April 2009

From Your (happy) Editor

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March 19 was a red-letter day for me since my daughter Ileana learned that she got her internship here in Charleston at the Medical University of South Carolina. This is what she wanted and so did her dad Bruce and I so we are happy. Graduation day is May 15 and she will be an actual physician! Hard to believe. My little girl. And, as we get older (and older), we have our own human medical encyclopedia at our actual fingertips – even better than virtual!

This issue of ATG, guest edited by the incredible Amy Kohrman continues on the theme of digital preservation. There are articles by Nan Rubin, Vicky Reich, James Jacobs, Bernie Reilly, Richard Pearce-Moses, Micah Altman, Bryan Beecher, and Jonathan Crabtree. Many of these articles are about preservation topics that we (at least I) have never thought about. Very eye-opening. We have an Op Ed by Michael Pelikan about content devices, a Back Talk by Tony Ferguson about silence (what’s that these days?), an interview with Kent D. Lee, a new approach to an interview by Dennis Brunning who talks with Sue Polanka the super-blogger of No Shelf Required, a Biz of Acq by Yan Arch (RSS feeds), Sandy Thatchers’ From the University Presses is about the hidden digital revolution, Bob Holley is writing about peas and publication, Donna Jacobs cons us with books, Eleanor Cook says we can have fun with Facebook, Tinker Massey wants to know if technology has changed us, while Bob Nardini asks if we can share the data train track, and we even have a little whimpering from Mark Herrin in Little Red Herrings, and on and on and on. The people who write for ATG are truly energetic, smart, and motivated. Thanks to every single one of them.

Must go. Time to consult my daughter about her graduation party. Come on down! Happy Spring!

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:

In case I’ve never dropped you a note, I have to say your publication has to be one of the highest quality ones I’ve come across, regardless of topic. Very well done! And a wealth of information. Thanks and, once again, awesome publication.

Sincerely,

John Bond (Vice President, Health Care Books and Journals, SLACK Incorporated)

AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES

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given in March 2008 by the Garfield Weston Foundation toward transformation of the New Bodleian into an advanced special collections library and cultural center. The indefatigable Dr. Sarah Thomas, Bodley’s Librarian, made the announcement on 14 March during the Founder’s Luncheon held by the Bodleian Library, an annual event commemorating the birth of its founder, Sir Thomas Bodley in March 1545, and his legacy of philanthropy. The formal renaming will occur in 2014 following a major refurbishment of the New Bodleian building. The gift, the largest ever made by the Foundation, was announced at the launch of Oxford Thinking: The Campaign for the University of Oxford last May. It is also the largest donation received to date in the Library’s history, and is one of the leading gifts to the University’s campaign which aims to raise a minimum of £1.25bn. Coupled with matching funds from Oxford University Press, the Garfield Weston Foundation grant will transform the accommodation for the Bodleian’s priceless collections and will open up its treasures to the public. Founded in 1602, the Bodleian Library and the larger organization to which it belongs, Oxford University Library Services, are home to over 11 million volumes and a large number of manuscripts and rare printed books. It is the largest university library in Britain and the second largest library in the UK. For the 21st time, the lunch was generously sponsored by Blackwell UK Ltd., as part of its support for the University of Oxford.

www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk

Speaking of which, you will remember our article in June 2008 ATG (v.x043, p.82) (“From Fortress to Fairway” by Rita Ricketts, Bruce Strauch and yours truly) which discussed the donation of a large sum of money to the Bodleian Library by Julian Blackwell, owner of Blackwell Book Services and the Blackwell Book Shops.

www.against-the-grain.com

Egyptian Universities Libraries (EUL) has selected the Healthcare and Science business of Thomson Reuters to provide research solutions to their consortium of university libraries. EUL signed a multi-year contract with Thomson Reuters to provide Egypt’s researcher’s access to ISI Web of Knowledge(SM). Egyptian Universities Libraries is the first library consortium of academic and research libraries in Egypt. Currently it includes 15 public academic universities in Egypt, which means it serves about 75% of researchers and scientists in Egypt. It is funded by Egyptian Universities (under the Supreme Council of Universities) and the Information and Communication Projects in Higher Education.

www.eul.edu.eg/thomsonreuters.com/

Which reminds me. We mentioned Matthew Ismail <mdismail@aucegypt.edu>

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