President’s Message

Utah’s libraries are facing some challenges that are both distressing and positive. Economic downturns often spark hiring freezes, salary freezes, and threats of layoffs or downsizing. Yet, such economic woes boost visitation and use.

Now is the time to reassert ourselves. Each library unit may be asked to justify its existence. It is time to remind administrators, budget officers, councils, commissions, and comptrollers that “Your library—[is] The best thing you are already paying for” (Hillary Theyer, American Libraries, August 2008, p. 45).

Public libraries in Utah spend less than $33 per person (school and academic libraries could produce similar estimates), and look at the services that are offered: Internet access, books, CDs, DVDs, downloadable audio and video, e-books, reference services, recreational and educational materials in various formats, meeting space, public forums for discussion, tax form distribution outlets, programming for children, ‘tweens, teens, and adults, educational and cognitive exercises geared specifically for students, art, humanities programming – how long would you like to make the list? All types of libraries, all over the state, act as outlets for national programs like The Big Read or Picturing America.

In short, there is no demographic in our service areas to which the library is not available, but there is always room for more cooperation between libraries. For some ideas on library/community alliances, visit the President’s Speaker Series at the ULA conference in April. Four sessions are geared to inspire cooperation. They include representatives of the Utah Humanities Council, the Utah Arts Council, the Utah State Library Division, and Park City’s Linda Tillson speaking about ALA’s Sister Library program.

There are things that could be said about dark clouds and silver linings. But let’s look for the lining: Economic downturns spark library use. Let’s reassert our need and legitimacy in our various service areas.

Steve Decker
ULA President
With the theme “Utah Libraries: Turning up the Volume,” the 2009 ULA Annual Conference sessions will focus on ways to address and overcome today’s challenges while preparing for the future. The conference will take place at the South Towne Exposition Center in Sandy April 22-24. Registration for conference opens January 1, and we hope to see you there! Below are just a few of the conference programs:

**Utah Center for the Book Award Winners Author Panel**

Presented by Christine Allen-Yazzie, Frederick H. Swanson, Kenneth W. Brewer and Shannon Hale. The latest Utah Book Award winners read from their work and share their writing experiences.

**Bilingual Story time for Gringos (Reforma)**

Presented by Gracie Mora, Tiffany Herbon, Tessa Epstein and Juan Lee. Ideas are given of how to engage both English and Spanish speaking kids in a bilingual story time. Covering songs, music, rhymes, hand motions, activities and crafts. Examples of different story times will be explored. Pronunciation of Spanish words will be covered. This will focus on skills for English speaking librarians to bring their kids together as a community.

**Dealing With Budget Cuts in a Bad Economy (TFRT)**

In these difficult economic times it is likely that all libraries will be faced with more limited budgets than in recent years. How will your library board deal with the cuts? What services and personnel will you keep, or let go? Are there any remedies or preventions for having your library's budget cut?

**Space Station Nathan: Nathan Hale, Author/Illustrator (CSRT)**

Children's author and illustrator Nathan Hale will talk about how he illustrates and writes books - and how it's different if you are illustrating someone else's text. Either way, it's a fascinating process from start to finish.

**Making Sense of Business Reference (BRT)**

Do you wish you felt more confident when faced with a business reference question? This 2-hour workshop presented by Celia Ross, Stratham Research, will help familiarize you with sources and strategies for tackling questions on companies, industries, the stock market, consumer demographics and more. Face down your business reference fears and/or add to your growing business reference arsenal. Part business reference therapy, part business reference source class, this workshop will leave you with a better understanding of the business reference process and provide you with a framework for building your business reference expertise. Discover the business reference skills you didn't even know you possessed and never (or almost never) feel like hiding under the desk when faced with business reference questions again!

**Notes from a Wandering Librarian (Academic Library Section)**

Presented by Jenny Lynne Semenza, Idaho State University: Oboler Library.

While on sabbatical, Jenny traveled the western states, from Arizona and New Mexico north to Alaska. She met with librarians at 26 different academic institutions in her quest for the innovative, the informative and the
interesting. Come find out what she discovered to be the best, most valuable, and innovative. Think this is not for you? She also stopped along the way at public libraries and the occasional museum. While the purpose of the sabbatical was focused on Public Services (instruction, reference, distance services), she garnered many insights into space planning, development/funding, collection development and more...

Pioneer Library - Benefiting all of Utah citizens (School Library Section)

Presented by Rick Cline, Utah Education Network, Colleen Eggett, Utah State Library Division, and Ann Marie Breznay, University of Utah Marriott Library.

Addressing the multi-faceted Pioneer Library and how its array of online resources is available to a variety of patrons -- K-12 and college students, faculty, and every Utah citizen young and old statewide. You will learn about the different databases that each of the Pioneer partners (public, academic, and K-12) provide and who and how they can be accessed.

You Do Not Have the Right to Remain Silent: How Legal Scholarship Found a New Voice through Open Access (TSRT)

Academic Libraries have made significant progress in developing archival systems for scholarly assets. However, the focus had been more on digital storage and preservation, rather than the development of tools to facilitate open access publishing of current content. Cognizant of the need to provide the academic community with an open access publishing tool for current campus publications, the libraries at the University of Utah, in partnership with the S.J. Quinney College of Law, developed a pilot project for publishing college materials in an Open Journal System (OJS), a journal management and publishing system developed by the Public Knowledge Project.

The purpose of this presentation is to discuss the tools and methods used to develop open access publishing for materials that have historically been available only in print form or via online subscriptions. The discussion will cover the entire process through submission to publication and how OJS facilitates these activities.

Success with Library Surveys (CE)

Presented by Colleen Eggett and Robin Chalhoub. Would you like to plan services and programs that truly meet the needs of your community? Would you like to report back to city hall or your community what you are doing well? If you want library feedback that is quick, confidential, and thorough, a survey is an excellent way to go. Learn the essential elements of how to create, conduct, and evaluate an effective survey for your library.

Show Me! Online Library Tutorials (LIRT)

Presented by Allyson Washburn, Lee Library, BYU, and Rita Christensen. With the availability of online content, patrons are not coming to the library and frequency of reference desk visits are declining resulting in fewer opportunities for teaching basic library information skills. How does the library reach out and provide point-of-need help? Brigham Young University GIS staff will discuss how they implemented iLearning Library Services. The new unit was developed to address the need for online learning modules for distance education students and those visiting the library online via the website. You'll learn how we got started, how we operate, and our approach to providing Information

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Programs Announced for 2009 ULA Annual Conference

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Literacy skills and point-of-need help using short videos created with Camtasia.

Teen Author Panel (YART)
Mette Ivy Harrison, Sara Zarr, and Ann Dee Ellis. Utah teen authors will share about the experiences writing and their new books in 2009.

The ULA Certificate of Achievement Program (LPSSRT)
With Sherry Bohman, Cedar City Public Library and Connie Lamb. This is a working session for paraprofessionals, who are interested in enhancing their library knowledge and skills by obtaining the ULA Certificate of Achievement. Members of the review board will be on hand to explain the program and help register applicants. They will assist individual attendees with what requirements they have already filled and what they still need to do to complete the program.

Community Health Clinic/Public Library Partnerships
Mutually Providing Health Information in Utah

The Utah Women’s Health Information Network (UWIN), a program of the University of Utah, Health Sciences Center, Center of Excellence in Women’s Health, became a reality in November, 2007 with receipt of a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to improve health care for Utah women and thus all Utah residents through their families.

One of the primary goals of UWIN is to make more reliable health information available to health-care providers and their patients who share constituencies with neighborhood public libraries throughout Utah. Through this initiative, public libraries across Utah will form partnerships with their community health clinics. Clinicians will become informed about the consumer health resources and help at their public libraries and in turn patients will become more informed about not only health but all the services and resources at their neighborhood library. A true “UWIN” for health care providers as well as the patients they serve.

Utah librarians are currently working on “toolkits” to market library services to clinic staff and training for librarians to insure that referred patients will get special care when they arrive at the library seeking medical information. These will also be available in Spanish.

Utah is fortunate to have an abundance of health and medical resources available online through the Pioneer Library and Utahealthnet. The Community Health Clinic/Public Library Partnership is sponsoring a session at the 2009 annual conference – please attend to learn more about this exciting new collaborative effort!

UWIN Partners:
Susan Hamada, Associate Director, Salt Lake County Library System;
Sally Patrick, Outreach Librarian, Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library

"One of the primary goals of UWIN is to make more reliable health information available to health-care providers and their patients who share constituencies with neighborhood public libraries throughout Utah.”
BYU Library Offers a Music Study Zone

Walk into any library and you will see students wearing headphones while they study. It seems that almost every student has an iPod or MP3 player. Recently, the Harold B. Lee Library at BYU took everyone’s interest in music to the next level by creating a music study zone in one area of their building. The idea came from students on the Library Student Advisory Council (LSAC) who suggested that a music study area would help them during their study times. LSAC selected the location just next to the library’s receiving area as the music zone because this area had plenty of study tables, and student employees thought the music would cover some of the distracting noise that comes from the loading dock. After selecting the location, LSAC checked copyright and use issues then created a six day long playlist of classical music from the library’s collection. Songs from this playlist are selected and played in random order by a computer in the library’s music department. E-mail feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive, and these days it is hard to find a seat at the study tables in the music zone.

BYU Library Adds Large Exhibit.

Across the quad from the Harold B. Lee Library is the Joseph F. Smith Building. The large glass area along the east side of this building now encloses a new exhibit titled “Educating the Soul: Our Zion Tradition of Learning and Faith.” Eight years in the making, this exhibition tells the story surrounding the origins of the educational system in Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The exhibit is the creation of Dr. Terry Warner who saw the need to document and share the many stories relating to the education that began in small wooden buildings in the nineteenth century, and led to the many modern institutions including colleges and universities that can trace their origins to a common source. The exhibit features hundreds of stories about education, all of which have been transferred to the library’s special collections archive, and will later be accessible via an Internet database. The research and artwork for this multimedia exhibit was completed mostly by students, and the space also features a mezzanine level where rotating exhibits can be installed. It was a natural fit for the library to take charge of “Educating the Soul” because of its personnel’s experience in archives and exhibits, and because the history of education encompasses so many academic disciplines and the exhibit includes so much research. The library has hired Ann Lambson, formerly of the National Building Museum in Washington, DC, to be the exhibit educator.

BYU Library Implements New Search Engine

Search here, search there, search everywhere! After months of preparation, the BYU Library recently launched the beta version of their new search tool SCHOLARSEARCH. This search tool is BYU’s purchased version of Primo by Ex Libris. SCHOLARSEARCH allows library patrons to find scholarly material that they could not find by using Google or other search engines. Patrons can narrow their searches to items available only in the library’s collection, or expand their search to find all scholarly material available on a certain subject by

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selecting set of subject specific databases chosen by an expert librarian researcher. Additional features of SCHOLARSEARCH include: the most relevant items listed first, filters to help narrow the search, real time availability information, table-of-contents details, user reviews and tagging, and the ability to save citations and search statements.

Library administrators and subject librarians believe that SCHOLARSEARCH is just one more step towards their goal of developing a truly great university research library. A fully functional SCHOLARSEARCH will be available in January.

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About 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.