

DLS NEWSLETTER

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Spring 2005

Kreszock named 2005 ACRL/ DLS / Haworth Press Distance Learning Librarian Conference Sponsorship Award Winner

CHICAGO - Martha Kreszock, Coordinator of Distance Learning Studies for Appalachian State University, has been named the 2005 recipient of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Distance Learning Section (DLS) Haworth Press Distance Learning Librarian Conference Sponsorship Award.

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

"Martha was selected from a number of strong nominees for her significant contributions to the students and faculty of Appalachian State, and for her ongoing contributions to the field of Distance Learning Librarianship through research, publications, and presentations," said Tom Abbott, chair of the DLS award committee.

Kreszock's presentations include "But they Never Come to Campus!" co-presented with Candelaria and Wilmesherr at the Association of Continuing and Higher Education Region Fifth Annual Conference in April, 2003; "Greetings from the Mothership: Library Services for Off-Campus Students," Teaching and Learning at Appalachian, v.6 2001/2002; "ACRL Guidelines and Library Services for Off-Campus Students," North Carolina Distance Learning Alliance Conference, New Bern, NC July 2000.

The Haworth Press, Inc., sponsor of the award, will present the \$1,200 award and plaque at the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in Chicago during the DLS program on Saturday, June 25, at 1:30 p.m.

The DLS Newsletter is a semiannual publication of the Distance Learning Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611, 800-545-2433, ext. 2516. This publication is sent free of charge to members of the ALA/ACRL Distance Learning Section. © American Library Association, 2005.

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Join us for the DLS Annual
Program at Annual!

Saturday, June 25 at 1:30 PM

Celebrating
ACRL Distance Learning
Section's 15th Anniversary

Speakers:

- Karen Brown, Dominican University
- Ashley Bonnette, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Arthur Young, Northern Illinois University

Topics:

- Redefining distance learning
- Diversity issues in distance learning
- Educating the distance learning librarians of the future

Also: Honoring Martha Kreszock, recipient of
ACRL/DLC/Haworth Press Distance Learning
Librarian Conference Sponsorship Award

More information: Frank Cervone Chair,
2005 DLS Program Planning Committee,
f-cervone@northwestern.edu

Plus



DLS Breakfast
National-Louis University
in Chicago

Monday, June 27, 2005

Celebrating DLS's 15th anniversary!



Hope to see you there!!

LITA Technology Showcases

ALA, Monday Jan 17, 2005
Elisa Addlesperger,
DePaul University Library

"Isaac" by ebrary

Christopher Warnock, the CEO of ebrary, demonstrated a new server-based technology for creating, controlling and sharing remote digital collections. Most of us are already familiar with ebrary's customizable content delivery service tied to a collection of over 60,000 full-text books and other digital content, Dynamic Content Platform (DCP). This new technology, called Isaac, allows libraries to integrate the collections from DCP with both self-created and licensed content, and protects copyright automatically. Isaac also delivers all of this disparate content through a single web-based portal which can be branded for each institution. Stanford University is currently a beta-tester for the new technology.

One aspect of ebrary's digital collections that has given some potential users pause is the proprietary e-reader called ebrary Reader. As with Adobe Acrobat, users are required to download the application to their desktop. The unique reader is necessary to fully exploit the interactivity of the EDF content using a utility called InfoTools.

Earlier problems with ebrary Reader and Mozilla and Firefox appear to have been resolved, and librarians will no longer have to troubleshoot this issue.

If you would like to learn more about ebrary's digital content solutions, documentation and a nifty Flash demonstration are available at <http://www.ebrary.com/corp/libraries.htm>

AquaBrowser Library from TLC-The
Library Company

Jimmy Thomas of TLC discussed the ups and downs of various federated and enhanced search products

Our first demonstration of a "down" was an attempt to access the Chicago Public Library OPAC for a demonstration of WebFeat. It seems servers were too busy at noon CST on a week day for WebFeat.

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LITA Technology Showcases, cont.

AquaBrowser, cont.

Mr. Thomas also demonstrated searching on Amazon.com, which has been cited for its user-friendly interface and relevancy algorithms. Unfortunately, all searches in Amazon are basic, and a query using just the word "Argentina" produces over 20,000 hits. Relevancy is also based, in part, on what Amazon wants to sell.

All of this leads to the real crux of the presentation, which was to demonstrate the AquaBrowser Library, an OPAC technology developed by Netherlands-based Medialab Solutions. AquaBrowser Library is based on research of typical search behavior. In addition to the actual item results, users are shown topical associations utilizing existing metadata, with stemming and spelling alternatives. Aquabrowser also displays a graphical concept map or "word cloud" of the search results, allowing a user to easily pursue alternate meanings or more relevant results. Users with visual learning styles will be drawn to a graphical representation of their search results.

A tour through a live demonstration (see below) is strongly recommended, since a description of the results screen doesn't do it justice.

TLC-The Library Company:
<http://www.tlcdelivers.com/tlc/>

Medialab Solutions: <http://www.medialab.nl/>

A live version of AquaBrowser, courtesy of the Arlington Virginia consortium catalog can be accessed at:
<http://aqua.tlcdelivers.com/arlington/>

An effective demonstration search term (suggested by TLC) is the word "Mercury."



New newsletter editor:
Margaret Casado
casado@utk.edu
865-974-0087
send comments and materials

Certificate Program in Distance Education Librarianship Offered at UMUC

Vicki Cone, Information Resources Librarian at Truxal Library at the Anne Arundel Community College in Arnold, MD, recently received a Certificate in Library Services in Distance Education from University of Maryland University College (UMUC), and shares the following information about the program and her experience.

The certificate program consisted of four courses (12 semester hours); three of the courses are required, and the fourth is an elective selected from approximately 15 other courses in the Master of Distance Education program.

Courses are delivered through UMUC's proprietary online course management software. This software provides such features as course "lectures" written by the instructor, bulletin boardtype postings for discussion of readings, bibliographies, reserve readings, chat rooms for group projects, and instant messaging. Several online databases are available through UMUC's library, allowing one to research assignments and papers. All of the instructors were adjuncts who work in distance education in their full-time jobs.

Each of the courses consisted of four or five modules with a schedule of readings and assignments. Students from around the world discussed the readings with the instructor on a regular (often daily) basis. The sheer volume of student postings could sometimes be a little overwhelming, especially if one fell a little behind in the reading. The involvement of the instructors in these discussions varied, and the best teachers were those who stimulated the discussions without being overly involved. The grade in each course depended upon participation in the online discussions as well as several papers. There were no formal tests or exams.

The first required course, Foundations of Distance Education, was eye-opening. It concerned the rich history of distance education and the variety of formats in which students have learned at a distance from the earliest correspondence courses through other technologies such as radio, TV and now computers.

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The second course, Technology in Distance Education, broadened and deepened the knowledge base of the variety of technologies and the ways they are used.

The third of the required courses, Distance Education Library Services, was the only one that was specifically about library services. It was the most fun and most directly related to the actual job of serving distance learners. It covered such topics as the ACRL Guidelines for Distance Learning Library Services and different ways to provide library services to distance students. Students learned about and discussed activities to try on the job.

The elective class was Instructional Design & Course Development in DE, which dealt with theories of instructional design. The final project involved developing a module for an online course, which provided an opportunity to practice techniques and ideas for one's own distance learning program.

According to Vicki, one of the best features of the program is the experience of being a distance education student while learning how to support it. She adds these comments: "Online learning requires motivation and self-discipline. There are no face-to-face meetings and no scheduled classes, so one makes one's own time for study, sometimes 'attending' class in pajamas. This program was a lot of work, but the rewards were well worth it."

Web resource:



The Instruction for Diverse Populations Committee of the Association of College and Research Libraries' Instruction Section is pleased to announce the publication of the Library Instruction for Diverse Populations Bibliography, available on the Web at <http://www.ala.org/ala/acrlbucket/is/publicationsacrl/diversebib.htm>.

The Committee has compiled this bibliography of print and electronic resources to provide information about teaching diverse populations within college and university settings.

Guidelines for Distance Learning Library Services Survey

Please help us understand how the Guidelines are being used at your institution by completing a brief DLS Guidelines Survey

<http://caspian.switchinc.org/~distlearn/guidelines/dlssurvey.html>

Your input will provide valuable data as we proceed with the next major Guidelines revision.

Please complete the survey by May 15.

Questions?

Contact Rob Morrison, Chair, DLS Guidelines Committee, robmor@cc.usu.edu or 435-797-1477.

Thank you in advance!

Twelfth Off-Campus Library Services Conference

*April 26-28, 2006
Savannah, GA*

More information:

<http://ocls.cmich.edu/conference>

Guidelines for Distance Learning Library Services

(formerly ACRL Guidelines for Distance Learning Library Services) :

The Next Review

<http://www.ala.org/ala/acrl/acrlstandards/guidelinesdistancelearning.htm>

The Guidelines underwent minor revisions that were approved by the ACRL Board of Directors in June 2004 and are now called the Guidelines for Distance Learning Library Services. We are preparing for the next major revision that will include a thorough review of all sections and an upgrade to standards; the last major revision was completed in 1998.

Your input is vital to this process. The timeline is to hold open hearings at the ALA Annual and Midwinter Conferences (2005, 2006) and at the Off-Campus Library Services Conference in 2006.

We will also solicit input via e-mail from all concerned constituents. We expect to have a draft ready in 2006 for additional review and will seek final approval no later than 2008.

An open hearing is scheduled for Saturday, June 25 from 9:30 to 11 am at the American Library Association's Annual Conference in Chicago. The hotel and room will be posted on the DLS web site: <http://caspianswitchinc.org/~distlearn/>.

Please contact Rob Morrison, Chair, DLS Guidelines Committee, at robmor@cc.usu.edu or 435-797-1477 for more information or with your input. We will post input from the hearings on the DLS web site after the conferences.

NOMINATIONS SOLICITED

for the next ACRL/DLS Haworth Press Distance Learning Librarian Conference Sponsorship Award which 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.

Award

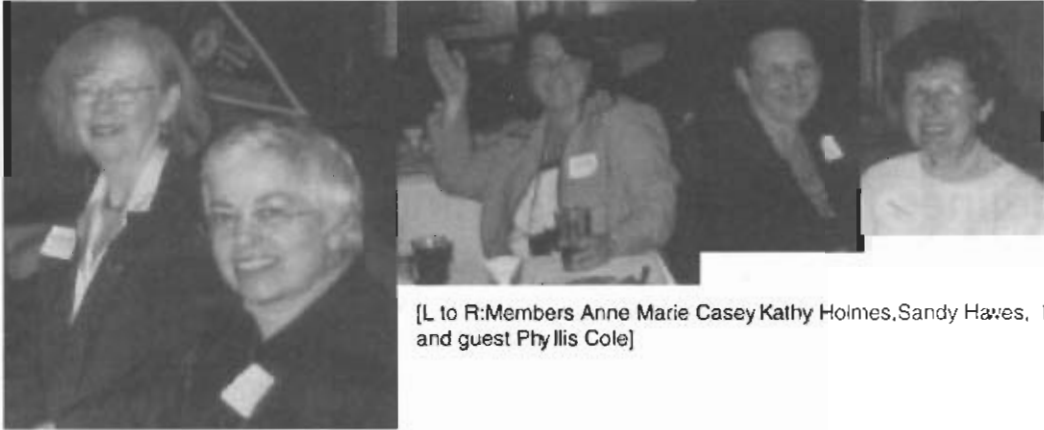
\$1200 to help defray the costs of travel to and participation in the ALA Annual Meeting and a citation plaque sponsored by Haworth Press.

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

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[L to R: Members Anne Marie Casey, Kathy Hoimes, Sandy Hawes, Robin Lockerby, and guest Phyllis Cole]

DLS Mixes Good Food with Old Friends at Lir's Irish Pub in Boston, Midwinter 2005

Text: Sandy Hawes

Photos: Carol Moulden



[L to R: Kate Adams, Mark Hoan, Patrick Mahoney, Ken Neufeld, and Stephen Dew]

Granted: Most Distance Learning Section members can find the way around town...any town. But, **DLS members didn't need a map to find the midwinter social at Lir, an Irish pub and Boston landmark. The front door faces the Gale bus stop at the Hynes Conference Center**

How easy was that? About as easy as it was to have a great time with 70 or so fellow DLS members and their guests Saturday evening, January 15, 2005, upstairs in Lir's book-lined meeting room.



[L to R: Members Fran Devlin, Carol Moulden, Jean Anne Croft (guest), Bill Denny, Lisa Nickel, Carol Kabel, and Monica Craig]

The Distance Learning Section reserved the room and private bar for its midwinter social gathering. The dark wood-paneled walls were complemented by bookcases. Our wait staff kept the hors-d'oeuvres coming from the kitchen while the bartenders served up drinks.

Old chums and new acquaintances moved sociably around the room. Some settled onto comfortable couches and chairs for a gab-fest. Courteous wait staff kept all celebrants enjoying the evening: glasses full, food plated, and tables cleared.

Pittsburgh Steelers and New York Jets fans rallied 'round the big-screen television in the alcove overlooking the street. Jeers and cheers erupted from the "sport center" throughout the wintry evening.



[L to R: Members Rob Morrison, Tom Abbott and Jack Fritts]



[L to R: Members Page Brannon and Sherrill Weaver]



See you for breakfast at National-Louis University in Chicago on Monday, June 27, 2005, to celebrate DLS's 15th anniversary!

"Slá n go fóill! Bye for now!"

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Application/Nomination Process:

Applicants or nominators should send one completed copy of the award nomination form (<http://caspien.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. Submissions must also include three letters of nomination or support (maximum two pages double spaced in 12 point Times New Roman font).

**Resolution of Appreciation for Nancy Burich
and her Contribution to ACRL's Distance Learning Section
as Newsletter Editor**

WHEREAS:

The Distance Learning Section of ACRL depends heavily upon its newsletter to communicate with members and establish a prominent presence within ACRL,

AND WHEREAS:

Nancy Burich has provided six years of service as editor of the DLS newsletter,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Executive Board, on behalf of the membership of the Distance Learning Section, extends its appreciation and gratitude to Nancy Burich for her service to the Section as editor of the newsletter, acknowledging her dedication, commitment, and exemplary service which helped provide a sense of stability and continuity to the Distance Learning Section.

Dated This 7th Day of February, 2005.

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DLS Editor
50 East Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611