Still more — The SAGE eReference platform was once again honored, recently earning an Annual Award for Publication Excellence (APEX) in the Web and Intranet sites category. This honor follows the platform’s selection as a 2007 Choice Outstanding Academic Title and a 2007 Library Journal Best Reference earlier this year. APEX is sponsored by the editors of Writing That Works, a bimonthly newsletter for communicators who write, edit, and manage business publications. The newsletter is published by Communications Concepts, Inc., a company that provides publishing direction to marketing professionals. SAGE eReference was chosen from over 300. Created in partnership with RDG Group/iFactory, the dedicated SAGE eReference platform is the online host for more than 70 SAGE Reference encyclopedias in the social sciences with a growing list in the health sciences (80 titles will be live by the year’s end).

www.sagepublications.com
www.apexawards.com/

Heard from Jean Festa of Charleston the other day. Jean is the wife of the former Provost and President of the College of Charleston, Conrad Festa. Anyway, Jean and Conrad were heading off to Albania to hike and see a new part of the world. And, while they were in Albania, they were planning to visit Farfuri Xhaja, remember her? Farfuri is a librarian at the National Library of Albania who was at the College of Charleston on an ALA Bogle Scholarship back in 1995/96. ATG interviewed Farfuri in v.8#5 (November, 1998), see p.39 and following. Anyway, Farfuri’s son is in medical school and her daughter Denada has a little boy of her own! Boy! Like they say, time stands still for no one!

This news courtesy of Tom Gilson. ATG’s Reference Desk editor. Sylvia Miller <skm@email.unc.edu> started a new job over the summer at the University of North Carolina Press in Chapel Hill. Sylvia is director of a Mellon-funded collaborative project called “Publishing the Long Civil Rights Movement.” The four project partners are the University of North Carolina Press, the University Library, the Center for Civil Rights at the Law School, and the Southern Oral History Program (which is part of the Center for the Study of the American South). The group is charged with coming together to publish in innovative ways that expand the chronological, demographic, geographical, and thematic boundaries traditionally associated with scholarship on the civil rights movement.

A fascinating challenge of the project is finding a multiple-access, hybrid business model that will sustain the publishing platform while bridging the differences between publishers and libraries/archives over open access. Oh — and Sylvia is attending the Charleston Conference on behalf of UNC Press so look her up! lcrm.unc.edu

The Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers (ALPSP) has appointed the energetic Isabel Czech as Executive Director of its rapidly-growing North American chapter with immediate effect. We all know Isabel <isabel.czech@alpsp.org> who worked in publisher relations at Thomson/ISI for over 30 years. The North American Chapter of ALPSP was formed in September 2005 in order to provide a focal point for members of the Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers based in the United States of America and Canada. The current Chair of the ALPSP North American Chapter is Cristina Taylor of the American Society of Plant Biologists. ALPSP has more than 350 organizational members and around 50 of those are based in North America. Ian Russell is Chief Executive <i.an.russell@alpsp.org>, ALPSP. Look for him at the Charleston Conference in November!

Speaking of ALPSP, Oxford Journals announces that Bioscience Horizons has been awarded a Highly Commended certificate by the Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers (ALPSP) for publishing innovation. The winners of the 2008 awards were announced at the ALPSP International Conference Dinner on Thursday 11 September 2008. Bioscience Horizons is the first national expert-reviewed journal dedicated to undergraduate bioscience research to be published by a professional publisher and aims to showcase the best research undertaken by undergraduates in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Dr. Celia Knight is Chair of the Bioscience Horizons editorial board. The journal is published twice a year and includes papers covering a wide range of the biological sciences, from molecular biology to ecology. The journal was sponsored in its first year by the University of Leeds and Oxford University Press. The Biotechnology and Biosciences Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) is now sponsoring an evaluation of its impact on postgraduate training. I have to tell you that one of our Chemistry professors, Rick Heldrich <heldrichf@cofc.edu> has been a huge mover and shaker behind undergraduate research at the College of Charleston and he was thrilled when I forwarded him this press release! www.oup.co.uk/

Another person to look for in November — The hard-working Christine Orr who has joined the staff of The Optical Society. As director of publication sales. Christine will conduct sales and direct the account services and sales administration functions for institutional subscriptions to all OSA journal and publications

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