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Charleston Conference 2013-Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition

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2013 Charleston Conference — 33rd Annual Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition

Call For Papers, Ideas, Conference Themes, Panels, Debates, Diatribes, Speakers, Poster Sessions, Preconferences, etc. ...

2013 Theme — Too Much Is Not Enough

Wednesday, November 6, 2013 — Preconferences and Vendor Showcase
Thursday-Saturday, November 7-9, 2013 — Main Conference
Francis Marion Hotel, Courtyard Marriott Historic District, Charleston, SC
Addlestone Library, and School of Science and Mathematics Building, College of Charleston

If you are interested in leading a discussion, acting as a moderator, coordinating a lively lunch, or would like to make sure we discuss a particular topic, please let us know. The **Charleston Conference** prides itself on creativity, innovation, flexibility, and informality. If there is something you are interested in doing, please try it out on us. We'll probably love it...

The Conference Directors for the **2013 Charleston Conference** include — **Beth Bernhardt**, Principal Director (UNC-Greensboro) <beth_bernhardt@uncg.edu>, **Glenda Alvin** <galvin@Tnstate.edu>, **Adam Chesler** <adam.chesler@cox.net>, **Cris Ferguson** (Furman University) <cris.ferguson@furman.edu>, **Rachel Fleming** (Western Carolina) <rfleming@email.wcu.edu>, **Joyce Dixon-Fyle** (DePauw University Libraries) <joyfyle@depauw.edu>, **Chuck Hamaker** <cahamake@email.uncc.edu>, **Tony Horava** (University of Ottawa) <thorava@uottawa.ca>, **Albert Joy** (University of Vermont) <albert.joy@uvm.edu>, **Ramune Kubilius** (Northwestern Health Sciences Library) <r-kubilius@northwestern.edu>, **Erin Luckett** (Readex) <eluckett@newsbank.com>, **Corrie Marsh** <cmarsh12@gmail.com>, **Jack Montgomery** (Western Kentucky University) <jack.montgomery@wku.edu>, **David Myers** <dave@dmmediaassoc.com>, **Audrey Powers** (UFS Tampa Library) <apowers@lib.usf.edu>, **Anthony Watkinson** (Consultant) <anthony.watkinson@btopenworld.com>, **Katina Strauch** (College of Charleston) <kstrauch@comcast.net>, or www.katina.info/conference.

Send ideas by **July 8, 2013**, to any of the Conference Directors listed above.

Or to: **Katina Strauch**, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409 • 843-723-3536 (voice) • 843-805-7918 (fax) 843-509-2848 (cell) • <kstrauch@comcast.net> • <http://www.katina.info/conference>



Pelikan's Antidisambiguation — “Of Glass, Cloud, Access, Possession, Knowledge, and Privacy...”

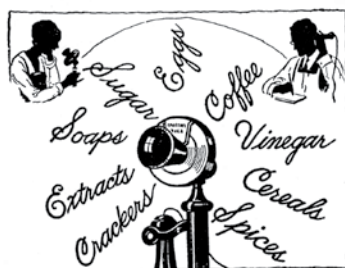
Column Editor: **Michael P. Pelikan** (Penn State) <mpp10@psu.edu>

“Change. n. 1 the Action of changing. > an instance of becoming different.” So says the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*. A “rate of change” connotes acceleration. Acceleration is the rate of change of velocity over time.

All of which is to preface this sentiment: Change isn't slowing down. Yesterday's breakthroughs are plowed under at an astonishing rate — you'd think I'd be used to it by now. Or perhaps, I've been lulled by the sense that I embrace change, am rarely surprised by it, and therefore have somehow become master of my own reactions to it.

And yet, I've not reached the limits of my ability to be surprised — blind-sided, even — by my own habitual mental models of what's happening out there in the world — outside my complacent sense of understanding.

Fortunately, most such instances are of genuinely trivial importance in a world in which birth and death are the truly inescapable mileposts of change.



My Dad used to say most folks seek not the Fountain of Youth, but rather the Fountain of Eternal Adolescence. What are our attractions, flirtations, restlessness, and cravings for change with technology other than the echoes of the throes of youthful discovery of the mysteries of the hive?

Amidst the recent celebrations, lamentations, and exhortations surrounding the seemingly sudden appearance on the landscape of **Google Glass**, I've been self-satisfied and reassured in the realization that while these devices represent a technological breakthrough, they do not truly bring in anything deeply NEW, rather simply a new form factor for capabilities we've had for some time.

I've reflected in this column before how, today, the Internet is our encyclopedia, and how, when I was a kid, the *Encyclopedia Britannica* was, in effect, my Internet. A directed search, browsing, following cross references and free associations that

arose whilst reading — all these activities, these “inquiry models” carried over from the physical format to the electronically accessed format easily and seamlessly.

The extent to which newer forms of access to remote information have become routine, natural habits seems, in hindsight, surprising. Now it feels strange not to have immediate access at the hip to the wide range of information available online. I remember a very early version of a *Concise Encyclopedia* that fit on an SD card to be read on a Palm PDA. The articles were paragraph length, and their number was limited, but it was a tantalizing glimpse of what was to come.

It all moved to what we now call the Cloud, before it was called the Cloud. The essential operational characteristic is access, not possession. Of course, the libraries were way out in front on this, and wrestled with the conceptual and perceptual dissonance resulting from buying something they would not possess “physically.” **ProQuest** was the Cloud long before the Cloud, although I guess it's well to remember the developmental path

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