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People Profile: Gwen Gregory

Editor

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Old Wine in New Bottles ...
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As these new database pages had launched in a sort of interim period before we were going to launch the rest of the library's redesigned Web presence, we sought both a way to address this problem in the interim and a way to address this problem in the long-term. For the long-term, we decided that introducing lengthier subject guides that would help the liaison librarians organize and introduce all types of resources for a subject area, not just databases, would be ideal. In those subject guides, the librarian would be able to organize these resources in any order they liked. In the separate database subject pages, the listing would remain alphabetical. For the interim, with the lengthier subject guides not yet developed, for those librarians that preferred it, the **PHP** scripts for displaying the new pages were edited to acknowledge certain requests that should be treated as exceptions. For requests to list the databases for most subjects, the scripts would display its new version of the databases subject page. For some few exceptions, the scripts would know to redirect to the previous static databases subject page instead. There proved to only be three database subject pages that needed to be redirected in this fashion.

Also, as we considered inserting these dynamically generated database links into other types of Webpages, we realized that the links might have to acknowledge a certain history. For example, a liaison librarian might make a specific reference to a database in a course guide one year, and include the dynamic code to insert the link and description of the database into their course guide, but the next year, this might be a database to which the library no longer subscribes. Under the original programming, the link and description of the database would have just disappeared from the course guide, leaving perhaps references to the database elsewhere in the course guide, but no actual indication that there was once a link to a database there. This was not so much an issue for currently updated guides, where the librarian might just select another database to share, but for older unused guides that would be archived seemingly incomplete. To address this, we decided to edit the import scripts to

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Gwen Gregory

BORN & LIVED: Albuquerque, NM. Lived in Colorado, NM, and Arizona. But now I'm moving to Chicago at the beginning of October to be associate director for technical services and systems at **John Marshall Law School Library**.

FAMILY: Husband and cats.

EDUCATION: BA in anthropology, **University of New Mexico**. MLS, **University of AZ**. Master of Public Administration, **New Mexico State University**.

FIRST JOB: In the Mexican restaurant of the student union in college. Spent a lot of time making tortilla chips at 7 am.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER AND ACTIVITIES: Compiled and edited the book *The Successful Academic Librarian (Information Today, 2005)*. Enjoy sharing information with other librarians. Make technical services work for everyone.

IN MY SPARE TIME I LIKE TO: Read, garden, do crafts, walk, play with my pets.

PHILOSOPHY: I want my work to be meaningful to others and to the world.

MOST MEANINGFUL CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: My book.

HOW/WHERE DO I SEE THE INDUSTRY IN FIVE YEARS: Libraries and the concept of libraries are powerful. The library as a place is becoming even more important. Libraries will continue to be the experts at finding and providing information. 🌱

look out for databases that had appeared in previous **TIGER** export but now did not. Instead of deleting those, the scripts would now mark those databases as no longer available with a date stamp. On the display end of things, if a librarian had inserted code to specifically refer to this particular no longer available database, some database information would still appear in their course guide, but without a link and textually marked to indicate the database was no longer available.

In cataloging we have learned several things from this project. First of all, we can use our MARC records for things other than the integrated library system. Rather than creating another database to populate our Webpage lists, we can use the same records we already have.

We have put a great deal of effort into these MARC records, including making the URLs work properly. We can avoid duplicating this effort by using this single source to create our database pages as well as our OPAC records. Second, it's fine to use some of the fields in the MARC record in new ways, especially the locally defined fields such as 590. This can make catalogers nervous, but we have found that it works. Of course, careful investigation of what the fields may be used for and testing of how they display and index in the catalog is needed. Finally, the benefit of actually reducing the workload necessary for handling electronic resources can override the reluctance to change our procedures. We were quite happy to streamline and simplify the process. 🌱

Rumors
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and we will have a conversation about it from 2-2:50 on Thursday of the Conference. If you can't make it to that discussion, there will be many other opportunities for you to get involved. Here is some preliminary information. **Cris Ferguson** (the new mother) <cris.ferguson@furman.edu> will be the **editor of the online ATG**. Yours truly will be heavily involved as well (are you surprised?). Our Webmaster is **David Lyle** <david@katina.info> and he is using **Drupal** software to mount

the database. Others who have been involved in developing the **online ATG** are **Greg Tananbaum** <gtananbaum@gmail.com>, **John Cox** <john.e.cox@btinternet.com>, **Toni Nix** <justwrite@lowcountry.com>, **Kristen DeVoe** <kedevoe24@yahoo.com>, and all the current editors of the print **ATG**. Approaches will be discussed during the Conference and we welcome your comments always. We will make **ATG** a community project for all of us!
www.against-the-grain.com

Speaking of **Greg** (above), what a pistol! He has joined the **SPARC Consulting Group** which was formed in 2002 to provide business,

financial, and strategic consulting services to universities and university presses, learned societies, and other academic and non-profit organizations. **Greg** is best known for his leadership as recent President of the **Berkeley Electronic Press**, and also we at **ATG** know him for his regular, always timely and informative, columns in **ATG**! In his earlier life, **Greg** was Director of **EndNote**. In case you didn't know, **Greg** has a Master's Degree from the **London School of Economics** and a B.A. from **Yale**.
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