



The Progressive Librarian Bulletin

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New PLG Discussion List

Be sure to sign up for the new PLG discussion list! A new listserv was created because our old one was discontinued by the host, San Jose State University. If you haven't already, you can sign up for the new listserv here: <http://lists.sonic.net/mailman/listinfo/progressivelibrariansguild>

New PLG Chapter in New York City

We write to you today to announce that we, a group of students and faculty of Pratt Institute's School of Information and Library Science (SILS) in New York City, have formed a new chapter of the Progressive Librarians Guild.

It is our desire to uphold the values set forth in the PLG's Statement of Purpose, to seek ways to further critical awareness of current issues in the field of librarianship, and we recognize that politics are part of this process. We are not a neutral organization. We are eager to use libraries as structures to foster empowerment, democracy, and social justice in our communities by making them free and public domains, reliable sources of information materials, promoters of information empowerment, and horizontally structured workplaces. Methods for doing this may include:

- Volunteering to meet specific goals at local libraries and beyond
- Creating an online presence
- Developing radical collections
- Hosting inclusionary and critical discussions for LIS students and professionals to call into question current LIS practices and power structures

We aim to envision, promote, and facilitate change in the LIS field. To further these goals, we are also looking to coordinate with other PLG chapters. If you have any questions, our chapter can be reached via email at plg@prattsils.org. For more information on our chapter, visit our website, which can be found here: <http://plg.prattsils.org/>.

We look forward to hearing from you.

International Journal of Engineering, Social Justice and Peace

Martin Wallace, Science & Engineering Librarian and PLG Member at the University of Maine, is proud to announce publication of the second issue of the International Journal of Engineering, Social Justice and Peace (IJESJP - <http://library.queensu.ca/ojs/index.php/IJESJP/index>). The Engineering, Social Justice, and Peace Network is addressing the real "Grand Challenges" for the engineering profession, problems that are too often overlooked, under-valued and marginalized in the mad pursuit of technological advancement and profits. Martin is copy-editor of the journal, taking the rough manuscripts and molding them into publishable form. Please consider adding this new, Open Access title to your library catalogs, and sharing with your colleagues in engineering programs at colleges and universities.

This is the first scholarly, peer-reviewed journal of its kind. The focus of the journal is copied below, but for a better understanding of what the journal is about, please read the Editors' Introduction from issue #1, here: <http://library.queensu.ca/ojs/index.php/IJESJP/article/view/4310>

Focus of the Journal: The International Journal of Engineering, Social Justice, and Peace is dedicated to the theory and practice of engineering that extends social justice and peace in the world. Our approach works toward engineering practices that enhance gender, racial, class, and cultural equity and are democratic, non-oppressive, and non-violent. The journal serves practicing engineers, engineering educators, and a general audience that seeks to better understand the progressive potential of engineering. The journal is peer reviewed, and the peer-review process is designed accommodate scholars as well as engineering practitioners and other interested parties. Scope IJESJP examines the relationships between engineering practices and their local contexts and promotes community empowerment through engineering problem solving, broadly conceived. The journal's purview includes scholarship and critical reflection on the following themes:

- 1) Alternative practices and conceptual frameworks of engineering that contribute to community empowerment, especially as related to the way engineering is organized and managed and what it is that engineers do and who it is they do it for;
- 2) Mainstream practices and conceptual frameworks of engineering that work at cross purposes to social justice and peace, including the relationship between engineering and dominant economic, government, and cultural institutions;
- 3) The relationship between engineering and the publics it serves, including needs assessments, engineer-community engagements, public dialogue surrounding engineering work, and engineers' roles in technology policy making;
- 4) Engineering education strategies aimed at promoting social justice and/or peace, including matters of pedagogy, curricula design, and academic values and institutions.

Libraries Are Such a Drag!

A new library calendar created by some of Atlanta's best and brightest just came out called Libraries Are Such a Drag! All proceeds are donated to the Georgia Library Association, Beard Scholarship. The link is below if you want to check out the calendar or pass it along.

<http://www.facebook.com/LibrariesAreSuchADrag>

PLG Meeting at ALA Mid-Winter

The PLG will meet in Sheraton Seattle - Willow on Saturday, January 26 at 4:30 p.m.

The focus question for discussion will be: "What does it mean to be a progressive librarian in this time of economic decline and environmental crisis? What is our task and responsibility as individuals and as an organization?" More details to follow in the December Bulletin.

Remember, the Bulletin needs updates from the PLG membership so we can spread the word about all of the good work that we are collectively doing!

Got an update? Send it to
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