2018

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

Leah H. Hinds

Executive Director, Charleston Library Conference, leah@charlestonlibraryconference.com

Follow this and additional works at: <https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg>

Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Hinds, Leah H. (2018) "Charleston Comings and Goings: News and Announcements for the Charleston Library Conference," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 30: Iss. 4, Article 83.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.8312>

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.

and solutions that can help give the library a piece of mind. **Mary Sue Hoyle** pointed out that having your procurement office work with the private company to assess the risk can be a win-win situation. You can never get the risk to zero, but you can get it to where you are able to focus less on your vendors staying in business and more on the work of finding information resources for the community you serve.

The presenters also shared some resources that were useful to get those attending to start thinking about this issue. **John E. Juricek** (Collections Strategist and Co-Associate Dean for Collections, **University of Southern California, Los Angeles**) recently wrote an article on exploring supply chain risk in the library information industry. In it, **Juricek** wrote: "Researching any company is an imperfect process. Informal information-gathering is subject to inaccuracies and misinterpretations. Formal research using professional news sources and analyst reports may not uncover problems such as fraud or anticipate future changes in vendor strategy."² This is the million dollar question. How can we be sure that our vendors have the wherewithal to be there when we need them? Is the answer in the numbers? Probably yes, but all we are hoping to do is to minimize the risk to the library and ensure that our operations can continue without interruption. And while our world of scholarly communication does not offer many readings with surprise endings, the parties that make up this economy can.

A Few Closing Thoughts

First, the supply chain is fascinating to study. Despite a President who insists that a company has to win each contract and negotiation, you need to have balance between you and your vendors. If you squeeze too much from

your suppliers, they are less able to withstand their own issues. Just as with the automotive industry, a single disruption in the supply chain can halt production for an entire vehicle (something that just happened to the Ford F150 pickup truck recently). If our supply chain is stretched too thin, they might shut down or not make the investments that they need to make in themselves.

Second, seeing a nice event at a **Charleston Conference** or **ALA** meeting or receiving a nice premium for visiting their booth can make you wonder about how much you are paying for a service. Maybe if this company spent a bit less at **ALA**, they would charge a bit less — right? Probably not. You need to be able to explore the value you get from the relationship on its own. Furthermore, their marketing budget may not have any bearing on their overall health.

And third, don't forget that you likely have a great resource right in your own library. Almost every academic library has a suite of databases that you can find a great deal about companies. While public companies (ones on the New York and related stock exchanges) are easy to find information about, private companies do have some material that is findable. One of the key aspects you can find is the credit rating. That can go fairly far in figuring out how strong a company is. Do not hesitate to ask your business librarian for assistance. These business databases have a tremendous amount

of material that you can use to get a better sense of the companies that you are seeking to get in a relationship with. 🐿

*Corey Seeman is the Director, Kresge Library Services at the **Ross School of Business** at the **University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**. He is also the new editor for this column that intends to provide an eclectic exploration of business and management topics relative to the intersection of publishing, librarianship and the information industry. No business degree required! He may be reached at <cseeman@umich.edu> or via twitter at @cseeman.*

Endnotes

1. **Mulhere, Kaitlin**. "Journals and Money at Risk," *Inside Higher Ed* (January 2, 2015). <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2015/01/02/swets-bankruptcy-will-cost-libraries-time-money> (accessed July 5, 2018).
2. **Juricek, J. E.** "Supply Chain Risk after Swets: Evaluating the Financial Viability of Library Vendors." *Library Leadership & Management*, 32(3). Available here: <https://journals.tdl.org/llm/index.php/llm/article/view/7293>.

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

by **Leah Hinds** (Executive Director, Charleston Conference) <leah@charlestonlibraryconference.com>

First Time Attendees

Is this your first time attending the **Charleston Conference**? Welcome — we're glad you'll be joining us! If you have any questions about the conference, the city of Charleston, the venues for the meetings, shuttle transportation, or more, contact one of our **Conference Mentors** for help: <mentors@charlestonlibraryconference.com>. We have a group of seasoned conference veterans who are ready to answer all your conference-related questions. Once you arrive at the confer-

Joanne Cook, Conference Mentor, at the desk in the Francis Marion lobby.

ence, the mentor's desk will be located in the lobby of the **Francis Marion**, near the Registration Check-In Desk. Stop by and say hello!

We also have a **First Time Attendees Welcome Reception** planned for Tuesday, Nov. 6, from 7:00-9:00 pm following the **Vendor Showcase**. We're inviting all first-time attendees of the conference, as well as any "Up and Comer" award winners that are attending to join us for a welcome reception. Our conference mentors and some of our conference directors will be there to say

hello and to answer questions you may have in advance of the main conference. We hope to see you there!

Up and Comers Award

We are excited to bring back the **Up and Comers Award** again for the 2018 conference. This award is intended for librarians, library staff, vendors, publishers, MLIS students, instructors, consultants, and researchers who are new to their field or are in the early years of the profession. Up and Comers are passionate about the future of libraries. They innovate, inspire, collaborate, and take risks. They are future library leaders and change makers, and we are excited to celebrate them with this award.

continued on page 73

The Charleston ADVISOR

Critical Reviews of Web Products for Information Professionals

"The Charleston Advisor serves up timely editorials and columns, standalone and comparative reviews, and press releases, among other features. Produced by folks with impeccable library and publishing credentials ...[t]his is a title you should consider..."

— *Magazines for Libraries*, eleventh edition, edited by Cheryl LaGuardia with consulting editors Bill Katz and Linda Sternberg Katz (Bowker, 2002).

- Over 750 reviews now available
- Web edition and database provided with all subscriptions
- Unlimited IP filtered or name/password access
- Full backfile included
- Comparative reviews of aggregators featured
- Leading opinions in every issue

\$295.00 for libraries
\$495.00 for all others

☒ **Yes! Enter My Subscription For One Year.** ☐ **Yes, I am Interested in being a Reviewer.**

Name _____ Title _____
Organization _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____ Fax _____
Email _____ Signature _____

Charleston Comings and Goings ... from page 72

The 2018 Up and Comers will be recognized in the December-January issue of *Against the Grain*, and 20 of these brilliant rising stars will be profiled in the same issue, and they will be featured in a series of scheduled podcast interviews. We will also recognize the award winners at the **Charleston Conference First Time Attendee Reception** on Tuesday, Nov. 6, at 7:00 pm.

Annual Reception

Our annual conference reception will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 7, from 7:00-9:00 pm at the lovely South Carolina Aquarium (<http://scaquarium.org/>). This event is made possible through a Diamond Sponsorship by our friends at Elsevier. Featuring panoramic harbor views, touch tanks, roving educational staff and animals, and exhibits on wildlife and the South Carolina environment from the mountains to the sea, the aquarium is a fantastic venue for attendees to enjoy. Enjoy hearty hors d'oeuvres and desserts – with Lowcountry favorites like shrimp and grits and a biscuit bar – as well as more traditional reception fare. Also featuring live music from Ricky McCants and the Catz so get ready to dance!

Leah Hinds & Rick Hall (her brother) at the 2017 Reception in the SC Aquarium.

Hotels and Shuttle Transportation

Hotel rooms are going fast – please make your reservation as soon as possible if you haven't done so already! Reservation deadlines are October 1 for all conference hotels unless otherwise specified on our website at <https://www.charlestonlibraryconference.com/travel/hotels/>. We will provide shuttle transportation from each hotel with a conference group rate to the **Francis Marion Hotel** or the **Gaillard Center**. There will also be a loop that runs between the four main venues for conference sessions: the **Francis Marion Hotel**, the **Courtyard by Marriott**, the **Embassy Suites**, and the **Gaillard Center**. Shuttle transportation is provided by **Julian's Transportation Service**.

Webcasts

Have you seen any of our recent webcasts? The conference has started a series of free webcast events on topics surrounding librarianship, collection development and acquisitions issues, scholarly communication, and the publishing and information industry. You can view recordings of past sessions and register for upcoming events at <https://www.charlestonlibraryconference.com/video/webinars/>. In August, we featured a panel discussion from several of the featured article authors from this issue of *Against the Grain* on Health Sciences: **Liz**

Lorbeer, Pamela Rose, and David Bender. Check out our website for more details on upcoming sessions.

Posters, Virtual Posters, and Happy Hour Networking

Last year, we included **Virtual Posters** for the first time at the annual poster session. These were on large flat screen monitors at kiosks with iPads for browsing through the poster selections. The layout of the display is similar to Netflix, where you can browse by category/topical thread, or search by author, keyword, etc. Our attendees really loved this interactive way to view content and browse the posters! The 2018 Virtual Poster kiosks will be located outside the Carolina Ballroom in the **Francis Marion Hotel** during the poster session on Wednesday, Nov. 7. Come check it out!

We will also include a **Speed Networking** session just down the hall from the posters in the Calhoun Room during the same time slot. Drop in and get to know your fellow conference attendees in a fun and relaxed way. Designed to mimic the speed dating format, there will be two rows of chairs and people can talk for two minutes and then switch seats. Bring a drink or two from the cash bar and enjoy passed appetizers along with freshly popped popcorn from the ballpark-style cart.

Stay tuned for more information on the conference website at www.charlestonlibraryconference.com, or join our email list at <http://bit.ly/chs-email-list> to receive periodic updates. 🌱