



# DLS Newsletter

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## Distance Learning Section A Word From the Chair

Greetings to All Members of DLS! The past year has been a busy and memorable one for members of the Section, and the coming year should prove to be another busy and memorable one as well. The following are just a few comments about some past accomplishments and future plans.

After a couple of years of reviewing and revising the *Guidelines* (primarily working on the introductory and conclusionary paragraphs), the Guidelines Committee successfully passed their revisions by the ACRL Board at ALA in Orlando. During the coming year, however, Guidelines Committee members will not be resting on their laurels: they will be starting a new project, again reviewing the *Guidelines* for possible revision, with a big part of their work focusing on library services to distance learners with disabilities.

Also at ALA Annual in Orlando, DLS celebrated the first Haworth Press Distance Learning Librarian Conference Sponsorship Award, with Susan Lowe from the University of Maine at Augusta being the first recipient. Haworth Press generously contributed to this annual award, and DLS, with ACRL's guidance, developed the policies and procedures for the award. The award is a great medium for recognizing the important work done by distance learning librarians, and members of the Section look forward to a long working relationship with Haworth Press in sponsoring this award.

While discussing Haworth Press, I must mention that during the past year, Haworth Press launched a new publication, the *Journal of Library & Information Services in Distance Learning*, and although there is no direct connection between the journal and DLS, a number of DLS members are also actively involved with the journal. The journal's editor, book review editor, and electronic-services review editor are all active DLS members; as are a significant number of those on the publication's editorial board. In addition, several members of DLS have been contributing authors during the journal's first year. For DLS, however, Linda Frederiksen's article was definitely the most significant. It is entitled, "Beyond the Extended Campus Library: A Brief History of the Distance Learning Section, ACRL," and it is an article that most DLS members will find interesting and informative—a definite contribution to this professional association's record.

During the last year, DLS celebrated the beginning of a "Social Event" to be held regularly at both Midwinter and Annual. In San Diego and Orlando in 2004, members DLS enjoyed great social get-togethers for food, drink, music, and wonderful conversation, and building upon the success of those first two events, similar "Social Events" are planned for Boston and Chicago in 2005. Everyone is invited, and all who attend should discover that networking and conversation at the DLS Social Event can definitely be fun—even rewarding.

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## ACRL Board to Vote on Dues Increase

At the June 2004 Annual Meeting, the ACRL Board of Directors passed a resolution, at the recommendation of Budget and Finance Committee, to consider a dues increase for certain categories of ACRL membership.

A variety of factors contributed to the development of the resolution, including the following:

- Although the “cost of doing business” has risen steadily over the past 15 years, ACRL has not raised member dues since 1991. Therefore, the dues revenue collected from each member has failed to keep pace with natural increases in operating expenses due to inflation.
- Advertising revenue from ACRL publications has decreased over the past few years and is not projected to rebound in the foreseeable future. Advertising revenue helps subsidize many member services including programs at the ALA Annual Conference, section newsletters, and committee activities such as standards development, awards, as well as recent major initiatives in the areas of scholarly communication and information literacy. The dues increase will help offset the reduction in advertising revenue and ensure that important ACRL programs and services receive the funding they need.
- Development of new programs and services that add value to membership will require funding. As outlined in our recently adopted strategic plan, in the coming years ACRL will be developing additional programs and services that assist members in the areas of technology, delivery of services, standards development and implementation, issues papers, and local and national advocacy as requested in the recent member survey. The dues increase will provide necessary funding to make immediate progress on these important initiatives.
- After reviewing several options, the Budget and Finance Committee determined that a moderate dues increase would be the best funding mechanism to provide the necessary capital to sustain ACRL’s quality publications, continuing education programs, awards, standards development, and advocacy initiatives.

The proposed dues increase for personal members of ACRL is \$20, bringing annual dues to \$55. Student and retiree members will experience no dues increase at present. The Board plans to vote on adopting the resolution at its Midwinter Meeting in January. If the motion passes, a ballot to approve the dues increase will be distributed to all members in the spring of 2005.

The Board of Directors would like to hear from you as they consider this important decision. The first Board meeting at the Midwinter Meeting will include a 30-minute question and answer session in which we encourage you to participate. You may also contact individual board members (see the roster on the Web at <http://www.ala.org/acrl>, click on “About ACRL,” then “ACRL Board of Directors,” and “ACRL Board of Directors Roster”) at your convenience to share your comments, questions, and ideas.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your continued support of ACRL.

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(cont’d. from p. 1)

### A Word from the Chair

Importantly, this coming year will be the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Distance Learning Section (originally the Extended Campus Library Services Section), and at ALA Annual in Chicago, the Section will sponsor a special event to celebrate our anniversary. Five years ago, DLS celebrated its Tenth Anniversary in Chicago (a coincidence), and this year’s celebration will no doubt be another well organized and generously supported event. Every DLS member who can get to Chicago should make a special point of attending our Fifteenth Anniversary celebration. Before we celebrate, however, we have work to do. See you in Boston!

Stephen Dew, DLS Chair  
University of Iowa

## ACRL 12th National Conference and Exhibits Opening of Registration



The Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) announced the opening of registration for the 12th ACRL National Conference, “Currents and Convergence: Navigating the Rivers of Change,” to be held in Minneapolis, April 7-10, 2005. Registration is now available on the Web at [www.acrl.org/minneapolis](http://www.acrl.org/minneapolis). Register by February 7, 2005, and save more than 20% on your conference registration. Group discounts are also available for institutions that register ten or more employees.

The ACRL 12th National Conference offers stimulating programs that reflect the dynamics and diversity of our profession. Choose from more than 200 peer-reviewed programs! The ACRL 12th National Conference also offers a distinguished lineup of keynote speakers:

\* Opening Keynote: William J. Mitchell, Professor of Architecture and Media Arts and Sciences, Academic Head of Media Arts and Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

\* Keynote Luncheon: “Women of Mystery”, Carolina Garcia-Aguilera, J.A. Jance, and Valerie Wilson Wesley. Moderator: Liane Hansen, National Public Radio

\* Closing Keynote Session: Sylvia Hurtado, Ph.D., Professor and Director, Higher Education Research Institute, Graduate School of Education and Information Sciences, UCLA

For a complete program details, registration and hotel reservations or to customize a conference schedule and sign up for a tour, visit [www.acrl.org/minneapolis](http://www.acrl.org/minneapolis) or contact 800-545-2433 ext. 2515; or email: [acrol@ala.org](mailto:acrol@ala.org).

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### Subscribing to OFFCAMP

The OFFCAMP Listserv has been established for “discussion about all aspects of service to remote users, including but not limited to branch campus service, state regional, national, and international academic programs and their associated constituents.”

To subscribe to OFFCAMP, send an e mail message to:

[listserv@listserv.utk.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.utk.edu)

In the body of your message type:  
SUB OFFCAMP YOUR NAME

See the Web interface at: <http://listserv.utk.edu/archives/offcamp.html>

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### How to Join DLS

To join the Distance Learning Section, contact:  
Membership Services  
ACRL  
50 Huron Street,  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
18005452433 ext. 2521  
email: [acrl@ala.org](mailto:acrl@ala.org)  
<http://www.ala.org/acrl.html>

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### Editors' Note

This *Newsletter* is available on the DLS Web page. Please send corrections to either editor: [nburich@ku.edu](mailto:nburich@ku.edu) or [fadevlin@ku.edu](mailto:fadevlin@ku.edu).

**Distance Learning Section Social**  
**ALA Midwinter – Boston**  
**January 15, 2005**  
**5:00 pm- 7:00 pm**

Join other DLS colleagues and friends for the DLS Midwinter Social at LIR in Boston. LIR is a pub and restaurant located directly across the street from the Boylston Street entrance of the Hynes Convention Center. It is within walking distance of most of the conference hotels.

The social will be held in LIR's 2<sup>nd</sup> floor meeting room, which looks like a library! Tickets are \$10.00 per person and anyone is welcome. LIR will provide snacks such as mini pizzas and sandwiches and a cash bar will be open on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

For more information, please contact Anne Marie Casey ([casey1am@cmich.edu](mailto:casey1am@cmich.edu)) or Bill Denny ([denny1wt@cmich.edu](mailto:denny1wt@cmich.edu)).

**Registration Form**

Yes! I will attend the ACRL Distance Learning Section (DLS) Social in Boston.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ ACRL Member \_\_\_\_ (yes) \_\_\_\_ (no)

Email \_\_\_\_\_ DLS Member \_\_\_\_ (yes) \_\_\_\_ (no)

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years in DLS \_\_\_\_\_

Institution Name \_\_\_\_\_

Guest names: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cost: \$10 per person (make check payable to ACRL)**

**RSVP by: 12/31/04**

**Mail check & registration form to: Mary Jane Petrowski, Associate Director, ACRL/ALA**  
**50 East Huron Street, Chicago, IL 60611**

## **DLS Social at the Hard Rock Orlando**

On Saturday, June 26, 2004, from 5-7 p.m., nearly 40 Distance Learning Section (DLS) members and guests gathered at the Hard Rock Café in Orlando, FL, for their social during Happy Hour.

The sultry heat and azure skies of afternoon gave way to early evening thunderstorms. While the skies opened up and the winds howled, member librarians and their guests at the DLS Social were safely gathered inside the Orlando Hard Rock Café, adjacent to Universal Studios. The two locations are side-by-side features at Orlando, Florida's, City Walk tourist and entertainment center.



**DLS Chair, Stephen Dew and Member, Robin Lockerby.**

DLS members and guests got chummy in the wood-paneled area around the curved mahogany bar and “cozied up” to tables overlooking the first-floor dining area with its famous Pink Cadillac suspended from the ceiling. Attendees were treated to an all-servers rendition of the Village People’s “YMCA,” with servers standing on bars and tables throughout the establishment, while guests joined the chorus.



**DLS Members, Carol Moulden, Carole Kabel, Bill Denny, and Guest, Colleen Hood by the Pink Cadillac at the Hard Rock Orlando.**

Old friendships were renewed and new friendships struck. The social, planned to immediately precede the Universal Studios event, was the perfect place to wait out the storms, enjoy a cocktail, savor a snack, and unwind from the day’s meetings.



**Wait Staff at Hard Rock dancing to “YMCA”.**

Sandy Hawes, St. Leo University



**DLS Members enjoying the social.**

## TIME FOR NOMINATIONS

### The 2005 Award to be Made in Chicago in June 2005 The ACRL/DLS Haworth Press Distance Learning Librarian Conference Sponsorship Award

This conference sponsorship award honors any individual ACRL member working in the field of, or contributing to the success of distance learning librarianship or related library service in higher education.

*Friends and Colleagues,  
Please take the time to consider nominating a worthy candidate for the Distance Learning Section's new award. Many librarians working in Distance Education work tirelessly and often don't receive the recognition they richly deserve. Use this opportunity to honor their contributions.*

*Sincerely,*

*Tom Abbott, Chair*

*DLS Awards Committee*

**Recognition:** A citation plaque presented by the DLS Awards Committee at the annual program and \$1200 to help defray the costs of travel to and participation in the ALA Annual Meeting in Chicago in 2005.

**Criteria:** Nominees should have demonstrated achievements in one or more of the following areas:

- Contribution to or support for distance learning librarianship and library services, e.g., service to students and faculty, publications, training, innovation and/or leadership
- Consultation services in support of higher education distance students and programs beyond the traditional library boundaries
- Training of faculty and staff who support library services for distance students
- Advocacy at decision-making levels, especially in funding and policy development as related to distance learning librarianship
- Work with outside agencies in support of students learning at a distance
- Significant research and publication in areas of distance learning librarianship
- Planning and implementation of distance learning library programs of such exemplary quality that they serve as a model for others.
- Nominee must be a member of ACRL

**Donor:** Haworth Press, publisher of the *Journal of Library and Information Services in Distance Learning* has agreed to sponsor the annual award at the rate of \$1500 per year for three years on a pilot or trial basis.

**Application/Nomination Process:** Applicants or nominators should send one completed copy of the award nomination form (<http://caspian.switchinc.org/~distlearn/awardnomination.doc>) to Tom Abbott, Dean of Libraries and Instructional Support, University of Maine at Augusta, by e-mail: [tabbott@maine.edu](mailto:tabbott@maine.edu)

Submissions must also include three letters of nomination or support (maximum two pages double spaced in 12 point Times New Roman font). Completed applications and all supporting documents must be received by the specified deadline. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

FROM OUR FIRST EXPERIENCE LAST YEAR, THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF TRANSMITTING APPLICATIONS AND LETTERS OF SUPPORT IS BY E-MAIL AND ATTACHMENT. THE COMMITTEE STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT ALL PARTS OF THE NOMINATION BE SENT TOGETHER.

Tom Abbott, University of Maine

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## DLS Slate of Nominees for 2005 Elections

The Nominating Committee is proud to announce the slate of candidates for office. They are:

**Vice Chair/Chair Elect:**

Sherrill Weaver

Johanna Tunon

**Secretary/Archivist:**

Page Brannon

**Member-at-Large:**

Anne Haynes

David Bickford

Maryhelen Jones, Florida State University

## Next Off-Campus Library Services Conference Site

The Off-Campus Library Services Conference is held every other year and has been in existence since 1982. It is sponsored by the Central Michigan University Libraries and the CMU Off-Campus Programs. This international conference brings together librarians, administrators, and educators to discuss, study, demonstrate, and champion the technology, techniques and theories of providing library services for students not pursuing their education on a university campus.

The conference executive board is happy to announce that the Twelfth Off-Campus Library Services Conference will be held in Savannah - Georgia's First City - at the newly renovated (as of December 2005) Hyatt Regency. The dates of the conference are April 26th to April 28th 2006.

This charming city sold itself to us and we think that you will enjoy its past, its ghosts, its architecture, its gardens, its cemeteries and the southern ambiance. Savannah was established on February 12, 1733 when General James Oglethorpe founded Georgia. Oglethorpe carefully planned the city's streets by using a grid pattern with 24 park-like squares 21 of which are still in existence.

For more history see this link <http://www.savannahcivic.com/cityweb/webdatabase.nsf/VisitingIndex?OpenFrameset>. For some great pictures view this link. <http://www.savannahnow.com/features/slideshows/>

The Call for Presentations will be available December 1, 2004 on the web site at <http://ocls.cmich.edu/conference>. Please bookmark this changed address for future reference.

For current information about this specialized conference subscribe to our conference- only listserve by sending a message to:

LISTSERV@LISTSERV.CMICH.EDU

In the message area type:  
subscribe OCLSCONF your first name your last name  
(subscribe OCLSCONF Jane Smith)

Connie Hildebrand, Central Michigan University

## 2004 Distance Learning Section Program

Panelists from diverse library settings revealed challenging library service issues at the 2004 ACRL Distance Learning Section program entitled "Interlibrary Cooperation and Resource Sharing to Better Serve Distributed Learners." Panelist David Schappert, East Stroudsburg University Library, reported that increasingly faculty are using online textbooks bundled with supplementary resources and tests to teach distance classes. This practice has eroded the traditional communication patterns between faculty, librarians, and students. Online "convenience packs" may insure that students in distance classes have equal access to basic course materials, yet faculty and their students are losing exposure to the increasingly rich print and electronic resources libraries make available to them.

Julie Housknecht, Gwinnett University Center Library, urged that librarians reclaim their key role of transmitting information gathering and analytical skills. Critical thinking is essential not only to academic success but to the act of daily living. By downplaying the research process, faculty are shortchanging students the opportunity to develop important lifelong learning abilities. Through liaison work and faculty outreach, librarians can rebuild collaborative rapport with faculty, encourage them to use and endorse the academic library for research.

Phalbe Henriksen, Bradford County Public Library, asserted that students in distance classes choose the option of greatest convenience, the public library, although it has fewer resources. Unfortunately, neither faculty nor librarians associated with distance learning programs contact their public library colleagues. Public librarians lack familiarity with college-level assignments and are not authorized or experienced to search subscription based academic resources. They are blindsided by droves of under-prepared students who are unaware of off-campus library services provided by their institutions. Many students seek instant gratification and course completion over guidance in the use of scholarly resources.

During the DLS program, Susan Lowe, Assistant Dean for Off-Campus Library Services, University of Maine was awarded the first ACRL/DLS Haworth Press Distance Learning Librarian Conference Sponsorship Award.

Claudia Shorr, Gwinnet University



DLS Newsletter  
ACRL/ALA  
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Chicago, IL 60611

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## DLS Meetings at Midwinter

I have just filled out our meeting request forms. As suggested earlier by previous Chairs, there are a bunch of no-conflict times that I had to work around, but I think the times I submitted will be accepted.

- All Committees Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sunday 8:30am to 11am
- Executive Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sunday 4 to 6pm (this way we have just one meeting)
- DLS Discussion Group is tentatively set for Monday 8:30 to 10:30am

See You in Boston!

Stephen Dew, Chair DLS

