

In This Special Issue:

New Members
Page 2

News from the Campuses
Page 3

Employment Opportunities
Start on Page 15

Conference highlights
Page 20
and much more...

***STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION**

Conference Edition, June 1999 ISSN: 0731-7893 <http://www.albany.edu/library/sunyla/> Volume 29, Number 5



Outgoing President's Message:

Library Access for the Next Century

Written Testimony of Wilfred Drew, President of the SUNY Librarians Association.

My name is Wilfred Drew. I am an associate librarian at SUNY Morrisville College of Agriculture and Technology and am currently serving as the President of

the SUNY Librarians Association (SUNYLA). Membership in SUNYLA is open to any one employed in any SUNY library. We have over 400 members from all across New York State. The main objectives of SUNYLA are:

1. To be a strong and vital force in the general educational mission of the State University of New York through high quality library service.
2. To further develop the principles and standards of librarianship in the State University of New York.
3. To advance the professional status of librarians of the State University of New York.

4. To encourage individual and collective professional development.
5. To provide an organizational framework for professional interaction among those interested in the quality of librarianship in the State University of New York.
6. To cooperate with similar organizations on local, state, and national levels to achieve these goals.



————— Please see Testimony, page 13

From Our President-Elect: Alphabet Soup and Opportunity

Mark A. Smith, Incoming SUNYLA President

We love our acronyms, don't we? We love our ALA, NYLA NYLINK, OCLC, SCLD, SLSC, etc. And, of course, we wait with bated breath for the good efforts of LAIP, LASG, OLIS and SLAM to help select our new SUNY-wide LMS. We are champions for all acronyms that contain an "L" for "Library," and rightfully so.

As I sit down to write this column, I look across the room and spy my trusty, crumpled, crusty, well worn, 3-hole, college ruled notebook page that is never far from my reach. The smudged, nearly illegible text is littered with corrections and additions and filled with hurried scratchings in the margins. It has served me well on numerous occasions. Interestingly, its origins can be traced directly



to my very first SUNYLA council meeting just a few short years ago. It was there on that sticky, humid afternoon in Morrisville that this document was born. A few weeks later I had my first opportunity to meet with the SUNY FACT committee as the new SUNYLA liaison, and quickly found

————— Please see Alphabet Soup, page 9

The Drum Roll Please...

We have our 400th Member and We're Excited!

The Membership Development Committee is elated to welcome our 400th member, Susana Tejada. We've asked her "boss", Judy Adams-Volpe, to write a few words of introduction about her...

Susana Tejada began her appointment in February as Reference Librarian and Subject Specialist for Art and Art History at Lockwood Memorial Library, University at Buffalo. Previously she was the Program Manager of the Documentary Heritage Program at the Long Island Library Resources Council, where she was engaged in documenting the work of Long Island artists. Since she enjoyed working with

SUNY librarians at Stony Brook on various projects for the Council, she was enthusiastic about joining SUNYLA immediately upon her appointment at Buffalo.

Susana grew up in Los Angeles, received her B.A. from New York University, and her MILS from the University of Michigan. In addition, she studied for a year at the New York University in Paris. Her library experience includes special collections, archives, public relations and outreach. At the New York Public Library she worked with the Feminist Pacifist Movement Archives. Despite having lived in the big cities on each coast, Susana likes Buffalo, particularly the sane and uncrowded driving (not to

mention being near her two nieces). She is enjoying her new position in Lockwood Library, especially selection of art materials. She finds the online catalogs of major art libraries, such as the Avery at Columbia, Harvard, Cornell and Michigan, to be very useful in selecting and identifying materials in specific areas. Hopefully, everyone will meet Susana at our Annual Conference at Adirondack CC.

**- Judy Adams-Volpe
Director
Lockwood Library
University at Buffalo**

New Members Add Spice to SUNYLA!!!

This year SUNYLA has been working diligently to increase its membership base. We have been fortunate to have several new members. I would especially like to thank the SUNYLA delegates who have worked enthusiastically persuading librarians to join our organization. The Membership Development Committee created a new brochure this year that will hopefully make their job a little easier in the future.

We hope you will join us in welcoming our new colleagues into our Association, make them welcome and then put them to work helping us make this a stronger organization. The Membership Development Committee thought it would be great if we could highlight a few of our new members. If you happen to see the name tag of any one of these new members, please give them a warm reception.

**Deborah A. Curry, Chair
Membership Development
Committee**

MEET JANE VEROSTEK...

One of our new members is **Jane M. Verostek**. Jane has settled in at Franklin Moon Library at the SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry. It seems ESF must have advertised for a "wonder librarian" as Jane is busily doing it all. She's teaching a course for students on how to use a myriad of the library's online systems including Cambridge and Dialog@Carl. She is also involved in providing reference service, assisting with ILL requests and creating original cataloging.

At work she is motivated by the challenge of learning new things and is further

motivated by the ever present challenge of improving herself. "I truly enjoy all of the work I do - 'Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing'." {Theodore Roosevelt, 9/7/1903}

Jane received her MLS from Syracuse University in 1996. Previous to this she assisted at several Syracuse libraries: Onondaga County Public Central Branch, the ERIC Clearinghouse on Information and Technology, Barclay Law Library, and her home library of Moon.

She is active in the New York Library Association and the Eastern New York chapter of ACRL. Jane's avocation is photography and spends endless hours searching for that ultimate photo to enter in the NY State Fair

■ Please see New Members, page 10

News from the Campuses

ADIRONDACK CC

Joyce Miller
millerja@acc.sunyacc.edu

Staff News:

Teresa Ronning has assumed the job of Library Director upon the departure of Director of Learning Resources Connie Bakker in October. The Learning Resource Center was divided this year into the Library and Academic Technology units. The Media Viewing Room remains with the Library. Academic Technology now oversees academic computing and multimedia classroom support.

Catalog Librarian **Colleen Smith** was named a Dewey Fellow by the Academic and Special Library Section (ASLS) of NYLA. ASLS sponsored her trip to NYLA this fall. She also on the ASLS membership committee.

Library Director **Teresa Ronning** is the program chair for ENY/ACRL for 1998-99 and will be the president for 1999-2000. She gave a presentation on the ENY/ACRL conferences at the ACRL Chapters Council meeting at the ALA conference in Philadelphia.

Reference and Instruction Librarian **Joyce Miller** served as 2nd vice-president of SUNYLA and program chair for the 1999 conference. She was promoted from assistant to associate professor starting with the next academic year. She is a recipient for the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship for 1999.

In the fall and spring, **Jennifer Chillrud** taught the two-credit Library Research Methods course.

Colleen Smith taught a one-credit Internet Mastery course during the winter session.

ALBANY UNIV.

Nancy Stanfill
stanfill@cnsvox.albany.edu

ALFRED CERAMICS

Mark Smith
fsmith@bigvax.alfred.edu

ALFRED TECHNICAL

Barbara Griel
greilbj@asc.alfredtech.edu

Staff News:

Suzanne Wood, Acquisitions & Technical Services Librarian, will be retiring on June 15th.

Barbara Griel received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship and was promoted to Librarian. Barbara also received a PDQWL grant to attend the ACRL SUNY Immersion Program, July 31-August 5 in Plattsburgh.

Ellen Ehrig received a PDQWL grant to attend the 9th National ACRL meeting in Detroit, MI.

David Haggstrom is the new convenor of the Colleges of Technology Section of the SUNY Council of Library Directors (SCOLD).

BINGHAMTON UNIV.

Bernard J. Mulligan
mulligan@binghamton.edu

Staff News:

Linda Whang, has been appointed Reference Librarian for Engineering and Applied Science, Her term starts 7/8/99.

Rachelle Moore, has been granted sabbatical leave from 5/10/99 to 8/10/99 and 5/10/2000 to 8/10/2000; **Cheryl McKee** has also been granted sabbatical leave from 7/1/99 to 6/30/2000.

BROCKPORT STATE

Julie Wash
jwash@brockport.edu

Staff News:

Jonathan Coe applied and received a grant for \$744 to attend the 1999 Federal Depository Library Conference held in Bethesda, MD in April 1999.

Jennifer Quigley received a UUP Individual Development grant for \$600 to attend the SUNY ACRL Immersion Program in Plattsburgh, NY. In addition, **Jennifer** reorganized the college archives which included assigning new record group numbers and creating a new finding guide.

Julie Wash has received a promotion to Senior Assistant Librarian, effective September 1, 1999. Julie also received an Academic Affairs Travel Grant to attend the Dynix Software Maintenance Workshop in Reno, NV. She has also been asked to chair the search for the Associate Vice-President for Information and Technology Services.

BROOME

Deborah L. Spanfelner
spanfelner_d@sunybroome.edu

Staff News:

Andrew Lokie, Jr. is the new Director of the Learning Resources Center, Broome Community College.

BROOKLYN HSC

Ross Ljungquist
ljungquist@medlib.hscbklyn.e

BUFFALO STATE

Ellie Munn
MUNNET@BUFFALOSTATE.EDU

BUFFALO UNIV.

Ellen McGrath
emcgrath@acsu.buffalo.edu

Staff News:

John Bewley is Senior Assistant Librarian at the Music Library.

Fred Stoss of the Science and Engineering Library received tenure at the rank of Associate Librarian.

Professional Activities:

Eric Acree has been selected to participate in Immersion '99 at SUNY Plattsburgh in the summer. Eric was also awarded a scholarship to cover the registration fee.

Judith Adams-Volpe has been elected to represent the four SUNY Centers on the Executive Committee of the SUNY Faculty Senate.

Susan Davis Bartl spoke as part of a panel on "Managing Electronic Serials" at the Florida Library Association Conference on May 5, 1999 through support from the North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG) Continuing Education Committee. Susan is also NASIG Program Planning Committee co-chair for the NASIG 2000 Conference to be held at the University of California, San Diego.

John Edens participated in the conference on "The 20th Anniversary of Love Canal: Lessons Learned" held October 8-9, 1998.

Carole Ann Fabian discussed her work in developing the online syllabus for the Evolutionary Biology course website at a program held by the Science and Technology Section (STS) of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) during the American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia.

Ellen Gibson and **Sue Neumeister** were recipients of the 1999 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship.

Miguel Juarez has been accepted into the ACRL SUNY Immersion Program, July 31-August 5 in Plattsburgh, NY.

Ellen McGrath was elected Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of the Online Bibliographic Services (OBS) Special Interest Section (SIS) of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL).

Fred Stoss discussed his involvement with special bibliographic instruction for students enrolled in General Physiology at a program held by STS of ACRL during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Philadelphia. Fred also gave a presentation there at the STS Heads of Science Libraries discussion group meeting, a topic he expanded on during his "Library Newsletters for Communicating with Faculty" presentation during the West-

ern New York/Ontario ACRL Spring Conference on April 23, 1999.

Publications:

Judith Adams-Volpe is the author of two chapters in the forthcoming 3rd edition of the multi-volume *Handbook of American Popular Culture* (Greenwood Press). The two chapters are entitled "The Circus and Wild West Exhibition" and "Amusement Parks and Fairs."

Chris Densmore's book *Red Jacket: Iroquois Diplomat and Orator* has been published by Syracuse University Press. Chris also authored the entries for Lucy N. Colman and Joseph Hoag and co-authored the entries for Mary Ann and Thomas M'Clintock in the *American National Biography* (Oxford University Press, 1999). Chris' review of "The Shakers: I Don't Want to be Remembered as a Chair" appears in *MC Journal: The Journal of Academic Media Librarianship*, 1998.

Miguel Juarez's article "From Border to Border: The UB Library Internship/Residency Program" was accepted for publication in *Diversity in Libraries: Academic Residency Programs* (forthcoming from Greenwood Press).

Ellen McGrath reviewed *MARC Manual: Understanding and Using MARC Records*, 2nd edition in *Reference & User Services Quarterly*, v. 38, no. 2 (1998), pp. 221-222.

David Nuzzo's article "Don't Outsource It—Do It!" appeared in the May 1, 1999 issue of *Library Journal*.

Other:

A Name Authority COoperative Project (NACO) trainer from the Library of Congress provided on-site NACO training for ten catalogers from various technical services units of the University Li-

baries, so the University at Buffalo is now contributing many more records to NACO.

BUFFALO HSL

Jeanne Fielding
fielding@acsu.buffalo.edu

Resignations:

Michelle Lavole had resigned as Assistant Librarian.

Neville Prendergast has resigned as Associate Librarian and relocated to Iowa.

New Staff:

Kimberly Davies and **Heather Munger** were appointed as temporary assistant librarians in Reference and Education Services.

Marcy Daumen, was appointed Outreach Librarian for "Partners in Information Access for Public Health Professionals" project as well as part time temporary assistant librarian.

Sarah DThomas was appointed as Office Aide in the Information Delivery Service.

Grant Projects:

"Partners in Information Access" (\$49,995) subcontract awarded to HSL (1 of 13 across country); is a joint project of the National Library of Medicine, National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Health Resources and Services Administration, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, and the National Association of County and City Health Officials. Involves increasing public health professionals' awareness of the services of the NLM, NN/LM, and CDC; assisting public health pro-

fessionals in getting connected to the Internet; training them in using information technology and information services; and increasing awareness of public health information needs and resources among NN/LM members.

HSL was selected to participate in National Library of Medicine for Second Year NLM Associate Fellow program.

Professional Activities:

Sharon Gray was appointed to the Grants and Scholarship Committee of the Medical Library Association.

Jeanne Fielding and **Pat Sarchet** were appointed co-editors of the newsletter for the Upstate New York and Ontario Chapter of the Medical Library Association.

Cindy Hepfer gave a presentation for the session "Serialists: Proving Our Worth: Publishing, Editing, and Getting Our Message Across" at the 8th North Carolina Serials Conference on March 4, 1999 in Chapel Hill.

Lori Widzinski gave a presentation entitled "Publishing a peer-reviewed electronic journal" at the 8th North Carolina Serials Conference on March 4, 1999 in Chapel Hill.

CANTON CoT

Doug Welch
welchd@scanva.canton.edu

CAYUGA CC

Douglas O. Michael
MichaelD@cayuga-cc.edu

CLINTON CC

Patricia Miranda
patricia.miranda@plattsburgh.edu

Staff News:

Patricia Miranda has received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship.

COBLESKILL CoT

Pat Hults
hults@cobeskill.edu

COLUMBIA-GREEN

No Delegate

CORNELL STC

Janet McCue
mam7@cornell.edu

CORNING CC

Susan Gloss
roy@corning-cc.edu

CORTLAND

Gretchen Douglas
douglasg@snycorva.cortland.edu

Staff News:

Lorraine Melita has joined Memorial Library as an Instructional Support Technician. Lorraine received her M.L.S. degree from Syracuse University and previously worked at SUNY Oswego.

Robert Weiner will join Memorial Library on June 1st as a Technical Services Librarian. A Syracuse University graduate, Robert has worked at Barclay Law Library at Syracuse University and at the law firm of Bond Schoeneck and King.

Publications:

Ellen Paterson's book *Anabolic Steroids and Sports and Drug Testing: 1991-1997; An Annotated Bibliography*, has been published by Whitston Publishing Company, Troy, New York.

Gail Wood's article, "The Old Religion: Website on Wicca" was published in *Feminist Collections*. Vol. 2(2): 15-16. Winter 1999. Gail is the library director at Cortland.

DELHI CoT

Kate Majewski
majeskib@snydelab.delhi.edu

Joyce Sen joined us in the Fall of 1998 as our Instructional Coordinator. She has been working diligently to institute an information literacy program at Delhi. We hope to pilot a program for freshman in the Fall of 1999 or Spring of 2000.

Kate Majewski completed a survey of student research methods at Delhi and Hartwick Colleges. The results of the survey were presented at CIT '99.

Delhi has completed a government documents retrospective conversion (with over 2,650 records).

DUTCHESS CC

Evelyn Rosenthal
rosentha@suny dutchess.edu

Dutchess Community College Library is upgrading most of its public access computers and adding one more. We are migrating from Periodical Abstracts on CD-ROM to ProQuest Direct, and have added SIRS, Academic ASAP, and Health Resources Network to our selection of fulltext, online databases. For students in selected programs we offer WESTLAW. We also have Galenet, Encyclopedia Britannica on-line, World Encyclopedia of Art, and Colliers Encyclopedia.

In addition, CINAHL and Encarta Africana are available on CD-ROM. Students, faculty and staff can now access ProQuest Direct and Health Resources Network from their homes. This summer we will be migrating from Winnebago (our DOS OPAC) to Winnebago Spectrum (Windows version). The campus community has accepted all of these changes with wonderful grace, and good humor. We do, however, still get a few people mourning the loss of a real wood and paper card catalog!

Along with all the technical changes, we have had several personnel changes. We had such a high rate of turnover in our two part time reference librarian positions, that we finally got approval to hire one full time librarian.

Michelle Muller left us in December 1998 to accept a full time job at Mt. Saint Mary College.

Theresa Brettschneider will continue on as our Saturday librarian.

Tom Trinchera, formerly a part-timer at Erie Community College, will join us full-time on June 14th. We are all looking forward to Tom's arrival.

EMPIRE STATE

Ethyl Jean Sheehy
esheehy@sin.esc.edu

ES & F (Syracuse)

Flora Nyland
fmnyland@mailbox.syr.edu

Staff News:

Bonnie Charity was recipient of the 1999 Student Recognition Award at the College's Spring Awards Banquet. Bonnie was also promoted to Clerk III.

Professional Activities:

Betsy Elkins, Director of College Libraries, made a presentation at the Eastern New York Association of College and Research Libraries (ENY/ACRL) Meeting May 17th in Cortland.

Jim Williamson spoke to the 1999 CLRC (3 R's Council) ILL Workshop's "Illennium: Past, Present and Future."

Moon Library hosted a library intern from Germany during February 1999. **Andre Schlieker**, a graduate student from Wiesbaden worked with us in cataloging & reference where he gained some experience in an American library. He loved OCLC and our online catalog!

ERIE NORTH CC

Kathleen M. Powers
mcgrifpowers@nstaff.sunyerie.edu

FARMINGDALE

Carole Greenholz
greenhc@snyfarva.cc.farmingd

FASHION INSTITUTE

No Delegate

FINGER LAKES

Sharon A. Malecki
malecksa@snyflcc.fingerlakes

FREDONIA

Marianne Eimer
eimer@fredonia.edu

Staff News:

Dr. Susan Besemer will be retiring as Library Director as of August 31, 1999.

Ms. Kathleen Loomis has been appointed as our Electronic Resources Librarian beginning October 1998.

Grants Received:

Marianne Eimer, in collaboration with **Lynnette Mende** at Erie Community College, and **Dan Sell** at Jamestown Community College received \$26,348 from the RBDB grant funds through the Western New York Library Resources Council to install the Ariel Document Delivery system for interlibrary loan to all three institutions.

Professional Activities:

Marianne Eimer has been elected to the Nylink Advisory Group for Resource Sharing Services, term ending Dec. 31, 2001.

Other News:

We're pleased to announce that the Interlibrary loan department finally has the Ariel Document Delivery System up and running. For those of you unfamiliar with Ariel, it is a software program which allows you to scan articles, transmit the

information over the Internet to another library which also has Ariel installed. It can then be printed and sent to an e-mail account. It has dramatically reduced our turnaround time period from 3-5 days for an article to 12-24 hours. Needless to say, this has improved our service and also our image on campus in providing timely service. Please take a minute to include us on your lender string because we're looking forward to utilizing this format as much as possible!

FULTON-MONTGOMERY

Mary D. Hartvigas

GENESEE CC

Patricia Jones
psjones@sunygenesee.cc.ny.us

GENESEO

Sue Ann Butwell
butwell@uno.cc.geneseo.edu

Staff News:

Sonja Landes has been promoted to Associate Librarian.

Professional Activities:

Nick Paternostro has published a review of *The Red Chip Review Investment Service* in "Business Information Alert" Vol. 10, no. 9, October 1998.

Nick Paternostro is the 1999-2000 president of Western New York/Ontario ACRL.

Sue Ann Butwell presented a program called "Evaluation First: A New Ap-

proach to Teaching the Web" at the Online World Conference, Washington D.C., October 1998.

HERKIMER

Valerie Prescott
vhprescott@shccva

HUDSON VALLEY

Christine Root
rootchr@hvcc.edu

JAMESTOWN CC

Adena Woodard
woodaraf@JCCW22.CC.sunyj

JEFFERSON

Ellen Childs
ellen_childs@ccmgate.sunyjefferson.edu

MARITIME SPEC

Elizabeth Leschinsky
lleschin@worldnet.att.net

MOHAWK VALLEY

Krista Hartman
khartman@mvcc.edu@mvccmail@zeus

MONROE CC

Alice Harrington
aharrington@monroecc.edu

Staff News:

Vincent Prestianni, Serials Librarian, will retire in August after 32 years of service.

Thaddeus "Tef" Ciambor has been appointed Assistant Director as of June, 1999. Previously, he was the Director of Hillbert College Library.

Alice Harrington was appointed Reference/AIDS Resources Librarian in October, 1998.

Other News:

In collaboration with the college's Holocaust Genocide Studies Project, the Leroy V. Good Library established the Holocaust Genocide Resource Center.

MORRISVILLE CoT

Bill Drew
drewwe@morrisville.edu

NASSAU CC

Marilyn Rosenthal
rosentm@sunynassau.edu

NEW PALTZ STATE

Susan B. Kraat
kratts@npvm.newpaltz.edu

Corinne Nyquist is a Ph.D. candidate in the Information Science program at SUNY Albany having completed all requirements but the dissertation. As of

Spring 1999, she is on the Academic year.

NIAGARA CC

Karen Ferington
feringtk@alpha.sunyniagara.cc

OLD WESTBURY STATE

Rebecca L. Turner
turnerr@soldvx.oldwestbury.edu

Staff News:

Michael Epstein has been appointed Assistant Librarian, as of May 17, 1999. He will be working full time in the Reference Department concentrating on developing the library's electronic resources.

Rebecca Turner has been promoted to Sr. Assistant Librarian as of August 1, 1999.

Irene Tichenor, SUNY Old Westbury Library Director, will retire June 15, 1999. We are all sorry to see her go. Her replacement has not yet been named.

Professional Activities:

Wagih Shenouda, Librarian, and **Rebecca Turner**, Assistant Librarian, were co-presenters at CIT '99, at CUNY College of Technology in Utica/Rome, June 8-11, 1999. They presented the paper: "Separating the Digital Wheat from the Chaff: How to Retrieve only Relevant Scholarly Information from Electronic Resources."

ONEONTA STATE

Jim Coan
coanj@oneonta.edu

Staff News:

Reference Librarian **Kathryn Franco** has received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship for 1999.

Assistant Director for Reference **Christine Bulson** was quoted on the cover of the *1999 World Almanac and Book of Facts*. In a review Christine did for Booklist of the Almanac, she wrote "For the most information in one source, The World Almanac remains the champion" and that sentence was prominently displayed on the cover of this popular book.

Nancy Cannon, Reference Librarian, and **Dan Kissane**, Systems Librarian, presented a paper entitled "Library Support Services for Distance Education Faculty and Students" at the SUNY FACT Conference on Instructional Technologies on June 9-11, 1999 at the SUNY Institute of Technology at Utica/Rome.

ONONDAGA

Gretchen Roberts
robertsg@mailbox.sunyocc.edu

OPTOMETRY

No Delegate

ORANGE

Sarah Vasse
vassesj@sunyorange.cc.ny.us

OSWEGO STATE

Catherine Reed
creed@oswego.edu

Appointments:

Karen Shockey was recently appointed Coordinator of Library Instruction. She previously served as Assistant Coordinator of Library Instruction and as Gifts and Exchange Librarian.

PLATTSBURG STATE

Julia Kiple
kiple@splava.cc.plattsburg.e

POTSDAM

Holly E. Chambers
chambehe@potdams.edu

Staff News:

Rebecca Thompson has received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship. **Rebecca** has also been elected Chair of the SUNY Potsdam Faculty Assembly for a two year term.

Crane Music Library will close in late June for asbestos abatement. Music library services and materials will be transferred to Crumb Library to serve summer school students.

PURCHASE STATE

Michael Handis
mhandis@purvid.purchase.edu

SCHENECTADY COUNTY CC

Barbara L. Walton
waltonbl@gw.sunysccc.edu

STONY BROOK HSL

Jeanne L. Galbraith
jgalbrai@hsclib.hsc.sunysb.edu

Appointments:

Michael Huang was appointed Senior Assistant Librarian in Information Services starting May 22, 1999. He came from Penfield Library at the State Uni-

versity College at Oswego, where he served as Public Services Librarian and Acting Coordinator of Library Instruction. Prior to that, Michael was Reference Librarian and Head of Interlibrary Loan at Steele Memorial Library in Elmira, NY. He holds master's degrees in Library Science and Education and taught English for eight years in Shanghai, China

Continued on page 14

Alphabet Soup

(Continued from Page 1)

myself developing a significant addendum to this unruly document. This is the genesis of my acronym "ready reference" survival guide to SUNY library and technology service. I call it my "Alphabet Soup" page. Most recently, I have used my faithful list as a primary resource in the development of an "Acronym Guide" that I am helping to put together for CIT '99.

As time passes, this notepaper is no longer a laundry list without context. While preparing to assume office as SUNYLA President, I have been working to understand the efforts and goals of the 30+ organizations and initiatives represented. Though I have some way to go, I have had the opportunity to put names and faces to many of these acronyms and have gained a better understanding of how our organization fits into the big picture across SUNY. With this understanding comes a very important awareness and appreciation of how frequently SUNY librarians rely on, and advise to, groups and efforts whose acronyms do not include the letter "L".

Our daily work routines have brought us out of our libraries and stacks and out into areas of our campuses where we may never imagined we'd find ourselves. We have formed new rela-

tionships with faculty, students and technology. We can now be found operating in the most unlikely of places, which may include electronic classrooms, computing centers, learning laboratories, and instructional technology centers. Although we have always maintained cooperative relationships with a wide selection of academic organizations, we are now finding ourselves increasingly integrated with, and dependent upon, many non-"L" initiatives.

There is no doubt that librarians can benefit by attending a FACT sponsored CIT or a COA/TOA sponsored STC. Here we might learn how an ALIS sponsored CBT (through the good efforts of the folks at SLN) might help the UCT deliver library service to distance learners. Or, perhaps CMS training provided by SUNYTC can help SAC in their efforts to deliver information literacy components of SUNYConnect. And, of course, many of us eagerly await the efforts of ITEC to develop a SUNY-wide LDAP protocol that will allow us to deliver remote library service to authenticated users.

Please see Alphabet Soup, page 12

New Members

(Continued from Page 2)

competition. Running is another diversion for Jane. She regards this activity as something both therapeutic and competitive. If you see her "running" around the conference, pull her over and welcome her energetically into our fold.

- *Deborah Curry*

MEET NEW MEMBER JONATHAN COE...

Jonathan Coe of Brockport is a pretty interesting guy... and nice to boot. I cornered him at the latest WNYO/ACRL Conference to ask if I could grill him for this newsletter piece. He agreed almost immediately, which says quite a lot about him already.

We chatted a couple of weeks later and I found out that Jonathan and I received our MLS degrees from Buffalo, he quite a few years later than I. It turns out that his mentor, Judith Robinson, was the impetus for his having chosen Reference as his major focus. I'm always surprised when I find people who knew they always wanted to be librarians from day one.

Actually Jonathan said that he had grown up around libraries and that his parents were ardent users. He did, however, take a bit of a detour before arriving at Niagara University, his first stint as a Reference librarian. He worked in the hotel business for 13 years...most of it at a hotel on the coast of California. Lucky dude! Before that he lived in Connecticut and Chicago.

At Brockport, Jonathan, like most of us at the 4 year schools, is a jack of all trades. He does some reference, some

library instruction, as well as government documents...always known to me as "the swamp". He assured me I wasn't alone in voicing that opinion.

His love of government documents had him traveling to our nation's capital for the 8th annual Federal Depository Conference for government documents librarians.

He is active in WNYO/ACRL and is hoping to become active in SUNYLA. He enjoys playing the guitar, likes a wide variety of music, reads biographies (like a good history major) and is a baseball fanatic...yes, fanatic. He'd have to be...he's a YANKEE fan! Look for Jonathan at the conference. Ask him to play you a tune on his guitar...I'm sure he wouldn't mind.

- *Deborah Curry*

AND HERE'S WENDI !!!

SUNY Oswego is happy to highlight our newest appointee, **Wendi Ackerman**. She is a recent MLS graduate of Syracuse University and was hired in March as our Assistant Systems Librarian. We are looking forward to Wendi's fresh viewpoint as she analyses and revamps our library's web page and creates a newsletter. Wendi notes that both the web page and the newsletter are forms of communication. Then she received her collection development assignment and it was Communications Studies. She's seeing a trend here!

Since Wendi continues our tradition of 100% membership in SUNYLA, she was asked what she hoped to gain, as well as what she thought she could contrib-

— Please see New Members, page 11

Editors for this issue:

Kathleen McGriff Powers, Editor

Library Resources Center
Erie Community College
North Campus
6205 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221
or
Fax (716) 851-1277
E-mail:
mcgriffpowers@nstaff.sunyerie.edu
Phone (716) 851-1275

Miguel Juarez, Co-editor Layout, Production

Oscar A. Silverman Undergraduate Library,
University at Buffalo
By E-mail only to:
mjuarez@acsu.buffalo.edu

The *SUNYLA Newsletter* is edited by
Ellen McCabe

MCCABE@SNYCORVA.CORTLAND.EDU

Contributors for this issue include: Deborah Curry, Bill Drew, Gemma DeVinney, Corinne Nyquist, Cathy Reed, Mark A. Smith, and Judy Adams-Volpe.

Send future items to the New *SUNYLA Newsletter* Co-Editors:

Jim Coan, Co-Editor, SUNY Oneonta

E-mail: coanj@oneonta.edu

Eileen O'hara, Co- Editor, SUNY Brockport

E-mail: eohara@brockport.edu

New Members

(Continued from Page 10)

ute, with a membership in SUNYLA. Foremost, Wendi recognizes the networking opportunities available through SUNYLA. The yearly conference is a wonderful forum for networking. Whether presenting a session or only attending, the give and take of sharing work experiences with librarians from other SUNY schools is invaluable. This year's program is particularly interesting to Wendi with its many "techie" sessions. She feels the sessions will contribute to her understanding of how technological advancements may be incorporated into our current services. As her experience base grows, Wendi sees herself giving back to the organization by presenting her research. Perhaps next year the name Wendi Ackerman will be on the program?

- Cathy Reed

The Membership Development Committee along with the SUNYLA Council wish to welcome the rest of our new colleagues...

ACC

DAVID OFIARA, COLLEEN SMITH

ALBANY

GERALD BURKE, BRENDA HAZARD, MARY HOFFMAN, MARY SELLEN

BINGHAMTON

ELIZABETH BROWN, DANA CURTIN, RONNIE GOLDBERG, JANICE WHIPPLE, SARAH YOUNG

BROCKPORT

EILEEN O'HARA, JENIFER QUIGLEY, NATALIE ROSILLO

BUFFALO, HSL

KIMBERLY DAVIES, HEATHER MUNGER

UNIV @ BUFFALO

ERIC ACREE, AUSTIN BOOTH, JOANNE CORDARO, KATHLEEN DELANEY, SAMANTHA GUST, JAMES GORDON, MIGUEL JUAREZ, PATRICIA RUGGIERO, MARYSOOM

CAYUGA

JAMES VIVENZIO

CORNELL STC

JANET MCCUE

CORNING

SUSAN GLOSS, ALEXIS MANHEIM

DUTCHESS

MICHELLE MULLER

EMPIRE STATE

ETHYL JEAN SHEEHY

ESF

JOANNE ELLIS

FINGERLAKES

MICHELLE EICHELBERGER

FREDONIA

KATHLEEN LOOMIS

JEFFERSON

INGER CURTH

MOHAWK VALLEY

KRISTA HARTMAN, GARET NELSON

MONROE

ALICE HARRINGTON, RICHARD SQUIRES

MORRISVILLE

LORIE CUTHBERT

NASSAU

RICHARD ERBEN

NEW PALTZ STATE

TAMM SISSAC

OLD WESTBURY

WAGIH SHENOUDA

ONEONTA

CATHERINE LAFONTAINE

ONONDAGA

BONNIE STEINKRAUS

OSWEGO

WENDI ACKERMAN, KATHIE GRAHAM, BARBARA SHAFFER

POTSDAM

PENNISUE PIERCE, CHRISTIAN REMICK, DAVE TRITHART,

STONY BROOK

ANITA BRANIN, MIN-HUEI LU, TANYA SHKOLNIKOV

STUDENT RESOURCE CENTER, ROCHESTER

PAMELA O'SULLIVAN

SUFFOLK

KATHLEEN MADIGAN, LUISA REICHARDT

ULSTER

TAMARA KATZOWITZ, RICHARD PHILLIPS

Don't forget the NEW MEMBER drawing at the annual conference. Bring your membership cards and drop them into the box at the Registration table.

SUNYLA Membership Development Committee

Alphabet Soup

(Continued from Page 9)

See what I mean?

In the coming year, we will serve our organization well whenever we are able to help our members adapt and contribute in our new roles on our campuses. One way to do this is to make every effort to develop and strengthen our relationships with many of our "non-L" teaching, computing and service partners across the state. Please help us to identify these organizations and feel free to contact your SUNYLA campus representative or our officers when you see opportunities that will benefit the membership.

In closing, I wish to offer special thanks to outgoing President Bill Drew for his most enthusiastic and vigorous leadership and to outgoing Past-President Judy Adams-Volpe for her calm, considered, sage advice and counsel. Their efforts are greatly appreciated and they are tough acts to follow.

SUNYLA is certainly "on a roll." We are enjoying the highest membership in many years. We must be doing something right. This is a very exciting time for our organization. I am most grateful for this opportunity to serve.

- **Mark A. Smith**

Information Systems Librarian

President Elect, SUNY Librarians Association
Scholes Library, NYS College of Ceramics
2 Pine St., Alfred, NY 14802
E-mail: fsmithm@bigvax.alfred.edu
Phone: (607) 871-2942
Fax: (607) 871-2349

SUNYLA

Newsletter Survey

To aid the future editors of the *SUNYLA Newsletter*, please take a few minutes to answer the following questions:

1. What part of the newsletter do you most enjoy?

- News from the Campuses
 Clearinghouse
 Employment Opportunities
 IMHO (In My Humble Opinion)

2. What part do you dislike and why?

3. How can we improve the *SUNYLA Newsletter*?

4. Would you consider writing a guest column for a future issue?

5. What kinds of issues or types of articles would you like to see covered in future issues of the newsletter?

6. How could the newsletter be strengthened to include the diversity of needs of its membership?

Please e-mail or send your answers to:

Miguel Juarez
mjuarez@acsu.buffalo.edu

Oscar A. Silverman Undergraduate Library,
University at Buffalo
Capen Hall, Room 112, Box 602200
Buffalo, NY 14260-2200

Testimony

(Continued from Page 13)

State. Libraries and library services must receive more than just the minimal funding that they have received the last few years. Ways must be found to fully fund and expand such projects as the Electronic Doorway Libraries Program, EmpireLink, and SUNYConnect. At the same time funding must be provided for more traditional library services such as purchasing books, magazines and newspapers. More is now being published in print than at any other time in human

history. Computers were supposed to bring us the paperless office. They did not do that. Computers will not bring us a paperless library either. Thank you for this opportunity.

- **Wilfred Drew, Associate Librarian**
(Systems, Reference)

President, SUNY Librarians Association
SUNY College of Ag. & Tech.
P.O. Box 902, Morrisville, NY 13408-0902
E-mail: drewwe@morrisville.edu
Phone: (315)684-6055
Fax: (315)684-6115

SUNYLA Conference Website

<http://www.albany.edu/library/sunyla/>

Follow the links to the conference site.

Testimony

(Continued from Page 1)

I am here to express support for improving library services in New York State.

The future of library services in NY State

Libraries will continue to play an important role in New York State. In the past libraries have provided access to print resources. The library today **must** provide much more than traditional items such as books, newspapers, and magazine. The library **must** reach beyond its doors and connect the patron to the vast universe of information via the World Wide Web and the Internet, remote libraries, and millions if not billions of other sources of information. The most practical way to do this is through such efforts as EmpireLink or SUNYConnect. According to the SUNYConnect FAQ:

"SUNYConnect is a long-term project that will integrate the newest technology-based library and information systems with more traditional library resources to meet the information needs of SUNY's students and faculty well into the new millennium. The project was initiated by SUNY's library directors and is coordinated by the SUNY Office of Library & Information Services."

In order for these projects to succeed, both must be fully funded. We now live in an information driven economy and unless the libraries of New York are prepared for the future we will not be an important part of that economy. Ways must be found for libraries to provide services to people in their homes, schools, and workplaces. SUNYConnect and EmpireLink both have the potential of accomplishing that **if** they are prop-

erly implemented and fully funded by the State of New York.

Improving library services for all New Yorkers

Many areas of New York State are underserved, or not served at all by a local library. Too many local governments have chosen to either underfund or not to fund library services at all. The result is large numbers of New Yorkers without access to library services. Many librarians in public, school, and academic libraries have seen large budget cuts over the last decade. When a school budget is defeated one of the first areas to suffer is the library. When local governments cut budgets, public libraries are usually the first ones to feel the pinch. Public college and university libraries are in the same bind. All libraries continue to see the costs of books, magazines, and other traditional items

"New Yorkers no longer need be on a SUNY campus to take a SUNY course. One of the goals of SUNYConnect is to provide that kind of access."

- Wilfred Drew

increase well beyond the rate of inflation. On top of that we are asked to provide new and necessary services such as access to the World Wide Web, electronic databases, and multimedia information sources. We must do that with ever decreasing funding. In my opinion the best way to improve library services

is to first provide the necessary funds. The rest will naturally follow given adequate support from local and state governments.

Assuring ready access to library service for the education and information needs of all New Yorkers

Ready access is not easy. Ready access should mean access for any New Yorker anywhere anytime. That would include from home, from work or from school. Ideally the patron should not have to go to the library to access information such as that found in the EmpireLink service. Ready access must include remote access. This is especially important for the new distance learner. New Yorkers no longer need be on a SUNY campus to take a SUNY course. One of the goals of SUNYConnect is to provide that kind of access. EmpireLink should also be doing that. Beyond remote access, many smaller public libraries do not yet have access to the Internet and the vast information universe known as the World Wide Web. Many that do have some access are burdened with old computers that can not provide anything other than text only. That must change if New York is to be a leader in the next century.

Conclusions

Publicly funded libraries are necessary to the economic survival of New York

Please see Testimony, page 12

SUNYLA-L

Listserver Instructions

<http://www.albany.edu/library/sunyla/listserv.html>

before coming to the United States. Michael's primary responsibility will be reference service with additional responsibilities for instruction.

Tanya Shkolnikov joined Information Services as Senior Assistant Librarian on April 8, 1999. Since coming to the United States from Russia nine years ago, Tanya received her library degree from Syracuse University and worked as Periodicals Coordinator and Reference Librarian in Gaucher College Library in Baltimore, MD. Tanya holds a bachelor's degree in Education and a master's in Russian from Byelorussian State University and a Certificate in Library Organization from the State Teacher Institute, both located in Minsk, Russia. Although her primary responsibility will be reference service, Tanya will also participate in the library instruction program.

Guillaume Van Moorsel started May 10, 1999 as a Senior Assistant Librarian in Education Services. Gui held the position as Senior Education Services & Marketing Librarian at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he developed and taught medical informatics and information management courses in the Jefferson Medical College, the College of Health Professionals, and the College of Graduate Studies. He received his MLS from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada and is working on a masters degree in English there.

Julitta Jo was appointed Acting Associate Director for Collection Development and Technical Services while Associate Director **Antonija Prelec** is hospitalized for a prolonged period.

Professional Activities:

Colleen Kenefick presented a poster session at the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting in Chicago on May 18th. "Presently Tense? Using Humor

to Enhance Learning in the Electronic Classroom," describes Colleen's in-service training program for the use of appropriate humor related to course content as a dynamic teaching strategy by instruction librarians in our electronic classroom. Colleen has found that appropriate humor stimulates an active learning environment, decreases technology anxiety, creates rapport in the classroom, and increases creativity.

STONY BROOK UNIV.

Richard Feinberg
rfeinberg@NOTES.CC.SUNYSB.EDU

SUFFOLK

Carol Gambrell
gambrec@sunysuffolk.edu

SULLIVAN COUNTY CC

No Delegate

SYRACUSE HSL

Christine Kucharski
kucharski@vax.cs.hscsyr.edu

TOMPKINS CORTLAND CC

David Lewis
lewisd@sunytccc.edu

ULSTER COUNTY CC

Karen Carney
carneyk@sunyulster.edu

UTICA/ROME CoT

Jacqueline Coughlan
jackie@sunyit.edu

SUNY OFFICE of LIBRARY & INFORMATION SERVICES

John Schumacher
schumaje@slscva.ssysadm.suny.edu

WESTCHESTER CC

Gloria Bader Meisel
ggm3@wcc.co.westchester.ny

I would like to thank **Kathleen McGriff Powers**, *SUNYLA Newsletter* Co-editor for taking me on as co-editor for these few past issues. **Ellen McCabe** also deserves much thanks for meticulously editing the newsletter. When I volunteered to work with Kathleen, I had many good ideas for improving the publication. Some ideas succeeded, others did not. In order to continue the momentum of these past issues, I believe more individuals need to participate in the creation of the newsletter. There needs to be a commitment from delegates to keep contributing to News from the Campuses, and for SUNYLA members to share their insights and opinions, as well as articles they've written. I will do my part to continue and work in this new and exciting direction. I also want to thank Margie Wells, Director of the Oscar A. Silverman Undergraduate Library for supporting my newsletter responsibilities. In addition, I would also like to thank the numerous writers and contributors who have allowed us to use their work. As Mark A. Smith states SUNYLA is "on a roll." So as Bill Drew concurs, let's continue to be a strong and vital source!

- **Miguel Juarez**
Co-Editor, *SUNYLA Newsletter*

Employment Opportunities

Albert R. Mann Library

Cornell University

Collection Development Librarian

Albert R. Mann Library, part of the Cornell University Library system, is accepting applications for the position of Collection Development Librarian.

Responsibilities: Participate fully as a member of the Collection Development team, including materials selection, faculty liaison work, policy formulation, collection evaluation, and gifts and exchange activities. Provide leadership in the selection of electronic resources for Mann Library, particularly e-journals and full-text web-based resources. Develop expertise in licensing of full-text resources and maintain an awareness of new products and systems in electronic full-text. Assist in the reference and instruction programs.

Qualifications: MLS or equivalent degree from an accredited program required. Subject background or interest in agriculture, life sciences or social sciences. Strong communication, presentation and interpersonal skills and commitment to service and professional development. Experience in the use of information technologies and enthusiasm for an innovative environment is important. The individual will be expected to develop expertise in existing and emerging technologies for information delivery, as well as to lead and/or participate in other innovative research projects.

Environment: The Albert R. Mann Library provides innovative information services for the 21st century and has achieved national renown for its working electronic library. Mann's collection of agricultural, life sciences and related social sciences

materials serves the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Human Ecology, and the Divisions of Biological and Nutritional Sciences at Cornell. Mann holds almost one million items in its collection of print, microform, and digital materials and operates an extensive digital library at <http://www.mannlib.cornell.edu>. Mann Library is considered to be the premier agricultural and life science library within an academic institution in the United States and has won several national awards. Our principal user population numbers almost 10,000 and includes undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, researchers, and staff. Mann Library is the second largest of 19 libraries that together constitute the Cornell University Library.

Applications: Requested by July 15, 1999; screening will begin immediately and continue until positions are filled. Send cover letter, resume, and the names, phone numbers, and addresses of 3 references to:

Susan Markowitz, Director
Library Human Resources
201 Olin Library
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853-5301

Cornell University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer strongly committed to diversity. We value qualified candidates who can bring to our community a variety of backgrounds and experience. Rank and salary are dependent on experience and qualifications.

University at Buffalo

Educational Technology Librarian

The University at Buffalo (UB) Libraries seek a dynamic, experienced librarian for the newly created position of Educational Technology Librarian in a newly created facility, the Educational Technology Center (ETC). This position offers an opportunity for an important leadership role in the University at Buffalo's efforts to further integrate information technology and resources into the curriculum.

This individual will play an important leadership role in the University's efforts to further integrate technology and information resources into the curriculum. A major push in this area occurs this year, in UB's Student-Initiated Computer Access Program (Access99). This program encourages every entering freshman to have personal access to a computer, outside of University public computing sites, so that faculty can assign computer-intensive work and design courses using multimedia and Web-based instruction methods, for both in-class and asynchronous applications.

Such information technology (IT) development on the part of the faculty is being supported by the establishment of the new ETC in the University Libraries. The ETC will be a curricular research and development facility to train faculty and other instructors in IT applications, and to develop IT-intensive courses. The following is an extract from the Mission Statement of the ETC:

The short-term goal of the ETC is to shape the University's curricular interface to meet the demands of Access99. The long-term goal is to produce a critical mass of IT-based courses that will per-

— Please see Opportunities, page 19

Some Highlights of Past *SUNYLA Newsletters**: 30 Years of Achievement and History

by Miguel Juarez, *SUNYLA Newsletter*, Co-editor

Our First Newsletter:

The first SUNYLA Newsletter (Vol. 1, No. 1) was published April 1969 as a six pager on legal sized paper. Leonore Kemp, served as the first Editor, Pro-tem. Her editorial follows:

"In this, our first newsletter, we have tried to acquaint all librarians in the State University of New York with the goals and work of the new SUNY Librarians Association, in which you can be a vital force. Future newsletters will be sent only to paid-up members. It is planned to issue this newsletter on a monthly basis from September through May.

We hope this to be the answer to a much needed system of communication between and among all the library units of State University. Should you have information that belongs in such a newsletter you can help in our endeavor by submitting it directly to the editor or to any of the pertinent officers or committee chairmen named herein."¹

News of the day included a "Resolution on Manpower Study" in response to the frustrations and dissatisfactions expressed by the units of State University participating in the statistical survey on the joint Division of the Budget and State University Manpower Study [on] the first action of the Council of SUNY Librarians Association, meeting in session on Friday and Saturday, March 21 and 22, 1969 [which] was to formulate and address to Chancellor Samuel B. Gould the resolution on the Manpower Study."²

Officers included:

President, Manuel D. Lopez, SUNY at Buffalo
Vice-President, David Kreh, SUC Cortland
Secretary, Mary B. Sassata, SUNY at Buffalo
Treasurer, Sylvia Schanz, Agricultural and Technical College, Farmingdale³

Seventeen individuals were listed as paid members and dues were set at \$7.50 for the Charter Membership and \$3.00 for Associate Membership.

The Struggle for Faculty Status

The struggle for the benefits for Faculty Status for SUNY Librarians is addressed in the following article "The Bastardization of the SUNY Librarians" appeared in the March-April 1974 issue of the SUNYLA Newsletter:

In September, 1968, the librarians became bastardized by the State of New York. They attained faculty "rank"—A confusing position that makes them members of the faculty "in principle" only.

Since then the state has been treating librarians like illegitimate children, refusing to fully adopt them into their SUNY faculty family while, at the same time, never fully admitting that they are being treated as NTP's.

Now, to which professional family do we belong? Isn't it time for UUP to insist that the state finally place the librarians in their proper professional category?

SUNY Librarian have been waging a long, hard battle or trying to clarify their "faculty" position and have repeatedly taken the firm stand of wanting librarian titles to be equated with faculty titles.

The SUNY librarians are fearful that the UUP will continue the state's old game and not see to it that this matter is resolved once and for all. ATTENTION UUP. STOP BASTARDIZING THE LIBRARIANS. This professional group wants their proper recognition and salaries commensurate with faculty positions. We're members of UUP and expect to be represented in this matter. Don't forget TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION IS TYRANNY.⁴

News Items from SUNYLA Newsletter, March 1984:

The Sixteenth Annual Conference of SUNYLA will take place at SUNY Purchase from June 13-15, 1984.⁵

In Memoriam:

On December 5, 1983 Leonore Kemp passed away after a lengthy illness. Leonore has been on the staff of the SUCB Butler Library from 1950 until her retirement in July 1981. She was among the first active members of SUNYLA and one of its most avid supporters. E.H. Butler Library, SUNYLA and the library profession have lost one of their finest colleagues.⁶

The October 1987 issue of the SUNYLA Newsletter reported:

Anchors Aweigh in '88

The 1988 SUNYLA Annual Conference will be held at SUNY/Maritime College on June 8-10, 1988. Maritime is near the Throgs Neck Bridge at the confluence of the East River and Long Island Sound. From the campus there are beautiful views of the Manhattan skyline (especially spectacular at sunset) and of Long Island and Connecticut.⁷

And from the October 1989 issue:

An Adirondack Adventure! Final Report on the 21st Annual Conference

Nearly 130 people registered for the 21st Annual SUNYLA Conference, June 6-9, 1989, at Potsdam. The Conference Planning Committee was extremely pleased with the turnout since it felt travel time and distance would reduce attendance. It seems quite apparent that the SUNYLA Conference has established a fine reputation as a stimulating, and enjoyable event and has been successful in attracting participants.⁸

From the July 1994 issue:

From the President:

Greetings! Out 26th annual conference, SUNYLA on the Lake, was a big success. I was very impressed with the programming that Dave Trithart and his committee put together and very proud of my colleagues at SUNY

*I would like to thank Chris Densmore of the University Archives at the University at Buffalo for providing me access to the *SUNYLA Newsletters*.

Faculty Status Movement - Chronology

National Movement Leading to SUNY Movement

1911 W.E. Henry (Librarian of the University of Washington) presents a paper at the 33rd Annual Meeting of the American Library Association supporting faculty status for academic librarians.

1929 The first professional association endorsement of faculty status (ALA Committee on the Classification of Library Personnel).

1944 The University of Illinois become the first major academic institution to grant faculty status to librarians.

Late 1940s Other libraries gain faculty status for librarians.

1956 American Association of University Professors (AAUP) permit librarians with faculty status to join the organization.

1958 ACRL's University Libraries Section initiates the Committee on Academic Status.

1959 The ACRL Board of Directors approves the statement on the Status of College and University Librarians.

SUNY Faculty Status Movement

1965 City University of New York (CUNY) librarians receive faculty status through a revision of the New York City Board of Education By-Laws. SUNY librarians begin informally discussing obtaining faculty status.

1966 SUNY Head Librarians under the Chairmanship of Joseph Nat Whitten, Director of the SUNY Maritime College Library send SUNY Chancellor Samuel Gould a memorandum (known as the October 1966 memorandum) formally recommending SUNY librarians be granted faculty status.

1967 Grass roots SUNY librarian campaign advocating faculty status spearheaded by Whitten and his Maritime colleagues and SUNY Buffalo's Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Status commences.

1968 On June 12th the SUNY Board of Trustees grant librarians academic rank. Academic rank included right to tenure, peer review, sabbatical leaves and voting privileges. Did not include academic year appointment, four equivalent ranks or salary parity with faculty.

1969 On January 17th 16 librarians from 13 SUNY campuses meet in Utica to form the SUNY Librarians Association. The primary goal of the group was to gain full faculty status including academic year appointments without loss of salary.

1970 June 11th-12th SUNYLA Spring Caucus takes place in Cortland. The "Cortland petition" is drafted to protest the Administrative Salary Plan.

Six SUNYLA leaders and three head librarians during the Fall write a position paper entitled The Place of the Librarian in SUNY and present it to Chancellor Boyer.

1971 In January the Senate Professional Association wins the right to be

the first collective bargaining agent for SUNY faculty and non-teaching professionals.

In March Chancellor Boyer says that the Department of Budget has agreed to remove librarians from the Administrative Salary Plan. [Not implemented until 1976.]

In late October SUNYLA members vote on whether to request 4 librarian titles or 4 professorial titles. Librarian titles won by 223 votes to 206 votes.

In December SUNY Central Administration recommended four ranks for librarians. [Not implemented until 1976.]

1972 In January SUNYLA initiates a contract grievance through the SPA claiming librarians were being discriminated against because they had the same academic rank as faculty but did not have academic year appointments.

In March the Office for Employee Relations rules the grievance was invalid because having academic rank did not imply having an academic year contract.

In April the SUNYLA Council approves a new release which states "As a result of the State University of New York's distressing lack of concern for the academic rights of librarians, we regretfully recommend that librarians exercise extreme caution before accepting a position in SUNY." The substance of the news release appeared in the June 5, 1972 issue of Library Journal/School Library Journal Hotline.

■ Please see Movement, page 18

Movement

(Continued from page 17)

In May the SPA and SUNY Central agree to hold talks on implementing full faculty status for librarians. 3 librarians invited to represent SUNY librarians including Mary Cassata from SUNY Buffalo. After months of meeting, the implementation talks fail.

1973 During the Summer SUNYLA membership elects a new president who campaigns on the promise to diversify the Association's agenda away from the faculty status issue.

In December United University Professions (UUP, formerly SPA) appoints 3 librarians to a Committee on Librarian Concerns without consulting SUNYLA.

1974 In February SUNYLA Council bypasses the UUP Committee on Librarian Concerns and sends an endorsement of 4 ranks for librarians and academic year appointments directly to the UUP negotiating committee.

In May the State/UUP tentative contract agreement is presented without a single full faculty status issue included. Two of the three members of the Committee on Librarian Concerns recommended that the SUNYLA membership "vote down this contract and request UUP to bargain more effectively for the implementation of full faculty status for librarians."

In November SUNYLA votes to relegate all matters of faculty status to "Special Committee No. 1" with a mandate to "establish a strong lobby with the bargaining agent to obtain terms and conditions of appointment suitable for librarians."

1976 In July the UUP contract removed librarians from the ASP making them eligible for academic promotions not based on job function and gave them 4 titles (Assistant, Senior Assistant, Associate Librarian and Librarian). The academic year was never implemented.

1982 The UUP 1982-85 contract specifies \$150,000 will be earmarked to provide study leaves for librarians.

1985 Librarians are placed in the same salary scale as professorial faculty in the 1985-88 UUP contract.

1995 In October the SUNY Board of Trustees creates the rank of Distinguished Librarian.

**- Gemma DeVinney
Associate Librarian
Coordinator, Libraries
Web Development and Services
University at Buffalo
November 1997**

An extensive study of the faculty status movement in New York State is Gemma DeVinney's doctoral thesis: *The 1965-1974 Faculty Status Movement as a Professionalization effort with Social Movement Characteristics: A Case Study of the State University of New York.*

Opportunities

(Continued from page 23)

competitive and commensurate with qualifications.

UB offers a generous benefits program: Optional retirement programs including TIAA/CREF, optional health coverage programs, 15-21 days vacation per year, and more.

Please send letter of application and resume including the names of at least three references to:

Kenneth Hood
Human Resources Officer
University Libraries
State University of New York at Buffalo
432 Capen Hall
Buffalo, New York 14260-1625

Search Committee will begin reviewing applications immediately and continue until an appointment is made.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER
No person in whatever relationship with

the University at Buffalo shall be subject to discrimination on the basis of age, creed, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital or veteran status.

Opportunities

(Continued from page 15)

manently change the learning environment at UB. We will pursue these goals concurrently. The ETC will thus help develop specific courses, enhance general IT literacy among the faculty, and collect and coordinate various efforts across campus. It will become the nodal point for our IT energies.

The new Educational Technology Librarian will have an office inside the ETC, and will work with the ETC director across administrative and institutional lines with a wide variety of faculty, librarians, computing professionals, and senior administrators to carry out the mission of the Center. The Librarian will be part of the faculty of the University Libraries and will report to the Libraries Director's Office.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Assist faculty in integrating new strategies for teaching and learning using present and emerging information and instructional technologies.

Consult with faculty on integrating electronic information resources into courses, including creating guides, tutorials, and bibliographies.

Encourage, develop, and support faculty projects using multimedia and information technology in classroom teaching.

Assist curriculum development teams in identifying appropriate information resources, and participate in the creation and ongoing development of course and instructional Web sites. Coordinate the activities of other librarians collaborating on ETC projects.

Design, coordinate, and present training programs for faculty and staff.

Identify, evaluate, and recommend information technology software and hardware based on user-defined needs and currently available technology. This includes software in support of Web-based technologies, graphic design software, scanning software, course management software, and digitizing hardware such as scanners. Requires knowledge of and experience with the use of a variety of software programs.

Supervise graduate students, student assistants, and other staff working with the Center.

Maintain an up-to-date knowledge of the techniques for assessing the impact of technology use on teaching and learning, and familiarity with current research on the effectiveness of various uses of technology. Assume responsibility for ETC daily operations in the absence of the ETC director.

QUALIFICATIONS - Required Masters degree from an ALA-accredited or ALA-affiliated program. Minimum of five years of experience in higher education.

Evidence of highly developed communication, organizational, and interpersonal skills and the ability to effectively convey complex technical concepts to lay persons.

Familiarity with HTML and Web authoring tools in a primarily Wintel environment.

QUALIFICATIONS - Desired Educational background or experience in teaching, training, and/or learning styles.

Interest in pedagogical issues.

Demonstrable record of experience in using a range of instructional technologies.

Flexibility and adaptability in changing circumstances, and skill at fostering change.

RANK AND SALARY: Tenure track (faculty status); appointment at the rank of Senior Assistant Librarian (salary minimum \$38,000) or Associate Librarian (salary minimum \$45,000). Rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For more information, consult the following Web sites:

University at Buffalo Libraries
<http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries>

Educational Technology Center
<http://www.etc.buffalo.edu>

UB offers a generous benefits program: Optional retirement programs including TIAA/CREF, optional health coverage programs, 15-21 days vacation per year, and more.

Please send letter of application and resume including the names of at least three reference to:

Kenneth Hood
Human Resources Officer
University Libraries
State University of New York at Buffalo
432 Capen Hall
Buffalo, New York 14260-1625

Search Committee will begin reviewing applications immediately and continue

■ Please see Opportunities, page 21

Conference Highlights

Our Keynote Speaker

The 1999 SUNYLA Conference will officially open on Thursday morning, June 17, with a keynote talk by Karen G. Schneider, "May You Live in Interesting Times."

Ms. Schneider is Director of the Garfield Library, Brunswick, NY. Previously she was Director of the U.S. EPA Region 2 New York library; Electronic Resources Librarian at Newark Public Library, Newark, NJ; Children's Librarian and Electronic Resources Librarian at Queens Public Library; and a Captain in the US Air Force. She is author of the popular column, "The Internet Librarian," which appears in *American Libraries*, and two books related to the Internet: *A Practical Guide to Internet Filters* (Neal Schuman, 1997), and *The Internet Access Cookbook* (Neal Schuman, 1996). She is a present member of ALA Council, and is a frequent speaker in the national context on intellectual freedom, Internet, and access issues.

Art Show, Reception & Music on Thursday, June 17

"Transforming Visions: Screen Prints by Four Artists from Japan" will be the centerpiece of a reception on Thursday afternoon, June 17, at the Visual Arts Gallery in ACC's Dearlove Hall.

The exhibit features contemporary prints by artists belonging to the Kyoto-based Maxi Graphica artists' group:

- Takashi Tanaka, whose images feature isolated objects,
- Nana Ando, whose prints reflect natural images in abstract patterns,
- Hideki Kimura, whose works alter Mondrian's familiar paintings, and
- Toshinao Yoshioka, whose flowers are printed not on paper but on sheets of rubber.

These artists have exhibited widely throughout Japan and around the world.

Music at the reception will be provided by the Adirondack Chamber Trio, composed of ACC music faculty.

The reception and music is sponsored by a generous donation by Joy, McCoola and Zilch of Glens Falls. This architectural firm designed the new Scoville Learning Center and other recent ACC campus renovations.

After the reception, we'll go to Lake George for a dinner cruise on the Lake George Steamboat Company's Mohican, with music by Doc Scanlon's Rhythm Boys and swing dance instruction by Janice Holik.

Contact number during the conference for emergencies or to reach individuals: (518) 743-2260.

- Joyce Miller, ACC



1999 Conference Bookmark

Things to do at the conference or on your way home on Friday afternoon:

1. Walk on the ACC fitness trail, which is also a nature trail.
2. Bring a bike and enjoy the 10-mile Warren County Bike Trail. The route starts about 1 ½ miles from the ACC campus, winds its way through scenic spots in the town of Queensbury and ends at Lake George Village, at the tip of Lake George.
3. Enjoy outlet shopping at the Million Dollar Half Mile, at Northway exit 20.
4. Visit the Chapman Historical Museum or other local history museums in this area. Major events in the Revolutionary and French and Indian Wars happened in this area!
5. Wander through small scenic towns: Warrensburg, Bolton Landing, Whitehall to the north or venture east into Vermont, about 30 miles away.
6. The resort town of Saratoga Springs is located a half-hour south, at Northway exits 13 to 15. Lots of interesting museums there: The National Museum of Dance, the National Museum of Racing, and more. It's also known for great shops.
7. For birders: an Important Birding Area is located nearby, in the Fort Edward Grasslands area. (Ask Joyce Miller for details.)
8. Moreau Lake State Park at Exit 17S offers pleasant nature trails and swimming.
9. Start planning to attend the 2000 Conference at SUNY Brockport - June 21-23!

Newsletters

(Continued from page 16)

Oswego who provided attendees with meals, accommodations and classroom facilities. I would also like to thank the presenters; they truly made the conference a vital part of our professional development.⁹

¹ SUNYLA Newsletter, April 1969, page 1.

² Ibid., p. 1.

³ Ibid., p. 3

⁴ SUNYLA Newsletter, article by a "Dues-Paying" Li-

brarian, March-April 1974, page 3.

⁵ SUNYLA Newsletter, article by Mary A. Loomba, 2nd Vice-President SUNYLA Westchester Community College, March 1984, p. 1

⁶ In Memoriam, p. 8.

⁷ SUNYLA Newsletter, October 1987, article by Barbara Shupe, Program Chair, Nassau Community College, p. 1.

⁸ SUNYLA Newsletter, October 1989, article by Fran Finch, Head of Local Arrangements, Potsdam, p. 3.

⁹ SUNYLA Newsletter, article by Christopher Hebblethwaite, President, July 1994, p. 1

Opportunities

(Continued from Page 19)

until an appointment is made.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER. No person in whatever relationship with the University at Buffalo shall be subject to discrimination on the basis of age, creed, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital or veteran status.

The University at Buffalo Libraries

The University Libraries provide collections of over 3 million volumes and access to numerous electronic information resources. With seven major units (including Health Sciences and Law) and two branches, the library system subscribes to over 22,357 serials and periodicals, has 4.4 million microforms, government documents and extensive electronic resources. Students and faculty are served in the Libraries by over 116 professional staff, 76 support staff, and student assistants. The BISON online information system is web based at <http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries>. We are members of the Association of the Association of Research Libraries.

The University at Buffalo is New York's largest State University Center with an enrollment of over 24,000 students. A member of the prestigious Association of American Universities (AAU), the University at Buffalo offers a broad range of undergraduate, masters, and doctoral degree programs. It is located on two major campuses. The South Campus with its ivy covered edifices is located within the city and has been redesigned and renovated as a major medical research center. The North Campus, a few miles away in Amherst, is a massive complex of academic buildings, art centers, sports arenas and stadiums. The North Campus "academic spine" provides a one mile complex of buildings, completely enclosed from the elements. Shuttle service connects the campuses.

Buffalo is New York State's second largest metropolitan area with a population exceeding 1.25 million. It is a vibrant city with a lively theater district, important art collections, several institutions of higher education, an outstanding symphony orchestra, and an active, national league sports scene. A rapid transit system connects the South Campus with the downtown area the waterfront, sports arenas, theaters, and other cultural venues.

SUNY College of Technology, Alfred

Technical Services Coordinator

The SUNY College of Technology at Alfred is looking for an energetic, creative, service-oriented person to become part of a staff of five librarians who provide quality library service to approximately 3000 students.

The College offers associate degree programs in applied sciences and technologies, liberal arts, pre-professional studies and vocational technologies, as well as baccalaureate programs in five engineering technology fields.

Alfred is a residential campus in an attractive university town, home to three colleges, located in rural, western New York State. The College's web address is: <http://www.alfredtech.edu>

POSITION: Appointment to begin August 1999. This is a calendar-year (12-month), tenure-track position.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Coordinates technical services activities and provides leadership for planning, development, and implementation of technical services policies and procedures; Does original cataloging in multiple formats (print, media, electronic); Supervises copy

cataloging; Manages authority control; Coordinates collection development activities; Has general reference duties, and participates in bibliographic instruction program; Participates in overall library planning, special projects, and professional activities; Some late afternoon, evening, and weekend hours may be required.]

QUALIFICATIONS: Required: MLS from an ALA-accredited institution. Desirable: Original cataloging experience; preferably in an academic library; Knowledge of cataloging standards, including AACR2, LCSH, and LC Classification; Experience with OCLC, Web, MultiLis, and electronic databases.

SALARY AND BENEFITS: Salary: \$27,500. Employee benefits with State University of New York are attractive.

Review of applications will begin immediately; applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

APPLY TO: Director, Human Resources
Pioneer Center
SUNY College of Technology
Alfred, NY 14802

Please include a cover letter, resume, official graduate school transcripts or copies thereof, and the names, addresses, and phone numbers of three references.

The State University of New York is an Equal Opportunity /Affirmative Action Employer.

SUNY Oswego

Public Services Librarian

Responsibilities will include coordinating Specialized Instruction with other

Please see pages 22-23

assignments in reference (including participation in the night/weekend schedule), library instruction and collection development. Specialized Instruction includes, but is not limited to high school classes, community groups, and library participation in College events and a variety of summer programs. Subject backgrounds of interest include math, science, education or business. Candidates must possess excellent communication skills and the ability to work effectively in a demanding and rapidly changing technological environment. Required Qualifications: MLS from an ALA-accredited institution. A strong public service orientation and familiarity with print and electronic information resources. Preferred Qualifications: One-year academic library instruction experience. This is a 12-month, tenure track position with faculty status. Candidates are expected to meet criteria for promotion and tenure. Assistant or Senior Assistant Rank, depending on qualifications. Minimum salary for Assistant Rank \$29,000, for Senior Assistant Rank \$32,000, excellent benefits.

Oswego State University is a comprehensive institution of 8,000 students, offering 60 undergraduate and graduate programs including graduate degrees in business, education and liberal arts. It is located on the southeastern shore of Lake Ontario and is one of 64 institutions within the State University of New York (SUNY) system. The library's web site is <http://www.oswego.edu/library>.

Applications received by July 15, 1999 will receive first consideration; however, they will be accepted until the position is filled. Send letter of application, resume, transcripts (unofficial acceptable for application, official required prior to hiring), and three letters of professional reference to: Blanche Judd, Interim Director, Penfield Library, Oswego State University, Oswego, New York 13126

Oswego State University is an Affirmative Action Employer.

Genesee Community College, State University of New York Librarian, Reference & Off-Campus Services

Genesee Community College, State University of New York, seeks a dynamic, energetic librarian to coordinate reference, instruction and off-campus services. An integral member of the library service team, this is a leadership position in planning, implementing and evaluating the library's user services including reference, information literacy instruction, and services to off-campus sites and distance learners. Other responsibilities include collection development and coordination of interlibrary loan.

Qualifications

ALA-accredited MLS; excellent interpersonal and communication skills; demonstrated strong organizational skills. Highly desired: reference, teaching and presentation skills using traditional and evolving technologies; experience in the community college environment; demonstrated strong commitment to excellence in providing user services; ability to work cooperatively with a diverse college community; and ability to flourish in a rapidly changing environment. Post-MLS experience in an academic library, and experience in providing services to remote patrons preferred.

Salary and Benefits

This is a full time 200 day position with faculty status. Salary per contract, minimum \$29,162. An excellent benefits package includes the TIAA-CREF retire-

ment system. To Apply Send cover letter, resume, and the name/address of 4 professional references to:

Tom Talbot
Genesee Community College
One College Road
Batavia, NY 14020

Review of applications will begin June 15, 1999 with preference given to applications received by that date. Applications will be accepted until position is filled.

Genesee Community College is an AA/EEO employer.

About Genesee Community College

The college is located in scenic Western New York, just off the State Thruway between Buffalo and Rochester. Part of the State University of New York system, Genesee serves approximately 4,000 students at its main campus, 4 off-campus sites, and via distance learning. The successful candidate will work in a quality environment where 100% of the library's full time professional staff are recipients of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Librarianship.

Cornell Medical Library

Head, Information & Access Services

The Cornell Medical Library is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Head, Information & Access Services. This is an exciting opportunity for the right individual to lead a team approach to the delivery of a wide range of information and access services. The Information & Access Services Program Area is responsible for delivery of reference services including the mediated search service, implementation of expanded information service delivery via the web,

Please see page 23

management and expansion of the electronic reference center, provision of information support for the College's PBL curriculum, identification of user needs and development of appropriate programs to support those needs, promotion of ongoing and new library services, library orientation programs and user training including a full schedule of information management classes, and active guidance and support of Circulation and InterLibrary Services. The Head of this program area will lead a team of three librarians, four paraprofessionals, and 15 support staff and participate in the accomplishment these goals.

The successful candidate will be a dynamic team-leader, creative and future-oriented, curious and motivated, well-organized and enthusiastic. This individual must be able to work both independently and collaboratively in a complex and rapidly changing environment. Coaching, mentoring, and supporting professional and career development of team members will be essential for continued success of the team. All library faculty are expected to serve on committees, participate in library planning, and be active professionally.

Required: Demonstrated management, leadership, team-building, analytical, and interpersonal communication skills are essential. An ALA-accredited MLS and a minimum of 5 years' professional library experience in progressively responsible administrative assignments are also required.

Preferred: The proven ability to apply new technologies in information management and to work effectively with electronic information systems is highly desirable. Membership in the Academy of Health Information Professionals is preferred.

Salary and faculty rank will be determined based on qualifications and ex-

perience from a minimum of \$55,000, at the level of Assistant or Associate Librarian. The Medical College has an excellent benefits package including tuition reimbursement, contributions to TIAA/CREF, and several health plan options. This position is available immediately. Applications will be reviewed beginning July 31, 1999, and will be accepted until the position is filled. Applicants should send letter, resume, curriculum vitae, and the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of 3 references to: Camille Campbell, Senior Administrative Assistant, Cornell Medical Library, 1300 York Ave., New York, NY 10021-4896. Cornell University Medical College is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment based on age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, creed, national origin, marital status, disability, citizenship or veteran status (EEO/AA/M/F/H/V).

University at Buffalo HSL Coordinator of Information Management Education

The Coordinator of Information Management Education (IME) (Senior Assistant Librarian): Provides leadership, direction, and planning for a dynamic and effective library education program at the University at Buffalo's Health Sciences Library in cooperation with library staff and teaching faculty. The objective of the IME program is to develop the information management skills needed to access and evaluate health sciences information resources for problem-solving and decision-making. The Coordinator works with faculty in the health sciences schools to integrate information management concepts into their curricula and develops courses and other instructional resources.

Duties: Organizes, schedules, and teaches instructional programs focusing on electronic and print biomedical resources; coordinates and serves as a resource for HSL staff who provide instruction; provides training and workshops for HSL instruction staff; conducts needs assessments and evaluations of the instruction program; develops effective outreach and publicity for the instruction program; schedules and conducts tours of the Health Sciences Library; develops print and computer-assisted instructional materials and other research guides; provides reference service, consultation for in-depth research, and mediated literature searches. The Coordinator assumes responsibility for collection development in designated subject areas. The Coordinator participates in the planning and implementation of innovative services for the library and on committees, task force teams, and in projects with staff and colleagues in HSL, the University Libraries, and other collaborating organizations.

Qualifications: Required: Master's degree from an ALA accredited program; 3 - 5 years professional experience in health sciences library; demonstrates competence in developing and teaching curriculum-integrated instruction classes; must have experience providing reference service. Evidence of excellent interpersonal skills, ability to work effectively in a team environment, highly motivated, able to provide leadership. Knowledgeable about health sciences information resources, current trends in information technology, teaching and learning in libraries, and integration of information resources in health sciences education. Desirable: Knowledge of Windows NT operating system; familiarity with HTML.

RANK/SALARY: Tenure track position with faculty status at the rank of Senior Assistant Librarian; \$35,000 or higher,

■ Please see Opportunities, page 18

IMHO

Views and Commentary

Fifty years before, speaking at two women's colleges, Virginia Woolf said that to be creative a woman needed 500 pounds a year and a room of her own.

- Corinne Nyquist

Librarians and Offices: Do They, Should They Have Them?

by
Corinne Nyquist, Full Librarian Rank
 Sojourner Truth Library, SUNY New Paltz

Last October, some librarians at SUNY New Paltz began to question the limited number of private offices available to them, just four for a staff of 12. It was a timid query at first, in that to question the lack of privacy was to be somehow unlibrarianlike. Librarians must always be available and ready to serve. Librarians must never think of themselves. Fifty years before, speaking at two women's colleges, Virginia Woolf said that to be creative a woman needed 500 pounds a year and a room of her own. 500 pounds was a considerable sum in 1929 and I am not sure if we librarians have reached its equivalent yet. The question before these librarians was, however, not money this time, but whether or not we could find support for rooms of our own.

We knew that in requests relating to salary inequity, comparable data was of the utmost importance. The fact that professorial faculty and professional staff had private offices, almost universally, on our campus could be challenged as not relevant. So the small group of librarians decided to conduct a survey of SUNY Colleges of Arts and Sciences, undisputedly our peer institutions. To our surprise and chagrin, the survey showed that of the 132 full time librarians in State Colleges, 90 have private offices, another 8 share two-person offices, and 4 have manufactured cubicles, open on one or more sides. Only 30 librarians have just a desk, with some surrounding area, in with others in a larger room. However, these are concentrated at 4 campuses, one of them being New Paltz. At 5 of the campuses, all librarians have private offices. At 2 others, all but one librarian has a private office. The respondent at Plattsburgh, where all have private offices, commented "I know the arguments that 'bullpens' increase the flow of information and sharing, but it is difficult to conduct business, scholarship, or to have privacy for sensitive meetings, in such conditions." Avoiding interruptions and distractions was foremost among the reasons given so long ago by Woolf as the purpose of that "room of own's own."¹

For those of you who seek a change and need data, here it is. Might I also suggest that here is where SUNYLA could focus its efforts "to advance the professional status of librarians of the State University of New York."² At New Paltz, in the interim, we have developed a plan, reviewed by the campus architect, to create four offices through rehabilitation of underused space, which we have forwarded to the library director. A plan for more offices will follow.

LIBRARIAN OFFICE SPACE AT SUNY FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES

(Not including the Directors)

1. Brockport, 12 FT librarians

Private Offices	Cubicles	Desk Only
4	1	7

Heads of Circulation, Reference, Documents, and the assistant to the director have offices. Head of Bibliographic Control does not. Head of Special Materials has cubicle. One vacancy when filled will have a desk only.

2. SUC Buffalo 18 FT librarians

Private Offices	Shared	Desk Only
11	4	3

The three with no offices are all in Technical Services, though the two heads there have private offices. The shared are two-person offices.

3. Cortland, 11 FT librarians

Private Offices	11
-----------------	----

All have had offices since 1975; some before. There is one vacant librarian position and one vacant professional position. There are two professionals on staff. There are offices for all.

4. Fredonia, 8 FT librarians

Private Offices	8
-----------------	---

The one professional also has an office.

5. Geneseo, 10 FT librarians

Private Offices	Shared	Desk Only
1	2	7

The shared offices are with a clerk and a with a librarian, yet to be hired. There are two other librarian vacant lines. The 7 librarians are in 3 open spaces with temporary walls

6. New Paltz, 12 FT librarians

Private Offices	Shared	Cubicles	Desk Only
3	1	2	6

The shared office is with a clerk. Also one professional with no office.

7. Old Westbury, 6 FT librarians

Private	Offices Shared
5	1

The shared office is with a clerk.

8. Oneonta, 11 FT librarians

Private Offices	Desk Only
4	7

The professional systems person also has a private office. Those with a desk only also share phones.

9. Oswego, 17 FT librarians

Private Offices 17

10. Plattsburgh 12 FT librarians

Private Offices 12

At Plattsburgh, all full-time librarians have their own private offices, as do two on half-time, who are not included in the count above. The 3 adjuncts share an office, also not included.

11. Potsdam 9 FT librarians

Private Offices 12

The one professional also has a private office.

12. Purchase 6 FT librarians

Private Offices	Cubicles
5	1

TALLY

Private offices	90 librarians
Shared offices	8 librarians
Cubicles	4 librarians
Desk only	30 librarians
TOTAL	132 librarians

¹ Virginia Woolf, *A Room of One's Own*, New York: Harcourt, Brace, & Co., 1929.

² "Objectives," SUNYLA, *Constitution and Bylaws*, August 1996.