SELA NEWS:

The 2013 SCLA/SELA Joint Conference will be held November 13-15, 2013 in Greenville, SC.

SCLA has created a page about the conference, which contains information about hotel reservation rates, conference deadlines, etc., at http://scla.org/content/sclasela-joint-conference-2013

The deadline to submit a poster session proposal is August 31, 2013.

For further information, please contact:

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HBCU NEWS:

HBCU Library Alliance Announces ASERL Librarian Exchange Participants

The Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Library Alliance is pleased to announce the participants of the Librarian Exchange Program with the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL).

A component of the HBCU Library Alliance’s Leadership Institute, the Librarian Exchange Program, in partnership with ASERL, focuses on development of emerging leaders at HBCU libraries. In Phase IV of the Leadership Program, the exchange program has been expanded to allow for hosts from HBCUs, as well as ASERL. This encourages sharing of HBCU library best practices, increases networking within the HBCU community, and explores the internal capacity to sustain the exchange program beyond the grant. Seven more HBCU librarians will work with another library, either an HBCU or ASERL library, on a pre-identified area for strategic development within the HBCU. In addition, staff from host
exchange libraries will spend time at the partner HBCU. Travel costs for participating librarians to visit their partner’s library during the Exchange are covered by grant funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

The goals of the exchange program are to develop and foster connections between libraries and strengthen skills of emerging leaders through focused initiatives to improve library services and programs. Each exchange includes significant time onsite at the partner libraries — typically about two weeks — to design and plan implementation of a project that is strategically important to the HBCU library. The first set of Exchanges occurred in the Summer of 2006, with additional exchanges in 2008 and 2010. By identifying, analyzing, designing and implementing these projects, both ASERL and HBCU librarians gain valuable insight into the workings of each other’s library, and build new project management and leadership skills.

Many participants have fostered long-lasting, beneficial relationships between both individual librarians and between their libraries. Exchange librarians were selected through an application process. Selection criteria include: the applicant’s potential for leadership as demonstrated by their past record of achievement; history of the applicant’s creative contribution to organizational problem-solving; the applicant’s experience in effective engagement within and outside of the library; articulation of the strategic area that will be the focus of the exchange and how the exchange will advance the library and university missions; and plans for sharing the benefits of the exchange with others on campus. Selection decisions were made by the HBCU Library Alliance Executive Director and ASERL Executive Director. Successful applicants have been matched to an ASERL or HBCU library with interest in the exchange program and strength in the strategic area of focus identified by the exchange librarian.

HBCU Library Alliance/ASERL Exchange Match participants are:

- Kieren Bailey – Oakwood Univ. (AL)
- Ivy Brannen – Savannah State Univ. (GA)
- Cotina Jones – NC Central Univ. (NC)
- Rhonda McCoy – Paine Coll. (GA)
- Marcella McGowan – Johnson C. Smith Univ. (NC)
- Jordan Moore – Atlanta Univ. Center Woodruff Library (GA)
- Jennifer Townes – St. Augustine’s Univ. (NC)

“The Exchange program is a wonderful learning and collaborative process allowing partners to gain hands-on experience and new perspectives,” states Mary Jo Fayoyin, Director of Library Services at Savannah State University (GA) and Chair of the HBCU Library Alliance Board of Directors.

“We are excited to continue our partnership with ASERL through the Exchange Program, as it aligns with our goal of enhancing education through librarianship and working together to be more effective,” says Sandra Phoenix, HBCU Library Alliance Executive Director.

For more information about the HBCU Library Alliance, please visit www.hbculibraries.org.

STATE NEWS

MISSISSIPPI

MSU Libraries One of Top 25 Social Media Libraries

Mississippi State University Libraries has been ranked as number one in the SEC and number 24 across the nation in an article titled “100 Most Social Media Friendly College & University Libraries for 2013.” The article, published on April 4, 2013 by Library Science List, evaluated 442 college and university libraries across the nation, based on their level of activity on various social media platforms. MSU Libraries scored 82.2 out of a possible 100 points. Platforms evaluated include Twitter, Facebook, Flickr, Pinterest, YouTube, and Google Plus.

Social Media, Extension, Ag & Life Sciences Librarian at MSU Amanda Clay Powers says that “The MSU Libraries have been a leader on campus in social media and emerging technologies since we embraced the idea in summer 2006. Starting with our first “Library 2.0” Summit in summer 2007, we began developing the in-house expertise to meet the changing needs of the University. We now have deep expertise in house for teaching, research, outreach and service in the area of social media. We have kept up as the field has grown and changed and matured over time.”