If Rumors Were Horses

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Purposeful Collaboration for Research Libraries and University Presses

by Michael J. Furlough (Assistant Dean for Scholarly Communication, Co-director Office of Digital Scholarly Publishing, The Pennsylvania State University Library) <mfurlough@psu.edu>

Collaboration is king. It’s a value, a benefit, an answer to limited resources; a carrot on a stick, or, if it doesn’t go well, sometimes it’s just the stick. Librarians in particular value collaboration, and naturally so. Libraries are in the sharing business, and some of their most important infrastructure (interlibrary lending, cataloging) depends upon cooperative, cross-institutional work. In my library’s recent strategic planning efforts, our brainstorming sessions frequently brought forth numerous calls for collaboration (sometimes without a clear objective — but that’s what brainstorming is for).

University presses provide an interesting counterpoint. Presses do form business partnerships and collaborate in professional ways through the Association of American University Presses. But in general they understand each other as potential competitors for sales and manuscripts, not as resource sharers. In spring 2007 the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation announced a call for proposals to support collaboratively-based university press publishing for first time authors in underserved fields. That call ultimately yielded four very interesting collaborative publication efforts involving over a dozen presses, focused in the fields of Slavic Studies, American Literatures, South Asian Studies, and Ethnomusicology (see http://www.aauapnet.org/news/press/mellon12008.html). One story circulating, perhaps apocryphal, has it that the first reaction among many in the community involved collective head-scratching: Collaborate? What do you mean? True or not, it’s a useful reminder that collaboration requires a habit of mind. When two parties begin to explore how to work together it takes time and effort to establish trust. Both will be operating on new turf, territory might be redrawn, and the discussion has to move through a focus on threats to a focus on trade-offs that establish mutual benefits.

It’s much easier to talk about collaboration and its potential benefits than to actually engage in it. The authors of this set of essays on library-university press collaborations know this well. Patrick Alexander and I are grateful to Against the Grain for the opportunity to guest edit this issue on the benefits and practicalities of library-publisher collaborations. Attendees of the November 2008 Charleston Conference had a chance to preview some of these essays during our panel discussion “Strategies and Mechanics of Collaboration.” We especially want to thank our contributors, each of whom brings a unique case study to highlight the many different routes these activities may take.

We have heard much about these types of efforts in the past few years. 2007’s report from Ithaka, “University Publishing in a Digital Age,” which initially began as a study of University Presses and their futures, grew...
Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <kstrauch@comcast.net>, phone or fax 843-723-3336, 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:

Dear Charleston Conference Crew – Once again the Charleston Conference was the high point of the year for me. Thank you for all that you do!

Sincerely,

John Dove (President, Credo Reference)

www.credoreference.com

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From Your (first it’s hot, then it’s cold!) Editor:

The weather in these parts is strange. One day it’s in the seventies and the next day it’s in the thirties. Don’t know whether to take stuff out of the cedar chest or put stuff in it. Crazy! I am sitting at the computer right now with the heat off and a sweater on. Seems like a good compromise?

It has been fun working on this issue of ATG this time because I have been off from work and can see things in the daylight instead of in the middle of the night when I usually work on ATG. We have two great guest editors – Mike Furlough and Patrick Alexander talking about collaboration between research libraries and university presses. Remember Tony Horava’s appetizer article in ATG, v.20#4, p.46? On the collaboration side, we have articles by Raym Crow, Catherine A. Mitchell, and Laura Cerutti, Monica Cormick, Tony Ehling and Erich Stahl, Sylvia Miller and Patrick Alexander.

And there’s more. We have an op ed by Mehdi Kosrow-Pour which tries to perk us up from the economic gloom and doom, a Back Talk from Tony Ferguson about a Conference in China, a few special reports by Rachel Erb (on reSearcher) and Ann Bolek (on journal backfiles). Our interview in this issue is with the awesome Steve McKinnie, Library Director at Catawba College who tells about designing a library building on the cheap. Bryan Carson gives us the first installment on Open Source Software which seems to be everywhere, Biz of Acq is about Screen-casting in Acquisitions by Xan Arch, Sandy Thatcher’s From the University Presses takes on Gutemberg-e and Ross Atkinson. Then there’s Rick Lugg and Ruth Fischer’s Disapproval plan, Carolyn Morris’ Buying eBooks, John Cox’s future of the printed monograph, Rita Rickett’s international dateline about the Blackwellian women, and Cris Ferguson’s technology left behind about Revelry (you heard it here). And there’s even more not mentioned! I do want to mention however, that we have two new columnists – Bob Holley and Donna Jacobs to add more zest to our ATG reading experience.

Plus, now I understand that it is going to go down in the twenties tonight! Time to bring in the plants and go brrr… If it’s going to get this cold, why doesn’t it snow??!

Happy New Year and much love,
Yr. Ed.

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Rumors from page 1

Was so sorry to learn that after a reorganization at ACS, the wonderful Adam Chesler’s position was eliminated. While happy that he doesn’t have to shave every day, Adam’s nevertheless looking for new opportunities and welcomes ideas and/or friendly greetings. He plans on attending ALA in Denver, and can be reached by e-mail at <adam.chesler@cox.net>, www.against-the-grain.com/rumors.

Recently also heard from the energetic Scott Alan Smith who has been laid off at Blackwell. Here is his contact information: <Scott.alan.smith@comcast.net> Scott’s telephone number 503-951-8343.

The Charleston Conference 2008 is over and we all had a good time and learned a lot. Here’s Rita Ricketts enjoying the Charleston sunshine on one of the docks downtown. Rita is Blackwell’s historian. Be sure and read her international dateline, this issue, p.80.

And speaking of the Bodleian, did you hear that the author and playwright Alan Bennett is presenting his papers as a gift to the Bodleian Library, University of Oxford. The comprehensive archive comprises materials, letters, and manuscripts relating to a distinguished literary career which began with the revue Beyond the Fringe in 1960 and has spanned nearly five decades. www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/

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Here’s a shameless plug. did you see the UKSG Serials-eNews (No. 180, 3 October continued on page 10
And, I’m always wondering what we were talking about twenty years ago. So, just pulled out the very first issue of ATG (v.1#1, March 1989). Let’s see, B.H. Blackwell, Ltd., were in discussion to acquire ReadMore, Coutts, and James Bennett, Pty, Ltd in Sydney, Australia. John Menzies, plc. Mary Fugle had left Springer Verlag, for Elsevier, bookstores were testing a computerized ordering system called Pubnet, and Chuck Hamaker was talking about serial price increases! Oh! And the theme of the Charleston Conference 1989 was Remembrance of Things Past.

To return to the present and look toward the future, did you see the Pew Internet and American Life Project survey that surveyed experts regarding their assessments and predictions about the Internet and technology and roles in 2020? Will the phone/mobile device become the primary device for Internet access? I remember when Michael Pelikan made that prediction in Charleston several years ago! And, did you know that Michael has a blog at Penn State? Doubtless, he has more predictions!

http://blogger.psu.edu/directory/101
http://www.pewinternet.org/PPF/r/270/report_display.asp

Looking toward the future, be sure and read this month’s Against the Grain interview with Steve McKinzie, Library Director at Catawba College in Salisbury, NC. Steve <smckinzie@catawba.edu> is interviewing himself in true ATG fashion! The interview is fun and the pictures are awesome. Steve is talking about the design of his new library building. See this issue, p.50.
http://www.lib.catawba.edu/


Speaking of 2020 (hard to believe it’s only 11 years away!), Rick Anderson’s panel — The Role of the Library in a Fully Googled World — during the 2008 Charleston Conference included three distinguished and forward-looking library directors who responded to the scenario of Google having done everything that libraries used to do. What does the library do in that case? Responding were Nancy Eaton (Dean of University Libraries and Scholarly Communications, Penn State University), Rick Luce (Director of Libraries, Emory University), and Joyce Ogburn (University Librarian, University of Utah). Watch for the Conference proceedings and the reports from the 2009 Charleston Conference — come to the meeting and interact with others who are in the same boat. Talking with them, sharing concerns and experiences, and learning from these interactions will help you navigate through these uncertain times.
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We don’t have an IMHBCO column from Rick Anderson <rick.anderson@utah.edu> this time but he does tell me that he’s working on a write up of this panel for the Proceedings for 2008!

And, speaking of Nancy Eaton and the future — Nancy will be pushing back her previously announced retirement until summer 2010. Eaton, who had expected to retire Aug. 31, 2009, has now changed her plans because of a series of unexpected occurrences both on the national scene and on campus. “A number of events have taken place since I announced my retirement date that have caused me to reconsider,” Eaton said. “Things such as the decline in our national and state economies and resulting university/library budget reductions; reorganization of our volunteer library development council; the search for a new director of Penn State Press, which reports to me; and major negotiations with Google on behalf of CIC [Big Ten] libraries for the digitization of 10 million volumes have all entered into my decision.” Eaton was referring to an agreement between Google and the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), the academic arm of the Big Ten, to digitize collections across all CIC library systems. Eaton’s decision to push back her retirement date has been fully endorsed by Rodney Erickson, executive vice president and provost. “President Spanier and I are delighted that Nancy will be delaying her retirement date,” Erickson said. “Her service, commitment and leadership have been outstanding and we are glad she will continue in this role, making any transition smoother.”

http://live.psu.edu/story/34835 online

And speaking of mobile devices, the July 2008 issue of Library Technology Reports, did you see it? It’s devoted to mobile devices and one chapter even highlights what some academic libraries are already doing. Innovation Interfaces has a portable version of its OPAC that Ball State and Univ. of Richmond are using, Washington State is providing brief MP3 audio recordings, iTunes University offers lots of podcasts and Texas A and M have a channel featuring videogcasts on finding books, articles, etc, some libraries are developing audio tours, some are emailing quick news announcements and reminder… in short, lots of ways of reaching out to students and faculty.


And, just learned that the College of Charleston has an iTunes University account along with a lot of other places like Stanford, UC Berkeley, Yale, and others! There is content for current as well as prospective community members and it is not limited to iPods. Content can also be accessed via PC. Viva la change! What’s the song? Viva la difference… Could that be the 2009 Charleston Conference theme?

What you don’t find out when you poke around on the Web and in the Chronicle of Higher Education! I was just looking around when I ran (virtually) into an old friend who is now the director of the University of Minnesota — Doug Armat <dougarmato100@umn.edu>! The University of Minnesota Press plans to bring most of the books that it has ever published back in print through a program called Minnesota Archive Editions, a partnership with Amazon.com, Google, and BookMobile. There will be no upfront cost from Amazon. Doug says he hopes the stressed economy will not hurt higher education budgets. I remember Doug from the time that he spoke at the Charleston Conference many years ago! Back when speakers had slides and typed papers, Doug had legal-sized yellow sheets of hand-written notes! He was at the University of Georgia Press back then. We will do an interview with Doug in an upcoming issue of ATG! In the meanwhile, see “University Press, With Amazon, Revive and Sells Out-Of-Print Books,” by Jennifer Howard. Chronicle of Higher Education, Wednesday, November 19, 2008. http://chronicle.com/
http://www.upress.umn.edu/

Recently learned that the athletic-looking Arend Kuester has left PCG to take up a new challenge at Bloomsbury Publishing — you can contact him at <arendk@tiscali.co.uk>!

And speaking of PCG, just got this news from the resourceful Doug Wright. — From January 1, 2009, PCG (which has been providing BioOne with North American sales and marketing services since September) will provide exclusive worldwide marketing, sales representation and library customer service for BioOne and its publishing partners. Susan Skomal is BioOne’s executive director and chief operating officer.

www.pcgplus.com
www.bioone.org

EContent magazine has released its 2008-2009 Companies to Watch list. There are several of our “friends” on the list. Columbia University’s Electronic Resources Management Center, Drupal, EBSCO Information Service, Informa, Ingram Digital, and OCLC. And that’s just a few. To see the entire list — http://www.econtentmag.com/Articles/ArticleReader.aspx?ArticleID=51609

Missed her smiling face and energy at the 2008 Charleston Conference, but Karen Christensen <karen@berkshirepublishing.com> is still alive and doing well! She explains that she was in Washington, DC earlier and someone described Great Barrington, Mass., where Karen lives as “like the town in It’s a Wonderful Life.” Karen says they already have a foot of snow and so, they are learning more and more about community — being together and looking out for each other. In fact, she suggests that “community may be the word for 2009,” Karen is always thinking about Hong Kong and China. In fact, she signs her name in Chinese! Great to hear from you, Karen, Happy New Year! http://www.berkshirepublishing.com/

Speaking of China, got an email the other night from Yang Tao (Tina) <yangta@hkuc.hk.hk>— Social Sciences Faculty Librarian at the University of Hong Kong. You see, Tony Ferguson and I have been talking about the possibility of ATG interviewing Jack Ma, a former English teacher who built Alibaba, one of China’s biggest Web companies. Back when Microsoft was trying to buy Yahoo, I learned that Yahoo owned 39% of Alibaba and decided to poke around. Anyway, to continue with the story, Tina tells us that December first, Mr. Ma was invited to give a speech to the Faculty of Economics and Business at HKU on the topic “Economic Winter: Now What?” He talked about the financial tsunami and advised that entrepreneurs should take it as an opportunity to grow instead of a crisis alone. Tina also says that the one thing she found particularly interesting is that Jack Ma claimed that he was a computer dummy. If there is some new technological development in his company, Jack says he is the first person to try it out. If he feels comfortable with it, he feels confident that this would be friendly enough for customers. Says Tina, “from time to time, we hear our users complain that they don’t know how to find information even if we think the resources are well organized and should be easy to access. Well, Mr. Ma perhaps has given us librarians some insights into this issue. Mr. Ma is also keen about education and he has established a college to train future leaders in his own way.” Tina didn’t have a chance to interview Mr. Ma then, but she has not given up. Coming soon to an ATG near you! And, PS, a fascinating interview with Jack Ma is available on Youtube: http://youtube.com/watch?v=sbFEOFEuGF4 http://www.reuters.com/article/innovationNews/ideUSS59927320808216

Before I forget, want to put out the picture of Greg Tananbaum’s daughter Sydney this issue. p.8. Turns out that Greg has several daughters and Sydney is the oldest. Kaia is nine-months-old. But along with the picture, be sure and read the column which had me laughing out loud. Scholarly publishing and kindergarten?

http://www.scholarnext.com

More. Want to introduce a couple of new columnists with this issue. First, Bob Holley <aa3805@gwayne.edu> from Wayne State University’s Library and Information Sciences Program. Bob starts his “Ramblings” with an introduction and next issue, he will get down to specific issues! See this issue, p.78. Welcome, Bob.

Our second new columnist is not a librarian, but a research scientist and book lover. Donna Jacobs <jacobsdj@msuc.edu> Donna and I met long time ago at a cocktail party and I learned that she is reading all the Nobel Prize winners for literature from the beginning of the first award, I believe it was in 1901. Quite an ambitious task! And, as her wont, Donna has located another booklover on a small island in the Caribbean. See this issue, p.72.

http://almaza.com/nobel/literature/

Are we going to have to start paying for information that used to be free or will the federal government bail us out? Did you see the recent article in the Wall Street Journal (November 17, 2008) “Markets Declare Truce” continued on page 14
to encompass a wider range of publishing activities, including those based in libraries, and outlined the potential benefits of working together (http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/research-library-publishing-services/services.pdf). Karla Hahn’s report for the Association of Research Libraries, Research Library Publishing Services: New Options for University Publishing, provides the best data on library based publishing so far. Hahn’s survey found that of 80 surveyed and responding research libraries, 44% were offering some type of publishing service and another 21% were expecting to do so. However, Hahn found that only a small portion of library publishing services were offered with university presses (http://www.arl.org/bm~doc/research-library-publishing-services.pdf). No doubt this has to do with the small number of university presses, but there are many institutions where the library and the press have chosen not to work together for various reasons. But when it might make sense to work together, then what?

In the essays that follow, Raym Crow (SPARC) outlines a new SPARC guide, Campus-based Publishing Partnerships: A Guide to Critical Issues, that provides readers with some practical questions to ask when exploring new library-publisher partnerships. Crow points out that both partners need to understand and share the risks and rewards of collaboration, and that the distinct business cultures, missions, and market relationships will inflect how these factors are perceived and lived. The full SPARC guide includes more case studies of some of the projects discussed in this issue.

Catherine Mitchell (California Digital Library) and Laura Cerrutti (University of California Press) discuss the history of collaboration between their two organizations, moving from experimental projects to a more formalized strategy based on deep research. As they explain, a clearly articulated set of needs doesn’t make it simple to define a new publishing services partnership. But they also report on their initial pilot efforts and the strategy underlying their approach.

Monica McCormick (New York University Library), alone among our contributors, can refer to both the press and library in the first person. As Digital Scholarly Program Officer she reports to both the press director and the dean of libraries and functions as a collaboration hub in a very decentralized environment. With a background in both publishing and libraries, McCormick is in a position to bridge cultural gaps while remaining sympathetic to the core values of her colleagues.

Terry Ehling (Cornell University Library) and Erich Staib (Duke University Press) detail a partnership formed across organizational and institutional boundaries to support InterEdition, an already established journal aggregation. Their discussion points to some of the distinct benefits that a business partnership can bring to a market-oriented li-

fications together. And her Greek is so much better than mine that I am counting on her to teach me more!

Speaking of Greece, just heard from the delightful Tove Rosado <gabriel.rosado@snet.net> (once at the Univ. of Connecticut, now retired). Tove and her husband Gabriel just took a 3-week trip to Greece. They went on a cruise around the islands and also by bus around much of the country. They had a great time visiting and re-visiting all the beautiful sites and antiquities. You see, Tove and Gabriel went from Denmark to Greece on their honeymoon in 1962, before they came to the U.S.A. Gabriel is classically educated in Greek and Latin. Tove tells me that she and Gabriel are well and enjoying their beautiful garden (when it’s not snow-storming, which it is now). Tove, hopefully Lyman Newlin, one of your biggest fans, is reading this in heaven!

Also got several other cards. Barbara Meyers (now Ford), the Charleston Conference publishing panel wizard. Well, Barbara has been busy getting married but we hope to get her back to Charleston soon!

Oh! Got a great card from Betty and Sevgin Oktay (Betty is retired from Vassar, you’ll
Purposeful Collaboration ...
from page 14

brary-based publishing program, and highlights the resource challenges facing new publishing services.

Sylvia Miller (University of North Carolina) writes about a multi-party collaboration, Publishing the Long Civil Rights Project. Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, this fascinating program brings together a university press, university library, and two different research centers, one based in law and the other in history. The effort is potentially quite challenging logistically, but the common focus on an emerging area of research promises to create unique types of scholarship.

Patrick Alexander (Penn State University Press), my co-editor and colleague, writes about the unique assets — both tangible and intangible — that university presses can bring to a partnership with a library, and which the press should emphasize to its host university. Working together, he suggests, can enable both organizations to leverage not only their expertise, but their brands to help drive users to original scholarly content and to collections.

Patrick’s essay developed in part through work we have undertaken together at Penn State, where we share responsibilities as co-directors of the Office of Digital Scholarly Publishing, a joint effort of the University Libraries and Penn State Press. As at NYU and other universities, the press reports up to the library, but a reporting line is not a collaboration. Some of the groundwork for our partnership was laid by our predecessors, our dean, and the press director. Indeed, several publications detailed projects with fast approaching deadlines were waiting for us when we joined Penn State, about two years ago. Implementing these projects, which included an open-access monograph series, journal back files, a reprint publication series, and a conference proceedings publication service, presented a crucible in which cultural, business, and process distinctions reared their head. The collaborative projects — which required resource commitments from both the press and library — gave us as newcomers a different perspective with which to assess our base organizations, including the strengths, interests, and capacities of our staff and colleagues. It also allowed us to quickly try out theories about the collaboration and the problems it could solve, both on campus and more widely.

We have both been thinking critically about how to move the collaboration further down in our organizations via other projects, not necessarily product oriented, that we couldn’t ordinarily undertake alone. Cross-marketing each other and our content is one possibility. Involving the press in program assessments of the library’s services to campus might be another, especially as the library begins exploring larger-scale digital services to the campus. But we have both tried to think carefully about what assets we have to bring to the table. As a short counterpoint to Patrick’s essay, I will respond briefly with three library assets, which are discussed in various ways throughout the other essays in this issue.

Collections

Why did Google knock on the library’s door? To gain access to millions of books. As their proposed settlement with the Authors Guild and the American Association of Publishers shows, they (and their plaintiffs) stand to make a tidy sum by aggregating and licensing access to that content back to libraries and individuals. This is a great reminder about the value of the collections libraries have amassed. Fortunately, Google doesn’t have rights to it all, and library special collections can be mined not only for digitization and online presentation, but also as a source for original scholarship and publications in a variety of forms. The Long Civil Rights Project presents one such case where this will be crucial.

Connections

The librarian’s focus on service brings them into closer contact with researchers at early stages of a project. Their understanding of their client’s preferences and scholarly practices can help the press understand their authors and their markets in a new way. There is much more for both of us to do together here to harness these connections and use them better. Michael Jensen adds a useful corrective in his recent Library Trends essay: “Nor am I sanguine that our existing cultures, if carried forward, could avoid being made moot: nearly all of the

changes necessary depend on something our cultures are bad at: attention to the personal — the customer, the citizen, the individual. Publishers, like libraries, need to spend the next five years understanding the nature of their relationships with individuals.”

Cycles

The library mission to collect, organize, make accessible, and preserve information brings library staff into contact with many more dimensions of the information life cycle. Libraries’ core business is not in acquiring discrete titles and articles, but in the processes that surround those objects. Linking that mission with the publisher’s focus on creation, credentialing, and distribution can allow us to focus on the system at large and to develop new services accordingly. For example, emerging digital scholarship suggests that future works will be less fixed in form and more open to interaction, which brings new questions about how to sustain and preserve the research record.

These are not the only assets and some may be more important in local contexts. These collaborations are still very young and haven’t yet revealed either their full potential or demonstrated that they are not going to be effective. If they are going to flourish, each will need to consider some overarching questions about the future of both organizations. These can be the subject of their own essays, but I will outline just a few here:

How Does the Collaboration Fit Within a Larger Content Strategy?

In other words: what else are the library and press doing to provide access to scholarship, cultural heritage materials, and related information, and does the partnership reinforce those activities? University presses still must consider what subjects to acquire and where they want to market their content. The Ithaka Report on university publishing suggested the need for a large scale e-monograph aggregator, similar to Project Muse. Would such a service find a niche in today’s market, or will Google Book Search create the market (and the platform) for e-monographs? For libraries, the publishing program needs to be squarely tied

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remember). Anyway, the card seems to have a Turkish greeting on it which translates into Happy New Year, I think! I know I told y’all in the November ATG (p.8) that Betty and Seygin were coming to Charleston and we were planning to have dinner together. As it turns out, we’ve had a horridous rain storm in Charleston the night that we had planned our outing. If you have ever been in Charleston in the middle of a rain storm, you know what I mean — everything floods and the downtown roads are impassable except by boat. So — long story short — we didn’t see Betty and Seygin, just lots of rain, wind, and water. Hopefully next year they will visit Charleston and there won’t be any rain!

And got a great and newsy greeting from Jack and Lesley Montgomery (Western Kentucky University) <jack.montgomery@wku.edu>. Did you know that they celebrated their 26th wedding anniversary this year and they picked New Orleans as the celebration site! Besides writing (have you read Jack’s new book, American Slummers: Journeys with traditional healers? It’s truly fascinating), Jack is recording music. We sure had fun with him and Graham Hudspeth when they played at the Aquarium Reception during the 28th Charleston Conference.

Oh, and speaking of the fantabulous Lesley, I enjoyed her piece in the last ATG about the Art of Knitting (ATG, November 2008, p.16). It made me want to knit again. Maybe when I retire? And in this issue, p.83, Cris Ferguson, another knitter, adds to Lesley’s column!

Speaking of books — looking through some new books on the approval plan, I ran into this one from Libraries Unlimited — Defining Relevance, Managing the New Academic Library, edited by Janet McNeil Hurhbert, 978-1-59158-419-3. $45). It’s about the challenges we are all facing regarding the college library today. One of the chapters especially caught my eye. It is by

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Learning to Say Maybe
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The Coefficient Partnership: Project Euclid, Cornell University Library and Duke University Press

by Terry Ehling (Director, Center for Innovative Publishing, Cornell University Library) <ehling@cornell.edu>

and Erich Staib (Journals Acquisition Editor, Duke University Press) <erich.staib@dukeupress.edu>

How can or should — libraries and publishers, including university presses, work productively together? This is not an idle question now that academic libraries have sought to offer publishing services to their institutional communities. We propose to answer this question by citing one example of a successful library-press collaboration: Project Euclid.

In the domain of mathematics where Euclid operates, the numbers still astound: eight hundred and forty mathematics journals in circulation worldwide, nearly half now available from commercial publishers. This fact comprises an exceedingly long tail of not-so-profitable but still independent journals. Meanwhile nearly two hundred new or renovated math journals have come onto the market during the last ten years. Most are small but all hope for a long and glorious life, giving off a weak signal in the increasingly noisy ambit of cyberspace.

Ten years ago the Cornell University Library, with the encouragement of the university’s department of mathematics and statistics, undertook an initiative designed to provide these small, independent journals with a preferential publishing option. The majority of noncommercial journals in mathematics had yet to establish a footprint on the Internet by 2000. By early in the decade, however, academic libraries were beginning to favor electronic form and Internet delivery over paper editions for most STM serials. Could the library be an active agent in this transition by offering small publishers of scholarly journals a model, a platform, and a cost structure that would encourage them to shift their attention and investment from print to electronic?

The Cornell Library has a well-established track record in the conversion of scholarly material to digital form, codification of metadata standards, development of digital library technologies, and preservation of paper and digital assets. These strengths, along with its mandate to expedite access to scholarly resources at the point and place of need, made the library the primary catalyst for a project that would transform it from a consumer to a producer.

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one of the Charleston Conference mentors — Susan Campbell (Director, York College Library, York, Pennsylvania). Her paper is called “The New 3 Rs: Revolution, Reorganization and Renovation.” In it Susan explains how Schmidt Library managed a reorganization that eliminated 13 clerical positions and created 11 new full-time and 2 part-time positions as well as performing renovations in three and a half months with $3.5 million. There is much more useful material in this book. Check it out.

http://www.lu.com
http://www.against-the-grain.com/rumors

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A revision must necessarily have some element of newness, but the context of the new presentation must be looked at to see if it goes beyond what is allowed under § 201(c).

So it can be revised, but not too much.

Microforms contain a continuous reproduction of the original work miniaturized on film. The article is there; it’s just tiny. The user working that dreadful machine can focus on only one article and ignore ads and other stuff, but it’s still all there. *Id.* at 501-02.

**What About CNG?**

CNG is analogous to microfilm and microfiche. The original page is right there on the CD-ROM. You look at two pages at a time with the fold right in the middle and page numbers at the lower outside corners. And of course it’s in the same glorious color. The *Greenburg* photos are still embedded in the original context.

In the *Tasini* databases, a user could search for an article in an index, but once found, he could not flip to the next article. In CNG, you are browsing the original magazine.

Clutching at straws, *Greenburg* argued that new stuff had been added. Too much new stuff.

The Eleventh Circuit said the twenty-five second introductory montage does not wreck the original context of 1,200 precisely reproduced issues of the magazine. They analogized to putting a new cover on an encyclopedia and leaving the articles intact. If a new index, table of contents or foreword made it into a new work, there would be no such thing as a revision.

Likewise, a search function and zoom capacity are well within § 201(c)’s permissive area. A search function is a new version of the traditional index. Rather than look through the index for “global warming” and the list of pages strung out afterwards, the user hits “global warming” and the program retrieves it for him. And zooming in is no different from using a magnifying glass.

The doctrine of media neutrality is found in the *Copyright Act* with broad language allowing you to copyright anything fixed in a tangible medium of expression, “now known or later developed.” 17 U.S.C. § 102(a). Thus, an exact digital reproduction of a print magazine cannot be a new collective work. A publisher can reprint in Braille or a foreign language and fall within the revision provision. One creates a new work by adding too much new material.

The issue will always turn on contextual fidelity to the original print publication.

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**Rumors**

After a century of continuous publication, The Christian Science Monitor will abandon its weekday print edition and appear online only. The paper is currently published Monday through Friday, and will move to online only in April, although it will also introduce a weekend magazine. John Yemma, The Monitor’s editor, said that moving to a Web focus will mean it can keep its eight foreign bureaus open. Despite its reputation, the Monitor’s circulation had slipped to 52,000 from 220,000 in 1970. Under the new system, reporters will file stories to the Web and update them several times a day plus write longer pieces for the weekend magazine. “We certainly know that news magazines are cratering,” Mr. Yemma says. “We’re under no illusions about it being a growth vehicle.” See “Christian Science Paper to End Daily Print Edition,” by Stephanie Clifford, *The New York Times*, October 29, 2008. www.against-the-grain.com/rumors


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are organized. Title back in her memory bank we continued our rapid-fire discussion until it was time to leave. I asked to “check-out” du Maurier’s The House on the Strand, as I wanted to reread the book during my stay. Daphne du Maurier was the favorite author of my youth and The House on the Strand is a fantasy about history and time travel, an ideal book to pair with my holiday on Eleuthera. At our farewell party I returned the book and we exchanged addresses both electronic and postal with promises to stay in touch.

Once back in the states electronic conversations continued about books both read and recommended. One recommendation was Ryszard Kapuscinski’s The Shadow of the Sun. The Shadow of the Sun is a fantastic book about Africa during the beginning of the colonial revolutions. Kapuscinski was a young journalist when he secured the opportunity to travel to Africa to report on the end of colonial rule. This is Africa as seen through the eyes of a young novice foreign correspondent eager to see the detail of real African life. Kapuscinski was so intrigued that he spent a lifetime reporting from Third World countries for the Polish news. His romance is palatable as one reads the particulars of the tough life of the African people during this period.

In my continued search for books that tax my mind, give pause for thought, stimulate discussions, and intrigue my soul, I find joy in the occasional electronic suggestion of “something to read.” Joy’s most recent “e-suggestion” is Beyond The Sky And The Earth by Jamie Zeppa. She briefly describes the book as a journey into Bhutan. Now I begin my search for this book after I finish the current book I am reading authored by a Nobelist: Doris Lessing’s, On Cats.

Every year Eleuthera beckons and I hope soon to able to return. I might even join Joy for the regular Tuesday morning coffee at the Haynes Library (http://www.hayneslibrary.org/). The library was reopened in 1996 and is “dedicated to the advancement of education, the sharing of knowledge and the broadening of minds.” It is housed in a classical Bahamian structure built in 1897 and painted bright pink to match the sand that beckons just a few feet from the front door. One can lose one’s self in the books and the view. Truly holiday. And after our coffee we could add another line to her journal and I could add another library to my discovery.

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And many thanks to John Riley <jdriley@comcast.net> for pointing this out!

Richard Bodien has been appointed Director of Marketing at Serials Solutions in Seattle, WA. Richard has twenty-five years of experience with software and high technology companies including Microsoft, AOL Mobile, and The Boeing Company. As Director of Marketing, Richard oversees all Advertising, Event, Marketing, Press, and Web activities for the company.


It’s been a while since we heard from Phil Davis, but guess what? His lovely wife, Suzanne Cohen <sac29@cornell.edu> (Collection Development, Catherwood Library, Cornell University) was at the 2008 Charleston Conference instead! (shhh…she is a lot prettier than Phil). Suzanne had left Phil at home with their two kids! Sounds like a good plan! But I told her that next year they should all come and enjoy Charleston!

The awesome Professor David Nicholas <david.nicholas@ucl.ac.uk> sends word that as of January 1st, 2009 the UCL School of Library, Archive and Information Studies will change its name to UCL Department of Information Studies. We had a great dinner at Pan e Vino in Charleston after the conference. We talked about the Charleston Observatory.

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I am going to close with Rumors of two of my favorite places in the world. First, West Point where my son, Raymond, went to College. What a lovely place overlooking the Hudson River. A perfect place to visit. Anyway, I have just learned from the CHE Wired Campus (December 3, 2008) that the US Military Academy at West Point will collect the stories of soldiers of all ages and make them available online to students, historians, journalists, and the public. See — “West Point Oral-History Project Will Make Soldiers’ Stories Available Online,” by Lawrence Biemiller.


And, second, the Pensione Bencista in Italy mentioned in this New York Times travel article. This is where the Fiesole Retreats are held every third year, right across the street from Casalini Libri headquarters! Breathtaking! Delightful! Wonderful! I want to go there NOW!


Speaking of traveling, have you reserved a hotel room for 2009 yet? The Conference will be November 4-7, 2009. Come on down! And if you have a suggestion for a theme, please send it to me!

HAPPY NEW YEAR! HERE’S HOPING 2009 IS GOOD TO ALL OF US!