

Winter 2010

SELA Activities

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The Southeastern Librarian

Volume 57, Number 4 Winter 2010

SELA ACTIVITIES:

SELA UCLS New Voices Program: Call for Presenters

Are you looking for the perfect venue to present and publish? If you answered yes, then New Voices wants to hear from you! This is a great opportunity for new librarians.

New Voices is an opportunity for new librarians to present their ideas and perspectives on current library issues. This program is sponsored by the University and College Library Section (UCLS) of the Southeastern Library Association (SELA).

What: Papers to be presented at the 2010 joint Arkansas Library Association/Southeastern Library Association conference and published in *The Southeastern Librarian*.

Theme: A current library issue of interest to the academic library community.

Who: Professionally employed librarians with less than five years of experience. **MUST** be able to attend and present paper at the conference.

When: September 26-28, 2010.

Where: Little Rock, Arkansas at the Peabody Hotel and Statehouse Convention Center.

Deadline: Completed papers **MUST** be received by May 3, 2010.

Please submit your paper and/or inquiries to Tim Dodge, SELA UCLS Chair, at dodgeti@auburn.edu or (334) 844-1729.

SELA Outstanding Author Award

Once again, it is time to submit nominations for the SELA Outstanding Author Award for 2010. The March 31, 2010 deadline is drawing closer!

The purpose of this award (one for fiction and one for non-fiction) is to recognize authors in states of the Southeastern Library Association for current works of literary merit. Criteria for the award are:

1. Authors must be native or bona fide residents of a SELA state at the time the work was written or published.
2. Works must be chosen based on literary merit.
3. Two awards may be made: one in fiction and one in non-fiction.

4. In each category, works must have been published within five years prior to December 31 of the year preceding the biennial conference.
5. The person making the nomination must be a member of SELA.

The form for submitting a nomination can be found at <http://selaonline.org/about/outstandingauthors.htm> and the deadline for nominations is March 31, 2010.

Ginny Frankenthaler Memorial Scholarship in Library Science

The Ginny Frankenthaler Memorial Scholarship in Library Science has just been awarded to Elyssa Sanner by the SELA Continuing Education and Staff Development Committee.

Elyssa Sanner began her studies at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in August 2009. The Georgia resident entered the Master's program upon completion of her B.A. in English from Georgia College & State University (GCSU) in Milledgeville, Georgia. While at GCSU, Elyssa participated in the Student Ambassador Team, *The Corinthian* (GCSU's student research journal), Omicron Delta Kappa, and worked as a cataloging assistant in the university's library. Elyssa looks forward to spending the next two years in Tar Heel country and hopes to work in an academic library after graduation.

The **Ginny Frankenthaler Memorial Scholarship in Library Science** is made possible through the generosity of Bud Frankenthaler, husband of Ginny Frankenthaler. Mrs. Frankenthaler believed that our free library system is the basis for a good life and that the greatest gifts a human being can have are good memories and education, both of which are supplied free by our public library system.

The purpose of the scholarship is to recruit beginning professional librarians who possess potential for leadership and commitment to service in libraries in the [Southeastern United States](#). The scholarship provides financial assistance towards completion of the graduate degree in library science from an institution accredited by the American Library Association.

SELA Mentoring Program

The SELA Membership and Mentoring Committee is looking for individuals who are interested in participating in the SELA Mentoring Program (<http://selaonline.org/membership/mentoring.htm>) as a mentor or mentee. The SELA Mentoring Program was developed to assist librarians or library paraprofessionals and library students with their library careers.

If you have any questions or are interested in becoming a mentor or mentee for the SELA Mentoring Program, please contact Hal Mendelsohn, hmendels@mail.ucf.edu, Chair of the SELA Membership and Mentoring Committee.

SELA Survey

A recent SELA survey resulted in the following summary results. Complete survey results will soon be available on the SELA website.

Total individuals who started Survey – 74. Total who completed survey – 51 (68.9%)

Question: How long have you been a member of SELA?

- 0 – 2 years: 14.9%
- 3 - 5 years: 24.3%
- 6 – 10 years: 20.3%
- Over 11 years: 40.5%

Question: What committees have you been a member - Awards, Constitution & Handbook, Conference & Exhibits, Intellectual Freedom, Membership & Mentoring were most popular of the 18 committees represented.

Question: What sections have you been a member - Public Library, Resources & Technical Services, Reference & Adult Services, and University & Colleges most popular of the 8 sections represented.

Question: What roundtables have you been a member - Library instruction most popular of the 7 sections represented.

Question: Is there a need for additional committees, sections or roundtables? 7 Yes, 12 No

Question: Is there a need to eliminate any committee, section or roundtable? 0 Yes, 6 No

Question: If you have attended a SELA Biennial Conference, what has been your experience? Good, excellent, favorable – 29 comments; Fair experiences - 1 comment

Question: Do you feel you have been given the opportunity to participate on a SELA committee, roundtable or section that you were interested in? 29 Yes, 0 No

Question: Do you have any ideas on how SELA can:

- **Recruit new members:** According to the comments, SELA is not proactive enough. State reps need to be more involved promotion and the organization needs to use all available sources to inform library personnel about the organization.
- **Retain members with renewals:** Individuals need different methods of renewing their membership and to be contacted about membership renewal.
- **Get members involved in committees, roundtables, and elections**

Question: Do you feel there are any barriers to joining a SELA committee, roundtable or section? 0 Yes, 11 No

Question: Is there anything about the SELA website; biennial conference; rules of organization that you feel should be changed? 9 Yes, 13 No

Question: Is SELA providing services you need as a professional or paraprofessional? 14 Yes, 11 No

Question: Do you think SELA does a good job of marketing or promoting itself? 9 Yes, 19 No

There was a lot of feedback for this question and the membership doesn't think SELA is promoting itself enough. Also, the responders feel SELA needs to be more active with state organizations.

Additional comments:

The responses for this question reflected the comments mentioned throughout the survey. People feel SELA is an organization that offers them a number of benefits as a professional organization. But, the membership has pointed out some areas SELA needs to look at:

- Publicity in different formats
- Recruitment
- More activity by SELA State Reps
- Involvement, types of and greater activity within committees, roundtables, and sections
- Lack of time and money, SELA needs to look at ways that people can be involved and activities without any additional costs
- Communication from SELA in general
- Use of Social Network tools (website, listserv, Facebook,)

Southeastern Library Association Executive Board

Resolution on the 2009 Reauthorization of the USA PATRIOT Act

WHEREAS, the Southeastern Library Association is committed to encouraging free and open inquiry by preserving the privacy rights of library users, library employees, and persons living in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Southeastern Library Association opposes governmental actions that suppress free and open inquiry and has called for the USA PATRIOT Act to be amended to restore fundamental constitutional rights and safeguards that protect the civil liberties of library users, library employees, and persons living in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act allows the FBI to secretly request and obtain library records for large numbers of individuals without providing reasonable cause to believe they are involved in illegal activity; and

WHEREAS, Section 505 of the USA PATRIOT Act permits the FBI to obtain records from

libraries by using National Security Letters (NSL) without any prior judicial oversight; and

WHEREAS, Section 215 automatically requires, and Section 505 permits, the FBI to impose a nondisclosure or “gag” order on the recipients, thereby prohibiting the reporting of possible abuses of government authority and abrogating the recipients’ First Amendment rights; and

WHEREAS, FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on March 25, 2009, that the FBI had used Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act 223 times between 2004 and 2007¹, and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) of the Department of Justice reported in March 2008 that the FBI had made 192,499 National Security Letter requests from 2003 through 2006²; and

WHEREAS, the OIG reported in March 2008 that “the FISA Court twice refused to authorize Section 215 orders based on concerns that the investigation was premised on protected First Amendment activity, and the FBI subsequently issued NSLs to obtain information,” without reviewing the underlying investigation to be sure it did not violate the statute’s First Amendment caveat³; and

WHEREAS, members of Congress have introduced legislation in both the Senate and House to restore privacy rights and address the concerns of the library community; now be it

RESOLVED that the Southeastern Library Association:

1. Urges Congress to amend the USA PATRIOT Act by limiting the authority granted in Section 215 and Section 505 to eliminate “fishing expeditions,” and restrict their use to obtain information only about persons who are targets of an investigation, and to reinstate standards limiting the use of these Sections to obtain information only about terrorism suspects and agents of foreign powers;

2. Urges Congress to allow nondisclosure of “gag” orders of limited scope and duration only when necessary to protect national security and only upon the authority of a court, and ensure that recipients of such orders have a meaningful

right to challenge them before a fair and neutral arbiter;

3. Urges Congress to increase its oversight of the use of the USA PATRIOT Act as well as other governmental surveillance and investigations that potentially infringe on the privacy rights of library users, library employees, and persons living in the United States.

4. Communicate this resolution to Southeastern Library Association’s Congressional delegations;

5. Urges members of the Southeastern Library Association, library employees and trustees, and all Southeastern library advocates to ask Congress to restore crucial Constitutional safeguards protecting civil liberties.

Adopted by the Executive Board on behalf of the Southeastern Library Association December 9, 2009.

¹ Robert S. Mueller. (March 25, 2009). “Oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.” *Hearing of the Senate Judiciary Committee*. Accessed through LexisNexis Congressional database.

² Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice. (March 2008). *A Review of the FBI’s Use of National Security Letters: Assessment of Corrective Actions and Examination of NSL Usage in 2006*, p. 110. Available at <http://www.usdoj.gov/oig/special/s0803b/final.pdf>

³ Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Department of Justice. (March 2008). *A Review of the FBI’s Use of Section 215 Orders for Business Records in 2006*, p. 73. Available at <http://www.usdoj.gov/oig/special/s0803a/final.pdf>

LYRASIS PRODUCT NEWS

Lyrasis Welcomes New Staff to Member Service Teams

Lyrasis welcomes new staff members, as part of its commitment to providing expanded services and support to member libraries and cultural heritage institutions.