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Creativity: It's All Around Us

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Against the Grain

"Linking Publishers, Vendors and Librarians"

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Creativity: It's All Around Us

by **Lisa German** (Head of Acquisitions, University of Illinois Library, 1408 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL 61801; Phone: 217-244-2071; Fax: 217-244-9004) <lgerman@uiuc.edu>

Librarianship is a creative profession. We see it around us, every day, in our dealings with each other, authors, publishers and vendors. As I was putting together this annual issue of *Against the Grain*, the thread running through each article was the creativity we're employing in our daily lives in order to give better service to our users.

Dan Halloran, a real entrepreneur (and great storyteller) sets the stage by asking if 2002 was "the year of the economy, e-content, vanishing eBooks, or of shelf-ready processing finally gaining the acceptance that it deserves?" Read this article to see his answer.

Joyce Ogburn and **John McDonald** document

the creative ways in which digital scholarship is beginning to flourish. **Joyce** provides a definition and framework for looking at digital scholarship initiatives and gives examples of programs at the **University of Virginia** and the **Electronic Cultural Atlas** initiative based at **UC-Berkeley**. With support from the **Andrew W. Mellon Foundation** and others, digital scholarship is thriving on several campuses. **John** explains that the principles of collection development that apply to the print and archival world should be followed and built upon in the digital world.

William Hannay attempts to define "market power" who has it, what affects it, and are efforts like **SPARC** changing it.

In case all this information begins to overwhelm you, read "Uptight in Library Land" by **Ed Merwin**. Probably the same things that are stressing out the librarians in South Carolina are causing stress for the rest of us. I loved this article because it says we're not alone, but there are things we can do about it.

Finally, **Richard Abel** challenges us to think about scholarship and the scholarly monograph and its importance in the transfer of knowledge.

The creative ability of all these authors shines in the articles they've written.

They're examples of where we have been, where we are, and where we're going.

If Rumors Were Horses

Just back from **ALA Midwinter** in Philly. Saw lots of great people. Not the least of which was the splendid **Evelyn Fazio** <emfazio@earthlink.net> who is looking for a job. She is interested in re-entering publishing, perhaps starting her own list for either high school reference sets or perhaps as a publisher in an academic setting. **Evelyn** says that her time at **Baker & Taylor** (two years) developing "Ed" was great but that she wants to return to her real love, publishing. You go, girl!

Also the equally smashing **Elizabeth Connor** <confdez@bellsouth.net> <econnor@rossmed.edu.dm> (Director of Libraries at **Ross University School of Medicine**, Dominica, West Indies) wishes to return to Charleston to be with her husband, **Carlos**, and is

looking for a library or field representative job in publishing, vending, or libraries. If you know of

any jobs that might help these two women, please let them know! Thanks!

We were so sad to learn of the passing of **Alfred Jaeger**, **Don Jaeger's** <donaldjaeger@worldnet.att.net> wonderful father, who founded **Alfred Jaeger, Inc.** I had the pleasure of meeting this charismatic man several times and am sure that he will be sorely missed by his family, employees, and all of us who were touched by his presence.

Here's the scoop on **divine/Faxon/Rowecom** as we go to press. This was definitely one of the "hot topics" of **ALA Midwinter**. **divine, inc.** (Nasdaq: DVIN) has announced that **RoweCom, Inc.**, a wholly owned subsidiary of **divine**, has signed a letter of intent with **EBSCO Industries, Inc.** for the sale of **RoweCom's** business to **EBSCO**. This agreement supersedes the original letter of intent announced on December 20, 2002, and includes **RoweCom's** worldwide operations. **RoweCom**, which was acquired by **divine** in November 2001. The proposed transaction, which is contingent upon regulatory approval in France and customary closing condi-

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