April 2001

Rumors

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Using the Automated OCLC/WLN Conspectus at a Small University

by Pauline Williams and Rosemary Arneson (University of Montevallo, Carmichael Library, Montevallo, AL 35115; Phone: 205-665-6105, Fax: 205-665-6112) <williamp@montevallo.edu>

Introduction

The University of Montevallo, Carmichael Library, is located in the central part of Alabama, about 30 miles south of Birmingham. Initially established as a women’s college in 1896, it has evolved to become one of the leading liberal arts colleges in the South. Now co-educational, and with an enrollment of about 3,300 students, we offer undergraduate degrees in the traditional liberal arts, and graduate programs in music, education, English, history, and communication science and disorders. Carmichael Library has a collection of about 250,000 volumes, a staff of fourteen that includes six library faculty, and materials budget of over $300,000.

Accreditation and self-study - that is how we started down the path that eventually led us to the automated OCLC/WLN Conspectus. We take planning seriously at Montevallo and it is closely related to the budget process. The University's long-range planning processes are open to units across the campus, and most participate. Goals are developed based on the University’s ten-year plan. The five-year plan is more specific, and the annual plans document the budgetary requirements of the various units. As we prepared for our upcoming SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) accreditation, a university-wide committee studied the library, as did the library’s faculty. These studies showed how under-funded and aged the library’s collections were, and, as a result the administration gave an additional annual supplement to the library for its collection building efforts. How could we use these funds effectively without knowing where the gaps were in our collection? We needed direction that only a collection assessment could give. With this additional funding, our goal was to assess the state of our collection and to document the progress of a collection-building program.

Background

In the 1980's and early 1990's the Network of Academic Alabama Libraries (NAAL) offered grants to member libraries to build the state’s collection of graduate library materials. Since we offered several graduate programs, we applied and received several grants during this time period. As part of the requirement for receiving these grants, an assessment of the collection was required before the project, as well as an assessment following the project. At that time, we were introduced to the conspectus methodology. In Richard J. Wood’s article “The

If Rumors Were Horses

Ahem ... Lots is happening. Listen up!

The fabulous Tony Ferguson <ferguson@columbia.edu> — of Columbia University and Back Talk fame — has a new job! Tony will become the Library Director at Hong Kong University this summer! Read his Back Talk (this issue, p.86) to hear all about it! Tony is preparing his dissertation defense as well. Let’s wish him luck!

And in case you haven’t visited the ATG Website lately www.against-the-grain.com the last few years of Tony’s Back Talks are loaded there fulltext. Check it out and let us know what you think!

And another dramatic move! The always-onto-the-move Tom Leonard is going to Germany! His last day at Oregon Institute of Technology is April 17 and on May 1, 2001, Tom begins his duties as Director of the Information Resources Center and University Librarian at the International University Bremen (IUB). Tom’s new address is: Postfach 750561, D-28725 Bremen, GERMANY See http://www.iu-bremen.de.

Oregon Trails for June, 2001, will give us more specifics and hopefully we’ll have an email by then! And there’s an Oregon Trails this issue, see p. 82.

And the swell David Fritsch’s last day at RowCom was April 13th. On the 16th, he started a new job as VP Sales for TDNet which sells e-journal management solutions. Dave’s old email address will soon go away, but he can be reached at either <oldj@aoil.com> or <david@netpos.com> for now. His new email should be <david@tdnet.com>. Dave’s home phone line is 734-973-1277 if anyone needs/wants to call. And, read Dave’s Mil continued on page 6

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Hey, y'all! It has been a harrowing six weeks for your ed. My husband Bruce spent the better part of a month in the hospital and 14 days in the ICU, much of it on a respirator. He had a rare case of viral pneumonia called BOOP. He's much better now (in fact, he wrote a Cases of note, this issue, just to prove it) and I hope to never see the likes of BOOP again. So—your ed. has been playing nurse for longer than I ever thought I would. (It's definitely different from editing.)

Meanwhile, back at the ATG ranch, your loyal column editors were working away making this issue come together! And it's a great one—jam packed as always! First, I want to thank Debbie Vaughn who took charge when I was at the hospital to guest edit this issue. There are interviews with Angela Adair-Hoy and Dan Halloran and profiles for John Riley, Lee Rouner and Anna Lannström. There is a great article on the OCLC/WLN Conspectus by Pauline Williams, a NEW column by Amber Williams seeking input on Websites, another great article on changing roles by Ana Arias Terry and another NEW column called Sense and Sensibility by Margaret Landesman. Rick Lugg and Ruth Fischer's I, User talks about Questia, Howard Bybee enlightens us on selling gift books over the Internet, Bryan Carson talks about databases and the Internet, and of course there's even more and more. How can you not afford to read this issue of ATG?

And, y'all, many of Tony Ferguson's Back Talks are loaded online, fulltext on the ATG Website, www.against-the-grain.com. Isn't that great?

Gotta run. My patient is calling. Talk to you in June!
— Yr. Ed. 🌷

Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <strauchk@earthlink.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:

As a result of your interview with the founder of 21 North Main, Ken Dzagan, and because I usually look up most of the Websites in Against the Grain, I was able to locate a copy of Buddies by Barbara Park, a book my 16-year-old has been wanting to find for years.

Our original copy was purchased years ago, the Christmas after I got my Masters degree & before I started my first professional job. Because I was a single mom and so broke that Christmas, Santa Claus went to a used bookstore & purchased several used children’s books that were in relatively pristine condition. Buddies was one of them, and it became my younger daughter’s favorite book. Although she lost it long ago and it’s now out-of-print, she will own it again, thanks to 21 North Main. So thanks for the lead!

Carol Hendren
(Library Services Consultant, College Center for Library Automation, 1238 Blountstown Highway Tallahassee, FL 32304)
<carol@ccla.lib.fl.us>

rumors

from page 1

Jennium Minutes in this issue, p. 46, about the Ditto machine. It's hilarious! And read even more about Mike Markwith at TDNet later in this section of Rumors.

Well, just as we were getting ready to print an unconfirmed Rumor that SilverPlatter had been bought, this press release turned up on The Charleston Advisor Website www.charlestonco.com! Wolters Kluwer has acquired SilverPlatter Information (Boston, New York). Terms of the deal were not disclosed. SilverPlatter, with annual sales of approximately USD 70 million, is a provider of medical and scientific databases and related software. SilverPlatter will be combined with Ovid Technologies (New York, United States), which Wolters Kluwer acquired in 1998, and the acquisition is in line with Wolters Kluwer's strategy to expand its electronic offerings in the medical and scientific fields and to integrate content with software and services. The acquisition of SilverPlatter is subject to regulatory approval.

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latory clearance. SilverPlatter provides access to more than 250 electronic reference databases, currently employs some 170 people, and has its main offices in Boston (United States) and London (United Kingdom). Wolters Kluwer is a multimodal information services company with annual sales of approximately EUR 3.7 billion, employing approximately 19,000 people in Europe, North America to ensure that the company’s core activities are Legal, Tax & Business, International Health & Science, and Education. The Wolters Kluwer shares are quoted on the Euronext Amsterdam. The Annual Report 2000 of Wolters Kluwer will be released on April 17, 2001. The Annual General Meeting of Shareholders will take place on May 4, 2001. The financial results for the first half of 2001 will be announced on August 14, 2001. http://www.wolterskluwer.com

Taylor & Francis Group plc has acquired all of the publishing activities of the Gordon and Breach Publishing Group (including Harwood Academic but excluding art book and magazine publishing). Gordon and Breach publish over 250 journals and approximately 100 books each year. Taylor & Francis, academic journal and book publishers for more than 200 years, will apply their experience to the Gordon and Breach journal publishing program and to Asia, that the academic content is made available to the academic community in a more predictable and manageable manner. Historically, Gordon and Breach have employed a system which has enabled them to publish academic research papers as they are received, but the variable flow of papers in any given year has led to a lack of certainty of cost for the subscriber. In addition, volume start dates have not necessarily been linked to calendar years. It is Taylor & Francis' intention to review the entire publishing program in order to: establish the number of pages, issues and volumes in a given year; publish volumes on a calendar year basis; establish fixed annual subscription prices so that there is no need for supplementary billing; consider the current and future pricing strategies; establish online availability of all possible titles. Here, here, I say! It is hoped to implement these strategies as early as possible beginning in 2002. For further information contact Keith Courtney, <keith.courtney@tandf.co.uk>. And look for our upcoming interview with Keith in Against the Grain. In the meantime, if you have any questions you'd like us to ask Keith, please email them to <strachuk@earthlink.net>.

Registration is now being accepted for The Acquisitions Institute at Timberline Lodge, Saturday, May 19, through Tuesday, May 22, 2001. The Institute will be held at Timberline Lodge, one hour east of Portland, Oregon on the slope of Mt. Hood. For registration, room, and general information see: libweb.uoregon.edu/acqdept/institute.html

The fabulous Chuck Hamaker <chahamake@email.uncc.edu> sends word of a recent article in the New York Times about the British Medi-
Rumors

from page 8

Ambassador Books and Media has just employed the bim-zowie Keith Powell as its new Western States Marketing Representative, beginning May 1, 2001. Mr. Powell has over fifteen years of academic library experience in acquisitions, serials, collection management, and automation. He has been the Acquisitions Librarian for the last three and a half years at Alabama State University and also worked in Monographic Acquisitions and Serials Control at the University of California at Santa Barbara. Keith has been actively involved in library association work on the ALCTS Acquisitions Section Technology Committee and the ALCTS Networks Resources and Metadata Committee as well as the Alabama Library Association and the Alabama Virtual Library. Keith recently accepted an appointment to the AcqNet Editorial Board. Keith got his Masters Degree in Information Sciences from the University of Tennessee, and a Masters in History from the University of California at Santa Barbara. He currently lives in Montgomery, Alabama with his wife, Karen, and daughter, Evan Amanda but will be relocating to Southern California. http://www.absbook.com.

By now, I guess that most of you know that the legendary Dan Tonkery has taken his extensive 30 years of experience and joined EBSCO Information Services as Director of Development as of March 1, 2001. Dan comes to EBSCO from Faxon, RoweCom's academic and medical division, where he has served as president for the past two years. At EBSCO, Dan will work with many divisions to help develop and refine marketing strategies. He will also be involved in future development of EBSCO's electronic journals service, particularly in relation to consortia and e-journal licensing issues. http://www-br.ebsco.com/home/whatsnew/press.shtm

And the stupendous Celia Wagner has been named Vice President, New Titles, at Blackwell's Book Services, overseeing the Approval product line and all Approval services for both Blackwell's and Academic Book Center. Celia has been with Blackwell's and Academic since 1978, working on both the "library side" and the "book side" of Approvals.

Moving right along, Tom Loughran has been a member of Blackwell's Approval Systems Department since 1991 and has been appointed Manager of Approvals, in charge of library profiling for Blackwell's customers worldwide. Tom takes over the position recently vacated by Dan Miller (now Electronic Services Consultant.) Tom is based in Lake Oswego. And, in this issue, Book Pricing Update has been written by Tom, see page 74, but watch for John Riley to return in June (and Tom too!). When it rains, it pours!

And Jane Tuten (<jane@aiken.sc.edu>) worked in Technical Services twenty years before taking over the directorship at USC-Aiken. Congratulations, Jane, and what great experience you have!

Katy Stenhouse (<kstenhouse@brillusa.com>), who works for Brill Academic Publishers in their Boston office, has recently been promoted to Associate Editor! Congratulations, Katy.

And speaking of Brill, the academic publishers with offices in Leiden, The Netherlands, Tokyo, and Boston, have opened a new American warehouse and have selected Books International, Inc., of Herndon, Virginia, to provide order fulfillment for the North American market starting January 1, 2001. www.brill.nl

Well, Jeri Van Goethem is truly retiring, but several of us have told her if she rubs it in too much we will quit speaking to her! Jeri is recovering from her surgery and plans to go back to Duke to "Finish cleaning out her office" in March but, she is reachable by email both at Duke and at home: <jrei_Van_Goethem@valhalla.oit.duke.edu> or <gvangoethem@nc.rr.com>.

Creating the Digital Future, ARL's 138th Membership Meeting in collaboration with CARL and hosted by the University of Toronto Libraries, May 2001 in Toronto will address how research institutions are developing the infrastructure and expertise that is needed to support the processes of scholarly publishing. http://www.arl.org/arlmay01.html.

And have you read the article by Ken Frazier, Director of Libraries at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. It outlines the pros and cons of signing on to online journal aggregation packages from commercial publishers. "The Librarians' Dilemma: Contemplating the Costs of the ‘Big Deal,’" is available on the D-Lib site (March 2001 issue). http://www.dlib.org/dlib/march01/frazier/03frazier.html

And you know what, I would like to hear a discussion between Mr. Frazier (above) who seems to argue for selection and David Kohl continued on page 12
REMEMBER WHEN?

Subscription Agencies were service businesses and your account was as important as any other account your agency handled?

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(Dean of Libraries, U. of Cincinnati), whose paper given at the Oxford Retreat (July, 2000) and at the Charleston Conference (November 2000) www.digital.casalini.it showed use by libraries of journals that would not have been purchased by the library.

The 67th IFLA Council and General Conference will be held in Boston, August 16-25, 2001. Read about it at http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla67/index.html

Got this in an email from the fabulous Julia C. Blixrud <jblx@arl.org> Director of Information Services, ARL. www.arl.org WE LEARN values and promotes literacy and literate writing skills. In an effort to cultivate meaningful literacy resources and curriculum, WE LEARN has launched a participatory research project involving adult women writers as well as educators and librarians who have connections to literacy efforts. In addition to learning what materials are currently being used to meet the needs of adult women learners, this study will also explore what resources could be developed that don't already exist (including what topics, genres, formats, etc.).

Well, the wonderful and awesome Vee Carrington <vcarrington@ala-choice.org> is leaving CHOICE as of April 20 (that's her birthday too)! She is going back to Carrington Consulting, where she was previously for more than ten years. Here's her new email address: <vvegeeece@yahoo.com>.

Sue Lewis <slewvis@jpl.com> (Vice President, Jossey-Bass, and Publisher, Professional & Trade Journals, John Wiley & Sons) and longtime subscriber to Against the Grain (hoo rah!) writes to tell us about BoldIdeas, an online collection of more than 40 business publications from John Wiley & Sons. BoldIdeas is built on the Wiley Interscience Platform and is designed to serve those who already subscribe to STM journals and would like to add a suite of business publications, as well as those who want and need access to business titles only. An online free trial is available until June 30 at www.boldideas.com.

IEEE has announced the formation of its first sales force, which will have two major responsibilities: sales of two key IEEE product lines, and improving communications with institutional customers in the U.S. The new sales department, called IEEE Sales & Customer Account Management, has sales responsibilities for the IEEE's major journals and magazines package, the All-Society Periodicals Executive (ASPP), as well as its packages of conference proceedings, known as POP, POP Plus and POP All. In addition, IEEE Sales & Customer Account Management will work more closely with customers in the U.S. to understand their needs and to explain IEEE product offerings. The new four-person sales team is headed by the very astute Francis Staples <f.staples@ieee.org>, who joined the IEEE staff on 15 January from the Institute of Scientific Information where he was Manager, University & Government Sales (1999-2000). Reporting to Mr. Staples is East Coast customer account manager, Mike Petro; a West Coast customer account manager to be named; and IEEE's current manager of customer relations, Debra Park. The sales team will report to Jonathan Dahl, Staff Director, IEEE Sales & Marketing Department. IEEE is funding the sales force with the company's other cost-cutting initiatives; the sales force will be responsible for identifying new customers and for generating additional revenue. Because the sales force expense will be net to the IEEE, pricing for new customers will not change. For more information, contact Jonathan Dahl at 1 732 562 3997 or <jdahl@ieee.org>. And, did you notice the ad for a West Coast Representative for IEEE in ATG February, p.34? I hope interested parties have responded! - Job-arplcation@ieee.org

And, along the same lines (sort of) — This is from Publishers Lunch 2/1/01 — Harper is rolling out an online sales support service called HarpersTools, after testing at various accounts for the last three months. Accounts can log on to get updates on hot title launches and publicity; a database of information (including jacket images) on all HarperCollins titles, a broad range of account-specific order status and tracking information, and more. Buster Keenan of Boulder Bookstore notes in Harper's release, "After using HarpersTools for a few weeks, I can say it is simple and easy to use—and yet powerful enough to make it worth using. The ability to find shipping and tracking information makes it great for buyers and receiving staff, and the individual title information—covering art in various formats and resolutions-makes it quick and easy to put together promotional pieces or ads, http://linker.xs1.net/link?click=r=al&rt=25492&si=p12449529

Swets Blackwell has just announced the successful conclusion to live testing of EDI serial invoicing with Ex Libris' ALEPH500 library system. The beta-site for this new capability was at Utrecht University in the Netherlands. Swets Blackwell is the first subscription agent to form such a partnership with Ex Libris. For further information please contact Sarah Kellman, Communication Executive, Swets Blackwell. http://www.swetsblackwell.com

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court decision is at http://laws.findlaw.com/2nd/979181.html.

And the American Library Association and the Association of Research Libraries have filed an amici curiae (friend of the court) brief in this case to "help the Court understand the practical effect of the issues at stake in this case." The New York Times, and other plaintiff publishers, are asking the Supreme Court to overturn the ruling by the Federal Appeals Court in favor of the Second Circuit in favor of freelance authors whose works were published in periodicals and newspapers, and then licensed by the publishers to vendors of electronic databases. The Second Circuit held that the Copyright Act does not give commercial electronic database publishers the privilege of reproducing and distributing the copyrighted works of freelance authors in and through certain online electronic databases and certain CD-ROM products. The court said that unless the publishers had obtained the permission of the authors, providing the articles for inclusion in full-text databases was an infringement of the authors' copyrights. ALA and ARL support the appeals court ruling that calls for compensation to freelance writers for the use of their work. However, this ruling presents significant challenges to libraries because of the possibility for incomplete archival databases. This is because older works currently reside in electronic databases for which seeking retrospective permission may be difficult. "ALA and ARL strongly believe that there are constructive ways for the Court to address the remedial phase of this case which is fair to both freelance authors and the public," insists Miriam Nisbet, Legislative Counsel for the American Library Association's Washington Office. "Freelance authors should be compensated for their work, but the public interest in having access to their material should also be recognized and respected.—without having to create a crisis that the publishers have suggested is inevitable if the authors are victorious in this case," she concluded. "Both ALA and ARL suggest that a solution to the issues raised in this case could be a system of payment to freelance writers which would result in a complete and historical record in many formats. Such a solution would further the public interest in access to these works;" concluded Prudence Adler, the Association of Research Libraries Associate Executive Director. The brief can be found at http://www.ar.org/info/frn/copy/tasin.html.

And speaking of Tasin, be sure to read what Bryan Carson says about Tasin, see Legally Speaking, in this issue beginning on p.60.

Vice President Stephen P. Newman has resigned as an officer of Data Research Associates, Inc. (DRA). Newman's responsibilities included direct management of sales operations and he was actively involved in the startup of the company's current marketing initiative, according to DRA President and CEO Michael J. Mellinger. Newman managed the direct sales staff through the first manager who remains with DRA. Mellinger further stated that effective immediately both sales and marketing will report to DRA Vice President Andrew P. Morrice.

The Library Corporation (TLC) and its recently acquired partner company, CARL Corporation have released news that CARL has been selected as the preferred vendor and will enter into contract negotiation with Wellington City Libraries in New Zealand. The Wellington REPs was awarded following a year-long process in which CARL competed against four other well-known library automation companies. This project requires the installation of a completely integrated system including hardware, software, data migration services, custom reporting and software solutions, online training, and full customer support. The initial installation will support 200 terminals for staff and the public in the Central Library and 11 branches. In F99-00, the Wellington City Libraries circulated 3 million items and had 2.5 million visitors. Both parties anticipate finalizing the contract within the next month, and implementing the conversion over the next six months.

Swets Blackwell and IBM have announced an agreement to develop and build a portfolio of Web-based information management products and services. These will be rolled out over the next five months and will allow corporate clients and end-users to purchase and manage their subscriptions online. Implementation will take place in two phases, with the first phase slated for April 1 and the second by July 1. In the first release Swets Blackwell's online catalog will be made available to corporate clients, enabling them to place orders by linking out from their existing e-procurement systems such as Ariba, SAP or Commerce One. The second release will have full subscription management functionalities and will be available to clients without e-procurement systems. Through such features as online ordering, canceling and claiming, as well as order approval functionality, Swets Blackwell clients will have full control at each stage of the procurement process. press@nl.swetsblackwell.com

Inega institute, with the active collaboration and support of the International Council for Scientific and Technical Information (ICSTI) will publish a comprehensive research project covering the relationship between journal subscriptions and document delivery as continued on page 16

<http://www.against-the-grain.com>
well as the impact of online delivery on article distribution. The findings are to be published in three phases with the first phase, to be completed in May 2001, concentrating on subscription versus document delivery. The second phase will focus on the "study of end user needs and behavior in terms of electronic article delivery." The final phase will deliver a comprehensive report and summary of the research findings. The year long research project will form the basis of two invitation-only seminars, to be held in London and Boston in the Fall, 2001. A report of the findings will be available to all interested parties by late 2001.

For more information on the Ingenta Institute, please visit: http://www.ingenta.com/home/fs_ingenta institute.htm

Thelma Diercks, <thelma@hawaii.edu>—who is now Acting Head of the Collection Services Division as well as Head of Acquisitions at the University of Hawaii Library—sends word about frustrations with ILS acquisitions modules. She thinks there would be a good topic for Charleston in November. So do I!

And, in the meantime, Rick Anderson <rickand@unr.edu> and Anna Belle Leiseron <a.leiseron@law.vanderbilt.edu> put out this message on Acqnet acqnet l@listproc.appstate.edu. It's for local systems types and others interested in exchanging library automation information. Here is the official purpose, from the Welcome message of Erik Lewis, list founder: "The Integrated Library Systems list is dedicated to helping those with an interest in library automation exchange information about and with the various library automation vendors. Any topic dealing with the functionality, migration purchasing, and support of an automation system or a module of an automation system is within the purview of this list. Additionally discussions concerning the future of library automation in terms of standards and functionality are encouraged."

To subscribe, send a blank email (nothing in the subject and the body) to the following address: <ilassubscribe@topica.com>

Just heard from the wine-connoisseur Digby Sales (U of Cape Town) <digby@uctlib.uct.ac.za> who says that he has just booked his flights for ALA/San Francisco. He tells me that he is working on a profile which he hopes to give us in the next month or so and that it is a hot, dry summer in South Africa so it's no fun hiking.

Don Chvatatal <dcvatatal@teleport.com>—ALA Update from Midwinter 2001 is available on the Web at http://www.biblio-tech.com. Very good. Here's Don's snail mail address—Donald N. Chvatatal; QUAD Consulting Services; 5833 SW Terwilliger Blvd.; Portland, OR 97201; Work: 503-977-1313; Fax: 503-977-1314.

And more on Don. He has sold his financial interest in ISBS (International Specialized Book Services) to a new subsidiary of the Cass Publishing Group of companies (UK). ISBS is the North American distributor for some seventy English-language foreign publishers based outside the U.S., including the Frank Cass imprint. ISBS distributes some 3,000 new titles each year. There may be an interesting story here: how ISBS was founded by Richard Abel in the 1960's, eventually was sold to Mr. Abel after Blackwell's acquired the assets of his company in 1975, then was sold to Academic Book Center in 1986, to be acquired by Don in 1992. Don reports he continues his automation consulting to bookellers and libraries.

Was talking to Julia Gelfand (Univ. of Calif., Irvine) <jgelfand@lib.ucl.edu> by email the other day. When the International Journal of Grey Literature died, Julia took on the editorship of Library Hi-Tech News with two other co-editors, Colby Riggs and Philip Calvert. Julia will also be teaching Summer Session I at the Univ. of Arizona School of Information Resources & Library Science again. But she says she's looking forward to seeing everyone at the coming meetings: SSP & ALA in San Francisco, ASEJ in Albuquerque, and IFLA in Boston. Julia also says that she keeps up with all of us through ATG which is core reading in her Collection Development course at Arizona. Hoo-Ha! That's the kind of news I like to hear.

The world-famous Powell's Books in Portland, Oregon, is ramping up its efforts to acquire used books from college and university libraries, including ex-libris titles, gift books, superseded editions, etc. Look for more coverage of this initiative in future issues of ATG.

Go to visit Rick Langer and Ruth Fischer's (R2 Consulting) Web page. It's www.ebookmap.net. Also, read 1, User this month, p.32. It's about Questa. And, have you seen the review of Questa in The Charleston Advisor for April (v.2/4), p.35. www.charlestonco.org

By now, I guess you all know that George magazine has ceased publication with the March issue. It's kind of sad, isn't it?

Donald Beagle (Belmont Abbey College) <DonaldBeagle@bac.edu> has accepted a promotion to oversee both academic computing and the library. His new title is: Director of Information Technology and Learning Resources. Don and his lovely wife Meredith were in Charleston the middle of February for the Southeastern Wildlife Exhibition.

netLibrary Inc. has launched the Global Print Solution, a short-run digital printing service that allows publishers to make their content available to a secure network of quality digital book manufacturers. The service allows publishers to increase the number of titles they consider for short-run printing by decreasing costs associated with title conversion and print procurement. The combination of e-Books and short-run printing enables publishers to manage overall costs and forecasts. netLibrary has signed agreements with premier short-run printers in North America, including Bookmobile (www.bookmobile.com), Dehart's Printing Service (www.deharts.com), Edwards Brothers (www.edwardsbrothers.com), Integrated Book Technology (IBT) (www.integratedbook.com) and Matrix Digital Printing. netLibrary also signed agreements with leading international printers including Antony Rowe and Basingstoke Press in the United Kingdom, eBooks (www.ebooks.com.au) in Australia and Sillbook.com in Hong Kong and Taiwan. Global Print Solution combines netLibrary's proven file conversion, storage and distribution capabilities with a network of leading short-run digital book makers strategically positioned throughout the globe. Each Global Print Solution printer has passed netLibrary's Printer Certification Process, which assures that printer's facilities produce books that meet minimum book manufacturing standards. After working with publishers to select appropriate titles for Global Print Solution, netLibrary converts each title into a print-ready format. netLibrary has developed a proprietary software process that enables print-ready files to be printed on all high quality digital printers. Publishers select specific printers for print jobs from netLibrary's printer network. Printers securely pull files from netLibrary and print and fulfill the order. Participating printers provide publishers with a variety of fulfillment options including drop-ship, warehouse and fulfill, and traditional print and ship. According to Jeff Nock, who directs netLibrary's Global Print Solution, "the service provides enhanced efficiencies for those publishers already using short-run digital printing and an easy start-up process for publishers who have yet to gain the benefits of digital printing." netLibrary's Global Print Solution addresses head-on one of the key stumbling blocks to the emergence of short run digital printing—the lack of available digital files for books that fit the short-run model. www.netLibrary.com

This courtesy of Debbie Vaughn <vaughn@cofc.edu>. AltaVista now offers an "education search" at http://tools.altavista.com/s/page=av/5Edu.html&only=y which allows you to search over 20 million pages' worth of college and university sites. Basically this is just a search hardcoded to restrict searches to the "edu domain," but it's a great first step.

Benedict College (Columbia, SC) has a new Director of Library Services. Darlene Zimmerman-Bethea <zbeatha@benedict.edu> assumed the position Feb. 5, 2001 which was vacated by Floyd Ingram <floyd@coatope.com> who became the Webmaster for Benedict. http://coatope.com/

A good place to look for information on e-Books is Bibliofuture — http://www.geocities.com/bibliofuture maintained by Troy Johnson <Troy.Johnson@valpo.edu>. This is a new address since Bibliofuture has switched Web providers.

Ex Libris (Australia) Pty. Ltd. has been awarded a major contract with UNILINC Ltd., for the license and implementation of ALEPH 500. UNILINC is a not-for-profit organization originally formed in 1978 to coordinate the provision of sophisticated library technologies in the higher education sector with the aim of saving costs and facilitating resource sharing. The following institutions are serviced by UNILINC and will soon be part of the ALEPH-based UNILINC Shared of...
Reaction to "A Publisher's View of the SPARC Initiative"

by Michael Rosenzweig (Editor-in-chief and Publisher, Evolutionary Ecology Research, Dept. of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Arizona, Tucson AZ 85721-0088; Phone: 520-621-7296, Fax: 520-621-9190) <scarab@u.arizona.edu> www.evolutionary-ecology.com

Anthony Watkinson made me a pretty unhappy camper with his piece in Against the Grain ("A Publisher's View of the SPARC Initiative," December 2000-January 2001), specifically his misrepresentation of our editor-publisher relationship. Indeed, he was responsible for the pricing of Evolutionary Ecology from 1988 to 1994, and indeed our relationship was amicable (after all, we are both sweet gentlemen). But to say that “every year (he and I) agreed (on) the price,” does not begin to describe what happened. What happened most years was that I learned of the price either in promotional material or actually on the inside cover of the first issue of the year. What else happened in most years was me whining about the price!

I have stopped whining. Evolutionary Ecology Research, the journal I founded in 1999 to compete with Evolutionary Ecology, costs libraries about 25 cents per page, quite similar to the cost of Evolutionary Ecology during its first year of publication by Chapman and Hall.

Mr. Watkinson also relates that subscriptions to Evolutionary Ecology reached a plateau. Not exactly. They were declining. It is possible that the decline began after his tenure. However, in 1986, the original Chapman and Hall aimed for one thousand subscriptions by 1992. I have this in writing. Of course, that story did not result in its projections on a price structure quite different from that of its successor. My impression was that Watkinson was rather happy with the subscription level. In fact, that always troubled me; it seemed to be a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Watkinson is certain that my calculations of profit for Evolutionary Ecology are wrong. Certainty is an elusive commodity. To perform my calculations I used numbers, not memory and not guesses. That they are substantially correct is being demonstrated by the financial health of Evolutionary Ecology Research, the new journal. I based my business plan for its prices on the same calculations. Nevertheless, Mr. Watkinson may be correct in his calculations too. In the first place, my calculations were for the year 1998, four years after Watkinson’s responsibility for Evolutionary Ecology pricing ceased. In addition, a large firm like International Thomson, charges many overhead expenses against its assets. I had no way to account for these. However, one must ask whether they are justified as expenses for a journal that we have demonstrated can be produced without them.

Mr. Watkinson should return to the Website of Evolutionary Ecology Research (http://www.evolutionary-ecology.com). There he will find that the original editorial, which he declares confidently “now removed from the site,” is still there. In fact, it has always been there. Every page published in Evolutionary Ecology Research remains on the site and is fully accessible to our subscribers. (Note that some pieces, such as the editorial to which he refers, are also accessible to nonsubscribers.)

Finally, let me address the issue of copyright transfer. Anthony, please stop worrying about it. It is a bogeyman. Just look at the way Evolutionary Ecology Research and its authors handle the matter. We stipulate in print that our subscribers may freely use our articles for noncommercial research and teaching. They need no further permission. We give our authors electronic copies of the PDF files for their papers. This immediately allows them to distribute reprints electronically or by hardcopy. After one year, they are also free to post their article on their own Website. Meanwhile, subscribing libraries may even send copies of articles by interlibrary loan to nonsubscribers. That is accessibility! The only time one needs to seek out an author for permission is when one intends to profit from his/her work. Evolutionary Ecology Research believes that requirement to be totally appropriate.

But these are all details. The basic point, the real lesson missed by Mr. Watkinson’s article, is that SPARC has worked and keeps working. Without it, I have no doubt whatsoever that the spiral in journal prices would have continued unabated. Librarians, banding together in defense of knowledge, should be very proud of what they have accomplished.

This is from Today's Legal News, 6 April, 2001. <info@LAWNEWS-NETWORK.COM> Lexis-Nexis and West are battling for small-firm, solo lawyer sales via the Web. Visit the Authorized Lawyer Spotlight at http://www.law.com/cgi-bin/mlink.cgi?ACG=Z7ZFk6CWSJC

What is and will be the impact of the Web on the publication or original research? Nature has just launched a Web debate on “Future e-access to the primary literature.” The debate is freely accessible via Nature’s home page http://www.nature.com or directly at http://www.nature.com/nature/debates/e-access. Needless to say, this is an important topic and the papers from April 6 include views from notables such as: Anna Okerson (Associate University Librarian, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721-0088; Phone: 520-621-7296, Fax: 520-621-9190) <scarab@u.arizona.edu> www.evolutionary-ecology.com

<http://www.against-the-grain.com>
Grain is the most popular (100%) and Library Journal is also popular (78%). Other common journals among librarians include: C&RL, Choice, Publishers Weekly, Information Technology in Libraries, Wired, and American Libraries.

Librarians share many concerns regarding the future. Topping the list of concerns was the skyrocketing cost of journals, mergers and the gradual extinction of small vendors and publishers, shrinking or stagnant budgets, recruiting young blood, archiving, and copyright laws. Librarians also expressed concern with the changing role of the library and the relationship between information and knowledge. With easy access to vast volumes of information via the World Wide Web, librarians are concerned that end-users are bypassing their friendly neighborhood librarian. The concern is that librarians have the training to sift through these vast volumes to find the grains of truth, but formats are changing so rapidly that it’s hard for librarians to keep up, and end-users seem—at least through librarians’ eyes—more willing to mass-produce using dubious information than to hand-craft using carefully gathered and analyzed knowledge.

And the Winners are—

As promised, two winners were selected at random from the librarians who sent in their surveys. The winners are Juliette Arnhem (Princeton University) and Caroline Long (George Washington University). They will both receive a free subscription to ATG and a free Charleston Conference 2001 registration. Congratulations, y’all! Thanks to all of you who sent in your surveys, and if you didn’t win, there’s always next year.

Rumors

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Call for Papers, Columns, Ideas, Etc.—Against the Grain

Is there something you would like to see covered in Against the Grain? Would you like to see a particular company or someone specific interviewed? Profiled? Would you like to know the answer to a specific question? How about a survey? Is there a particular company or issue you would like to know more about? A topic you would like to see articles written about? Have you heard a rumor you would like to have verified? Maybe you have something that you have written that you would like to send us? Now is the time to send it to us or tell us what you want to see in Against the Grain. Okay? Okay.

Email: <strauchk@earthlink.net>
Voice: (843) 723-3536
Snail mail: Against the Grain MSC 98, The Citadel Charleston, SC 29409
Thanks!
American Revolution. Amazingly, Russell accomplishes this survey of the South’s early years in a mere twenty pages by eliminating the wordiness often associated with historical writing. This cut-and-dry writing style is present throughout The American Revolution in the Southern Colonies, giving this resource a highly readable quality.

After the background chapters, each southern campaign and battle is recounted in staggering detail. From Norfolk, Moore’s Creek Bridge, and Sullivan’s Island to Guilford Court House, Chesapeake Capes, and Yorktown, Russell discusses issues in ammunitions, manpower, and townships. His accounts are not wanting for detail and no event is too small for mention.

Not ending his book with the end of the war, Russell includes a chapter entitled “After Surrender” which could quite possibly be my favorite. Any good read leaves you slightly hanging, wondering what happens to the main characters after their printed stories have ended. “Selected Post-Revolution Biographical Sketches” answers those yearnings for closure.

Russell adds spice to his titillating narrative by inserting attention-grabbing threads into the war history. Who knew that Scottish rebel Bonnie Prince Charlie had ties to the American Revolution? Who would have guessed that the people of Richmond anticipated British General Benedict Arnold’s takeover, allowing them to successfully hide valuable personal property before the attack? Who’d have “thunk” that the relatively high cost of living belonging to my beloved Charleston can be traced back to the 1708s?

Another ingredient tossed into Russell’s book is primary source material. Every few pages include excerpts from letters and journals and historical maps and charts. Without these primary materials, The American Revolution in the Southern Colonies is good. With them, the book is smashing. Allowing readers the ability to interpret original documents is a gift.

With movies being made from a pound of invention, a handful of myth, and a pinch of historical accuracy, our society runs the risk of not knowing fact from fiction. As librarians, we owe it to our patrons to offer them the opportunity to discover the fascinating, genuine events and details that motion pictures do not and cannot portray. In this sense, Russell’s book is a gem—a truly unadulterated assessment pre-Revolutionary history, a play-by-play account of the Southern campaigns and battles, and a resource for invaluable primary materials. Buy The American Revolution in the Southern Colonies and add it to your academic, public, or secondary school library collection.

Rumors
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(China), Informatics (India), and BookNet (Southeast Asia). All reports are researched by subject-matter experts from the CSA Editorial staff in cooperation with its publishing partners. Each report summarizes the contents of up to 250 current references, including peer-reviewed literature and relevant Web resources. CSA also plans to add customized Search services to BiblioAlerts.com in the near future. http://www.csa.com/

A three-year agreement with the consortia CAPCON and CIRLA has been signed allowing all participating member libraries unlimited access to the Emerald database of MCB University Press. CAPCON and CIRLA are the ninth and tenth consortia to sign agreements with MCB. These libraries include: The University of Maryland at College Park, Catholic University, The University of Delaware, Georgetown University, Morgan State University, Loyola Notre Dame Libraries, George Washington University, Howard University, The University of Maryland’s Kuhn Library, and Johns Hopkins University. Emerald is comprised of over 130 fulltext academic journals, mainly in the fields of business science, management, education, finance, engineering, and library and information sciences. The awesome Marietta Plank (one of the best people in the world) mplank@deans.umd.edu, is the Executive Director of the Chesapeake Information and Research Library Alliance (CIRLA). For further information, contact Dawn Marie Devine (MCB North America Consorisia Sales Manager) <dawn.devine@mcbsusa.com>.

Don’t you want to meet Kathie Henderson <henderso@alexia.ils.uiuc.edu> and her husband? She tells me that her husband was an acquisitions librarian at McCormick Theological Seminary Library and from 1964 to 1996 was Preservation Librarian at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library. They have team taught Preservation classes at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, UIUC since 1988 and he now joins her in also team teaching Technical Services Functions at GSLIS. That’s tootherness!

The American Society of Civil Engineers’ book Mechanics of Sediment Transport by Ning Chien and Zhaozhi Wan (0784404003, $149 US) was on Choice magazine’s 2000 Outstanding Academic Titles list.

From the ARL Server 1/29/00—Having just completed Post-Tenure Review myself (whew!), I was interested to read about the new SPEC Kit 261 on, guess what, Post-Tenure Review (October 2000). SPEC Kit 261 summarizes outcomes at some institutions where Post-Tenure Review was instituted to hold faculty accountable to standards. http://www.arl.org/ spec261sum.html; www.arl.org.