From Your Editor

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From Your (piano-loving) Editor:

Once upon a time, I used to play the piano. Now I play the computer almost exclusively. In fact, I was thinking about selling the piano that I bought when I got my first job. Until the other day when I was reading about the decline of interest in playing the piano because of all the tools and gadgets that are out there. So I changed my mind. I am against-the-grain, after all! Long live piano playing!

Meanwhile, have been working on this print issue of ATG. It’s guest edited by the wonderful Tony Horava and is on an important topic — Reading in the Digital Age: Issues and Opportunities. This is Part One. Part Two will be in the June print issue of ATG. We have articles about reading in context, new literacies in education, reading and the library, reading trends and college-age students, and digital texts and the paper divide. Rick Anderson in his Op Ed and humble but correct opinion tells us about the emerging problem of free riders. Back Talk is by Ann Okerson who along with Jim O’Donnell are taking up the Back Talk Mantra from Tony Ferguson.

Of course, there are lots of reviews in this issue, of books, reference titles, and even of a Website. And reports, we’ve got ‘em — 2014 Charleston Conference, HELIN 2015, NFAIS Seminar and NFAIS Workshop — read what you may have missed here.

Whew! I think I will put my computer to sleep and move to my piano downstairs. I wonder if I can still play chopsticks?

Meanwhile, have a good ACRL and let’s hope this weather gets better!

Love, Yr. Ed.

Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <kstrauch@comcast.net>, phone or fax 843-723-3536, or snail mail: Against the Grain, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the ATG Homepage at http://www.against-the-grain.com.

Dear Editor:

Hello kind Editors of Against the Grain, I am curious, what is the review process for articles submitted to ATG? Is it peer reviewed? Editor reviewed? Do you employ a blind (or double blind) process? Thank you very much for any explanation.

Could someone point me to any instructions for submission? Thank you.

Frank R. Allen (Senior Associate Director for Administrative Services, University of Central Florida Libraries, Orlando, FL 32816-2666) <Frank.Allen@ucf.edu>

Dear Frank Allen,

Let us know if you need more clarification! Thanks for your interest in ATG.

1) We find guest editors based on articles in the literature, listservs, conference presentation, etc. All feature presentations are refereed as well as special reports. Columns are refereed by the editors only.

2) There is a conference planning committee that suggests plenary speakers. A call for papers is listed on the Charleston Conference Website (www.katina.info/conference). Concurrent session proposals are refereed by a committee of librarians.

3) We will arrange for blind peer review if it is requested but normally refereeing is not blind. Here is the link to Submit Content on the ATG Website: http://www.against-the-grain.com/submit-content/

Best regards, Katina Strauch and Tom Gilson

P.S. ATG is listed in three Cabell’s directories.

 AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES
 VOLUME 27 — 2015-2016

2015 Events Issue Ad Reservation Camera-Ready
MLA, SLA, Book Expo April 2015 02/19/15 03/12/15
ALA Annual June 2015 04/09/15 04/30/15
Reference Publishing September 2015 06/18/15 07/09/15
Charleston Conference November 2015 08/20/15 09/10/15

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Rumors

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John Von Knorring. Remember him? He used to be President of Routledge New York before they were bought by Taylor & Francis in 1998. We interviewed him for Against the Grain in v.6#4 (1994) and the interview is open access on the Purdue e-pubs Website (link below). John didn’t waste any time founding Stylus Publishing back in 1996. Anyway, John wrote to say he would be in Charleston April 9-11 for the American Association of Blacks in Higher Education who are honoring him for the support he’s given to Black scholars through the publishing he has done. Looking forward to seeing John in Charleston soon!

http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1642&context=atg
https://sty.presswarehouse.com/books/features.aspx

Looking for themes for the 2015 (the 35th!!) Charleston Conference, I was talking to Mike Markwith (WT Cox) who knows all about Bob Dylan and his songs. In fact, I remember that Mike used to have Dylan CDs and whatever else there was about Bob Dylan way back when. I was wondering about the theme of “Failing Your Way to Success” but there is not an exact Dylan quote that says that. Mike was telling me about the song Love Minus Zero/No Limits where the words are “there’s no success like failure and failure’s no success at all.” Not quite right. Oh well. Back to the drawing board, but thanks, Mike!

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