

2014

## Future Conference Dates

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### Rumors

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at research institutions, **Scott** expects to be more involved with the work of some of his librarian colleagues rather than less. **John Meador**, most recently Dean of Libraries at SUNY-Binghamton, picked up the reins as UAB Dean of Libraries August 5th. The challenge he has accepted is to merge the two existing library organizations — **Lister Hill** and **Mervyn H. Sterne** — into a single organization serving the entire university community. Unlike some recent reorganizations (UNC and Florida come to mind), UAB's roots as a primarily biomedical research institution offers some unique opportunities. The two libraries are similar in size of staff and budget, are located just a few blocks from each other on a compact urban campus, and serve an increasingly multidisciplinary institution. So while

services will continue to be delivered from both buildings, eventually a single, seamless organization will be formed to provide those services. It's a bit of a conceptual leap, **Scott** admits, because even though most of the important work that librarians do now takes place outside of the building, we still think of the library organization and the library building as occupying the same space. But actually less than 1% of the UAB content budget is spent on print and has been for the past five years. Reference librarians are spending time with chat, email, phone calls, Webinars, etc., so basing the organization on the physical limitations of the building is obviously an anachronism. One consequence of the merger is that the two Director positions go away.

Meanwhile back at the **digital curation strategies desks**, **Scott** will be working on what services are needed, how to manage research data effectively and securely, establishing policies and compliance with federal

requirements, and on and on! I am not worried. **Scott** will be busy helping us all in libraries especially to find our way in the digital space or should I say quagmire! And wouldn't you expect the **Scott** says it will be fun! BTW both **Scott** and **Lynn Fortney** will be in Charleston in November!

<http://tscott.typepad.com/tsp/2014/09/the-new-job.html>

Speaking of **Data Curation**, have you signed up for the special **Charleston Workshop** on Monday and Tuesday before the Conference? Come on down!

<http://www.katina.info/conference/conference-info/events/data-curation/>

Just saw an interesting article in the *Wall Street Journal* the other day. "Known Unknowns" in Bookshelf by **Philip Delves Broughton**. He was actually reviewing a book called *Curious: The Desire to Know and Why Your Future Depends on It* by **Ian Leslie** (Basic, 2014). **Mr. Leslie** asserts there are two types of curiosity — diversive and epistemic. He cites a question recently posted on Reddit: "If someone from the 1950s suddenly appeared today, what would be the most difficult thing to explain to them about today?" The most popular answer? "I possess a device in my pocket that is capable of accessing the entirety of information known to man. I use it to look at pictures of cats and get into arguments with strangers." He says, "We need to work harder for our knowledge and stop being quite as shallow as our technology allows us to be." I am sure that **Scott** will be right on this paradox.

[www.wsj.com/](http://www.wsj.com/)

Speaking of what technology allows us to do or be, we recently posted an Article of the Week on the **ATG NewsChannel** — **How Streaming Media Could Threaten the Mission of Libraries**. Although starting with a focus on streaming digital music, this article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* brings up key concerns related to the content licensing, the first sale doctrine, and the provision of library services. More to the point, **How Streaming Media Could Threaten the Mission of Libraries** highlights what a number of librarians see as an "existential crisis." The traditional role of developing collections of physical items like books, journals, CDs, DVDs, etc. is giving way to the licensing of digital materials where the relationship between librarians and publishers is shifting, giving the latter "far more power." **Permission to access content is replacing ownership and threatens the foundations of collection**

**development.** And what are the implications for **Interlibrary loan** service? There is a lot to consider in this brief but perceptive article. It's well worth reading.

[http://www.against-the-grain.com/2014/09/atg-article-of-the-week-how-streaming-media-could-threaten-the-mission-of-libraries/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+against-the-grain+%28Against-the-Grain.com%29](http://www.against-the-grain.com/2014/09/atg-article-of-the-week-how-streaming-media-could-threaten-the-mission-of-libraries/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+against-the-grain+%28Against-the-Grain.com%29)

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## Future Dates for Charleston Conferences

Preconferences and Vendor Showcase      Main Conference

2014 Conference	5 November	6-8 November
2015 Conference	4 November	5-7 November
2016 Conference	2 November	3-5 November
2017 Conference	8 November	9-11 November

