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# Against the Grain

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by Frances C. Wilkinson and Linda Lewis — This keynote column began in the Reference Publishing Issue of *ATG* in 1997. Over the years Linda and Fran have asked librarians and sometimes students and/or publishers a variety of questions of current interest. This year, they thought it would be interesting to look back over the last five years to discover how things have stayed the same or how they have changed.

### Aggregation, Integration and the Library Without Walls? .....

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by Adam Hodgkin — Content aggregators are playing an increasingly prominent role in delivering electronic subscription resources to libraries. It is timely to consider some of the advantages that can be conferred by aggregation.

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An Order Librarian's Reflections on OLAS by Nick J. Vincelli — The UNC-Chapel Hill Academic Affairs Library began acquiring material sold through *eBay.com* auctions. Although the Library had acquired material through auctions in the past, obtaining material from *eBay.com* established a precedent for the Library, engendering a new workflow that was eventually named OLAS.

### Digital Reference: .....

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A New Library Paradigm or the Emperor's New Clothes by Steve McKinzie and Jonathan D. Lauer — Every so often the library profession loses its head over some peripheral issue and goes bonkers, often suggesting that current collection development practices have to be revamped, overhauled or possibly scrapped. It is like that now say, Steve and Jonathan, if you have been following some of the profession's fascination with digital reference service.

### Op Ed — Opinions and Editorials ... 40

IMBHCO (In My Humble But Correct Opinion) — LJ And the NRA: Separated at Birth? Or, Knee-Jerk Politics Makes Strange Bedfellows by Rick Anderson — In May, *State* offered a particularly entertaining piece by Timothy Noah entitled "The NRA's Moral Equivalence." The subheader read: "Wayne LaPierre sees no difference between gun-control advocates and Osama Bin Laden." Well, this certainly made for entertaining, if also frustrating, reading.

### ATG Special Report .....

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Libraries In The Cyberage — Filtering, Censorship and the First Amendment: Libraries at the Crossroads edited by Mark Y. Herring — In the summer of 2000, Ron Chepesiuk and Mark Herring sat down with a simple goal: put together a series of forums to discuss the groundbreaking changes that libraries had been, and would continue to undergo as a result of the advent of the World Wide Web. Out of a series of meetings they ended up with four forums discussing a wide variety of libraries and cyberage issues: Internet filtering, online/electronic publishing and the rush to e-orcize libraries, copyright in the digital age, and the humanities and cyberspace.

### Back Talk — Use Statistics .....

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by Anthony W. Ferguson — Recently, a university in Hong Kong was taken to task in the press for using public funds to buy and subsequently store lesser-used materials. This university had decided to send books that had not been checked out in six years to a remote storage facility. The newspaper's reporter implied that some of these books had been little if ever used and questioned why libraries wasted money buying such books in the first place.

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<maysap@millsaps.edu> and John Long (Consultant) <john-long@worldnet.att.net>

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# REFERENCE PUBLISHING ISSUE

## REVIEWS

- From the Reference Desk ..... 69**  
 by **Tom Gilson** — *This month Tom weighs in on the issue of electronic reference publishing with some thoughts on a unique reference work, the Encyclopedia of Life Sciences. What is unusual about this resource is that it is a landmark publishing effort that was initially planned as an electronic product. Only later, due to the advice of librarians and doubts caused by the techno-trama of the dot.com collapse did a print version evolve.*
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**Monographic Musings** by **Debbie Vaughn** — *In this issue, read about medieval castles, quotable funnies, and ancient Greece.*
- Test Driving CD-ROMs ..... 73**  
**Review of CD-ROM Product** — **Oxford English Dictionary** by **Burton Callicott** — *The Oxford University Press has recently come out with a new CD-ROM version of the celebrated Oxford English Dictionary.*

## LEGAL ISSUES

Edited by **Bryan Carson, Bruce Strauch, and Jack Montgomery**

- Legally Speaking ..... 75**  
**Search Warrants and Records: What Libraries and Bookstores Need to Know** by **Bryan M. Carson** — *In these days of terrorism and criminal investigation, libraries and bookstores are starting to become concerned with the privacy of their users and the possibility that circulation or sales records will be requested by investigators. Although most states and the District of Columbia have library privacy provisions in their laws, exceptions have always existed for court orders and search warrants. What does this mean for libraries and bookstores?*
- Questions and Answers ..... 77**  
**Copyright Column** by **Laura Gasaway** — *The library has some 16mm films from the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) that are used by the Aviation Department. If federal government materials are in public domain, is it possible to convert the format of the films to video? This is just one of the questions Lolly answers for us this month.*
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**Commercial Appropriation** by **Bruce Strauch** — *Those lusty lads and lasies at Abercrombies are at it again.*

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**Developing Book Donation Resources** by **Paul T. Jackson** — *The Library Director of a new prison library in Lapeer, Michigan, has developed a library collection almost completely through gifts, acquiring 22,000+ books in three to four years time, with a budget for only 200 books per year.*
- And They Were There ..... 83**  
**Reports of Meetings** — **Trends and Traditions featured at SALALM, 2002** by **Christine Mueller** — *"Trends and Traditions in Latin American and Caribbean History" was the theme of the Forty-seventh meeting of the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM), June 1-4, 2002.*
- Best Sellers — Reference Titles ..... 84**  
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**Reading the Map** — *An interview by Bob Nardini with Peter Brisco whose Reading the Map of Knowledge: The Art of Being a Librarian has created a little buzz. Bob says that even Larry McMurtry has had something to say about it.*
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### "Linking Publishers, Vendors and Librarians"



#### Against the Grain

### Uncommon ...

*Against the Grain* is your key to the latest news about libraries, publishers, book jobbers, and subscription agents. *ATG* is a unique collection of reports on the issues, literature, and people that impact the world of books, journals, and electronic information.



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