

Spring 2009

From the Editor

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Recommended Citation

Bratcher, Perry (2009) "From the Editor," *The Southeastern Librarian*: Vol. 57 : Iss. 1 , Article 2.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln/vol57/iss1/2>

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From the Editor

This issue of *The Southeastern Librarian* contains articles which address a variety of library topics. From technical ... to public ... to “generic” services and information of relevance to new as well as “experienced” librarians there is something of interest to all.

Night Vision Goggles or Rose Colored Glasses by Mary Todd Chesnut addresses the importance of training graduate students in library instruction. She outlines a program created at Northern Kentucky University for graduate assistants to meet the needs of both the future librarian and the student at NKU. This program could be modeled and adapted for graduate assistants, new librarians, or others new to library instruction.

B. Jean Sibley discusses the particular problems of processing a large gift collection in her article Shifting Gears. Libraries accept donations of various sizes, from single titles to a massive collection. Accepting (or not accepting) serials titles provide their own unique circumstances. This article covers the issues which need to be considered before and after acceptance of these types of donations. Lessons learned are presented for consideration by librarians in their own libraries.

The perspective of a new librarian in the profession lends itself to the opinions expressed by Carley Knight in the article Bibliographic Instruction Lessons from a New Librarian. Though experienced librarians may take these lessons for granted, it is important to have them presented for those just entering the profession. The lessons outlined can also give those considering entry into this specialization a perspective of what to expect and how to meet the challenges they will encounter.

Distance education has become increasingly popular in academia. Angela Whitehurst and Carolyn Willis address the challenges of creating and implementing methods of providing library services to meet the needs of distance education students in their article Building Collaborative Reference and Instructional Services for Distance Education Students. The issues faced and how to address them are outlined through the application of a program at East Carolina University.

The benefits of mentoring are presented by the authors in the article Creating a Culture of Mentoring @ Your Library. This article outlines the benefits for the mentor, mentee and library by the implementation of such a program. In particular, the SELA Mentoring Program is covered as well as ways others can become involved.

In the summer of 2008, I contacted the primary university presses across the south regarding their willingness to provide review copies of their new publications. To my delight I had positive responses from almost all of them. The fruits of this labor is found in this and subsequent issues. The book reviews included are of authors and/or topics pertaining to the south. I hope to continue with numerous reviews in subsequent issues.

Enjoy this issue of *The Southeastern Librarian*. If you have any questions/comments, feel free to contact me.

Perry Bratcher

Editor