2009 Charleston Conference — 29th Annual Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition

Call For Papers, Ideas, Conference Themes, Panels, Debates, Diatribes, Speakers, Poster Sessions, Preconferences, etc... 

2009 Theme — There’s a Whole Lot of Changin’ Goin’ On!

Wednesday, November 4, 2009 — Preconferences and Vendor Showcase
Thursday-Saturday, November 5-7, 2009 — Main Conference
Francis Marion Hotel & Embassy Suites Historic District, Charleston, SC

If you are interested in leading a discussion, acting as a moderator, coordinating a lively lunch, or would like to make sure we discuss a particular topic, please let us know. The Charleston Conference prides itself on creativity, innovation, flexibility, and informality. If there is something you are interested in doing, please try it out on us. We’ll probably love it...

The Conference Directors for the 2009 Charleston Conference include — Beth Bernhardt, Principal Director (UNC-Greensboro) <beth.bernhardt@uncg.edu>, Glenda Alvin <galvin@tnstate.edu>, Adam Chesler <adam.chesler@cox.net>, Cris Ferguson (Furman University) <cris.ferguson@furman.edu>, David Goodman <dgoodman@princeton.edu>, Chuck Hamaker <chahamake@email.uncc.edu>, Heidi Hoerman <hoerman@sc.edu>, Tony Horava (University of Ottawa) <thorava@uottawa.ca>, Ramune Kubilius (Northwestern Health Sciences Library) <rkubilius@northwestern.edu>, Corrie Marsh <marsh12@hotmail.com>, Heather Miller (SUNY-Albany) <hmiller@uamail.albany.edu>, Jack Montgomery (Western Kentucky University) <jack.montgomery@wku.edu>, Audrey Powers (USF Tampa Library) <apowers@lib.usf.edu>, John Perry Smith (Total Information Inc.) <jp@totalinformation.com>, Anthony Watkinson (Consultant) <anthony.watkinson@bopenworld.com>, Katina Strauch (College of Charleston) <kstrauch@comcast.net> or www.katina.info/conference.

Send ideas by July 31, 2009, to any of the Conference Directors listed above.

Or to: Katina Strauch, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409
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to you last year in connection with materials budgets funding formulas. And, guess what, Matthew has sent us some very useful and enlightening information about the American University in Cairo which was founded by Americans overseas to offer an American style of English language education. See this issue, p.81.

For those sports nuts who followed the NCAA basketball final four, I have to tell you that as an old-time Tarheel, I am excited that UNC-CH won the tournament. I remember the Dean Smith days fondly (when we used to wrap all the trees in toilet paper and I even have a Dean Smith autograph somewhere). But I was also happy to see that Michigan State did so well! Noticed this article in the Chronicle of Higher Education. “The University of Michigan Press is being restructured as an academic unit under the aegis of Paul N. Courant, the university’s dean of libraries.” Philip Pochoda, the press’s director, is encouraged by the news because it “relieves the press of pressure to be financially self-sustaining.” See “University of Michigan Press Reorganizes as a unit of the library,” by Jennifer Howard, Chronicle of Higher Education, March 27, 2009.

And more about the University of Michigan Press which will take its print book operation and shift it largely to digital. In two years, the press is expected to produce 50 of its nearly 60 book titles in digital format. “Digital publishing helps the U-M Press to adopt a business model more consistent with the university research goal to disseminate information as widely and freely as possible,” says Provost Teresa Sullivan. In addition, the change aligns with the university’s ongoing effort to digitize its library collection, enhances U-M Press’s print on demand capacity, and increases the range and means of expression of published ideas and authors.” A new U-M press board will be created by July 1. See — “U-M redefining scholarly publications in the digital age,” by Frank Provenzano, March 16, 2009, www.ur.umich.edu/0809/Mar16_09/35.php. Also — “Farewell to the printed monograph,” Chronicle of Higher Education, March 23, 2009.

I am sure that we have all seen the International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC) Statement on the Global Economic Crisis and its Impact on Consortial Licenses (January 19, 2009). This statement is adopted in principle by member representatives of consortia of ICOLC. Updated to adopters of the statement are poster periodically at: www.library.yale.edu/consortia icolc-econcrisis-0109.htm

Speaking of the Chronicle of Higher Education and the budget crisis, I was interested to see that at the recent ACRL conference, libraries urged publishers to keep their prices relatively stable given the current economy. See — “Publishers face pressure from libraries to freeze prices and cut deals,” by Jennifer Howard, Chronicle of Higher Education, March 27, 2009. chronicle.com/weekly/v55n29/29a01301.htm

The H.W. Wilson Company has appointed the supremely capable John Regazzi to the newly created position of Chief Strategy Officer, reporting to H.W. Wilson President and CEO Harold Regan. Mr. Regazzi will focus on a broad range of initiatives, including new products, product enhancements, business development, and marketing. From 1981 to 1988, Mr. Regazzi was H.W. Wilson’s Vice-President of Computer Services, overseeing the company’s conversion from print to electronic publishing. He currently serves (and will continue on) as a full professor in the College of Information and Computer Science at the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University. In 1988, Mr. Regazzi was appointed to the Board of Directors of ICOLC.

http://www.against-the-grain.com>