



Dade County Library Association Newsletter

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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 Sonia Luna-Lamas**



Happy New Year to all, and a formal welcome to our new board for 2002-2004. We have started our board meetings and everyone is excited, very enthusiastic and eager to bring new ideas and new things to our members.

We are in the planning stages for our Annual Luncheon in May, and are also in the process of setting up some "Library Visits." Some of the suggestions are: Viscaya, the Wolfsonian Museum, Fairchild Tropical Gardens, UM's Cuban Heritage Pavilion, and others. An "HR Issues and Libraries" workshop is also a possibility, as well as a "Library Fair" and a Preservation workshop. These are the many ideas that we have come up with and if you, the members, have more, please contact any one of us on the board and share them with us.

We are all pressed for time and all asked to do more with less staff and resources. But, it is so very important to stay involved with your fellow colleagues in the networking process, whether it is formal or informal. Membership renewals will be sent out shortly, and remember that they need to be in before the end of March.

I am really looking forward to serving as your President and working with all of you for the next two years. Be encouraged to participate, involve other colleagues with DCLA, and ask non-member colleagues to participate in our meetings, programs and gatherings, and join our Association.

A good year to you all, and I hope to see many of you as soon as possible.

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Past President Interview: Douglas K. Lehman

The following interview is the first in a series of articles spotlighting DCLA Past Presidents.



Doug Lehman enjoying a game in Fenway Park, Boston

Many of us remember Doug Lehman for his professional involvement and leadership at the local, state, and national levels. He graduated from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio with a B.A. in history, and received his M.L.S. from (can you guess?) Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. He began his career at the Robert J. Kleberg Public Library in Kingsville, Texas, and later went on to the Ohio Historical Society in Columbus, Ohio. He then spent 19 years at Miami-Dade Community College, first as a reference librarian at the North Campus, then as Director of Library Technical Services, and finally as Assistant Library Director for Public Services at the Kendall Campus. At various times he also held part-time library positions at the University of Miami, and at both campuses of Florida International University. In the summer of 2000, Doug left south Florida for the Green Mountain state, where he currently serves as Director of Instruction and Information Services at the University of Vermont's Bailey/Howe Library. He is also working toward an M.A. in history at the University of Vermont. Doug's web page (www.uvm.edu/~dlehman) includes photos of scenic Vermont, and links to sites pertaining to his first love: baseball.

DCLA: When was your term of office?

DL: I served as DCLA President from 1988 to 1990, and Vice-President in 1987. I had been approached first to take on the position of Newsletter Editor (which I did), but the President of the Association left the area and I was asked to step in as Vice-President.

DCLA: While you were DCLA President, how did you respond to the challenge of leading colleagues from a group of diverse libraries?

DL: This was always an issue for me. Attempting to determine programming that would appeal to a wide range of librarians was a challenge. When I took over, meetings had become erratic and I attempted to get the Association back on some sort of pattern of holding meetings. I hope I accomplished that. The trick was to try to schedule things over the course of your presidency that interested everyone. Fortunately, we also had a cadre of dedicated librarians and library staff who came to all our meetings.

DCLA: What role did DCLA have in promoting the advantages of librarianship as a career?

DL: To be honest, I can't recall us ever looking at it that way. Perhaps by providing an opportunity for librarians and library staff to meet and socialize, we provided the opportunity for people to find this an enjoyable career.

"In my first job I cataloged books by hand and the library's secretary typed the cards. Now you can barely find a typewriter in a library, and certainly not one with a card platen."

DCLA: There have been so many changes over the past 20 years. How did these changes influence (or how do these changes continue to influence) your career as a librarian?

DL: Clearly since I've been a librarian, the advent of computer technology has been the biggest factor. I started in library school at a time when the Indiana University Graduate Library School had just received their first OCLC terminal for training future catalogers. In my first job I cataloged books by hand and the library's secretary typed the cards. Now you can barely find a typewriter in a library, and certainly not one with a card platen. Miami-Dade Community College had been a charter member of SOLINET, so by the time I got there as Director of Library Technical Services in 1984, they had a 10-year history of using OCLC. What happened next, though, helped revolutionize technical and public services: the introduction of the personal computer. It has been interesting to watch the standard workstation go from an 8088 processor, with no hard drive and a small amount of RAM, to the powerful computers we use today. Without the development of the personal computer, the next great change would not have been possible. I refer to the World Wide Web. Again, I was in the right place at the right time when the Web exploded onto the scene. I moved to the Kendall Campus in 1997, and shortly thereafter we installed computers to replace the dumb terminals we had been using. The down-side to all of this, of course, is that our users have extremely high expectations now, and expect that all information should be available through those workstations.

DCLA: To what extent do you think these changes are cause for concern or optimism about the future of the profession?

DL: I do worry about the upward spiraling expectations. I fear sometimes that people will eventually say, "I can get everything I need from the Web." Perhaps they will someday, but not yet.



Law Libraries Partner to Create Virtual Reference Desk

By Roy Balleste
Faculty Services Librarian
St. Thomas University

The St. Thomas University Law Library has joined forces with the Nova Southeastern University Law Library to create a Virtual Reference consortium. The consortium's mission has been the implementation and operation of a Virtual Reference Desk (VRD). A VRD has the potential to revolutionize the way we have been providing reference services. The decision to begin this service at our institutions was discussed over a period of one year, and the discussions continue as we find ways to streamline the service. The consortium wants to enhance access to library resources as we search for diverse methods for information retrieval and delivery.

The consortium has been using Convey Systems OnDemand technology (www.conveysystems.com) for its VRD, a service that began on September 16, 2002. As a tool, the VRD has several useful features. One of them is the co-browsing option, which permits librarians to utilize the patrons' computer browser to take them to the Web pages being sought out. Another important feature is the chat option, which goes hand in hand with co-browsing. One important advantage of chat is that communication with librarians is conducted in real-time while the searches are taking place. The VRD powered by Convey becomes part of the Web as the patron utilizes a chat box conveniently located in the browser for easy access. These two features are the key to the successful establishment of a Virtual Reference Desk.

The members of the consortium committee include Gordon Russell, Law Library Director and Professor of Law, St. Thomas University Law Library, Brian Williams, Research and Information

Services Coordinator, St. Thomas University Law Library, Roy Balleste, Faculty Services Librarian, St. Thomas University Law Library, Billie Jo Kaufman, Law Library Director and Professor of Law, Nova Southeastern University Law Library, and Lisa Smith-Butler, Associate Director, Nova Southeastern University Law Library.



The Roberto C. Goizueta Pavilion: A Grand New Home for the Cuban Heritage Collection

By María R. Estorino
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The Cuban Heritage Collection (CHC) of the University of Miami Libraries has a new home in the Roberto C. Goizueta Pavilion. The CHC is the premier research collection outside of Cuba of materials related to the history and culture of the island nation. It also houses the most comprehensive collection of Cuban exile and Cuban-American materials in the world. With a splendid reading room, an exhibition gallery, a state-of-the-art conference room, and an expansive area for collections storage, the 10,000 square-foot Roberto C. Goizueta Pavilion offers a primary access point at the University of Miami for research and study about Cuba and the Cuban experience throughout the world.

Named for the late Cuban-born CEO of the Coca-Cola Company, The Roberto C. Goizueta Pavilion was made possible by a generous donation from the Goizueta Foundation, and with the support of the late Elena Díaz-Versón Amos and the Fanjul family. The Cuban Heritage Collection's new home was dedicated on January 28, 2003, the 150th anniversary of the birth of Cuban patriot José Martí.

* *Institute of Museum and Library Services*



Library Relocation is One of Many Changes at Art Institute

The International Fine Arts College has moved to the new Omni Technology Center, now occupying the vacant Omni Mall in downtown Miami. In January, 2002, IFAC was acquired by the Education Management Corporation, the parent company of the Art Institutes. The name of the school has been changed to the Miami International University of Art & Design.

In a recent press release, University President Erika Fleming stated that the new 60,000 square-foot space (located in the southwest portion of the Omni Center at 1501 Biscayne Boulevard) was designed specifically to meet the needs of the expanding University, including an 800 square-foot art gallery, free to the public, that will feature student, faculty, community, and international works of art on a rotating basis.

During the move's second phase, which will take place in the fall of 2003, the school's Daniel M. Stack Library (currently located at 1717 Bayshore Drive) will be relocated to the new facility and will be expanded to 3,000 square feet. The move will take place under the leadership of Ida Tomshinsky, who was recently promoted to the position of Library Director.

"While the learning resources at Miami International University of Art & Design adequately meet the needs of students and faculty in the current educational programs, it will be fully reorganized," says Tomshinsky. "The University has added new MFA-level educational programs in Film, Graphic Design, and Visual Arts, and a Spanish-language AA program in International Fashion Design. Major strategic initiatives need to be taken to develop additional learning resources to meet the growing needs of the overall student body."

According to Tomshinsky, two major tasks are being undertaken in addition to the move. The first is the purchase of the Athena cataloging and circulation software and the Athena Web software as an initiative to upgrade the Library's current automation system. The second is the conversion of the 19,749 volume collection from Dewey Decimal Classification to the Library of Congress system to be consistent with most of the 29 Art Institutes libraries. The library will be closed during the month of February, 2003 to complete the conversion. During this time, students will

be referred to the Miami-Dade Public Library and other SEFLIN libraries.

Ms. Tomshinsky would like to thank Dr. Janis Jordan, Director of the Miami-Dade Community College Kendall Campus Library, for sharing information on MDCC's successful conversion to LC classification, and Heather Payne, Library Director at the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale, for sharing information on the Athena circulation program. Tomshinsky notes, "Librarians are here to help library users, to help each other, to share information for the betterment of our community, and to make future libraries bigger and better."

For more information on the Miami International University of Art & Design, visit www.aimiu.aii.edu.



MDPLS Director Named LJ Librarian of the Year

Raymond Santiago, Director of the Miami-Dade Public Library System, has received the Library Journal Librarian of the Year Award for 2003. According to a January 22 press release, Santiago was recognized for "his exceptional ability to garner both political and community support for library services, which have resulted in steady increases to the library's budget since he became director in 1998."

Computer Training for Library Users at MDPLS Regional Branches

The Miami-Dade Public Library System is offering free computer training programs for library users at lab facilities located at the North Dade Regional Library (2455 N.W. 183 St.) and the South Dade Regional Library (10750 S.W. 211 St.).

Classes include Introduction to Personal Computers, Introduction to the Internet, Introduction to E-Mail, Word Processing, and Introduction to Online Databases. The Introduction to Personal Computers class is also being offered in Spanish.

For more information, call the North Dade Regional Library at (305) 625-6424, or the South Dade Regional Library at (305) 233-8140, or visit the MDPLS web site at www.mdpls.org.

DCLA Members Elect New Executive Board



The names of the newly elected DCLA Executive Board members for 2002-2004 were announced at the Annual DCLA Luncheon on May 15, 2002 at St. Thomas University. The new Executive Board members (pictured left to right) are Vice President/President Elect Schlomit Schwarzer (University of Miami), President Sonia Luna-Lamas (St. Thomas Law), Secretary Grisel Choter (MDPL-Main), and Treasurer Joan Bueter (Barry University).

"Ergonomics 2002" is Focus of DCLA Annual Workshop

The 11th Annual DCLA Workshop was held at St. Thomas University on May 15, 2002. The keynote speaker was Raul F. Garcia-Casariago of the University of Miami Department of Industrial Engineering. The highlight of the workshop, which focused on ergonomics, was a "field trip" to the St. Thomas University Law Library, where the workstations of several staff members were evaluated for ergonomic do's and don'ts. The program was most informative and enjoyed by all.

DCLA Scholarship for Library School Students

DCLA offers a scholarship for library school students every year. Members will have the opportunity to apply for the 2003 scholarship, which will be granted during our Annual Meeting/Luncheon in May. Applicants should be active DCLA members (2003 dues paid) and must present proof of admission to a graduate school of library and information science, 3 letters of recommendations, and evidence of professional involvement and interest. Applications can be found on our web site (www.fiu.edu/~library/DCLA), or contact Margaret Elliston, St. Thomas University, 16400 NW 32 Avenue, Miami, FL 33054.



SEFLIN Launches Spanish Language Library Portal

In January, 2003, the Southeast Florida Library Information Network introduced its new web portal, **MiServiciodeBiblioteca.org**.

According to SEFLIN, the new portal "enhances the connections between Spanish speakers and the libraries of Southeast Florida. For the first time, twenty-five Southeast Florida libraries/library systems, with more than 12 million library items, may be accessed via a Spanish language 'single-search' service."

For more information, visit www.seflin.org.

Newsletter Notes

It's Membership Renewal Time!

Do you belong to DCLA? Now's the time to renew your membership. Not a DCLA Member? Now's the time to join. Membership dues for the calendar year (January through December) are \$15 (individual) or \$20 (institutional), and are due by April 15, 2003. A printable application/renewal form is available at the DCLA home page (www.fiu.edu/~library/DCLA). Or, contact our Membership Coordinator, Suzanne Stemler, at (305) 284-4053 or sstemler@miami.edu.

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) 237-2016 or jsaxton@mdcc.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 April 11, 2003.*

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) 284-4053 or sstemler@miami.edu.