ACRL/DVC Fall Program

Globetrotting Librarians: Exploring International Librarianship

November 9, 2012

Penn State Great Valley Campus 30 East Swedesford Road Malvern, PA 19355



9:30 Registration and Refreshments

10:00 Welcome Rachel McMullin President, ACRL/DVC

10:10 Academic Librarianship in the United Arab Emirates: A Potpourri of Challenges and Opportunities

The culture and resources of the Southern coast of the Arabian Gulf are unique. Some of the greatest challenges of running a library and promoting information literacy are common in other parts of the world but not in the U.S. Others occur in the U.S. but on a smaller scale. It can be difficult to grasp the extent of some challenges without experiencing them first-hand. The presentation will briefly describe issues confronted at Zayed University in Abu Dhabi such as copyright law, free speech, cultural differences and language.

Joanna Tillson Zayed University Abu Dhabi

10:40 Reinforcing Roots: Establishing a Branch Library in Stockholm

The Swedenborg Library of Bryn Athyn College has the distinction of being the main repository of materials by and about the 18th century mystic and scientist Emanuel Swedenborg and about the Church of the New Jerusalem. In 2007, the Stockholm Society of the General Church of the New Jerusalem, which holds a sizeable collection of Swedenborg's writings and New Church works, contacted the Swedenborg Library in Bryn Athyn, requesting to be accepted as a branch library. Thus, a long-distance, long-term collaboration began to create a branch of the Swedenborg Library in Swedenborg's homeland.

Carroll Odhner & Carol Traveny Bryn Athyn College

11:10 Short Break

11:30 Intensive English Study and Library Instruction: How Librarians Help Improve Academic Literacy Skills of ESL Students

Many of the international students we encounter have yet to fully grasp English language proficiency upon enrollment in our institutions. The barriers that language presents prevent international students from acquiring the fundamentals of academic literacy. This presentation will provide insight into how collaboration between Intensive English (IE) or ESL instructors and academic librarians can improve students' academic literacy. Incorporating library instruction into the curriculum not only aids in increased academic English proficiency, but sets the foundation for basic research skills needed to navigate a new academic culture and laying a path to academic success.

Andrea R. Malone University of Houston

12:00 VuFind and International Library-Initiated Open Source Software Development

Demian Katz Villanova University

VuFind is an open source software project which provides a modern, user-friendly search interface for library resources. Although initiated locally at Villanova University, the project was rapidly adopted by other libraries throughout the world, and contributions from these libraries helped fuel the continued growth and improvement of the software. Interest was so strong that Villanova has successfully hosted international VuFind conferences in 2010 and 2012. This presentation will examine how the world of open source software development deals with international collaboration and how this can apply to library projects, software-oriented or otherwise. Specific costs and benefits of internationalization will be discussed, and some specific examples of how international contributions helped shape VuFind development will be shared.

12:30 IFLA's Academic Activities with Global Librarianship

Stephen Marvin West Chester University

IFLA, with five divisions and 43 sections, operates on a truly international scope with the broadest variety of library types - parliaments, academic, public, law, school, archives, art, music, etc. Stephen Marvin will share experience as the Secretary for the Academic and Research Libraries Section of IFLA with meetings in Norway, South Africa, Korea, Quebec and Italy. He has facilitated a pre-satellite IFLA conference, known as the World Library Information Conference, in Guatemala.

1:00 Lunch and Annual Business Meeting

1:45 Integrating the Library into the Global University

Arcadia University prides itself on being a truly global university. We have a growing international student population, a celebrated study abroad program, and Arcadia is also home to The College of Global Studies (TCGS), a national leader in education abroad experiences which coordinates study abroad opportunities for Arcadia students and students from other universities. To conduct outreach to such a diverse group of programs and offices, Arcadia's Landman Library extended its traditional departmental liaison program, assigning one librarian as liaison to the Office of International Affairs, and another librarian as liaison to TCGS. Recognizing that each constituency has a unique variety of academic and social needs, these two librarians have worked together and with their respective campus offices to integrate the library into those programs in ways that met the diverse needs of each constituency.

Larissa Gordon & Michelle Reale Arcadia University

2:15 "I Read; I Travel; I Become": Reflections on Delivering Library Services to a Community at Sea.

Erin Stalberg Mount Holyoke College

Established in 1963, Semester at Sea (http://www.semesteratsea.org) is a global education program using a ship as its traveling campus. Undergraduates, lifelong learners, faculty, and lecturers live and learn together while circumnavigating the globe. Academic credit is granted by the University of Virginia. In spring 2007, Stalberg sailed as the Librarian for Semester at Sea and she will share her experiences supporting SAS & UVA's academic mission by providing ARL-quality library services in the middle of the ocean.