

D.C.L.A. Newsletter

DADE COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Miami, Florida

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For additional information on DCLA membership, events, employment opportunities, and more, please visit our home page:
www.fiu.edu/~library/DCLA

President's Message

by Mervyn Solomon



*“and higher they lifted the net with soundless voices
above all change, betrayals of falling suns,
and this season lasted one moment, like the pause
between dusk and darkness, between fury and peace,
but, for such as our earth is now, it lasted long.”*

--Derek Walcott, *The Season of Phantasmal Peace*

Welcome back everyone! I hope that you all had some time to take a vacation, or at least a short break from the routine of home and office. Once more, we are reminded how uncertain events in life can be. You will surely join me in extending our sympathy to the many families who have lost loved ones in the recent national tragedy. Meanwhile, we are continuing to implement our program with typical DCLA determination.

You can look forward to the Annual Workshop in December. We are also planning a mini workshop towards the end of October. Please stay in touch for further details on your e-mail and snail mail.

The Executive Board members take this opportunity to renew our appeal for your support in our membership drive. We thank you for your support in the past, but urge you to help us in our drive to recruit members in 2001 and beyond.

Call or e-mail any of our officers to let us know how you can help us to plan activities of interest to our members. Let us participate together, and have a wonderful fall season.

Best wishes,

Mervyn

Introducing: DCLA's New Logo!



DCLA members recently voted on a selection of six logos designed by the Miami-Dade Public Library System Graphics Department. The winning design is shown above.

DCLA Annual Luncheon Attendees Enjoy netLibrary Presentation

The DCLA Annual Luncheon was held on May 30, 2001 at Miami-Dade Community College's Medical Center Campus. DCLA Vice-President/President Elect Sonia Luna-Lamas coordinated the successful event.

This year's speaker was Mike Echery, Director of Program Development for netLibrary, Inc.

Mr. Echery demonstrated the use of netLibrary e-books, and answered questions about his company's products and services. He believes that netLibrary is "revolutionizing people's access to new resources in the library community."

Based in Boulder, Colorado, netLibrary is the leading provider of electronic books and Internet-based content/collection management services. Many Florida libraries participate in shared access to netLibrary e-book collections through consortia such as SOLINET (Southeast Florida Library Information Network), and CCLA (College Center for Library Automation). For more information about netLibrary, visit www.netlibrary.com.



FIU Library Designated as United Nations Depository

by Mercy Sanchez
International Documents Librarian
Green Library, Florida International University

On March 23, 2001, at its 362nd meeting, the Working Committee of the United Nations Publications Board designated the Florida International University Green Library as a United Nations full depository library, making it the third such depository in the state of Florida.

This culminates a long and challenging process that began in 1992, when, for the first time, FIU requested U.N. depository status.

At that moment, the United Nations was not granting depository status to institutions located in developed countries. Therefore, I continued working toward the development of a strong United Nations collection that would serve as a base for expanding the knowledge of global issues, and would help to strengthen the research goals of the University as well as the programs of all departments involved.

Becoming a depository library will open new avenues for researching in the field, as well as new channels of communication and cooperative endeavors with the United Nations and with all depository libraries in the United States and around the world.

Editor's Note:

The Green Library is located on FIU's University Park Campus at 11200 S.W. 8th St., Miami. The two other U.N. depositories in Florida are FSU's Strozier Library in Tallahassee, and the Nova Southeastern University Law Library in Fort Lauderdale.

For more information on United Nations depository libraries, visit www.un.org/Depts/dhl/dls.htm

Harris Awards Grants to SEFLIN

by Tom Sloan,
SEFLIN Executive Director

The Southeast Florida Library Information Network (SEFLIN) has been awarded \$415,000 in LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) grants by Florida's Secretary of State Katherine Harris. The presentation of a ceremonial check was held at the Florida Library Association's Library Day held on March 27, 2001. The funds will assist in establishing the Virtual Library of Southeast Florida and the Technology Training Program for Southeast Florida Library Staff.



SEFLIN Executive Director Tom Sloan
with Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris

"The SEFLIN Board of Directors extends our appreciation to Secretary Harris for supporting these important cooperative projects between Southeast Florida libraries," stated Raymond Santiago, President of the SEFLIN Board of Directors and Director of the Miami-Dade Public Library System. "The virtual library and technology training projects will enhance libraries working together for the improvement of library services for all Southeast Floridians," said Santiago.

The Virtual Library of Southeast Florida will provide a wide range of information services. A "Single Search" will provide access to web-based resources including the catalogs of 25 Southeast Florida libraries, government information, and selected Spanish-language resources. The Virtual Library will also provide an interactive directory of Southeast Florida

libraries and an online library jobs/résumé service.

The Technology Training Program for Southeast Florida Library Staff provides a comprehensive and integrated delivery of training to more than 2,900 library personnel. Technology training is provided through 210 web-based courses, 36 instructor-led classes in library labs, and more than 450 training vouchers for classes at technology training centers located throughout Southeast Florida.

"We thank Secretary Harris, State Librarian Barratt Wilkins, and the Florida Division of Library and Information Services for supporting and funding these innovative technology projects," stated Tom Sloan, SEFLIN Executive Director.

SEFLIN (www.seflin.org) is a membership organization of Southeast Florida libraries that are located in Broward, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach counties. SEFLIN members represent more than 250 public, academic, and school libraries serving a culturally rich population of more than 5 million Floridians.



Newsletter Notes

Newsletter Distribution

If your current e-mail address is on file with DCLA, you will receive an e-mail message when each new issue of the Newsletter becomes available online. Contact Jenny Saxton at (305) 919-5716 or saxtonj@fiu.edu if you would prefer to continue receiving printed copies. Please let Jenny know if you have any material to submit for the next issue. *The deadline for submissions is November 16, 2001.*

Membership List

Please help to keep the membership list up-to-date. If you've changed jobs, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, etc., contact Suzanne Stemler at (305) 348-6279 or stemlers@fiu.edu.

**Report From 2001 ALA Conference:
Digital Rights Management a Hot Topic**

**by Cecilia Leathem
Head, Knowledge Access Management
Richter Library, University of Miami**

As you can imagine, San Francisco was bustling with activity as librarians arrived for the ALA Annual Conference, held June 14-20. San Francisco is a popular venue for this event and, although I do not have exact figures on the number of attendees, it is safe to say that it was very well attended.

Hotel accommodations were difficult to find if you had not made reservations by February. To further complicate matters, hotel staff at the Marriott were on strike. Because many meetings and events had been scheduled at this large, centrally-located hotel, librarians had to decide whether to support the union effort by avoiding the hotel or to cross the (sometimes) raucous picket lines to attend a meeting.

In addition to the union action, there were many hot topics under discussion at the conference. The impact of new legislation, such as the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and the Supreme Court decision in the Tasini case, were among the issues discussed. As you may know, Tasini sued the New York Times for fair compensation for articles he had written as a free-lance writer. He alleged that, since his articles now formed part of an online archive, he should receive royalty payments. Other free-lance writers also joined in the suit, claiming compensation for articles that were duplicated in other online databases and aggregations. The alternative: the articles should be removed from those databases. Tasini won, and as a result, the New York Times removed all articles by free-lancers from their online archive. These articles also will no longer be available via any other database, such as Lexis-Nexis, that contains material from the New York Times. Other online vendors are scrutinizing their holdings to determine which articles they can still provide in full-text and which to remove, or, alternatively, how to provide compensation to free-lance

writers for articles that appear in their database.

This case is but one issue in the larger concerns of digital rights management. Some view the new copyright act as favoring the business interests of the producer or publisher of online materials. Others question whether any online producer has the right to deny or restrict access to documents that are in the public domain, even when such documents are part of a larger, propriety, fee-based database. I learned that we librarians need to examine the philosophical basis of all digital rights management efforts: are they in place primarily to manage content or to restrict access to it?

**DCLA Members Vote for
Dues Increase**

DCLA members recently voted to increase the individual membership dues from \$10 per year to \$15 per year.

DCLA Vice President/President Elect Sonia Luna-Lamas explains, "After doing a cost comparison of other local organizations, DCLA is really the only one that offers such a low membership fee, and we could do more for [our members] if the membership fee were \$15."

The increase will become effective for calendar year 2002.

How to Help

To make a donation to the American Red Cross, visit www.redcross.org, or call 1-800-HELP-NOW.

There is also a toll free number for Spanish speakers, 1-800-257-7575.



Together, we can save a life