Terry Belanger, director of the Rare Book School (RBS) at the University of Virginia, has been named one of 25 MacArthur Fellows for 2005. As a recipient of the fellowship, Belanger will be given $500,000 in no strings attached support over the next five years. The fellowships, also known as the genius awards, represent an investment in a person’s originality, insight, and potential. Belanger is the founder of RBS, an independent, nonprofit organization supporting the study of the history of books and printing and related subjects. Each year RBS offers 40 five-day non-credit courses for adults on topics concerning old and rare books, manuscripts, and special collections. Belanger has been influential in shaping ACRL’s Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, and RBS has educated thousands of practicing librarians, booksellers, collectors, and archivists since its inception in 1983. Belanger plans to use the money to ensure the endowment of RBS.

Susan Richard, head of reference at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette, is the recipient of a three-year Friends of the Library BORSF Professorship.

Appointments

Jo Cates has been promoted to associate vice president for academic research and dean of the library at Columbia College Chicago. In this newly created position, Cates will have oversight responsibility for the academic research units, including the Columbia College Chicago Library, the Center for Black Music Research, the Center for Arts Policy, the Center for Asian Arts and Media, and the Museum of Contemporary Photography. Cates joined Columbia College Chicago in 2001 as director of the library, and was appointed dean of the library in 2004. She is the author of *Journalism: A Guide to the Reference Literature*, third edition.

Diane Fishman has been appointed director of information and library services at the University of Maryland University College.

Douglas K. Lehman has been appointed director of Thomas Library at Wittenberg University in Spring, Ohio. Lehman has more than 20 years experience as a library administrator with extensive background in public services and technical services in university and community college libraries. Prior to his appointment at Wittenberg, he was head of information and instruction services at the Bailey/Howe Library at the University of Vermont.

Michael J. McLane has been named director of libraries at the Catholic University of America. McLane, who has more than 30 years of experience as an academic librarian and administrator, has served as executive director of the Central New York Library Resources Council in Syracuse, New York, since 2000. As council head, McLane oversaw a state-funded organization whose 55 members include several public and school library systems as well as libraries at colleges and universities, hospitals, corporate and law firms, and nonprofit organizations in a four-county area. McLane’s previous academic appointments include dean of libraries and instructional
resources at Salisbury State University in Maryland (1998–2000); director of libraries and learning resources at the SUNY-Oswego (1991–98); and associate librarian and coordinator of reference and instruction at SUNY-Oswego (1988–91). McLane is an active ACRL member.

Cheryl Kern-Simirenko has been named dean of university libraries at the University of Akron. She had served as associate dean of libraries, director of public services and collection, and professor of library science at Purdue University since 1994. Prior to joining Purdue, Kern-Simirenko was assistant university librarian for collection development and resource services at the University of Oregon Library. From 1979 to 1988, she held positions in the Syracuse University Library, including acting head of the information services department and acting head of the social sciences department. She is active in various divisions of ALA and is chair of the Budget and Finance Committee of the Association of Library Collections and Technical Services.

David Spadafora is now president and librarian of the Newberry Library. Spadafora taught history at Lake Forest College for the last 15 years. During his tenure, he served as dean of faculty (1990–93) and president of the college (1993–2001). In the fall of 2001 he received a one-year teaching and research fellowship at the Newberry Library from the Associated Colleges of the Midwest. Spadafora received special recognition for one of his works, *The Idea of Progress in Eighteenth-Century Britain*, when it was included in the Outstanding Academic Books List by Choice.

Laura Akerman has been appointed technology and metadata librarian for General Libraries of Emory University.

Mario Ascencio is now visual arts librarian at George Mason University.

Susan Bailey has been appointed coordinator of library assessment for the General Libraries of Emory University.

Lynn Baird has been named associate dean of library services at the University of Idaho.

James Benson is vice provost of the Division of Library and Information Science at St. John’s University in Queens, New York. He will continue to serve as dean of university information resources and libraries.

Stephen Brooks is now head of acquisitions and gifts for the University Libraries at George Mason University.

Megan Coder has been appointed assistant librarian at the Sojourner Truth Library at State University of New York-New Paltz.

Heather Credeur has been appointed general reference librarian at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette.

Julie De Cesare has joined the Boston College Libraries as digital media reference librarian.

Todd R. Digby has been appointed the system director of libraries for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

Jessica Fischer is now collection development librarian for the University Libraries at George Mason University.

Susan Frey is reference/instruction librarian at Indiana State University.

Steven Gerber is now the performing arts liaison librarian at George Mason University.

Morgan Gwenwald has been appointed assistant librarian at the Sojourner Truth Library at State University of New York-New Paltz.

Amy Jackson has joined Indiana State University as a metadata and digital initiatives librarian for the Wabash Valley Visions and Voices digital memory project.

Miguel Juarez has joined Texas A&M University Libraries as Hispanic Studies librarian at Cushing Memorial Library and Archives.

LeRoy LaFleur is the liaison librarian for the George Mason University-Arlington Campus Library.

Lisa Macklin has been appointed e-resources team leader for the General Libraries at Emory University.

Suzanne Markgren has joined the staff of the Purchase College-SUNY library as a systems/electronic resources librarian.
Heidi Davis Marshall has been named Columbia College Chicago’s first college archivist.

Leah Massar has accepted a position as the new reference librarian for social and natural sciences at Purchase College-SUNY.

Erin O’Meara has been appointed to the new position of university of records manager at the University of Oregon Libraries-Eugene.

Gloria J. Orr has been appointed interim assistant provost for information and library services at the University of Maryland University College.

Donald J. Page has been appointed reference and instruction librarian (ten-month tenure track) at California State Polytechnic University-Pomona.

Deng Pan has joined the faculty of Mason Library at Keene State College as catalog librarian.

John Pollitz has been appointed associate university librarian for public services and innovative technologies at Oregon State University Libraries.

Eric Rector has been named associate director for VIVA (the Virtual Library of Virginia), located at George Mason University.

Randall Roeder has been appointed unit head, complex cataloging for Central Technical Services at the University of Iowa Libraries.

Dorothea Salo is now digital repository services librarian at George Mason University.

J. Brian Schoolar is now electronic resources librarian at Temple University Libraries.

Brian Sealy has been appointed cataloging and metadata management librarian at Western Carolina University.

Julie T. Shen has been appointed reference and instruction librarian (ten-month tenure track) at California State Polytechnic University-Pomona.

Mary Beth Thomson has been appointed associate dean for collections and technical services at the University of Kentucky.

Kelly Webster has joined the Boston College Libraries as catalog librarian.

Steven Wilson has been appointed coordinator for the Center for Disability Resources Library at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine Library.

Alessia Zanin-Yost has joined Western Carolina University as the reference librarian/visual and performing arts liaison.

Retirements

Marjorie Benedict, bibliographer for classical studies, education, French studies, music, reading, and physical education, has retired after 28 years of service to the University at Albany Libraries. She was a recipient of the President’s and Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence in Librarianship and has been an active member of ACRL and other professional organizations. Assisted by several United University Professionals (UUP) research grants, Marjorie’s major research activities and publications have centered on French language, francophone literature, and the status of academic librarians.

Judith Haydel, general reference librarian, has retired from the University of Louisiana-Lafayette.

Phyllis S. Mirsky, deputy university librarian at the University of California-San Diego (UCSD) has retired. Mirsky began her 40-

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year library career as a health sciences librarian at the UCLA Biomedical Library in 1965, where she served as reference librarian and as associate director of the Pacific Southwest Regional Medical Library Service. She coauthored the *Manual for librarians in small hospitals*. An active instructor and consultant, Mirsky was instrumental in the development of hospital libraries throughout the National Library of Medicine’s (NLM) Pacific Southwest Region. After serving as head of reference at NLM, she joined the staff at the UCSD Libraries in 1981 as its first assistant university librarian for sciences. During her career at UCSD, Mirsky held a series of appointments, including service as acting university librarian on three occasions. Most recently she was responsible for collection development and capital planning. She was a member of the task force that in 1995 envisioned and proposed the development of what is now the California Digital Library. Mirsky served as president of the Medical Library Association (1984–85) and was awarded MLA Fellow Status in 1995. She was selected as one of MLA’s 100 Most Notable members in 1998. Her other honors include selection as a UCLA/CLR Senior Fellow in 1987. Mirsky is a longtime ACRL member.

Christopher George Mullin has retired from the University of Montana’s (UM) Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library after 36 years of service. As head of special collections, Mullin was responsible for acquiring materials that have helped define the library holdings of UM. During his tenure at UM, Mullin was active in numerous campus committees as well as the Montana Library Association.

Eric Nitschke, reference librarian and subject liaison for European history, has retired after a professional career of 33 years at Emory University’s General Libraries.

Elaine Wagner, science librarian at Emory University’s Woodruff Library, has retired after nearly 37 years in academic librarianship. Wagner began her library career in 1966 as a library assistant in the Stetson Memorial Library of Mercer University and joined the staff of the A. W. Calhoun Medical Library at Emory in 1975. She later became a reference librarian at Georgia Institute of Technology’s Price Gilbert Memorial Library. She served as assistant head of reference until returning to Emory in 1988.

Gail Weinberg has retired from the University of Minnesota Libraries after ten years of service. Weinberg held various positions, including reference librarian with collections and liaison responsibilities for the College of Pharmacy. She has been active in Health Science Libraries of Minnesota and Substance Abuse Libraries and Information Specialists, having served as the president of each organization. Weinberg worked with the Drug Information Service of the College of Pharmacy from 1984 to 1995, where she produced the DRUGINFO database, and continued to manage the service when it relocated to the Bio-Medical Library in 1995.

Deaths

Karen L. McNulty, 31, digital resources reference librarian at Boston College’s O’Neill Library, died suddenly on August 31. McNulty worked in the Media Department while getting her library degree from Boston College. She was appointed instructional technology librarian before becoming the digital resources reference librarian.

Lavahn Overmyer, 94, associate professor emeritus of library science at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU), has died. Overmyer retired from CWRU in 1976.

Jonathan Tryon, 71, professor emeritus and former director of the University of Rhode Island (URI) Graduate School of Library and Information Studies-Kingston, has died. Tryon was professor of library science at URI for over three decades and also acted as director of the library school for many years.