June 2006

ATG Deadlines

Editor
From Your (thankful) Editor:

It may not be Thanksgiving but I am happy to have my son Raymond back in the US (San Antonio) with his wife Lindsay. His time in Iraq is over, at least for a while. Now I just have to worry about my daughter who is on a medical mission in Romania.

Meanwhile, ATG continues thanks to all the wonderful editors who put it together. Who could believe that we would be 18 years old? Where has all the time gone? This issue is chock full of some great information on pricing models for electronic resources. Tim Bucknall and Beth Bernhardt have put together articles from four experienced professionals, Christine Fischer, Rick Anderson, Kimberly Steine, and Scott Rice, who will help us make sense of today’s lengthy menu of pricing options by examining them from multiple perspectives. The Charleston Conference mentors, Susan Campbell and Pam Cenzer, took one of Larry Portzline’s bookstore tours and wrote about it here in “Pam and Susan’s Excellent Greenwich Village Bookstore Adventure.” And while you’re traveling, be sure to read Cris Ferguson’s Technology Left Behind as she looks back in “An Ode to the Typewriter.”

We have lots of special reports this issue. Anthony Watkins talks about the “SUPERBOOK Research Project at UCL.” Julie Flanders and Cindy Gregor talk us about their “Leisure Cinema Collection.” Kirsten Steele has more on collecting, while Norman Desmarais fills us in on “Colliding Technologies.” Gene Waddell has submitted a review essay “Anthropology As Natural History,” and last but not least Bob Molyneux talks about “Predicting High-Circulating Titles for Public Libraries.”

Our interviews for this issue are with Martha Sedgwick and Patrick Alexander, and our profiles include Tim Bucknall, Beth R. Bernhardt, Kimberly Steine, and Peg Bradshaw. Plus there’s much, much more. Read on!

Cheers, Yr. Ed. 🍾

Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <kstrauch@comcast.net>, phone or fax 843-723-3536, or snail mail: Against the Grain, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the ATG Homepage at http://www.against-the-grain.com.

Dear ATG Subscribers,

Your letter could be here! Please let us hear from you regarding any issues you would like to see covered in ATG, people you would like to see interviewed, anything at all. Your comments and suggestions are welcomed. We are listening!

Thanks so much, Yr. Ed. 🍾

AGAINST THE GRAIN DEADLINES

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2006 Events Issue Ad Reservation Camera-Ready
Reference Publishing September 2006 07/26/06 08/09/06
Charleston Conference November 2006 09/20/06 10/04/06
ALA Midwinter Dec 06/Jan 07 11/22/06 12/06/06

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Rumors
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And Alas! One of my first bosses, Thomas Ellis Hodgkin, Director of the Booth Library at Davis & Elkins College, died Sunday, April 2, Ellis was born in High Point, North Carolina, in 1938. He received his Bachelor's degree in English and History from High Point College in 1965 and went on to earn the Master of Science in Library Science degree from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in 1967. In 1981, he received a Master's degree in Management from Central Michigan University. Ellis was director of the College of Charleston Library in 1979 when I joined the staff. He was a wonderful man, very energetic and creative and intense. May he rest in peace.

On a lighter note, went to lunch the other day with George Hurd, the security guard, at the College of Charleston. George was talking about his time in Vietnam when I was barely born (hah! if you believe that ... I just bought the Brooklyn bridge!). Anyway, George was remembering his time in Vietnam and a book/pamphlet about his light infantry regiment. He wanted to find a copy of the book but despaired that he ever would. Guess what? Your intrepid editor went to WorldCat and found the book! Amazing! It is only held at one library, but we are hoping to get it on Interlibrary Loan. Also, looking for a copy on the OP market. Gosh! Our networked world is fantastic!

Was meeting with a Psychology professor, Carol Toris <toris@cofc.edu> at the College of Charleston the other day and we were talking about all the lightning changes in technology and libraries. And she said, very appropriately I thought, “now I know what the monks must have had like when the printing press was invented.” Ain’t that the truth!

Speaking of lightning changes, when my son was in Iraq (thank goodness he’s back), I could talk to him by VOIP. It was amazing. And the other day I got an email from Don Chvatal <Don.Chvatal@ringgold.com> (President, Ringgold, Inc.) which included some sort of VOIP designation. Anyway, Don’s OpenRFP is in the process of supporting an online procurement for RFID services. Additional download information is available. He is looking for other libraries which might be seeking support for a similar procurement. Suggestions?

www.openrfi.com/cfm/si_pdl.cfm
www.ringgold.com

ProQuest Company (NYSE: PQE), a publisher of information and education solutions, has reached an agreement with its bank lenders and private placement note holders in which both sets of creditors have granted the company a waiver of the company’s current defaults under its credit arrangements, including those arising as a result of the company’s ongoing accounting review. Pursuant to this agreement, the banks and note holders will not exercise remedies available to them resulting from ProQuest’s defaults under its existing credit arrangements. This agreement continues through November 30, 2006, and is subject to ProQuest’s ongoing compliance with certain additional covenants. Under the terms of the agreement, this waiver would be extended to January 31, 2007 if certain conditions are met by the company. The agreement also provides that availability under the company’s existing credit facilities will be permanently reduced to amounts currently outstanding under those facilities and that the company’s swingline facility will be cancelled. However, certain of the creditors have collectively made a new superpriority facility available to the company in an amount of up to $56 million for working capital financing, so long as the company is in compliance with the underlying terms and conditions of its credit agreements and waiver agreement. The agreement also provides for the company to (i) grant a security interest in substantially all its and its domestic subsidiaries’ assets and to provide guarantees from all of its domestic subsidiaries with respect to the existing facilities, the private placement notes and the superpriority facility, (ii) pay interest and fees at rates that are on average approximately 175 basis points higher than under the existing credit agreements, and (iii) pay various fees, including a waiver fee applicable only to the existing credit agreement of 25 basis

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