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Rhode Island Library Association

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6-1986

## Bulletin of the Rhode Island Library Association v. 59, no. 6

RILA

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### Recommended Citation

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# Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin

Volume No. 59 No. 6

ISSN: 0146-8685

June 1986

## **Support the URI GSLIS Today**

*by Bruce E. Daniels, Deputy Director, DSLS*

As you probably know, the American Library Association withdrew its accreditation of the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Rhode Island. The University's Administration has not yet decided what course of action it will take.

We are very concerned that the University Administration will choose to close the Graduate School or to delay seeking reaccreditation. I am sure that all of you know the devastating effect that this would have on library services in Rhode Island for years to come. The University Administration needs to hear from the library community and its supporters.

We urge you to write to President Eddy (with a copy of the letter to Vice-President Ferrante) urging him to do three things:

1. Make a decision to seek accreditation for the Graduate School
2. Provide the Graduate School with the support it needs to obtain reaccreditation
3. Make a decision as soon as possible

It is important for the University to make its decision as soon as possible because the Graduate School needs to notify the American Library Association by November of its intent to seek reaccreditation. If the Graduate School is not able to make known its intent to seek reaccreditation by November, there will be students graduating in 1988 with

unaccredited degrees, and the accreditation process will lose at least one year. This will obviously affect enrollment and faculty recruitment.

President Eddy's and Vice-President Ferrante's addresses are as follows:

Dr. Edward D. Eddy, President  
University of Rhode Island  
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

Dr. William R. Ferrante  
Vice-President for Academic Affairs  
University of Rhode Island  
Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

Following is a list of reasons why we believe the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies is important to Rhode Island and why the University Administration should seek reaccreditation for the Graduate School. You may have other reasons to add to the list. It may be useful to incorporate some of them into your letter.

### **REASONS WHY UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND SHOULD SEEK REACCREDITATION FOR THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES**

- Rhode Island libraries depend upon URI for educating future library staff members (over 90% of the librarians in Rhode Island libraries received their graduate degrees from URI).



- Rhode Island librarians look to the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies for professional development through continuing education activities.
- Rhode Island public libraries are experiencing a shortage of librarians, particularly children's librarians. It is projected that in the near future school and academic libraries will also be experiencing significant shortages.
- Without a pool of qualified librarians from which to choose, libraries will not be able to maintain quality library services.
- Rhode Island libraries look to the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies to

undertake research for use in planning services for the future.

- As a result of an agreement with the New England Board of Higher Education, other New England public institutions of higher education depend upon the University of Rhode Island to provide a graduate program in library and information science.
- The Graduate School of Library and Information Studies' Regional program is a New England-wide resource, enabling people from the other five states to earn their degrees at URI by taking some of their coursework at other campuses.

### A SMALL RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY WITH WORLD-WIDE PATRONAGE by Patricia Watkins, ICMRD Library

Located in a corner of the University of Rhode Island's main library is a small, but unique, collection of journals, monographs, documents, and reprints from all over the world. It is the International Center for Marine Resources Development Library. The library was founded in 1971, and it is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (AID). The library provides services to AID fisheries projects in developing countries throughout the world. Mary Jane Beardsley, this year's president of the International Association of Marine Science Librarians and Information Centers (AMSILIC), has been the Director since 1981.

The original emphasis of the collection was on artisan fishing in developing countries. The documents cover issues which affect small fishermen such as the socio-cultural aspects of fishing communities, fishing vessels (from canoes to trawlers), fishing gear and methods (did you know that some Papua-New Guinea fishermen use flying kites for fishing?), preserving catch (for instance, building an oven out of two old oil drums), and marketing the catch. The purpose of this aspect of the Library's service is to provide information in a form that almost anyone can understand and put to practical use.

Over the years, the Library has progressively widened its scope in order to fill other obligations. A major obligation is to provide informational support to the URI faculty-specialists associated and involved with the

diverse AID-funded project contracts awarded to the Center. Most recently, the Library has been concentrating its attention on obtaining materials relevant to the management of coastal zones in selected tropical areas of the developing world. As a result, the collection now also includes subjects touching on almost every aspect of coastal management issues such as erosion control, coral reefs, pollution, mangrove swamps, upwelling, fish and shrimp culture--even crocodile culture! Today this specialized collection consists of approximately 14,000 items.

The library assists visitors from developing countries all over the world with research materials, and the library staff offers training to visiting librarians from these countries in fishery information resources, management, and networking.

Since the library serves an international patronage, an important form of reference is correspondence. In answering the written requests for information from AID missions and other individuals and institutions in the developing countries, the Library provides, among other things, custom-made bibliographies. All material listed in the bibliography can be found in the library. The requests received are usually very specific in nature, and the time involved in repeated manual typing of custom bibliographies can be excessively time-consuming.

In 1983, therefore, the library began to consider the use of a micro-computer. A



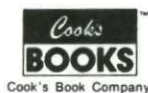
program had to be developed that would allow for Boolean searching, manipulating, and printing search results. At some future date the library hoped to send bibliographies on disk--in the form of mini databases--to individuals and institutions in developing countries who might not have access to sophisticated mainframes, but who might have a compatible micro-computer. I joined the Library staff in November, 1984 to begin developing this database.

The problems were many, but the Library has recently begun to produce custom bibliographies of its holdings to satisfy even the most specific requests. Hopefully, the entire collection will be on this micro-computer database within two years--an accomplishment that will significantly enhance the Library's contribution to the development of third world marine information resources.

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An ad in the New York Times announced that Sullivan County Community College was in the market for a cereals librarian.

Somebody who's a little corny and a little flaky, we suppose.

## RILA EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board met April 22, 2PM at the Brown University Rockefeller Library.

The RILA Task Force on Pay Equity, chaired by Beverly Lambert, wrote an Editorial to the Providence Journal supporting Comparable Worth/Pay Equity for Rhode Island State Employees.

A hearing attended by at least a dozen Rhode Island librarians was held on the Library Amendment to the Rhode Island Constitution. The amendment has been tabled for the moment. Bruce Daniels, Anne Parent, Roberta Cairns, and Carol DiPrete met to discuss getting the amendment off the table and passed. A compromise statement is being developed.

Carol DiPrete and Bruce Daniels attended Legislative Day in Washington, DC. Carol stated that Senator Pell is very interested in supporting the URI GSLIS. She suggested that we add the four Rhode Island Congressional Leaders to our mailing list. Linda Walton, Publications Chair, will see to it that this is done.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Library Services has developed a list of possible contributors for funding the library study.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Library Lending held their first meeting on April 7, 1986. Although no decisions were made, a lively two hour debate concerning lending was held.

The Louisiana Library Association has requested a copy of our policy manual. Connie Lachowicz will send them a copy as soon as possible.

Our \$25 membership dues to COLA are due. The Board voted to pay the dues.

Roberta expressed concerns about the Government Relations Committee. The Board in conjunction with the GRC agreed to hold an open forum June 2, at the Barrington Public Library. The purpose of the forum is to get ideas on the needs of libraries in terms of Government Relations.



P.S.L. for P.S.L.  
(Practical, Sensible Lesson for  
Public Service Librarians)  
by Diane Pacheco  
Children's Librarian  
Barrington Public Library

It was with some amusement that I read in Library Hotline of the University of Michigan School of Library Science's decision to extend their course of study to two years. It was not so much the length of the program that interested me as the type of courses to be emphasized, "...quantitative analysis, forecasting and teaching, theory of organization psychology..." I am embarrassed to admit that in my nine years as a professional librarian I have never struck palm to forehead exclaiming, "Gosh, what I really could have used at Simmons was a course in the theory of organization psychology."

I am undoubtedly being unfair to Michigan as they are reportedly trying to respond to "recent calls from research and academic libraries for better trained librarians capable of meeting new demands that libraries face in the automated and highly competitive academic world of today." I am not an academic librarian, and I have no idea what they face in their libraries. I do know what public service librarians face in public libraries, and what we need are not more courses in theory, but practical advice on what to do in the real world.

Therefore, I would like to propose an alternate plan for a two year program. Let the first year continue to have the traditional courses leading to the M.L.S. degree. But for those hardy few who are planning on a career in a public library, a second year should be required. This would be P.S.L. for P.S.L. - Practical, Sensible Lessons for Public Service Librarians. Drawing on my own background as a bookmobile librarian, branch librarian, and children's librarian, I propose the following course of study:

P.S.L. 101 Who's on First: The Reference Interview

Nitty-gritty advice on how to get from, "Where are the books on Italy?" to "What I really want to know is who won the gold medal for pole-vaulting at the 1960 Rome Olympics?"

P.S.L. 201 In Search Of.....The Phantom Book  
Memorization of every cover of every

book ever written as preparation for the inevitable day when a patron says, "My favorite book as a child was blue and about a dog. Do you know which one I mean?"

P.S.L. 301 The Don Quixote Memorial Lecture: The Young Adult Librarian

Innovative ideas on how to motivate teenagers to read, study, and attend programs. Instructor to be announced. We are still looking for someone who has the answers.

P.S.L. 302 Young Adult Librarian Burnout

A local defense attorney will explain how to win acquittal with a plea of justifiable homicide.

P.S.L. 401 One For All and All For One: Class Assignments

What to do when 45 students all have to read The Red Badge of Courage - by tomorrow!

P.S.L. 501 Photocopiers: Friend or Foe?

Special guest lecturers will demonstrate how to clear paper jams on various models since no two machines ever work the same way.

P.S.L. 601 Say What You Mean, Mean What You Say

How to deal with mothers who insist on bringing their screaming two year olds to a program designed and promoted for six year olds.

P.S.L. 701 The Care and Feeding of Gerbils and Goldfish

Particular attention will be given to what to tell the children when the beloved library goldfish finally swims off to that great fishbowl in the sky.

P.S.L. 801 The Customer is Always Right: Patron Relations

When asked, "How come there are never any good books here?" do you have the urge to respond:

- a. "I keep all the good books in my desk and only give them to people I like, so buzz off."



- b. "We don't buy good books, only bad ones; that way they never go out and the shelves always look nice and full."
- c. "Good books? You wouldn't know a good book if it leaped off the top shelf and landed on your big toe."

If any of these responses appeal to you, it may be too late for a course in patron relations. You might consider a career switch to technical services.

P.S.L. 901 Aw Shucks: It's Hard to be Humble

Lessons in humility are offered for those wonderful times when a two year old names his teddy bear after you or a mother tells you that her seven year old "wants to be a librarian--just like you." Eat your heart out, academics!

PEOPLE

**SHARON J. CHARETTE** has been appointed Director of the Learning Resource Center at the New England Institute of Technology.

Roger Williams College Reference Librarian **WENDELL POLS** begins a six-month sabbatical in July. He will be developing a method to

evaluate the library instruction component of the College's General Education Program.

**SUSAN SHEA**, formerly of the East Greenwich Free Library, has been appointed Project Assistant for "Is There a Rhode Island Style?" the NEH-funded program series taking place in libraries throughout the state. She joins a staff consisting of **DEBORAH BRENNAN**, Project Director and **PEGGY SHEA**, Project Supervisor.

**MARY HEARN**, former librarian at the Foster Public Library, recently became Adult Library Technician at the Hope Library in Scituate.

**NANCY SCHWEGLER NEWMAN** recently was appointed Children's Librarian at the East Greenwich Free Library.

**PATRICIA LAROSE**, formerly of the Coventry Public Library, is the new Reference and Adult Services Librarian at the Newport Public Library.

**WILLIAM J. ALLEN**, of the United Way of Southeastern New England, has been appointed to the Cumberland Public Library Board of Trustees. He is former President of the library's friend's group and has also served as Chair of the Rhode Island State Advisory Council on Libraries.

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To the Editor:

In her letter regarding my recent article in the RILA Bulletin, it is unfortunate that Annalee Bundy limits her remarks to editorial issues and myself as author. The only comments related to the article's contents were the off-hand, unsupported remarks that I "purported to know everything" and made "some pretty strong statements." One expects more substantive criticism from the director of the state's largest public library.

Ms. Bundy's letter was disturbing, however, not because of her attacks against myself, but primarily because of her emotional defensiveness. In my article I gave brief mention to the "unstated, undebated nature" of CLSI's role in Rhode Island. Ms. Bundy has provided a good example of at least one cause of this undebated atmosphere: my article, which points out some negative aspects of CLSI's dominance in the state, appears in the RILA Bulletin; the article and myself as author are immediately derided in a caustic letter to the editor.

Providence Public's long-time support and significant financial investment in CLSI is well known. This investment is certainly not inappropriate or wrong in and of itself. However, I would maintain such support is improper and self-serving when it translates into Ms. Bundy's vituperations. Insofar as Ms. Bundy's letter reflects the position of PPL it is equally improper and self-serving.

I gave much thought whether to reply to Ms. Bundy's letter. Devoid as it was of specific criticism the letter did not deserve a response. I also have no desire to get into public squabbles in the Letters to the Editor column. However, I have replied primarily because I believe Ms. Bundy's letter provides an example of an issue I raised in my article which is of importance to the state. Ms. Bundy should be more concerned with the quality and progress of library automation in the state than making bitter challenges to the "affiliation and background" of other professionals who voice any criticism of her particular choice of vendor.

Sincerely,  
David Carlson  
Systems Analyst, URI  
May 16, 1986

- The American Library Association has established an "800" toll-free number. ALA members can now phone the headquarters office in Chicago by dialing 1-800-545-2433 Monday through Friday from 8:15 AM to 4:45 PM, central time.

- Senator Claiborne Pell will be the featured speaker at the dedication of the library addition at the Cross Mills Public Library in Charlestown on June 8th at 2 PM. An Open House will follow from 2:30 to 4:00 PM.

- The University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Library and Information Studies will be offering two courses of special interest in Providence this fall. Jonathan Tryon of the GSLIS faculty will teach the History of Books and Printing on Wednesday evenings at the Providence Athenaeum, and Roberta Sautter of Brown University will teach Introduction to Library Conservation at the John Hay Library on Tuesday evenings. Both courses are worth three credits and will be offered through the URI College of Continuing Education. Enrollment will take place in September through the College of Continuing Education Office.

- The Middletown Town Council has approved funding for ongoing costs associated with joining the Cooperating Libraries Automated Network (CLAN) and Middletown Public Library will be applying for a start-up grant from the Champlin Foundation, hoping to become a CLAN member in 1987.

- The Child with Muscular Dystrophy in School, by Nancy Schock, is a 20-page pamphlet of practical information available free of charge to libraries from The Muscular Dystrophy Association, Inc., 450 Washington Street, Dedham, MA 02026.

- The Harmony Public Library received a \$10,000 grant from the Rhode Island Foundation. Half will be allocated to the library's building fund and half will be spent on landscaping.

The Roger Williams College Library was featured in the May 1st issue of the Bristol Phoenix, Bristol's local weekly newspaper. The purpose of the article was to make the community's residents aware of the resources available to them at the library. All Bristol residents over eighteen years of age are




eligible for a Roger Williams College Library borrower's card.

- Bruce Percelay, co-author of Packaging Your Home for Profit, published by Little, Brown in April, will speak at the Rochambeau Branch of the Providence Public Library on June 16th at 7 PM. The program is free and the public is cordially invited.

- The Children's Department of the Providence Public Library, with a grant from the B. Dalton Company, has put together twelve Parent Early Reading Kits. There are four kits in each age level, 0 to 6 months, 6 to 12 months and 12 to 18 months. Each kit has the Jim Trelease Read Aloud Handbook as an anchor and one other title dealing with the infant and his learning abilities. Other books in the kit are designed for use by parents with the infant. Reading aloud is a primary tool for assisting a child to develop a sense of language. Children who are read to learn to enjoy reading and often find learning to read easier when they reach school age.

The kits are kept in the Children's Department at the Central Library, 150 Empire Street but will be sent to any branch upon request. The purpose of the kit is to help parents understand the importance of reading to young children and to show them examples of appropriate books to use with infants.

- The Rhode Island Chapter of the Special Libraries Association is pleased to announce that they have formed an Auxiliary Group. Anyone can now join SLA in Rhode Island and have the opportunity to meet other special library librarians in the State. For \$15.75 you can attend meetings, receive the News Brief, or even be a chairperson. This is an excellent stepping-stone to the National Organization, which allows you to participate on a local level. Anyone wanting more information on the Rhode Island SLA Auxiliary Group should contact Linda Walton, Butler Hospital Library, 456-3869.



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## jobline

The Rhode Island Library Association has established a minimum recommended salary of \$18,250 for a full-time beginning librarian in 1986.

**SUBSTITUTE LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALIST:** Woonsocket Public School System. Must be certified as Teacher of Library Science by the Rhode Island Department of Education. Salary \$40 per day. Application available from: Louise R. Leveillee, Coordinator of Media Services, 108 High Street, Woonsocket, RI 02895 (401) 762-4440.

**CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN:** Part time. To provide service to children; participate in Summer Reading Program; assist with other services at a Branch Library. Salary: \$8.46 hourly. Hours: Negotiable. Apply to Personnel, Providence Public Library, 150 Empire Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903. EEO/AA.

**LIBRARIAN:** for Summer, noontime storyhours at three East Side Providence playgrounds. Eight weeks, 3 hours/week, \$500. Contact Shirley Long, Providence Public Library, 521-7722, by June 11.

**ASSISTANT HEAD LIBRARIAN/BRANCH LIBRARIAN:** Part time. Qualifications - MLS preferred, library experience, children's library service, plus some supervisory experience desirable. Enthusiasm and good interpersonal skills important. Responsible for all aspects of small volunteer-staffed branch library with limited open hours and of children's department of central library. 30 hours, entry level, \$11,700, starting date July 1, 1986. Send resume, letter of application and three references by June 15, 1986, to Lucia Millet Edlund, Head Librarian, Pembroke Public Library, P.O. Box 517, Pembroke, Mass. 02359. Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

## calendar

**JUNE 11** - Statewide Meeting of Public Library Directors, Barrington Public Library.

**JUNE 11** - JMRT Annual Business Meeting/Dinner, Warwick Public Library, 6 PM. Dinner 7:30, Bangkok cuisine.

**JUNE 16** - Bruce Percelay, co-author of Packaging Your Home for Profit (Little, Brown, 1986) will speak at Providence Public Library, Rochambeau Branch, 7 PM.

**JUNE 24** - Young Adult Round Table Organizational Meeting, Department of State Library Services, 9:30 AM.

**JUNE 28 to JULY 3** - American Library Association Annual Conference, New York, NY.



## NEW BORROWING POLICY FOR RILFC

by Eileen M. Tierney  
Chair, RILFC Executive Board

The position of the Rhode Island Library Film Cooperative Executive Board with regard to access to non-residents borrowing films/video from the RILFC was, "Films may only be shown in towns whose libraries are members of the RILFC, and that videocassettes may be loaned according to the holding library's loaning policy." This position was not a satisfactory solution to a number of libraries who are troubled by this situation. Therefore, on May 8, 1984, the Executive Board requested the Department of State Library Services obtain a legal opinion from the Attorney General which was issued on April 16, 1986.

As a result of that opinion, the new policy for a non-resident borrowing film/video from the Rhode Island Library Film Cooperative is:

"Non-resident card holders may borrow films/video from libraries that have joined the RILFC and paid their full assessment fees, even though the library located in the city or town of their residence has not become a member of the RILFC."

The RILA BULLETIN is published 10 times per year by the Rhode Island Library Association. Managing Editor: Linda Walton, Butler Hospital, 345 Blackstone Blvd., Providence, RI 02906 (456-3869); Feature Editor: Norman Desmarais, Providence College, Phillips Memorial Library, Providence, RI 02918 (865-2241); News Editor: Frank Iacono, DSLS, 95 Davis Street, Providence, RI 02908 (277-2726); Technical Editors: Debra Cohen and Veronica Thomas, East Providence Public Library, 41 Grove Avenue, East Providence, RI 02914 (434-2453); Jobline: Sheila Carlson, DSLS, 95 Davis Street, Providence, RI 02908 (277-2726); Advertising: Deborah O'Hara, 157 Briarwood Avenue, Middletown, RI 02840. Subscriptions: free to members; \$12/year in U.S.; \$20/year foreign. Deadlines: 1st of the month for features and 15th of the month for everything else. Features limited to four typed double-spaced pages and must be signed by author. Advertising: \$100 full page; \$50 half page; \$30 quarter page; \$10 business card size. Change of address: members contact the Membership Committee Chair and subscriptions contact the Managing Editor. Send claims to Managing Editor. For further information contact the appropriate Editor. Printing by First Financial Printers, Inc., Lincoln, RI (333-4811). Z673R52; LC 57-26438; ISSN 0146-8685.

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