NYPL unveils new South Court building
A new six-story glass structure will be unveiled at the New York Public Library on May 14 and opened to the public on June 1. South Court, which rises within the southern courtyard of the Humanities and Social Sciences Library, is the first above-ground structure to be added to the landmark flagship building since it opened in 1911.

South Court will offer training to the public in research techniques and methodologies and will include a public Orientation Center and an auditorium with multimedia and Webcasting capabilities.

The $29 million project was funded through a $17.5 million capital construction grant from the City of New York and a gift of $8.5 million from Celeste and Armand Bartos, for whom South Court's Education Center will be named. The building was designed by Davis Brody Bond LLP, the architectural firm responsible for the majority of the renovations to the Humanities and Social Sciences Library over the past 20 years.

Political cartoon collection available through Digital Library of Georgia
A collection of editorial cartoons by Clifford "Baldy" Baldowski, cartoonist with the Atlanta Constitution for more than 30 years, is now available on the Web via the Digital Library of Georgia. Prior to his death in 1999, Baldowski donated more than 7,000 cartoons to the Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies at the University of Georgia. The electronic availability of the work, which deals with topics including the Civil Rights Movement, the Cold war, and the Cuban Missile Crisis, is the culmination of a collaborative effort between the Russell Library and the Digital Library of Georgia.

The Clifford H. "Baldy" Baldowski Collection includes the artist's original editorial cartoons from both the Augusta Chronicle and the Atlanta Constitution. Baldowski was awarded the Sigma Delta Chi National Award for Distinguished Service in Journalism for a cartoon reflecting the threat of southern school closings in the '60s and was awarded four Freedom Foundation's George Washington Medals for cartoons heralding America's constitutional freedoms and patriotism.

The cartoons, along with supporting materials, such as commentaries, a biographical essay, and suggested reading links, can be found online at http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/baldy.html.

Site license edition of ChoiceReviews.online now available
CHOICE has announced the launch of the new site license edition of its Web-based review service, Choice Reviews online. The site license edition provides IP-based access to the acclaimed CHOICE review database and offers 24/7 Internet access to more than 80,000 CHOICE reviews. Distinctive features include easy campuswide and institutional access, a "Selected Records Page" that allows all users to create, edit, e-mail, and print customized lists of reviews while online, and reasonable pricing.

National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped announces telecommunications initiatives
The National Library Service (NLS) for the Blind and Physically Handicapped has announced a
collaboration with NFB-NEWSLINE, a service of the National Federation of the Blind, and Bookshare.org, an online Web service. NFB-NEWSLINE provides audio versions of daily newspapers through a toll-free telephone number; is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; and is free to anyone in the United States who is eligible to receive services from NLS. Bookshare.org allows individuals to download more than 8,000 books in Braille and provides the capability to listen to books with the aid of synthetic speech software.

ACRL represented at 21st Century Literacy Summit

The 21st Century Literacy Summit, hosted by the Bertelsmann Foundation and AOL Time Warner Foundation, was held in Berlin in March to promote a “transatlantic dialogue of decision-makers from government, business, and academia” to discuss issues related to what was termed “new literacy for a convergent media world.” ACRL was well-represented at the invitation-only summit, with executive director Mary Ellen K. Davis, past presidents Patricia Breivik and Hannelore Rader, and task force member Michael Eisenberg in attendance. Speakers included former secretary of state Madeleine Albright and German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder. The international conference included attendees from Australia, the United States, the United Kingdom, and an array of European countries.

As the Europeans used the term, 21st century literacy focuses on the use of information technology and the Internet in the future and their effects on education, workplace skills, and civic engagement. The conference addressed key areas in which individuals must enhance their knowledge and critical thinking skills: technology literacy, information literacy, creativity, and social competence and responsibility.

Maryland Interlibrary Consortium chooses Endeavor

The Maryland Interlibrary Consortium (MIC) is implementing Endeavor’s Voyager integrated library management system and ENCompass digital management and e-content system. MIC, which formed ten years ago to share an integrated online system, consists of the libraries of five private colleges. The consortium will now also share patron and materials holdings databases and a digital library. The MIC is the first group to select both systems but begin implementing ENCompass before Voyager. With both implementations now under way, MIC plans to have simultaneous searching of Voyager and ENCompass available to researchers this fall.

Chronicle launches trial of campuswide site licensing

The Chronicle of Higher Education has made available a campuswide site license edition to five institutions. Cleveland State University, Columbia University, Stanford University, University of Iowa, and University of Nevada—Reno have been selected to participate in a one-year introductory trial that significantly enhances the magazine’s existing password-based electronic access. Participants receive complete access to the Chronicle Web site, which includes daily updates as well as supplements that do not appear in the print edition. Complete text from the newspaper, which is printed on Friday, is available on the Web the following Monday morning. In addition to the current...
Shhhhh! No laughing allowed.

Editor's note: The following humorous pieces are from the April 1 issue of the University of Washington Libraries' Weekly Online News, written by Charles Chamberlin, Steve Eicbner, Antony Hopkins, Elaine Jennerich, Susan Kemp, and Paula Walker. Reprinted with permission from the University of Washington Libraries.

New staff travel funding source under review
A novel plan for finding additional resources to ease the burden of travel expenses on libraries staff is under review by the libraries. The plan calls for utilizing the extradition policies that are in place between law enforcement agencies in most states. When requesting travel to a given city, a database of unsolved crimes in that jurisdiction will be consulted. If an extraditable offense is found, a staff member will anonymously submit evidence implicating themselves in the crime. After being escorted by friendly local police to the destination city, exonerating evidence will be forwarded by the libraries.

The plan does have some limitations, and work remains on many details, but it is hoped that it will provide at least some fiscal relief for staff. Additional benefits of the plan include expedited passage through airport security, and a higher level of personal protection while en route. The committee expects to have the full plan ready for presentation to the council by April 15th.

Signage task force hires design consultant
The Libraries Signage Task Force has hired renowned consultant Martha Stewart to assist in creating the perfect atmosphere for learning and research in the entire UW Libraries system. Ms. Stewart will begin with Suzzallo Library as the prototype and each floor will receive what Martha refers to as “hues and tones that make you smarter!”

Each floor will receive signage in appropriate colors: Basement: Shrimp Bisque; Ground Floor: Baby’s First Summer; First Floor: Taupe Temptress; Second Floor: Cayenne; Third Floor: Coyote; Fourth Floor: Aubergine; Fifth Floor Conference Rooms: Bland Beige.

To add to the ambience, Martha has designed major destination signs for the libraries that will be in the shape of puffy cumulus clouds. “They’re heavenly!” sighed Betsy Wilson, director of UW Libraries. Our corporate sponsor for this effort is K-Mart, whose logo will now appear on all signage.

OneWednesday, 4/3/02
Please join us for OneWednesday, April 3rd from 1:30—2:30 p.m. in the Tower Room. This month’s topic will be “Early retirement: is 40 too early?” Early Retirement is one of the ideas that grew from recent brainstorming sessions on ways to save money and generate income. Here is a chance to put on your “creativity cap” and openly discuss your ideas about this intriguing concept.

Manuscripts, Special Collections, University Archives acronym status resolved
The Manuscripts, Special Collections, University Archives Division is pleased to announce that its acronym status has been resolved. In 1999, following the merger of the Special Collections and Preservation Division with the Manuscripts and University Archives Division, “MSCUA” was submitted to the University of Washington Harmonical Acronym Team.

The intent of having MSCUA officially elevated from abbreviation to acronym was to increase ease of use and foster a unique campus identity. It was initially anticipated that the approval process would be short. However, the team determined that there were several phonetic interpretations that they were required to investigate. “Muskawuh,” “Emskwah” and “Skway” (the “m” is silent) were all reviewed and considered by the team.

After several lively meetings and a period of public comment, the team approved the divisions’ preferred choice of “Muskawuh,” and it has now been added to the listing of official university acronyms.
issue, the archive of more than 12 years of the Chronicle are available and fully searchable.

**Appropriate use policies for computers provided in ACRL’s latest CLIP Note**

Appropriate Use Policies for Computers in College/University Libraries, CLIP Note #31, compiled by Jane H. Tuten and Karen Junker, includes 27 library-specific appropriate use policies (AUPs) and 26 institutional policies. Survey responses from 135 college and small university libraries were compiled, analyzed, and summarized to reveal not only the commonalities, but also the variety in appropriate use policies and in the processes used to create them.

Respondents generously authorized the inclusion of their library or institutional documents, allowing the reader to fully appreciate the style, tone, and format as well as the content of policies from public and private institutions from all parts of the country. Also included is a useful list of URLs provided by respondents with library and institutional policies online, increasing the number of sample policies available for review.

Appropriate Use Policies for Computers in College/University Libraries (ISBN 0-8389-8181-X, 2002) is $25.00; ACRL members receive a 10 percent discount. To order ACRL publications, contact ALA, P.O. Box 932501, Atlanta, GA, 31193-2501; phone: (866) 746-7252 (866-Shop ALA); fax: (770) 442-9742. An order form is also available online at http://www.ala.org/acrl/pubsform.html.

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**ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute**

Academic libraries exist in a constantly changing environment with many new challenges and many available opportunities. New demands on academic libraries call for fundamental shifts in leadership knowledge. In response to these challenges, ACRL is collaborating with the Harvard Institutes for Higher Education to offer its popular ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute.

At the ACRL/Harvard institute, you will be among your fellow leaders in academic librarianship. The institute is designed for directors of libraries and individuals in positions such as associate university librarian, assistant dean, vice president of information resources, university librarian, and college librarian. The institute would also be useful for individuals regularly involved in decision-making that affects the entire library operation and that involves other important relationships on campus.

Comments from past participants include:

“For the first time I have understood what I can find and see in myself to be a leader, and I know that I have excellent tools with which to do this. I will learn to build on my strengths.”

“I expected excellence and that is exactly what I found. The quality of the program, the faculty, and the participants made for an outstanding experience. Thank you for setting the tone and providing the space and time for open discussion and debate, laughter and learning.”

“I think the mix and diversity of participants was integral to the success of the program. I enjoyed the chance to meet librarians from all types of academic institutions, and all parts of the country.”

The 2002 ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute will be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts, August 4-9, 2002. Registration materials and complete details about the institute are available on the Web at http://www.gse.harvard.edu/~ppe/. (Under programs, select “Higher Education,” then scroll down to ACRL Leadership Institute.) Register early as spots will fill quickly. ACRL/Harvard Leadership Institute alumni benefits include a subscription to an ongoing electronic list and annual alumni reunions at the ALA Midwinter Meeting.

Questions about this institute can be directed to acrl@ala.org; (800) 545-2433, ext. 2519.