

2016

## Rosann Bazirjian Profile

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she served as a mentor to me. I went to my first **Charleston Conference** in 1987 when I was the Head of Acquisitions at the **University of West Florida**. After meeting **Katina** and shortly thereafter letting her know that I wanted to get more involved, she invited me to edit two columns in *ATG* — **Group Therapy** and **Bet You Missed It**. Eventually I became an editor of *ATG*, and then led the conference planning committee. Without the involvement at the **Charleston Conference**, I feel as if my professional life would have been different. I met so many people and learned about so many new and innovative things that my fellow librarians we doing. People started to know my name (**Bazirjian** is not a difficult name to forget) and I had a network of people I could learn from and grow with. I was even awarded the **ALCTS Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award** based on my involvement with the conference. It all started with **Katina**.

**ATG:** *Speaking of librarianship as a profession, what would you tell someone thinking about it as a career? Would you recommend they sign up for library school and take the plunge?*

**RB:** I am retiring and still tell people how much I love my profession and will miss it. There have been so many changes to this profession since 1980 when I began my career at the **Syracuse University Libraries**. It is likely those changes that have sustained my interest in the profession. It is constantly changing and constantly exciting. I have no

## against the grain people profile

### Rosann Bazirjian

**BORN AND LIVED:** The Bronx, New York.

**EARLY LIFE:** Wonderful memories growing up in the Bronx with my two sisters and many Armenian relatives!

**PROFESSIONAL CAREER AND ACTIVITIES:** I started out in Acquisitions as a paraprofessional at **Columbia University**. My first professional position was at **Syracuse University** as the Acquisitions Librarian (1980). I went to work at the **University of West Florida** as the Head of the Acquisitions Department in 1985, and then as Head of the Acquisitions Department at **Syracuse University** in 1990. That position became the Head of Bibliographic Services when cataloging and acquisitions functions were merged. From there I went to **Florida State University** as the Assistant Director for Technical Services. In 1999, I went to **Penn State** as their Assistant Dean for Access and Technical Services. Finally, in 2004 I became the Dean of University Libraries at **UNC-Greensboro**.

**FAMILY:** A husband, son and beautiful daughter-in-law. Two wonderful sisters, a niece, nephew and his beautiful wife.

**IN MY SPARE TIME:** What spare time? I love to travel and look forward to annual trips to Europe every November, and the Dominican Republic in March.

**FAVORITE BOOKS:** *Sandcastle Girls*, by **Chris Bohjalian** and *Angle of Repose* by **Wallace Stegner**.

**PET PEEVES:** Things out of place, sloppiness.

**PHILOSOPHY:** I don't have a philosophy that I live by.

**MOST MEMORABLE CAREER ACHIEVEMENT:** Being the President of **ALCTS** and winning the **Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award**.

**GOAL I HOPE TO ACHIEVE FIVE YEARS FROM NOW:** I hope to be enjoying my retirement — living a happy and healthy life. 🌻

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## against the grain library profile

### University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Started as "Woman's College" • Greensboro, NC 27402  
Phone: (336) 334-5880 • <library.uncg.edu>

**STAFF:** 32 library faculty, 53 staff, 25 students.

**BUDGET:** \$9,375,000

**ARE YOU BUYING EBOOKS?** Yes, lots of electronic books and journals. Focused on OER this year.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR LIBRARY WILL BE LIKE IN FIVE YEARS?** I like to envision the library as the information hub of the campus. We know we will be storing more titles in the years to come as we make way for even more collaborative spaces for our students and providing additional services.

**DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION:**

**HOW MANY DIVISIONS ARE THERE IN YOUR DEPARTMENT?** We have seven departments plus the **Schiffman Music Library**.

**HOW MANY PEOPLE WORK IN YOUR DEPARTMENT?** There are ten people in the Administrative Suite.

**WHAT IS YOUR MATERIALS BUDGET?** \$3,606,000. 🌻

regrets telling prospective LIS students to take the plunge. This profession will continue to grow and change and meet the needs of our students and faculty in new and exciting ways. That is part of the charm and challenge of this profession. We need to keep changing to remain a relevant part of their lives.

**ATG:** *Rosann, we understand congratulations are in order! After an accomplished career as a librarian and library administrator you are retiring in April 2016. What led you to the decision to open this new chapter in your life?*

**RB:** The answer to this question is really simple. I want to travel, I want to take long walks on the beach, and I want to wake up without an alarm. I have given 36 years to my profession and now I want to live life without any constraints to my time.

**ATG:** *We hear that you are moving to Myrtle Beach. There are lots of fun things to do there. Are you looking forward to anything in particular? Are there any exciting titles on your reading list? Will you be doing anything library related after you leave UNC-Greensboro? Can we expect to see you in Charleston?*

**RB:** I love the beach, and plan to do a lot of walking on the beach. There are wonderful

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