Mildred Laughlin Festival of Books 2012

On October 25, 2012, 110 librarians, teachers and students gathered at the Tom Steed Center at Rose State College in Midwest City to hear Betsy and Ted Lewin and Alex Flinn share their experiences writing for children and teens. Co-chairs of the 2012 Mildred Laughlin Festival of Books for Young People, Shari Clifton and Adrienne Butler, welcomed attendees from all over Oklahoma, including 17 students and one faculty member from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford.

Everyone was charmed by Caldecott Honoree Betsy Lewin’s conversation with her “monster”—a very clever cartoon this celebrated and talented picture book illustrator and author used to bring her speech to life. Her spontaneous drawing style that graces many picture books for young children was in marked contrast to her husband Ted’s. Ted painstakingly translates photographs to watercolor for the illustrations of many of his nonfiction books for older elementary and middle school readers. However, his storytelling was moving and evocative as he told about the animals and exotic places that grace the pages of his many books. Alex Flinn, who writes teen novels based heavily on fairy tales, had a surprising history. She left the practice of law to take up writing full time. All three presenters shared wonderful stories and insights about their creative process and the importance of writing for children and teens.

(con't)
Recently, I’ve been thinking a lot about OLA and how the Association is greater than the sum of its membership. Since taking office at the beginning of July, I’ve had to reappoint three positions on the program committee and/or executive board. For awhile it seemed to be almost a weekly occurrence: receiving a resignation via email, finding a suitable (and willing) person to assume the leadership role within the division, roundtable or committee (DRoC) and then asking the Executive Board to vote to approve to appointment. I consider creating a team to lead the work of the association to be my most important duty, so I have been thankful when seasoned members accept the additional responsibility mid-year. We have so many wonderful volunteers in this association; I can’t say thank you enough for all that you do. But, I do thank you from the bottom of my heart.

This month a few members of our leadership team have been hospitalized, including myself. It’s at times like this you realize how fragile individuals are. We face the world and all the challenges therein the best that we can, but at times, you’re just down for the count and have to rely on others to carry on in your absence. Thankfully, within OLA, we have so many capable and willing members, it’s OK to be down for the count for awhile; someone steps in and takes care of the pressing while you recover and try to get back to your best self. The work of the association carries on. The whole is greater than the sum of our parts. Thank goodness!

When I was Treasurer of OLA, I felt overwhelmed because of how little I knew about book-keeping and accounting. However, based on my previous experiences with the Association, I knew that you have to work really hard to completely fail in OLA. We have so many checks and balances in place. We have so many people that want us to succeed. We have back-ups and safety nets. It’s a great place to develop your leadership skills, to take risks, and to push yourself beyond your comfort zone. I say this because I know many of our DRoCs are working on their ballots for chair-elects and secretaries for next year. We need you. So, if asked to serve, say “Yes” if you can. Be willing to take a risk and know that we’ve got your back should the unforeseen happen while you’re serving the association.

And my monthly reminder to each of you—it’s still not too late: please ask yourself about what change you want to see in the association, and then talk to me about how we can work together to make it happen.

I hope you and yours have a relaxing holiday season and you start 2013 ready for whatever comes your way!

Sarah Robbins
President, Oklahoma Library Association
Festival of Books, con’t.
Participants left full of ideas and inspiration for sharing these books and introducing these authors and illustrators to their students and library customers back home. Some left with signed copies of the authors’ books which they purchased on site at the MLFOB bookstore staffed by members of the Committee and other volunteers. Many took vantage of the Festival Preview Collection, a year’s worth of children and teen titles that all had received starred reviews on exhibit for review and examination. Everyone who came agreed, “It was well worth the trip!”

Right: Betsy and Ted Lewin from Brooklyn, NY went home with cowboy boots. (Photo courtesy of Sara Schieman.)

Below: Alex Flinn with fan Sara Schieman, Director of the Mabel Fry Library in Yukon and former Teen Librarian. Photo courtesy of Sara Schieman.

Right” Alex Flinn with one of her books, (photo courtesy of Sara Schieman).
High School Book Fair Highlights
Kristena Rudloff, Harding Charter Preparatory High School

A colleague recently asked a surprising question during our fall book fair: “Why do you even host a book fair? Your high schoolers won’t buy much and it’s such a hassle.” Although my initial response was “Free books!”, that actually isn’t the best justification.

For high school media specialists who need to convince themselves (or their administrators) to host a book fair, here are three reasons why it’s a must:

1. The book fair is a great chance to involve parent volunteers and to let students take on leadership roles. They love unpacking the books, setting up attractive displays, helping with advertising, and fighting over who gets to run the register. Working at the fair is a great way for older students to practice their customer service and technology skills.

2. The annual book fair continues a tradition that most students experienced in elementary and middle school, and they have fond memories of the fairs from their younger years. Revisiting those positive feelings is a great reminder to our high schoolers that although they have a lot more required reading now, they once liked to choose their own books and read for fun (and hopefully still do!).

3. Finally and most importantly, the fair builds excitement about reading and starts conversations about literature. Teachers and students can use shelf-talkers to recommend books to one another, and everyone who visits the fair learns what’s new and popular in young adult literature. The fair is attractive, exciting, and it changes the environment in the media center dramatically.

In short, the “hassle” my friend mentioned was all worth it on delivery day, when a group of students raced into the library shouting, “The big Clifford truck is out in front of school! We can’t wait to see all of the books!”

Calypso Gilstrap
NBCT Librarian
FREE ONLINE TEXTBOOKS FOR OKLAHOMA COLLEGE STUDENTS - OLA Preconference!

Getting harder and harder for the students at your school to afford their textbooks each semester? Wish your library could help? The University & College Division is offering the Affordable Learning Solutions for Oklahoma Students and the Leading Role for Libraries) Preconference on Apr. 3rd at 2013 OLA. Join us as Drs. Phil Moss (Oklahoma State Regents, photo left)) and Gerry Hanley (California State University, photo below) provide an overview of online open educational resources (OER) and the options available to librarians to offer students access to good, free (or very low-cost) instructional materials and get faculty and administrators involved. Faculty can contribute and share course materials they’ve authored, or customize materials from the site for their classes. Libraries can also make curriculum materials available from their own collections.

Hanley and Moss have helped to create the MERLOT (Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching) site for California State University, which offers an amazing array of open access, free curriculum materials at www.merlot.org. Organized both by subject and type of materials, the site offers open access materials that are peer-reviewed and includes textbooks, presentations, videos, quizzes, case studies, tutorials, workshops--even entire online courses. Thousands of free course materials are available and easy to find on the site. MERLOT’s strategic goal is to improve the effectiveness of teaching and learning by increasing the quantity and quality of peer reviewed online learning materials that can be easily incorporated into faculty-designed courses, so that students don’t have to buy textbooks that cost hundreds of dollars per semester.

How was this site, with participants from academia, business, industry, and libraries created? Our preconference will walk participants through how to create such a site for Oklahoma college and university communities, which will allow faculty to find, choose, and author low or no-cost high-quality curriculum materials for their classes. Academic librarians could create something that would make life easier for thousands of Oklahoma college students every year. Perhaps it could even make the difference between a student finishing a degree or not! Interested? The preconference will be held at Ardmore Convention Center, 9:00-3:00 on Wed., Apr. 3rd. You can register at http://www.oklibs.org/. Don’t miss it!

Michele Seikel, Chair, Univ. and College Division
Associate Professor and Catalog Libn., Oklahoma State University Libraries

(photos courtesy of Mr. Hanley and Mr. Moss).
Court Watch: Two Recent Cases in the News

Kirtsaeng v. Wiley: What Could Happen?

The Supreme Court heard opening arguments in Kirtsaeng v. John Wiley and Sons earlier this session. The case concerns a Thai student who legally imported and re-sold textbooks printed in his home country. Does First Sale apply in this case? The implications could potentially be very broad.

Section 190(a) of the Copyright Code is commonly known as the First Sale rule. Under this rule, the purchaser of legal copy of a copyrighted item has the right to lend, sell, give away, destroy, etc., that copy. It’s the basis for what libraries do, as well as the basis of the video lending industry, used book sales, etc. But how it applies to items manufactured overseas is somewhat murky, even if those items are acquired legally. In the worst case, a decision against Kirtsaeng would mean no library could lend an item that was even printed overseas, let alone published. This could move manufacturing jobs overseas as publishers try to exert further control over their copyrighted material. But in the best case scenario, we’d have a clear ruling that First Sale applies, which could even provide some support for the idea of reselling electronic books just like any other used book.

It’s unlikely the Supreme Court will rule entirely in Wiley’s favor; the implications would be just too far-reaching. On the other hand, publishers would like to see clear restrictions that protect their right to price the same item differentially for overseas markets. ARL has posted its webcast discussion and Powerpoint slides at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5h69PplORB8&feature=youtu.be, and the Chronicle of Higher Education has a guide to the case at http://chronicle.com/article/A-5-Minute-Guide-to-Kirtsaeng/135442/. A ruling is expected in June 2013.

The Authors Guild v. Hathi Trust: Good News for Libraries and Scholars

In October, the judge in this case ruled that HathiTrust’s massive digitization project was within the limits of Fair Use. Basically, the ruling held that scanning books for the purpose of indexing them (without providing access to the contents) is a transformative fair use; that copying for the purpose of preservation could be considered a fair use; and that making works accessible to the visually handicapped is definitely a fair use. The court set aside the question of orphan works for the time being. The Author’s Guild has appealed as of early November. For a more detailed analysis, see http://copyright.columbia.edu/copyright/2012/10/11/court-rules-on-hathitrust-and-fair-use/ and http://blogs.library.duke.edu/scholcomm/2012/10/11/a-big-win-for-fair-use-and-libraries/

Janet Brennan Croft
University of Oklahoma Libraries
Head, Access Services.
Save the Date
Oklahoma Library Association
Annual Conference
April 3-5, 2013
Ardmore Convention Center
Celebrating Teachers

In every community across Oklahoma, teachers work hard trying to impart knowledge and wisdom to our youth. Many lessons learned in school are still with us, from early kindergarten memories to college missteps, and everything in between. At the heart of our educational process, we find teachers that have made an important difference in our lives.

In 2011, StoryCorps, through their National Teachers Initiative, recorded the memories of educators over an 18-month period. They focused interview efforts with teachers in public schools, hoping to call attention to their contributions and impact across the nation. After the project was completed, 687 interviews were recorded with over 1,400 participants totaling 20,970 minutes.

If your library is looking for a great oral history project, maybe interviewing educators would fit the bill in your community. Just like the students they impact, teachers have a story to tell. Topics can range from their career choice, students, the school, and of course, lessons learned. As with StoryCorps other projects and initiatives, they provide ideas to get you started in developing a question guide that fits the needs of your local community. Some of these questions include:

Tell me about your first day as a teacher.
Can you tell me about the most challenging moments in your career?
How would your students describe your teaching style?
Tell me about the best teacher you ever had. What did you learn about teaching from them?
Tell me about a time when a student surprised you.
How would you like your students to remember you?
How has your school changed in the time you’ve been teaching there?
What would you, as a student, think about you as a teacher?
What is the most important lesson you hope to pass on to your students?

You can view the StoryCorps National Teachers Initiative question guide online at: http://storycorps.org/initiatives/national-teachers-initiative/question-list/.

Again, if you ever need assistance, the Oklahoma Oral History Research Program at the OSU Library is available to answer questions. Feel free to give us a call at 405-744-7685 or e-mail liboh@okstate.edu.

—Juliana Nykolaiszyn & Tanya Finchum
Oklahoma Oral History Research Program
OSU Library

McAdoo has written a book that describes a variety of methods of library instruction in a higher education setting. There are several chapters covering the specific types of instruction delivered in a variety of academic settings and styles. The variety depends upon who is delivering the instruction, as the chapter titled “Who Teaches?” explains that some institutions have designated librarians on staff who create, plan and deliver the instruction, or librarians who rotate the responsibility of delivering the required instruction for library use. Learning styles, teaching styles and current trends are also discussed in this book. While the book is not a definitive work on library instruction the general overview is clear and concise. Instructional theories are presented and paired with learning style examples, as well as a chapter devoted to assessment. Anyone new to a teaching role would gain a foundational understanding from reading this book from the ALA series. The end matter is limited with a simple, standard index. I would recommend purchase of this book to support a professional development collection, personal collection, or as part of an instructional program.

—Lisa Hunt, school library media specialist/NBCT, Moore, OK.
The Health Effects of “Fracking”

This column departs from our usual reviews of Oklahoma-originated websites due to the importance of this topic to Oklahoma.

The immense growth in Oklahoma and our nation of enhanced natural gas and oil recovery via the process popularly known as “fracking,” and more precisely known as “Hydraulic Fracturing,” has created an economic boom. “Shale oil” and “Shale gas” is trapped within shale formations; injecting combinations of water, sand, and chemicals at high pressure causes the shale to crack which then releases the gas or oil. But mismanaged fracking can also release hazardous chemicals into drinking water and air, and also cause small earthquakes. Here are some links to information about fracking in general and its potential adverse health effects.

**Basic information about hydraulic fracturing for natural gas and oil.**
Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Website updated on May 9, 2012.
http://water.epa.gov/type/groundwater/uic/class2/hydraulicfracturing/wells_hydrowhat.cfm

**Basic information about shale gas.** It includes a chart that shows the current and projected future growth of shale gas production from about 2005 through 2040. EIA estimates that there will be a 44% increase in fracking. Source: U.S. Energy Information Agency. Website updated on December 5, 2012.
http://www.eia.gov/energy_in_brief/article/about_shale_gas.cfm?src=email

**Map of “Lower 48” State Shale “plays”** (a “play” is the name for a formation that contains trapped natural gas). Source: U.S. Energy Information Agency. May 9, 2011.
http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-12-732

http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-12-874


http://www.eia.gov/pressroom/presentations/staub_06272012.pdf

The EPA project to study the effects on fracking on drinking water; widely reported by national and state media. Their report is due to Congress in 2014, but this is a website about it. Website updated on December 7, 2012/ 
http://www.epa.gov/hfstudy/

EPA’s web page about the basics of fracking. Website updated on October 2, 2012 
http://www.epa.gov/hydraulicfracture/

Selected free, full-text articles about fracking from the National Institute of Health’s PublicMed Central (PMC) database. Using the search term “hydraulic fracturing” currently retrieves 89 articles; these are three of them. Basic web address of PubMed Central: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/
Fracking, con.t-

---“Methane Contamination of Drinking Water Accompanying Gas-Well Drilling and Hydraulic Fracturing”. Published in May 2011.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3100993/

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3404676/

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3237379/

Steve Beleu
Federal Documents Coordinator
Oklahoma Dept. of Libraries
E-Book Basics

Libraries and publishers have been struggling to come to terms with ebooks, and what ebooks mean for the future of both entities. This is not a new struggle. Users and producers of ejournals and digital music have faced similar issues. To find a solution that is acceptable to all parties, we must view digital media as a completely different element from print media, but what does this mean? This will be the first part of a series looking at digital media, mainly ebooks, from the libraries' viewpoint, publishers' viewpoint, and possible solutions that will work for all parties.

The first part of the series will look at what libraries want and/or need from ebooks and publishers. In this first part, I completely ignore licensing, DRM, and profitability issues. To find a true solution, we must go back to the basics. So, what are the library’s base needs/wants?

What libraries say they want is ownership, but how do you own digital media? Does one own the access rights to a file stored on someone else’s server? Do you own a separate copy of the file? Do you own the intellectual rights? How do you transfer this ‘ownership’ to another person under First Sale? The meaning of ownership has become unclear. It may be more accurate to say that libraries want access to emedia. What libraries really want is the following:

Unlimited access that does not expire due to number of ‘check-outs’ or expire due to time lapsing.

Users’ privacy.

Accessibility for disabled users.

Cloud-based so that the individual libraries do not have to maintain their own infrastructure.

Neutral platform that is not device specific.

ILL capabilities.

Resale rights.

Digital preservation.

Unlimited access that does not expire due to number of ‘check-outs’ or expire due to time lapsing. Initially, this seems like a very simplistic statement, however, as with most things there are layers. In an effort to simulate physical wear and tear, Harper Collins has created check-out limits. After 26 check-outs, access to the book ‘expires’ and the library must repurchase access to the title. Beginning this year, Penguin is once again allowing libraries to lend their ebooks, but access is only good for one year before renewing. They have moved to a subscription model.

Users’ privacy. Users’ privacy has always been paramount to libraries. Is is at the core of our mission – unfettered access to information. By violating their privacy, you deny them unfettered access. Whether you are referring to the USA PATRIOT Act or to the Kindle ebook check-out process, this is an issue that must remain in the forefront.

Accessibility for disabled users. This goes back to providing unfettered access to information. It must be accessible to all users.

(con’t)
Software: Review of Google Drive

Do you ever get home from work and realize the project you were planning to finish is still on your computer at work along with your USB drive? Today while I was writing this column the power went out on campus and I couldn’t remember the last time I saved my document. What about those occasions when you have to go to the reference desk, but you’d like to continue working on that OLA presentation? Google Drive is a great answer.

Google Drive is a combination of Google Docs, cloud storage and syncing service. Google Docs is probably one of the most recognizable packages classified as software as a service. Google Docs is Software as a Service (SaaS) which means the software is available to users when they need it, but it lives in the cloud. Using Google Docs means that your data is automatically saved to Google’s servers and you can access a revision history to see your changes and revert to an earlier version if needed. While most of us, at one time or other, have used Google Docs, Sheets (spreadsheets) or Slides (presentations) there may be unfamiliar features. For instance, Google Docs can be opened without an internet connection in Google Chrome. Of course, they have to be downloaded to your computer first. And Google Docs can usually be converted to Office documents. Office documents can be uploaded to Google Drive and viewed in the Google Drive Viewer if you prefer not to convert them to Google Docs.

Google Drive’s cloud storage is very similar to other services like Dropbox and Skydrive. Google Drive gives users 5GB of cloud storage free of charge. Naturally more storage is available for a fee. You are allowed 5 GB of storage in Google Drive and Google + photos and 10 GB in Gmail for email and attachments. These are total limits but there are different amounts for different types of files. For instance, photos that are smaller than 2048 pixels do not count against your total photo storage. More information on storage amounts may be found here, http://support.google.com/drive/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=2736257&topic=14940&ctx=topic.

Fee schedules for more storage begin at 25 GB for $2.49 per month or 100 GB for $4.99 per month. The syncing service offered by Google Drive mirrors that offered by Dropbox and Skydrive, but Google Drive has some quirks and differences worth noting. Just like Dropbox a client needs to be downloaded to your computer if you want to sync your documents between the cloud and your computer hard drive. Google Cloud Connect, a separate plug in for Microsoft Office, makes it easy to automatically sync your documents as you create them whether you choose to save them in your Google Drive folder when you begin working on them or not. Google Cloud Connect also makes sharing documents simple with just the click of a button.
Google Drive, Con’t.

Overall Google Drive is an excellent option for people who want to be free of their USB drive or are tired of losing documents to temperamental computers. Yes, Google will use your information for customizing advertising and improving the service, but the creator keeps the intellectual property rights to the content. This article does not even scratch the surface of available functionality. The added incentive of free cloud storage and Google Drive’s ease of use make it worth a try.

Services discussed in this article:

- About Google Drive, https://support.google.com/drive/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=2424384&topic=14942&rd=1
- Google Drive client download and instructions, http://support.google.com/drive/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=2375078
- About Google Docs, http://support.google.com/drive/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=49008
- Dropbox, https://www.dropbox.com/
- Skydrive, https://skydrive.live.com/?cid=20f065af1acdb2e

Nicole Sump-Crethar
Oklahoma State University
Digital Services Librarian
E-Book Basics, con’t.

Cloud-based so that the individual libraries do not have to maintain their own infrastructure. Most libraries, especially the rural libraries, do not have the infrastructure to maintain their own hardware and software systems required to provide ebook access to their users. It is not feasible for them. A cloud-based system provides their users access without an additional burden. It is not expected that this service be provided to the libraries for no charge. We understand the need to make a profit. Of course, this also brings up other issues mentioned earlier, such as users’ privacy and accessibility. The libraries would have to rely on a third party to maintain these core values.

Neutral platform that is not device specific. As with many of the points listed, this addresses the library’s core value of providing unfettered access to all. By making e-media device specific, not all books are available to all readers. Amazon users come immediately to mind. Not all library books are available in the Kindle format limiting what information a Kindle user can access.

ILL capabilities. Libraries have long practiced interlibrary loans where they are able to borrow each other's material for their users. This has been a struggle with e-media. Many e journal titles allow ILL at the article level, but how can this be possible for ebooks? Possibilities are to send the link for a specific chapter for a non-fiction book (this is already available for some books), or to send a link to an ebook that will expire after the check-out period. There are other issues involved, but I will address them later.

Resale rights. Traditionally, libraries have been able to resell their materials after the circulation demand has dropped. There is a company called Redigi that allows their users to resell digital music. They are currently being sued by music producers EMI. EMI states that the First Sale Doctrine does not apply to digital media, and that the only way to resell digital media is to copy it. They are concerned that the original owner would not then delete their copy of the file. It is expected to be a landmark case that will help define the industry, and the repercussion will certainly be felt in the library world.

Digital preservation. This is a very large and complex issue. Most individual libraries simply do not have the money, infrastructure, or knowledge to preserve digital data. Libraries are changing from storehouses of knowledge to gateways to knowledge. There are non-profit organizations such as Ithaka that are currently involved in digital perseveration, and they have recently added ebooks to their efforts. This is just a basic list of what libraries want/need regarding ebooks. It does not address many of the issues. It is important that we don’t forget the basics as we look for a long term solution to the ebook dilemma. Part two of the series will look at the publishers’ side of the equation.

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