ACRL Washington Newsletter

Fall 2009, No. 65

President's Message
by Jan Hartley

"A conversation with colleagues"

My favorite moment of the 2009 Washington/Oregon ACRL Conference at Pack Forest came at approximately 11:15am on Friday -- right after I was told about the burned cinnamon rolls and just before we hit the road for home.At this point in the conference, an unplanned fifteen minute conversation among conference attendees made the many months of deliberation and conference planning all seem worthwhile. But let me digress for a moment.

In preparing for the 2009 conference the Washington Board agreed to try something different -- an unconference format for Friday morning.Since it was hard to define an unconference let alone plan what was going to occur, the idea was justifiably met with some skepticism from both The Board and registrants alike. Truth be told, at times I too had my doubts as to whether or not we would pull this off. But there comes a point in baseball as well as conference planning when you throw the ball over the plate and see what happens.

Did we succeed? The survey says "yes." Is there room for improvement? Of course! (Thank you for the comments.) Should we do it again? I certainly hope so. Why? Because at approximately 11:15am on that Friday morning I was reminded of what it means to be a colleague. During this particular section of the unconference a new librarian in her first professional position asked the audience for some advice on "how to get started." Questions, ideas, and suggestions, flowed back and forth between the audience and the

ACRL WA/OR 2009 Mini-Poster Winners

Lynne Kanne
Seattle Center Community College
"Making Information Literacy Visible"
[**pdf**] [**website**]

Lorena O'English
Washington State University
"Under the Big Tent: Civic Discourse through Civil Debate"

new librarian. By the end of the fifteen minutes, she had some fresh ideas as well as the name of a contact in a similar situation in another state. I admired this new librarian for having the guts to get up before a new group of peers. I was also proud of those in the audience for the support and encouragement they gave to her.

It was then that I had my "Ratatouille" movie moment. (The part in the film when Anton Ego takes the bite of Remy's ratatouille and it triggers the flashback of the dish as prepared by his mother.) I thought of my first professional job fresh out of library school; the million questions I asked my colleagues in that first year; how I felt slightly out of place at conferences because I didn't know the difference between a contributed paper and a poster session; and how hard it was for me to initially get involved in both campus and professional committees. I also thought about the librarians who helped me through those first few years, many of whom I still call for advice even though we live in various regions of the country. As I looked around the room on that Friday morning, I saw some of my current Seattle University colleagues who support and challenge me every day; friends from library school who share my "library roots"; colleagues from other institutions whom I call when I am having a problem with spreadsheet or am faced with a difficult copyright question; board members who put up with my last minute emails; and many new colleagues I met and talked to for the very first time at this conference.

Attending a library conference always seems to reinforce in my mind that we librarians are very passionate about what we do and who we serve. We love to share with each other our knowledge and experiences through various presentations, panels, and workshops. But on that Friday morning of the 2009 Washington/Oregon ACRL Conference, it was the impromptu unconference conversations that helped remind me that we librarians are also a group of remarkable colleagues who mentor and support each other on a daily basis and throughout our careers. Thanks to you all for the generous reminder!

Jan

Making Information Literacy Visible
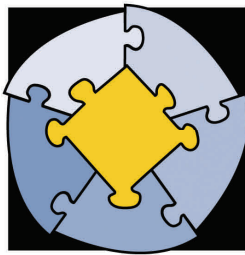
LIBRARY
SEATTLE CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
REFLECT · LEARN · CONNECT

Goals

Build library identity

Create a model for research

Cultivate "IL Champions"

Involve the community in defining IL

REFLECT · LEARN · CONNECT

DEFINE TASK
What is your assignment, problem or question?

IDENTIFY OPTIONS
What kinds of information do you need and where do you look?

EVALUATE
Is your research process leading to relevant and useful results?

PRESENT FINDINGS
How do you organize and communicate what you learned?

SELECT SOURCES
How do you search for them and which do you choose?

ANALYZE CONTENT
What did you discover and what does it mean?
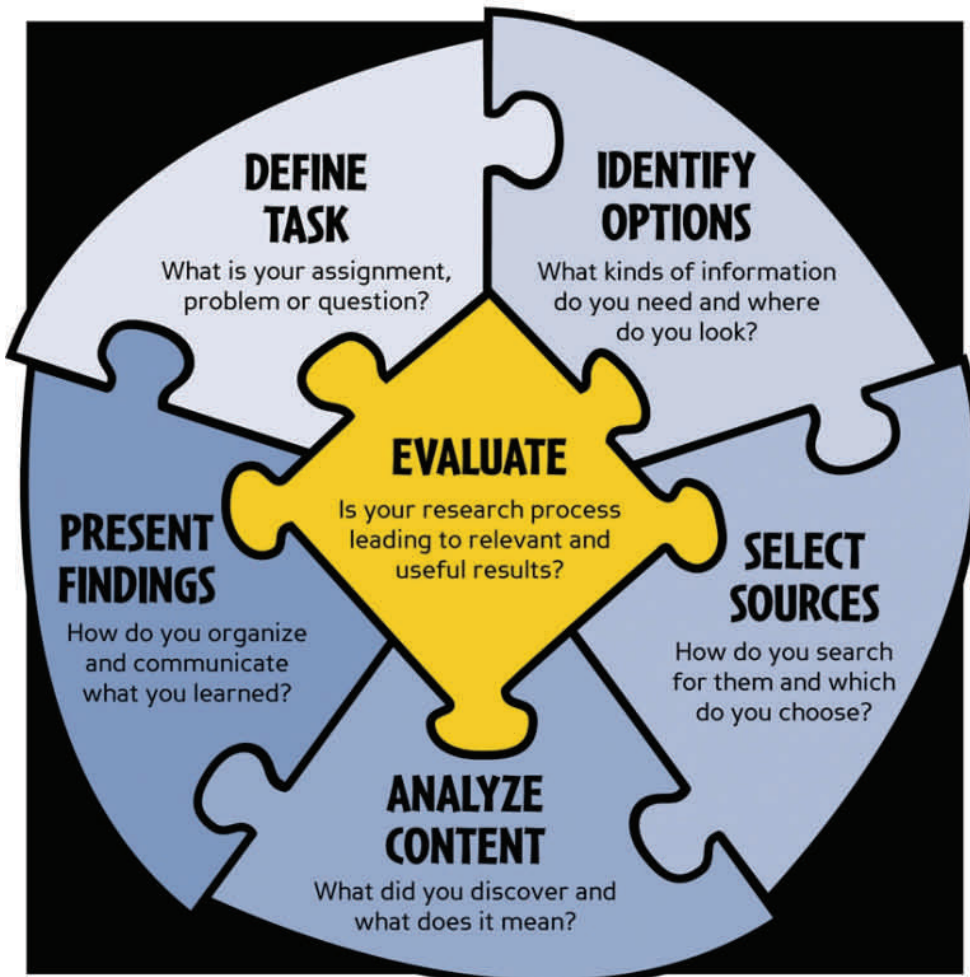
INFORMATION LITERACY
SEATTLE CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

INFORMATION LITERACY FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

INFORMATION LITERACY
- Define Task
- Strategize
- Synthesize
- Evaluate
- Access
- Apply

INFORMATION LITERACY
- DEFINE TASK
- STRATEGIZE
- SYNTHESIZE
- EVALUATE
- ACCESS
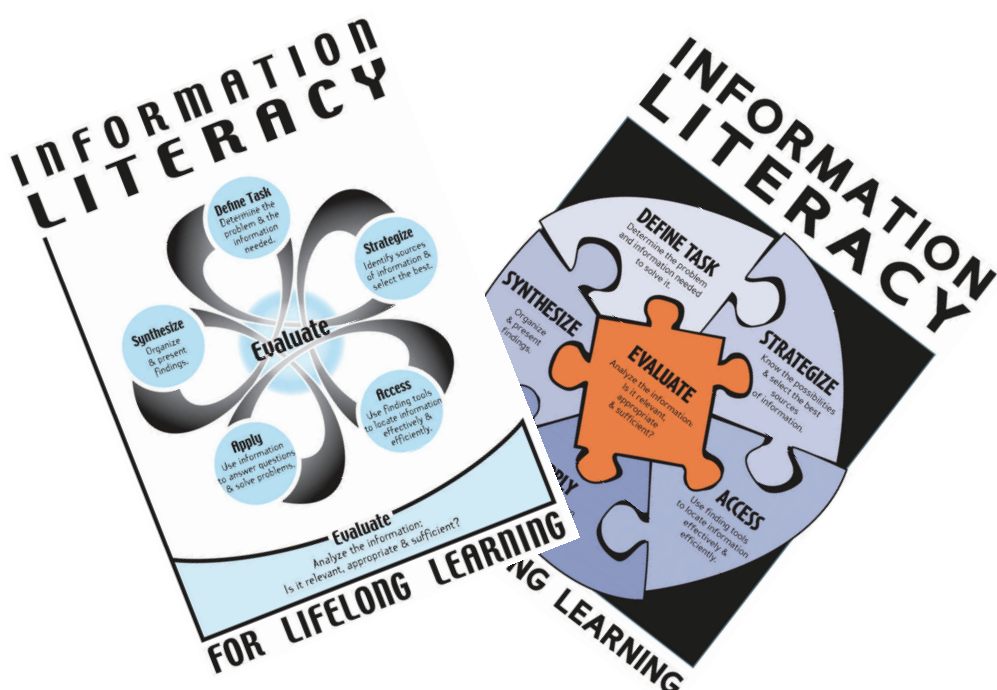
Outcomes

♦ Posters all over campus

♦ Bookmarks reinforce the steps

♦ Visible frame for IL instruction

♦ Instructional web pages reference the research model

http://dept.sccd.ctc.edu/cclib/Research_Help/rlcpuzzle.asp

Under the Big Tent: Library Outreach through Civic Debate

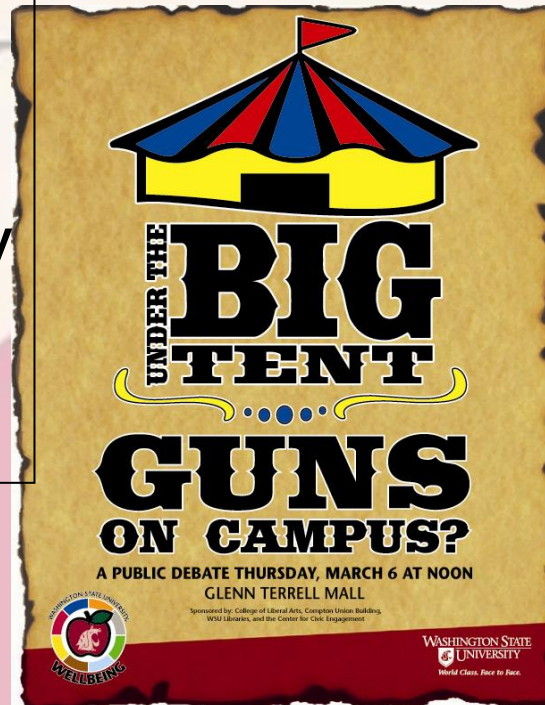## How I became Involved
- Panelist at very first debate on Security vs Privacy
- Invited to join committee
- Became co-organizer

What Do We Do?
- Develop topic (look for local, national & int'l appeal
- Asked to sponsor debates by student groups, *i.e. grad student unionization*
- Recruit panelists with diverse viewpoints
- Logistics
- Assess via questionnaire

Library Involvement
- Cosponsor
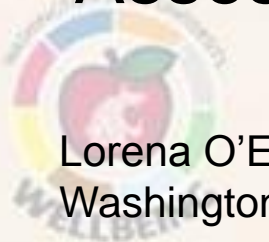- I am recognized as libn & can bring up relevant info, *i.e. highlighting the GLTBA Library at a debate on sexual orientation*
- In-library book displays with UtBt posters
- Resource lists
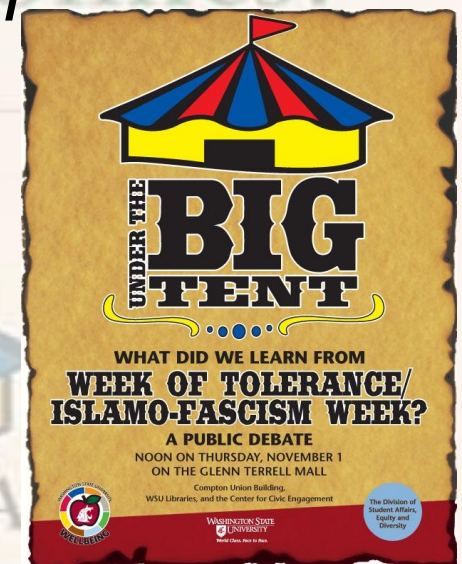
Outreach Value
- Connections with students, staff & faculty
- Excellent public relations
- Asked to serve on the Center for Civic Engagement Advisory Board

Lorena O'English
Washington State University

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Regional News

City University of Seattle

Personnel

The Vi Tasler Library at City University of Seattle welcomes **Jason Leppaluoto** as systems librarian. Jason brings a diverse skill set having worked in systems, library administration, and instruction. With libraries in the business of information access, delivery, preservation, and literacy, Jason looks forward to using technology to enhance student learning and to more effectively deliver library services to CityU students worldwide.

submitted by Tammy Salman

Clark College

Cannell Library is happy to announce **Lori Wamsley** has been appointed to a full-time temporary faculty position at Clark College. She earned her bachelor's degree in Management from University of Portland and master's degrees in Library Science and Instructional Design & Technology from Emporia State University. Lori has previous work experience with the Mt. Hood Community College Foundation, Portland Community College, Emporia State University and Clark College.

submitted by Zachary Grant

Eastern Washington University

Personnel

Patricia Kelley, Dean of Libraries for Eastern Washington University, will be retiring effective the end of Fall Quarter 2009. Dean Kelley has been in her current position since 1994; from 1999 to 2006 she also served as the Chief Information Officer for the University. During Pat's 15 years at EWU she has seen the renovation and expansion of the Kennedy Library, initiated the "Reinventing the Library" immersion for faculty, finalized the memorandum of agreement with Bellevue College for services to EWU students, and provided immeasurable service contributions to EWU and to libraries in general (e.g., first chair of the Orbis Cascade Alliance when the academic consortia of Washington and Oregon merged, member of several NWCCU accreditation visiting teams, and so on), and actively served at the national level in ACRL and LLAMA. She was a member of the first class of EDUCAUSE's Frye Leadership Institute but perhaps what Dean Kelley is most passionate about is her dedication to quality of service provided by the EWU Libraries. Dean Kelley came to EWU from George Washington University where she served as Associate University Librarian for Administrative and Planning Services from 1991-1994, and Assistant University Librarian for Programs and Services from 1983-1991. She holds MLS and MA (Russian Area Studies) degrees from the University of Maryland and George Washington University respectively.

Dr. Julie Miller will serve as Interim Dean of Libraries until the position is filled. She joined the University as Associate Dean of Libraries in 2005 and holds a Master of Library Science from Kent State University and a Ph.D. in English from Ohio University. Previously she served as University Librarian at Western New Mexico University from 1998-2005.

A national search has begun with the expectation that the Dean of Libraries position will be filled before the end of next summer. Position details and application instructions can be found at: https://jobs.hr.ewu.edu under the link for Administrative positions, or contact Lori Kory at (509) 359-6931 or lkory@ewu.edu for more information.

submitted by Carol King

Pierce College

Personnel

The Library is pleased to welcome **Emily Wood**, our newest tenure-track Reference/Instruction Librarian. Emily comes to us from Austin, Texas, where she received her MSIS with a specialty in Information Literacy Instruction. Emily's undergraduate work includes a BA in English and minors in Ethnic and Women's Studies from the University of Parkside-Wisconsin. Before coming to Pierce, Emily worked with Library Instruction Services at the University of Texas and Westbank Community Library in Austin. Emily's main interests concern information literacy and student learning and how libraries can facilitate these, both in physical and eLearning environments. After a month at Pierce College, Emily is most surprised by how student-centered the college is. "Everyone is working towards a common goal of student success." She also finds that the process of selecting furniture and fixtures for the remodel of the Fort Steilacoom library is a lot like collection development!

We are also fortunate to have **Sarah Frye** with us on a one-year Reference/Instruction Librarian contract, and she will split her time between both Puyallup and Fort Steilacoom campuses. Sarah recently relocated from Miami University Middletown Regional Campus in Ohio. After earning her BA in History at Hanover College in Indiana, Sarah obtained her MLS from Indiana University in Bloomington and partially completed a Master's in History/Historical Preservation from the University of Kentucky in Lexington. Sarah's plans to focus on helping students learn the research process through library instruction. What surprises her most about her time at Pierce so far is the opportunity to work with students from so many different backgrounds, as well as seeing how widely their research abilities vary.

submitted by Kathy Swart

Renton Technical College

- Library Director **Eric Palo** has Joined the Steering Committee for the *Connecting To Collections* conference working on a second round IMLS preservation grant.

- Instructional Librarian **Debbie Crumb** conducted a workshop at Peninsula College Library in Port Angeles on 08/13/09 on the topic of serving ESL and Basic Studies

students. She also gave a short presentation on information resources for ESL and Basic Studies students at the 11/20/09 LSTA workshop at Highline Community College.

submitted by Debbie Crumb

University of Washington Bothell / Cascadia Community College

Publications and Presentations

Chelle Batchelor (Access Services Librarian)

- chaired the Eight Annual Northwest Interlibrary Loan and Resource Sharing Conference, Resiliency and Resourcefulness, held at Portland State Community College, Sylvania Campus. The 2009 conference attracted over 120 attendees, volunteers, presenters, and exhibitors. During the conference Chelle also presented a "Cool Tools 2.0: Jing" session. Presentation materials available at http://nwill.org/program.shtml.

- has been selected to participate in the 2010 American Library Association Emerging Leaders program. The Emerging Leader program, which is in its fourth year, will enable more than 100 librarians from across the country to participate in project planning workgroups; network with peers; gain an inside look into ALA structure; and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity. Chelle is being sponsored by the previous classes of Emerging Leaders with financial support to attend both ALA conferences.

Chelle Batchelor (Access Services Librarian), **Jackie Belanger** (Arts & Humanities Librarian) and **Lauren Ray** (UW Seattle) presented a session on *Using Jing Screencasting for Information Literacy Instruction* at the InfoCamp 2009 conference, held in Seattle in October.

Leslie Bussert (Acting Head of Instruction Services and Literature & Humanities Librarian), co-authored with Norm Pouliot (Cascadia Community College faculty member), "A Model for Information Literacy Self-Assessment: Enhancing Student Learning in Writing Courses through Collaborative

Teaching," in *Collaborative Information Literacy Assessments.* T.P. Mackey and T.E. Jacobson (Eds.), New York: Neal-Schumann Publishers, in press 2009.

Alyssa Deutschler, Policy Studies Librarian, and **Amanda Hornby** (Undergraduate Instruction Coordinator, UW Seattle)presented "Where do citations come from? Teaching the scholarly article through reflective practice," at the Workshop for Instruction in Library Use Conference in Montreal, Canada, May 2009.

Honors

Julie Planchon Wolf and **Suzan Parker,** Acting Head of Reference Services and Social Sciences Librarian, were nominated for the UW Libraries 2009 Distinguished Librarian Award. **Sarah Leadley,** Acting Director and **Venta Silins,** Education Librarian, were nominated in 2008.

Promotions
The following librarians were promoted during the 2008-2009 review process:

- **Suzan Parker** (Acting Head of Reference Services), Associate Librarian
- **Katie Whitson** (Head, Access Services), Librarian

New Appointments

- **Rebecca Bliquez**, Reference and Instruction Librarian October, 2009.
- **Amy Stutesman**, Bothell Campus Library, Manager, Budget & Operations, 8/16/09

submitted by Kathleen DeLaurenti

University of Washington Seattle

Promotions

The following librarians were reappointed or promoted during the 2008-2009 review process:

- **Deepa Banerjee**, Senior Assistant Librarian
- **Susan Barnes**, Librarian
- **Julie Cook**, Associate Librarian
- **Gail Kouame**, Associate Librarian
- **Sion Romaine**, Associate Librarian

Awards

- **John Holmes** was the recipient of an ACRL Special Presidential Recognition Award as one of the founding members of the Institute for Information Literacy Steering Committee and Immersion faculty. The award was given at the ACRL 14th National Conference in Seattle.

Retirements

- **Colleen Weum**, Acquisitions & Collection Management Librarian, Health Science Libraries
- **Carla Rickerson**, Head of Special Collections Public Services
- **Eleanor Chase**, Head, Government Publications

Deaths

- **Maria Urbaniak**, former Cataloging Librarian (Slavic), died May 5, 2009.
- **Margaret Tjaden**, who retired as Associate Director of Libraries for Library Systems in 1990, died at home on October 21.

submitted by Emily Keller

University of Washington Tacoma

Personnel

- **Justin Wadland** was reappointed Senior Assistant Librarian
- **Anna Salyer** received permanent appointment and promotion to Associate Librarian

Retirements

- **Dale Goodvin**, Access Services Supervisor

Presentations & Publications

Carole Svensson, **Serin Anderson**, and Nicholas Schiller (WSU Vancouver) presented "Teaching Information Literacy to a Generation of Gamers" at the Oregon Association of School Libraries 2009 Conference.

Erica Coe updated the "Law" section of *Women's Studies: Core Books*, available online: http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/ACRLWSS. She also became a Contributing editor for the "Economics & Business" section of *Guide to Reference Sources*.

submitted by Erica Coe

Walla Walla University

Personnel

Christy Berry, Reference & Interlibrary Loan Librarian, is now **Christy Berry Scott**. Christy and Rudy Scott joined their lives in marriage Aug 30 at the Orcas Island Seventh-day Adventist Church, Eastsound, WA. They honeymooned on a cruise up the Inland Passage from Vancouver, B.C., to Anchorage, AK, before returning to Walla Walla where Rudy is the owner of Pacific Computer Technologies. Congratulations to Christy & Rudy.

Meghan William took over as Interlibrary Loan Technician at the end of August. Megan graduated from Walla Walla in 2009 with a BA in English and worked for three+ years in the library circulation department before accepting this new assignment. She says the most interesting thing about the job is seeing the variety of items that students and faculty request and enjoy reading.

Terri Alekel, after almost 10 years of exemplary library service, officially retired at the end of January. Terri served first as the library's Office Manager/Access Services Technician and then as Office Manager. In reflecting on Terri's service, Carolyn Gaskell, Library Director, said, "Terri was fun to work with. She was also very accommodating and willing to try new things including drastically rearranging her job responsibilities two years ago. She is very creative, often coming up with better and faster ways of tackling projects as well as the daily workflow. We enjoyed the displays and signs she created for

the library. We also appreciated her ability to find the best buys when ordering supplies and other needed items. I never had to worry about whether something was done right."

Damie Elder was welcomed in March as the library's new Office Manager. Damie is a 2009 Walla Walla University graduate with a B.A in music and minor in business marketing. Her previous work experience includes being the Office Manager for and Part-Owner of Dixie Press in Walla Walla where she was responsible for manuscript layout, cover design, customer service, and accounting. While a student at Walla Walla University she was a reader in the Music Department as well as the Choral librarian. Damie is also going to be a new mom come November.

Renovation Projects

The Electrical Project for Peterson Memorial Library entered phase II this Fall Quarter. Fifteen new outlets for student use and thirteen for staff use will be added during this second and last phase of the electrical upgrade. In addition, two ceiling fans each in the Reference Room and Library PC Lab will be added to help more evenly distribute the air conditioning in summer and heating in winter. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of fall quarter, but outlets have already been added to two group study areas. Carolyn, reports, "A quick look tonight found students already plugging their laptops into the new outlets and all the new outlets were being used."

Portland Nursing Library has added a

computer/multimedia/instructional room as part of the Nursing School's remodeling and expansion program A significant amount of culling of old periodicals was done to make room for the new room within the current library. Once the new walls were up, twenty-four new computers were added along with projection technology. It has already been utilized to provide instructional sessions on library resources and services. When not being used for instruction, it is open to all students as a computer room.

submitted by Bruce McClay

Washington State University

New Hires
The Libraries are pleased to welcome the following new personnel:

- **Zinthia Briceno Rosales** as a temporary Reference and Electronic Resources Librarian in Humanities and Social Sciences.
- **Tess Prow** as a Library and Archives Paraprofessional 2 with the Access Services.
- **Pauline Smith** as a Library and Archives Paraprofessional 4 with Technical Services.

Promotions

Ed Odell was promoted to Library and Archives Paraprofessional 4 at the Animal Health Library. Congratulations Ed!

Resignations

The Libraries bid a sad but fond farewell to **Sarah French**, Education Librarian. We wish her all the best in her new endeavors!

News

Fall 2009 signals a return of the Libraries' Endangered Language Film Series which features films from Mushkeg Media's "Finding our Talk". The series is held in collaboration with the Native American Students Center to promote awareness and understanding of endangered language issues. This season's films examine the Michif, Saulteaux, Mi'kmaw, and Huron/Wendat languages. For more information, see http://www.mushkeg.ca/

October 2009 marked the first Haunted Libraries Survey. As rumors of specters and ghostly occurrences have fueled local library lore, the survey sought feedback from library patrons regarding their own experiences. Many patrons responded to the online questionnaire, and in the end, it seems that the authenticity of paranormal activity within the Libraries remains a debated mystery!

Exhibits

<u>Win the Victory: Early Days of Football at Washington State</u> Some say you can tell a true Coug by their loyalty and passion for WSU Football!
This exhibit explores the university's football heritage, through early photos, pamphlets, realia, and video clips. Opening in September 2009, *Win the Victory* is on display at the Libraries' Manuscripts, Archives, and Special Collections (MASC).

*submitted by Gabriella Reznowski*

Whitman College

Personnel

Laura E. Krier, the new Systems and Metadata Librarian for Penrose Library at Whitman College, comes to Walla Walla, Washington by way of California and Massachusetts. Originally from San Diego, Laura earned her B.A. in Literature and Women's Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and her M.S. in Library and Information Science from Simmons College in Boston. Her current responsibilities include managing Penrose's Integrated Library System and exploring ways to implement new technology tools in support of teaching and learning. In her free time, she likes to cook, read, and watch terrible movies--and she is trying to learn how to keep plants alive!

Sesquicentennial Digital Collections

The Whitman College and Northwest Archives has completed two sesquicentennial digital collections projects. With two grants from the Joel E. Ferris Foundation, received in 2007 and 2008, project staff digitized about 1,000 items. These historical documents, photographs, and publications, which document the first fifty years of the school that became Whitman College and the town of Walla Walla, are now accessible online. A few highlights include:
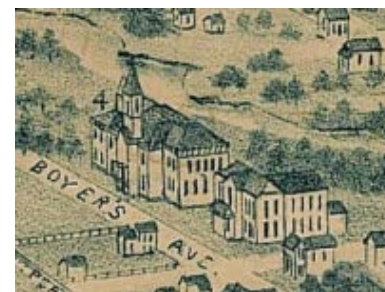
- The first Record Book of Whitman Seminary (later Whitman College), from circa 1860-1909.

- The earliest photographs of Whitman Seminary and Walla Walla, from the 1860s, and of Whitman College, from the 1880s.
- Journals of pioneers such as Dorsey Syng Baker, from 1859-1883, and A. B. Roberts, from 1856-1915.
- Minutes of organizations such as the First Congregational Church of Walla Walla, from 1866-1886, and the Walla Walla Woman's Reading club, from 1894-1912.

Explore these and other historical materials online at whitman.edu/archives or contentdm.whitman.edu .

submitted by Julie Carter

Return to ACRL WA Newsletter, Fall 2009

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Book Reviews

Dubicki, Eleonora. Marketing and Promoting Electronic Resources: Creating the E-Buzz! Abingdon: Routledge, 2009.

If your library is anything like mine, marketing is not the top priority. We simply don't have the staff or budget to launch large promotional campaigns. Yet, when it comes to our electronic resources, academic librarians can't afford to keep quiet. We need to convince our students, faculty and staff that our e-resources are essential tools.

In *Marketing and Promoting Electronic Resources: Creating the E-Buzz!*, librarians offer several approaches to making e-resources visible . Each of the 13 case studies provides an example of marketing strategies that have worked in a variety of library settings. Solutions range from the creation of a comprehensive marketing plan to the redesign of a library homepage to better training of reference staff. While some libraries clearly take a long-term, systematic approach to marketing, many find useful solutions without a formal plan or ample resources.

I appreciated the creative solutions that were offered in this volume, many of which could be applied across library settings. For instance, in Chapter 6, "Marketing Electronic Resources to Distance Students: A Multi-pronged approach," Julia Leong explains the importance of pushing specific resources to specific users through targeted e-mails, integration of resources into the curriculum and use of the library's home page.

In another example, librarians at Union College Library teach Google Scholar—with its familiar look and feel— in their instruction sessions, using Google's Library Links feature to access full-text materials from the library ("Infiltrating NetGen Cyberculture: Strategies for Engaging and Educating Students on their Own Terms" by Gail M. Golderman and Bruce Connolly). Other librarians report success through word-of-mouth marketing and creating anticipation about new products through posters, giveaways and launch parties.

Marketing and Promoting Electronic Resources is a great resource for those trying to create a buzz about e-resources without a lot of time or money.

Mahrya Carncross, Librarian
City University of Seattle
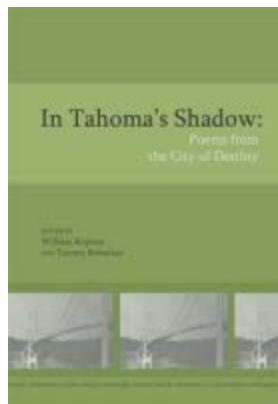
Kupinse, William J., and Tammy Robacker. <u>In Tahoma's Shadow: Poems from the City of Destiny</u>. Tacoma, Wash: Exquisite Disarray, 2009.

Do you have assignments that require students to look at local or regional writers? If so, <u>In Tahoma's Shadow: Poems from the City of Destiny</u> may make a nice addition to your collection. This anthology brings together the work of over 70 poets residing in the Pierce County area with a particular focus on the city of Tacoma. Many of the poets are accomplished writers regardless of geography. Faculty from Pacific Lutheran University, Pierce College, Tacoma Community College, University of Puget Sound and the University of Washington are represented. However, a stated goal of the collection is to provide an "inclusivity" of the "Tacoma poetry community" and to that end you will find the works of word lovers from all walks of life - community activists, high schoolers, local playwrights, MFA students, homemakers etc. Brief biographies on each of the poets can be found at the back of the book.

The overall quality of writing is quite good. William Kupinse, a professor of English at the University of Puget Sound and the first Urban Grace Poet Laureate of Tacoma, served as an editor. Well over 300 poems were submitted for the anthology; only 99 made it into the collection. About a third of the poems celebrate Northwest locales or landmarks in their subject matter. Exquisite Disarray, a new non-profit publisher focusing on the works of Northwest poets, printed the volume, which is smartly bound on crisp 100% post-consumer fiber recycled paper. Exquisite Disarray can be found on the web at: http://www.exquisitedisarray.org/

Jennifer Sundheim, Head, Access Services and Collections
UW Tacoma

Baiting the Hook: Building Faculty Collaboration to Improve Student Information Literacy
By Julie Miller, Associate Dean of Libraries, Eastern Washington University

On Sept. 17, 2009, EWU Libraries hosted a workshop that drew 27 faculty from across the disciplines (four of the six colleges of EWU were represented) and with varying classroom experience (full professors worked alongside newbie teaching assistants) to focus on improving student information literacy. How did we do it?

We used an effective hook. The workshop was titled "More Effective Academic Papers from Your Students." Across the disciplines, many faculty members are dismayed by the quality of the research papers they receive from students. This workshop focused on one problem area of student research papers—summary and synthesis—that can make a big impact on the quality of student writing.

The workshop was a faculty-librarian collaboration. Dr. Nanette Wichman, senior lecturer in the English Department, partnered with library faculty member Ms. Nadean Meyer to develop the workshop curriculum. Dr. Wichman was the primary presenter, while Ms. Meyer facilitated. The workshop itself modeled the type of collaboration that results in improved student learning outcomes.

Workshop leaders Nanette Wichman and Nadean Meyer check in with each other during group interaction.

We built on previous success. For the previous two years, instruction librarians have worked with teams from four academic departments on a project to integrate research skills into the existing curriculum.* This workshop grew out of a common problem expressed by faculty in the research skills project. We made sure to invite faculty who had participated in the research skills initiative, and several of them attended the workshop. The comfortable working relationships these faculty already had developed with librarians contributed to the collegial atmosphere of the workshop.

We promised—and delivered—an active learning experience. Dr. Wichman presented the developmental

levels of synthesis using the SOLO (Structure of the Observed Learning Outcome) taxonomy. Participants then completed a group exercise in summary and synthesis that demonstrated the levels of synthesis. Faculty left the workshop with two visual guides—and a vocabulary—they can use to help students understand the process of synthesizing information. One faculty member wrote on the workshop evaluation, " I found the visual models particularly helpful; I enjoyed the chance to pull apart and analyze the process so that I can give better direction and support to students." Success!

Faculty groups work on an exercise in summary and synthesis.

We made it easy for faculty to attend. The workshop was offered at 9:00 AM the Thursday before Fall Quarter began. Faculty members were back to work following the summer break, and many were revising syllabi and assignments for Fall classes. The workshop was free, and it only lasted ninety minutes, so it did not require a big commitment from them. We also provided snacks and coffee.

The workshop evaluations indicated that faculty participants were highly satisfied with the workshop, and over eighty percent of respondents said they would participate in a follow-up session. We continue to look for ways to reel them in—to collaborate with faculty to improve student research skills. If you have suggestions, questions, or comments, please contact Julie Miller at jmiller7@ewu.edu.

*See "Beyond Freshman Comp: EWU Libraries Partner with Departments to Build Student Research Skills" *ACRL Washington Newsletter* Spring 2008, No. 62 for more information about the Student Research Skills project.

Photo captions:
Caption for acadwriting-group.jpeg: Faculty groups work on an exercise in summary and synthesis.

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ACRL WA/OR Conference: Into the Woods
By Rachel Woodbrook

Barely 5 weeks into library school, and I was attending my first professional conference. I wasn't quite sure what to expect—other than a general hope that I'd learn about some topical issues in the professional field of academic librarianship—but the 2009 ACRL WA/OR conference turned out to be not only that, but also a timely and encouraging pick-me-up. I had been wondering how to learn more about the field, to best prepare myself for a graduation which doesn't feel all that far away, and then here was a day and a half full of discussion on just those most pressing issues. And the biggest surprise for me—the thing I wasn't necessarily expecting from a conference—was that, among the pine trees and rustic cabins at Pack Forest, the conference itself would be a breath of fresh air.

The theme of the conference was, "Great Expectations: a conversation with colleagues about change, innovation, and collaboration in Academe," and the idea of reaching across boundaries to make connections—between libraries, libraries and other areas of their institutions, and libraries and their patrons—was a strong presence in all the presentations. During the initial panel, "What's In Your Inbox?," Seattle University's Dr. Jeffrey Philpott and Leslie Reister, from technology solution services at Portland Community College, broached the topic of silos in academia, the possibilities that moving towards interdisciplinary connections can open, and the unique positions librarians and others in 'liminal' situations are in to forge connections and serve as liaisons.

The first day's panels consisted of two breakout sessions; my first session was "New Roles, New Opportunities: Extending the Library's Reach by Creating Campus Partnerships." Isaac Gilman and Marita Kunkel from Pacific University Library gave a fascinating talk about where and how they have used the library's trans-disciplinary role to find natural partnerships, reaching across departmental and official boundaries with the question, "What do you need to support your faculty, students, and mission?

How can we help?," thus beginning to transform the campus's idea of the library as a passive provider of information. As a framework, they focused on the process of scholarly and creative activities, illustrated with examples of tactics they had taken to become involved in each step. The steps in the process were: 1. genesis/exploration of ideas; 2. gathering support; 3. integrating prior research into new output; 4. seeking input/feedback; 5. sharing results; 6. discovering new ways to share/validate results; and 7. ensuring continuing access to results. They worked on offering, for example, a centralized digital platform for researchers to find and work with collaborators, as well as a digital commons for published & unpublished works—tailored to their own campus, of course, but also illustrative of the potential for this sort of relationship-building.

They do have a staff member who dedicates 60-70% of his time to these outreach programs, but the invested effort seems to be paying off, and their story was encouraging—including both expected and unexpected benefits, such as a renewed emphasis on traditional library roles

For the second session, I chose to attend "Paths to Open Access," an overview of open access and its implementation in practice. Michael Boock, from Oregon State University, spoke about OSU's becoming the first library faculty to establish an Open Access mandate, with their decision earlier this year. The numbers quoted from publications following the policy were encouraging, with 14/17 encountering no resistance and meeting the open access criteria (which can be opted out of), and 73% depositing final versions in OA archives. John Russell, from the University of Oregon, brought up important points, among them the repercussions of misinformation among faculty and even librarians who misinterpret what it means to be or participate in open access issues—repercussions which are institutional; and the necessity of prioritizing the issue if it is going to be supported, to avoid wasting resources on doing a job halfway. There were, of course, many questions and concerns about how open access might fit in to (or change) the future academic environment, but it was interesting to hear about the beginnings of change being instituted on campuses.

The evening activity was a pub-style trivia game—I always forget how well trivia can

blend competetiveness with fun, and the questions and atmosphere were excellent, and relaxed. I couldn't decide whether to thank or curse the OR chapter for bringing huge amounts of Halloween candy, which kept me going through both days.

The second day's Unconference encompassed a number of topics people were still keen to express—it was very interesting to see what pressing issues were still waiting to be brought up. Subjects included issues of sustainability (including an idea that resonated with me—that the library is by nature an ecological institution); some of the issues discussed are also gathered at the website www.greenlibraries.org. There was also talk of strengthening communication between four-year universities and students getting degrees thorugh those universities at two-year colleges, to make sure they have the support and resources they need; implications of WorldCat Local, federated searching, and the 'one-size fits all, one little box to do 15 things' issue. Another topic was collaborative, customizable information literacy tutorials being created at Clip-il.wetpaint.com; and finally, we came full circle and discussed the UW"s MLIS program and an upcoming revamp of the curriculum. The best piece of advice I heard from that particular discussion rings true for life as well as school: make people [make yourself!] do the things they're afraid of.

As we all know, those are the things that help one grow. I was a little uncertain how to approach ACRL WA/OR 2009, but the scariest things often end up being the most beneficial, and the most unexpected encouragement for me was the friendliness and willingness of the people I met to talk with me, as a student, and encourage me on my own path. Yes, the state of things may be uncertain—as it probably will be when I graduate, as it to some extent always is—but I feel well-armed to begin preparing myself to be a good candidate, and heartened about my own confirmation

Pack Forest photo from Conference Center web site. Other photos courtesy of Jan Hartley and Genevieve Williams.

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A Well-titled conference
By Rebecca Kuglitsch

This year's ACRL WA/OR conference lived up to its title, proving to indeed be a great place for conversation with colleagues.

The opening presentation, given by Dr. Jeffrey Philpott & Leslie Riester, discussed the problem of institutional silos. Ms. Riester dazzled us with an array of silos found in just one morning's hypothetical inbox and impressed on us

Jan Hartley, Leslie Riester, Jeffrey Philpott

the necessity of cutting projects loose once they've served their purpose, so we have energy to focus on the inevitable incoming new ones. Dr. Philpott provided a silver lining to this cloud of confusion—as librarians, we occupy a liminal role, which puts us in a position to receive information from many silos and make ourselves essential by acting as connectors.

Breakout sessions followed the opening, and continued the theme of building connections. The first session I attended, "Collaborative Research on NW Academic Libraries: The Orbis/Cascade Alliance Research Interest Group" was led by Robin Paynter & Laura Zeigen. They introduced us to the Reference Interest Group, via its whos, hows, and whys. This a collaborative project that promises to help Pacific Northwest academic librarians support each other while conducting well-founded, rigorous research and collaboratively develop reliable instruments that can be used in multiple contexts. The hope is that with we can then use that good data in more contexts to make well-founded decisions. Several projects are ongoing, from information literacy assessment to IM transcript analysis. For more details, check out the group description and wiki.

Having learned a little about ways to collect data, I thought I'd better learn how to disseminate important information to my academic community, and

Kristin Schuyler and Lynn Deeken

continued on to Kristin Schuyler and Lynn Deeken's "Turning Library Marketing into a Conversation with the Campus". They had some fantastic ideas that I look forward to applying (like using a Facebook ad to publicize events for a high visibility and low cost) based on their larger principle of treating marketing as a conversation during their library's temporary move. The situation engaged students, and happily, they found that students lived up to the expectations.

In the continued spirit of collaboration, WA-ACRL meeting featured a visit from Tim Mallory, current president of the Washington Library Association, and an invitation to consider future opportunities for collaboration.

We finished our evening with a thoroughly entertaining Pub Quiz, and while I learned many hard truths about my pop culture knowledge, my team could at least rock the SAT-style logic puzzle method, which netted us a perfect score on the 'match the singer to the song' portion despite knowing only two of the songs. It was definitely worth exposing a little musical ignorance to get to meet such a knowledgeable and fun group.

The next day saw us starting out with an unconference facilitated by Joe Janes, where participants could present or discuss material informally, letting us respond to current concerns or elaborate ideas that came up during the conference. Topics ranged from sustainability to WorldCat Local to advice for a new librarian. We wound up with a discussion of the new MLIS curriculum—which are teeming. While no 2 year program could cover all the suggestions, I suspect we all left with something to follow up on.

Photos courtesy of Jan Hartley and Genevieve Williams

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Eight Steps to Survive Tech Meltdowns without Melting Down
By Bruce McClay

Any one will work, but several combined together work admirably. I know – I have tested them.

1. Reboot, reboot, reboot. Not the computers, copier, or printer, but yourself. Whatever you do to reboot – nap, coffee, walk, call a friend – do it! It may not help with the tech problem, but you'll feel a lot better, and, after all, that's what counts.

2. Scream – often and loudly. Pretty soon the echoes will come rolling back and you'll feel that you have lots of company and you know how "misery loves company." Only problem is, it may not be the kind of company you want or need at the moment.

3. Laugh hysterically. If you are very lucky this will confuse the "tech gremlins" that thrive on the energy generated by frustration and misery. If not, it will at least confuse your friends.

4. Change a baby's diaper. Everything is a matter of perspective, and this will put you in touch with the reality of our world.

5. Have a blame storming session. They are popular in some libraries anyway.

6. Run around . . . and around and around and around. It won't do any tech good, but exhaustion also changes one's perspective.

7. Look pensive and wise and say something like, "Life is like a bowl of cherries. You never know what you're going to get 'til you get it." You'll feel good and your co-workers will be impressed.

8. Be patient. Scientist say the universe is expanding or contracting (or our sun is going to blow up) – either way, it will all be over in a few billion years, so why worry today ☺

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