Bronx Park Postcard Collection

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) recently launched a collection of hundreds of historical postcards that showcase everything from interesting architecture to unique wildlife. Entitled the “Bronx Park Postcard Collection,” the series tells the story of the Bronx Park, which includes the Bronx Zoo and the New York Botanical Garden.

The cards offer a look into days gone by, from a 1920 photograph of boating on the Bronx River to a 1959 shot of the Bronx Zoo’s two Komodo dragons, the only “dragon lizards” in the United States at the time.

The digital collection brings together postcards held by the WCS Library (which houses the archives of the Bronx Zoo) and NYBG’s LuEsther T. Mertz Library. These 450 postcards from 1903 to the 1980s depict Bronx Park’s natural beauty and highlight the buildings, landscapes, and inhabitants of the two institutions.

The collection is available at http://ielc.libguides.com/bronxparkpostcards.

New ACRL liaison appointments

The ACRL Liaisons Coordinating Committee (LCC) announces the following liaison appointments:

- American Sociological Association (ASA): Amanda Swygart-Hobaugh, librarian for Sociology, Anthropology, and Gerontology; Georgia State University (Term: 2012–15)

Complete information on ACRL liaisons is available on the LCC Web site at www.ala.org/acrl/issues/councilofliaisons.

University of Illinois Library adds 13-millionth volume

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library recently added its 13-millionth book to its collections. *Ise Monogatari* (or *Tales of Ise*), the first illustrated Japanese printed book, is an anonymous compilation of 209 poems and 125 episodes from a poet’s life. Enormously popular, *Tales of Ise* recounts the amorous exploits of an unnamed lover/poet, often identified with Ariwara no Narihira (825-80), one of the six “sages” of Japanese poetry.

The library’s copy is the first printed edition of the classic work and was published in 1608 by Suminokura Soan, a wealthy entrepreneur.
The Science and Technology Section (STS) program at the 2012 ALA Annual Conference, “Preparing Tomorrow’s Science Professional,” explored ways that librarians and researchers can reach out to the next generation of scientists and engineers.

Five speakers shared their experiences educating emerging scientists, developing new outreach models, and working with students to support their goals of becoming science professionals. After STS Chair Maribeth Slebodnik (Purdue University) opened the program, the co-chairs of the Program Planning Committee Lindsay Johnston (University of Alberta) and David Schmitt (University of California-San Diego), introduced the speakers and served as moderators.

Bill Tomlinson (University of California-Irvine) led things off with an engaging presentation on the value of libraries throughout history and emphasized the growing need for digital literacy skills. By surveying those in his informatics classes, he was also able to share student perspectives on how libraries can stay relevant in a fast-changing world.

Jim Clarke (Miami University-Ohio) discussed ways to change the paradigm of instruction and outreach by implementing a new model of engagement for engineering librarians. He shared his experience with the literature research guidance process he developed for capstone design courses.

Jon Jeffryes (University of Minnesota) reported on a survey of engineering students participating in cooperative education programs that gauged their information-seeking behavior and preparedness in the workplace. These results were then integrated into instructional efforts in and new drop-in workshops on teamwork and project management skills were created.

Barbara MacAlpine (Trinity University) provided an overview of both the past and the future of the STS Information Literacy Standards. She also shared examples of ways that the standards had been put into practice.

John Rossi (City of Hope) concluded the presentations with a discussion of medical student information needs and education.

Panelist’s presentations can be found at http://ala12.scheduler.ala.org/node/161.—Edward F. Lener, Virginia Tech, lener@vt.edu

Ransom Center accepting fellowship applications

The Ransom Center, a humanities research library and museum at the University of Texas-Austin, is now receiving applications for its 2013–14 research fellowships in the humanities. More than 50 fellowships in the humanities are awarded annually by the Ransom Center to support research projects in all areas of the humanities, including literature, photography, film, art, the performing arts, music, and cultural history. Applicants must demonstrate the need for substantial on-site use of the Ransom Center’s collections.

All applicants, with the exception of those applying for dissertation fellowships, must hold a Ph.D. or be independent scholars with a substantial record of publication.

The fellowships range from one-to-three months, with stipends of $3,000 per month. Also available are $1,200 to $1,700 travel stipends and dissertation fellowships with a $1,500 stipend. The application deadline is Feb. 1, 2013. Information about the fellowships and the application process is available online at www.hrc.utexas.edu/fellowships.
New business model for arXiv

arXiv, a free repository based at the Cornell University Library, is adopting a new governance and business model. Beginning in January 2013 and running through 2017, the Simons Foundation will provide up to $300,000 per year as a matching gift for the funds generated through arXiv’s membership fees. The grant also provides $50,000 per year as an “unconditional gift” that recognizes the library’s stewardship of arXiv.

arXiv has been based at Cornell since founder Paul Ginsparg joined the faculty in 2001. The repository includes research in physics, mathematics, statistics, computer science, and related disciplines. As an open access service, it allows scientists to share preprint research before publication and boasts hundreds of thousands of contributors. In 2011 alone, arXiv saw close to 50 million downloads from all over the world and received more than 76,000 new submissions. More information is available at www.arXiv.org.

MSU digitizes yearbooks

Mississippi State University’s (MSU) Reveille has gone digital. Every volume of the student-published yearbook is now freely available online via MSU Libraries’ Web site. The project to digitize all Reveille volumes began in April 2012 and was completed in August 2012. Pages from the yearbooks have typically been the most often-requested material for digitization from the University Archives.

Reveille chronicles the lives and events of MSU (previously named Mississippi Agricultural & Mechanical College and Mississippi State College) throughout the institution’s history. MSU Libraries partnered with the Lyrasis Mass Digitization Collaborative to complete this digitization project through a subsidy grant from the Sloan Foundation. Each of the volumes from 1898 to 2008 is searchable—thanks to the use of optical character recognition (OCR) software—and freely available for partial or complete download.

The Busy Librarian’s Guide to Information Literacy in Science and Engineering

ACRL announces the publication of The Busy Librarian’s Guide to Information Literacy in Science and Engineering, edited by Katherine O’Clair and Jeanne Davidson.

The Busy Librarian’s Guide to Information Literacy in Science and Engineering provides a practical guide for librarians responsible for science, engineering, and/or technology information literacy instruction to understand and apply the ACRL Information Literacy Standards for Science and Engineering/Technology into curriculum design and ongoing instruction.

Experienced science and engineering librarians share their effective approaches and concrete strategies for meeting the information literacy needs of students in a variety of science and engineering disciplines. Each of the seven chapters details key information literacy standards and outcomes of a particular discipline along with strategies for instruction and integration into the curriculum. Chapters focus on life and health sciences, chemistry, engineering, intellectual property/patents, interdisciplinary courses, and more. Parallels are drawn between ACRL and discipline-created standards for information literacy.

The Busy Librarian’s Guide to Information Literacy in Science and Engineering is available for purchase in print, as an e-book, and as a print/e-book bundle through the ALA Online Store; in print and for Kindle through Amazon.com; and by telephone order at (866) 746-7252 in the United States or (770) 442-8633 for international customers.
Western Regional Storage Trust achieves archiving milestone, adds members

The Western Regional Storage Trust (WEST), a partnership to create a distributed retrospective print journal repository in the western United States, has completed its first round of print journal archiving under a three-year program jointly funded by WEST members and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. In this first cycle in the 2011–12 academic year, 12 WEST libraries serving as archive holders on behalf of the partnership have archived more than 6,100 journal titles, comprising more than 160,000 volumes. These totals include nearly 5,100 titles archived at the Bronze level (no validation; also have digital preservation), more than 500 titles archived at the Silver level (validated for completeness at the volume level) and more than 500 titles validated at the Gold level (validated for both completeness and condition at the issue level).

WEST also welcomed eight new members in 2012: California State University-Northridge; New Mexico State University; and, through the consortial membership of the Statewide California Electronic Library Consortium (SCELC), California Baptist University, La Sierra University, Santa Clara University, University of Redlands, University of San Diego, and Whittier College. This brings the total WEST membership to 109 libraries in 18 states, many through consortial partners Orbis Cascade Alliance and SCELC. More information about WEST is available at www.cdlib.org/west.

Springer now publishing open access books

Springer is expanding its open access (OA) program by offering a fully OA option for books, which will extend Springer’s established SpringerOpen and BioMed Central journal portfolio, and its Springer Open Choice option. Any electronic version of a SpringerOpen book is fully and immediately OA, and thus freely accessible on SpringerLink for anyone in the world with access to the Internet.

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Nominations sought for ACRL vice-president/president-elect

“When nothing is sure, everything is possible.”—Margaret Drabble

Higher education is experiencing unprecedented change, providing academic libraries with tremendous opportunities to define new roles related to learning, teaching, and research. ACRL is dedicated to enhancing the ability of library and information professionals to dream big and shape our new future.

Be a part of shaping that future. The ACRL Leadership Recruitment and Nominations Committee encourages members to nominate themselves or others to run for the position of ACRL vice-president/president-elect in the 2014 elections. To nominate an individual or to self-nominate, send the nominee’s name and institution to: Sarah Barbara Watstein, University of North Carolina-Wilmington; Phone: (910) 962-3162; e-mail: watsteins@uncw.edu.

Once nominated, individuals will need to submit a two-page curriculum vita or resume (if self-nomining, you may include these materials with your nomination). The Leadership Recruitment and Nominations Committee will request statements of interest from selected individuals prior to developing a slate of candidates.

The deadline for nominations is November 15, 2012.

For more information on MSU Libraries and to peruse the yearbooks, please visit http://library.msstate.edu/Reveille.