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People Profile: Forrest Link

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different and that all librarianship is centered on human interactions.

Valerie Tucci, the Physical Sciences/Engineering Librarian at The College of New Jersey, comes from years of management at a small, very hierarchical corporate library. In her article, “Crossing the Bridge Connecting the Corporate and Academic Library Worlds,” she outlines the cultural and organizational differences between academic and special librarianship and describes her adjustment to academic life.

In “The Refugee Returns Home: An MLS in Corporate America,” Kate Kosturski, Instructional Services Coordinator for Europe at JSTOR, writes of her personal journey to librarianship, painting herself as one of the “refugees” from other fields.

Laura Harris, a Web trainer at Springshare, writes of her move from a large academic library to a small software company in “Joining the Dark Side.” In her article, she comments on the joys of working from a home office and the advantages of smaller organizations.

In “Lessons Learned,” Amira Aaron, Associate Dean, Scholarly Resources at Northeastern University Libraries, writes of a long career that has moved from academic libraries to the vendor world and back. She offers her prescription for insuring success in either camp and discusses the challenges ahead.

Finally, in “The Value of Experience,” Scott Smith reflects on a long career in book-vending and writes of his decision to return to the library world he so clearly loves. Along the way, he challenges the occasionally limited vision of library hiring committees who discount non-traditional experience.

Rumors

John visited Charleston recently with the delightful Kim Robinson (Regional Director of Sales for the Southeast and MidAtlantic, ProQuest) and we had a grand old time talking about business, silent movies, and video games.

More from this side of the pond, following its acquisition by ALA publishing, Neal-Schuman shut down its New York City operations on March 22. Here are email addresses for key people at ALA who will be handling the Neal-Schuman imprint. Michael Jeffers, publisher <jjef ters@ala.org> and Jill Davis, marketing manager <davis@ala.org>.

Future Dates for Charleston Conferences

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And heard from the lovely Kathryn Suarez who will be moving to ABC-Clio after five years with Neal-Schuman.

The wonderful Mike Sweet caught me up on the status of the scholarly John Dove whose mother was a librarian, John was on his way to the London Book Fair. John is out of the hospital and bicycling away still after surgery on his hematoma from his bike accident and surgery to remove a small growth on his kidney. But you can’t keep a good Credo man down!

Was talking to the focused Audrey Powers the other day about a potential preconference before the 32nd Charleston Conference, and she told me that her son, Austin (remember him?) is curator of an art gallery in China. When he was a boy he fell in love with China and is now doing what he always wanted to do. Anyway, Austin was coming to Florida for a brief visit. BTW, continued on page 26

Against the Grain / April 2012

people profile

Forrest Link

Acquisitions Librarian
The College of New Jersey
2000 Pennington Road, Ewing, NJ 08628
Phone: 609-771-2412 • <linkf@tcnj.edu>

BORN & LIVED: Except for one wayward year, I’ve lived my entire life in New Jersey.

EARLY LIFE: Pathologically happy.

FAMILY: Wife, Margaret: Two daughters, Adrianna (grad student at Johns Hopkins) and Alicia (soon-to-be-minted BFA from BU); Son, Jeremy (soon-to-be-unemployed philosopher with BA from Rowan).

EDUCATION: BA, Classics, Rutgers College; MA, Classics, Rutgers; MLS, Rutgers.

FIRST JOB: Movie theater usher (remember those?).

PROFESSIONAL CAREER AND ACTIVITIES: After getting my MLS, I was a cataloger for B&T before being detoured for nearly 30 years in vendorland as a rep for Midwest Library Service and Blackwell (remember them?).

IN MY SPARE TIME I LIKE TO: Sing with a local choir, read voraciously but not critically.


PET PEEVES/WHAT MAKES ME MAD: The smug and self-important.

PHILOSOPHY: Work hard, treat others decently, be grateful.

MOST MEANINGFUL CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: When Lyman Newlin remembered my name.

GOAL I HOPE TO ACHIEVE FIVE YEARS FROM NOW: Achieve tenure at TCNJ, understand Microsoft Access.

HOW/WHERE DO I SEE THE INDUSTRY IN FIVE YEARS: More heavily dependent on electronics with ongoing struggles to fund them. Lots more tablet readers (in both senses of the word).

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