Retirement of Dr. Jon Sparks

A retirement reception was held by library staff at SWOSU’s Al Harris Library on December 11 for retiring library director, Dr. Jon Sparks.

Dr. Sparks served as Library Director at Southwestern from July 1, 2007 until December 31, 2012. Prior to coming to Southwestern, he served as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and University Librarian at Mid-America Christian University, Dean of Library Services at Oklahoma Baptist University, and Library Director at Southern Nazarene University. Upon his arrival in Oklahoma, Dr. Sparks became very active in the Oklahoma Council of Academic Library Directors and remained active in that group throughout the years.

Dr. Sparks is looking forward to not having to get up on snowy or icy mornings to drive to Weatherford from his home in Yukon, catch up on some much needed rest, and spending more time with his family. He and his wife, Paula, plan to stay in Oklahoma.

We thank Dr. Sparks for his service to the SWOSU Library and for his involvement in professional library activities in Oklahoma. We wish him the best in his retirement!

Linda Pye
Head of Technical Services, Al Harris Library
Southwestern Oklahoma State University
linda.pye@swosu.edu

(Photo: Dr. Sparks and his wife enjoy the cakes! Courtesy of Linda Pye)
Be the change that you wish to see in the world. – Mahatma Gandhi

Boas & Tiaras:
In Memory of Connie Van Fleet
(October 3, 1950 – February 5, 2012)

In last issue’s letter, I referred to reappointing several positions to the OLA Executive Board and Programming Committee and one of the association’s strengths being that the sum of our members is greater than the individual members. The reason for one of those appointments was an unexpected resignation when Connie Van Fleet, the Association’s ALA Councilor, was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in November. Her resignation came via email on the 15th of the month so that I could address the issue at the next Board meeting and so that her replacement could be rolled into the next election cycle. Leave it to Connie to think of the process, to think of others, when most of us would be completely consumed with the challenges of fighting for our lives and not much else. I had to follow Connie’s lead and take care of the business of the Association when what I wanted more than anything was to roll back the clock and to have one more dinner with Connie just being Connie—my colleague, my mentor, my friend.

Connie’s contributions to the profession are numerous. She left a professional legacy that leaves most of us in awe—she was a frequent contributor to the professional literature through journal articles and books; she was a past president of the Association for Library and Information Science Education and active in other organizations such as OLA; and, she mentored countless library students and helped them launch into illustrious careers of their own. The Oklahoma library profession lost a true gem today.

I admire Connie for her many contributions to our profession, but I love Connie for who she was and what she inspired in others. For me personally, she was a smile person; someone who made me smile just by walking in the room. Connie was a kindred spirit who understood that wine and chocolate just go together, that dessert is better with coffee, and that being a little uncomfortable wasn’t too great a price to pay for just the right pair of fun shoes. She saw the humor in life and wasn’t afraid to laugh at her own humanity. As I visited her in the months following her diagnosis, I was always struck by how much she continued to put others first. She didn’t spend a lot of time complaining about her own discomfort but rather wanted to hear the latest news and what was going on in the lives of her visitors. She lit up with a genuine joy when someone shared good news and would rile with frustration when a seeming injustice was expressed.

The past week, I’ve received numerous emails and texts about our beloved colleague, and an email from Pat Weaver-Meyers especially resonated with me. She wrote, “I want you to know that Connie was our Alice in Wonderland. She always made every journey unexpectedly pleasant. Wherever she is now, those folks are damn lucky bastards - as we once were.” I think that pretty much sums it up. At this year’s conference, my hat will be off to Connie along with the many other library supporters.

Sarah Robbins
President, Oklahoma Library Association
A Celebration of Connie

When: Saturday, March 9, 6 PM until . . .

Where: Connie & Danny’s house
1315 Greenbriar Drive
Norman, OK 73072

Hosts: Danny Wallace, Karen Antell, and Sarah Robbins

RSVP to: Karen (kantell@ou.edu) or Sarah (srobbins@ou.edu)

Connie Van Fleet passed away on February 5, 2013 – but we will never forget her, and, in keeping with her wishes, we’re throwing a rollicking party to celebrate her life with the many people whose lives were graced by her friendship. We hope you can join us! And we hope you’ll help us get the word out to others.

If you have photographs or special memories of Connie that you’re willing to share, please contribute them to a memory book by emailing them to Karen Antell (kantell@ou.edu) by March 1.

If you’re traveling from out of town for the Celebration and would like to learn about hotel discounts in Norman, please contact Sarah Robbins (srobbins@ou.edu).

In lieu of flowers, Connie’s family requests that donations be made in her memory to the Pioneer Library Foundation, 225 N Webster, Norman, OK, 73069.

We’d appreciate a response to let us know whether you’re planning to attend. But, even if you don’t RSVP, we’ll still be delighted to see you at the Celebration!

Questions? Contact Karen (kantell@ou.edu or 405-321-6228) or Sarah (srobbins@ou.edu or 405-517-6240).
OKSL helped send our AASL Oklahoma Delegate, Sarah DiLorenzo, to Seattle for ALA Midwinter Meeting!

“Like most of you, I pay my yearly organizational dues and then go about my day to day business only concerned about my school and students. Rarely do I think about what and how AASL fits into my scene. So, when OKSL asked me to take over AASL Delegate duties this year, I jumped at the opportunity. This position has allowed me to be more active at a state level, and represent Oklahoma at the ALA Midwinter Meeting. This was a great way for me to step out of my frame and see the big picture. Not only was I able to meet some fantastic school librarians from around the country, but I was able to gain a greater understanding of what being a member of AASL can mean.

For one thing, AASL has many great partnerships with companies that support their mission. One of those partnerships is with the Alliance for Excellent Education, an organization that promotes Digital Learning Day. While it is too late to participate in the actual day this year, you can get some great ideas for next year or just pick another day for this year. At my school, we are having a Digital Playground Day right after testing in May. There will be peer-to-peer teaching all day in the library using another AASL resource, Best Websites for Teaching and Learning. This is a great way for teachers and students to learn about some new and cool websites and a model program for Digital Learning Day for next year.

Besides partnerships, AASL also has Online Learning and Continuing Education for their members. Recent, free webinars have included: “Aligning Graphic Novels to the Standards,” and “Join the Common Core Conversation.” They also offer e-Academy classes for a small fee. Some of the upcoming classes are: “From 0 to 60: Implement eBooks in Your Library Program in 4 Weeks,” and “The Path to Collaboration: Making It Happen.” Of course, AASL is always looking for member input too, so if you have a great idea for professional development, you can submit a proposal at any time.

AASL also has useful information on Common Core Standards, Awards and Grants, and much, much more. To look at all AASL has to offer you, check out their website here, and get connected! If you are not currently a member of AASL, I encourage you to join today and see all the great resources the big picture offers for your snapshot library! If you would like to learn more about my trip to the ALA Midwinter Meeting and what AASL can do for you, come to my session, “Sarah Sees Seattle” at OLA in April. Hope to see you soon!”

Sarah DiLorenzo, MLIS
AASL Oklahoma Delegate
School Librarian, Wilson Elementary
Norman, Oklahoma - sdilorenzo@norman.k12.ok.us

(photo courtesy of Sarah DiLorenzo)
Partnership Works to Save Oklahoma’s Cultural Treasures

Many of the unique documents and artifacts that tell the story of Oklahoma are in danger of being lost to future generations, according to the Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust, an alliance of organizations using a federal grant to address the problem.

The Oklahoma Department of Libraries (ODL) was recently awarded $245,000 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to help collecting institutions preserve and protect their one-of-a-kind artifacts.

The agency joined forces with the Oklahoma Museums Association, the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board, and other state and community partners beginning in 2008 to assess preservation needs and develop an action plan.

“This grant will help us implement that action plan,” ODL Development Officer Susan Feller said, “and we have a very busy spring on tap.”

Feller said the plan’s rolled out during the next few months will address the need for public awareness of the preservation crisis, as well as hands-on assistance to targeted collections. The Trust is sponsoring six major statewide projects in 2013.

March 1 is the deadline for collections to nominate an artifact as one of the Top Ten Most Endangered Artifacts in Oklahoma. The public voting for the endangered artifacts begins on April 15.

“The Most Endangered initiative has been successful in other states in helping the public understand the importance of preserving important artifacts,” Feller said.

On April 28, the Trust will host a Family Treasures Road Show at the Oklahoma History Center to highlight the need for families and businesses to preserve the unique holdings they own so future generations may benefit.

A Collections Care Conference is scheduled April 29 and 30 in downtown Oklahoma City to provide hands-on and interactive programming to help staff and volunteers who have little or no collections care experience.

May 1 will bring a May Day Call to Action at the State Capitol to engage members of the Oklahoma State Legislature, the media, and the public to help collecting institutions of all types care for the state’s heritage.

The Caring for Family Treasures traveling exhibition will launch May 8 and will tour throughout the state to help the public learn about taking care of heirlooms, as well as learn about the need for collection care in the state’s archives, libraries and museums.

Feller said the federal grant will also sponsor Collections Care Site Visits to 24 selected institutions. These sites will receive in-depth, specialized assistance will collections care, fundraising and marketing plans.

The Trust plans to host the same projects in 2014 and hopes they become annual events for many years.

“It’s true we are a young state,” Feller said. “But we’re getting older quickly, and the many artifacts that tell our story, from Land Run ledgers to tribal documents, have seen better days. We want to make sure they’re here so our grandchildren can also hold history in their hands.”

For additional information on the Oklahoma Cultural Heritage Trust and its projects, visit www.CulturalHeritageTrust.org or contact the trust at SavingOklahomaTreasures@gmail.com or phone 405-522-3515.

Bill Young
Oklahoma Department of Libraries
MOOCS and Copyright: Maybe Not Fifty Shades of Gray, But Close

Massively Open Online Courses, or MOOCS, are the hot new thing in higher education. What are they? They are online courses, but very large scale – think upwards of 10,000 students!—and free and open to the public. They are offered on commercial platforms like Coursera, Udacity, and edX. The big players right now are universities like Harvard and Stanford. Typically they feature star faculty members giving canned lectures, and include automated quizzes and tests. How successful they will be, and what impact they will have, remains to be seen; they have very low completion and pass rates, and since participants don’t get credit without paying additional fees for testing, it’s hard to gauge what audience they are really aimed at. But they have the potential to make great courses free to anyone in the world.

Sounds exciting, right? But the copyright implications are going to be hard to solve. And academic librarians are likely to be called upon to try to address them for their institutions. What do you need to know?

First, of course, is the issue of what materials can be used in a MOOC –what can be displayed or performed as part of the lecture. Typical classroom exemptions would be hard to apply since access isn’t limited to enrolled students. A case might be made for fair use, but it would be a tenuous one. Licensing fees might be paid, but this is such a new area that rights holders really don’t know what to charge; typical fees based on numbers of students could be astronomical for a MOOC. Course creators are generally being urged to use copyright-free, public domain, and Creative Commons-licensed materials.

Next is the issue of outside reading. One purpose of these courses is to make education available to people around the world who can’t afford it, so charging for books and other supplementary materials would defeat the purpose. But again, creators run up against the problem of unrestricted access. The way to get around this, of course, is to use materials available on the internet, including open access journals. But this won’t work for all subject areas.

The third big copyright issue is ownership of materials created for MOOCS. Sponsoring institutions may or may not consider course materials and recorded lectures to be works for hire. It’s complicated further by what rights might be asserted by the commercial courseware companies.
Copyright, Con’t.

You can find good discussions of MOOCs at What Campus Leaders Need to Know About MOOCs, Online Courses Raise Intellectual Property Concerns, and Massive Open Online Courses: Legal and Policy Issues for Research Libraries. Some opposing opinions can be found at Professor Leaves a MOOC in Mid-Course in Dispute Over Teaching and Some Preliminary Theses on MOOCs.

An applicable code of best practices is Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for OpenCourseWare.

And there’s a free online course coming up through OCLC on March 18 and 19: MOOCs and Libraries: Massive Opportunity or Overwhelming Challenge?

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
Exploring Women’s History through Oral History

The Oklahoma Oral History Research Program at the OSU Library is home to a wealth of interviews featuring amazing women. From homemakers to politicians, educators to entrepreneurs, celebrate Women’s History Month by learning more about the impact of women in our state and help inspire a new generation of leaders through exploring the following oral history projects:

**Women of the Oklahoma Legislature**
/http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/wotol
Chronicling the lives of women involved in the legislative arena, the Women of the Oklahoma Legislature oral history project captures and records information about women who have served or are currently serving in the Oklahoma Legislature in their own voices.

**Oklahoma Women’s Hall of Fame**
/http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/owhof
The Inductees of the Oklahoma Women’s Hall of Fame oral history project preserves the voices of women who have been inducted into this prestigious state-wide group awarded by the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women.

**Cooperative Extension Educators**
/http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/soohp
Extension educators have played vital roles in the communities they served across Oklahoma and gathering the stories of their experiences contributes to Oklahoma’s agriculture historical record. This oral history project includes interviews with various retired agents/educators as well as a few community members with strong connections to the program.

**Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry: Oklahoma Women and the Dust Bowl**
/http://www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/dustbowl
With the vast majority of Dust Bowl research focusing on the point of view of men, this oral history project profiles the plight of Oklahoma women from the Dust Bowl’s epicenter and their memories of this tumultuous time.

**Remembering Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel**
/http://digital.library.okstate.edu/mcdaniel/index.htm
Preservation of materials, historical documents and oral memories take center stage in this oral history project as friends and family tell the story of poet Wilma Elizabeth McDaniel.

For more information about these collections and more, call 405-744-7685 or e-mail liboh@okstate.edu.

—Juliana Nykolaiszyn & Tanya Finchum
Oklahoma Oral History Research Program
OSU Library
Membership Tid Bits…

Membership Anniversary Date
In the past one’s membership ran from July 1 through June 30 of the following year. That is no longer the case. One’s membership will now run from the date they sign up or renew through the same date of the following year. For instance: if one renews their membership on February 1, 2013, the membership will run through January 31, 2014. We have an exciting conference that will be here before we know it, and members get a break on registration. So get your membership dues in and don’t miss out on the opportunity to learn something new, network and mingle with other OLA members, enjoy some amazing speakers, and sit back and enjoy some of the extra-curricular activities that are planned.

Each One, Reach One
A few years ago when the Membership Committee was brainstorming ways of increasing membership in OLA, the idea of each member bringing in a new member was born. This was called “Each One, Reach One”. There may be library staff who are unable to afford the OLA membership dues but would like to join. If any of us can pay our dues, as well as a non-member’s dues, this would help the organization and also provide a service to that person. It is hoped that after becoming a member and realizing the many benefits of membership, that person will get “hooked” on OLA and renew her/his membership for the next year.

Thanks to all of you who have participated in this program in the past. Those of us who have done this know that it works! With our annual conference soon approaching, what could be a better way to introduce a potential member to our wonderful organization? Think about it and see if you can introduce someone to OLA this year.

From the membership committee!

Joanne Huff
Library Technical Assistant
WOSC – LRC
Altus, OK
580-477-7948
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OKLAHOMA WEBPAGES: OKLAHOMA’S PORTS AND FREE-TRADE ZONES

What is a port? We usually think of a port as a facility on an ocean or river. Oklahoma has two very successful water-connected ports at Catoosa and Muskogee. But for purposes of exporting and importing there are also “airport ports” and ports at border crossings. The PORTS of our nation are listed here - http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/contacts/ports/ Regulated by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), they consist of 329 water-connected ports, ports within airports, and ports at border crossings. In addition to the water-connected ports of Catoosa and Muskogee, there are two “airport ports” in Oklahoma, one in Oklahoma City, # 5504 – http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/contacts/ports/ok/5504.xml and one in Tulsa, # 5505 - http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/contacts/ports/ok/5505.xml

During 2012 Catoosa and Muskogee had $53,431,197 worth of exports, and $2,085,450,544 worth of imports, many of them substances needed for oil and natural gas extraction.

PORT OF CATOOSA
http://www.tulsaport.com/
There are 63 facilities at the Port of Catoosa with 4,000+ employees. Features of this website include lists of facilities and services, and means and maps of transportation to and from the port. The port is also home to Foreign Trade Zone #53 to save port customers duty fees. This is a directory of current port industries - http://www.tulsaport.com/industry_directory.html. This is their newsletter - http://www.tulsaport.com/news_and_events.html
Map of the port - http://www.tulsaport.com/port_industrial_park_loc.html

PORT OF MUSKOGEE
http://www.muskogeeport.com/
There are 14 facilities at the Port of Muskogee with 2,500+ employees. Features of this website include lists of facilities and services, and means and maps of transportation to and from the port. The port is also home to Foreign Trade Zone #164 to save port customers duty fees. This is a directory of current port industries - http://www.muskogeeport.com/index.php/facilities_services/existing_industries/ This is their newsletter - http://www.muskogeeport.com/index.php/resources/archives/
Aerial photos of the port; each cross on the map marks an industry, so click here first - http://www.muskogeeport.com/index.php/interactive_map/ then click the tab “Port of Muskogee”. Click the crosses on the map for information about industries there.
Subscribe to news about the port here - http://www.muskogeeport.com/index.php/resources/subscribe/
FREE-TRADE ZONES are used by importers and exporters to house goods for export and import. By housing them in FTZs they pay delayed or reduced duty fees on foreign merchandise which improves their competition in the world market. There are four “General-purpose” zones and six “Subzones” in Oklahoma -
http://ia.ita.doc.gov/ftzpage/letters/ftzlist-map.html#oklahoma

General-purpose zones are located at ports or industrial parks, are either in CBP-regulated ports or are within 60 miles and/or 90 minutes of driving time from a CBP-regulated port, are open to multiple customers, and typically have multiple customers. Subzones are particular to one company, must be approved by the CBP, and either have to meet the “60/90” rule or work with their CBP Port Director to meet port regulations. Our nation has 250 general-purpose zones and 500+ subzones; companies apply for subzone status throughout the year.

Steve Beleu
Federal Depository Coordinator
Oklahoma Dept. of Libraries

CATS hosts Bright Beginnings Workshop

Oklahoma Children's Librarians are shown creating crafts at the recent "Bright Beginnings" workshop sponsored by the Children and Teens Roundtable at Stillwater Public Library.

Also on the agenda were storytelling ideas, baby signing, lapsit, using music and puppets and a special session on sensory storytime/autism.

Kay Boies, Executive Director
Oklahoma Library Association
PO Box 6550
Edmond, OK 73083
Ph: 405-525-5100
Fax: 405-525-5103
kboies@sbcglobal.net
WHAT HAS THE UNIVERSITY & COLLEGE DIVISION GOT? LOTS OF 2013 CONFERENCE PROGRAMS!

The 2013 OLA Conference has LOTS of variety, and UCD is one reason why. This year, we tried to provide a little something for everyone, so come to Ardmore and take a look.

Getting harder and harder for the students at your institution to afford their textbooks each semester? Wish your library could help? Join us as Drs. Phil Moss (Oklahoma State Regents) and Gerry Hanley (California State University) provide an overview of online open access educational resources (OER) and the options available to academic libraries (and to public libraries in college towns) to offer students access to good, free instructional materials and get faculty and administrative involvement. Our Preconference, entitled “Affordable Learning Solutions for Oklahoma Students and the Leading Role for Libraries”, will be held on Wednesday, Apr. 3rd.

For librarians who do bibliographic instruction, we have “Best Practices in B.I.,” at 11:00-12:00 on Thursday, April 4th. Our panel of librarians will include Sarah Clark (Associate Director at Rogers State University) and her colleague, Allison Embry (Access Services and Distance Learning Librarian at Rogers State University), and well as Frederic Murray (Instructional Services Librarian at Southwestern Oklahoma State University). They’ll each be able to provide their own unique perspective on the best ways to connect with and inform your students and faculty.

Library technology is changing at lightning speed, and many librarians will be shopping for new integrated library systems in the near future, so that their libraries can keep up. Dr. Anne Prestamo (Oklahoma State University) will share the most valuable characteristics and functions to look for in the new cloud-based ILS systems, in “Checking Out the Cloud: How to Evaluate Cloud-Based ILS’s” at 1:30-2:30 on Thursday, Apr. 4th.

Again this year, we’ll have Lightning Rounds to show viewers local research projects, library improvement projects, and grant-driven endeavors in 5-10 minutes. These are virtual poster sessions, happening at 4:30-5:30 on Thursday, Apr. 4th. You get a lot of sharing in a short amount of time! So come on out and see.

Everybody likes to take a librarian’s holiday. So come take a virtual trip to the Ardmore area’s special collections at 2:45-3:45 on Friday, Apr. 5th. Daniel Gibbs, Director of the Ardmore Public Library, will showcase the Eliza Hall Doll Collection and the McGalliard Historical Collection. And, Mary Means will walk us through the activities and accomplishments of the Noble Research Foundation.

Michele Seikel
Associate Professor and Cataloger
Oklahoma University Libraries, Stillwater
OLA 2020 Task Force Ad Hoc Committee Reports….

The OLA 2020 Task Force Ad Hoc Committee began meeting in February 2012 to prepare a strategic plan for the Oklahoma Library Association that would take us from 2013 to 2020. OLA President Cheryl Suttles charged the committee with considering the legislative, fiscal and library environment in which OLA will operate in the foreseeable future and the strategic planning trends among other state associations and the American Library Association. President-elect Sarah Robbins asked committee members to utilize the “Appreciative Inquiry” technique of emphasizing what the organization does well and fostering a climate that creates the possibilities to do more of what works”

Using this technique, the committee reached out to the OLA members asking for their high point of engagement in OLA and the three most important areas for OLA between now and 2020. The survey was followed up with focus groups at the 2012 conference. From feedback received, the committee determined the three most important areas for Association members: Advocacy, Professional Development, and Membership.

During the OLA Leadership Retreat held at the Sam Noble Foundation May 30- June 1, Sarah Robbins engaged OLA Leadership during a World Café session to discuss topics on Engaging Members, Increasing Membership, Benefits of Membership, What Does OLA Do Really Well, Advocacy Beyond Legislative Committee, and OLA Programming and Professional Development Opportunities. Input from these conversations and a review of other association strategic plans led to the creation of 8 Core Organizational Values and a Vision Statement for the Oklahoma Library Association.

The Committee met in December 2012 and developed overarching goals that tie into the Organization Values, then into the Vision and finally the Mission of our Association that will lead us from 2013 to 2020. Each President-elect will develop initiatives to meet during their presidency while the goals, values, vision and mission of the document remain constant.

The OLA Executive Board approved the “Oklahoma Library Association Strategic Plan 2013-2020” on February 15, 2013. See it on the next two pages!

Long Range Planning Committee members:
Lynda Reynolds, Co-Chair
Sarah Robbins, Co-Chair
Cheryl Suttles, Past President and Budget Committee Chair
Leslie Langley, Past President and MPLA representative
Tim Miller, Treasurer
Rich Paustenbaugh, ALA Councilor
Earon Cunningham, Oklahoma School Librarians (OKSL) Chair
Nicole Sump-Crethar, Library Education Division (LED) Chair
Elda Moore, Public Library Division (PLD) Chair
Michelle Seikel, University & College Division (UCD) Chair
Kate Plunkett, member-at-large
Kate Blalack, member-at-large
Ila Coffman, member-at-large
Kirsten Davis, member-at-large
Kay Boies, OLA Executive Director and ex-officio member

Lynda Reynolds, Director
Stillwater Public Library

1 Sue Hammond. The Thin Book of Appreciative Inquiry (Plano, TX: Thin Book Pub., 1998)
Oklahoma Library Association
Strategic Plan
2013-2020

Mission: The purpose of the Oklahoma Library Association is to strengthen the quality of libraries and librarians in the state of Oklahoma and to promote and support library services and librarianship in Oklahoma.

Vision: The Oklahoma Library Association is an inclusive, innovative, and thriving organization that enriches the lives of all Oklahomans through proactive support of libraries and librarians and enduring commitment to shared professional values.

Core Organizational Values:
Advocacy: OLA members have a shared vision to promote, support and advocate for Oklahoma libraries which are an essential public good and are fundamental institutions in democratic societies.
Collaboration: OLA works to develop partnerships with groups and organizations that share common values and goals.
Inclusiveness: OLA is inclusive and welcoming of all people and supports equality. All types of libraries, all levels of staff, Trustees, Friends, and other groups and individuals working to improve library services are encouraged to participate. Communication among membership must be transparent and inclusive.
Innovation: OLA is continuously monitoring the changing landscapes in which libraries operate to proactively prepare to meet these challenges.
Integrity: OLA strives to be accountable to the highest standards of professional ethics. The organization fosters an environment where members treat each other collegially and with respect.
Intellectual Freedom: OLA supports the role libraries and librarians play in providing equal access to information, as well as the principle of free, open and unrestricted access to information and ideas. OLA recognizes privacy and confidentiality as essential components of intellectual freedom.
Professional Development: OLA provides both excellent and timely professional growth and continual educational opportunities, while fostering the development of leadership skills in a safe, creative, and positive environment.
Relationships: OLA provides opportunities to network and develop friendships both professionally and socially.
Goals:

**Inclusiveness**
- **External:**
  - **Collaboration:** To develop partnerships with groups and organizations that share common values and goals
  - **Access:** To advocate for equitable access to information and library services and to promote intellectual freedom and literacy

- **Internal:**
  - **Relationships:** To increase opportunities to network both professionally and socially
  - **Diversity:** To encourage participation of all types of libraries, all levels of staff, Trustees, Friends and others working to improve library services

**Innovation**
- **Advocacy:** To proactively share the value of libraries in Oklahoma
- **Visibility:** To market and communicate the importance of the Association to libraries in Oklahoma and develop tools to better facilitate communication to meet the changing needs of our stakeholders
- **Financial Stability:** To explore alternate revenue sources
- **Professional Development:** To provide professional growth, leadership, and continuing education opportunities

**Thriving Organization**
- **Membership:** To communicate the benefits of membership to attract and retain members
- **Communication:** To be transparent and inclusive among members
- **Integrity:** To hold ourselves accountable to the highest professional standards
- **Administration:** To maintain a staff structure and facility to enhance the work of the association
- **Affiliations:** To cultivate participation in state, regional and national library organizations
Join us in Ardmore in April for an exciting Oklahoma Library Association Conference!

Time is speeding along and it’s only about 4 weeks until Conference time! I hope you will be able to join us in Ardmore at the Ardmore Convention Center on April 3-5 for an exciting Oklahoma Library Association Conference. The theme of the conference this year is “Be the Change” and the Program Planning Committee has been hard at work planning a variety of exciting programs. To register and for more information about the Conference, please go to http://www.oklibs.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=253.

Here is a summary of TSRT-Sponsored Conference Programs:

--We will begin TSRT activities Thursday morning, April 4, at 7:45-8:45 for a Technical Services Roundtable Table Talk and Business Meeting. Yes, it will be early, but I hope many of you will be there ready to join us in the discussion and will bring new ideas for TSRT activities for the coming year. We welcome your ideas and getting to visit with you! What a way to begin the Conference!

--Also on Thursday, 11:00-12:00 a.m., Ellen Cummings, Shoena Kohn, and Micah Wulfers from the Tulsa City-County Library System will discuss an electronic resource management system that they developed in-house. Their ERM provides a one-spot location for information on vendors, contacts, tech support, licensing renewal, and statistics.

--Also on Thursday, 2:45-3:45 p.m., Cathy Blackman, Mandi Smith, and Erica Moore from Cameron University and Michele Seikel from Oklahoma State University will discuss preliminary findings on their research study of the differences between Skyriver and OCLC.

--On Friday, April 5, 10:30-11:30, Scott Freeman from Stillwater Public Library, Rich Paustenbaugh from Oklahoma State University, and Cathy Blackman from Cameron University will participate in a panel discussion on the ways they have used Patron Driven Acquisitions in their libraries, specifically discussing Overdrive, JSTOR, and Ebrary.

--Also, on Friday, 1:30-2:30, Sarah Simpson from Tulsa-City County Library System and Pauline Rodriguez-Atkins from the Metropolitan Library System will present a program on “How to Talk to Public Services about RDA.” The Library of Congress will implement Resource, Description, Access (RDA) cataloging on March 31, 2013. RDA will present new challenges as the language and display of catalog records will be changing, so conversation between cataloging and public service staff is very important. Sarah and Pauline will provide information for effectively communicating these changes to those staff members who work with the public on a daily basis. See you in a few weeks in Ardmore!

Linda Pye
Head of Technical Services, Al Harris Library
Southwestern Oklahoma State University
linda.pye@swosu.edu
I think many librarians cringe when they are asked a government-related question, though I’ve never understood why. The world of government information is exciting, and whether you realize or not, it weaves its way in and out of an average day... really it’s nearly unavoidable (even Garrison Keillor has made mention of the Statistical Abstract of the United States, the mother lode of government statistics and data).

The Government Documents Round Table (GODORT) is a group of government-loving librarians and library associates who work to bring those that might be fearful of government information into the loving fold. As a way of demonstrating the excitement and extensive reach of government information GODORT is offering a wealth of programs at this year’s OLA conference. GODORT invites all of OLA to join us for the following programs at the OLA conference in April at the Ardmore Convention Center (check the conference scheduler for date, time and room assignment).

**DocsTeach! (co-sponsored by the Oklahoma School Librarians)**

[DocsTeach.org](http://DocsTeach.org) is a new interactive web-based product from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). DocsTeach allows educators, librarians, or anyone interested in using Federal Documents as a teaching tool to create module or using existing models that include photographs, maps, documents and more from the National Archives collections. Teacher’s teaching a lesson on America’s westward expansion can engage students with drawings, maps, legislation, and treaties linking students to the Nation’s past.

**Jenny Sweeney, Education Specialist with the National Archives** in Fort Worth, will provide instructions to create custom modules for classroom use. She will also provide information on ways to tie DocsTeach to the new [Common Core Curriculum (C3) standards](https://www.corestandards.org). Join us for this session to uncover our Nation’s history through the nuggets and gems available from the National Archives.

**Librarian’s Guide to using the Dawes Rolls**—Genealogy Librarian **Kathy Huber** will teach librarians how anyone can learn to assist with American Indian Research using this valuable tool.

The [Gateway to Oklahoma History](http://GatewayToOklahomaHistory.com) is an online repository of Oklahoma History hosted by the Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS). To date, Oklahoma newspapers are what make up the majority of the repository. **JA Pryse, Digital Projects Archivist with OHS**, will offer information about filming, scanning, auditing, quality control, sorting and metadata for this browsable and searchable collection of 60,538 issues and 455,833 pages of historical newspaper content that offers a look at the evolution of Oklahoma from territory to state.

Robbie Sittel
Tulsa City County Library
Current GODORT Chair
The OKLAHOMA LIBRARIAN is the official bulletin of the Oklahoma Library Association. It is published bi-monthly. The inclusion of an article or advertisement does not constitute official endorsement by the Association. It is published entirely online for members of the association.

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