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Charleston Comings and Goings-News and Announcements for the Charleston Library Conference

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W e announced in late May that the Charleston Vendor Show-
case will be moving to the Grand Ballroom of the Gaillard 

Center this year. We’re very excited about the extra room and
the ability to keep all the vendor tables in one location. Toni Nix, the
powerhouse who manages the event, worked tirelessly to facilitate all
logistics that made the move possible. Please note that the Registration
Check-in Desk will remain at the original location in the lobby of the Francis Marion 

Hotel, and shuttle transportation will be available between both locations.

Speaking of the registration desk, our 

Conference Registrar Sharna Williams
has retired from the College of Charleston 

Addlestone Library as of May 31! She will
continue to work with us for the conference (whew!) and is looking forward to a more
flexible schedule. Congrats, hugs, and high
fives, Sharna!

Excited to announce some of our plena-

ry presenters for 2017! Brewster Kahle, 

Founder and Digital Librarian of the Inter-

net Archive, Loretta Parham, CEO and Di-

rector of the 

Atlanta University Center (AUC) 

Robert W. Woodruff Library, and 

Georgios Papadopoulos, Founder and 

CEO of Atypion, will all be presenting
in Charleston this year. We are greatly
looking forward to hearing their contrib-
utions. More to be announced soon!

We had a large number of top notch preconference proposals this year! A
full list of sessions is available at http://

www.charlestonlibraryconference.com/

preconferences/. Some of the topics
included are an acquisitions bootcamp,
budgeting, electronic resources manage-
ment, combatting “fake news,” enriched
metadata, negotiating with vendors, and
more! Registration for the preconfer-
ences is available on the main conference
registration page.

The launch of the Charleston Fast
Pitch session was a great success at last year’s conference. The aim of
the contest, which was modeled after
venture capital funding competitions, was to recognize and reward
new innovation in academic library and information management.
From a pool of many qualified applicants, the committee selected
four finalists to present their “pitches” at the conference. Two
winners were selected, one by a panel of judges and one by popular
audience vote. Winners were awarded $2,500 each to further fund
their projects. We’re happy to say that the Fast Pitch competition will be back
for 2017! Application information will be posted on the conference website. Sum-
maries of the 2016 winners and runners up
can be found at http://www.against-the-
grain.com/2017/01/atg-special-report-
the-charleston-library-conference-fast-
pitch-2016/. Start warming up your pitch!

Speaking of conference sessions return-
ing for 2017, the Charleston Premiers
are going to be back and better than ever! Get ready to walk the red carpet to a Hol-
lywood-style awards show. Designed to
offer publishers and vendors the chance to
showcase their newest and most innovative
products, platforms, and/or content, this
session will be augmented with an audience voting segment this year.
We will be awarding several “Best Of” categories to increase audience
engagement and participation. Presentations will still be organized in
a “lightning round” format with 5 minute presentations, back-to-back. The
Premiers are organized and moderated by Trey Shelton, Chair,
Acquisitions & Collections Services at the George A. Smathers Li-

braries, University of Florida.

That’s it for now — stay tuned to the Charleston Conference web-
site and the Against the Grain NewsChannel for more updates: www.


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Rumors

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MPDL has been working for many years with both Max Planck Society
born data collections and commercial resources, developing cyberin-
frastuctures and specialist applications for research data. It regularly
combines data flows from more than a hundred different sources and
performs ongoing analyses of usage statistics and constantly growing,
complex data pools with entry volumes in the order of 10¹¹ or more.
https://www.mpg.de/mpdl-en

Kevin Davies has joined Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., publishers as
Executive Vice President, Strategic Development. In this new role,
Davies will oversee strategy development for the company’s life science
franchise, including GEN (Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology
News) and Clinical OMICS, as well as spearhead innovative new
content initiatives for Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. Davies’s career as an
editor, author, and publisher spanned more than 25 years. He has held
a number of prominent editorial and publishing positions, including
founding editor of Nature Genetics, Editor-in-Chief of Cell Press,
launch editor for Bio-IT World, and vice president of the American
Chemical Society, where he served as publisher of Chemical &
Engineering News. Davies is the author of three successful science
books exploring the medical and societal impact of advances in DNA
sequencing and analysis — Breakthrough: The Race to Find the Breast
Cancer Gene; Cracking the Genome: The Race to Unlock Human DNA;
and The $1,000 Genome: The Revolution in DNA Sequencing and the
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