PRESIDENT'S PAGE

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES - STAYING THE COURSE

Although the past year or two has been a difficult time for both individuals and institutions, Mississippi libraries continue to engage in education and service activities that we can be proud of. Mississippi Libraries of all types are having a positive impact on the diverse communities that we serve. At the same time, hardly a week goes by without hearing news about drastic budget cuts, reductions in services or the closing of libraries elsewhere around the country. We all have had to cope with our share of these; however, I believe that through your efforts, libraries in Mississippi have fared better than libraries in many other states. It may be true that in the good times other states have funded their libraries at higher levels than we see in Mississippi. Yet, during the not so good times, some of those formerly well-funded libraries are closing branches, laying off staff, and reducing services, while Mississippi libraries continue their good work.

With the economy continuing to stagnate, we must persist in our efforts to educate our constituents as well as the individuals who make decisions about our resources. Share the good news with all who will listen. Remind them about how we help to support education, aid economic development, and improve the quality of life in the State. I urge you to take advantage of every opportunity to communicate the value of libraries.

As my term as Mississippi Library Association president comes to a close, I want to thank you for your hard work and support. Your service on committees and in positions of leadership, both formal and informal, has contributed to a stronger library association and a better library environment in the State. MLA sections, round tables and committees have sponsored many outstanding staff development opportunities during the past year. The annual conference hosted numerous innovative programs that not only reached out to the mainstream membership, but also to those having more specialized interests. Membership is increasing again and association finances are improving. The outlook for the coming year is great. I encourage you to step forward and lend your support to President Prima Plaucé and her leadership team. With your help, MLA can continue to have a positive impact on Mississippi libraries. Thank you for helping to make a difference.
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On the Cover: Mural painting "Ocean Springs: Past, Present & Future" located on Boxen Ave., Ocean Springs, MS. Painted by artist Christopher Inglis Stedl, the mural depicts over 300 years of the people and wildlife that inhabit this area. Photograph: Vanessa Ritchie, Public Services Librarian at MGCCC, Perkinston, MS; used with permission from the Ocean Springs Chamber of Commerce.

Mississippi Libraries is a publication of the Mississippi Library Association, and is indexed in Library Literature. The articles, reports and features herein represent the viewpoints of their respective authors and are not necessarily the official opinions of the Association. Printed with soy ink on recycled paper.

Subscription Rate: $16.00 per year ($4.00 per issue), $24.00 per year outside the U.S., free to MLA members. Back issues available from University Microfilms International. Advertising rates on request to Advertising Editor. Deadline for advertising copy is the tenth of the month preceding month of publication.

Manuscripts must be typewritten produced as a computer file document, Times New Roman font 12 pt., in MSWord 95 or greater, WordPerfect or ASCII text. Send file as an attachment or submit the file on a floppy disk via surface mail. Manuscripts must be received by the editor by the following deadlines: Spring, February 2nd; Summer, May 2nd; Fall, August 2nd; and Winter, November 2nd. Photographs must be black and white, glossy finish.

NOTICE: Due must be paid by March 1 in order to vote in election of officers and to receive the Spring issue of Mississippi Libraries.
Information Architecture – The Concept

By Nashaat Sayed
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The art of Information Architecture (IA) lies in the conceptual design of how information is visualized. This information is represented in various forms such as Web sites, software development, thesauri and project plans. IA is a bridge between elements of user experience and the development of Web/software. According to David Robbins, “In order to create user experience, an IA must have skills ranging from document markup to project management to database design.” Therefore, libraries are great places to start because the user experience is not only well-documented but experienced by paraprofessionals as well. For example, information organization is the principal idea in content management and design in large Web sites, quite similar to document management in libraries.

Information architecture is the infrastructure for information exchange or the organization of information. In a library, information architecture is a combination of the catalog system and the physical design of the building that houses the books. On the Web, information architecture is a combination of organizing a site’s content into categories and creating an interface to support those categories. It stems from traditional architecture, which is made up of architectural programming and architectural planning. The traditional discipline of architecture, which is the design of buildings and physical space, involves problem-making and problem-solving. It requires a thoughtful analysis (planning) to manifest a thoughtful synthesis (design).

For both virtual and physical infrastructure design, architectural programming is an objective approach to understanding the nature of the task so that a specific problem can be identified as something for space planners and designers to solve. The programmer establishes goals, collects and analyzes facts, uncover and tests concepts, determines needs, and states the problem.

The programmer’s responsibilities include: client interviews, research and understanding of emerging technologies, reviews of case studies, budget planning, scheduling long-term deadlines, anticipating the future, and formulating functional requirements. The research results in a program document that specifically outlines the limits of the project and any unique problems.

Between the analysis and execution exists a synthesis gap. In large projects, a space planner manages this gap by taking the program document and defining the space to be designed, aligning the rooms, and assigning priorities to the interior structural elements. The space planner works with both the programmer and the designer to develop a structure that accommodates the function as well as the form. (Although sometimes, depending on the firm, the space planner is also the programmer or designer.)

In Web design, a person who helps develop programs and also plans is an information architect (IA). The information architect maps the entire structure of the site and organizes the positioning of pages within sections, developing a functional and intuitive plan to get the user from point A to point B on the path of least resistance.

TOOLS OF USE

Unfortunately, the perfect tool hasn’t been invented yet. There seems to be an abundance of tools for software architecture that are suitable, but they are not necessarily great for presentation. The few Web-specific tools that are available fail to demonstrate the complexity of a dynamic, contextualized navigational system. The word on the street is that Adobe has heard the information architects’ cries and is working fast and furiously to produce a tool that gives them the best of precision layout and quick drag-and-drop objects. Some of the tools include Dreamweaver, Photoshop, and UML (SmartDraw 6.0); but ultimately it depends on what type of document one is trying to create.

EVOLVING STANDARDS

Like any discipline, industry standards set the pace, for good or bad, for most mainstream development. Some of the more common standards for information architecture revolve around navigation and link usage.

STRUCTURAL NAVIGATION

Most Web surfers have experienced what designers call the inverse L, which is essentially a navigation system that runs top-level categories – or buckets – horizontally across the top of the screen with secondary and tertiary links listed down the left side. Another standard is a horizontal tabbed metaphor, which has two – sometimes three – layers of links that are stacked. Clicking one of the horizontal links reveals a second row of horizontal links that relate to the clicked item. While it may be better to break from these practices, it is also important to note that this layout is what people have gotten used to, and deviations are sometimes extremely confusing – even if they offer better solutions.

REDUNDANT LINKS

It has been proven that people like to click, and when users are confused, they start scanning pages for whatever clickable links they can find. This trend can be seen in sites such as Amazon.com that have so much redundancy. In some cases, there are as many as three different links on one page to a single book or article somewhere else on the site. Some of these links are graphic, some are text, some are mixed into content areas, and others are highlighted on the side. No matter how perfect a site architecture may seem, because we all interpret information in different ways, it is important to be as inclusive as possible and provide as many points of entry into content that will fit on a screen without cluttering it.

SEARCH ENGINES

The approach to finding information lies in the ability of organization. Search engines are a high-traffic navigation tool
that should return efficient results. The development of strategies and searches more than just by a single field, group of fields or parsing through documents, is key to the information discovery process.

Designers of commercial search engines may be working on the construction of a killer application to make finding information easier, but the issue lies in the storage of information. Attention to detail and a strong sense of organization are the most obvious skill requirements for a position in IA. It is not so important how one organizes information so much as that the organization is consistent. Information architects require strong logic and analytical skills, as well as the ability to ask appropriate questions and communicate effectively to a broad range of people: designers, executives, artists, marketers, producers, and technical staff. Information architects also need to be able to conceptualize the abstract and manufacture the concrete to explain it.

THE SCHOOLS

Carnegie Mellon University has some excellent programs: Communication Planning and Design (CPD) and Information Design (ID), which offers Master of Design Degrees, and there is also a Master of Arts degree with emphasis on writing. Both programs can lead to a solid foundation in information architecture depending on the way a student structures his/her coursework. Similarly, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute offers a master in communications, a master in interactive arts, and a graduate certificate in human computer interaction with emphases in writing, design, or technology. New York University offers an Interactive Telecommunications Program and has sent dozens of people into information and interface design careers in the last few years. The program has traditional information technology offerings (Introduction to Computational Media and Elements of Visual Language) as well as flexible build-your-own theoretical studies (New Media and Interpersonal Behavior and Information Contours).

That said, any school that offers strong computer science, design, and writing programs will be able to build a liberal arts program in information architecture. The University of California at Berkeley, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Illinois, and Stanford University are all great places to start.

The University of Southern Mississippi also offers LIS as Master’s Degree and Specialist programs. The program details can be found at [http://www.dept.usm.edu/~slis/masters]. The degree program has information science courses currently offered under the supervision of Dr. J. Norton ([http://ocean.otr.usm.edu/~mjrleon/lis651b.html]). These course descriptions can be compared to the schools that are offering the same major under different names. For example, at University of Oklahoma, the program covers all aspect of Object Oriented Environment to Networks, indexes and also includes courses on librarianship and generalized information on history, etc.

What a specialist program of this sort needs is a technical as well as conceptual coverage of the key aspects of information architecture.

In the immediate future, information architecture will have more room for creativity because more Web sites may stray from a standardized navigation system and a consistent toolbar on every page. Looking further into the future and watching the portal trend, information architecture might not only be about "architecting" individual Web sites, it also will be about architecting massive networks, and even cities. In any case: think strong. Information architecture is soon going to be about creating customizable and personalized views of the entire Internet, along with entirely new business and social models to go with it. The world will need a lot more information architects over the next few years.
A Look at the Digitization Process

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When I first started taking classes in library and information science, I quickly discovered that a librarian's job involves much more than ordering, processing and shelving books. I also learned more about the role of librarian as mediator between the library user and information.

Libraries traffic in information, and librarians act as gateways to that information. One of their key roles involves enabling users to access information. This was at one time limited to the written word; however, with the integration of computers into the library, this has expanded to include the virtual world as well. The World Wide Web has presented new and unexplored vistas of information, and some have said it will replace the need for librarians entirely. Instead of making librarians obsolete, the virtual world has merely presented a new challenge to librarians. The same needs for a physical library are present in the digital world: accessing materials for research, finding the locations of these materials, and verifying the authority and accuracy of these materials, as well as providing online access to research quality materials within their institution.

For the past nine months, I have had the opportunity to work with the digitization team in the Special Collections department of USM Libraries at The University of Southern Mississippi. With little more than some experience with word processing and surfing the Web, I found my work in the digital lab far more technical than I thought myself capable of. This past year, I have been involved in a team process of providing online access to research quality materials, digitizing items that are only known by the local user community and making them available to a worldwide audience. The digitization team is providing access to photographs, correspondence, oral histories and other unique items, as well as useful bibliographic information about these materials. A great deal of work goes into the process of digitization, and in these couple of thousand words, I would like to give you a thumbnail sketch of the process of digitization, from selection of materials from the collection to making materials available for public access. I would also like to share some information about descriptive metadata.

DEFINITION
Digitization is the process of electronically scanning and converting a physical object into digital image. An image of a photograph, a letter, an oral history transcript or any other unique physical item is converted into a digital format that a computer can read. Once digitized, these images can be manipulated, sized, and enriched by a computer with software specific to this purpose and made ready for printing or mounting online.

SELECTION OF MATERIALS
The principles of selecting materials for inclusion in an online exhibit are similar to the general collection development policy of a library, with the focus on material characteristics as the intellectual value of the collection, the level of demand for the materials in that collection, and how those materials in the collection relate to other digitization efforts. Anything, literally, can be digitized, but it takes time and money and effort to do so; therefore, it is important to make certain that the materials that are digitized have value to the intended audience.

DIGITAL SOFTWARE AND EQUIPMENT
Once materials have undergone the selection phase, it is time to get down to the nitty-gritty of the digitization process, which is the actual imaging of materials. This involves an eye for taking good photographs and a little creativity. At this point computer technology comes into play.

Software and Equipment:
Software considerations include the following:
- Adobe Photoshop, or a similar image processing software
- A word processing program such as Microsoft® Word or Corel® Word Perfect
- A program that has optical character recognition capabilities for converting images of typewritten text into editable text in a word processing document
- Another optional but helpful program is software that allows the camera to be run by a computer and allows images taken by the camera to be transferred directly to the computer

Hardware considerations include the following:
- A high speed computer with a very large memory capacity, depending on the size of your project
- A CD-ROM or DVD-RAM burner for storing master images (CDs store about 700MB and DVD's store about 9.4 GB of data and both have a long shelf life)
- A high resolution monitor, at least 17 inches
- A scanner with a resolution of at least 600x600dpi
- A digital camera

With this equipment in place, digital imaging can begin. Scanners are available to image photographs; in addition, some scanners have the capability to scan negatives or slides and can be processed like any other image. For items in the collection with more than ten pages of typed text, such as an original manuscript or oral history transcript, it is recommended that these items be scanned and converted into word processed documents by the use of optical character recognition (OCR). Longer, handwritten documents can be scanned as images or transcribed by hand, but be aware that images require more storage space than word-processed documents.

Digital cameras are useful for photographing oversized items that do not fit on the scanner bed, as well as three-
dimensional objects or books whose spines are too fragile to be placed open-faced on a scanner. The selection and imaging phases of the digitization process can be really exciting, as they provide the opportunity to sift through and discover treasures that might normally go unnoticed.

DESCRIPTIVE METADATA
The next phase in the digitization process is similar to the cataloging process. Materials in an online collection need to be classified and organized in such a way that users can access the information that will best meet their needs. In the library, this is possible via the online catalog, which is a database of carefully compiled and indexed MARC bibliographic records. Describing and organizing items in a digital environment, however, requires more flexibility than the MARC formats allow. A variety of standards, such as TEI, EAD, and Dublin Core, have evolved in recent years and are designed to meet the needs for describing digitized materials.

- The TEI (Text Encoding Initiative) Header was originated for the purpose of developing guidelines for marking up electronic texts, such as novels, plays, and poetry, to support research in the humanities. Basic bibliographic information in TEI can be mapped to data contained in MARC, with some exceptions.
- EAD (Encoded Archival Description) was developed as a means of marking up data contained in the finding aids used in special collections and archives. Finding aids are sometimes lengthy narrative documents that provide information about a collection, biographical or background information, as well as information about how materials in a collection are organized and stored.
- The Dublin Core (DC) Metadata Elements are a set of elements or descriptors designed to allow authors to describe their own electronic resources. Simple and concise, DC is used to format data and to provide access in retrieval of an online resource, via its creator and other relevant information. A crosswalk is available for the translation of bibliographic information from MARC to Dublin Core, which illustrates Dublin Core's compatibility with MARC guidelines.

MARKUP
The next phase of the digitization process involves incorporating the images and/or text of the digitized materials and the descriptive metadata into a single electronic document that can be posted to the Web. This can be done using software that allows the digit-lab technician to 'markup' the images using an HTML editor. Dreamweaver® is a very user-friendly program with a capability for creating a basic template into which text and images can be incorporated. XML (Extensible Markup Language) is a cutting edge markup language utilizing a style sheet that converts an encoded document into HTML.

After multiple "Previews in Browser" and a few rounds of quality control to ensure that the metadata is correct and images are high quality, the collection is ready to be posted to the Web, and can be linked from the parent institution's home page.

ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION
At this point, you have a basic understanding of the skills needed and will want to address some issues of consideration before getting started on a digitization project.
- Copyrights: Before deciding to publish materials from a collection to the Web, it is important to be familiar with current copyright issues related to ownership rights. It is one thing for items donated to a collection to be available within the library itself, and quite another to be published to the Web. This is especially the case in relation to personal correspondence or diaries, photographs, newspaper articles and books.
- Condition of materials: Are the items in the collection too fragile to be exposed to extensive handling involved in the digitization process? Digital scanning involves strong light and a significant amount of heat that can contribute to the deterioration of the item.
- Staffing and funds: The depth and quality of an online collection is directly proportional to the number of staff and amount of time and funds available to commit to the digitization of a collection. A small exhibit that provides a selection of items from the collection is a project that could feasibly be completed by an individual, whereas an in-depth treatment of a collection to be organized into a database will require a team of members to select and take images of the materials, create descriptive metadata, mark up the material and organize it, and then post the exhibit to the Web.
- Equipment and Software: The biggest concern is the expense in purchasing and maintaining equipment and software to support the work. Research the availability of newer, high-quality versions of equipment.

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and software and prepare to acquire the equipment and software necessary for the project.

- **Outsourcing:** If the funds are available to do so, imaging of materials can be outsourced to an imaging provider, but keep in mind that materials will then be handled by individuals who may not necessarily know how to handle rare or fragile materials, and the quality of outsourced work is not always consistent.

**AUXILIARY USES OF DIGITIZATION**

Online exhibits are valuable sources of information, but if that proves to be too big a first step into conquering the digital environment, there are some other uses of digitization that a library may find useful. Digitization is useful for providing forms online for Interlibrary Loan requests or document delivery services. With the use of Microsoft Access or a similar software program, a database can be developed for organizing and documenting collections. There are a variety of uses for digitization in the library environment. Automation of the library catalog was just the beginning of electronically entering the virtual world.

**USM LIBRARIES ONLINE COLLECTIONS:**

- **Civil Rights in Mississippi Digital Archive:** This exhibit contains materials from the civil rights movement in Mississippi. This collection includes the personal diaries of such civil rights workers as Zoya Zeman and Sandra Ackles, photographs by Herbert Randall, and pamphlets and brochures from civil rights organizations, as well as oral histories of other notable figures. This collection provides access to digital images of the items, as well as their descriptive metadata. http://avatar.lib.usm.edu/~spcol/crda/

- **deGrummond Children's Literature Collection:** The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection is a research collection that contains original manuscripts and illustrations of more than 1200 authors and illustrators, as well as 70,000+ published books dating from 1530 to the present. There are four main online exhibits from this collection that showcase a selection of items from the Neubert Valentine Collection, the Kate Greenaway Almanacks, the Ezra Jack Keats Collection, and information about the Curious George Collection. Each of these exhibits showcases and describes a sample of materials from their collection. http://www.lib.usm.edu/%7Edegumn/https://showcase/sc-virtualexhibits.shtml

- **The Mississippi Oral History Project:** The Center for Oral History houses a vast collection of oral histories, and more than 800 of these are published and on deposit at McCain Library and Archives. As a result of the Mississippi Oral History Project, approximately 83 of the transcripts for these oral histories are available online and about 80 more are due to be posted online in the next few months. In the near future, sound excerpts from the oral history interviews may also be made available. Topics discussed relate to important events in Mississippi history. http://www.usm.edu/msoralhistory/

**ONLINE EXHIBITS REFERENCED**


**Online Resources**


Collection Development for an Electronic Library

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The Internet and the World Wide Web offer us unprecedented access to information, the flood of which can certainly overwhelm many users. The unstable nature of this latest information conduit also adds new challenges to the profession of librarianship. The extraordinary rate at which online materials grow and change makes locating specific information increasingly taxing (Sowards). Manual cataloging of the Web is a chore that can only be described as Sisyphean. Search engines and indexes vary widely in quality, do not typically offer much in the way of useful descriptive information, and do not always present the average user with suitable results. To further complicate online searches for information and the evaluation of the veracity of that information, many search engines and indexes now offer "sponsor matches," i.e., priority placement of sites for a fee. The anonymity and democracy of the Web does allow many people to bypass the publishing industry and offer free content of a very scholarly nature. This same anonymity and democracy also allows unscrupulous individuals to mask and spread deliberate lies under the guise of a slickly designed Web presence. To quote a passage from Mark Y. Herring's "10 Reasons Why the Internet Is No Substitute for a Library": "... any fool can put anything on the Web, and, to my accounting, all have." So what assistance can librarians offer to their users in their difficult, and sometimes treacherous, quest for information?

Just as it is collection development librarians' responsibility to select useful, timely, and authoritative print resources, librarians also have an obligation to guide their users through the Web. To library users and librarians alike, electronic libraries can be of great assistance with these difficulties. The purpose of this article is to offer a guide for the selection, evaluation, and maintenance of resources offered in an electronic library.

COLLECTING FOR THE E-LIBRARY

Though the terms are often used interchangeably in professional literature, for the purposes of this article, I have accepted the definition of an electronic library or "e-library" as an electronically formatted collection of information resources that has been gleaned from areas including, but not limited to, the Internet and the World Wide Web. The e-library is sometimes confused with the digital library and/or the virtual library. A digital library is generally thought of as a collection of full-text materials created from primary sources, print or holographic. In contrast, a virtual library is often perceived as offering traditional library services, such as answering reference questions, in addition to maintaining a collection of online resources.

Ideally the e-library will create a version of a physical library's collection in virtual space (Kovacs xiii). INFOMINE (http://infomine.ucr.edu/) is an excellent example of this sort of virtual collection. One of the first academic e-libraries, it was developed and is supported by the Library of the University of California, Riverside. INFOMINE boasts an impressive collection of over 40,000 links, nearly 23,000 of which are librarian-created and the remainder are robot/crawler-manufactured links.

Collection development, simply put, can be defined as the act of creating and maintaining collections of materials. Cornell University defines the key tasks of collection development as "budgeting, selection (and withdrawal); collection evaluation, and policy formation." Most of all, thorough planning is the essential first step in all collection development projects, and the construction of the Web-based electronic library is no exception.

Needless to say, most aspects of planning will revolve around the library community, which can vary greatly from one library to another and should be identified before any other planning begins. After establishing your target audience, consideration should be given to the intended purpose of the e-library, the subject areas that will be covered, the types of resources to be included, and the organizational scheme (Kovacs 9-10). The subject areas covered and types of sources, especially, should attempt to represent the needs and interests of the library community.

Some core subject areas that librarians may want to consider for their electronic libraries include Ready-reference, Business and Employment Information, Health and Medicine, Legal Information, Science and Technology, Education, and Readers' Advisory (Kovacs). Examples of
specific sources that could be included in these categories are as follows. (Some sites mentioned in this list are partially or entirely fee-based. Remember to read the Terms of Service for each site. Links are current as of 11/4/02).

**Ready-reference:**
- The Internet Public Library (http://www.pl.org/)
- Books in Print (http://www.booksinprint.com/bip/)
- Your local newspaper (online or on CD-ROM)
- One Look Dictionaries (http://www.onelook.com)

**Business and Employment:**
- The Riley Guide: Employment Opportunities and Job Resources on the Internet (http://www.dbm.com/jobguide/)
- Forbes (http://www.forbes.com/)
- Internal Revenue Service (http://www.irs.gov/)
- America's Job Bank (http://www ajb dni us/)
- Occupational Outlook Handbook (http://www.bls.gov/oco/)

**Health and Medicine:**
- Hardin Meta Directory of Internet Health Sources (http://www.lib.uowa.edu/hardin/md/index.html)
- American Hospital Directory (http://www.ahd.com/)
- Mayo Clinic Health Oasis (http://www.mayohost.org/home)
- Medscape (http://www.medscape.com/)

**Legal Information:**
- Internet Legal Resource Guide (http://www.iirg.com/)
- Martindale.com (http://www.martindale.com)
- Nolo's Legal Encyclopedia (http://www.nolo.com/encyclopedia/index.html)
- GPO Access (http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/index.html)

**Science and Technology:**
- The Animal Diversity Web (http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu)
- ScienceDaily (http://www.sciencedaily.com)

**Education:**
- Education Index (http://www.educationindex.com/)
- Peterson's Guide Online (http://www.petersons.com)
- United States Department of Education (http://www.ed.gov)

**Readers' Advisory:**
- BookBrowser (http://www.bookbrowser.com)

Maintenance and weeding responsibilities should also be taken into account in the planning stage. The content of the Web is far from static. A 120-week longitudinal study conducted in 1999 for the Journal of the American Society for Information Science suggests that a Web page has a half-life of less than two years, whereas a Web site may have a half-life of a little more than two years. It stands to reason that if the e-library was not maintained for two years, only half of the resources will still be active. If the page is still active, the content of most Web pages or sites will typically change within a year (Koehler). It is clear that without a regular and clearly defined maintenance policy, the extensive amount of time devoted to constructing the electronic library will be for naught.

**BUDGETARY SUPPORT**

Budgetary concerns are also an extremely important aspect not to be forgotten in the planning stage. While many high-quality links for an e-library can be acquired free of charge, some resources will be fee-based. Many libraries' materials budgets are strained even before undertaking a project like an e-library, and choices may have to be made between allocating funds for print or electronic resources (Casey 5). Before undertaking the often grueling quest for funding, the library should feel assured that the database subscription is worth its price and that the library can offer enough points of access (in-house or remote) to make the expenditure worthwhile. A factor to consider when debating fee-based services is whether or not the publisher's

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contract will permit remote access and multiple access points. The database in question should also be reviewed for the usual criteria of authority, accuracy, currency, and ease of use, while making note of access time during peak Internet usage hours, customer support, level of customization allowed, the flexibility of the licensing agreement, and whether or not the cost is comparable to similar products (Casell 23-24).

Casell advocates not attempting to squeeze electronic resources into the existing budget structure, but to "develop a separate budget line for electronic resources" and then endeavor to persuade the body responsible for budget allocations to increase funding for the new area. If this task can be accomplished, it will be easier to slowly increase the new budget line without sacrificing the, now separate, funding for print materials. Of course, this is an ideal scenario that is not always realistic for every library, especially smaller ones that already have very limited budgets. For this difficulty, Casell offers a second avenue in the form of a consortium between libraries to share the cost of electronic resources. Some state governments have begun to form these consortia to provide database access statewide (Casell 5).

This extremely practical solution has been enacted by a number of states, including Mississippi with its MAGNOLIA project (http://www.lib.usm.edu/~magnolia/magnolia.html). MAGNOLIA (Mississippi Alliance for Gaining New Opportunities through Information Access) is funded by the Mississippi State Legislature and provides access to electronic resources, such as EBSCOhost, for publicly funded K-12 schools, public libraries, community college libraries, and university libraries in the state. Some of the databases even provide remote access, which has proved to be of great benefit to users whose local libraries have limited hours of operation.

**EVALUATION OF SOURCES**

Finally, after the planning stage, the remainder of the task of collection development rests largely in research and the evaluation of sources. These tasks are similar to those that would be performed with traditional materials, but with the added benefit of a few less financial or contractual obligations. Cassell recommends the following general criteria be kept in mind when selecting and evaluating electronic resources: "coverage or subject, accuracy of content, currency, ease of use, [and] ability of the library to implement the technology." (21). Kovacs adds that Internet resources should be inspected for authority and security and privacy for the user (21). For assistance in this research, there is a wealth of material devoted to the topic, such as Web sites dedicated to the review and evaluation of Internet resources, discussion lists and newsgroups, ejournals, and print sources. The previously mentioned INFOMINE, in addition to The Librarians' Index to the Internet, the PHOAKS (People Helping One Another Know Stuff) Project, the ARL Directory of Electronic Journals, Newsletters, and Academic Discussion Lists, and American Libraries' Internet Librarian column are fine examples of some of this material (Kovacs 9-15).

In her book entitled *Building Electronic Library Collections*, Kovacs elaborates further on selection criteria by providing helpful sets of questions to consider when selecting a resource:

- Does the resource meet some information need of the e-library's intended clients?
- Does the resource provide the information at a level and language suitable to the age, educational background, and subject interests of the library's intended clients?
- Will the e-library's intended clients have the computer equipment and software needed to use the resource? Does the resource allow for access by disabled individuals who may need to use text-to-voice software or enabling tools? Does the resource display in the Web browser within a reasonable amount of time over the expected mode of access?
- Will the information provider provide "back issues" or archives of the resource? Will you need to make arrangements to store such information locally if needed?
- Does the resource provide information in a form that you want to include in your e-library (for example, encyclopedias, directories, e-serials, or e-commerce facilities)?
- Will the resource only be accessible by users from within the library's domain, or can any library user from any location access the resource by using a login and password or library card number? (Kovacs 29-30).

In conclusion, the ongoing development of the Internet and the World Wide Web is often compared to the nineteenth-century colonization of the American West. The wealth of information can certainly be seen as a rich and wild new frontier. For our own good and the good of our library users, libraries must take care that we are not left behind in this growth. Well-constructed and well-maintained electronic libraries can serve as an excellent tool to blaze a trail through this electronic frontier and expand the role of library services in the twenty-first century.

**WORKS CITED**


Membership in MLA: A Survey of USM Library and Information Science Students

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Conversations with members in leadership positions in the Mississippi Library Association (MLA) over the past few years indicate their belief that student membership in MLA is declining. As The University of Southern Mississippi’s School of Library and Information Science (USM SLIS) is the state’s only MLA-accredited library program, the LIS students are important to MLA: it is expected that they will form the majority of the association’s future membership. A survey was conducted to learn more about the student membership of MLA, to discover the reasons students have for joining or not joining MLA, and to find out if there are common attributes among student members and student non-members.

METHODOLOGY

There are two parts to this study. The first part reviews overall trends in membership by examining MLA membership records from 1999 through spring of 2002, with particular attention given to the number of applicants who join as students.

The second part of the study surveys current students of USM SLIS. A total of 150 questionnaires were physically distributed at the Hattiesburg and Gulf Coast campuses and sent via LISNEWS and email, as well. Thirty-seven responses were received for an overall response rate of 25%.

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

The MLA records show that MLA membership between 1999 and 2002 declined. The loss of student members, when calculated as a percentage and compared with the loss of other members, shows an overall decrease of 76.92% in student memberships when compared to a general decrease of 19% for the total membership.

Even though MLA records indicate that only three student members are currently members of MLA, ten student respondents to the survey identify themselves as members of MLA. This discrepancy is probably due to MLA’s narrow definition of “student” as only those who are enrolled as full-time students. This also suggests that the majority of student MLA members are part-time students; therefore, the MLA count of student members is not an accurate reflection of total student participation in MLA.

Another goal of this project is to determine if there are common factors that describe MLA student members. While there are no significant differences between members and non-members in age (the median for both groups fell in the 31 to 35 age range) there is a striking correlation between a high GPA and status of membership. Over fifty percent (55%) of student members have a GPA higher than 3.5. In addition, it is particularly noticeable that 100% of the student respondents who are MLA members are also concurrently employed in libraries.

It appears that MLA appeals to librarians from specific library types and departments.

While responses are evenly divided between different library types and functions, survey responses from MLA members are predominately from public and academic libraries; and they perform work primarily in circulation, reference, administration, or interlibrary loan. There are also interesting differences in the attitudes that members and non-members held towards joining organizations. MLA members tended to join professional organizations rather than other student organizations. They appeared to be making a conscious choice to join groups that are relevant to their careers. This emphasis on career-related decisions is shown in the reasons respondents give for joining organizations.

Figure 1: Library Function vs. MLA Membership

Although many factors are considered to be equally important, e.g., meeting people with similar interests and learning more about particular topics, significant differences occur between MLA members and non-members in the “job requirement” and “career networking” responses. More members than non-members cited both of these as important reasons for joining an organization. Clearly, the student members of MLA recognize that...
they will benefit professionally from their memberships. Many MLA members cite workplace encouragement as one of the most important factors influencing their decision to join.

Figure 3: Reasons for joining MLA

All the student members of MLA work between 31 and 40 hours per week in libraries, and most expect a promotion upon completion of their degree (60%) and are planning to stay in the library where they currently work (60%). Finally, all MLA members in the survey are satisfied with their membership and plan to renew their memberships after they graduate.

The reasons why students did not join MLA were also investigated. The three most common factors given are 1) lack of information about MLA; 2) cost of membership; and 3) not enough time. It is significant that many students (11 out of 27) indicate that they did not know enough about MLA or its goals and objectives. Typical student comments include “need more information about purposes” would like to be “informed about it through the library program,” “no advertising for it, nothing at USM SLIS.” Some students are not sure how to apply, even if they have heard about it. “How do you join?” was one response.

A number of non-members cite lack of time as a reason for not joining. The majority of these respondents are working from 31 to 40 hours per week. MLA members, however, are also working 31 to 40 hours per week and generally spend less than five hours a month engaged in organizational activities. About one third (10 out of 27) of the non-member students indicate that MLA membership is too expensive. When asked what would encourage them to join, responses include “money,” “discounted student memberships,” “lower membership fees or waiver for students during first year.”

School librarians were the only non-member respondents who felt that MLA was not relevant to them at all. Other groups, particularly technical services librarians and catalogers, felt that MLA is relevant to them, but they did not believe it is relevant enough to spend their resources on membership dues.

CONCLUSIONS

The number of student members of MLA is declining and, if the organization wishes to reverse this trend, it must take some action to actively recruit students. Based on the findings of this survey, there are some things that may attract members.

Charge a single discounted rate for both full and part-time students. Currently MLA gives discounted memberships to full time students only. However, many students are part-time and do not qualify for the discount. It would be advantageous to MLA to encourage students to join early in their careers, especially as the majority of student members are very satisfied with the organization and intend to renew their membership after graduation.

Make more information about the organization available to students. There are several ways in which this might be accomplished. At the beginning of each semester, packets of information about MLA, including a membership application form, could be distributed to all students. Additionally, to increase the organization’s visibility, mount posters on bulletin boards, send fliers in student mailboxes, and utilize the LISNEWS (the USM SLIS e-mail list) to inform students of the benefits of MLA membership. Other activities, e.g. sponsoring events or forums at USM SLIS to discuss issues in contemporary librarianship, should be initiated throughout the year to maintain student interest in its professional organization. Establishing a student round table or caucus would also be a way to encourage active student participation in MLA.

Several studies emphasize the effect that faculty have on students’ decision to join professional organizations. MLA should make attempts to engage the support of the USM SLIS faculty in the organization, for example by asking them to present a lecture at the annual conference.

MLA is attractive to students who are looking for ways to enhance an early start in their professional careers. It is important for MLA to foster that impression in its publicity to students and to encourage student members to take an active role in the organization.

REFERENCES

- Sack, M., & Murphy, J. (Summer 1995). Faculty influence and other factors associated with student membership in professional organizations. American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education. 59, 125 - 130.

Join MLA!

Don’t forget to pay 2003 MLA dues. Dues must be paid by January 15 in order to vote in the officers’ election and receive the spring issue of Mississippi Libraries. A membership form is located on the inside back cover of ML.
MLA 2002 Conference Wrap-Up

Prima Plauché
MLA Vice President/President-Elect

"...Libraries and museums...preserve our rich and diverse culture and history and transmit it from one generation to the next. They provide social settings for numerous community activities. They support economic development. They provide extraordinary opportunities for recreation and enjoyment....All the numerous and varied roles and functions that libraries and museums play in their communities fall into one of three overlapping categories: education, information, and recreation...Of these the most important is education."

Dr. Robert S. Martin, Director
Institute of Museums and Libraries


Dr. Robert S. Martin, Director, the Institute of Museums and Libraries, gave the keynote address Libraries: Making a Difference in Mississippi. Martin described a plethora of services provided by libraries and museums that make a difference in the lives of children and adults. He also emphasized the important role of librarians as “essential knowledge navigators, developing tools that enable users to find resources in constructive, logical paths.”

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ence and Making a Difference in Your Library's Image, sponsored by the Public Library and Trustee Sections in partnership with the Mississippi Library Commission. Both segments featured national communications and public relations expert, Susan Silk.

Making a Difference with Publicity, sponsored by the Friends of Mississippi Libraries, and Getting Organized to Make a Difference, sponsored by the Educational Communications and Technology Roundtable, continued the emphasis on making a difference.

A professional development track offered numerous program opportunities: ALA Counselor Billy Beal presided at the Pay Equity for Librarians program. The second phase of this program is scheduled on February 4, 2003, during the Mississippi Library Association's Library Legislative Day in Jackson.

Making a Difference in Your Future included programs on retirement, investments, and insurance for library personnel. The MLA Insurance Committee and the Fiscal Management Committee sponsored these programs.

Author appearances and book signings abounded during programs and on the Live @ MLA Presentation Stage sponsored by GN Associates. During the Friends of Mississippi Libraries Afternoon with Tea and Authors, attendees enjoyed tea, scones and presentations by Mississippi authors Patti Carr Black, Marion Barnsall, Alan Brown, and Mary Carol Miller. The 2002 Mississippi Library Association's Author's Awards recipients, Scott Brunner and Bill Fitzhugh, delighted and entertained the audience during the prestigious banquet.

Youth Services Day @ MLA provided school and youth services librarians with a variety of programs. The luncheon featured award-winning author Deborah Wiles. The afternoon program was Talking and Swapping with Colleen Salley, sponsored by Thorpe Associates. During the Swap and Shop, youth services librarians reviewed and compiled a list of 2002 recommended titles for young people. MAGNOLIA and ERIC training provided continuing education opportunities.


Dr. Joe Cornelius' one-man show, Hats off to History, provided a strong message of hope, inspiration, history and the power of a good education at the Black Caucus annual luncheon funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

An ice cream social provided a refreshing break during Thursday's conference sessions. The party was sponsored by the MLA Membership Committee and underwritten by Library Interiors of Metairie.

The MLA New Members Roundtable, the USM School of Library and Information Science and the Cane Group underwrote Jigs and Reels: An Evening of Irish Music by Dr. Jim Flanigan.

The annual Mississippi Awards Luncheon paid tribute to those who made significant contributions to the Association and the profession of librarianship. It also provided for the transition of governance from the 2002 MLA Executive Board to the 2003 Board.

Jimmy Buffet Anderson and the Past Presidents' Band provided entertainment during the sponsor showcase party underwritten by Epixtech. The group sang their greatest hits along with new material written in mock protest of the proposed change in MLA dues structure. The demonstration had no effect on the membership, who unanimously approved the 2003 dues scale at the annual business meeting.

The President's reception honored 2002 MLA President Dr. Terry Latour and keynote speaker Dr. Robert Martin. Entertainment was provided by the steel drum group, Kaiso! Sirlsi and Sun Microsystems sponsored the event.

Martha Rayburn accepts the Mississippi Libraries/MLA Membership committee's door prize from Tracy Engle, co-chair, for renewing her MLA membership at the annual conference.

More than 450 people attended this year's conference. The Mississippi Library Association's 2002 sections, committees and roundtables gave of their time and talent to offer the largest number of sessions in our history - more than 70 - plus national speakers, a sponsor showcase and networking opportunities with colleagues from throughout the state.
I am deeply grateful to all of you for your support and commitment to making the conference such a success. And I extend my appreciation to Dr. Terry Latour and the 2002 MLA Executive Board for their support during my tenure as vice-president/president-elect.

Thank you all for making a difference!

MLA 2002 Annual Awards

Karen Shaw, USMCC Libraries, received a certificate of Honorable Mention for her outstanding volunteer work at the Gulfport Public Libraries.

Pat Rodgers, USM SLIS graduate student, was awarded the MLA Black Caucus Virginia Brock-Shields Scholarship.

Scholarships and Awards

Jacqueline Y. Quinn, USM SLIS graduate student, received the Peggy May Scholarship Award.

Nadia Nasr and Tessa Minchew, graduate students in the USM School of Library and Information Science, presented their research papers at the Beta Phi Mu Leadership Forum.

Rachel Hudson Smith, Associate Director and Systems Librarian at Mississippi College, received the MLA Outstanding Achievement Award for 2002.

Mary Hamilton, USM Libraries Electronic Services Librarian, was the Past President's Award for 2002.

Peter Psikogies, Chairman of the Long Beach Trustees and the Children's Library Building Campaign, and president of the Friends of the Library, was awarded the coveted Peggy May Award.

Friends of the Mississippi Libraries

Freda Hartness received the Ruby Assaf Award and accepted the Chapter One Award presented to the Friends of Clinton Public Library.

The Library Interiors Group

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Cataloging DVD Formats in OCLC

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The latest revision of Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, 2nd Edition has updated chapters 7 and 9 with reference to motion pictures/descriptions and electronic resources. However, questions may remain for those unaccustomed to the DVD format. Although DVDs (like their VHS, laserdisc, and Beta counterparts) are designated as videorecordings, most of them include additional features that require more detailed bibliographic record. A completed bibliographic record not only provides an increased number of access points for the user, but also reduces the risk of unnecessary duplication in ordering. While cataloging for popular titles is usually available in OCLC, and requires only minor modification, an understanding of the MARC tags used for DVDs is needed for cataloging titles not yet in OCLC. Recognizing that space limitations prohibit an exhaustive explanation for every cataloging element, this article highlights bibliographic areas that deserve attention in DVD cataloging.

CHIEF AND PRESCRIBED SOURCES OF INFORMATION

For DVDs, the title frames are the chief source of information for cataloging. The prescribed source of information for the title and statement of responsibility area (MARC tag 245), which is most often the main entry, can only be transmitted from the title frames. Failing that, bibliographic data may be derived from its container and/or container label, if the container is an integral part of the piece. If the above two sources do not provide adequate data for the remaining MARC fields, the following three sources may be used in order of preference: accompanying textual materials (e.g., scripts, shot lists, publicity material), the container if not an integral part of the piece; and other sources. If data is taken from these last three sources, enclose the information in square brackets.

In the edition statement (tag 250), publication data (tag 260), and series title (tag 4XX) fields, the square brackets are not needed if their information is taken from the container and/or accompanying textual materials. For the remaining bibliographic areas of physical description (tag 300), notes (tags 5XX), standard numbers (tags 020, 028, 022), information can be derived from any source, and square brackets are not used.

FINDING THE RIGHT RECORD

If a DVD title has a record in OCLC, which is often the case, most often it is only necessary to download the record into the local system for modification of the data. But finding the right record may not be as obvious as it may seem. Many titles have numerous re-releases with additional scenes, with commentaries from the director and actors, as well as subtitles in multiple languages. Before downloading the record, it is necessary to match all of the elements to the item in hand, including title, physical description, fixed fields, and additional features. While the container will often include production information, it is highly recommended that the cataloger watch the opening or closing credits of the item itself, though this can be time-consuming. Once the correct record has been downloaded, a classification number may be added that is appropriate for the local library.

FIXED FIELDS AND PHYSICAL DESCRIPTIONS

Once the “visual materials” workform is chosen, the leader, or fixed fields, at the top of the OCLC workform are completed using OCLC’s Bibliographic Formats and Standards, 3rd ed. Some fixed fields are automatically filled out, while other fields have small black boxes, which require data. These coded areas are described as follows in bold type:

The encoding level or EMVL is determined by the level of cataloging the cataloger is willing to do. Level 1 represents full cataloging for records that meet the requirements of second-level description (AACR2, rev. 2002, rule 1.0D2). Level 1 description assumes that names, uniform title, series, and subject authority work have been done. OCLC encourages libraries to input full record cataloging whenever possible. If this is not possible, core-level cataloging, coded as Level 4, or minimal-level cataloging, coded as Level K, are alternatives. Consult Bibliographic Formats and Standards for more information on these less-than-full levels of description.

As with VHS formatted videos, the code for the material type or T-Mat for DVD-videos is “V” for “videorecording.” Technique, abbreviated Tech in the fixed field area, when describing a DVD, is usually a choice between animation (a), live-action (l), or a combination of the two (c). Time should be entered in minutes as a three-digit number, such as 098 for 98 minutes, or “150” for 2 ½ hours.

The date status statement, DRSr, can be complicated for films, regardless of format, depending on whether the item is a reissue of a motion picture in another media format. Even if they are reissues of classic films, most DVDs are considered completely new items if they contain “previously unavailable” footage and additional
commentary. When this is the case, indicate a single date with "s." When the content is identical to that of the original work, but is simply in a different medium, use "p." If the item is a reissue in the same medium without change in content, "r" is used.

The language field, coded Lang, should indicate the original language of the film. Subtitles and audio tracks in multiple languages are coded in the 041 field, and named in the 546 field. This also includes a note for closed captioning for the hearing impaired. For most DVDs, it is not necessary to enter codes for form of item, Form; government publications, Gpub; type of control, Ctrl; or modified record, MRec. The audience field, Audn, if completed, should be consistent with the container, but should not reflect any moral judgment of the cataloger. The MPAA rating will be noted in a 521 field, rather than in the leader.

Bibliographic Formats and Standards, 3rd ed. is also used to complete the variable field for physical description in tag 007. (An example of a video workform in Figure 1 includes a typical 007 entry for a DVD.) The category of material is videorecording (v); the specific material designation is videodisc (d); and the color is black and white (b), multicolored (c), or mixed (m). The videorecording DVD format is (v), with sound on the medium (a). The medium for sound is videodisc (i), and for most DVDs, the playback channel is configured for multichannel, surround or quadraphonic sound (j). Bibliographic Formats and Standards does not yet reflect the dimensions of a DVD; therefore, "z" is used.

Some data in the fixed field of the leader and in tag 007 are noted again in tag 300 for description of the item. Using the motion picture, Doctor Zhivago, as an example:

300  2 videodiscs (200 min.) : tb sd., col. ; fc 4½ in.
The extent of item, noted in the 300 sub-field 4 as "videodisc," is specified later in a note field as DVD in tag 538. The dimensions for DVDs in subfield 4c are a standard 4½ inches. Whether or not they are double-sided is not relevant information for the 300 field, but can be indicated as one of many notes added to a DVD record.

DOCUMENTING THE EXTRAS

Although DVDs are technically non-book material, most DVDs contain not only the same film material or television programs as their videocassette counterparts, they may also include some extra features for fans of the entertainment industry, such as interviews with the cast and production team, previously deleted scenes, or even interactive games. In order to create a complete catalog record, it is necessary to document as many of these additional features as possible, using the 5XX fields for notes. However, some standard DVD features, such as the interactive menu, scene access, and scene selection, do not need to be mentioned in individual note fields. The 5XX fields do not necessarily need to be in numerical order.

While most of these extras will go in the 5XX fields, tag 250 is used for any one of the following examples of an edition statement. See AACR2r2002 1.2B1

250 Special ed.
250 Widescreen ed.
250 Deluxe Collector's ed.

Transcribe the words appearing on the item that explicitly relate to an edition statement. If the item contains both widescreen and standard versions, the information is noted in a 500 note field rather than in tag 250 for the edition statement. Series statements, such as "Five star collection," are noted, as they would be for monographs, in a 440 field. If the DVD is enhanced because it includes an interactive component, such as a video game, these aspects are indicated in the system requirements field, tag 538.

538 Enhanced DVD; for the 3 games a DVD-ROM drive with Windows 95 or higher is required. Will not work on a Macintosh or in a CD-ROM drive.

Other extras, such as previously deleted footage and interviews with the cast, can be included in a general 500 note field, or in a formatted contents note in tag 505, transcribed as on the original container. For example, a note describing special footage in Doctor Zhivago would read: 500 Special features: Introduction by Omar Sharif; commentary by Omar Sharif, Rod Steiger, and Sandra Lean; music-only track; theatrical trailer; 10 vintage documentaries.

Most containers include a short summary of the film or television program. An abbreviated form of the summary derived from the original can be entered in a 520 summary note field.

Production team and cast or performers are entered in tags 511 and 508 note fields respectively. This is especially important if the item includes separate interviews at the end of the film. The record should include separate 7XX tags for added entries for the most prominent names listed. These entries should be checked against authority records, either in the local database or online in OCLC or the Library of Congress, and must be consistent with any existing authority records. The distributor and production companies are also given in 710 fields as corporate heading added entries.

As with monographs, appropriate subject heading and genre headings are added in separate 6XX tags (see Figure 1). The manufacturer’s or publisher’s name, usually found on the spine of a DVD container, is entered in subfield 4 of an 028 field exactly as it appears on the item, including any spaces, punctuation, prefixes and suffixes. The label name is entered in subfield 5b for the source of the number. Some libraries may use this number to construct their localized call number.
CONCLUSION

The portability of the DVD format (i.e., playable on a laptop as well as on a DVD player), their added content, and their durability make DVDs a popular choice among library users. For catalogers, this means the number of DVDs in their workflow will likely increase. But do not be intimidated by the extra details that need to be described in the bibliographic record; as with any other item, it is still a matter of filling out a form. These brief guidelines and the workflow template in Figure 1 should aid in cataloging DVDs utilizing OCLC.

Figure 1: DVD-Videos Workform for the University of Mississippi

010 LCCN
020 ISBN
028 — Publisher Number ǂb
040 Source ǂc MUM
041 Language
007 DVD Format ǂa v ǂb d ǂc b or c ǂm f ǂe v ǂt a ǂg i ǂh z ǂt q
050 00 LC Call No.
090 Local LC-like Call No. PN 1997 (for fiction videos) or ML1500 (for musicals) ǂb
099 Local Call No.
049 Local Holdings OCLC symbol et,MUMV
1— - Main Entry (as needed)
245 — Title (usually the main entry) ǂh [videorecording] ǂb sub-title / ǂc enter agent(s) in the statement of responsibility in the following order: production company, executive producer, producer, director, writer
246 — Varying Form of Title ǂf Title on [container] ǂt a subtitle (no ending punctuation)
250 Edition statement.
260 Imprint: Place of production : ǂb name of production company ; ǂa place of distribution if different : ǂb name of distributor, ǂc date(s).
300 Collation: ǂv videodisc(s) ( ǂ# min. ) ǂb sd., col. ; ǂc 4 3/4 in.
4— — Series title statement (no ending punctuation)
538 System Requirement note.
500 General note. This tag is repeatable.
505 Contents note.
508 Creation/Production Credit Note (Narrator, Photographer, musician, etc. other than the one(s) in the statement of responsibility) note.
511 Participant or Performer Note (Cast).
520 Summary note.
521 Target Audience Note (MPAA Rating).
546 Language Note.
586 Awards Note.
650 0 Subject Headings used primarily for non-fiction materials.
655 Most commonly used LCSH headings for film genre: Animated films; Biographical films; Documentary films; Feature films; Motion pictures; [Nationality]; Music films; Musicals; Science fiction films; Short films; Silent films; Films for the hearing impaired; 14 LCSH
700 1 Personal name added entry. (Producer; director; writer; actor; actress; singer)
710 2 Corporate name added entry. (Production company; television company)
730 0 Uniform title. (TV program)

BIBLIOGRAPHY


Libraries and E-Waste: Planning for Proper Disposal of Computers

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Today, computers are central to the proper functioning of all libraries. They provide access to the World Wide Web, online catalogs, databases, games and other resources. And as a consequence, the number of computers used in libraries has increased yearly. And just like private consumers, libraries must upgrade and improve their computers if they are to provide the latest available technology to their clientele. Libraries are an appropriate institution in which to study the environmental impact of computer disposal and to develop and implement ecologically friendly means of computer recycling.

Clearly, libraries are major consumers of computer equipment in the work to provide access to information, and are, therefore, disposers of computers, as well. In light of the traditional social and professional responsibilities of libraries, librarians need to educate themselves and the public about the materials used in computer manufacturing in order to address the issue of computer disposal.

WHAT IS E-WASTE?
The components of a computer system are largely unknown to most people. Computer manufacturers present their products as sterile and clean appliances. But Henry Norr, writing for the San Francisco Chronicle, has stated, "High-tech, despite a carefully cultivated image as a clean-and-green New Age industry, has created a huge and ever growing waste disposal problem." This disposal problem is called electronic waste, commonly referred to as e-waste. A discussion about computer waste can be broken down into two relevant areas: the materials used to manufacture computers and the proper disposal of these materials after the computer has outlived its usefulness. This paper will concentrate on the library's role in the proper disposal of computers.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) permits individuals to discard their personal computers with household waste. However, corporations and other large institutions are supposed to comply with the U.S. Code's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act that provides regulations on the proper disposal of hazardous waste.

Unfortunately, many institutions do not follow these regulations due to ignorance and lax enforcement by the EPA. This overall ignorance about computer components and their proper disposal has contributed to poisoning of the ecosystem. While most people recognize that plastic is a component of the computer appliance, plastic only accounts for 23% of the total weight of a computer. As Ted Smith, executive director of the Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition (SVTC), says, "A computer is basically a box of hazardous materials."

There are thirty-six primary materials used in the manufacture of desktop computers. Of these, over half are components that have proven to be economically unfeasible to recycle. The remaining seventeen primary components that are recyclable, or have some degree of recycling efficiency, are: plastics, lead, aluminum, iron, tin, copper, nickel, zinc, indium, gold, ruthenium, cobalt, palladium, silver, selenium, rhodium, platinum.

An example of a recyclable component is lead. There are five to eight pounds of lead in the average computer monitor to shield the user against radiation. There are three to five pounds in the central processing unit (CPU). Additional lead is used in the solder that holds chips to circuit boards. Yet, lead, which comprises about 6.3% of the computer's total weight, has a low 5% recycling efficiency, meaning that the remaining lead is reintroduced into the environment by leaching into the land and groundwater. According to the EPA, computers contribute 30 and 40 percent of the lead in the waste stream and the percentage is rising fast.

According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), lead is already in our food, water and air at dangerous levels of toxicity and has been determined to be the primary cause of environmentally induced illness in children.

COMPUTER DISPOSAL
As a result of these facts, there are now a number of public and private agencies whose mission is to educate the public on the ecological impact of computer disposal. The San Jose-based SVTC is a nonprofit organization, which has conducted research in the area of computer disposal. They, along with the Seattle-based Basel Action Network, are the chief architects of the Clean Computer Campaign (CCC), which works toward the sustainability, accountability and cleaner production of computers and other high-tech equipment. According to the CCC, more than 315 million computers will become obsolete during the next four years.

On all levels, cooperative and national, libraries have formed committees that
focus on a number of relevant social issues. The American Library Association (ALA) has a number of committees, one of which is the Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT). This round table is subdivided into task forces, one of which is the Task Force on the Environment. This group works on many environmental issues, including acid rain, lead poisoning prevention and global warming.

With a history of environmental awareness, the addition of computer disposal to the list of concerns is logical. ALA provides guidelines for the disposal of library materials such as books, audiovisual materials and serials and a fact sheet offering suggestions to libraries on how to dispose of damaged, out-of-date or excess materials. Since many of these recommendations were made prior to the age of the computer, it seems relevant to update the recommendations by adding computers and their proper disposal to the guidelines.

WHAT CAN LIBRARIES DO?

There are a number of programs libraries can initiate in order to dispose of their computers properly. Libraries are in a unique position to provide a working example to their communities through a number of alternatives for computer disposal including manufacturer returns, refurbishers/recyclers and donations to charities, schools and poorer communities. Manufacturer returns involve sending outdated computers back to the manufacturer of origin. Currently, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, and Gateway provide this environmental incentive with a small fee for the service.

Unfortunately, many libraries purchase their computers from several different manufacturers, making maintenance and upkeep of a disposal program confusing and problematic. Refurbishers and recovery recyclers are typically private companies, and in some cases nonprofit organizations, which will take discarded computer equipment and recycle or repair it to sell to other businesses or to donate to needy institutions. One leading U.S. refurbishing company is Asset Recovery Corp. (ARC) in St. Paul, MN, which recycles over thirty-six electronic items, including computer equip-

ment and its peripherals.

The advantage of refurbishing and recycling is the extension of the life of the computer and the use of recycled computer components to make other items. Many recovery recyclers are members of the International Association of Electronics Recyclers (IAER), which can provide a list of recovery recyclers in the United States.

ALTERNATIVES TO RECYCLING

Donate old computers to charities or some community organization that serves populations in need. Most small towns and major cities have charitable organizations like the Salvation Army and Goodwill. Many of these organizations are willing to come to the library to pick up these donations. Additionally, donations can provide tax credits to the library's parent institution.

Some computers can be sold at library book sales. Many community public libraries have very successful book sales, and the sale of computer equipment can only boost attendance at these events. Selling a used computer is more ecologically friendly because it adheres to the recycle/reuse philosophy that is one of the basic tenets of environmental organizations.

A word of caution: due to software copyrights and accompanying licensing agreements, it is not legal or ethical for libraries to donate their computers with any software still loaded onto the hard drive. Any disposal program must take into account the amount of time it will take to 'wipe-clean' any computer components.

ARC recommends that program managers seek out companies that provide a means ofscrubbing the drives and completely deleting all data remaining in the CPU.

BE PROACTIVE!

The point is to find programs that will extend the life of the computer — which means less e waste — which will also promote the library's image in the community as environmentally conscientious while providing opportunities for the library to develop better public relationships with community businesses, charities and government. In the long run, each library will need to develop a computer disposal program suited to its needs, budget, and location.

SELECTED WORKS CITED


Delta State University has joined an increasing number of libraries migrating to Sirsi Unicorn software in Mississippi. It uses the new iLink interface for the OPAC and is testing the iLink Data Stream of enriched content. Sirsi's Hyperion Digital Media Archive software will be used for organizing and accessing digital collections. The Greenville Higher Education Center Library, a branch of the DSU system, is a cooperative venture of Mississippi Delta Community College, Mississippi Valley State University and Delta State University, and will also be using Sirsi iLink software.

The Mississippi Library Commission won the Sponsor Showcase "BEST IN SHOW" for their exhibit at the annual MLA Conference in Hattiesburg, October 16-18.

The new USM Gulf Coast Library was dedicated in a ribbon-cutting ceremony on November 5, 2002. Studio South Architects designed the 54,000 square foot library built by Roy Anderson Construction.

Roughly six times the size of the old facility combined, the library has garnered the attention of the coast community with a "Bricks to Books" campaign. Director of USM Gulf Coast Development, Jean Wiesenbreg, reports that the commemorative bricks have raised over $60,000 to purchase new books for the library. The bricks form the patio entrance to the beautiful new three-story building.

Thurman Boykin announces his new weekly statewide newspaper column, "In the Shadow of Pulitzer," available at <http://www.mspress.org/boykin> in which he reviews recently published books written by Mississippians and/or about Mississippi.

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— Arthur W. Anderson, Ph.D.
Professor of Education
Florida Atlantic University

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People in the News

COLUMBUS-LOWNDES PUBLIC LIBRARY
Russell D. James, Archivist, joined the Columbus-Lowndes Public Library staff in September, 2002. Russell received his Master of Arts in history from the University of West Florida. His master's thesis was published as Too Late For Blood: The Florida Volunteers in the Mexican War, 1846-1848. James is the editor of The Mexican War Journal.

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
Ruby Licona, Associate Dean for Public Services, has joined the Mississippi State University Libraries faculty. Licona will have supervisory responsibilities over the Library's Reference, Current Journals, Library Instruction and the Government Documents/Microforms departments, and the Veterinary Medicine, Architecture, Jackson and Meridian branch libraries.

Ruby Licona

Licona received her B.A. from the University of California-Berkeley, her M.L.S. from Louisiana State University, and has completed additional graduate study at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has over 30 years of library experience, most of which was in several professional positions at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah; five years as a medical librarian; six years as a systems librarian; she also has teaching experience at Weber State and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and performed reference work earlier in her career at Colorado State University, LSU, LSU Medical Center, Ochsner Hospital Library, and Weber State.

Mississippi State University Libraries is also pleased to introduce Min Tian as the new Assistant Professor and Reference Web Services Librarian in the Mitchell Memorial Library. Dr. Tian is a 2002 graduate of the School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he earned his M.L.S. He also received his Ph.D. in Theatre Arts from the University of Illinois, and his M.A. in Comparative Literature from Shanghai Normal University.

Min Tian

Members of the Cataloging Department at Mississippi State University (MSU) received NACO (Name Authority Cooperative Program) training during the week of November 4 - November 8, 2002. The training leader was Gracie Gilliam, a Cooperative Cataloger with the Library of Congress. NACO is the name authority component of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC), which promotes international cooperation among libraries to provide high-quality bibliographic and authority records to users worldwide. Following training, MSU catalogers will create authority records for personal, corporate, and geographical names that will be submitted to the National Authority File (NAF), which can be accessed internationally through databases of the Library of Congress and the OCLC Online Computer Library Center. This will help provide authority records for Mississippi names and places.

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY
Jeff M. Stagell has been promoted to Assistant Director of Library Services at Delta State University. He previously served as the serials/interlibrary loan librarian at DSU since 1999.

David Salinero, Reference/Government Librarian of Delta State University, received the GALE/SELA Continuing Education and Professional Development Committee Professional Grant to attend the annual conference of the Southeastern Library Association in Charleston, South Carolina. The conference provided attendees with the opportunity to learn more about challenges and trends in the profession and to seek out possible solutions for their own institutions.

Check out our MLA Web site
http://www.misslib.org
About Books


Award-winning author Nevada Barr takes Park Ranger Anna Pigeon on a journey of terror and murder with Blood Lure. Author of eight previous Anna Pigeon mysteries, Barr displays once again her exceptional storytelling ability.

Anna Pigeon, continuing her duties as a park ranger on the Natchez Trace Parkway, returns to the West on a training assignment to study grizzly bears. Accompanied by bear researcher Joan Rand and Rand’s teenage assistant Rory Van Slyke, Anna hikes the back country of the Waterton/Glacier National Peace Park seeking signs of bears.

On the second night out, one of the bears they are seeking attacks their camp. Fleeing for their safety, the hikers separate and get out of the camping area, spending the rest of the night in a wooded area nearby. When morning comes, Anna and Joan discover a destroyed campsite and a missing Rory. Seeking help at a nearby campsite, they discover that there is a missing person from this campsite as well. The missing camper turns out to be Rory’s stepmother. She is found later in the day, dead, her neck snapped, and flesh cut away from her face. Anna is determined to seek the answers to this wilderness life-or-death mystery.

Blood Lure introduces a terrifying turn on the laws of nature as Barr spins a spell-binding tale around her faithful park ranger detective. Barr takes the readers on a journey where nature and humanity collide.

This book is highly recommended for all Mississippi libraries, especially for those whose patrons love a good mystery. Nevada Barr is an author who is highly attuned to the reader’s interest. Blood Lure as well as its predecessors should be included in library collections.

Donna P. Fite
Purvis Public Librarian
Lamar County Library System


It is a well-known fact that many unsung heroes who worked in the 1960s’ southern civil rights movement were not African-Americans. However, when many of us think of the civil rights movement, white women are not the first heroes that come to mind. Deep in Our Hearts: Nine White Women in the Freedom Movement puts into perspective the fact that not only were white women involved in the fight for civil rights, but many were in the forefront of it.

Deep in Our Hearts is composed of first-person accounts that span the women’s lives from childhood to the present. The authors are from diverse backgrounds, but they all share courage and dedication in the fight for human rights. They made sacrifices and suffered consequences for the cause. Some interrupted or ended their college educations. Some went through evictions; some were followed, and endured invasions of their privacy through wire-tapping and opened mail.

Often the families they left behind were affected, too. For example, Emmie Schrader Adams relates that when she was accused of belonging to a Negro Communist spy ring in Africa, her entire family was placed under a security clearance block. Penny Patch describes the hate mail that her family received. Although some families were supportive, many of the women became outcasts and suffered years of alienation from family members. They came to know the fear that southern Blacks had known all of their lives. They risked danger of arrest and bodily harm as freedom riders and often saw firsthand the harm that came to others. When traveling in cars with black people, they had to conceal themselves out of fear of what could happen if the races were seen together.

These women often found themselves in the minority as white people working in largely Black organizations. Sometimes friction developed between the races, and the women were subjected to hostile work environments due to feelings of resentment, distrust, and exclusion. Feelings of displacement were experienced after the civil rights movement because they just did not completely fit anymore in the black or white worlds or the American northern or southern cultures. However, in spite of these trials, the book contains expressions of how the authors enjoyed experiencing southern black cultural life. Some lived in the homes of black activists and developed close, lifelong friendships, and found rewarding experiences working with renowned activists, such as Julian Bond and Aaron Henry.

Deep in Our Hearts is a valuable book on the civil rights movement. It speaks from a perspective that is not given nearly enough coverage. This is a very useful source for research, particularly concerning the 1964 Freedom Summer campaign. The index helps to locate significant names, organizations, events and places, providing keywords as good starting points for further research. This book would be a valuable asset in all research institutions with collections about the civil rights movement, as well as school, academic and public libraries.

Elizabeth Adams
Catalog Librarian
Moorland-Spingarn Research Center
Howard University

Davies, David, R., ed. The Press and Race: Mississippi Journalists Confront

At a time when intense racism dominated the state of Mississippi, the southern press encountered difficulties as they reported news about the desegregation of schools. Mississippi journalists had mixed emotions while challenging the Anglo-American communities with stirring news of the inevitable. After the Brown v. Board of Education decision was handed down in May 1954, the nation was in a social upheaval. Journalists faced trying times as they captured some of the most important media events of the civil rights movement.

The Press and Race. Mississippi Journalists Confront the Movement is a collection of nine essays edited by David R. Davies, associate professor of journalism at The University of Southern Mississippi. The book recalls the work of southern journalists and editors and their responses during Mississippi’s biggest running story since slavery. The press coverage from 1954 to 1965 encompasses the confrontation of school desegregation in the 1950s and 1960s, the Freedom Riders’ desegregation of public transportation in 1961, the admission of James Meredith to the University of Mississippi in 1962, and the assassination of Medgar Evers in 1963.

Being products of their environment, the southern journalists often failed to recognize African-Americans’ views of the movement and completely allowed the news and editorial views to be dominated by the voices of Anglo-Americans. The southern journalists had their personal concerns about desegregating and stated that this would lead to inter-racial socializing, which was not accepted at the time by most Anglo-Americans and some African-Americans.

Hazel Brannon Smith, a segregationist and the first woman to win the Pulitzer Prize in 1964 for editorial work in the Lexington Advertiser, saw integration as a negative impact on her community and spoke out on this issue in her editorials by offering paternalistic Southern Jim Crow attitudes that were congenial to her white audience.

Hodding Carter, Jr., supporter of the civil rights movement and strongly committed to human rights, was known as Mississippi’s best-known journalist. He never called for integration of the schools, nor did he like to be called an integrationist. Carter rejected Mississippi’s outright defiance of Brown v. Board of Education by displaying global consciousness and urging his readers to consider the positive aspects of allowing every American child the right to an equal education. His editorials in the Delta Democrat-Times on racial tolerance in 1945 won him the Pulitzer Prize in 1946.

Known as an integrationist, Ira B. Harkey, Jr., was the first Anglo-American journalist in Mississippi to expose the state’s long history of cruelty and injustice to African-Americans. He stated that Mississippians were making idiots of themselves while the nation watched. Editor and publisher of the Pascagoula Chronicle from 1948 to 1963, Harkey went through trying times when a boycott of the Chronicle was organized. Harkey survived with the help of the federal government as he fought back through his editorials. His direct editorials won him the Pulitzer Prize in May 1963, thus enhancing his status.

Other Mississippi journalists who responded to the civil rights movement were Percy Greene, an African-American (Jackson Advocate); Jimmy Ward, a segregationist (Jackson Daily News); J. Oliver Emmerich, “an avowed segregationist softened by a belief in fair journalism” (McComb Enterprise-Journal); George A. McLean (Tupelo Journal); and Wilson F (Bill) Minor (New Orleans Times-Picayune).

The Press and Race is recommended for academic and public libraries, particularly those with collections on Mississippi during the civil rights period, and for all audiences with an interest in the civil rights movement.

Vickie Frierson-Adams
Database Maintenance/Catalog Librarian
University of Mississippi


John T. Edge, the director of the Southern Foodways Alliance of the University of Mississippi’s Center for the Study of Southern Culture, illustrates that sometimes the better the food the more ramshackle the exterior of the place serving it. Readers beware! Do not open this book on an empty stomach. You might find yourself driving fifty miles out of the way to get one of the featured, tantalizing southern meals.

As the title of the book suggests, this work is a rollicking good read through various southern states and into eating establishments off the beaten path. The asides and historical notes are of particular interest. The author’s purpose is to have the book “read as a social history of Southern food.” In this work, readers learn about the Jackson condiment known as cumback sauce, why tamales are found in the Delta, where to get a good muflieta in New Orleans, and where to find pimento cheeseburgers. Southern Belly is recommended for collections in every Mississippi and southern library.

Tracy Englert
Catalog Librarian
The University of Southern Mississippi
About Children's Books

PURA BELPRE AWARDS, 2002

A relatively new award, the Pura Belpre Award was established in 1996 and is "presented to a Latino/Latina writer or illustrator whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience for children and youth. It is co-sponsored by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association, and the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking (REFORMA), an ALA Affiliate. The award is named after Pura Belpre, the first Latina librarian from the New York Public Library. As a children's librarian, storyteller, and author, she enriched the lives of Puerto Rican children in the United States through her pioneering work of preserving and disseminating Puerto Rican folklore" (http://www.ala.org/alsc/belpre.html, October 31, 2002). The awards are given biennially: one medal for narrative and one medal for illustration. Honor books in both categories may be named.

MEDAL FOR NARRATIVE


For almost fourteen years, Esperanza has lived on her family’s beautiful and wealthy Rancho de las Rosas in Mexico. Her comfortable life comes to a tragic end when her father is murdered, and Esperanza and Mama must flee to the United States. As penniless immigrants, they must rely upon the kindnesses of their former servants and relatives in a Mexican farm labor camp in California. The privileged life that the two women lived is replaced by worry, poverty, and illness. Gradually, Esperanza emerges as a strong young woman eager for the community of her people and looking forward to opportunities in California. Recommended for grades 3-8.

HONOR BOOK FOR NARRATIVE


Using his memory of childhood events and adding some fictionalized conversations, Francisco Jiménez writes about his experiences growing up as a poor Mexican in California. In this sequel to *The Circuit*, the author takes readers on a journey through his junior high and senior high school years until he leaves for college on scholarships. Through first person viewpoint, readers live Francisco’s life. His parents speak no English, and he has three brothers and a sister who depend upon the income he and his brothers make cleaning buildings. Simply but compellingly told, Francisco’s story of family devotion and personal determination will inspire and satisfy. Recommended for grades 5-8.

HONOR BOOKS FOR ILLUSTRATION


Chato, a cool cat in the barrio who was first seen in *Chato’s Kitchen*, returns to celebrate Novio Boy’s birthday. Not knowing his birth date has Novio feeling low at birthday parties, so Chato plans a surprise party but forgets to invite the guest of honor. When they cannot locate Novio, Chato and his friends find Novio has been kidnapped or is dead. His friends are ecstatic when Novio shows up for the parade with two rats at a bout of Dempster hopping. Soto’s snappy dialog sprinkled with Spanish is perfectly complemented by Guevara’s bold, energetic acrylic and scratchboard illustrations. Recommended for ages 5-9.


In the best tradition of noodlehead stories, Juan Bobo works for a farmer and then for a grocery store owner with eye-rolling results. Juan Bobo is a cheerful, hard-worker, but he cannot figure out for himself that fresh milk will leak when carried home in a burlap bag and that a big chunk of cheese placed on his head will melt in the hot sun. His loving but bewildered mother sends him off to work each day with advice that Juan Bobo follows without any thought to the consequences. When he drags a large ham tied with a string, dogs and cats follow him eating the meat. The sight makes an ill, young girl laugh, and her father rewards Juan Bobo by sending a ham to his house each Sunday. Montes’s comic story is enhanced by Cepeda’s oil paintings rich with the landscape of Puerto Rico. Spanish words are smoothly incorporated into the text, and a glossary provides pronunciation and definitions. Recommended for ages 3-8.

Rosemary Chance
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The University of Southern Mississippi
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MLA 2003 Committee Assignments

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Elizabeth Beck
Daisy Cheng
Terry Latour

MLA AWARDS
Stella Wheat, Chair
Cathy Kanady, Co-Chair
Meredith Futral
Pamela Ledner
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Shirleen Case, Chair

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Susan Byra
Cathy Kanady
Ruth Ann Gibson

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Pamela Ladner
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Jeff Slagell
Stella Wheat

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Sheila Cork
Scholarship Silent Auction
Paul Cartwright, Chair
Wendy Cartwright, Co-Chair

WEB PAGE
Steven Turner, Web Master
Molly Signs
Beth Ashmore
MLA Executive Board Minutes

AUGUST 9, 2002

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:
Terry Latour, President
Prima Plauché, Vice-President/President-elect
Keth Coleman, Treasurer
Kathleen Wells, Secretary
Randy Sherard, Parliamentarian
Henry Ledet, Past President
Glenda Segars, SELA Representative
Indira Bhowal, Special Library Section Chair
Jeff Stiegell, ACRL Chair
David Woodrum, Public Library Section Chair

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:
Mary Julia Anderson, Executive Secretary
Ann Branton, Editor, Mississippi Libraries
Francis Deibes, Friends of Mississippi Libraries
Trey Englert, Membership Committee
Richard Greene, Insurance Committee
Mary Hamilton, NMRT/Conference Exhibits
Frances Harness, Friends of Mississippi Libraries
Peggy Price, Conservation Committee
Diane Ross, Special Collections Round Table
Jennifer Smith, National Library Week Committee
Sharman Smith, Mississippi Library Commission
Margaret Stanford, Delta Dental Insurance Representative
Bob Wolverton, NMRT

President Latour called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. The agenda was presented.

1. OFFICERS' AND STAFF REPORTS:
A. Minutes. The minutes of the May 17 meeting were distributed and reviewed. J. Stiegell made a correction to the officers' titles in the ACRL report. The minutes were amended to show that Suzanne Graham will be Vice-Chair and Peggy Price, Secretary. R. Sherard moved to approve the minutes as corrected; P. Plauché seconded. Approval was unanimous.

B. Treasurer's Report. K. Coleman distributed the treasurer's report. After some discussion of the figures, the report was approved on motion by R. Sherard with a second by E. Wells. Coleman gave the Board his new e-mail address: kcoleman@northwestms.edu. Coleman asked if MLA can pay some of a conference speaker's expenses in advance; T. Latour noted that travel advances are a common business practice and are regarded as part of the cost of doing business. MLA will pay travel advances if circumstances warrant it.

C. President's Report. T. Latour noted that Delta State has changed all its e-mail addresses; his address is now tlatour@deltastate.edu. He deferred other items in his report to be covered in the course of the meeting.

D. Vice-President/President-Elect
1. Conference Update. P. Plauché reported that over 65 functions have been scheduled for the Hattiesburg conference in October.

2. Conference Event Insurance. MLA does not carry liability insurance, and so we will need event insurance for the conference. Plauché moved to authorize President Latour to sign a document purchasing event insurance at a cost of $166. The insurance is available through a rider to the Hattiesburg Convention Center's insurance policy. R. Sherard seconded. The motion carried.

3. Speaker Recognition Items. Plauché is working to identify appropriate convention items for conference speakers.

4. Convention Invoicing. The Hattiesburg Convention Center has agreed to track expenses by program, not by the room, which will make it much easier to figure meeting costs.

5. Sponsor Pledge Tracking. Plauché will discuss ways of tracking pledges and donations with K. Coleman.

6. Tax Receipt/Donor Acknowledgement Procedure. Donations need to be acknowledged in a timely manner, with the tax deduction status made clear.

7. MLA Chapter Relations Workshop. At the ALA Midwinter Meeting, Plauché attended a workshop on how to run state library associations. The workshop covered financial organization, advocacy, membership, conference planning, staffing, and developing new leadership.

E. ALA Councilor's Report. In B. Beal's absence, T. Latour reported on several items.

1. ALA Council Actions. The question of the allied professional association will be brought up at the Midwinter Meeting.

2. Advocacy/Better Salaries Workshop. T. Latour and B. Beal attended this workshop at the ALA Annual Conference in Atlanta in June. They will present a one-hour version on Wednesday morning at the MLA conference.

3. Plans for MLA Workshops. To prepare for local workshops on salaries and advocacy, comparison studies are needed on the salaries of librarians and other service professions.

4. Recess Issues. With Congress in recess, LSTA reauthorization and copyright issues are some issues that MLA members may want to take up with their legislators. A handout was distributed.

5. ALA Banned Books Week will be September 21-28, 2002. MLA encourages libraries to participate. A handout was distributed.

6. Volunteers Needed. As Vice-President Carla Hader seeks members to serve on ALA and MLA Council committees. A handout was distributed.

7. Comments on Internet Safety should be submitted to National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) by August 27th. A handout was distributed.

8. Election for Councilor. Latour reminded the Board that B. Beal's term as Councilor ends after the 2003 Toronto ALA conference. He noted that the MLA Handbook calls for a four-year Council term, but that MLA has charged this to a three-year term in accordance with ALA guidelines.

F. SELA Councilor's Report. G. Segars distributed a handout of information on the 2002 SELA biennial conference, which will be held Oct. 24-26 in Charleston, S.C. There was some discussion of a possible SELA/MLA joint conference to be held some time in the future; it was noted that SELA planners select sites a number of years in advance.

G. Executive Secretary. M.J. Anderson reported that the copier, which is over 20 years old, is having problems. D. Woodrum moved to have Anderson do comparison studies on the cost of purchasing or leasing a new copier, and to authorize T. Latour to approve the lease or purchase. R. Sherard seconded. The motion carried. Latour noted that the budget already allows for the possibility of equipment-related expenses.

H. Mississippi Libraries Editor. A. Branton reported that the next issue will be the conference issue. Branton asked that there were any applications for the editor's job. M.J. Anderson replied that none had come in yet. The advertisement will be run in the next issue of ML. P. Plauché will send the announcement out in an
e-mail, and Branton will have it mounted on the MLA Web site. Anderson noted that ML is a much more substantial journal than those of a number of other state library associations. Branton added that the Webmaster for the electronic version of ML has suggested mounting the journal in PDF, which would be an exact replica of the print format.

II. SECTION REPORTS:
A. ACRL. J. Slagell reported that he has sent in an annual chapter report to national ACRL. He is still investigating the possibility of pre-program focus groups that would tie in with the ACRL presentation "Soft Skills: Creating a Better Workplace" at the October MLA conference.

B. Public Libraries. Section Chair D. Woodburn distributed a handout on the conference programs to be co-sponsored by the Public Library Section and the Trustees Section. A $10,000 grant has been secured from the Mississippi Library Commission to fund the programs. On Thursday morning, Susan Silk of Oitigate Communications in Chicago will present "Positioning Your Library to Make a Difference," that afternoon, Ms. Silk will present "Making a Difference in Your Library's Image." These programs will have application to all types of libraries. J. Slagell noted that the ACRL program will complement the PLS programs and will also be of interest to attendees from all types of libraries. Woodburn added that the PLS will also have a business meeting at the conference on Friday morning.

C. School Libraries. In the absence of Section Chair D. Long, T. Latour reported that MLA and School Library Section information will be available at LAMP tour stops. Wednesday will be School Librarian Day at the MLA Conference in October.

D. Special Libraries. I. Blevins reminded the Board that the speaker for the section's MLA program and breakfast meeting will be Robert Latham, the director of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency.

E. Trustees. The Trustees Section report was covered by the report of the Public Library Section.

III. ROUND TABLE REPORTS:
A. Friends. Francis Delmas reported that the Friends' "Afternoon with Tea and Authors" program on Wednesday will be followed by a book signing. The Friends' business meeting will be held Friday morning.

B. Special Collections. Diane Ross reported on the recently held digitalization workshop at USM. There was a good turnout, attendance had to be limited. The round table will present a joint program with the Conservation Committee at the MLA conference.

C. NMRT. Mary Hamilton reported that NMRT is working with the Membership Committee to come up with an information packet and a letter of welcome for new members. NMRT and Beta Phi Mu will sponsor the USM SLIS student paper presentations at the MLA conference. Bob Wolverton distributed a handout on possible models for a mentoring program, noting that such a program, which would match volunteer mentors with new librarians, would enhance professional development and facilitate MLA involvement by new hires. The MLA Web page has a form for contact information for newly hired librarians, and NMRT will send out an information packet and membership form to new hires; mentoring information could be included in the packet and on the Web site. NMRT will determine if there is enough interest in the program to pursue it. P. Pauché moved that the Board endorse the program; K. Wells seconded. The motion carried.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
A. Archives and History. T. Latour reported for Chris Ferguson that the committee will investigate placing selected MLA records in an archival repository.

B. Conference Exhibits. Mary Hamilton distributed a copy of the Sponsors' Showcase Web page. The page is vendor-oriented and includes a list of sponsors, activities, contact information, information on the convention center, etc. Follow-up letters will be sent to vendors the committee hasn't heard from yet. T. Latour noted that sponsors pay a great deal of MLA's conference expenses, and that the Web site is a good way to recognize them.

C. Conservation. Peggy Price reported that the committee, with SCRT, will sponsor a program on the Civil Rights in Mississippi Digital Archive; speakers will cover the grant process and digitization. The committee is also considering a late spring preservation workshop.

D. Insurance. Chair Rich Greene introduced Delta Dental/AFLAC representative Margarita Stanford, who distributed a brochure and reiterated features and costs of the program that she had covered at the May Board meeting. There are no age limits; the program coverage is by calendar year; there is a $1200 per person annual maximum, with a 12-month waiting period for major care. She also distributed AFLAC information on long-term care, cancer, and accident coverage plans. AFLAC and Delta Dental will be represented in the conference exhibits, and there will be a presentation on insurance on Friday morning. R. Greene outlined the committee's marketing plan, a new release on the insurance program will be sent to The Packet and will appear in ML. Information will also be sent in direct mailouts to library trustees and Friends groups. P. Pauché and R. Greene reported favorably on their experiences with the Delta Dental program in their libraries.

E. Membership. Co-Chair Tracy Englel discussed several Membership Committee concerns.

1. Student Membership Limitations. Englel proposed that the dues for student members be reduced to $10.00, and that part-time students be allowed to join. Several Board members noted that there would need to be a definition of "part-time," and that librarians with full-time employment who are also taking classes part-time would be expected to pay dues at the employee level, not the student level.

2. New Membership Form. Englel distributed a draft of a revised membership form. Changes in dues were suggested for several categories. M.J. Anderson noted that any change in dues structure must be brought before the MLA membership. The draft form has separate lines for the Peggy May and MLA Scholarships, since they are separately defined in the handbook. Anderson will get more information for the next meeting on whether the funds are actually maintained separately. Englel raised the possibility of adding either credit cards besides Visa and MasterCard to the form. Anderson noted that any payment method other than cash costs extra, and that Discover and American Express processing fees are higher than those of the bank cards (see PayPal discussion below). R. Sherrard moved that the new form be used, minus the dues changes, in the next issue of ML; Pauché seconded. The motion carried.

3. Membership Expiration Date on Mail- ing Labels. Englel asked if the membership expiration date would be added to MLA mailing labels; Anderson replied that the date would be added to the labels for the full issue of ML.

4. Reduce Membership Renewal Window. There was some discussion of changing the renewal window, and of including two membership years on a single form. It was decided not to change the membership window.

5. Membership Recruiting - USM SLIS. Englel reported that she contacted the library school at USM about recruiting. She noted that many students are part-time and/or enrolled through the Internet, which makes participation problematic.

6. Membership Recruiting - LAMP Tour. The Membership Committee will have a booth at LAMP tour locations and will recruit members.

7. Bookstore Affiliation Programs. Englel reported on possible affiliation of the MLA Web site with electronic bookstores such as Amazon, the Kentuckr Library Association has such an affiliation, which earns approximately $500 per quarter for the association. Since the MLA site is maintained by USM, there was some discussion of whether such an affiliation would be allowed.

8. Support Staff Round Table. Englel raised the possibility of a paraprofessional round table within MLA, noting that several other states have such groups. There was general agreement that programs aimed at paraprofessionals would be desirable, but that the definition of "paraprofessional" is somewhat ambiguous in a state where practicing librarians may or may not hold the MLS degree. Pauché noted that the dues structure by salary breakdown covers all individuals regardless of their title or degree.
OCTOBER 16, 2002

BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:
Terry Latour, President
Pam Plaché, Vice-President/President-elect
Keith Coleman, Treasurer
Kathleen Wells, Secretary
Harry Lebo, Past President
Billy Beal, ALA Councillor
Glenda Segars, SELA Director
Indira Bhosale, Special Libraries Section Chair
Dee Dee Long, School Libraries Section Chair
Jeff Slagel, ACRL Chair
David Woodburn, Public Libraries Section Chair

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:
Theresa Akbar-Elison, Black Caucus & 2YCRT
Mary Julia Anderson, Executive Secretary
Ann Branton, Editor, Mississippi Libraries
Francis Delmas, Friends of Mississippi Libraries
Tracy English, Membership Committee
Juanita Flanders, Vice-President-Elect
June Garrett, Membership Committee
Missy Lee, Fiscal Manager
Sharon Smith, Mississippi Library Commission
Yvonne Stanford, Black Caucus
Stevie Turner, Web Committee

President Latour called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. The agenda was presented.

I. OFFICERS' AND STAFF REPORTS:
A. Minutes. The minutes of the August 9 meeting were distributed and reviewed. The minutes were approved on a motion by J. Slagel with a second by G. Segars.
B. Treasurer's Report. K. Coleman distributed the treasurer's report. He noted that expenses have been lower in many areas. After some discussion of the figures, the report was approved on a motion by K. Wells with a second by D. Woodburn.
C. President's Report. T. Latour reminded the Board of the annual membership meeting to be held Thursday, October 17, to address dues restructuring. A quorum consists of 10% of the membership, which would require an attendance of 59 persons. Latour encouraged board members to promote attendance at the meeting.
D. Vice-President/President-Elect
1. Conference Update. P. Plaché emphasized the role of sponsors in supporting the MLRA conference and encouraged members to express their appreciation to the sponsors. She noted that there were 507 conference attendees registered as of 8 a.m. October 16. Plaché thanked everyone who had been involved in conference planning.
2. 2003 Committee Preference Form. The new committee preference form was included in conference packets. Plaché encouraged members to turn in their committee preference forms at the conference, and also to fill out the conference evaluation forms. There will be a prize of a one-day payment for next year’s conference as an incentive to turn in the evaluation forms.

II. SECTION REPORTS:
A. ACRL. Section Chair J. Slagel reported that the preliminary focus groups set up to provide information for the ACRL “Soft Skills” conference program were a success.
B. Public Libraries. Section Chair D. Woodburn presented a resolution requesting that the board authorize him to request grant funds from the Mississippi Library Commission to fund the Public Library Section conference programs. K. Wells seconded. The resolution carried.
C. School Libraries. Section Chair D. Long noted that Oct. 16 was designated “School Librarian Day” at the conference, with programs designed to attract school librarians. T. Latour added that he was encouraged by the number of school librarian attendees. M. J. Anderson reported that the LAMP tour had yielded ten or twelve MLA conference registrations.
D. Special Libraries. Section Chair I. Bhosale reminded the Board that the speaker for the section’s MLA program and breakfast meeting will be Robert Latham, the director of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency. She indicated that the program was on track, and she is anticipating good attendance.
III. ROUND TABLE REPORTS:

A. Black Caucus. T. Albar-Ellison noted that the Black Caucus will have evaluation forms for its program and asked that attendees fill them out. She introduced incoming BC chair Y. Stanford. T. Laber noted that the Board had approved via e-mail the BC’s application for a mini-grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council to cover conference program expenses; since the bylaws do not have a provision for voting by e-mail, Laber moved that the Board reaffirm the vote. D. Woodham seconded. The motion carried. The amount of the grant is $1138, matched with funds from Coahoma Community College.

B. Friends. Francis Delmas encouraged members to attend the Friends’ “Afternoon with Tea and Authors” program on Oct. 16.

C. 2YCRT. T. Albar-Ellison encouraged members to attend the round table program’s tabaret meeting on Oct. 17.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Membership. Co-Chair T. Engbert summarized the proposed changes to the dues structure and moved that the Board approve them. K. Wells seconded.

1. Change student dues to $10 and allow part-time status with a limitation of 2 years.
2. Add membership types: $50.00 to $99.99, $55.00, $60.00, $75.00.
3. Add categories: Retired, $15; Vendor, $40.
5. Creation of a new life membership category.

D. Woodham asked if the changes would take effect in January. P. Plauché replied that they would, and added that members could renew at the conference under the old structure. The motion carried. The changes will be presented to the membership at the business meeting Oct. 17.

B. Web Page. S. Turner presented two proposals:

1. PayPal. Turner moved that the Board accept online payment of registrations and dues using credit card transaction vendor PayPal. B. Beal seconded. There is no annual fee; instead there is a 2.2-2.7% fee per transactions. P. Plauché noted that she had heard only positive comments from people who have used PayPal. She added that using the service would be good for cash flow; some sponsors have asked if they can pay electronically. B. Beal asked which cards are accepted by PayPal. Turner replied that all the standard credit cards (MasterCard, Visa, AmEx, Discover) are accepted. Turner noted that PayPal was recently purchased by eBay. K. Coleman asked about merchant fees; Turner replied that PayPal pays the fees. Charges would be included in the PayPal fee to cover merchant fees. The more total transactions, the higher the total costs. M. J. Anderson suggested that a fee could be added to the MLA membership and registration forms for credit card transactions; Turner noted that adding a fee could inhibit participation. Real suggested trying PayPal for a year without additional fees and then revising the issue. The motion carried. The Board will revisit the matter and look at the possibility of additional fees in a year.

2. Domain name purchase and commercial host for MLA Web site. Turner requested an allocation of $50.00 for the purchase of a domain name. He suggested an email vote on the name itself. In order to have a unique domain name, the MLA site must move to a commercial server. T. Laber asked if the $250 total to cover the move (fees vary among service providers). P. Plauché asked if the name would be part of the MLA domain name; Turner replied that it would not. He added that MLA could also buy email addresses and sell them to members. T. Laber moved to allocate $250 from the presidential travel allowance and to authorize the Web Page Committee to gather more information on the domain name and fees, and to implement the purchase on Board approval. P. Plauché seconded. A vote will be held when Turner presents the Board with information on fees and domain name choices.

V. OLD BUSINESS: None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS: None.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. MLC. S. Smith reported that the FY04 budget request has been submitted. She does not yet know if there will be midyear cuts. MLC is not under a hiring freeze, but they have to keep eight positions open in order to balance the books. The new building construction is in progress. Funding for furniture and equipment will be requested at the next legislative session. P. Plauché expressed appreciation to MLC and the MLA Board for their support of the MLA conference.

B. Next Board Meeting. The final meeting of the 2002 Executive Board will be held Friday, December 6, at 10:00 at the Mississippi Library Commission; it will be combined with the first meeting of the incoming 2003 Board.

C. USM SLIS. T. Laber reported that the USM School of Library and Information Science had been reaccredited on a limited basis, not due to deficiencies in the program but to budgetary uncertainty. SLIS is holding several meetings at the MLA conference requesting feedback on their programs. Director Tom Walker is leaving for another position; Dr. J. Norton will be the new director. Laber requested that Board members promote SLIS involvement in MLA.

D. Conference Update. P. Plauché updated her earlier conference attendance figures to 520. She added that school librarians who are not registered for the section's luncheon program can come and hear the program at no charge.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: The Board adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen L. Wells, Secretary

MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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The University of Southern Mississippi's 36th Annual Children's Book Festival

April 2-4, 2003

WHEN?
April 2-4, 2003 (Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday)

WHERE?
Hattiesburg Lake Terrace Convention Center

WHO?

Floyd Cooper – Illustrator of beautiful picture books with African-American characters. His books include Grandpa's Face, Brown Honey in Broomwheat Tea, Danitra Brown Leaves Town, Ma Dear's Aprons, and Cumbayai. His medium is oil wash on board, and he lives in New Jersey with his wife and two young children.

Sharon Draper – 1997 National Teacher of the Year, professional educator, accomplished writer primarily of young adult fiction, such as Forged by Fire, Tears of a Tiger, and Romiette and Julio. She lives in Cincinnati, Ohio. Visit her website at http://sharondraper.com for more information.

Eliza Dresang – 2003 Ezra Jack Keats Lecturer! Associate professor in library science at Florida State University and author of Radical Change: Books for Youth in a Digital Age. She is an active member of the Association for Library Services to Children (American Library Association).

Mary Hamilton – Professional storyteller, recording artist, and workshop leader from Kentucky. Her “just talking” back-porch delivery features narratives from Kentucky, along with other folktales, myths, and legends.

Peter Sis – Award-winning illustrator and author. Winner of a 1998 Caldecott Honor for Starry Messenger, a picture biography of Galileo. Look forward to a slide presentation of his stunning illustrations. He was born in Czechoslovakia and lives in New York City.

Nancy Willard – Essayist, literary critic, novelist, short story writer, poet, and lecturer in English at Vassar College. A Visit to William Blake's Inn (her collection of poems) was awarded the 1982 Newbery Medal and a 1982 Caldecott Honor (Alice and Martin Provensen, illustrators). She continues to write poetry for children and live in Poughkeepsie, New York.

Other speakers and arrangements will be announced as information becomes available! http://www-org.usm.edu/%7Ebookfest/

Rosemary Chance, Director
Mary Hamilton, Assistant Director
MISSISSIPPI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

MEMBERSHIP YEAR

☐ 2003 (January-December 2003)

Name _______________________
Library _______________________
Position _______________________
Mailing address _______________________

City ________________________ State ____________
Zip ________________________
Home Phone ________________________
Business Phone ________________________
Fax ________________________
E-mail ________________________
Type of Library ________________________

New Membership ☐ Renewal ☐

A. MEMBERSHIP TYPES

Membership (Any person currently working in a library or information center or those who provide support for its many services. Mark by salary range or current library affiliation)

|$0 to $9,999 | $15 per year |
|$10,000 to $19,999 | $25 per year |
|$20,000 to $29,999 | $35 per year |
|$30,000 to $39,999 | $45 per year |
|$40,000 to $49,999 | $50 per year |
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