



# The Progressive Librarian Bulletin

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October, 2012

## Library Schools & the Future of Librarianship

Samuel Trosow, Associate Professor at the University of Western Ontario, and Joanna Kerr, a recent graduate of UWO's MLIS program, spoke at the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT) Librarians Conference in Ottawa on October 27. They raised the issues of the power of student action, highlighting recent campaigns of PLG's London chapter, and contrasted the differences between Information Schools and Library Schools. Discussions with the nearly 100 participants ranged from the lack of diversity among library school students, the role of information workers in supporting student action, and the importance of not isolating theoretical curriculum from practical: that an integration is possible.

The ideas presented at the conference and discussions with fellow participants offered inspiring thoughts and actions to build on current PLG campaigns.

The CAUT will be posting audio recordings of selected presentations from the conference on their website: check for them at [www.caut.ca](http://www.caut.ca).

To submit information to the bulletin, please send an email to Braden Cannon (PLG Edmonton and Coordinating Committee member) at:

**bradenkannon  
@gmail.com**

## Who Has Made a Difference in Librarianship to Today's Librarians?

Results of a 4-day discussion in October 2012.—compiled by Kathleen de la Peña McCook, PLG member. October 29, 2012.

I am preparing to teach a course in library history and reviewed all the major historical surveys including a new Scarecrow Press book: Valentine, Patrick M. *A Social History of Books and Libraries from Cuneiform to Bytes*. Lanham: The Scarecrow Press, Inc, 2012.

I was struck by the fact that even after decades of protesting the male majority voice that the male majority voice dominates in the historical narrative. So I tried the experiment of sending out a request on the Progressive Librarian Guild and StanleyK discussion lists asking for input on October 24-29, 2012.

The result from librarians is a list that was split nearly even between men and women and included many people of color. I know the parameters were vague, but it seems to me that the results are a basis for thinking about the structure of meaning and values in 21<sup>st</sup> century librarianship. (*ed.: the results are on the following page*)

*(continued from page 1)*

Post on October 24, 2012

Advice....

I'm readying a new course and want to do a class on "Librarians Who Made a Difference." Suggestions?

Suggestions made by members of the "Progressive Librarians Guild discussion list and the Stanley K discussion list.

Ismail Abdullahi; Augusta Baker; Sandra Ríos Balderrama; Pura Belpré; Sanford Berman; John N. Berry III; Arna Wyndell Bontemps; Miriam Braverman; Clara Estelle Breed; Doris Alexander "Dee" Brown; Ruth W. Brown; Mary Lee Bundy; Jean E. Coleman; Clara Chu; Connecticut Four [George Christian, Peter Chase, Barbara Bailey and Janet Nocek]; Cuban librarians [Marta Terry, Eliades Acosta, Tomas Fernández Robaina, Rebeca Brull], Margaret D'Adamo; Jim Danky; Alma Dawson; Hal Draper; Shiraz Durrani; Saad Eskander; Barbara Gittings; John W. Ellison; Maurice J. "Mitch" Freedman; Jennie Maas Flexner; Barbara Ford; Jeannette Howard Foster; Edmund and Ruth Frow; Barbara Gittings, Eliza Atkins Gleason; Archie Green; Suzanne Hildenbrand; Zoia Horn; Agnes Inglis; Sidney Jackson; St. Jerome (342-420), patron saint of librarians; Clara Stanton Jones; E. J. Josey; Gretchen Knief; Dita Kraus; Judith Krug; Stanley Kunitz; Ladies of the many Ladies Library Associations; Ann Lipow; George W. Loveland; Helen Lyman; Elizabeth Martinez; Margaret E. Monroe; Eric Moon; Maud Malone; Helen Marot; William (Bill) Miles; Occupy Wall Street Librarians; Satia Orange; Maureen O'Reilly; Antonio Panizzi; Lorna Peterson; members of the Progressive Librarians Guild [esp. founders: Elaine Harger, Mark Rosenzweig]; members of Radical Reference; Dudley Randall; Sirkali Ramamrita Ranganathan; Rhea Rubin; Marvin Scilken; Ralph Shaw; Anita Schiller; Jesse Shera; Glennor Shirley; Ann Allen Shockley; Henrietta M. Smith; Ann Spanese; Lutie Stearns; Nettie Taylor; Arnulfo D. Trejo; members of the Social Responsibilities Round Table of ALA; Toni Samek; Yongyi Song; Fred Stoss; Kathleen Weibel; James C. Welbourne; Celeste West; Ken Yamashita; and members of ALA Ethnic Caucuses: AILA, APALA, CALA, BCALA, REFORMA

Influential others: Julian Assange; Eva Golinger; Stanley Kunitz; Frederick Leypol; Arthur Schomburg

Suggestors: Gerardo "Gary" Colmenar, Lincoln Cushing, Chuck D. Adamo, Isabel Espinal, Jenna Freedman, Lia Friedman, Anita Galanopoulos, Andrea Gallucci, Andrea Grimes, Mark Hudson, Faith Jones, Seth Kershner, Joyce M. Latham, Rory Litwin, Rebecca Martin, Kathleen de la Peña McCook, Lisa McCracken, Peter McDonald, Kelly McElroy, Adam Mizelle, Vanessa Morris, Rhonda L Neugebauer, Melissa Riley, Laurie Spurling; Martin Wallace, Karen Weaver

Progressive Librarians Guild discussion list: <http://lists.sjsu.edu/mailman/listinfo/plgnet-l>

StanleyK discussion list: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/StanleyK/> for those who interested in issues relating to the education of librarians

## Saint Catherine's University PLG Update

There have been two major projects for the SCU PLG this October. One on-going project has been our building of Little Free Libraries (LFLs) for the campus. Members gathered on multiple days to cut, sand, drill, screw and stain our very own structures. We ended up finishing two LFLs this fall, with materials ready to build more in the future. We are finishing the final touches on the two and hope to have them up on campus in the upcoming weeks, or Spring 2013 at the latest. The LFLs will benefit not only the students, but the St. Kate's community: students, faculty, staff, neighbors, and campus visitors.

On October 22nd, during Open Access Week, the SCU PLG hosted an evening Open Access event on campus. The event featured three panelists, all librarians from three local colleges:

Emily Asch - Head of Technical Services at the St. Kate's Library;

Johan Oberg - Librarian of Digital Scholarship and Services at the DeWitt Wallace Library of Macalester College;

Tom Eland - Library Faculty at the MCTC Library

The Panelists presented on the crisis in scholarly publishing; what exactly Open Access is; how it affects librarians, faculty, and students alike; and what can be done.

Panelist presentations were followed by a Q and A with the audience, which included area students, faculty, and interested parties.

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  
**bradenkcannon@gmail.com**

## Edmonton PLG Hosts Second Annual Symposium, *Organize & Assemble II*



Edmonton PLG members and symposium attendees mingle between sessions at Organize & Assemble II.

On October 20, the Edmonton PLG hosted its second annual symposium, Organize & Assemble II. The theme of this year's edition was fighting austerity in the information sector and featured presenters and panelists speaking on a range of issues, including organizing archivists to oppose funding cuts in Canada, working within professional associations to pass statements, analysis of the use of the word "innovation" in libraries, and the undermining of information workers via use of digital volunteers. The symposium was well-attended and speakers included Prof. Toni Samek of the University of Alberta and in-coming president of the Canadian Library Association, Pilar Martinez. Full proceedings of the symposium will be made available in the *Progressive Librarian* shortly.