

Louisiana ACRL Fall Conference

Dennis C. Tucker, Northwestern State University, Vice-President/President-Elect

The Louisiana Chapter of the ACRL will meet at Northwestern State University's Natchitoches Campus October 28th and 29th, 2002. The theme of the conference is "Realizing the Possibilities: Continuous Improvement in Your Library."

The keynote Speaker is Sara Laughlin, President of Sara Laughlin and Associates, Bloomington, Indiana. "Realizing the Possibilities: the Big Bold Picture and the Niggling Little Details" is the title of her speech. Laughlin's Library Consulting Firm specializes in continuous improvement systems, library planning, project management and design. The program is shared by ACRL and the LOUIS Users Conference (LUC). In addition to the keynote address and breakout workshops sponsored by ACRL, the LUC will present a number of workshops and sessions of interest to SIRSI users.

Members of Northwestern's host committee are in the process of planning the programs, and details will be soon mailed to ACRL members. Northwestern State University Libraries Faculty and Staff join the Louisiana ACRL in inviting all library personnel—professionals, paraprofessionals and clerical workers—to attend the conference. **Further information will be posted on the ACRL/LA web site about mid September (<http://www.mcneese.edu/library/acrl/>).**

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Photographs of Native Americans to be Featured in Fall Exhibition at LSU

Faye Phillips, Louisiana State University

From October 7 through December 21, 2002, *The North American Indian* by Edward S. Curtis will be on display in Hill Memorial Library. Produced in an edition limited to 500 copies, this monumental set is recognized as one of the most significant and controversial works on Native American cultures ever produced.



Image adapted from "Launching the Whaleboat" by Edward S. Curtis. Credit: Northwestern University Library, *Edward S. Curtis's 'The North American Indian': the Photographic Images*, 2001.
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/award98/ienhtml/curthome.html>

Published between 1907 and 1930 in twenty volumes of illustrated text and twenty portfolios of large-sized photogravures, *The North American Indian* contains more than 2,000 images and millions of words. Subsidized by financier J. Pierpont Morgan, Curtis's work was perhaps the largest anthropological project ever undertaken. Curtis sought to document "the old time Indian, his dress, his ceremonies, his life and manners." He wanted to record "all features of Indian life and environment ... the young and the old, with their habitations, industries, ceremonies, games, and everyday customs." Motivated in part by his erroneous belief that Native Americans were a "vanishing race," Curtis created an enduring and beautiful record – albeit interpretive and sometimes inaccurate – of Native Americans in the early part of the twentieth century.

Three dozen of the large-format prints and all twenty volumes of text will be on display. The library is open 9 to 5 Monday through Friday and 9 to 1 most Saturdays. For information, visit our website at <http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special> or call 225-578-6544.

President's Message

Laverne Simoneaux, Southeastern Louisiana University,
Chapter President

I know that all of you are preparing for the return of students to your campuses. Indeed, it is a busy time for all of us. It is especially busy, if we are short of personnel in our libraries. The *Chronicle of Higher Education* in their Wednesday, August 14th edition spoke of the shortage of librarians. To help us address these issues, our national organization has published a white paper, "Recruitment, Retention and Restructuring: Human Resources in Academic Libraries" to shed light on some the personnel issues facing academic libraries. It can be found at <http://www.ala.org/acrl/recruit-wp.html>.

I hope to see all of our members in Natchitoches for the joint ACRL-LA/LUC Conference. Dennis Tucker and his staff have been busily preparing for our arrival. I know it will be a wonderful and educational few days.

Rare Acadian Document Acquired by Dupré

Betsy Miguez, University of Louisiana-Lafayette

Edith Garland Dupré Library, UL Lafayette, has acquired a rare document on the Acadian expulsion from Nova Scotia. The letter, written by Major General John Winslow of the Massachusetts Militia in 1755, discloses the ethnic cleansing tactics used against the Acadians. Through the cooperation of Dupré Library Director Charles Triche and local musician Zachary Richard, the manuscript was purchased from a New England book dealer. It will be housed in the Special Collections Department at Dupré Library. For more information, contact Bruce Turner, Head of Archives and Special Collections, at (337) 482-5702 or bturner@louisiana.edu.

Lallage Feazel Wall Fund Grant Goes to Tulane

Jean-Paul Orgeron, Head, Center for Library User Education, at Tulane's Howard-Tilton Memorial Library and Kate Montgomery, Head, Digital Services, received a grant of \$52,550 from the Lallage Feazel Wall Fund for implementing information literacy initiatives through the development of interactive multimedia software. The project, "Achieving Information Literacy: Freshman Writing and Staff Development," draws on the collaborative efforts of Howard-Tilton's Center for Library User Education and Digital Services Department, the Innovative Learning Center, the English Department, and the Center for Workforce Effectiveness.

Are you interested in starting a formal (or informal) mentoring program at your library?



For more information attend the ACRL/LA program on "*Mentoring for Advancement in Academic Libraries*." The session will be held on **Tuesday morning October 29th at 9:00 a. m. at the annual ACRL/LA conference in Natchitoches, Louisiana**, so mark your calendars for this panel discussion from librarians who have presented research findings on mentoring programs in university libraries, librarians who have participated in start-up programs, and librarians who have mentored informally. Questions raised will relate to whether to have a formal or informal program, what or whether to require qualifications of the mentors, and how best to match up a mentor to a protégé.

Come with your own experiences to relate and suggestions on what to do as well as what to avoid.

The Freshman Experience at St. Joe

Bonnie Bess Wood, St. Joseph Seminary College

I was very fortunate last year when I took over the directorship of Rouquette Library at Saint Joseph Seminary College, for the college was just starting discussions about revamping its curriculum. Specifically, the college was interested in learning communities to help new students, as well as in replacing the senior research paper. As a member of the Academic Affairs committee, I mentioned that I had participated in a grant at my previous job that used learning communities at the freshman level to facilitate the introduction of new students to academic life and to help them make a smooth transition from high school to college. Based on my experience, I was immediately drafted to be a part of this new initiative, named "The Freshmen Experience." Besides the library director, the design team consisted of an English composition instructor, a formation instructor, and a computer instructor.

The concept of the Freshman Experience evolved into a week of orientation for freshmen that touched every facet of college life. For example, as a member of the team, I was able to have incoming freshmen take an Information Literacy Competency Exam and a Computer Literacy Competency Assessment in addition to the traditional competency tests for math and language. Those students who did not get a high enough grade on the Information Literacy Competency Exam would be required to take an information literacy class in the fall semester. I was also successful at working with the team to link assignments across the freshman curriculum with the information literacy class.

During orientation, freshmen will also be required to give a writing sample. This writing sample will become part of a capstone portfolio that will eventually contain samples of student work demonstrating their efforts, progress, and achievements over time. The last sample of work to be included in the portfolio will be a reflective essay in the senior year, replacing the old senior research paper. As the library director, I was again fortunate to be included as a part of this design team that developed and implemented the capstone portfolio concept this year. Seniors will also participate in the Freshmen Experience as mentors.

In addition, the Freshmen Experience will contain a community service-learning component. In their first semester, freshmen will be required to serve 2 hours a week for 6 weeks in the library, as well as other areas of the college. At any one time, a total of 8 freshmen with a senior mentor, will be doing service work in the library on a rotating basis with other service areas (lunchroom, media room, grounds, etc.). Incoming students will benefit from these experiences by becoming familiar with the services of the library, as well as the other parts of the college where they have served, from the very beginning of their college experience. These service experiences will also contribute greatly to their sense of community and place.

In this first week of college, the Freshmen Experience program is working extremely well. We're very excited about the potential that it has for recruitment and retention.

The Writers' Block /

Government Info

About August 31, Lori Smith, Government Documents Department Head of Southeastern Louisiana University's Sims Memorial Library will be submitting a manuscript to Oryx Press for a book tentatively entitled *Tapping State Government Information Sources*. The book should be available by the end of the year.

Early Jazz

Bruce Boyd Raeburn, Curator of the Hogan Jazz Archives at Tulane University in New Orleans, has recently published "Early New Orleans Jazz in Theaters," *LOUISIANA HISTORY*, vol. XLIII, no. 1 (Winter 2002).

Machado Article

Christopher Gilcrease, Reference Librarian at Edith Garland Dupré Library, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, has published an article entitled "US Diplomacy and the Downfall of a Cuban Dictator: Machado in 1933" in the May 2002 issue of the *Journal of Latin American Studies*. The article was written in collaboration with Dr. Philip Dur, Jefferson Caffery Professor of Political Science Emeritus at UL Lafayette.

Internet Impact

Sherry Curry, Head of Internet Access Services at Dupré Library, UL Lafayette, contributed a chapter entitled "Libraries to Labs: Managing Public Access Computer Labs in an Academic Library Environment" to the book *Evolution in Reference and Information Services: the Impact of the Internet* published by Haworth Press

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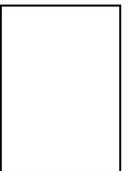
http://www.mcneese.edu/library/acrl/membership_form.htm

Thanks!

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