Don’t Miss This!

*The Charleston Advisor*’s July 2019 issue (v.21, no.1) is now available in print and online at [www.charlestonco.com](http://www.charlestonco.com).

Included in the current issue are the following reviews:

- American Indian Newspapers
- Anatomy.TV
- Bibliography of British and Irish History (BBIH)
- DRAM
- East India Company
- Natural Medicines
- Open Library (Internet Archive)
- ProQuest One Academic
- Psychology Database (ProQuest)
- R2 Digital Library

Also included in this issue is a lengthy and informative Round-Up from TCA’s Mobile Apps expert Joey van Arnhem on the topics of “Virtual and Augmented Reality” and their application in libraries.

**And don’t forget!** Reviews from this issue as well as over 400 updated reviews from past issues are now available in the ccAdvisor database, a joint project of Choice and *The Charleston Advisor* now offered through EBSCO. Learn more at [https://www.ebsco.com/products/research-databases/ccadvisor](https://www.ebsco.com/products/research-databases/ccadvisor).

**Mark Your Calendars**


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**Hot Topics from ALA Annual in Washington, D.C., June 20-25, 2019**

. . . Excerpted with permission from Tom Gilson’s full “Caught My Eye” report at the ATG Website <GilsonT@cofc.edu>

After a nine-year hiatus, the American Library Association once again convened its annual conference in the nation’s capital. The 2019 annual was held in Washington, D.C. on June 20-25 and drew an enthusiastic contingent of librarians, publishers and vendors to share their concerns and perspectives about the complex issues facing libraries and the publishing industry. Fortunately, attendees were rewarded with comfortable temperatures and clear skies as they navigated the numerous conference venues and enjoyed visiting national museums and historic sites and, of course, taking advantage of the world class restaurants.

Attendance was surprisingly strong, jumping nearly 22% from last year’s New Orleans conference. Total figures rose from 17,599 to 21,460, which, according to PW, included “a major increase” in exhibitors from the 5,176 in New Orleans to the 6,827 who ventured to Washington, D.C.

Writing a single report that gives a full sense of the diverse complexity of a meeting like ALA Annual is nearly impossible. So rather than attempt the impossible, once again we have collected a list of posts from a variety of sources that “caught our eye” in the hopes of giving you a variety of perspectives to help you form an impression of your own.

#alaac19 — is *American Libraries* comprehensive collection of blog posts from their eye-witness reporters. The coverage ranges from sessions focused on relevant issues to presentations by celebrity authors; and from official actions by ALA Council to book signings in the exhibit hall. But since it goes on for seven pages, be prepared to do a bunch of clicking and scrolling. [https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/tag/alaac19/](https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/tag/alaac19/)

**ALA Reports Strong Attendance at 2019 Annual Conference** — PW’s Andrew Albanese notes that attendees were “treated to a slate of great author talks — and wrestled with a host of thorny issues in the professional program.” Headliners included U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, activist George Takei and authors like Colson Whitehead, Kwame Alexander and Laura Lippman. Issues like increased pricing and restricted access to e-books and digital content were of major concern. [https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/libraries/article/80577-ala-reports-strong-attendance-at-2019-annual-conference.html](https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/industry-news/libraries/article/80577-ala-reports-strong-attendance-at-2019-annual-conference.html)

**2019 ALA Annual Conference & Exhibition – Sending a message of advocacy for libraries** — is the *ALA News* report on the annual conference in Washington, D.C. Author Donna Hunter, Marketing Coordinator, Conference Services, points out that “with more than 1,800 programs and over 2,500 events taking place ... much of the program content focused on ALA’s four strategic directions: advocacy; information policy; professional and leadership development; and equity, diversity and inclusion...” [http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2019/07/2019-ala-annual-conference-exhibition-sending-message-advocacy-libraries](http://www.ala.org/news/press-releases/2019/07/2019-ala-annual-conference-exhibition-sending-message-advocacy-libraries)

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Did You Know? The Partnership for Shared Book Collections

...Reported by George Machovec, Executive Director, Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries, and Managing Editor, The Charleston Advisor, <George@coalliance.org>

Over the last decade, libraries and consortia have been giving significant attention to shared print initiatives to help preserve and provide access to the print record as libraries reduce their legacy print collections in collaboration with their peers. One of the first larger efforts to provide some coordination was the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance (https://rosemontsharedprintalliance.org/) which focused on serials retention between Big Ten Academic Alliance Shared Print Repository, Eastern Academic Scholars’ Trust, Florida Academic Libraries Repository, Scholars Trust, and the Western Regional Storage Trust. A second major effort began in 2018 with a focus on coordinating monographic shared print programs through an initiative now called the Partnership for Shared Book Collections (https://eastlibraries.org/partnership-shared-book-collections).

The Partnership for Shared Book Collections was spearheaded by EAST (Eastern Academic Scholars’ Trust) with funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Davis Educational Foundation. In April and December of 2018, representatives from many of the regional monographic shared print programs met in Boston to discuss shared principles with a vision to “ensure the long-term preservation, accessibility and integrity of monographic print resources.” The mission was to “coordinate collaboration among shared print monograph initiatives and collections in North America to support cost-effective retention and access to shared print monograph collections.” A series of guiding principles were developed and a number of working groups were formed to tackle issues identified at the meetings.

Twenty shared print programs in North America were the initial participants and a series of working groups were created to look at different aspects of what needed to be done. The working groups included communications, open data, organizational structure, resource sharing, risk research, and standards. The coordination and output of the working groups are being handled by a Steering Committee. One of the key needs in this ecosystem is to develop some type of database that will allow programs around North America to know what long-term retention-commitments have been made by each group with the ability to search across all commitments in North America. A consolidated database showing these commitments will be valuable for knowing what each is doing, resource sharing, growing existing programs, and the creation of new programs.

More information about the Partnership may be found on their Website and reporting is also done through the Print Archive Network (PAN) which is coordinated by the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) and is also a major source for information looking at broader print archiving activities (https://www.crl.edu/programs/print-archive-network-forum-pan).
The Charleston Conference, now in its 39th year, will be held November 4-8, 2019 in beautiful downtown Charleston, SC. Registration is open at https://www.charlestonlibraryconference.com/ — the early bird deadline is September 13. Preconferences will be held on Monday and Tuesday, November 4 and 5, the Vendor Showcase will be held on Tuesday, November 5, and the main conference runs from Wednesday, November 6, through Friday, November 8.

**Keynote Speakers**

Our confirmed keynote speakers are Kumsal Bayazit, CEO, Elsevier; Patricia Flatley Brennan, Director, National Library of Medicine; and Brewster Kahle, Founder and Digital Librarian, Internet Archive. We also have a plenary panel on the Future of Scholarly Communication Industry with Lorcan Dempsey (OCLC), Jason Price (SCELC), and Alicia Wise (Information Power), as well as our long-standing “Long Arm of the Law” presentation on legal issues in the library and publishing landscape.

**Preconference Sessions**

Preconference sessions will cover timely and useful topics including the acquisitions boot-camp, publishing models in the Plan S era, “hacking” for good, selecting for usability and accessibility, and much more. Registration for Preconferences is included on the main conference registration page. Details on each session are online at http://www.charlestonlibraryconference.com/preconferences/.

**First Time Attendees**

The Charleston Conference is proud to attract a high level of first-time attendees every year. If you have any questions about the conference, the city of Charleston, the venues for the meetings, shuttle transportation, or more, contact one of our Conference Mentors for help: <mentors@charlestonlibraryconference.com>. We have a group of seasoned conference veterans who are ready to answer all your conference-related questions. Once you arrive at the conference, the mentor’s desk will be located in the lobby of the Francis Marion, near the Registration Check-In Desk. Stop by and say hello!

We will also have a First Time Attendees Welcome Reception planned for Tuesday, November 5, from 7:00-9:00 pm following the Vendor Showcase. We’re inviting all first-time attendees of the conference, as well as any “Up and Comer” award winners that are attending to join us for a welcome reception. Our conference mentors and some of our conference directors will be there to say hello and to answer questions you may have in advance of the main conference. We hope to see you there!

**Up and Comers Award**

We are excited to bring back the Up and Comers Award again for the 2019 conference. This award is intended for librarians, library staff, vendors, publishers, MLIS students, instructors, consultants, and researchers who are new to their field or are in the early years of the profession. Up and Comers are passionate about the future of libraries. They innovate, inspire, collaborate, and take risks. They are future library leaders and change makers, and we are excited to celebrate them with this award. Applications will open soon on the Conference website.

The 2019 Up and Comers will be recognized in the December 2019 - January 2020 issue of Against the Grain, and 20 of these brilliant rising stars will be profiled in the same issue, and they will be featured in a series of scheduled podcast interviews. We will also recognize the award winners at the Charleston Conference First Time Attendee Reception on Tuesday, November 5, at 7:00 pm.

**Charleston Vendor Showcase**

Publishers and vendors — don’t miss this opportunity to connect with collection development, acquisitions, and electronic resources professionals from around the country and internationally. The Charleston Vendor Showcase is back by popular demand for the 20th year, your chance to show your latest electronic products and services to a target audience of library buyers and decision makers. See https://charlestonlibraryconference.com/exhibitor-info/ for more details.

**Charleston Fast Pitch Competition**

The Charleston Fast Pitch Competition is back for its fourth year. The competition awards two $2,500 awards for innovation in the library thanks to the generous support of the Goodall Family Foundation. The call for proposals is open now through September 16. This call for participation is open to all who are in the process of developing new, innovative, and implementable ideas to improve their academic libraries or related organizations. See https://www.charlestonlibraryconference.com/fastpitch/ for more details and to submit a proposal or nomination.

**Hope to see you in Charleston in November!**

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

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**Upcoming 2019 Charleston Conference Dates and Deadlines**

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<td>September 13 – Early Bird Registration Deadline</td>
<td>October 4 – Up and Comer Award Nomination Deadline</td>
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<td>October 4 – Up and Comer Award Nomination Deadline</td>
<td>October 25 – Online Registration Closes</td>
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TCR Reports from the Field — Mapping the Open Source Online Publishing Landscape: MIT’s New Open Report

The MIT Press has released Mind the Gap, a major report on the current state of all available open-source software for publishing. Funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the report “shed[s] light on the development and deployment of open-source publishing technologies in order to aid institutions’ and individuals’ decision-making and project planning.” The report provides a resource for the scholarly publishing community and complements the recently released Mapping the Scholarly Communication Landscape census.

The report authors, led by John Maxwell, Associate Professor and Director of the Publishing Program at Simon Fraser University, catalog 52 open-source online publishing platforms, i.e., production and hosting systems for scholarly books and journals, that meet the survey criteria of “available, documented open-source software relevant to scholarly publishing” and in active development.

Findings and Take-Aways: A Fractured Ecosystem

The number of open-source online publishing platforms has proliferated in the last decade, but the report finds that they are often too small, too siloed, and too niche to have much impact beyond their host organization or institution. This leaves them vulnerable to shifts in organizational priorities and external funding sources that emphasize new projects over the maintenance and improvement of existing projects. This fractured ecosystem is difficult to navigate, and the report concludes that if open publishing is to become a durable alternative to complex and costly proprietary services, it must grapple with the dual challenges of siloed development and organization of the community-owned ecosystem itself.

Of note, Maxwell states: “We found that even though platform leaders and developers recognize that collaboration, standardization, and even common code layers can provide considerable benefit to project ambitions, functionality, and sustainability, the funding and infrastructure supporting open publishing projects discourages these activities. If the goal is to build a viable alternative to proprietary publishing models, then open publishing needs new infrastructure that incentivizes sustainability, cooperation, collaboration, and integration.”

Readers are invited to read, comment, and annotate Mind the Gap on the PubPub platform: mindthegap.pubpub.org.