browser to other sites of interest and a bibliography.

UK Theatre Web <<http://www.uktw.co.uk/index.html>>

Taking a trip to the United Kingdom? **UK Theatre Web** lists "What's On Stage," "Last Minute" show tickets, "Arts Info, for the UK and Irish Arts Professional," and a comprehensive, alphabetical index of links to performing arts resources: Theater companies, agents, jobs, theatrical competitions, magazines and newsgroups; as well as museums, schools, radio and other media. For those curious about how it's done across the pond, this performing arts resource offers not only deals on theater tickets, but is also a handy resource for nuts and bolts of living the theatrical life in the UK.

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lisher client list in North America. A frequent speaker at the **Charleston Conference**, Audrey has a list of awesome accomplishments. More is at <http://www.catchword.com>.

How many of you use the journal barcode on the cover of **ATG** to check it in? There was a recent discussion on **serialst** between **Sharon Cline McKay** <mckays@FAXON.COM> and **Kathleen Thorne** (Serials Cataloger, San Jose State

University) <kathleen@email.sjsu.edu> about barcodes and ISSN's. **Sandy Paul** <skpassoc@CWIXmail.com> knows all about this and she **MAKES** me get barcodes for **ATG**!

And speaking of **Sandy Paul** (above), I am sure that she is happy that now every article published on **IDEAL (Academic Press)** (the **International Digital Electronic Access Library**) will be coded with **Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs)**, the globally recognized identification system for intellectual property in the digital environment.

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Rumors
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The final round of winners in the **Library of Congress/Ameritech National Digital Library Competition** will be announced in the spring. The winners will be chosen from the 48 applications representing 70 institutions (some applications were submitted by institutional teams) that were submitted last fall. So far, in the previous two rounds, 21 institutions have shared in awards totaling more than \$1.3 million. Once digitized, these winners' collections of important American historical materials will be added to the **American Memory Website of the Library of Congress**. They will also be available from the winning institutions' Web sites. Currently, three past winners have added their collections to the Library's American Memory site. Most recently, **The Robert Runyon Photograph Collection of the South Texas Border Area**, an assemblage of more than 8,000 visual items documenting the Lower Rio Grande Valley during the early 1900s, has become available. The **Library of Congress/Ameritech National Digital Library Competition Website** is at lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/award/.

OCLC FastDoc will be withdrawn from the **OCLC FirstSearch Service** effective July 1, 1999. The **New OCLC FirstSearch service**, scheduled for release this summer, will feature improved links to fulltext across all **FirstSearch** databases, making all fulltext much more visible. **FastDoc** was originally created as a database that provided easy access to fulltext; because this will now be true for **New FirstSearch** as a whole, the reason to continue **FastDoc** as a separate database is gone. We have an upcoming interview by the incredible **Ron Chepesiuk** with **OCLC's Connie Zuga** about the **New FirstSearch**.

And speaking of **Ron Chepesiuk**, this awesome man (how does he write all that he does?) has won the **ALA International Relations Humphry/OCLC/Foster Press Award** for 1998/99. As **Tracey Hunter Hayes** says, "Ron has made us all particularly aware of the challenges that exist in many known and obscure locations in our ever-changing world." Congratulations, Ron!

The **Medical Library Association (MLA)** and the **Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL)** have joined the **Scholarly Publishing & Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC)**, a coalition of academic institutions and research libraries that uses library buying power to support lower cost alternatives to high-priced science journals. **MLA** members spend over \$200 million on journal collection development, and membership includes those who are also members of **AAHSL**. www.arl.org/sparc.

And we saved the best for last! **Janis Bandelin** (Furman University) <Janis.Bandelin@furman.edu> will be coming to the **Charleston Conference**! Janis did a timely and

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interesting survey over **ACQNET** and has done lots of other research on allocation formulas in libraries.

Be sure and look for the brochure and registration information for the **1999 Charleston Conference** which was mailed to you with this issue of **ATG**!

Correction

Oops! **Matt Nauman** (Blackwell's) <Matt.Nauman@Blackwell.com> noticed that on page 10 in **Rumors** (April), we have a note about the **Collection Manager** launch in Australia. Unfortunately, the URL www.blackwells.com/cm/ is incorrect and just gets a "Not Found." Like I said, oops! Sorry! The correct URL is: <http://cm.blackwell.com>

Back Talk

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years or so. Moving from browsable to remote collections minimizes the serendipitous discoveries that result from looking at books to the right and left of the one you knew about. Changing from list price to national consortial price seems a bit like going full circle back to list price again. Consortial work saves money but it takes away from other things like talking more with our user communities.

Dorner's message for us is fairly simple: Nothing is as simple as it seems and it pays to look at the big picture as well as the one that is in your face at any given moment.

<<http://www.against-the-grain.com>> 93