2007 Charleston Conference —
27th Annual Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition

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

Wednesday, November 7, 2007 — Preconferences and Vendor Showcase Thursday-Saturday, November 8-10, 2007 — Main Conference
Francis Marion Hotel & Embassy Suites Historic District, Charleston, SC

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

The Conference Directors for the 2007 Charleston Conference include — Beth Bernhardt, Principal Director (UNC-Greensboro) <beth.bernhardt@uncg.edu>, Glenda Alvin <galvin@tntstate.edu>, Cris Ferguson (Purdue University) <cris.ferguson@purdue.edu>, David Goodman <dgoodman@liu.edu>, Chuck Hamaker <cahamake@email.unc.edu>, Heidi Hoerman <hoerman@sc.edu>, Ramune Kubilius (Northwestern Health Sciences Library) <lkubilius@northwestern.edu>, Heather Miller (SUNY-Albany) <hmiller@uamail.albany.edu>, Jack Montgomery (Western Kentucky University) <jack.montgomery@wku.edu>, Audrey Powers (UFS Tampa Library) <apowers@lib.usf.edu>, John Perry Smith (Total Information Inc.) <jps@totalinformation.com>, Anthony Watkinson (Consultant) <anthony.watkinson@bto-penworld.com>, Katina Strauch (College of Charleston) <kstrauch@comcast.net> or www.katina.info/conference.

Send ideas by June 30, 2007, to any of the Conference Directors listed above.

Or to: Katina Strauch
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Rachel K. Schenk Memorial Scholarship

This year the fifth Rachel K. Schenk Memorial Scholarship of $1,200 will be awarded to the person who has demonstrated a true love of books. There are three requirements:

1) The applicant must write an essay of no more than 600 words on “my love of books.”
2) The applicant must be a librarian with a library degree.
3) The applicant must be a first-time attendee to the Charleston Conference for 2007.

Please note: The Rachel K. Schenk Memorial Scholarship was to be given for a total of five years with an award of $1,200 per year. This is the final year for this scholarship.

Deadline for application is August 20, 2007. For more information, visit http://www.katina.info/conference/scholarship.html or contact <kstrauch@comcast.net>.

And They Were There

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in hearing about LibQUAL+ as a survey instrument or those curious in hearing how an American-designed user perception instrument was used internationally. South Africa is still undergoing transformation. An overhaul was made in the laws and the educational system; the new constitution was implemented 10 years ago in 1996. LibQUAL+ was administered in August 2005, thanks to grant funding, in five South African universities, including UCT where the author works. Challenges in administering the survey instrument: time-demanding preparations, diversity problems (the need to translate questions when English was not users’ primary language), some sites’ inability to administer the survey electronically, some sites’ lack of “buy in” by library users, resulting in less than optimal response rates. Still, the libraries felt they improved their credibility and university administrations listened, since international benchmarks were used. Survey analysis provides a map for short-term solutions and long-term planning. At UCT, the library addressed comments about noise levels, began publicizing off-campus resource access, and licensed additional electronic collections and packages sooner than planned. Librarians’ subject expertise at all libraries will be addressed through grant funding, and LibQUAL+ will be administered again. D. Sales expressed pride that the South African academic libraries were willing to expose themselves to the survey after living so long in a political environment of protectionism and separation.

Session — Thursday, November 9, 2006 — Self-Archiving and Journal Subscriptions: Co-existence or Competition? — Presented by Chris Beckett (Scholarly Information Strategies, Ltd.), Simon Inger (Scholarly Information Strategies, Ltd.)

Report by Nancy Loggins (CLIS, University of South Carolina) <logginsn2@bellsouth.net>

This major study was to determine the preferences (worldwide) of librarians toward open access materials. This study showed that librarians would show a preference toward the acquisition of OA materials given reliability, peer review, and currency of the information. This study used a conjoint analysis approach to remove any personal bias. No content type was referred to for addressing preferences. The survey questioned librarian’s preferences for hypothetical and unnamed products. This data was then distributed into a “Share of Preference” model.

The primary components toward articles seen in the study are:

• Materials that have undergone peer-review are preferred.
• Delay in material availability decreases preference.
• Materials made available free of charge are strongly preferred.
• Attitudes toward OA were also examined.
• The great majority of librarians favor OA articles as it challenges more traditional publishers.

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