




# the Crab

A Quarterly Publication of the Maryland Library Association

Volume 42, Number 1; Fall, 2011



***Storyland***  
Frederick County's  
Literacy Lifeline to  
Social Support

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# Editor's Note

Fall is now upon us, but as you can see in this issue, Maryland libraries were busy this summer. This issue features a number of unique library programs and services provided to patrons of various library communities. St. Mary's County offered an archaeology exhibit to its patrons, while Towson's Albert S. Cook Library provided its users with a few lessons in civility. Southern Maryland libraries were busy helping their communities with Hurricane Irene recovery, while Frederick County Public Libraries partnered with a local organization to offer storytimes to children with developmental delays. These libraries, as well as others that you will read about in this issue, truly understand the importance of reaching out to the community through innovative and ground breaking initiatives aimed at enriching a wide variety of library users.

Speaking of enrichment, I also encourage you to read MLA President Lucy Holman's message. Lucy explains the value of programs offered by MLA and how you benefit from what you spend on attending a professional development program offered by MLA. It is through this programming that we are able to better inform ourselves as library professionals, which allows for the creativity and innovation that you see in the library initiatives and programs that you will find in this issue. Best wishes for a fruitful and fabulous fall to all of our readers.

**Annette Haldeman, Crab Editor**  
**Department of Legislative Services Library**



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# President's Message

## Your Program Dollars at Work

I recently attended a budget meeting to look at this year's Maryland Library Association (MLA) budget and the conversation turned to the cost of attending programs. Several division chairs and MLA development panel members have noted that members often wonder why MLA charges what they do for programs or ask why MLA charges for its programs at all. This is a good question and one that deserves response. I thought I would try to explain it here.

MLA's annual budget stands at approximately \$309,000. This budget covers conference and program expenses, supplies, staff salaries (2.5 FTE) and initiatives such as the Legislative Reception, the Maryland Library Leadership Institute, and the Author Award. The Association's three primary areas of income are membership dues, the annual conference, and division programs.

MLA provides a number of important services to its membership, but programming and professional development are at the heart of MLA's services. Last year MLA offered 14 programs during the year, for a total of 53.5 continuing education credits (CEUs). MLA sponsored the annual conference with the Delaware Library Association (DLA), which offered three keynote speakers, six preconference programs and 44 conference presentations. Every other year MLA co-sponsors the Maryland Library Leadership Institute (MLLI) with the Division of Library Services & Development (DLDS).

Programming and professional development are a core function of MLA. The Professional Development Panel (MLA) works with division leaders to establish the credit hours for each program and to determine an appropriate cost for each program based on expenses (speaker costs, food, supplies, etc.) and Continuing Education contact hours. MLA charges



non-members a higher rate (150% of member cost) and students a lower rate (50% of member costs). The MLA also administers a small fund for members to apply for program scholarships. The programs are a source of revenue for the Association, but that revenue allows for continued organizational support of the programs in terms of CEU notification, fee collection, financial accounting and publicity. Without the office assistance, the volunteer division officers could not devote their energies to finding expert and engaging speakers and sponsoring programs in various parts of the state.

We are fortunate in Maryland to have a small but mighty permanent administrative staff. MLA's executive director, Margaret Carty, and MLA staffers Kate Monagan and Chris Holly

manage the member database, process program registrations, provide divisions with program materials and CEU certificates, post jobs to the Job Line, produce Happenings and much, much more. Imagine what our Association would be like if it was entirely dependent on volunteers. I have served as a division president, chaired several different MLA committees and now serve as MLA President. I have seen the tremendous value of the MLA staff. These three people do the work of 30 or even 300 volunteers! I have attended several chapter meetings at American Libraries Association conference, where the state associations share their triumphs and trials. I am continually amazed and proud of the work we do in Maryland, in comparison to other states without professional staff. I have heard from other state chapter leaders who are not able to host conferences or offer many free standing programs because of the lack of volunteer commitment or chapter staffing. We have been fortunate to be able to maintain high quantity and high quality programs and hope to continue those opportunities for years to come.

I hope that you will see the value of your program dollars at work beyond the immediate program costs to see the greater benefits to librarians around the state. I also hope that you will continue to support MLA as we try to support your own professional development!

*Lucy Holman, MLA President*

# Local Library System Wins International Award

*Laurie Hayes, Anne Arundel County Public Library*

The Anne Arundel County Public Library (AACPL) has won one of the highest honors bestowed by the International Association of Workforce Professionals (IAWP) in recognition of the Library's outstanding contributions to Workforce Development programs. Founded in 1913, the International Association of Workforce Professionals (IAWP) is a professional as-

sociation for members who work in public and private workforce development programs. With over 13,000 members worldwide, IAWP is a non-profit educational association exclusively dedicated to workforce professionals with a rich tradition and history of contributions to workforce excellence.

"We are honored that IAWP chose to recognize the efforts of the Anne Arundel County Public Library with its 2010 IAWP Group Citation Award," said Skip Auld, AACPL Library Administrator. "We are very proud of the work that library staff has done to provide job and career-related assistance to help unemployed or under-employed County residents. This award

is a wonderful tribute to those efforts."

Anne Arundel County Executive John Leopold congratulated Auld, AACPL Board of Trustees President Joan Beck and the AACPL staff on the award at a ceremony held at the West County Area Library on July 21. Denise Carey, president of the Maryland IAWP and Kirkland Murray, executive director of the Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation were also in attendance.

In its announcement of the Group Citation Award, IAWP stated, "Literacy was not enough to satisfy the professional staff of [Anne Arundel County Public Library]. They went several steps forward to assist the citizens of their communities with computer literacy and by offering 'meaningful job and career-related assistance to help returning or displaced workers become gainfully employed.'"

Since the economic downturn began several years ago, AACPL staff have helped countless out-of-work County residents with preparing resumes, conducting online job searches and completing online job applications.

According to the American Library Association's Office for Research and Statistics, nearly three-quarters of job seekers use the Internet to seek employment. Many employers, including as high as 80 percent of all retail establishments, require job applications to be completed online. As the largest free provider of public computers and Internet access, the Library provides a vital link between employers and potential employees. ▶

*From Left: Skip Booth, Library Administrator; Joan Beck, AACPL Board of Trustees President; and John Leopold, Anne Arundel County Executive*



In October 2009, AACPL partnered with the Anne Arundel County Workforce Development Corporation's (AAWDC) One Stop Career Centers to better serve this population. Trained job search specialists are now available in six library branches during day and evening hours to offer assistance to people of all ages and backgrounds in using job resources in both print and online formats. The partnership has effectively doubled the number of workforce centers in the county. Nearly 2,000 individuals have been served at these locations since the partnership was initiated.

At the same time, AACPL further expanded career related services aimed at students and adults. The library currently offers a host of online resources that can be accessed by clicking the "Job Help" link on the Library's website, [www.aacpl.net](http://www.aacpl.net). These resources include local, county, state, federal and commercial job listings. Additionally, career and college information is offered, including online directories; financial aid information; online test reviews for various profession-based tests; practice tests for the ACT, GED, GRE, SAT, TOEFL and similar tests; language learning databases; online resume templates; and company research databases.

AACPL also regularly offers job and career-related workshops at many of its branches, hosted by library and AAWDC staff or other local business representatives. Other library systems across the state are now looking to replicate AACPL's efforts.

"County residents now have one more reason to be proud of their exemplary library system," noted Beck, president of the AACPL Board of Trustees. "We truly are part of the solution to getting the county and its residents on the road to economic recovery."

Earlier this year, AACPL received the 2010 Citation Award from the Maryland Chapter of IAWP, "in recognition of Outstanding Contributions in Support of Workforce Development Activities in Maryland." ■

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## 2012 Maryland Library Leadership Institute (MLLI): July 16-20, 2012

*Elizabeth Hulett, MLLI Committee Chair*

Exciting things are happening for MLLI 2012. The biggest change is the new location. **Pearlstone Conference and Retreat Center** in Reisterstown is centrally located, yet offers a rural setting removed from the distractions of everyday life. Complete with an organic farm, Pearlstone is certified as a Green Center by the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education. The new location will offer the flexibility and affordability that will enable MLLI to continue to offer its unique training and enrichment opportunity to Maryland librarians for years to come.

MLLI also has an updated website. On the new page, potential candidates can read about the MLLI experience to determine if MLLI is right for them. There is also a section for sponsor-



*The 2010 MLLI Cohort*

ing institutions that addresses questions about cost and how MLLI is different from traditional management training. A section of general FAQs address a wide variety of questions and a PDF application packet is now available to make the process easier.

Applications for the 2012 Institute are now being accepted. Applications must be faxed (410-947-5089) or postmarked by Thursday, February 23, 2012 to the MLA office at 1401 Hollins Street Baltimore, MD 21223 in order to be considered. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. If you have any questions, please contact Margaret Carty at 410-947-5090.

MLLI 2012 promises to be an exciting opportunity for Maryland librarians and it is hoped that all those interested will apply. ■

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## 2011 Summer Reading Program Celebrates Participants

### Field Ceremony Caps Baltimore Oriole Collaboration

*Paula Isett, Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Library Development and Services*

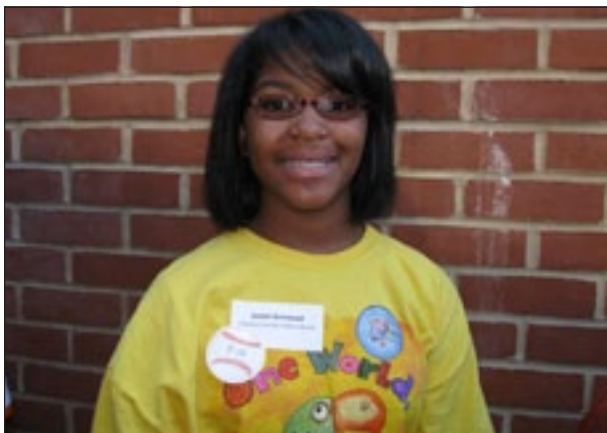
John Smeallie, Deputy Superintendent of Maryland Public Schools, joined youth representatives from the Maryland Public Libraries' Summer Reading Program at a pre-game ceremony on August 10th at Camden Yards, home of the Baltimore Orioles. For the fourth summer in a row, the Baltimore Orioles supported the Summer Reading Program by donating 40 tickets to every library branch in Maryland ►



2011 Summer Reading Representatives prepare to go onto the field.



Derrick Day (Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped), enjoyed his first Oriole game.



Jontel Armstead (Charles County Public Library), proudly wore her national summer reading shirt.

and honoring Summer Reading participants on the field.

In addition to the Orioles' sponsorship, T. Rowe Price funded the dramatic and inspiring Oriole posters that hung in the libraries all over the state, promoting summertime reading fun. Participating in the night's activities, an enthusiastic Mark Robinson, Director of Corporate Citizenship and Sponsorships with T. Rowe Price Associates, greeted each student. T. Rowe Price sponsored the Oriole posters and paid for the tickets that were used as incentives by the Summer Reading Program. ■

## Lights, Camera, Civility!

Joyce Garczynski, *Albert S. Cook Library, Towson University*

Last May, the staff of Albert S. Cook Library at Towson University needed to solve a problem. Finals were approaching, the library was becoming more and more crowded, and patrons were unintentionally disturbing others by talking loudly on their cell phones. The staff did not want to be the noise police, but something needed to be done. The library marketing committee ultimately decided to create a video to promote positive, civil behavior.

The marketing committee decided to model the video after the Liberty Mutual "Pay it Forward" advertisements where one person witnesses a kind act and then performs a kind act for someone else. Before they began to film, however, they entered the video idea into an Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) national contest for innovation. The video won for the in-process category and was recognized during the ACRL President's Program at the 2011 American Library Association



Conference in June in New Orleans.

Fresh off winning the innovation award, the library marketing committee began to create the video. First, they decided which kind acts would be portrayed and created a storyboard depicting the camera shots. Then, they began recruiting student actors. Since it was summer, they were concerned about student availability, so they offered \$20 and pizza as an incentive. Only 10 actors were needed, but amazingly, over 40 students volunteered to be in the video. The filming took place in just three hours in early July and editing took less than a month.

On August 1 and 2, the marketing committee unveiled the video to the Towson community. The committee decided to concentrate promotional efforts on new students so they established a contest. To enter, first year students watched the video through an online survey link and then completed a short questionnaire. Those students who finished the survey were then eligible for a drawing to win free pizza. The video has over 600 views on YouTube and ultimately, the Cook Library marketing committee hopes that this video will create a more positive, civil culture in the library and across the university. ►

To view the Cook Library Civility Video, visit <http://youtu.be/XHd2tCWFXoA>.

## Archaeology Exhibit Lands in St. Mary's County Library

*Terri Tresp, St. Mary's County Library*

St. Mary's County's early history received lots of attention this summer thanks to an exhibit created by the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab (MAC Lab) and displayed at St. Mary's County's Lexington Park Library.

Artifacts from three important local sites, the Sotterley Plantation Slave Cabin, Notley Hall, and the Aud site were arranged in three drawers specially designed with foam and plexiglass to protect the items but still make them easily visible. Customers of all ages enjoyed opening the drawers to discover the treasures inside.

Two large banners featuring photographs of archaeologists at work in the field and in the lab flanked the display case. Text described what archaeology is, its importance, and how it reveals secrets from St. Mary's past.

Patricia Samford, director of the MAC Lab, said that the organization hopes to create more of these types of local historical exhibits and place them in public buildings throughout the state. The one at Lexington Park was the first in the pilot project. Samford said that she immediately thought of putting the exhibit in the library not only because it has a high number of visitors, but also because there is great diversity in the visitors themselves. Another exhibit was installed in the Hagerstown-Washington Coun-



*Exhibit and participants.*



ty Visitor Center in Western Maryland in June.

MAC Lab education staff presented two children's programs at the library in conjunction with the exhibit. The first focused on Native American culture and skills. Students learned how to make fire without matches, create string from plants and construct spears for hunting. There was even a spear throwing demonstration outside!

The second program taught young explorers what it is like to be an archeologist. Students moved through stations of hands-on activities designed to teach what types of information archaeologists can glean from artifacts ▶



and techniques that they use to gather that information.

A reception to mark the beginning of the exhibit's run was held in March at the library. Representatives from state archaeological agencies, local government, library board members and interested patrons were in attendance. Library Director Kathleen Reif said, "It is quite an honor that our Lexington Park Library was selected to be the site to share a few of the wonders of our rich history. In case you didn't know, St. Mary's County is Maryland's 'Mother County'!"

The project was funded in part by a Preserve America grant from the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior. Additional support was provided by the Maryland Historical Trust and the Archeological Society of Maryland. ■

## Frederick County's Storyland: A Literacy Lifeline to Social Support

*Marie Slaby and Robyn Monaco, Frederick County Public Libraries*

Feather flowers scented with essential oils, knobby rubber balls, colorful musical shakers, and oversized books—these are a few of the sensory treats featured during Frederick County Public Libraries (FCPL) "Storyland" storytimes created specifically for children with developmental delays.

Initially, the library was contacted by staff of the Frederick County Infants and Toddlers



*Miss Jeanne passes the ball during a Storyland program at the Thurmont Regional Library, Frederick County.*



*Bubbles float at a Storyland program, captivating one of the young participants.*



*Young participants "touch the sky" at a Storyland program.*

Program (FCITP) on the possible creation of a library program that could be offered for developmentally delayed children from birth to age three. These delays could be sensory and motor skill issues, speech delays, or autism spectrum disorders, among others. The FCITP staff told the library staff that their families avoided coming to the library's regular storytimes because their children were perceived as "different." The children might be loud or very active, they might have a hard time focusing or participating in group settings, or they might look different from other children because of a handicap. Through these initial discussions, it was realized that the library's programs were not reaching a very important segment of our population—a group of families and children that could benefit greatly from the library's programs and services.

But instead of hosting a separate storytime for these families, the FCITP staff suggested that the library create a program where the general public could attend as well. They hoped that the library staff could create an environment where children with developmental delays could socialize and interact with their regularly developing peers. The challenge was to build a program that could benefit both of these participants equally. The solution to the challenge was found in encouraging play.

While a big book or board book is still shared during the program, the majority of the time is spent with the children exploring and playing with tactile, musical, and even "smelly" objects. For instance, the librarians pass out animal shaped shakers that children move along with the music. Brightly colored cones and matching colored cars are explored and "driven" around the floor. Organic essential oils of lemon and orange are rubbed on toy flowers that the ▶

children take turns smelling. When rhymes or fingerplays are shared, each child is given two felt shapes of the rhymes' subject to hold in each hand. Soft blocks are placed out near the end of the program for children to build and play with. These items and activities work not only to stimulate and teach the children, but also to give the parents confidence and skills to become literacy coaches for their own kids. An FCITP staff member attends each session to assist with the program, as well as to utilize a Picture Exchange Communication System for those who have difficulty verbally expressing themselves. The picture cards help kids know what to anticipate next in a sequence of activities and helps in managing their expectations.

After a competitive application and review process, Frederick County Public Libraries was awarded a grant from the Frederick County Women's Giving Circle that allowed for the purchase of materials to create six Storyland Boxes. Many of these items are also typical toys that children might have at home, thereby giving the FCPL children's librarians and FCITP staff the ability to demonstrate to parents the ways to interact with and teach their children with objects easily available to them. In addition, the funding allowed for the purchase of a board book to give to each FCITP child who attended the program. FCPL's children's librarians are communicating regularly with FCITP staff and everyone has learned a great deal from one another in the efforts to reach this population of children effectively. Since piloting the monthly storytime, there have been over 700 participants, the program has been expanded to four branches, and waiting lists are starting to grow as patrons hear more about the program.

Because many of s's therapies are provided in

the family's home, "Storyland" is a library lifeline to social support. The programs are a great way for these families to connect with others who are facing the same challenges. ■

## Southern Maryland Libraries Provide Hurricane Relief

### *Victoria Falcón, Southern Maryland Regional Library Association*

Southern Maryland got hit hard when Hurricane Irene pounded up the East Coast over the last weekend in August. With more than 10 inches of rain saturating the ground and sustained winds greater than 40 mph, many trees stood no chance of staying upright. When the skies cleared the next day, more than 200,000 people in Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's counties were left without power.

On Monday morning, Charles and St. Mary's county libraries opened their doors to crowds of people who were desperate for computers and internet connectivity.

"We've set up charging stations for residents to charge their mobile devices and many are taking advantage of it," explained Marilyn Lash, publicity specialist for the St. Mary's County library system. "Plus," she added, "many are using their laptops and our Wi-Fi."

A "tweet" on a local news Twitter feed praised one St. Mary's County library branch and reiterated what many county residents were feeling: "Lex Park Public Library saved the day when dealing with no power and no internet thru late Wednesday."

Calvert Library opened a day later than the other county systems due to hurricane clean-up. "We had over 1,400 people at the library in Prince Frederick," said Robyn Truslow, public relations coordinator for Calvert Library. "A usual weekday brings around 1,000 people."

According to Truslow, neighbors were bringing in kids they barely knew as families had to scramble to find child care while schools were closed, but businesses remained open. One customer commented, "Oh, thank goodness you're open! I wasn't sure how to entertain them but we are set now!"

As the clean-up progressed and schools remained closed, resilient Southern Marylanders used their local libraries to get through a stormy week (which included an earthquake just a few days prior to the hurricane).

According to Charles County librarian, Cindy Thornley, county residents flocked in to use the Wi-Fi and the public computers. Thornley remarked, "I think they also enjoyed a welcome distraction from their troubles with our print and media resources," and that the library offers "stability in the midst of a storm." ■



*Josh Decker of Park Hall cuts a fallen tree Wednesday morning in California, Md. (Photo by Jesse Yeatman)*

# Making History at Harford Community College

*Ann S. Persson, Hays-Heighe House Coordinator*

**T**he Harford Community College (HCC) Library recently made history—or more accurately, made history come alive—when it took over operation of the historic Hays-Heighe House, built in 1808 and located at the heart of the Bel Air, Maryland campus.

This historic structure serves both the campus and community. It was officially opened to the public in June 2010 following three years of renovation to the structure. The House offers space for classes, meetings, and special events. Also, the historic ambience of the building provides an attractive alternative to the classroom or traditional office. Space can be reserved in the House by off-campus organizations as well as departments on campus.

The House also functions as an exhibit space. In addition to displaying two to three exhibits per year and an annual showcase of student projects, the House will host, in the coming months, a “Herblock” traveling exhibition sponsored by the Herb Block Foundation. Other plans include the installation of an exhibit on the local history of the War of 1812 and a display of Maryland maps. The exhibits are available to view during the open hours (Tuesdays 1-3 pm and Fridays 10 am-12 pm) every week that the college is open.

The college library was recently awarded two National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)/American Library Association (ALA) grant projects that will be hosted at the Hays-Heighe. In the spring, the House will host the “Let’s Talk About It” book discussions on the Civil War, led by HCC Professor of History Dr. James Karmel. The HCC Library was one of three sites chosen for this grant in Maryland, along with Worchester County Library Foundation in Snow Hill, and Montgomery College in Germantown. The second grant will bring the traveling exhibition of *Manifold Greatness* to the House in the spring of 2013, the only location in Maryland to be chosen for this award. ▶



*The date stone is located above the original front door of the House, inscribed with “A & H H 1808,” standing for Archer and Hanna Hays, who had the house built.*

*The northern facade of the building is used as the primary entrance, but is actually the rear of the building; showing the main house and original 1808 east wing.*



Exhibit programming and special events are also held throughout the year, including exhibit openings, fall and holiday open houses, lectures, and discussions. New for this academic year will be the Salon at Hays-Heighe, where special topics will be presented in the European salon tradition.

New interpretive programming has also taken root at the House. The African American Heritage Display Garden was planted in late spring by Master Gardener Jane Howe, with support from the College Sustainability Committee. Seeds were provided by Landreth Seed Company, based on research by culinary historian Michael Twitty. The garden interprets African foodways by displaying the plants and vegetables brought to America by way of the Caribbean as part of the slave trade. Heirloom tomatoes, collards, mustard greens, peas, okra, and herbs are blooming beautifully and will be ready to harvest by October 19th, when the College hosts Michael Twitty as a featured speaker.

The House is focused on the community and strives to reach large and diverse audiences through a variety of exhibits and programming. The House blends the modern and historic to connect the present with the past. You are invited to take part in the history of Harford Community College by stopping in at the Hays-Heighe House, a National Register of Historic Places property. For questions or more information, please contact the coordinator at 443.412.2495 or [apersson@harford.edu](mailto:apersson@harford.edu). ■



*The best room, or main parlor space, on the first floor as decorated for Christmas. This room is interpreted in Colonial Revival style and is used primarily for meetings and receptions.*



*The salon room on the first floor of the House depicts the horse racing and breeding history of the House, when the Heighe family operated Prospect Hill Farm*

*(Below, left) Two garden plots were planted between the Library and the House and have been flourishing since being planted in early June! (Below) Collard greens and black-eyed peas in the heritage garden.*



# The Civil War in Your Attic

## Preserving the Legacy of Maryland and the Civil War

*Michael Scott, Enoch Pratt  
Free Library/State Library  
Resource Center*

*Jill Craig, Western Maryland  
Regional Library*

**M**embers of the Maryland History and Culture Collaborative, a group of Maryland academic librarians, public librarians, archivists and digitization professionals interested in Maryland history, are collaborating on a project to find the Civil War treasures in Maryland's attics. "The Civil War in Your Attic: Preserving the Legacy of Maryland and the Civil War" is a multi-year initiative to locate, digitize and provide worldwide access to the private documentary heritage of the American Civil War era in Maryland.

The 150th anniversary of the American Civil War provides a fresh opportunity to examine this watershed event in our nation's history and the profound impact it had on the lives of many individuals. Many of the stories of those who lived during the period are told in the letters, diaries, photographs, and other documents that have been kept by families and handed down through the generations.

Scanning events will be held at libraries and other cultural heritage institutions throughout the state. Scanned materials will then be made available in a digital collection posted on the Maryland Digital Cultural Heritage website. "The Civil War in Your Attic" focuses on items created between 1859-1867 that reflect social, political, military, business, and re-



*Carol Appenzellar (WCFL) and Janice Beall (Beall Papers)*

ligious life around the time of the Civil War and early Reconstruction periods. Two scanning events have already been conducted.

On July 16, the first Civil War in Your Attic scanning event was held at the Enoch Pratt Free Library/State Library Resource Center, staffed by Michael Scott, Bill Cady, and Andrzej Durlik. Participants included Baltimore residents Norma Moore and her sister Barbara Koehler, who brought in their family's collection of Civil War era letters and photographs. Many of the letters were written by their great aunt Virginia Moore Craig to her husband, Union Army Captain Selden Frank Craig. In one letter written in July 1864, she describes tensions running high in Balti-

more, with many residents fearing the city would be soon be invaded by Confederate troops. In another letter, Mrs. Craig describes festivities around the time of Lincoln's second inauguration. Included among the items she saved during that period was an invitation to the 1865 National Inauguration Ball. Another participant, Albert Queen, Jr., brought in an item pertaining to the military service of his ancestor Thomas Rice, an African American from Calvert County who served in the United States Colored Troops (USCT) during the war. Other items scanned at Pratt included daguerreotypes, discharge papers, muster rolls, and diaries.

In August, a two-day scanning event was held at Allegany College of Maryland in Cumberland, staffed by Jill Craig (Western Maryland Regional Library) and volunteers Carol Appenzellar (Washington

County Free Library) Elizabeth Howe (Washington County Free Library) and Barbara Browning (Allegany College of Maryland). Among those providing family material were Janice Beall (LaVale Library, Allegany County), who brought the diary of her great grandfather who lived in Frederick County and more than 50 letters exchanged among the Beall family from 1859 to 1867. Charles McVeigh from Cumberland brought a variety of material belonging to Captain Sanford Derland, his great grandfather. The materials included a tintype, commission records, muster rolls, military passes, ordnances, discharge papers and a letter requesting leave to go to the circus.

For more information about “The Civil War in Your Attic: Preserving the Legacy of Maryland and the Civil War” and a list of other scanning events throughout the state including College Park, Salisbury, Towson, Westminster and Hagerstown, visit [www.mdch.org/civilwar](http://www.mdch.org/civilwar).



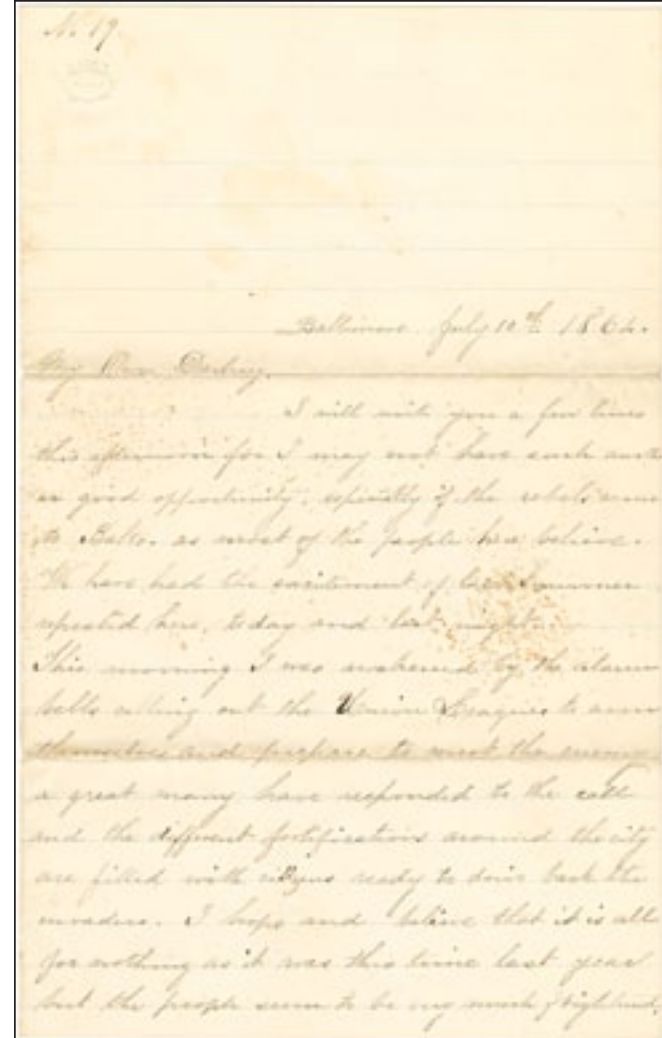
Charles McVeigh.



Norma Moore and sister Barbara Koehler (on left) along with Michael Scott and Bill Cady of Pratt.



Items from the Virginia Moore Craig collection.



△ First page of the July 1864 letter mentioned in the article, from the Virginia Moore Craig collection



◁ Daguerreotype of William Wakefield, a Union soldier and relative of a scanning event participant

# Advance Your Information Science Career with Drexel University Online

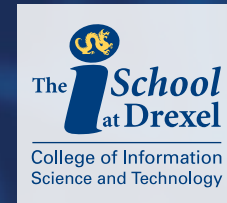
Drexel University Online, The *iSchool*, offers cutting-edge programs conveniently online. The *iSchool* at Drexel is internationally recognized for top-quality information science education. With 24/7 online flexibility, you can access classes online and receive the same distinguished degree as an on-campus student.

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- Post-Master's Youth Services Specialist Program
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## Features and Benefits

- MLA members receive a 20% tuition reduction for online programs through The *iSchool* at Drexel
- The *iSchool* at Drexel is ranked #9 among "America's BEST Graduate Schools 2012" by *U.S. News & World Report*
- ALA accredited library science program
- No application fee!



[www.drexel.com/mla](http://www.drexel.com/mla)

Enter "MLA" as your affiliation code when you apply to receive your 20% tuition reduction



Questions? Contact: Colleen Haggerty | (215) 895-6290 | [cmh384@drexel.edu](mailto:cmh384@drexel.edu)

# 2012 MLA-DLA Conference: “Choose Your Own Journey: Don’t Stop Believin’”

*Carrie Willson-Plymire, 2012 MLA-DLA Conference Chair, Western Maryland Regional Library*

It’s not too early to save the date...the Maryland Library Association (MLA) will once again be joining forces with the Delaware Library Association (DLA) for a bigger and better annual conference experience at the Clarion Resort Fontainebleau in Ocean City, Maryland on May 9-11, 2012. The Clarion continues to be exactly the right size for our conference. The staff is great to work with. Also, program rooms are free, based on our attendee reservations, making the conference cheaper and providing more value to conference-goers.

Take advantage of that value and consider asking your supervisor to send you to conference if you’ve never been, or think about going again if it’s been years since you attended. The contacts you will meet and the ideas that you will share are innumerable and invaluable. It’s a great opportunity to reinvigorate your professional batteries!

So, what’s the 2012 theme?

Wait for it...our theme this year is...Choose Your Own Journey: Don’t Stop Believin.’ Yes, it’s a carefully crafted marvel of thematic engineering. It was important to the planning committee that we communicate that learning is a hands-on activity. We are still in the early stages of program planning, but our focus is on program topics that are relevant and practical, presenters that are skilled and knowledgeable, and activities that provide opportunities to share ideas and have a few laughs.

Some coming attractions:

Battle Decks returns and challengers to Irmgarde Brown’s crown are welcome! Irm not only won the MLA-DLA Battle Decks competition last May, she went on to win 1st place at ALA’s Battle Decks in New Orleans! Start practicing your extemporaneous “speechifying” and keeping it together in the face of randomness. Julie Zamostny and her team will be soliciting contestants and judges in the coming months.

The Pub Quiz will have more and shorter rounds – keep brushing up on your trivia and make sure you can name all the counties in Delaware.

The Silent Auction will be back with fabulous items from Maryland, Delaware and beyond. If you want to donate an item to the auction, con-

## MLA-DLA 2012 CONFERENCE

**Date: May 9-11, 2012**

**Who:** You! You’re personally invited, along with all MD and DE library staff.

**Where:** Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel, 10100 Coastal Hwy, Ocean City, MD

**Why:**

- Invaluable networking time
- Engaging speakers and programs
- A chance to invest in yourself
- Learning that is fun and practical

*Choose your own journey: Don't stop believin'*

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Battle Decks | Pub Quiz | Pre-Conferences | Quality Programming | Silent Auction**

tact Sue Rekart of Wicomico County Public Library at srekart@wicomico.org

Program presenters will have access to the services of a special team volunteering their talents to assist with crafting and delivering quality presentations.

Options for virtual participation in the conference are being explored. Program tracks are being developed to make sure that staff at all levels and in all kinds of libraries will be able to fill their conference schedule with interesting programs.

More details to come...

We’ll share more information as the time comes closer. In the meantime, mark your calendar, start advocating to participate in MLA-DLA 2012, don’t stop believin’ in yourself, hold on to the feelin’ that you get from great learning experiences, and I have nothing to say about street-light people...the meaning of that bit is up to you. See you in Ocean City May 9-11, 2012!

# Technical Services, Public Services and Other Duties as Assigned: Gracefully Juggling Multiple Roles within the Library

*Cynthia Nyirenda, University of Maryland, Eastern Shore*  
*Mary Elizabeth Priebe, University of Baltimore Law Library*

**O**n August 8, 2011, The Maryland Library Association's Technical Services Division (TSD) hosted a discussion at McDaniel College based on the different roles that each person within technical service departments takes on when it comes to job responsibilities. TSD organized this event as a follow up to the observation made at an earlier meeting in May 2011: namely, that the changing role of staff within technical services departments was identified as one of the Top Trends in Technical Services (TS). Participants came from college, university, and public libraries in Maryland.

With the economy the way it is, and unfilled positions, each one of us can relate to juggling multiple roles within our own libraries. Participants discussed how technical services professionals individually handle other responsibilities on top of current duties, maintain professionalism, and still offer excellent customer service to patrons. During the discussion, some of the "added" job responsibilities mentioned included: circulation, reference duties, cataloging, professional development and attending meetings. These are all in addition to day-to-day regular duties.

## Many Roles for TS

There are a lot of libraries who have to do more with less, either with fewer staff or fewer resources, due to budgetary constraints. The discussion also turned to the role that TS plays in each institution. It seems that TS departments get jobs that no other department in the library knows what to do with.

Weeding materials was one of the duties discussed. When it comes to weeding materials, it is important to plan and know what to do with dis-

cards. Such discards may be recycled or may also be donated to another institution. If we are donating items, it is important to ask, "Who wants our books?" Journals may be harder to deal with and it is important to keep statistics on all items donated.

In TS, there are often job-sharing or cross-training opportunities. It is important to know that someone in your department knows how to do your job when you are not there. If there is only one person who knows how to do your job, then cross-training may be an option, in order to keep a high level of customer service and increase the ability to get books and other material out to patrons in a timely manner. Documentation is also very important. The workflow for each position should be documented and made available for easy reference. Some institutions rotate their staff on a regular basis. Some weeks may be reserved for circulation duties, processing ILL requests, or receiving and invoicing. Another week may be staffing the reference desk. This is a good way to keep everyone fresh on the procedures that are required for each position, or at least maintain a working knowledge of each function.

## Many Changes

To keep patrons coming to the library, staff members are constantly experimenting with other ways to keep traffic flowing on a day-to-day basis, including allowing food and beverages in the library, as well as remaining open 24/7 during exam periods.

In libraries, e-resources are being used more frequently. In light of budget cuts and space constraints, libraries are turning to electronic resources now more than ever. Different libraries have created their own e-book ordering workflow.

## Reflections

Two of the attendees of this discussion, Cynthia Nyirenda, Serials Librarian from the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore, and Mary Elizabeth Priebe, Serials Management Librarian from the University of Baltimore Law Library reflected on their own experiences and their roles in TS as follows:

### Cynthia Nyirenda

Juggling multiple roles across technical services and public services is particularly prevalent in small libraries. The University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) is among the relatively smaller institutions within the University System of Maryland. For many years the job descriptions of the librarians have not been limited to the functional responsibilities, but have also included the following: providing reference services, ►

faculty liaison in assigned disciplines, participating in meetings, projects and professional development activities at the library/campus level as well as at the state/ national level. Faculty liaison activities consist of providing information literacy classes and collection development through selection of books in the assigned areas. Over the years, the number of academic programs and student enrolment at UMES has increased. The demand for reference and liaison services from technical services librarians increases when the number of reference librarians decreases.

On a personal note, I have had the opportunity to work at two university libraries prior to joining UMES. I started my career in a library that operated with the traditional, functional specializations. I rotated between the positions of Cataloger, Acquisitions Librarian, and Serials Librarian for a number of years. For six years I served at another university as a Subject Librarian for Social Sciences. My current position of Serials/Documents Librarian at UMES is, to some extent, similar to being a subject librarian. In addition to providing technical services, I offer reference services both at the Serials desk and at the general library's reference desk. I am also a faculty/library liaison for the English department.

One advantage of working according to functional specialization is that one gains proficiency in what one does. Despite experiencing unusual workloads at times, I prefer the current arrangement of working in both technical and public services. I enjoy working with faculty and students because it provides variety to some of the routine tasks of a technical services department. Helping patrons to access the required information gives me an opportunity to understand their needs. This, in turn, enables me to find ways of improving the service that I give.

For example, as a serials librarian, I am responsible for activating e-journals only. E-books and databases are maintained by reference librarians. As I perform my reference desk duties and help patrons retrieve articles from databases, I have come to appreciate the scope of journals that are available to us. The knowledge that I gain about our databases helps me improve upon the information literacy classes that I teach. In short, working in both technical services and public services is a "win-win" situation for both librarians and patrons.

### **Mary Elizabeth Priebe**

Before I obtained my current position at the University of Baltimore Law Library, I worked in the technical services department at the Harford Community College Library. I worked with serials and had circulation duties that were part of my technical services responsibilities. In addition,

I had reference desk duties and taught information literacy classes. It was a great learning experience for me as a new library professional.

In my current position, one of the challenges that I am faced with includes having to cancel hundreds of titles due to budget cuts. This keeps me busy! There are a lot of steps that need to be taken when cancelling a title, such as contacting the vendor and cancelling in a reasonable amount of time to be cost effective. There is also the issue of the bibliographic record that needs to be cleaned up and closed out. Then the item on the shelf needs to be relabeled appropriately so that the user knows that it is not the most current information available. If we are not keeping the title, the items need to be removed from the shelf and the record needs to be taken out of our ILS, as well as OCLC. Our bindery position has not been able to be filled for a while, so I have had to become creative in making sure that the responsibilities for that position are covered as well.

Everyone in TS, as well as the library, plays a role in ensuring the most current resources are made available to the library's patrons. It is also important that each department within the library is aware and understands the role that each person plays, in order to ensure the best customer service.

### **Conclusion**

In summary, it was agreed that there are no simple answers or solutions to juggling multiple roles within technical services and public services in a library. There are plenty of creative solutions to make it work. Everyone has their own workflows, specific way of promoting limited resources, and methods to offer the best customer service experience possible.

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# World Currency Club at the Friendsville Library in Western Maryland

*Bonnie Winters, Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County*

In a small town nestled along the Youghiogheny River in Western Maryland, the Friendsville Library gives young patrons a look into other cultures through its World Currency Club—a program designed to teach children how to identify and research foreign bank notes.

Michele Liston, branch manager, operates the club on a walk-in basis, with occasional special programs. Children choose from a supply of foreign bank notes and then research them using the appropriate *Standard Catalog of World Paper Money*. They identify the country of origin, catalog number, and denomination, and then pursue more research based on individual interest. Participants are permitted to keep the identified foreign note, along with its archival sleeve and label. And at special programs, Liston offers them additional gifts. For example, at a June event, each participant received a Romanian currency note and a box for collecting and saving bills.

“The program is fun,” said Kiana and Raegan Yutzy, two sisters who frequent the library. And Liston notes that “the children are learning how to use and read the reference books.”

The *Standard Catalogs of World Paper Money* cover specific date ranges and contain a short history and a map for each currency note. The introductory information in every catalog contains a wealth of information, such as indices of banks, countries, denominations, numeric systems, and printer abbreviations.

The World Currency program was initiated by local residents Robert and Jennifer Pletta as a way of offering enrichment opportunities to the community. Owners of the Antiquary in Friendsville, they are supplying the reference books and the world currency notes with the plastic sleeves and labels. “We are pleased with the interest shown in the program,” said Bob. “It works for the librarians because reference books are used. Teachers like it because it serves as a departure point for other studies. And the children become interested in learning more about the person or other images on the currency note.”

Collecting world currency notes and identifying them started ►



△ Young Friendsville patrons Ella Malforo (left) and Andy Lottig (right) display their foreign bank notes.



◁ Michele Liston helps Ella Malforo to identify a Five Gulden note from Suriname.

out as a way for the Plettas to enhance their son's education in reading and writing. A friend gave them some bank notes and from that point, their interest evolved into buying and selling world currency notes.

The Friendsville Library is a branch of the Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County, and plans are underway to offer the currency program in some form at other branches as well. Liston offers some ideas and suggestions for other libraries wishing to initiate such a program:

📖 The Internet or phone books may list coin or currency clubs in your area. Often people who collect coins are also interested in currency. Ask the person if he or she would be interested in helping with or sponsoring a program.

📖 Ask reliable coin/currency club members, students, or senior volunteers to identify the currency and make a master list to check children's answers and to be on hand during the meeting to help students. This activity will take a lot of time to do properly.

📖 Check the Internet for sites selling currency, such as Ebay or Amazon.

📖 Ask a local bank to sponsor the program.

📖 Tie in atlases, world almanacs, and similar resources to trivia questions or research about a country to the currency program. Prizes can be stickers, related items, or an extra piece of currency.

📖 Design the currency program as an ongoing walk-in activity with periodic meetings, or as one that meets annually, monthly, or quarterly.

Invite a class from the local school to participate. Several students can do the currency identification, while the rest of the class can do a craft or other activity.

📖 Follow up the program with an activity about world coins.

For more information about the World Currency Club, contact Michele Liston at 301-746-5663, or email her at [michele@relib.net](mailto:michele@relib.net). ■



*(Top left) Michele Liston gives advice to Kimberly Fortunato as she uses the Standard Catalog of World Paper Money to identify her note. Mom Connie Frazee is looking on.*



*(Center left) Bob and Jennifer Pletta (seated) discuss the program with Kimberly Fortunato and her Mom Connie Frazee.*



*(Bottom left) Michele Liston gives a box for saving bank notes to Kiana (left) and Raegan (right) Yutzy.*

*(Top right) Michele Liston with Kiana (left) and Raegan (right) Yutzy. Kiana is holding a One Kwacha note from Zambia; Raegan is holding a Hundred Gulden note from Suriname.*

**Dr. Tony Phillips**

News flash: You may be closer to interstellar space than you previously thought.

A team of researchers led by Tom Krimigis of the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory announced the finding in the June 2011 issue of *Nature*. The complicated title of their article, “Zero outward flow velocity for plasma in a heliosheath transition layer,” belies a simple conclusion: The solar system appears to be a billion or more kilometers smaller than earlier estimates.

The recalculation is prompted by data from NASA’s Voyager 1 probe, now 18 billion kilometers from Earth. Voyagers 1 and 2 were designed and built and are managed by NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Aging but active, the spacecraft have been traveling toward the stars since 1977 on a heroic mission to leave the solar system and find out what lies beyond.

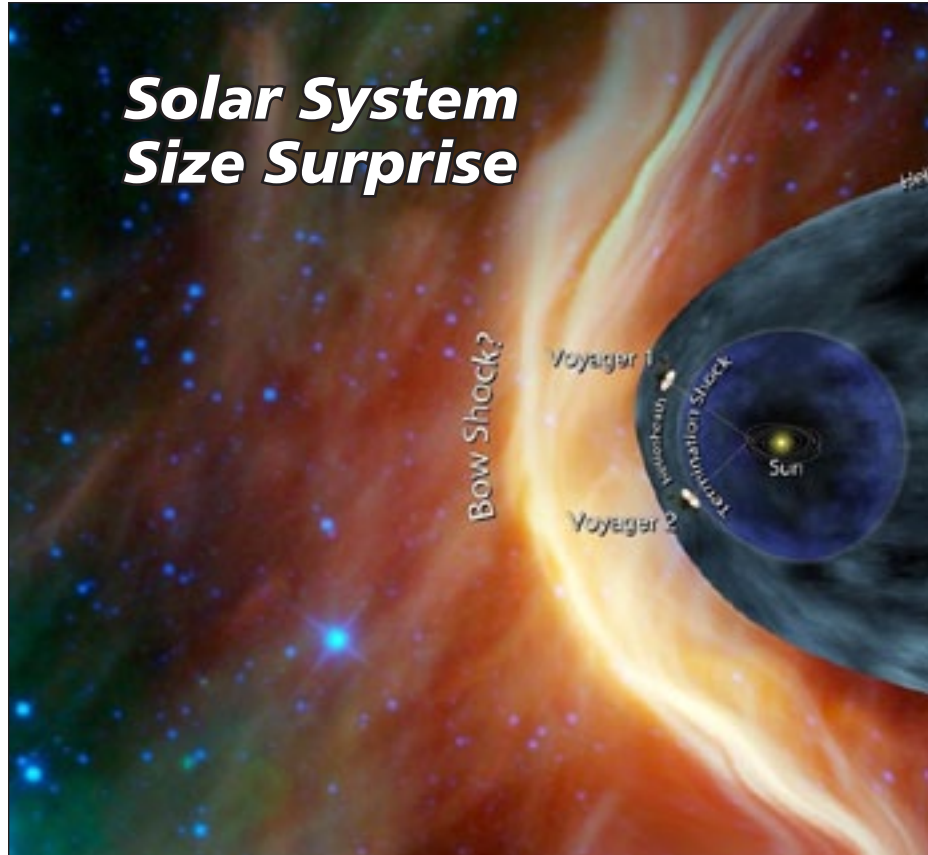
To accomplish their task, the Voyagers must penetrate the outer walls of the heliosphere, a great bubble of plasma and magnetism blown in space by the solar wind. The heliosphere is so big, it contains all the planets, comets, and asteroids that orbit the sun. Indeed many astronomers hold that the heliosphere defines the boundaries of the solar system. Inside it is “home.” Outside lies the Milky Way. For 30+ years, the spacecraft have been hurtling toward the transition zone. Voyager 1 is closing in.

Much of Voyager 1’s long journey has been uneventful. Last year, however, things began to change. In June 2010, Voyager 1 beamed back a startling number: zero. That’s the outward velocity of the solar wind where the probe is now.

“This is the first sign that the frontier is upon us,” says Krimigis.

Previously, researchers thought the crossing was still years and bil-

## Solar System Size Surprise



*This artist's concept shows NASA's two Voyager spacecraft exploring a turbulent region of space known as the heliosheath, the outer shell of the bubble of charged particles around our sun. Image credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech.*

lions of kilometers away, but a new analysis gave them second thoughts. Krimigis and colleagues combined Voyager data with previously unpublished measurements from the Cassini spacecraft. Cassini, on a mission to study Saturn, is nowhere near the edge of the solar system, but one of its instruments can detect atoms streaming into our solar system from the outside. Comparing data from the two locations, the team concluded that the edge of the heliosphere lies somewhere between 16 to 23 billion kilometers from the sun, with a best estimate of approximately 18 billion kilometers.

Because Voyager 1 is already nearly 18 billion kilometers out, it could cross into interstellar space at any time—maybe even as you are reading this article.

“How close are we?” wonders Ed Stone, Caltech professor and principal investigator of the Voyager project since the beginning. “We don’t know, but Voyager 1 speeds outward a billion miles every three years, so we may not have long to wait.”

Stay tuned for the crossing.

For more about the missions of Voyager 1 and 2, see <http://voyager.jpl.nasa.gov/>. Another Voyager project scientist, Merav Opher, is the guest on the newest *Space Place Live* cartoon interview show for kids at <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/space-place-live>. ■

*This article was provided by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, under a contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Editor's Note: MLA is a NASA Space Place Partner; as a partner, MLA has access to this article for its newsletter.*

## Researchers at Maryland's iSchool Awarded IMLS Grant to Fund Study of School District Library Supervisors

*Mary Carroll-Mason, University of Maryland, College of Information Studies*

Ann Carlson Weeks, associate dean and professor of the practice at the University of Maryland's College of Information Studies, Maryland's iSchool, is the recipient of a research award from the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The \$497,006 award will sponsor a study on the demographics and skills of school district library supervisors.

Weeks will lead a team of researchers, which includes iSchool doctoral student Jeff DiScala, iSchool alumna and lecturer Sheri Massey, and Special Assistant to the Dean Diane Barlow, in the first extensive study of school district library supervisors since the 1960s. This study will explore the current roles and responsibilities of the individuals responsible for coordinating library and information services in the 100 largest school districts and in 100 mid-sized school districts in the United States. At least one school district in every state will be included in the study.

"School library supervisors often feel isolated; they have little information available about challenges facing library programs in other districts and effective strategies to address these challenges. This research is designed to collect and share baseline data—a critical step in analyzing the role of the supervisor in creating effective library and information services in our educational system," Weeks says. In addition to collecting and analyzing information about responsibilities, staffing, and various types of support they provide to school libraries, the project will also build an online community for supervisors. This online community will provide supervisors with an effective way to collect information and share best practices with colleagues throughout the nation.

"We want to create a vibrant, active online community that

gives a sounding board to the unique needs of library supervisors," says Weeks. "By creating a platform where information and best practices can be readily disseminated, I hope that this study will be the beginning of a long-term exploration of the contributions of library supervisors to their school districts."

IMLS is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. IMLS works at the national level and in coordination with state and local organizations to sustain heritage, culture, and knowledge; enhance learning and innovation; and support professional development. To learn more about the IMLS, please visit [www.imls.gov](http://www.imls.gov).

## University of Maryland's iSchool Welcomes New Faculty

*Mary Carroll-Mason, University of Maryland, College of Information Studies*

### Erik Mitchell Joins iSchool

The College of Information Studies at the University of Maryland, Maryland's iSchool, is pleased to welcome Erik Mitchell. Mitchell, who received his doctorate in 2009 from the School of Information and Library Science at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, will join the iSchool faculty as an assistant professor and senior research fellow with the Information Policy and Access Center (IPAC).

Mitchell's research focuses on the role of digital information systems and structured data on learning and knowledge creation. In his dissertation, Mitchell studied the use of metadata by undergraduates in social and distributed computing systems. His current research examines the use of cloud computing by libraries. Additionally, Mitchell is working on a project with co-investigators Jeffery Loo and Susan Rathbun-Grubb on PhD librarians in professional practice. He has also been a contributor to the DigitalForsyth project, an online collection of historical photos of Forsyth County, North Carolina, funded by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). This project is a collaborative effort between the Forsyth

County Public Library, Old Salem Museum and Gardens, Winston-Salem State University's C.G. O'Kelly Library, and Wake Forest University's Z. Smith Reynolds and Coy C. Carpenter Medical Libraries.

Mitchell comes to Maryland from Wake Forest University where he has been Assistant Director for Technology Services of the Z. Smith Reynolds Library since 2008 and on the library's staff since 1999. "I've had a great career as a librarian," he says, "But, I am excited to have the opportunity to work with students and concentrate on research again, especially in an environment as vibrant as Maryland. I am looking forward to being part of an excellent faculty and working with such a diverse student population."

In addition to his PhD, Mitchell has a BA in Literature from Lenoir-Rhyne College and a Master of Library Science degree from the University of South Carolina. He will be teaching a variety of courses to iSchool students, including Organization of Information.

### **iSchool Welcomes Sheri Massey**

The University of Maryland's College of Information Studies has appointed Sheri Massey as lecturer. Massey will be teaching courses in school library media, related to school library administration, collection management and technology integration.

Massey has an extensive track record in conducting research on school library media and digital libraries. In addition to her teaching, Massey will be working on an IMLS-funded project led by iSchool Associate Dean Ann Carlson Weeks on the demographics and skills of school district library supervisors. Her dissertation focused on the ways expert school library media specialists use digital libraries.

Massey comes to the iSchool after two years as a school library media specialist with Montgomery County Public Schools at New Hampshire Estates Elementary School in Silver Spring, Maryland. She has also served as an adjunct instructor. "I will miss working with young children," she says. "But I am looking forward to sharing my knowledge and learning from my students who are working on the ground in the schools, as well as continuing research that provides additional insight and resources to the profession."

Massey earned her Ph.D. in Information Studies and her Master of Library Science degree from the University of Maryland, as well as a bachelor's degree in elementary education from the University of Pittsburgh.

### **Katie Shilton to Join Faculty at Maryland's iSchool**

The University of Maryland's iSchool also welcomes Katie Shilton to

its faculty. She is an assistant professor and senior research fellow with the Information Policy and Access Center (IPAC). Shilton is a 2011 Ph.D. graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

Shilton's research examines the social and ethical implications of emerging technologies. For her dissertation, Shilton worked with UCLA's Center for Embedded Network Sensing (CENS), analyzing how to incorporate social values into the design process of mobile apps. Her current research examines the same sorts of information policy issues in the realm of network architecture for the Internet. "Programmers, computer scientists and others involved with developing new technologies have a huge influence on how the new technology ultimately impacts society," she says. "My research looks for ways to incorporate social values on matters such as information security and privacy of personal data from the very beginning of the design process, rather than trying to impose them later."

As a graduate student, Shilton was a co-recipient of two National Science Foundation (NSF) grants. For one of those grants, Shilton is working with UCLA film professor Jeff Burke on a series of web videos presenting how ethics have spurred scientific and technological innovation in fields such as genetics and open-source software.

Shilton has a BA in history and German studies from Oberlin College. In addition to her PhD, she has a Master of Library Science with a focus in archival studies from UCLA. She will be teaching courses related to information policy and archives.

### **Noted U.S. Archivist Joins iSchool Faculty**

A senior United States government archivist noted for assuring digital access to hundreds of millions of records that document the American experience has joined Maryland's iSchool.

Michael Kurtz, who retired in March as assistant archivist for records services at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is beginning this fall as a full-time visiting professor in the school's archives, records and information management specialization, part of the master of library science program.

"We are exceptionally pleased to have Michael at the university, particularly the iSchool, where students and faculty will benefit from his immense knowledge of preserving, archiving and managing some of the nation's most important documents and artifacts," says iSchool Dean Jennifer Preece.

In addition to research and teaching, Kurtz will continue to build ►

relationships between the iSchool and nearby federal agencies involved with information management, storage, retrieval and analysis, Preece says.

Kurtz's 37-year career at NARA was marked by his advocacy for providing timely access to government information. He successfully balanced the need for transparency with the protocols required for maintaining national security, while also ensuring that vital records were properly preserved for generations to come.

He led major initiatives to: create and establish the National Declassification Center at NARA as a key component of President Obama's Openness and Transparency Agenda; implement the 2002 E-Government Act by chairing the E-Records Policy Working Group and establishing the Federal Records Council; and declassify and release eight million pages documenting U.S. government involvement with war criminals as chair of the Interagency Working Group on Nazi and Imperial Japanese War Crimes.

Kurtz previously taught courses at Maryland as an adjunct, sharing with graduate students his expertise as a senior manager at a major information repository.

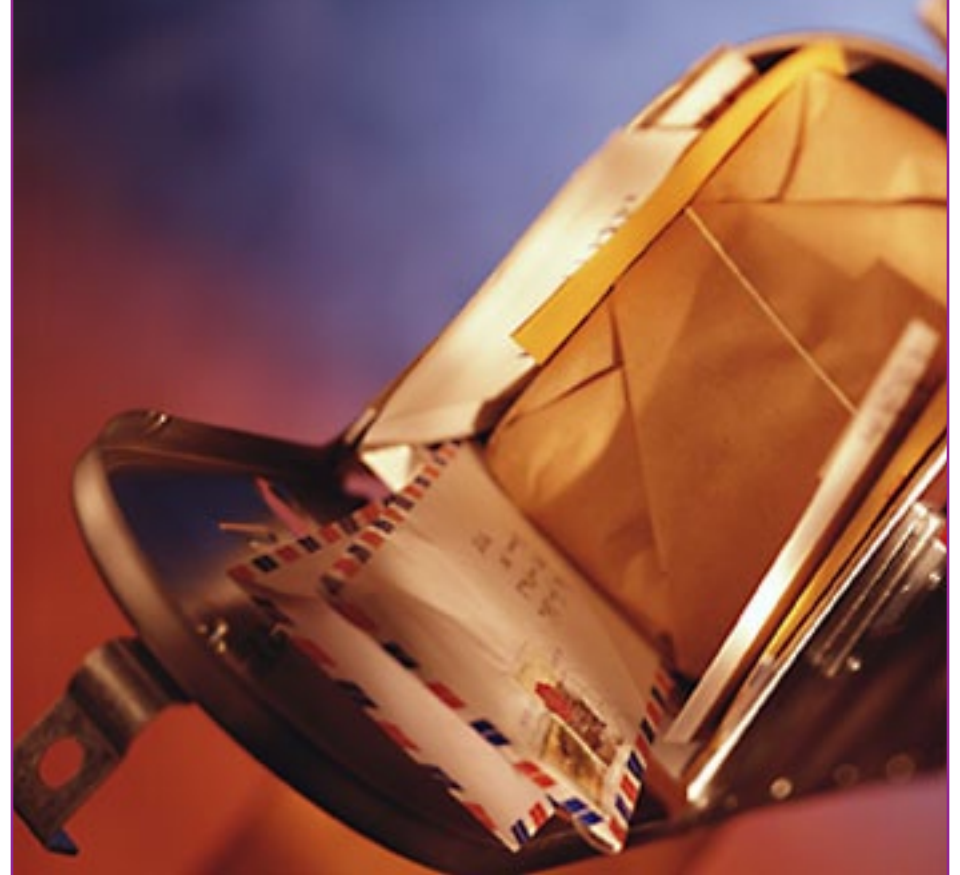
He received his doctorate in European history from Georgetown University, and has authored several publications in the areas of archival management, the American Civil War and World War II.

### About Maryland's iSchool

The College of Information Studies, Maryland's iSchool, empowers people, organizations and society to use information effectively through its research and undergraduate, graduate and professional programs. Maryland's iSchool enables students and faculty to create new ways for people to connect with information that will transform society and is ideally located in the information capital of the world—the Washington DC metro region. The iSchool is transforming itself as well, from a small college with a strong foundation in library and information studies programs to a fast-growing and groundbreaking center of expertise that will help people manage the information explosion from childhood to adulthood.

For more information, visit [www.ischool.umd.edu](http://www.ischool.umd.edu). ■

## Send us People!



Well, perhaps not literally, but *notes on people*. New staff, departing; inaugurators, followers-through; legends, stories and facts; the library people who make things happen.

We hope everyone likes to read about their fellow innovators and we hope you'll enjoy and contribute to our new People section!

# 2011 ALA Annual Chapter Councilor's Report



## *Kay Bowman, past ALA Chapter Councilor*

The American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference took place in New Orleans, Louisiana on June 23-28, 2011. It made many of us recall our last conference there, not long after Hurricane Katrina. It was nice to be back and see the City thriving once again.

This is my last column as ALA Chapter Councilor. My three year term ended at this year's ALA Annual Conference. It has been a pleasure to be your representative on Council and I learned a great deal from the experience. Here are some highlights from our Council sessions:

## ALA Council I

Council approved slates of candidates for Committee on Committees, Planning & Budget Assembly, Councilors at Large and Chapter Councilors. The Chapter Councilors approved were Cynthia Czesak, Suzanne Goodman, Alexis Hudson, Sara Jones, Terri Kirk and Sue Sherif.

## ALA Council II

ALA's Strategic Plan 2011-2015 Seven Key Action Areas (approved annually since 1997): Advocacy for Libraries and the Profession, Diversity, Education and Lifelong Learning, Equitable

Access to Information and Library Services, Intellectual Freedom, Literacy, Organizational Excellence and Transforming Libraries.

## ALA Council III

Two important Resolutions were adopted at Council III. The first was "A resolution to Protect Library User Confidentiality in Self-Service Hold Practices," which read:

"That the American Library Association (ALA):

"Urges all libraries that implement self-service holds to protect patron identity by adopting practices and procedures that conceal the library user's personally identifiable information in connection with the materials being borrowed.

"Urges libraries, librarians, and the responsible bodies of ALA to work with vendors to incorporate applications into integrated library systems that enable libraries to conceal a library user's identity in a cost-effective manner."

And the second was "A Resolution to Continue Opposition to the Use of Section 215 of the USA PATRIOT Act and the Use of National Security Letters to Violate Reader Privacy," which read:

"The American Library Association (ALA):  
"Continues to support reforms that protect reader privacy and civil liberties, especially the freedom to read with fear of government surveillance.

"Urges Library Directors, Trustees, School Board members and supervising government bodies to ensure that libraries, of all types, dedicate the proper funding to insure that comprehensive Out of School library programs for all children and teens are maintained." ■

# Maryland Crab Soup...

## This Issue: Website, Reviewers and Blog

### New Website and Blog for the Maryland Chapter of SLA

The Maryland Chapter of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) launched a new website and blog on September 1. SLA upgraded both to the WordPress platform as part of the "Operation Vitality" project. This project provides a stable and modern website hosting service, as well as a common look and feel to all chapters, divisions, and caucuses.

The new website and blog are available at <http://maryland.sla.org>.

### Library Journal Needs Reference Reviewers!

In the ragtag world of tweets and blogs, you can speak your mind, but vetted and read by whom? Try 250-300 words in a respected professional journal. *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal* need writers to cover reference in all areas. Our reviewers are volunteers who get to keep the reference sets they write about. Contact Reference Editor Henrietta Thornton at [hthornton@mediasourceinc.com](mailto:hthornton@mediasourceinc.com).

### Words from the Executive Board Donna Seibly, Secretary, Maryland Library Association (MLA)

The Executive Board of MLA met on July 20, 2011, with words of welcome from Lucy Holman, MLA's new president. Board members, some brand new and some returning board members, introduced themselves. The board members then reviewed the budget for fiscal year 2012, listened to reports from officers and the executive director, and shared their division or committee work so far this year. Divisions, panels, and committees are already hard at work holding meetings, planning programs, and preparing for the 2012 conference. New business included discussion of better ways to encourage library participation in the 2012 Snapshot Day, sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA).

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**Maryland Chapter** Representing Maryland information professionals in diverse organizations.

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#### Crab Editors

*Annette Haldeman*; Editor

Maryland Department of Legislative Services;  
410-946-5400

*Erin Dingle*; Copy Editor

Frederick County Public Library, 301-600-7201

*Alexa Leinaweaver*; Copy Editor

Prince George's County Memorial Library  
301-868-9200

*Dana Newman*; Crab Soup Editor

Anne Arundel County Public Library  
410-222-7371

#### Art Director and production staff

*Bucky Edgett*; Lucky Productions,

Westminster MD 21158; 410-346-6925; [luckypro.biz](http://luckypro.biz)

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1401 Hollins Street; Baltimore MD 21223

Voice: 410-947-5090; Fax: 410-947-5089

[mla@mdlib.org](mailto:mla@mdlib.org)

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