Don’t Miss This!

The Charleston Advisor’s July 2018 issue (v.20, no.1) is now available in print and online at www.charlestonco.com. Included in the current issue are the following reviews:

• Arcadian Library Online (Bloomsbury Publishing)
• Biological Abstracts (Clarivate Analytics)
• Bloomsbury Cultural History (Bloomsbury Publishing)
• Computer Science and Applied Sciences Complete (EBSCOhost / EBSCO Information Services)
• eHRAF World Cultures (Human Relations Area Files)
• Humanities Source Ultimate (EBSCOhost / EBSCO Information Services)
• IOPscience (Institute of Physics Publishing)
• OpenStax (Rice University)
• Web of Science (Clarivate Analytics)

Also included in this issue is a lengthy comparative review of “CAB Abstracts on Three Platforms: CAB Direct, EBSCOhost and Clarivate Analytics Web of Science” by Lutishor Salisbury as well as a profile of “Merge Cube and Merge Goggles” from TCA’s Mobile Apps expert Joey van Arnhem.

Don’t forget! Reviews from this issue as well as more than 350 new and updated reviews from past issues are now available in the newly launched ccAdvisor database, a joint project of Choice and The Charleston Advisor. For more information about this new service or to set up a free trial, logon to http://www.choice360.org/products/ccadvisor.

TCR Reports from the Field:

Hot Topics at NASIG 2018

... Reported by Eleanor I. Cook, East Carolina University,
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This year’s 33rd NASIG conference was held June 7-11 in Atlanta, Georgia. Since NASIG’s name change in 2015 (now just the acronym, not the spelled out version), there has been a definite shift towards scholarly communications and digital information topics in the conference programming, while still maintaining offerings in traditional subjects related to serials and electronic resources. But notice the word cloud illustration I’ve included with this article — you have to look very hard to find the word “serials.” Instead, the word “Information” looms large, as does the word “access.” The word “electronic” is front and center although not so large and “data” has a respectable presence. This word cloud was constructed from the text of the conference program abstracts.

A new benefit of the conference was the option for “NASIG on Demand,” which consists of recordings of the three vision sessions and six concurrent sessions that cover a variety of important topics touching on the conference theme of “Transforming the Information Community.” See https://nasig.wordpress.com/2018/02/26/nasig-on-demand-nasigs-newest-conference-offering/ for more information.

Another interesting new feature was collaborative note taking. This made it possible to contribute your notes alongside those of others. A great idea! A link to a simple Google doc was set up in the program schedule. It’s wonderful to be able to see other attendees’ notes, especially for sessions one has missed.

Programming centered on the following common themes:

• Ways to increase the quality of research (the 1st Vision speaker, Sören Auer, along with several concurrent sessions touched on this theme)
• Open (as in open access publications, open educational resources and the like)
• Data (as in data analysis, linked data, metadata, etc.)
• Collaboration and cooperation (as in consortial purchasing and other sharing arrangements)
• Assessment (as in collection management, weeding of print, and also new types of assessment work with digital materials)
• Core competencies (as in how to apply these to different aspects of professional life)
• Ethics, equity, diversity and inclusion (the 2nd Vision speaker, Lauren Smith, along with several concurrent sessions had this theme)

continued on page 2
Short Takes

The Book Industry Study Group (BISG) has announced an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation funded one-year project with KU Research as well as researchers from the universities of Michigan and North Texas to examine ways to improve usage and engagement tracking for open access (OA) ebooks. KU Research is a team of researchers and publishing industry practitioners working together to help realize the possibilities of digital technology and OA for specialist scholarly books and the communities that care about them. The project will run from June 1, 2018, to May 31, 2019. Following the conclusion of the research project, BISG will publish a white paper of findings and propose a pathway for future action. Further information about the project can be found at http://hdl.handle.net/2027.42/143840.

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) has announced that its iLibrary (www.wto-ilibrary.org) has become the sixth member of the iLibrary Partnership, which is created and managed by OECD Publishing. The Partnership now offers access to more than 400,000 content items (working papers, reports, books, datasets, periodicals, standards, etc.) published since the 1960s. Other members are OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) (www.oecd-ilibrary.org); The Commonwealth (www.thecommonwealth-ilibrary.org); The Nordic Council (www.nordic-library.org); United Nations (www.un-ilibrary.org); and the International Telecommunications Union (www.itu-ilibrary.org).

Hot Topics at NASIG 2018 — from page 1

• Accessibility (as in open access but also in terms of accessibility to disabled and disadvantaged populations — the 3rd Vision speaker, Lisa Macklin touched on this theme, as did Lauren Smith).

Ed Note: Be sure to Mark Your Calendars for NASIG’s 34th annual conference, to be held Wednesday, June 5 through Saturday, June 8, 2019, in Pittsburgh, PA.

Libraries on the Move

OCLC, working closely with the Center for Research Libraries (CRL), has been awarded a two-year $1,001,000 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant to support a joint OCLC and CRL Shared Print Data Infrastructure project. The initiative will modify WorldCat to enable registration of print serial retention commitments and make archived holdings data available to inform library decision-making. CRL’s open access PAPR database offers shared print programs as a registration solution for serials. Together, OCLC and CRL will work to merge their respective capabilities in a centralized system for serials commitments in WorldCat, systematically syncing to the PAPR database. The Shared Print Data Infrastructure project is scheduled to run from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020. Of note, WorldCat already enables tracking of retention commitments for single-part monographs. More details about the new project are available at https://www.oclc.org/en/news/releases/2018/20180624-oclc-awarded-mellon-foundation-grant.html.

The University of Limerick (Ireland)’s €31m ($36 million/USD) Glucksman Library is the largest campus library in the country and one of the most digitally advanced in the world, according to a recent announcement. It is double the size of its original library and includes an Automated Reserve Collection facility — a 10m high vault to store over 500,000 books operated by a robotic crane for easy retrieval. The library also provides study and reading space for over 2,200 students, as well as lounge collaborative space for students and scholars to meet and discuss their research. Of note, the University held a “chair fair” in which the most modern library chairs and desks from across the world were tested and selected by students for their comfort. Learn more at https://www.rte.ie/news/munster/2018/0622/972497-glucksman-library-limerick/.
ALA New Orleans Hot Topics

. . . excerpted with permission from Tom Gilson’s full report at the ATG Website, <GilsonT@cofc.edu>

According to Publishers Weekly, the 2018 ALA Annual in New Orleans, June 21-26, was attended by “17,599 attendees and exhibitors” down from Chicago’s 2017 meeting which drew 23,485 attendees. But as PW noted “Chicago conferences, where the ALA is based, always draw higher attendance and it was up from the 2016 show in Orlando that saw 16,597 librarians and exhibitors.”

In fact, PW argued that “the attendance in New Orleans was impressive, considering that this was the third major library conference in just over four months.” As usual, those who braved the summer heat and humidity of New Orleans could select from literally thousands of programs and events at the Morial Convention Center hall and nearby locations.

Of course, no one can cover each and every one of these programs and events, so as we have done in the past, we thought we’d try and convey a sense of this year’s ALA by collecting a list of posts from a variety of sources and let you explore for yourselves.

2018 Annual Overview & Wrap-Up
American Libraries comprehensive overview of ALA Annual in New Orleans spotlights “six steamy but lively days” featuring “conversation and debate about some of the most important issues in the library world and beyond, including advocacy, diversity, and technology.” Keynote speakers ranged from former First Lady Michelle Obama, who opened the conference, to historian Doris Kearns Goodwin to actress Sally Fields to U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith to journalist and filmmaker Jose Antonio Vargas. American Libraries also provides gavel-to-gavel conference coverage at The Scoop blog — see http://bit.ly/Scoop-aalac18 — not to mention videos of conference speakers on YouTube — see http://youtube.com/user/AmLibraryAssociation/videos.)

ALA 2018 Opening Session
Troy “Trombone Shorty” Andrews and his band of young musicians got ALA’s Annual Convention off on a high note treating the overflow crowd to his special brand of New Orleans jazz. However, the highlight of the opening session was Michelle Obama who discussed her upcoming memoir “Becoming,” with Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden before a crowd of thousands. As NOLA.COM — see https://www.nola.com/national_politics/2018/06/michelle_obama_at_american_lib.html — noted “Librarians had lined up hours before Obama’s appearance for seats near the front of the huge Morial Convention Center hall.”

ALA In Pictures: Opening General Session and ALA in Pictures: Exhibits and Speakers
These are two posts from Library Journal that will appeal to the more visually inclined. They are by Kevin Henegan and Lisa Peet with all photos ©2018 George Long. And for those who can’t get enough checkout ALA in Pictures: Library of the Year Reception — see https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=ala-in-pictures-library-of-the-year-reception-2018 — and ALA In Pictures: Movers & Shakers Gala — see https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=ala-2018-in-pictures-movers-shakers-gala.

2018’s Top Tech Trends
In this post American Libraries provides a solid description of the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) — see https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/2018s-top-tech-trends/ — “Top Technology Trends” panel moderated by independent technology consultant Marshall Breeding. Featuring the perspectives of three librarians, a vendor and a journalist, the panel “focused on upcoming technological shifts such as: quantum computing; psychometrics; embedded digital libraries; death of transparency; and next generation learning management systems…”

Tech in the Exhibit Hall
Here is another American Libraries post. This one is written by Marshall Breeding — see https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2018/07/18/library-technology-exhibit-hall-ala-annual/ — who thinks “the geography of the exhibit floor paralleled the ongoing trends in the library technology industry — consolidated companies bringing together growing portfolios of synergistic offerings, plus a rich array of smaller organizations providing boutique services and niche products.” According to Breeding “a theme of convergence prevails throughout the technology industry…”

News from the Show Floor
This post from Library Journal focuses on a number of announcements heard on the exhibit floor — see https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=news-from-the-show-floor-ala-annual-2018 — from long time heavy hitters as well as more recent arrivals to the industry. EBSCO, ProQuest, Gale, OCLC, OverDrive, SiriusDynix, Baker & Taylor, Adam Matthew Digital, BiblioCommons; D-Tech International, and CARLX and Library. Solution all contributed to the conversation.

ALA Council Aims to Refocus Structure, Budget
LJ’s Meredith Schwartz covers ALA Council’s efforts at reorganizing the association for greater effectiveness and efficiency as well as its attempts to grow the budget and add needed staff — see https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=ala-council-aims-refocus-structure-budget-ala-annual-2018. Ms. Schwartz also highlights several important resolutions in addition to discussing the “new” business of several key ALA Council Committees.

Don’t Miss This! Early Bird Registration is Open for The Charleston Conference

. . . with thanks to Leah Hinds, Executive Director, Charleston Conference, <leah@charlestonlibraryconference.com>

Registration is open for the 38th Annual Charleston Conference, Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition. Our theme for 2018 is “Oh, Wind, if Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?” Preconferences will be held on Monday and Tuesday, November 5 and 6, the Vendor Showcase will be held on Tuesday, November 6. The main conference runs from Wednesday, November 7, through Friday, November 9.

Register now at https://www.charlestonlibraryconference.com/. The early bird registration rate is $465, and the deadline to receive the discounted rate is September 14.

This annual conference on issues in book and serial acquisition will again be held in beautiful historic downtown Charleston, SC, with headquarters at the Charleston Gaillard Center and the Francis Marion Hotel. Sessions will also be held at the Courtyard by Marriott Historic and the Embassy Suites Historic.

We currently have two confirmed keynote speakers: Annette Thomas, Clarivate Analytics, and Ruth Okediji, Harvard University. Annette Thomas is the Chief Executive Officer of the Scientific & Academic Research business of Clarivate Analytics. Ruth L. Okediji is the Jeremiah Smith, Jr., Professor of Law at Harvard Law School and Co-Director of the Berkman Klein Center. There are also 15 Neapolitan sessions, which are three concurrent plenaries at a time, on topics such as the Library’s Opportunity in Affordable Textbooks, University Press EBook Collections, Metadata 2020, Sustainable Open Access Approaches, Scholarly Kitchen “Live” with the Chefs, and more.

Preconference sessions will cover topics such an acquisitions bootcamp, user experience, data curation, managing vendor relationships, and much more. Details are online at http://www.charlestonlibraryconference.com/preconferences/.

We’re also excited to bring back the Charleston Fast Pitch Competition, including two $2,500 awards and a new international travel stipend award, for innovation in the information industry. See https://www.charlestonlibraryconference.com/fastpitch/ for more details and to submit a proposal or nomination.

Check the Conference Website for more details at www.charlestonlibraryconference.com, or contact Leah Hinds with questions at <leah@charlestonlibraryconference.com>.