ULP President’s Message

By Trish Hull

With Thanksgiving approaching, I like to reflect on the wonderful things in my life: family (all 25 of us), great friends, work, the amazing people I am fortunate to be associated with, and ULA. This has been an amazing opportunity and I learn so much from you every day.

I am particularly thankful for schools and teachers. I love schools, school librarians, and teachers at every level. I substituted for many years in my children’s schools and have the utmost admiration for everyone who works with children on a daily basis. They are overworked, underpaid, and vastly underappreciated. And yet, second to parents, they are a most critical influence in children’s lives.

I think most of us can point to a teacher or librarian at school who influenced our lives and helped create a love of reading. All of us on the ULA board are always working on ways to help school libraries, academic libraries, special libraries, and public libraries. We have started some great projects and incorporated some great ideas that we hope will help school librarians and teachers in their endeavors.

We would like to ask for everyone’s help in partnering with ULA and the Utah State Library in February. The president of ALA, Barbara Stripling, has asked for all libraries throughout the country to advocate for libraries through the “Declaration for the Right to Libraries.” This document was created by ALA and they would love every librarian, student, patron, parent, politician, etc. to sign. ULA is joining the Utah State Library to host a big event February 6, 2014 at the Viridian Center in West Jordan (adjacent to the West Jordan Library) where we invite everyone to come and sign this document. You can also sign the Declaration at individual libraries. The site for Barbara’s

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announcement and the Declaration is [www.ala.org/advocacy/declaration-right-libraries](http://www.ala.org/advocacy/declaration-right-libraries). Many more details are forthcoming, so stay tuned. Plan on an author or two, music, treats, and a celebration of libraries. If you can think of a way your library can participate in this event, please let me know.

**Webinars**

I am thrilled with the response to the webinars we are hosting with the Utah State library. If you would like to attend one of the already scheduled webinars, please do so by signing up for free at [www ula org](http://www ula org). We have a calendar that lists free webinars from all over the state and country. If you have an idea for a new webinar, contact Barbara Hopkins, our executive director, by email at barbara@ulis.org.

**ILead**

ILead Utah participants worked hard, learned a lot, and ate really well over the course of a year to produce these six excellent projects. ILead Utah was a Utah State Library project (with a little help from ULA). I am really proud of the work and very grateful to Donna Jones Morris, Matt McLain, and everyone from the State Library who helped. (And it really was everyone at the State Library.)

The projects include:

1. [Creative Libraries Utah](http://creativelibrariesutah.org/) is a place for librarians to share and copy new ideas. It is growing daily with great children’s, teen, and adult ideas. These include booklists, story times, display ideas and programs.

2. [Utah Author Visits](http://utahauthorvisits.org/)

   Have you ever heard about an author visit after the fact and it broke your heart? Well no more. Visit Utah Author Visits and see who is coming to Utah. If you have arranged an author visit, you can add it to the calendar and increase your attendance and exposure.

3. [Utah Bookmobiles](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CFFZ7Ozca8) created a wonderful video promoting bookmobiles and their importance in Utah with this amazing video. It is narrated by Dick Nourse and will tug at your heartstrings.

4. [Utah Accessible Tutorials](http://www accessible tutorials com) provides videos, webinars, and training to librarians working with patrons with physical, mental, or learning disabilities.

5. [Highway 89 Collections](http://highway89.org) is an online exhibit that captures Highway 89’s storied past through photographs, manuscripts, and printed items.

6. Digitizing Community Resources is working with the Salt Lake City Public Library and the Church History Library to digitize obituaries and user generator content. (No website yet.)

This has been an exciting six months with all the webinars, two very successful conferences (CSRT/YART and fall conference in Logan), and lots of new ideas and activity. A huge thank you to everyone who participated, planned, and lead these activities. You are too numerous to name. I am so happy to be part of such an amazing organization with librarians who are outstanding in the profession, leading the way forward in innovative and creative ideas and supportive of the sharing and collaboration we have at ULA.
Announcements

La Parola Scritta: XVI Centuries of Italian Culture in Ink

In honor of the 2013 Year of Italian Culture in the United States and in celebration of Italian contributions to the written word, Special Collections at the J. Willard Marriott Library, the Italian-American Civic League, the Italian Club of Salt Lake City, and the Honorary Italian Consulate of Salt Lake City presented La Parola Scritta, XVI Centuries of Italian Culture in Ink: A Reception and Hands-on Display of Books from the Rare Collections.

The reception began at 5:00 PM and the program began at 6:00 PM, Wednesday, November 20, at the J. Willard Marriott Library, University of Utah, in Special Collections on the fourth floor.

For more information, please contact Luise Poulton, Managing Curator of Rare Books, at (801) 585-6168 or luise.poulton@utah.edu.

RASRT Leading the Way!

By Maggie Mills, Salt Lake County Libraries

It’s an exciting time to be a member of the Reference and Adult Services Round Table as we continue with plans to play a more active and positive role in the Utah library community. Recent activities have included creating webinars addressing areas of current interest and recruiting conference presenters and panelists. Topics being developed for webinars and conference sessions include:

- Embedded librarianship
- Tiered reference service
- Dealing with difficult reference interviews
- Programming for adults
- Tech tools
- Digital content
- Providing outstanding customer service

If you have suggestions for webinar subjects or would like to contribute to a webinar, we welcome your feedback and involvement. Contact Jennifer Fay, Kearns Public Library, at jfay@slcolibrary.org for more information or visit our website at ula.org.

Webinar archives will be posted soon!
New Librarians at Utah State University

By Britt Fagerheim, Utah State University.

Utah State University’s Merrill-Cazier Library welcomes three new librarians.

Liz Woolcott joined the Digital Initiatives Department as the new metadata librarian. Liz received a Master of Library Science (2009) from the University of North Texas with an emphasis on digital image management and a Master of Arts in history (2003) from Utah State University. Liz received a Bachelor of Science in history and psychology in 2000 from Southern Utah University.

Liz has been the metadata coordinator and a cataloging assistant since 2004 in the library’s cataloging department.

Connie Woxland and Dory Ann Cochran joined the reference and instructional services department as reference and instruction librarians. Connie received a Masters in Library and Information Studies from the University of Wisconsin—Madison in 2013, and a Bachelor’s in English with a history minor from the University of Wisconsin—La Crosse in 2010.

Dory received a Master of English with a women’s studies graduate certificate from Kansas State University in 2013 and a Master of Library and Information Science in 2011 from University of Pittsburgh. Dory received a Bachelor of Arts in English and women’s studies with a minor in music from the University of Kansas in 2010.
Academic Library Outreach, Part II

By Brian Peters, Academic Libraries Section Editor

In the previous edition of this newsletter, I asked what academic libraries around the state were doing to engage students, faculty, and staff. Here is a sample of the responses.

Pamela Martin, the Merrill-Cazier Library Outreach and Peer Learning Coordinator, responded with one of the most unique outreach efforts. Over the past four years the Merrill-Cazier Library at Utah State University has held an event called the “Human Library.” Martin described the event this way: “People with interesting stories become books. And students, faculty, and community members are encouraged to checkout one of these ‘living books’ for a conversation.” These “books” have included a cancer survivor, a Unitarian, and a Catholic poet. Best of all, these events have not only generated interest at the university, but have also been featured on Utah public radio, The Utah Statesman, and The Herald Journal.

Elizabeth Chandler, who works at Weber State University’s Davis campus library, responded with a number of effective, inexpensive outreach efforts. WSU’s Davis campus serves both university students and the students at the NUAMES charter high school. Among other things, the Davis campus library started a Young Adult collection for the benefit of the NUAMES students. Chandler wrote: “Marketing to our NUAMES students involves mingling with them on campus during lunch, handing out bookmarks with the hours of the library, and visiting the classroom to give book reviews and library service pep talks. Other techniques include contacting the teachers every month by sending out Young Adult book suggestions in monthly emails, giving library tours to the classes, and occasionally handing out candy to the students on holidays while reminding them of the services we offer. Applying these methodologies has been a slow gain, but we have seen positive progress in our efforts.”

I also heard from Juan Tomás Lee, the State Data Coordinator/Library Consultant at the Utah State Library Division, who wrote about a program called “Collaborative Outreach Opportunities for Libraries.” Lee described the program as “identifying opportunities around the state where two or more libraries can come together in a collaboration to maximize the use of resources, and promote library collections, programs, and services with a unified voice. The collaborations can be as simple as sharing flyers or handouts among libraries to more involved partnerships where we actually share a booth or table at an event, share staffing duties and even costs.”

I welcome feedback on this or any other topic: bri-peters1@weber.edu.
Monticello Library Remodel

By Dustin Fife, San Juan County Library

The San Juan County Library has completed a remodel of the Monticello branch. This great process has brought a bigger and more efficient library to the residents of Monticello, Utah. The remodel was completed for $380,000 and included a new roof, heating and cooling system, windows, lighting, and the removal of an interior glass wall to create a more open space. The remodel has been received with overwhelming approval (though one patron feels it is now far too open). The Monticello Library is 51 years old and was overdue for a facelift. The single-pane windows rattled as semi-trucks passed by and the furnace took the anger of several people each year to get restarted.

Everyone at the San Juan County Library is excited and feels we can now better serve our patrons. We express gratitude to the San Juan County Commissioners, San Juan County Library Board, Chamberlain Architects of Grand Junction, Colorado, and Tri-Hurst Construction of Blanding, Utah. This project could not have been completed on time and on budget without their support and energy. As Library Director, I would especially like to express my appreciation to Pat Smith, the Monticello branch manager, and her wonderful staff. They handled this remodel with aplomb.
Libraries and the Affordable Care Act (ACA)

By Stacy Vincent, Public Libraries Section Editor

You may have noticed a lot of buzz lately about the Affordable Care Act (ACA), sometimes referred to as Obamacare. All this buzz is because the new health insurance exchanges opened October 1. These exchanges allow people who do not have insurance through their employer, Medicare, or Medicaid to purchase individual coverage from private insurance companies. Under new standards imposed by the ACA, insurance companies can no longer exclude anyone from coverage. Plans must include 10 essential benefits and 10 essential rights and protections. Premium subsidies are available for those who earn between 100% - 400% of the federal poverty level, or about $46,000 for a single person.

The American Library Association issued an official statement on libraries’ role in ACA. To read it, go to www.ala.org, then search for Affordable Care Act. Much like tax season, our role is to connect people with information and resources, but not to offer advice, personal opinions, or fill out forms.

Please be generous with computer time for those signing up for coverage. If you remember only one thing, remember www.healthcare.gov (or www.cuidadodesalud.gov for Spanish speakers). This is where people can shop and sign up for coverage.

If you have patrons who need a little more help, have them call United Way at 211 and ask to make an appointment with a navigator. Navigators are trained to help people understand their health insurance options and complete the enrollment process. Navigators are paid by grant, and so they are free to the public.

Here are some important dates to remember:

- December 15, 2013: Last day to enroll for a coverage start date of January 1, 2014.
- January 1, 2014: This is the earliest date coverage can begin.
- March 31, 2014: The exchanges close and will not reopen until October 15, 2014.
- Tax season 2015: Almost all US citizens and legal permanent residents will be required to show proof of health insurance coverage for the 2014 tax year. Failing to do so will result in a tax penalty.

If you have questions about your own health insurance options, contact your HR representative.
You Can Teach, But Are You Engaging?

By Barbara Hopkins, School Libraries Section Editor

Recently I have been visiting classrooms and watching teachers and librarians teach. I noticed several things that they all had in common. First of all, each teacher was very knowledgeable about their subjects’ content and had prepared well to deliver it. I also noticed that each teacher seemed interested in their students and whether or not the material being covered was understood and could be applied. All of these things were encouraging. However, there was something vital missing from many of the lessons that I saw: student engagement.

In a world were we must battle social media, texts, gaming, and thoughts about the next class or tonight’s date, we must step up our attempts at being engaging or our message will be lost no matter how well prepared we are! Now, I’m not suggesting dressing up like your favorite superhero or donning a chicken suit to rivet your students attention in your direction; what I am suggesting is incorporating research-based methods that have proven to increase student engagement.

Integrating opportunities for your students to respond (OTR) into your lessons is one such strategy. Have you included opportunities for your whole class to respond to a question (pair share, choral read, hand signals)? Do you give small groups time to discuss and apply the concepts you cover? Seems simple, right? It is, but I still missed it when I was teaching. It took evaluation of my own practices to open my eyes to the things I could have done.

An evaluation activity that I tried, that has proven to be effective, is video reflection and analysis. There’s no denying what you can see for yourself. You may be both delighted and surprised at what you discover and doing it will open your eyes to all kinds of possibilities.

So as you go forward I hope you’ll think about being engaging. Keep it smart, simple, and be strategic!

What’s On at Your Library?

The staff of Utah Libraries News are happy to publish announcements of library-related exhibits, lectures, open houses, tours, and other events.

Send announcements to ulasubmissions@gmail.com. We publish four times per year, in September, November, February, and April (Annual Conference Issue).
DLPAFest 2013

By Rebekah Cummings, Mountain West Digital Library

On October 24-25, Sandra McIntyre, Anna Neatrour, and I traveled to Boston to celebrate the launch of the Digital Public Library of America (http://dp.la). The event began with a lovely reception at the Boston Public Library and continued the next day with hands-on workshops, hack-a-thons, and discussions about the future of DPLA.

In the spirit of openness, DPLA implemented an open meeting policy and made the collective notes from the sessions available through public Google Docs (http://ow.ly/qP4HM). For colorful, real-time commentary about the event, you can also check out the Twitter feeds through #dplafest. Photographs, videos, and the social media streams can be accessed at http://dp.la/info/get-involved/events/dplafest2013/media. DPLAfest was a model of transparency and sharing during Open Access Week!

At the opening reception, Dan Cohen announced a $1,000,000 Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation grant (http://dp.la/info/2013/10/24/gates-announcement/) to train public librarians in digital technologies. In our region, DPLA will collaborate with the Mountain West Digital Library to build curricular resources and implement hands-on training programs to enhance digital skills and capacity in public libraries. With DPLA funding, MWDL will also implement a new mini-contracts digitalization program this month to distribute digitization funds to small libraries, archives, and museums in our region. Be sure to check our website (www.mwdl.org) for more details in November and December!

To learn more about the mission of DPLA and how it can be a research resource for your institution check out this YouTube Video (http://ow.ly/qP4UE). The video features shots of Marriot Library and an interview with MWDL’s Sandra McIntyre.

DPLAfest Reception at Boston Public Library.
Photo credit: Rebekah Cummings. Edited for publication by Annie Smith
What Do You Geek?

By Paul Daybell, Reporter

Libraries across Utah are getting their “geek” on as part of the community public awareness campaign known as the “Geek the Library” project (http://geekthelibrary.org). Sponsored by OCLC with a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Geek the Library’s campaign goal is to help create a dialog regarding the types of services they offer, as well as raising awareness about critical funding issues many libraries face today. Libraries want to show how they can serve the needs of everyone in the community, regardless of what they “geek.”

Sheena Parker, Director of the American Fork Public Library, said that they chose to participate in the program because they felt the concept was interesting and that it could be an excellent platform to raise awareness in the community about what the library offers and how it is funded. Parker said, “It was gratifying to be out in the community wearing our geek shirts and have people comment on hearing about the campaign or ask what ‘geek’ meant.” She continued, “It gave us an opportunity to explain how important the library is the community and just what resources it can offer for everyone's ‘geek.’”

Parker also noted the excellent support offered by OCLS, both in the form of free campaign materials and an individual OCLC mentor. The mentor provided extra guidance, answered questions, and offered encouragement throughout the (sometimes exhausting) six month campaign. She said that while the campaign was a lot of work, “Geek the Library” offers support to alleviate the stress on library budgets.

“The free materials were great and certainly more than we could ever have hoped to produce on our own with the limited budget we have...We learned that even a library with limited funds can do something to raise awareness,” Parker said.

If you are interested in learning more about the “Geek the Library” campaign or would like to see a full list of participating Utah libraries, visit http://geekthelibrary.org.
ABOUT THE UTAH LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Utah Library Association is to serve the professional development and educational needs of its members and to provide leadership and direction in developing and improving library and information services in the state. In order to accomplish these goals, ULA supports and provides continuing education programs for Utah librarians and library employees, especially at its annual spring conference. ULA also offers members a number of opportunities for library leadership, professional growth, networking, and community service. We hope you find the Utah Library Association to be an organization that makes a difference for you, for Utah librarians, for Utah Libraries, and for the citizens of Utah.

www.ula.org